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SMITH-YTUN ON TAX PROPOSALS IN THE LEGISLATURE

Hope For Fast Decision

Attention during the first three weeks of the legislative session has been focused on our biggest issue: property tax relief.

There will be no delaying on this subject as there was during the 1967 session because an early decision is a necessity.

The tax Committee Chairman, Rep. Floyd Hart of Medford, has told us that the property tax relief bill should be completed by the middle of February, with a vote of the people possible by the middle of April.

This timing would allow local government officials to know how much state revenue will be available before they put the final touches on their budgets for the coming year.

It would also allow the legislature, which will still be in session, to examine alternatives should the referral be unsuccessful.

There are many things which we must take into consideration before making our final decision.

First, is there a real need for property tax relief? Those opposing a referral to the people do not seem to think so, but a look at the figures should tell us that property taxes are bearing too much of the burden of local government costs.

But what is business? It is more than giant corporations and utilities. Business is people. Business is the corner grocery store, the laundry, the barber shop, the family operated feed store, farm and ranches.

Third, should some type of meaningful limitation be applied so that property taxes would not be able to revert to the spectacular increase?

Proponents of homeowner only relief do not provide for a limitation. Not only would income taxes go up, but the revenue from this program would rapidly be gobbled up in a few short years. In other words, we would be right back where we started in another few years.

Fourth, should the state assume a greater share of the cost of primary and secondary education? Presently, the state

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TAXES DOUBLED IN 10 YEARS

Property taxes statewide have risen by more than 110 percent in the past 10 years. This year, they jumped by \$55.2 million, and we have every reason to believe that the increase will be even larger next year.

Second, should property tax relief go to all Oregon citizens who are presently paying property taxes, or should relief be limited only to certain classes of taxpayers?

Some opponents of across-the-board property tax relief argue that this would constitute a shift from business to the homeowner.

Demo Leaders Propose Law On Pornography

Senate Majority Leader, Al Flegal, D., Roseburg and House Minority Leader, Jason Boe, D., Roseburg, introduced legislation in Salem today that is designed to protect children from obscene material. The Bill would cover obscene pictures, photographs, drawings, sculptures and motion pictures, and would provide penalties of up to one year in prison and/or a fine of not more than \$1,000.

"We feel that this Bill would provide Oregon's children with the protection from pornography that up until now has been lacking," the two legislators stated. The Measure is modeled after a New York statute that was recently upheld in the U. S. Supreme Court. Unlike previous measures that have been criticized for vagueness by the courts, the Bill introduced by Senator Flegal and Representative Boe is extremely explicit.

TAP Fund Soars; Saturday Game Climaxes Drive

The Nyssa high school "Teens Against Polio" (TAP) drive has exceeded all expectations and has set new goals, it is reported by Chairman Dan McGinnis.

The students had set a goal of \$650 with all proceeds to be donated to the National Foundation against Polio, Arthritis, and Birth Defects.

To date the NHS students have raised \$900 and the drive is being continued, McGinnis said.

BASKETBALL GAME SLATED

He reports that the campaign will end Saturday evening, Feb. 1 with a basketball game between members of the NHS faculty and the Nyssa Jaycee All-Stars.

Game time is 8 o'clock and will be in the Nyssa high school gymnasium.

There will be an admission charge and all proceeds will go to the TAP fund.

Half-time entertainment will be furnished by the NHS Steppettes. There will also be a cake raffle and an after-game dance. Admission price for the game will be 75¢ for adults and 50¢ for students. Price of admission to the dance will be 50 cents.



IN THE LEFT HAND PHOTO ARE ALVIN ALLEN, NYSSA Jaycee president and recipient of the Distinguished Service Award for 1969; Banquet Speaker Dave Green of Madras, Jaycee National vice president; and Dwayne Bennett, Adrian area farmer and 1969 winner of the Oregon Young Farmer award. The men in the photo on the right are Bob Munn,

last year's OYF winner; Les Burbank of B & M Equipment company, sponsor of the award; Dave Rieb, 1968 winner of the Distinguished Service award; and Bob Kennedy, representing the First National Bank of Oregon, Nyssa branch, who sponsored the DSA project this year. - Journal Photos.

GOLF COURSE FEES RAISED AT ONTARIO BY COUNCIL ACTION

The Ontario City Council has voted to raise fees for individual memberships to the Ontario Municipal Golf Course for 1969.

These raises are: For females \$17.50 (from \$50 to \$67.50) and For Males \$12.50 (from \$75 to \$87.50). Family rates are unchanged - \$125 for two units and \$150 for more than two.

Green fees are also increased by 25¢ for nine holes and 50¢ for 18 holes.

The action came as a result of a \$3500 deficit in the operation of the course this past year, according to Pro Keith Stanwood. Based on membership for the past year the raises would affect about 100 men and 27 women.

The average cost for individual memberships in the Municipally owned courses in Caldwell, Payette and Weiser is \$90 -- with no difference in rates for men and women.

NYSSA CO-OP NAMES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Two incumbent directors were re-elected at the annual meeting of the Nyssa Co-op stockholders, held Wednesday at the Oregon Trail hall, Manager Ernie Metcalf reported. Re-elected to three year terms were Tom Drydale and Irvin Topliff. Holdover directors are George Smit, Harold Kurtz and Ira Price.

During the business session Metcalf reported the Nyssa Co-op did a record \$644,000 business last year. This was up 20.5 percent over the previous year, he said.

A noon luncheon was held for members, wives and guests.

FFA To Install 1969 Officers

Members of the Nyssa chapter of Future Farmers of America convened for their first meeting of the year January 13.

Plans for FFA Week, Feb. 16-22, were discussed, and committees to organize the activities were appointed.

Plans for the Parliamentary Procedure and Public Speaking district meet to be hosted Feb. 6. A chapter contest will be held March 28, with representatives from the freshman, sophomore, junior and senior classes.

Alan Cleaver and Bob Peterson will represent Nyssa in the test to be held in Ontario Feb. 5. They will be trying for their State Farmer Degrees.

Sophomore FFA members reported their collection of over \$100 for TAP in their recent March of Dimes drive.

Alan Cleaver, chapter president, directed the meeting. - NHS Bulldog.

Veterans Officer Says Special Dividend Bill Information Is False

Information being circulated throughout the country that Congress recently passed a bill granting World War II veterans a special dividend on their GI insurance is completely erroneous, H. G. Helmstetter, Acting Manager of the Portland Veterans Administration Regional Office, said recently.

As a result of this misleading information, VA insurance offices are being flooded with inquiries.

Because of this, the VA asked newspapers, veterans service organizations and other interested groups to take an active interest in dispelling this false information.

Helmstetter said no legislation has been passed or even introduced in Congress to pay special insurance dividends in many years.

In 1950 the VA paid special insurance dividends of about \$3 billion to nearly 16 million World War II veterans.

Audience Delivers Verdict In Junior-Senior Play

"You, The Jury" will unfold its courtroom drama February 6 and 8 at 8:15 p.m. in the cafeteria when it is presented as 1968-69's Junior-Senior play. Members of the audience will participate by determining the verdict.

Barbara Scott (Barbara Bielby), on trial for the murder of her employer, is defended by her lawyer-sister, Edith (Angie Labby), and prosecuted by the dynamic young Allen Woodward (Danny McGinnis).

At first, the case seems hopeless, from Barbara's confession of guilt to the testimony of the deceased's fiancée, Sheila Vincent (Karla Simpson), who claims she saw Barbara almost in the very act of firing the fatal shot.

However, new evidence arrives at the last minute from a

totally unexpected source.

Other characters in the play are Miss Carver (Roxie Mason), Allan's assistant; clerk of the court (Mike Hust); court stenographer (Annie Crego); Bailiff (Ken Spitzer); Mrs. Lake (Nancy Nelson), the prison matron; Judge Findlay (Doug Garner); Robert McPherson (Bob Peterson) and Lewis Rennie (Bruce Jackson), policemen; Gwendolyn Kelton (Peggy Moore), a talkative housekeeper; Janice Scott (Joyce Jennings), a student; and Jimmy Perry (Ron Edmondson), an elevator operator. - NHS Bulldog.

Don Engstrom New Director At Hospital

Don Engstrom has been appointed Administrator, on a temporary basis, at Malheur Memorial hospital to replace Pheral Dodson, resigned. The resignation was received by the hospital board Thursday of last week with the change effective Monday.

Dodson is still aiding the new head during the transition period. He says he has no announcement to make as to his future plans at this time but probably will have in the near future. He has been in charge since 1965.

Engstrom is a well-known Nyssa businessman who owned and operated the Cloverlawn dairy for many years prior to his selling to Home Dairies in September 1966.

Board Chairman Everett Heldt told a Journal reporter Wednesday that ads for an administrator in the Portland Oregonian and Idaho Statesman, Boise, had brought more than 20 applications and five men had been interviewed.

In Nyssa Hospital

Clifford Main, a Nyssa contractor recently injured in a hunting accident, is now a patient at Malheur Memorial hospital in Nyssa.

According to members of his family, he continues to show gradual improvement, but will probably have to remain in the hospital for some time.

'TORCH' CEREMONY FEB. 3 TO BEGIN HEART FUND DRIVE

A county-wide torchlighting ceremony at 2:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 3 in the staff room at Holy Rosary hospital in Ontario will begin the 1969 heart fund drive, it has been announced by Mrs. David (Doris) Ballantyne, Malheur county chairman.

All area residents interested in the drive and volunteer workers are invited to attend. Speaker will be George Hagen of the Oregon Heart Association in Portland.

Mrs. Guy (Nadine) Sparks is chairman this year for the city of Nyssa, with Mrs. Junior (Nancy) Goodell serving as head of the drive in the rural area. Chairman for the Adrian area is Mrs. Bill Willis.

Loans To Vets \$66,000,000 Furing 1968

A record dollar volume of \$66,016,750 was loaned to 4,746 Oregon veterans in 1968 to help them acquire their own homes and farms, the state Department of Veterans' Affairs reported today.

H. C. Saalfeld, director, said this was a 21 percent gain over 1967 and 5 percent above the previous high in 1961.

In Malheur County last year, loans were granted to 49 veterans in the amount of \$806,950, compared with 33 loans in 1967 for \$491,450. Since the start of the program, loans have gone to 657 veterans here in the amount of \$6,042,700.

The 1968 statewide figures bring the totals for the program since 1945 to 65,265 loans in the amount of \$627,355,074. Saalfeld said that of this amount, veterans have repaid nearly \$328 million in principal and more than \$112 million in interest. They are repaying at the rate of \$4 million a month, with interest payments alone averaging more than \$1 million.

DELINQUENCY LOW

The veterans' repayment record continues to be excellent, according to Saalfeld. There are only three seriously delinquent loan accounts for every 1,000 loans outstanding, and foreclosures number less than seven for every 1,000 loans granted.

Post-Korean veterans, made eligible for the state loans by voters in the November election, are applying in surprising numbers, Saalfeld said. In the two months since the election 561 cold war and Vietnam veterans have applied for loans. This was 42 percent of the total of 1,348 applications filed in the November-December period.

Firemen Summoned

On Jan. 28 at 7:40 a.m. the Nyssa Volunteer Firemen were summoned to the Junior Goodell farm to extinguish a blaze in the Goodell hog house.

The building was destroyed, but only two of the pigs housed there were burned.

*POLICE CHIEF ALLEN, DWAYNE BENNETT WIN MAIN JAYCEE AWARDS

Nyssa Police Chief Alvin Allen received the Distinguished Service Award, and Dwayne Bennett, Adrian farmer, was recipient of the Outstanding Young Farmer (OYF) award at the Nyssa Jaycee annual banquet Thursday night of last week.

Sparkplug awards went to Richard Gustavson, Jim Robinson and Monty Burbank for community service, Dave Peery was winner of the Spoke award for the most outstanding of first-year members.

Doug Patterson served as master of ceremonies, the invocation was given by Jim Robinson and a welcoming talk by local Jaycee President Alvin Allen.

Last year's winners - Dave Rieb presented Allen with the DSA plaque and Robert Munn the OYF award to Bennett.

Rieb noted the all-round work of Chief Allen with special reference to his work with young people, the Nyssa Nite Rodeo and the Miss Malheur pageant.

OYF RECORD

Munn, who was in the same graduating class with OYF Bennett at Adrian in 1955, gave a brief background on the accomplishments of the new winner. He started farming in 1957 on 63 acres of marginal land and through efficient management of land, money and time had accumulated 700 acres of land, built a new home and other farm buildings.

Crops grown are sugar beets, potatoes and alfalfa. He also raises livestock. He has leveled considerable of the land, had 70 per cent of his tillable land under concrete ditch and has added to his water supply through pumps in the Snake river.

He is a member of the Adrian Soil Conservation district and finds time for church and civic

activities. Mrs. Bennett is a daughter of Mrs. Rowena and the late L. L. (Red) Kreager.

NEWS MEDIA HONORED

Special certificates of appreciation from the Nyssa and U. S. Jaycees were given to Dan Hern (KYET-Payette), Stan McNutt (KSRV-Ontario), Mrs. Marcia Lieurance of Vale (Idaho Statesman) and to Mr. and Mrs. Ted Brammer of the Nyssa Gate City Journal.

ADDRESS BY GREEN

Guest speaker, David M. Green, 31, Madras, was introduced by Monty Burbank, who gave the following background; one of the 10 vice presidents of the U. S. Jaycees, past president of Oregon, one of the 18

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1969 Wheat, Feed Grain Sign Up Time Draws Near

Blaine Girvin, Chairman of the Malheur ASC County Committee reminds farmers interested in the 1969 voluntary wheat and feed grain programs that sign up for participation in these programs will be held in the ASCS county office during the period Feb. 3 through March 31.

Provisions concerning cross compliance (other farms), maintaining the normal conserving base acreage, and substitution remain substantially the same as 1968.

Participants in the wheat program must divert to conserving use an acreage equal to 20 percent of the total base. There will be diversion payments for additional diversion - up to 50 percent of total base or 25 acres whichever is larger.

Compliance under the feed grain program will qualify the farm for price support payments, price support loans, and payments for diversion, as applicable.

Participants in the wheat program must divert to conserving use an acreage equal to 15 percent of the farm allotment. There will be diversion payments on additional diversion - up to 50 percent below the allotment.

Compliance under the wheat program will qualify the farm for wheat certificate payments, price support loans, and diversion payments, as applicable.

Barley is included as a feed grain for 1969. Three feed grains -- corn, grain sorghum, and barley -- are in the acreage diversion program.

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