

Property Tax Levies Go Up

In an almost unprecedented increase, 1964-65 property tax levies for all taxing units in Oregon (cities, school districts, etc.) rose \$27,134,892, or 11.3 percent, over the comparable levies for the 1963-64 fiscal year. The aggregate levy for 1964-65 is \$268,029,807, including per acre assessment.

Of the total levy, \$181.3 million, 68 percent, is accounted for by school levies; \$39.4 million, or 15 percent, by city levies; and the remaining \$47.3 million (17 percent), by county and special district levies.

Sharpest increase in any of the 36 counties occurred in Lincoln county, where the 1964-65 levy for all taxing units is up 22.6 percent. Second highest rate of increase is in Sherman county, 20.7 percent; followed by Deschutes, 19.8 percent; Washington, 18.5 percent; and Marion, 18.4 percent. Other sharp increases were in Union county, 17.8 percent; Polk, 17.3 percent; Lane, 15.9 percent; Clackamas, 15.5 percent; and Linn, 13.6 percent.

Only six of Oregon's counties were able to effect a reduction in their 1964-65 levies. These were Gilliam, Grant, Josephine, Tillamook, Willamette and Wheeler. Largest decrease, percentage-wise, was in Willamette, down 8.6 percent.

The sharp increase in property taxes is mainly attributable to mounting school taxes. Total school levies rose from \$158,392,502 for 1963-64 to \$181,359,368 for 1964-65, an increase of \$23 million, or 14.5 percent. A rapidly growing item in school taxes are the levies imposed by community colleges. For 1964-65, six community college districts levied property taxes amounting to \$1,352,390. This excludes the Lane Community College which was only recently formed and did not make a 1964-65 levy. It also excludes property tax levies for community college operations within regular school districts such as Portland, Eugene, Salem and Oregon City.

There has been a general impression throughout the state that any significant increase in school taxes was primarily due to last year's voter rejection of the tax measure and the subsequent reduction in basic school support. However, it should be noted that while the special session of the legislature reduced basic school support by \$12.0 million, the emergency board subsequently restored \$3.4 million. A vast majority of the school districts followed the emergency board's recommendation (Portland being the notable exception), and used the restoration as a property tax offset on 1964-65 levies. The net result is that only \$9 or \$10 million of the \$23 million increase in school levies can be attributed to the defeat of the tax measure.

Salmon Runs Show Increase

Although salmon anglers are still enjoying a field day on both chinook and silver salmon at most coastal points, the big job of determining the annual trend in numbers on the spawning beds is now under way.

Game commission fishery biologists are working key streams throughout the state making the annual spawning ground surveys for chinook salmon, with work on silvers to continue through December and January. This work is coordinated with the fish commission, which also conducts surveys on selected streams of the state.

From the reports it would appear good numbers of chinook salmon are on the spawning beds in coastal streams, showing a continued upward climb in the runs over the past seven years. Warren Knispel, district fishery biologist at Warrenton, reported the chinook spawning ground count on the Nehalem river from the Salmonberry to Jewell was the highest recorded since 1958. In addition, Knispel established a new census route on the Salmonberry because of the increased use of this stream by chinook salmon in recent years.

Chinook surveys are just getting under way on the Nestucca, Trask and Wilson rivers, but preliminary examination shows good runs of fish in these rivers. Game commission biologists report an increase in the chinook catch at Cape Kiwanda and a faster rate of catch per angler at Garibaldi. Tillamook Bay anglers have also enjoyed some of the best chinook fishing in years with many exceptionally large fish being taken. Many chinook in the 35- to 50-pound class have been examined. The lower Trask is also producing large chinook salmon.

The man who has complete control of his own conduct won't try to control that of others.

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Agent Explains Whiteness Loss

One of the common laundering problems is the loss of whiteness in white cottons after repeated launderings. This undoubtedly, is due to failure to remove soil of various types, says Columbia County Extension Agent Margaret Allyn.

There is the oily soil, which is difficult to remove. Dry heat causes oils to change color. If the oily soil, which comes from body oil, is not completely removed from garments it easily turns yellow from the heat of the sun, the iron or the dryer.

The first requirement in removing this oily type of soil is hot water — 140° F. water. This temperature is so hot that you cannot stand to hold your hand in it.

An all-purpose detergent is recommended. A good motto is, "Don't guess, measure." In order to do a good job in soil removal we need 1-1/2 cups of detergent in the wash water.

Another requirement to remove oily soil is to agitate long enough, at least 10 minutes. Margaret Allyn points out that failure to remove oily soil is one big cause of yellowness in garments.

Another cause for yellowness is failure to rinse all the soap out of garments. If soap remains, dry heat will turn garments yellow. This heat may come from the iron or dryer.

Still another reason for yellowness may be due to the fact that there has not been proper turn over of clothes because there are too many or too bulky clothes in the washer.

Iron in the water may also cause yellowness in clothes. Adding a water conditioner to the wash water will help this situation. If there is iron in the water, a chlorine bleach should not be used, for it reacts with the iron in a manner that sets the iron deposits.

To remove yellowness caused by iron in the water, treat the fabric with cream of tartar - 4 teaspoons cream of tartar to 1 pint of water, and boil it.

Chlorine bleach will also react with some resin finishes on fabrics and this intensifies the yellow color.

AFL-CIO Offers Scholarships

All Oregon high schools have received announcement of the 1965 Oregon AFL-CIO scholarship contest for seniors in Oregon high schools. Miss May Darling, chairman of the standing committee on education of the Oregon AFL-CIO announced today. The contest is not limited to students whose parents are members of labor unions.

Students interested in competing for the six awards — three of \$600 each and three of \$300 — should notify the principal of their school before the end of the fourth week in March that they wish to take the examination on labor and industrial problems from which the final six contestants will be selected. The examination is conducted in each school where students wish to compete for the awards.

Determination of placement among the six top scorers is made by personal interviews conducted by a panel of professional persons not connected with the labor movement.

This is the 19th year of the contest which has produced 57 top award winners in 35 high schools throughout the state. Earlier this year James C. Waggoner, Scappoose, won a \$600 award.

Miss Darling emphasized that "purpose of this contest is not to instill propaganda for organized labor. The aim is to encourage high school students to study the American industrial system with special emphasis upon the role of management and labor in our economic system."

Paper Strike Settled

An agreement to end the 13-day-old West Coast pulp and paper industry strike was announced Tuesday in Washington by Director William Simkin of the federal mediation service, who said a complete settlement had been reached. A wage and benefit increase valued at 29 cents per hour was included.

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PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

Sam and Fred had been friends quite some time. Sam, who had experience in the clothing business, wanted to open a store of his own but did not have enough capital. He therefore approached Fred, who agreed to match the amount of money Sam was able to raise. The business was to be located in a building which Fred owned. Sam was to run the business, Fred receiving one-half the profits.

After the store had been in operation for some time, Fred learned that Sam had been having a difficult time and was heavily in debt. Fred had previously taken no notice of Sam's difficulties until creditors started to press Fred for payment of the bills Sam had incurred. Sam being hopelessly in debt finally closed the store and started looking for a job.

Fred refused to pay the bills Sam had incurred since he had no part in the operation of the business but only put up part of the money which

had already been lost. Was Fred's refusal on good ground?

The answer is no. Sam and Fred by their informal agreement became partners even though Fred had no part in the operation of the store. All partners are liable for everything chargeable to the partnership and therefore Fred was liable for the bills incurred.

Through a written limited partnership agreement that was properly drawn, executed, and filed, however, Fred could have limited his liability to the amount of money he originally invested in the partnership.

(Oregon lawyers offer this column as a public service. No person should apply or interpret any law without the aid of an attorney who is completely advised of the facts involved. Even a slight variance in facts may change the application of the law.)

UNCONSTITUTIONALITY

Sometimes laws enacted by the U. S. Congress or by state legislatures are declared "unconstitution-

al" by the courts.

When a law is declared unconstitutional by the supreme court of a state, in the case of state laws, or the supreme court of the U. S. in the case of either federal or state laws, the law is, in effect, nullified or wiped out.

Why are some laws declared unconstitutional?

To understand why some laws are stricken down as unconstitutional, or in other words, in violation of the constitution, one must realize that the Constitution of the United States is the supreme law of the land and the Constitution of a state is the fundamental law for that state. The Constitution represents the will of the people, from whom all power springs in our form of government, and only the people have the right to change the Constitution.

Sometimes the members of congress or of a legislature enact a law which provides for some procedure prohibited by the Constitution. In that case, if the validity of the law is challenged it is the duty of the court to declare that the law is unconstitutional.

When a law is held void it is not because the courts have or exercise any control over the legislative pow-

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er, but because the will of the people as expressed in the Constitution is paramount to that of their elected representatives expressed in a mere law. It is the duty of the judges under their oaths of office to give effect to the will of the people as expressed in the Constitution.

If new laws could ignore fundamental concepts on which our government is founded, a majority of congress or of a state legislature could radically change our form of government simply by passing new laws which do away with constitutional rights, such as freedom of speech, freedom of press, or freedom of religion.

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The island of Kauai, Hawaii gets as much as 615 inches of rainfall in most years. (Louisiana, our wettest state, averages 55 inches).



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