

Sales Tax Won't Make Grade

LINCOLN — The legislature revenue committee this week has three proposals for broadening the tax base to worry about.

It could send to the legislature a state sales tax proposal, LB 400; an income tax proposal, LB 510; or a combination of both, worked out by the introducers of LB400 and 510.

All three were given a public hearing which lasted almost four hours.

Some interesting factors seemed to be involved this time in what has been a perennial legislative issue—broadening the tax base. Nebraska is one of only four states which do not have a sales or income tax, and its percentage of support from property taxes, 36 percent, is the highest in the nation.

Informed observers believe that a majority of the members of the revenue committee would favor a sales tax. But not all of these would go for an income tax or a combination.

On the other hand, the bill with the best chances on the floor of the legislature might be the combination sales-income tax measure. This is on grounds that it might pick up enough votes from those who don't want either tax alone.

This may be a debatable thesis. But it is believed to be the thinking behind the action of Sen. Dwight Burney of Hartington, introducer of LB 400, and Sen. Tom Adams of Lincoln, sponsor of LB 510, in pooling their measures.

There is no doubt but what any such measure is going to have a plenty tough time getting through the legislature. That's mainly because there is such a block of senators committed against any proposals to broaden the tax base.

Some of these are senators who don't want a sales tax under any conditions. Senators who like labor unions call this "a tax on the poor man." Senators from Omaha and the "border towns" fight it because they fear they will lose the trade that is now coming to them from other nearby states which have sales taxes.

A lot of the opposition to the sales tax comes from forces which are not so much afraid of it as they are fearful it will "open the door" for an income tax.

The railroads and many industries fear anything that would develop into a corporate income tax. They figure it is safer to fight any measure to broaden the tax base.

On the other hand every sign indicates that the 1955 legislature more than any previous session has sentiment for passing some new taxes of this type. The troubles with the property tax in the past two years may have had much to do with this.

Any way you look at it, a sales or income tax is going to have a tough time squeaking through the legislature. But you can't safely bet it won't make the grade.

Tax Testimony—
The hearing on these measures was much like all the others which have taken place every session.

Lined up on the side of the sales tax were the farm bureau, which claims to represent 16,000 farm families; the state federation of labor; the CIO, the railroad brotherhoods, the Omaha Taxpayers association, and the Omaha Food Retailers.

Senator Burney declared, "The tax on property is admittedly becoming burdensome. It's no use to talk about cutting taxes. It can't be done every year and therefore more school costs. We must face the issue, broaden the tax base, and get everybody to help."

But Elton Berek of Lincoln, a state farmers union director, said his organization doesn't believe in painless taxes.

"We want taxation to be a burden. With easy taxes you do not question expenditures of government as you would if you experience a definite pinch at a specific time of year," said Berek, referring to the property tax.

Highway Commission—
The state advisory highway commission had a private session in a Lincoln hotel with the legislature public works committee.

It seemed the commission had a few ideas to expound on LB 187, a bill to reclassify the state highway department laws. During the regular public hearing the seven member commission had kept conspicuously silent. Later they asked, and received, a date with the committee which had heard the bill.

In the hotel session it developed that the commission favored the bill which it had helped write. But members said that they had a few amendments to suggest.

The point of most of the suggestions was that some "checks" should be put on the powers of the state engineer, the chief executive of the highway department.

The present engineer, L. N. Rens, has differed on several occasions with the commission, particularly on the relocation of highways.

Some members of the highway commission have chafed at the minor role they have been assigned in highway affairs.

A map of state highways they prepared has run into stiff trouble, mostly because it cut about 900 miles of highway off the presently maintained state highway system. That mileage, of course, would have to be cared for by the counties if the commission's map were adopted.

So in some ways the commission has been "all dressed up with no place to go." Composed of a group of highly capable business and

agriculture leaders, the agency has continually sought more powers. The private session with the legislative committee was only the latest manifestation.

Budgeting Procedures—
There has been considerable criticism of the way some county officials handle their road funds.

A few days ago in the legislature members of school boards in rural districts and small towns got the same implied criticism.

This came during debate on a measure to require these school boards to fill out a more complete form when submitting their budgets to the county board at levy fixing time.

Sen. Glenn Cramer of Albion, the introducer, said that many such districts do a fine job of budgeting. But others just hand in a slip of paper. Often they ask too much money and sometimes a board tries to build up a "kitty."

Other districts don't ask for enough money and have to issue distress warrants at extra cost to their taxpayers.

Senator Cramer said of his bill, LB 442, "This is just good business."

Although some objection came from the rural senators who said this was another invasion of local control, the measure advanced in the legislature toward final passage.

Upper Room, Men's Group in Joint Meeting

EWING—The Upper Room society and the Methodist men met in joint session Sunday evening, March 13, at the parlors of the Methodist church. Mr. and Mrs. Claude Elliot conducted the devotional period. It was voted to purchase 10 Methodist hymnals.

New officers recently elected for the Upper Room are: Mrs. Ray Sedivy, president; Mrs. Lee Bridgen, vice-president; Mrs. Dewitt Hoke, secretary; Mrs. Earl Pierson, treasurer. New members are Mr. and Mrs. Watson McDonald, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Eacker, Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Harris. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Fred Witt of Hastings, parents of Mrs. Bridgen.

Plans were made to attend the men's rally to be held Sunday, March 20, at Neligh. The Ewing group will have charge of the devotional period, with Mrs. Ray Sedivy as leader.

Other Ewing News

Lt. Myrtle Urban, a navy nurse from Philadelphia, Pa., and her sister, Miss Lucile Urban, who is employed by United Air Lines at San Diego, Calif., have been guests at the home of their father, Ed Urban, and other relatives since Thursday, March 10. Other guests at the Urban home were his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Walter of Grand Island. The young ladies were taken to Omaha by their brother, "Bud" Urban, and sister, Mrs. Elvin Walter, from where they took a plane to Philadelphia. Lieutenant Urban and her sister, Miss Lucile are planning to leave on a Southern vacation trip in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Wood and family of Lincoln spent the weekend, March 12-13, with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Rotherham.

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Archer and family and her mother, Mrs. Maud Bower, of Neligh were guests of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Archer, on Sunday, March 13. They also called at the Ralph Munn home before returning to their home in Grand Island.

Mrs. Bernice Harlan, Dorothy and Charles of Tilden were March 12-13 weekend guests of her mother, Mrs. Caroline Sanders and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Curley Sanders and family of Dixon spent the March 12-13 weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Lee, and his mother, Mrs. Caroline Sanders.

Mrs. Henry Baum, sr., Diane and David took their daughter and sister, Miss Christine Baum, to Norfolk where she continued on her way to Omaha after spending a few days at the parental home in Ewing.

Mr. and Mrs. William Lofquest and family of Fremont were 6 o'clock dinner and evening guests at the home of his mother, Mrs. Edna Lofquest, Saturday, March 12. Their son, Bobbie, remained for a two week visit with his grandmother.

Mrs. Edna Lofquest attended a birthday dinner at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William Lofquest on Wednesday, March 9. The honored guests were Mrs. Reuben Myers of Clearwater and Billie Lee Lofquest.

On Saturday, March 12, Mrs. James Deming and son Robert and two grandchildren, of Stuart were guests of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Edna Lofquest.

Sunday, March 13, dinner guests at the home of Mrs. Edna Lofquest were Mr. and Mrs. Fay Doty.

Guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie Kaczor and family were his mother, Mrs. Eva Kaczor,

Happy Homemakers Meet with Mrs. Harley

CHAMBERS—The Happy Homemakers extension club met at the home of Mrs. Gordon Harley Thursday, March 10. This meeting was to have been held at the home of Mrs. Duane McKay, who recently moved to O'Neill.

Mrs. McKay was hostess and Mrs. Elwyn Robertson, cohostess. The lesson on broiler meals was presented by Mrs. Don Dankert and Mrs. Kenneth Werner. Some of the broiled foods were served for lunch.

It was voted to make a layette for the University hospital in Omaha. Each member is to be responsible for part of the layette. The completed articles are to be left at the home of Mrs. George Smith where Mrs. Dierking will get them and take them to the council meeting in O'Neill early in April.

Each member was asked to bring a tag or label from any new material or garment to the next meeting. A letter from Mrs. Hi Connelly, a former member now living in Colorado, was read. The next meeting will be April 21 with Mrs. Elwyn Robertson.

Miss Bonita Osborne Shower Honoree—
CHAMBERS—A pre-nuptial shower honoring Miss Bonita Osborne was held Saturday afternoon in the parlors of the Methodist church. Around 70 guests were present to enjoy an impromptu of a radio truth and consequences show. Songs and readings were presented for the consequences.

Participating in the program were the following high school girls: Cleo Beebe, Anna Gartner, Gloria Pavel, Dorothy Haake, Shirley DeHart, Viona Burgett, Carolyn Wintermute, Jennie Halsey, Mary Ellen Gillette and Lois Strong.

Refreshments were served by friends of the family.

Gary Brewster Joins Club—
The Grattan Flats 4-H club held a meeting at the home of Waldo Ernst Tuesday, March 15.

Gary Brewster joined our club. We discussed safety on fires and tornadoes. Mrs. Bernard Pongratz is safety leader. We judged killing jars used for entomology.

We had a good lunch and played games after the meeting. The next meeting will be at the home of Barbara Wayman March 28.—By Barbara Wayman, news reporter.

Miss Joellyn Eacker returned to Lincoln on Monday, March 14, after spending the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Eacker.



At Ft. Bliss

Pvt. Carl L. Goldfuss (above) has entered into the second eight-weeks' period of his training and is enrolled in a radar-division of advanced individual combat course at Ft. Bliss, Tex. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Oswald Goldfuss of Page and was employed as a truck driver when not helping his father with the farming.

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Church

METHODIST (Page-Inman)
Rev. Lesle E. Mewman, pastor
Thursday, March 24: Inman W. SCS meeting at 2:30 p.m.; choir practice and MYF at 7:30; nominating committee meeting at 8 o'clock; Page board of stewards meeting at 8 p.m.

Saturday, March 26: Inman building committee meeting at 1:30 p.m. Any others interested please plan to attend.

Sunday, March 27: Inman worship service at 9:45 a.m.; church school at 10:45 a.m.; Page church school at 10 a.m.; worship service at 11 a.m., with Rev. O. M. ("Pop") Fabre, guest preacher.

Page evangelistic services: March 27 to April 1 begin with a parish covered dish fellowship supper at 6:30 p.m., followed by the evangelistic service with "Pop" Fabre, mobile minister, as evangelist. These services will feature "The Living Bible" series of colored sound motion pictures followed by a message by the evangelist; each evening (at 8 o'clock on week nights). An offering will be taken each evening for the audio visual aids. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

Monday, March 28: Page youth council meeting at 7 p.m.
Thursday, March 31: Page W. SCS meeting; Inman choir practice and MYF at 7:30 p.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN (Chambers)
Rev. Howard Claycombe, pastor
Friday: Choir rehearsal, 8 p.m.
Saturday: Confirmation class, 10 a.m.

Sunday: Sunday - school and adult Bible class, 10 a.m.; divine worship, 11 a.m.
Monday: Sunday-school teachers' meeting, 8 p.m.

Tuesday: Lenten service, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Adult class, 8 p.m.
The family film and fellowship night rescheduled for last Sunday was held in spite of the snowy weather. Seventy-five were able to attend. Displays promoting missionary interest and education were shown by the nursery class, Sunday-school, Ladies Aid, young people's society, and Laymen's league. The display will remain in the church basement this weekend so those who were not able to see it may still do so.

CHURCH OF CHRIST (O'Neill)
Corner of Sixth and Grant
John Thomas, minister
Sunday, March 27: Bible school, 10 a.m.; communion and preaching, 11 a.m.; youth fellowship hour, 7 p.m.; evening worship at 8 o'clock.

Bible study and prayer session Wednesday, 8 p.m.
In the name of Jesus Christ we bid you a sincere welcome to these services.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES (O'Neill)

O'Neill, Newport and Clearwater will be represented by a delegation of 12 at the Christian assembly of Jehovah's Witnesses in Norfolk city auditorium, March 25, 26 and 27.

C. F. Andersen, presiding minister here and head of the delegation, said that over one thousand ministers from Nebraska circuit 1 will gather Sunday at 3 p.m., to hear L. E. Reusch, Watchtower representative from New York City, speak on the subject, "Why a New World is Possible." The lecture is free and is open to anyone.

METHODIST (Chambers)
Rev. J. M. Hodgkin, pastor
Sunday, March 27: Sunday-school, 10 a.m.; Eugene Baker, superintendent; worship, 11 a.m.

The fourth quarterly conference will be held at the church Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Rev. J. LaVerne Jay of O'Neill, district superintendent, will preach Sunday morning.

Family night will be held at the church on Sunday evening, March 27, with a program, guest speaker and lunch. Everyone is invited.

COMMUNITY (Stuart)
Rev. D. D. Su, pastor
Sunday, March 27: Sunday-school, 10 a.m.; worship service, 11 a.m.

Women's society will meet this afternoon (Thursday) at 2 p.m., in the church basement.

Senior youth fellowship will meet tonight (Thursday) at 7 o'clock, followed by choir rehearsal at 8 p.m.

CENTER UNION (O'Neill)
Rev. C. P. Turner, pastor
Sunday, March 27: Sunday-school at 10 a.m.; preaching at 11 o'clock; young people's meeting at 7:30 o'clock in the evening, preaching service at 8 o'clock.

Midweek prayer meeting and Bible study will be in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ernst Wednesday evening at 8 o'clock.

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Amelia News

Mr. and Mrs. Everett Smith of North Platte visited Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Waldo Wednesday and Thursday, March 16-17. They have also been visiting their son, Hampton Smith and family.

The Amelia Progressive club met Friday, March 18, with Mrs. Vern Sageser. All members were present except Mrs. Glen White, who was on the sick list. Mrs. Clyde Widman, president, had charge of the business meeting, after which the lesson leaders, Mrs. Ralph Rees and Mrs. Vern Sageser, demonstrated the last half of the "Broiler Meals" lesson. They prepared mock French fried potatoes, tomatoes, cabbage, hamburgers, peaches and cake, which was served for luncheon. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Elmer Coolidge.

The Lindsey's received word from their grandson and nephew, Marian Strenger, that he is now located near Nance, France.

The Women's Society of Christ-

Amelia News

ian service served the lunch at the Leo Brown farm sale. There was a good crowd present and the ladies sold all their food.

Mrs. Helen Kreymborg and son, Fritz, of Grand Island, called on Mrs. Vern Sageser Monday morning. Mrs. Kreymborg is the Hall county Home Agent at Grand Island.

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When the Lewis and Clark expedition came up the Missouri River in 1804, millions of buffalo roamed the plains. The explorers particularly noted the hunting skill of the Indians who brought down the great beasts with both arrows and spears.

How different the primitive life then from today's quiet community living! Nowadays, Nebraska taverns reflect a quiet friendliness where folks can gather to enjoy a glass of beer or ale, assured of well-regulated surroundings.

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Electricity

WORKS FOR YOU 24 HOURS A DAY—MAKE SURE IT WORKS EFFICIENTLY!

This can Rob You!

An "octopus" outlet in a home usually indicates obsolete wiring — and obsolete wiring robs you of the full efficiency and enjoyment you should be getting from your electrical appliances for today's — and tomorrow's — modern living.

Here's why...

Electricity flows through wire just like water through a pipe. You know that when you turn on too many faucets at one time, the water pressure from each faucet drops to a trickle.

The same thing happens when you connect too many appliances to an electrical circuit. The electrical "pressure" to each appliance drops to a trickle — you get inefficient operation. And that costs you money.

There's one other important point to keep in mind, too. Inadequate wiring is dangerous because overloaded circuits get hot and can cause fires.

THE WIRING IN 9 OUT OF 10 HOMES IS "OUT-OF-DATE!"
Do You have any of these symptoms?

- Blinking and dimming lights
- Sluggish operation of your appliances
- Too few lighting fixtures, convenience outlets, and switches
- Extension cord tangles
- Frequent blowing of fuses or opening of circuit breakers

If so, it will pay you to bring your wiring up to date.

MAKE SURE YOUR NEW HOME IS ADEQUATELY WIRED

If you are buying a new home, look for this Adequate Wiring Seal. Leading builders in Lincoln who display this seal are installing circuits not only for today but for tomorrow's electrical convenience.

MAKE SURE YOUR PRESENT HOME IS ADEQUATELY WIRED

You'll enjoy better living, and save money in the long-run, by bringing your electrical circuits up to date. You can finance the improvements easily with a low-cost long-term installment plan. Meanwhile, ask for free booklet "Getting the Most from Your Home Electric System."

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