

The News-Review

Published Daily Except Sunday by the News-Review Company, Inc.
 Entered as second class matter May 3, 1926, at the post office at Roseburg, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.
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 Member of the Associated Press, Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, the Audit Bureau of Circulations, Inc., and the National News-Review Company, Inc.
 SUBSCRIPTION RATES: In Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$10.00; six months, \$5.25; three months, \$2.75. By News-Review Carrier—Per Year, \$12.00; six months, \$6.50; three months, \$3.50. Outside Oregon—By Mail—Per Year, \$11.00; six months, \$5.75; three months, \$3.25.

THE COST OF SCHOOLS

By CHARLES V. STANTON

Action by voters in Roseburg's consolidated school district, approving the largest bond issue in local history, is gratifying. Particularly pleasing was the large and representative vote.

The election indicates the willingness of people, despite a depressing burden of taxes, to make personal sacrifice for education of our children.

We give much thought today to the defense of our country; to the defense of our particular form of government and its democratic ideology. Generally we translate that thought into planes, guns, tanks, ships, ammunition and fighting men and women. But the most essential element of defense is an intelligent public—a public able to understand and analyze. Our schools, therefore, constitute our first line of defense. Money spent for better schools is expended for national defense as surely as dollars used for armament.

As a nation we always have looked upon our schools as sacred institutions. Throughout our national history we have made personal sacrifice for the sake of education. The school, rough though it might be, advanced with the frontier. The same spirit is manifest today in our school affairs, particularly on this West Coast where nearly every community is struggling with critical school problems.

Better Cost Distribution Needed

It was interesting to note in Friday's election that the opposition was out in full strength. Analysis of previous city and school elections indicates that there is a consistent negative vote of slightly more than 500 in the City of Roseburg. Taking in the surrounding suburban area and the districts recently added to the school district the opposition topped 600. We can anticipate that this is approximately the maximum negative vote to be cast in future elections of similar nature.

We heard some of the negative argument. While we disagree with a large part of it, there is one point with which we fully agree and that is the need for better distribution of school cost.

Some of the opposition vote comes from people who simply oppose anything that adds taxes, no matter how worthy the project. Others feel that our school system is too complex; that "frills" could be eliminated. The majority, however, favor an adequate school system but protest the taxing method. They feel that, inasmuch as the tax load falls upon property exclusively, that only taxpayers should be permitted to vote on bond issues. A controversy has raged around this debatable topic for many years. Oregon had such a law at one time but it was repealed.

Sales Tax Desirable

It is our personal opinion that only through a sales tax can we secure equitable distribution of school costs. Too many people, having little or no property investment, have children receiving the benefits of our school system.

They contribute indirectly through income taxes and rentals, it is true. They have little or no property, however, pledged as security on bonds. Nor, we believe, do they pay taxes in equal proportion to the property owner in support of schools.

A sales tax, used at least in part to aid schools, would, we believe, lighten the load on property owners, at the same time distributing school costs more equitably over the benefited population.

Insofar as a better distribution of the tax load is concerned, we can join opinions expressed by opposition voters.

We can expect our school problem to become even more serious as time goes on. It will continue to bring complications and heavy tax burdens until we cease to grow and until assessed valuations and tax levies, now lagging two or three years behind population increases, catch up.

The newly authorized bond issue will possibly furnish us a brief respite, providing our boom growth does not take a sudden spurt. But we can anticipate that it will not be long until we will be asked for more capital investment.

We would do well in the meantime to be thinking of ways and means to better equalize our school costs.

Scrap
From the
MENDING BASKET
Vahnett Martin - P.O. Box 874 - Drain, Ore.

Was the weather better or not so good in "the good old days" here in Oregon? Well, let's take a look at what the Reverend Gustav Hines has to say in his 5-year diary of the 1840's which was published as "Wild Life in Oregon etc." (State library Oregon collection).

For a proper understanding of the nature of the climate of this country it is necessary to consider the summer and winter separately. . . . The winds which prevail here, as in every other part of Oregon in the winter, are from the south and east, sometimes veering to the southwest. There is no definite period in the fall when these winds commence blowing, but the different seasons vary in this respect.

"Sometimes we have a touch of them about the twentieth of September, but this is regarded only as a timely reminder of what we are subsequently to realize. Some seasons these winds set in for good about the tenth or fifteenth of October, but others, they do not come until late in November.

"The commencement (of an Oregon winter) may be considered as ranging from the first of October to the first of January and the medium is about the middle

of November. Sometimes they come on gradually, but some seasons they burst on the country at once, and with the violence of a thunder storm. These winds bring with them always continued falls of rain; and therefore the period of their continuance is properly called the rainy season.

"Along the Pacific coast these storms are more violent and the rains more abundant than they are in the Wallamette valley. When fully set in, these rains generally continue, with occasionally a very short interval, for two or three months, and sometimes four, after which there is a month of warm pleasant weather. This comes sometimes in February, sometimes in March, but is generally followed by three or four weeks of cold, chilly rains, from the south and west."

(More Tomorrow)

Many Eskimo igloos have animal-skin linings in them to provide air space for insulation and to prevent drip on the occupants.

American engineers recently completed a 350-mile railroad in the Middle East, linking the Persian Gulf oil port of Dammam to Riyadh.

Taking the Patient for a Ride



Fulton Lewis Jr.

WASHINGTON REPORT

WASHINGTON — A senate investigating committee is looking into Communist activity on university campuses, including the infiltration of Red propaganda in college newspapers and textbooks.

The ripest example at the moment is at the University of Michigan, where Muscovite stooges are concentrating on the student body with a barrage of Kremlin-inspired boiney. Within the past month a publication called New Foundations was scattered across the campus. This rag, financed by the Communists, attempts to arouse the students with the charge that their academic freedom is being curtailed. The big pitch, however, is an attempt to build a bonfire on college campuses for student support in repealing the Smith Act. This is the law that sent the Communist party leaders to the Federal Penitentiary.

This Marxist publication, which is getting wide distribution on other college campuses as well as Michigan, urges the students to join "intellectuals who have demanded peace and have now spoken against the Smith Act." The Red rag lists newspapers like the New York Post, The Daily Compass, The Madison Wisconsin, Capital Times, The Boston Chronicle, The National Guardian, The Philadelphia Tribune, The Oklahoma Black Dispatch, the Afro-American, magazines like the New Republic and the Nation and columnists like Eleanor Roosevelt, Marquis Childs and Max Lerner. It says they are all helpful to its cause.

The Communists make a special appeal to an organization called Students for Democratic Action. It praises this organization for having opposed, at its 1951 convention, the Smith Act and for having demanded repeal of the law that sent the Red leaders to jail.

The propaganda is having an effect. At the University of North Carolina the student newspaper, The Daily Tar Heel, in a front page editorial, which was described as expressing the publication's official policy, a public appeal was made to university students to start battling for their freedoms.

Since most of the students appeared to be unaware that they had lost any, the response was less than gratifying to the author, a campus hot shot, who is the leader of the Students for Democratic Action. He says thought and discussion have been stifled on the campus, and bemoans the fact that the Com-

Winston Man On Korean Front

By MRS. GEORGE BACHER

ing with the U. S. Army in Korea with the U.S. Army in Korea. Letters received by friends indicate that he is stationed along the front in the midst of the heaviest fighting. Ross is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Art Goodwin of Winston and was a student of the Dillard School prior to entering the service several months ago.

Winston News Briefs: Of interest to residents in this locality was the statement released by Homer Rhodes, logging truck owner and operator. Rhodes hauls for the C and D Lumber Company of Dillard. Most of the timber has been coming from Riddle. Instead of going to local retail merchants for domestic use, the loads of lumber are being stamped "Casa Blanca, French Morocco" then shipped out from Coos Bay. The materials will be used in the construction of Air Force bases there, he said. Earlier shipments went to Korea for the same purpose.

Miss Sonja Rhodes has resumed her studies at the Columbia Academy in Battle Ground, Wash., following a week's illness at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Rhodes, in Winston section. Miss Rhodes made the trip here by plane.

The flu epidemic has slowed down progress on the current Red Cross campaign. Most of the housewives who had volunteered their services in the soliciting report illness in their families. Mrs. Everett Johnson and Mrs. W. I. Wands have joined the ladies who are attempting to make a door-to-door canvass in spite of the handicap. Others serving include Mrs. Homer Rhodes, Mrs. Ted Peterson, Mrs. John Pearce and Mrs. Marshall Haughn.

PFC Clarence (Bud) Walker has been transferred from Camp Rucker, Ala., to Ft. Hood, Tex., for maneuvers, according to word received by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Walker, Sr. of this community. Young Walker was recently in Winston for a furlough.

In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from Page One)

took roughly FOUR DOLLARS out of the state of Oregon for each ONE DOLLAR that it returned to the state of Oregon.

Question:

If we felt that we wanted, needed and had to have all these things, wouldn't we have been FAR better off if we had PROVIDED THEM FOR OURSELVES right here in Oregon and had paid for them with our own Oregon money? As it was, we sent four dollars to Washington and got one dollar back.

Why did all this happen?

Here's what I think:

It happened because we permitted TOO MUCH GOVERNMENT TO BE REMOVED FROM THE STATE HOUSES, THE COURT HOUSES AND THE CITY HALLS AND TAKEN TO WASHINGTON. Things like that always happen when the people permit government to get too big and too far away.

The big job that lies ahead of us, as I see it, is to bring more of our government back to the state houses, the court houses and the city halls. The federal government's job, BASICALLY, is the conduct of foreign relations and national defense. That job can be done ONLY by the federal government.

There are, of course, things that can be handled better by the federal government than by the states, the counties and the cities. Such things as radio, television, long distance communications, air and land transport—all of which cross state lines from one end of the country to the other. This is a big nation, and as such it has certain problems that can obviously be handled more efficiently by the national government than by local governments.

But in the 18 years covered by these Oregon figures the tendency has been to take too much LOCAL government away from the states, the counties and the cities and move it to Washington.

That is a DANGEROUS tendency. Its dangers are admirably illustrated by Oregon's experience during these 18 years.

Among all the candidates for

President in this campaign year only one, Senator Russell, Democrat, of Georgia, has publicly recognized this danger that faces us and has demanded that more of our government be brought back from Washington and lodged again in the states, the counties and the cities.

I wish more of our candidates would join with Senator Russell in his demand for MORE local government and LESS big national government.

I feel strongly that in these 18 years we have permitted too much of our local government to be taken away from us. Therein lies the root of a lot of our troubles.

Ike's Interest In GOP Battle Seems To Mount

By The Associated Press

Gen. Eisenhower's interest in the Republican presidential nomination seemed to be growing Friday as support mounted in the wake of his clean sweep over Sen. Taft in the New Hampshire presidential primary.

Eisenhower's Washington headquarters late Thursday released part of a letter from him to an unnamed close friend which said in effect he would not turn his back on party workers and leaders later.

It sounded like he was telling those "in the rank and file" he wouldn't forget them if elected.

Earlier in a cable from Paris warmly thanking New Hampshire supporters for their work, the general appeared to talk like a candidate whose enthusiasm is mounting.

In Minnesota contest Minnesota supporters, encouraged by his opening victory, launched a campaign for write-in votes for Eisenhower in that state's primary next Tuesday.

In Washington, backers still eager for him to return and put up a fight—despite his statement he will not take part in pre-convention campaigns—saw the New Hampshire victory was the "clear cut call to political duty." The general

Anaconda Bus Depot Hit By \$750,000 Fire

ANACONDA, Mont. (AP) — Fire fed by exploding gasoline tanks did an estimated \$750,000 damage in a downtown business block Friday before it was brought under control.

Flames roared through the garage, office and depot of the Inter-mountain Bus Co., destroying five buses. Three buses were saved.

Harold E. Stassen, another GOP candidate, campaigning in Wisconsin said he has not promised to deliver his delegation to Eisenhower if he fails to win at Chicago in July. He said his supporters, in such an event, can make up their own minds whom to support.

Taft continued a workhorse schedule in the Southwest, making speeches—all denouncing the Truman domestic and foreign policies—holding news conferences and attending dinners. He said in Albuquerque he still thinks he will have enough delegates to win in Chicago. He moves into Arizona Friday.

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DON'T FAIL TO HEAR "THE CROSLY STORY"

As only R. D. McGUIRE can tell it. Mr. McGuire will be in Roseburg and make a personal appearance. The date and place will be announced later. No Admission Charged.

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