## The news Review

THE COST OF DELAY
By CHARLES V. STANTON
Much more will be at stake than the mere annexation
of territory when suburban areas vote Tuesday on the
matter of union with the city. The election, in fact, will
have effects for good or ill for the next ten years as a
minimum.
It is possible, for instance, to put a finger on at least
$\$ 150,000$ that will be lost to the community during the en-
suing 10 years if West Roseburg residents turn down the
annexation proposal. During the same period, and on the
same basis of measurement, West Roseburg residents would
pay approximately $\$ 80,000$ in taxes.
Municipalities receive 10 per cent of the revenue col-
elected by the State of Oregon from motor vehicle licenses
and gasoline taxes together with a share of liquor license
revenue. The money is distributed on a per capita basis
as determined by the last census. The next census will
be made in 1950 and it will be upon that enumeration that
the state will distribute funds to the cities for the next
10 years.
The West Roseburg area proposed for annexation is estimated to contain approximately 2,000 persons. Starting
next year, allocations to municipalities from state funds next year, allocations to mumicipainties iron state funds
will amount to $\$ 7.25$ per capita. Thus an increase of 2,000
persons would bring $\$ 14,500$ annually more to the City of persons would bring $\$ 14,500$ annually more to the City Roseburg than if annexation is refused. Another census
will not be made until 1960 . Thus, if annexation is not
voted, Roseburg stands to lose a minimum of $\$ 145,000$ during the 10 -year period -an amount which easily can be raised to $\$ 150,000$ considering the fact that motor vehicle
registrations and gasoline tax revenue will increase maregistrations and gasoline tax revenue will increase ma-
terfally during the next 10 years. The West Roseburg area voting on annexation has an
assessed valuation of about $\$ 500,000$, which, at present assessed valuation of about $\$ 50,000$, which, at present
tax rates, would raise about $\$ 8,000$ annually. Thus, for
$\$ 8,000$ in taxes, Roseburg can gain an additional $\$ 14,500$ $\$ 8,000$ in taxes, Roseburg can gain an additional $\$ 14,500$
to $\$ 15,000$ each year. If the money is not claimed by Roseto $\$ 15,000$ each year. If the money
burg it will go to some other mun
fund is distributed to cities only.
Another factor pertains to the business and industrial field. A population of 10,000 persons is a "breaking point" for many business and industrial lines. Certain organi-
zations will not place an agent or an agency in a city of less than 10,000 population. When a population of 10,000 is reached, a large number of agencies are made available
to existing business firms and a city becomes eligible fo various cha
interested.
Population within the present city boundaries probably amounts to from 7,500 to 8,000 . Union with West Res Miller's Addition and Sleepy Hollow, also voting on annex a brought to 11,000 or 12,000 .
Roseburg's population figure in the 1940 census was
4,924 . If in the 1950 census we can show from 10,000 to 12,000 , the great increase will attract attention in business and financial circles which watch growth figures carefully. We can anticipate an immediate favorable reaction in the
growth of industry and business. Research shows that approximately 80 per cent of a city's total tax bill is paid by its business and industrial installations. Therefore, if
Tuesday's elections in West Roseburg and Miller's Addition and Sleepy Hollow are favorable, we can expect during
the next few years a vastly increased assessed valuation from business and industrial sources with a resultant lowcering of the base tax rate.
If Tuesday's vote should be unfavorable, these population factors cannot be corrected until after the 1960 census and
all potential benefits during the intervening period will be all vote
lost.
We
ponents to annexation will admit that the suburban territory immediately adjacent to city boundaries will be forced
by necessity for protection to join the municipality within the next 10 years.
Why then, considering the heavy financial loss that
would be suffered in the meantime, should union be further delayed This probably
census deadline.
O. S. C. Girl Students In "Chooser" Position



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