



**PRESENT GIFT . . .** Former Governor Goodwin J. Knight (left) receives a small gift from Charles J. Pecora, president of the Torrance-Lomita Board of Realtors, and George Hanback, first vice president of the board. Knight, a director of Imperial Bank, discussed "Profit's in Today's Business World" before a luncheon meeting of the board.

**TAX LIMIT PLAN**

**Oregon Voters Take Tax Matters into Own Hands**

By PHILIP E. WATSON  
County Assessor

Here in California, those of us close to the tax picture have warned time and again that property taxes are reaching the point where it may become impossible for the average citizen to keep his home. We have called for state action on a plan to put a 2 per cent ceiling on property tax. We have also warned that citizens may have to

take things into their own hands with an initiative petition if the legislature fails to act.

This is exactly what appears to be happening in our neighboring state of Oregon, where an initiative drive for a tax limit appears to be going like gangbusters.

The Oregon plan would limit total taxes on any piece of property to 1 1/2 per cent of its market value. This is

more restrictive than the 2 per cent limit we have proposed here in California. It also poses special problems in Oregon where local government is completely dependent on real estate taxes for its financial support.

SPONSORS of the initiative say that there will be no actual loss in current tax revenue to local agencies and schools, since they claim

Oregon assessments now are at a 75 per cent ratio of market value.

This view is not shared by school forces, many city officials, and certain well-placed state tax authorities.

Even so, the Oregon Homeowners Association—sponsor of the initiative—reports it has plenty of volunteers to circulate the petitions and property owners eager to sign them.

According to the Association, spot checks run by the group show that only seven citizens out of each 100 had refused to sign the petition and that the signatures were 90 per cent valid.

SO FAR, the Association says, about 30,000 names have been collected. The association says it expects to file the required 57,779 signatures before the July 7

deadline.

Gildemeister claims that the group now has a membership of 20,000 to 25,000 and hopes to reach 150,000 during the campaign. Even the present roster represents a show of strength in a state with a population of only 1.8 million.

Moving spirit behind the 1 1/2 per cent tax limit is Albert F. Gildemeister, a real estate broker.

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**Festive Dinner Made for Spring**

Spring is officially here, with agreeably longer days and gently warmer nights. Daffodils and tulips grace the landscape with their bright blossoms and many fruit trees are in full bloom.

Food markets also reflect the spring of the year with displays of young lamb, green and tempting fresh asparagus, and large pink stalks of rhubarb. A favorite spring dinner for family or guests could be made up of the following recipes using these market products:

**STUFFED LAMB CHOPS**  
8 lamb chops, double thickness  
1 cup mushrooms, chopped  
1/2 onion, chopped  
1/2 cup butter  
1 teaspoon chopped parsley  
1 cup bread crumbs, toasted  
Salt and black pepper, to taste

Have the butcher cut double lamb chops and remove one of the bones, splitting the chop to the remaining bone to allow a space for stuffing. Sauté the mushrooms and onion in butter until tender, season; add parsley and bread crumbs. This should be the right consistency for a stuffing, but if it should need more liquid to bind it together, use a little cream. Stuff chops; skewer together with toothpicks; broil (about 4-5 inches from unit) both sides until brown. Place chops in a casserole, cover, and put into a 350° oven for 20 to 30 minutes.

**ASPARAGUS WITH SOUR CREAM TOPPING**  
1/2 cup soft bread crumbs  
2 tablespoons butter or margarine, melted  
1 cup commercial sour cream  
1 teaspoon prepared mustard  
2 teaspoons lemon juice  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1 1/2 pounds fresh asparagus

Brown the bread crumbs in butter. Blend sour cream with mustard, lemon juice and salt; heat sour cream mixture slowly on WARM heat. Place the asparagus in a skillet, add a small amount of water, cover skillet and cook on HIGH heat until steaming, then on LOW for 10 minutes or until just tender. Drain and place in a warmed serving dish; top with hot sour cream mixture, then bread crumbs. Serve immediately. Serves 6.

**RHUBARB MERINGUE PIE**  
Unbaked 10-inch pie shell  
1 1/4 cup sugar  
1/4 cup flour  
3 cups cubed unpeeled rhubarb

1/2 teaspoon grated orange peel  
4 unbeaten egg yolks

Preheat the oven to 425°. Place in a bowl the sugar, flour, cubed unpeeled rhubarb, orange peel and unbeaten egg yolks. Thoroughly coat the rhubarb with the ingredients by tossing with a fork. Turn this mixture into the prepared pie shell and bake at 425° for 10 minutes, then turn the heat down to 325°. Bake until fruit bubbles, from 30 to 40 minutes. Remove the pie from the oven, allowing it to cool a little, while preparing the meringue.

Meringue: Beat 4 egg whites until they will hold a peak without effort and, adding very little at a time, stir in gradually 1/2 cup sugar. Don't beat the sugar in; it will melt and the meringue will lose its body. Just stir the sugar in slowly; as soon as it's combined with egg whites, stop. Pile meringue on the pie, very unevenly, being sure that it touches the edges of the pie shell. Place in oven for 10 to 15 minutes at 350° F., or until peaks are light brown.

**Obedience Club Holds Graduation**

Graduation of a novice Harbor Lite Dog Obedience Club class will be held at Peck Park Saturday at 2 p.m.

Handlers and dogs will be judged by point system, with a perfect score set at 200. Judging will include on heel on leash, automatic sit, figure eight, stand for examination, free heel, recall, long sit, and long down.

Highest scoring handlers and dogs will receive trophies and ribbons. A special trophy for the highest scoring junior handler will be awarded. All graduates will be presented certificates.

Registration for the two new Harbor Lite novice classes will be held Wednesday at 7 p.m. and April 23 at 2 p.m. at Peck Park, 560 N. Western, San Pedro.

Marty Lehr will instruct the classes which are limited to no more than 20 handlers and dogs. Animals should be at least three months old, but need not be pedigree. Regulation training clip collar and a six-foot leather leash are required to enter.

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