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BILLS FAULTILY WORDED

Two measures on the forthcoming election ballot deserve defeat at the hands of voters even though those same voters might favor the principles and motives behind the two bills. But both are so poorly written, so dangerous in their application, that they could be very damaging. One is the Oregon Old Age Pension Act. The other is the World War II Veterans' Bonus Amendment. A negative vote on each of these measures is not only recommended but urged. They are not good bills from a technical standpoint, without regard to the principles they propose to serve.

The pension bill apparently was drawn by advocates lacking knowledge of law or finance. It probably would cut Oregon off from federal aid, open the way for a raid on all other funds, and command violation of constitutional processes of government while being so confused in its language that it might possibly result in huge mass migration of indigents to the state to be supported by the commonwealth. In other words, it's a mess!

It proposes pensions of \$50 per month to each "needy" female 60 years of age or more and each "needy" male 65 years of age or more; sets up a commission for administration, and designates a policy that the state must "feed, clothe, house and provide hospital, medical, dental and other needed care, and provide decent burials for such needy citizens."

Our present policy of pension administration, on a basis of need under public welfare commissions, is set up by federal direction. The federal government matches state funds in paying old-age assistance. If the proposed bill should be approved, it is quite probable that federal aid would be withdrawn and the total cost would fall upon the state treasury.

Not all provisions of the bill are shown in the ballot title. One provision would appropriate money from surpluses in other funds and thus could bankrupt the industrial accident fund, unemployment compensation fund, state highway fund and others.

Another clause instructs the courts in their interpretation of the legislation. This decidedly is in violation of constitutional government. Voters have a right to amend the constitution, but only the courts are authorized to pass upon constitutionality.

It would be possible to write columns of words on fallacies and errors of this pension measure, without even discussing financial aspects of the stupendous cost, but it is so obvious that the bill is faulty in its structure that discussion of other factors would be superfluous.

The bonus bill is another structurally faulty measure. Through some oversight, the bill was so worded that, according to expert interpretation, it would exclude from benefits the men who served in the Oregon National Guard. It provides only for those men who ENTERED military service "between December 7, 1941, and September 5, 1945." Oregon National Guardsmen, who served with the gallant 41st Division, were called into service in 1940, and there is a grave question whether, under the wording of the bill, they would be entitled to receive the bonus.

Furthermore, the financing provisions are defective. The bonding limit is set at 3 percent of "assessable property in the state" which would allow a bond issue in the sum of \$42,042,886. But the total number of veterans is placed at 147,636, which would call for \$72,810,000 to pay the benefits on a maximum allowance basis. Where would the state get the \$32,000,000 difference? Even though a person might favor a bonus for veterans, this bill is so poorly drawn it should be beaten.

A third finance measure on the ballot—The Certificate of Necessity of Levying a Tax in Excess of the Six Percent Constitutional Limitation — referred by the Secretary of State should receive a "Yes" vote.

The state has incurred indebtedness in excess of the legal limitation. It has money on hand to pay the debt, but this money cannot be used without approval from the voters. Each department is limited in expenditures to the amount set forth in its biennial budget. So, while debt has been incurred, state finance officers cannot pay to the various funds more than the budget authorized. This possibility was foreseen by the legislature which submitted a sales tax proposal to the voters in an effort to prevent the deficit. The sales tax was beaten, allowing the deficit to accumulate.

The only way in which the state can levy a tax is to impose it on property. This, however, is only a technicality, as use of income tax surpluses is authorized to offset property taxes. But first, the state must be authorized to tax property for the amount of the deficit, whereupon an order will be made to offset the property tax from income tax money now on hand—another example of Oregon's patchwork, archaic tax system.

U. S. Troops Fight Germans

STUTTGART, Germany, Oct. 29.—(AP)—Germans fought American soldiers for the first time since the war yesterday in a riot of thousands who were protesting the high cost of living.

Two U. S. military policemen reportedly suffered minor stab wounds. At least two German policemen and 12 demonstrators were hurt.

American constabulary troops moved into the city with tanks, cavalry, machineguns and tear gas. They managed to stop the riot without using their weapons. No shots were fired.

German police arrested at least 20 demonstrators.

The riot broke out after a mass protest meeting of 40,000 Stuttgart workers who were protest-

ing against increased living costs.

Union Pacific Traffic Agency Stated in Eugene

EUGENE, Ore., Oct. 29.—(Special)—Establishment of a traffic general agency in Eugene, effective November 1, was announced today by Traffic Manager C. W. Evers of the Union Pacific Railroad, who said this action will enable the railroad to more adequately serve its patrons and in keeping with the growing importance and industrial development of the area.

Allen B. Taylor, chief of the railroad's department service bureau at Omaha, has been appointed general agent. Ronald W. McIntosh of Eugene will be traveling freight and passenger agent, and Charles T. Geary, Portland, will be chief clerk.

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OUT OUR WAY



Did you ever pick up an old photograph and wish you knew more about it? Do you have family heirlooms which some day will be left behind for others who perhaps will wish they knew more about them?

An editor's request for oldtime pictures, some years ago, suggested to me after hearing people talk about 'old pictures' they were hazy about because nothing was written on them—what a fine idea it would be if each one of us took the time to make a record of our possessions of interest to those who come after us.

If one has many such treasures, a little book, illustrated with snapshots, might be of great interest, don't you think?

I have an old blue and white coverlet about which I knew very little except that my great-grandmother, Sarah Orwell Durfee of Fall River, made it for my grandmother Rufina Durfee (Sprague) who lived in Western New York State. Wishing one day to know something about old coverlets, and being near the Los Angeles Library, I began the research and it was one of the most interesting 'hunts'!

About that time I read that de-

lightful book "Coat for a Soldier," by Florence Updegraff; that really helped me visualize the actual weaving!

Then I discovered the beautiful volume by The Coverlet Guild in Chicago. It is well illustrated.

Next I saw patterns for such coverlets and they look almost like music. How intricate they are! And the woman working at the loom has been likened to an organist except that her 'melody' is tangible after she finishes it, through the years. I sent a picture of my coverlet to the Guild and they were very kind: told me the name of the design—that was what I had been wishing to find out—"Four Lilies and a Snowflake." What a beautiful design for a bride-to-be!

It is, they said, a "summer and winter coverlet" because it was intended to have the side predominantly white uppermost in summer; and the reverse, mostly indigo blue, for winter. The lovely piece of work, with its center seam because made before the side looms came into use, is every day on the old four-poster for which it was made ninety-six years ago. Will the work of this generation's hands last like that?

As he plans it. Our Constitution should be read in our schools at regular intervals. Our youth should know what we stand for as a nation. Let every person who is of voting age read the Constitution before going to the polls. Then we will understand what it means to vote to keep our freedom.

There are forces working to undermine our liberties. Don't for one minute think that any government headed and controlled by a dictator is going to divide his authority with anyone. Communism is not all share-and-share-alike in the sense we have it put up to us. Yes, not only of property but of lives as well. The Communist government, and does hold the people only because the few have an education and no one has the financial means to develop himself or better his surroundings.

In our country we can choose our own line of work and fit ourselves for that line. Under Communism the choice belongs to the government and those who complain can go to prison camps.

Every citizen of the United States of America has a right to freedom, and we must not lose it. Roseburg has grown until we cannot realize how many people have chosen to come here to better themselves financially and in many other ways. How? Why? Because we live in a free country, and, as we often hear on the radio: "Freedom is everybody's business." Let's make it ours, individually.

MRS. EMMA P. WOODS
Roseburg, Ore.

Estate of Henry Ford Valued at \$70 Million

DETROIT, Oct. 29.—(AP)—The estate of the late Henry Ford would have a total valuation of approximately \$70,000,000 if figures used for tax payment purposes finally are approved.

This was indicated in an accounting prepared for Probate Court by Ford's widow, Clara J. Ford, as executrix.

The accounting showed total assets as of July 1, this year of \$31,451,909.36 exclusive of Henry Ford's stock holdings in the Ford Motor Co. Chief beneficiary under Ford's will was the Ford Foundation, to receive 286,089 class A (non-voting) stock of the Ford Company. The other 95,321 class B (voting) stock held by Mr. Ford were left to his four grandchildren.

The accounting showed that \$21,108,160.91 had been paid in federal estate taxes and \$1,500,000 in state and other inheritance and estate taxes.

By J. R. Williams

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

Cordon Makes Good

(Portland Oregonian)

There is sincere pleasure in recommending United States Senator Guy Cordon for reelection.

It is not only that the senator has lived up to his advance billing. He went into the Senate in 1944 as an ex-district attorney and with long training in the forestry and public lands problems of Oregon. With a sound legal mind and with this background, it was anticipated that he would be valuable as a representative of this state.

But he has gone far beyond what was required in these respects. What could not be foreseen by those not personally acquainted with him was that he would attack the problems of the Senate with almost unprecedented logic and with a truly tremendous sense of responsibility. Mr. Cordon knew the corridors of Congress long before he entered the Senate chamber, and entered without the usual illusions, but we do not know of any member of that body who takes the duties more seriously—and all the time without the usual claptrap. He has built up a remarkable efficient research system on the issues which come before him, and his knowledge and good humor have won the friendship of his colleagues.

Senator Cordon's familiarity with Western problems would make him the logical secretary of the interior in a Dewey administration, but apparently he is not a candidate for that position. In any event, he is and will be invaluable to Oregon. As a member of the Appropriations Committee of the Senate with important seniority, he is already close to being the key figure in all Western appropriations.

And meantime the senator's interests have widened remarkably. If there ever was anything provincial in his international views, that has been corrected by his trips abroad and his firsthand study of conditions. And he likewise has taken a growing interest in social legislation. The senator will never be classed among the professional liberals, but when the ballots are counted he is more liberal than most of those who are professional.

His vote of confidence should be overwhelming.

NEUNER FOR ATTY. GENERAL

(Salem Statesman)

George Neuner is so well known over the state and has won office so many times that it is taken for granted that he will be elected attorney general on the republican ticket next month. We think that forecast is correct; but would urge activity in his behalf to clinch his election.

Neuner has served as district attorney in Douglas county and on recommendation of Senator McNary was appointed U. S. district attorney for Oregon, holding that office for many years. He was appointed attorney general by Governor Snell on the death of I. H. Van Winkle. With industry and good conscience he has discharged the duties of that office. He has surrounded himself with able attorneys to handle the complicated legal business of the state.

There is one important reason why Neuner should be returned to office, and that is that the enemies he has made. At the direction of Governor Snell he admonished the sheriffs and district

attorneys of the state to get busy to enforce laws against illicit gambling devices. This struck at a very profitable racket which now, by report, seeks to compass his defeat. His reelection means that the state will have in the office of attorney general one who is firm in his stand for honest law enforcement.

Neuner isn't loing much campaigning himself, preferring to stand on his record. His friends, and the friends of good government should see to it that he is

relected by a comfortable majority.

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DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE

T. L. (Lewis) Weaver FOR STATE SENATOR

VOTE

30 X T. L. Weaver

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SNAPPER SAYS



It shouldn't happen to a dog! We'll bet he's saying, "These candid camera fiends outa be locked up somewhere." Maybe so, maybe so, but if you are a camera fiend you naturally want the best tools you can get, don't you? Well—

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