

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

- Unit of currency
- Second President
- New deal agency (unit)
- Capuchin monkey
- Citrus fruit
- Animal's foot
- Province in India
- Quarrel
- Arrow poison
- Prefix: twice
- Pierce
- New Deal agency (init.)
- Unit of weight in India
- Place
- Runs away in panic
- Troopship
- Old French coin
- Address signal
- Conjunction
- Make merry
- Compass point
- Paradise
- Before
- Barred
- Compass point
- Group of three
- Stern
- Speckled
- Time gone by
- Pick out
- Devoured
- Hail
- Shuts noisily
- Pair

DOWN

- Snake
- Greek letter
- Metal
- Wolfhound
- Certificate issued as evidence of debt
- Part of "to be"
- Witty saying
- Blunt point
- Harvest goddess
- Crony (colloq.)
- Reverence
- Triangular sail
- Locations
- Period of time
- Condiment
- Adjusted to pitch
- Near
- City in Holland
- Hypothetical force
- Rent
- Item of property
- City
- American essayist
- Peeling
- French article
- Skill
- Comb. form: dawn
- Vessel
- Units of energy
- Electrified particles
- Posed for portrait
- The self
- Make solemn oath
- Cloth measure
- Game at marbles
- Greek letter
- Fair
- Babylonian deity

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Current Budget Session Veers To New Course, Tax Cuts Probed

By VINCENT THOMAS, Assemblyman, 68th District

Our current budget session has veered in a somewhat orthodox direction from that followed by its predecessors. Instead of concentrating on the budget bill to the exclusion of practically everything else, our attention is now focused on tax reduction.

In a series of swift moves which caught some observers by surprise the Senate committee on revenue and taxation sent to the floor with favorable recommendation a group of four measures which would lower State taxes.

Two of them relating to the personal income and corporation taxes would bring our State laws into conformity with Federal law and would produce savings estimated at \$5 million annually.

THE OTHERS are two different versions of the same thing, exemption of drugs, glasses, dentures, and orthopedic appliances from sales tax. Estimated reductions of the broader version would total \$15 million in State revenue per year, and those of the narrower, some \$9 million.

None of the proposed reductions is particularly new to us Legislators. In one form or another they have been brought before us for consideration in several previous sessions, but were not passed. This time, it seems quite probable that at least the broader drug exemption bill will be heard in both houses because a substantial majority of Senate members are co-authors.

PROponents of these tax cutting measures maintain that their enactments would remove serious inequities created by law without greatly impairing State revenue. In the case of the proposed income tax changes, it was also pointed out that California taxpayers would be relieved of a considerable burden of calculating their taxes on two different bases. A prospective surplus in the general fund of some \$73 million at the end of the fiscal year was cited as further justification for the reductions.

Opposition to the tax cut bills came first from spokesmen for the State administration. In general, it was based upon the contention that to make any tax cuts now might throw the \$2.5 billion 1960-61 budget out of balance and thus adversely affect State service. Any further exemptions from the sales tax were resisted on the ground that they would erode the principal revenue source for the general fund.

IT WAS ALSO stated that it is the intention of the administration to use the anticipated surplus for pay-as-we-go building construction.

An important factor in proposals for additional sales tax exemptions is their effect on city and county revenues. Under existing law the State collects a one per cent tax which is remitted to the local agencies for their use. Estimates fix the reductions in local revenues at \$5 million under the broad drug exemption bill, \$3 million under the other.

OTHER opposition to tax reduction at this time was voiced by spokesmen for organized school teachers, who expressed concern over the possibility that it might impair the ability of the State to meet its obligations. Representatives of the cities also joined in disapproval of the proposals for sales tax exemptions because of the loss of local revenues.

There can be no doubt that the action of the committee in sending these bills to the floor of the Senate or action has given all of us much food for thought. It has also given us a new approach to our State expenditure program for next year. Regardless of the final outcome on these four tax reduction bills, or any others of similar purpose, this particular budget session is sure to go down to history as very unusual and precedent making.

Sermon Topic For Seaside Church Told

"Jesus' Use of His Religious Training", is the sermon topic for next Sunday at the Seaside Community E & R Church. All Christians are invited to hear this interesting sermon at the 10:45 a.m. service. Child care is provided. Church School is held at 9:20 a.m.

Sunday evening the Senior Youth Fellowship of Seaside has invited the Senior Youth Fellowship of Mount Hope to be their guests at the evening meeting.

The mid-week lenten service on Wednesday starts at 7:30. Their will be slides and a talk on a visit to the Holy Land.

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