

The News-Review

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MONDAY'S ELECTION

By Charles V. Stanton

Voters in Roseburg and Green school districts should not forget the special consolidation election to be held Monday.

If the election follows the normal pattern, only a handful of voters will go to the polls, particularly in the Roseburg district. A more representative vote may be expected at Green.

Coming during the Christmas rush, the election faces a handicap insofar as turnout of voters is concerned. It will demand extra special attention if we are to have any substantial number of persons at the polls. Yet the project deserves an expression from every qualified individual.

The election has another handicap. The problem involved is technical. Too few people are sufficiently informed upon its many ramifications. Many will stay away from the polls because they feel they cannot vote intelligently.

It is our opinion, however, that everyone can vote intelligently upon the matter of policy. The big issue, we believe, is whether school districts should be enlarged to embrace area of mutual interest, thereby affording better educational advantages for the children residing within the area.

Large Districts Gaining Favor

Educational experts—the people who have made careful study of school administration—almost unanimously favor larger districts.

On the other hand, there has been much public resistance to consolidations because of the jealousy with which we guard our schools. It is traditional that we desire to hold close control over our schools and we dislike to surrender to larger organizational administration acting to centralize authority.

The educational system, however, is becoming increasingly complex. The one-room school, which marked the inception of our public school system, is rapidly passing from the American scene. Yet most of our thinking is based on that almost obsolete pattern.

While we are still thinking in terms of the one-room schoolhouse and the Three R's, our school system has expanded into elementary, junior high, senior high, junior college, vocational schools, etc., while departments have taken on numerous extra curricular activities. As the American home has broken down through changes wrought by modern living, our schools have taken over responsibility for training previously furnished in the home. Our girls are taught to sew, cook, manage a home and family—instruction formerly obtained from the mother. Our boys are taught crafts, trades, mechanics and home responsibility. These lessons formerly were given by dads. Unfortunately, neither the home nor the school is furnishing the spiritual guidance, once obtained in the family circle, and as a result we find a critical problem of juvenile delinquency.

As our schools accept added responsibility, administration becomes more complex and expensive. It is the claim of experts that larger districts are conducive to more efficient administration and greater economy. This contention has been proven by experience.

Transportation Is Factor

One factor contributing to efficiency of larger administrative units is that of transportation. Much of our thinking on size of school districts is influenced by recollections of the days when we had to walk to and from school. Many of us walked several miles. Today a child is transported by bus for a distance of 24 or 30 miles in the same elapsed time we required to walk to and from school, even if we obeyed the parental objection to "come straight home," which we seldom did.

Arguments about district valuations, census value per child, bonded indebtedness, etc., leave us cold. The things that matter, it seems to us, is whether we can improve educational opportunity for the children of the area, whether the program is desirable 10 or 20 years from now rather than today, and whether the districts proposed to be consolidated are related geographically and economically to form an efficient administrative unit.

In the current issue we believe the answers are all in the affirmative.

But regardless of whether you agree with us that the consolidation is desirable, it is your duty to vote Monday.

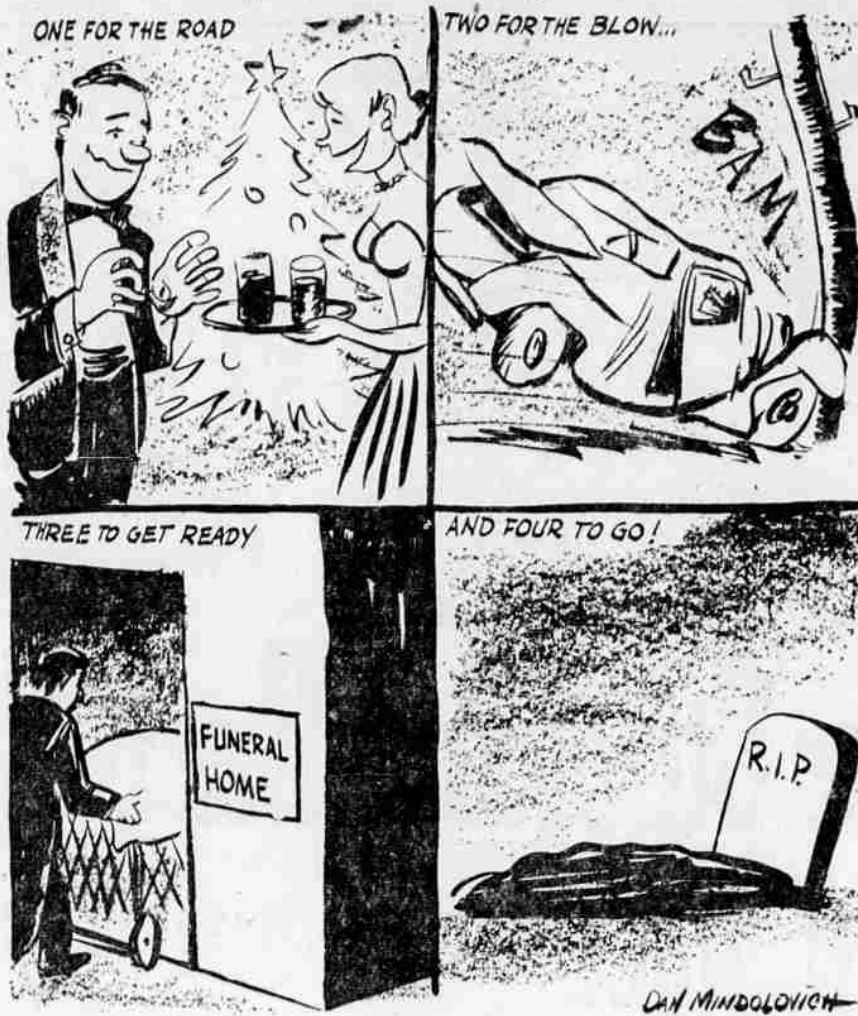
The election is from 2 to 8 p.m. The Roseburg district, No. 4, will have five polling places—Junior high school for Benson, Caro, Deer Creek, Hamilton, Hermann, Lane, Mill, Miller, Parrott, Roseburg, Umpqua and Woodward voting precincts; Library Arts building at the Senior High campus for Brown, Fairhaven, Laurelwood, West Roseburg and Wharton precincts; Riverside school for all Edenbower and Winchester precincts, and Wilbur and Melrose schoolhouses for those districts. Green district will vote at the Green school building.



After church we just kept on going, and found sunshine on the other side of the tunnel. The thing I can't understand is why our radio—does yours do it, too?—goes absolutely silent the instant we enter the tunnel, and comes on clear the second we leave it. What about buildings with steel structure? And all the "interference" there must be in a big city? Yet there the radios keep on, clearly!

We stopped beside the river, at a favorite view, while we heard the returned General speak, and how thankful we were for his safe return! Seems to us that Dwight David Eisenhower is not afraid of

Dirge To A Drinking Driver



Fulton Lewis Jr. WASHINGTON REPORT

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WASHINGTON — Anyone possessing information on how to end the Korean war would be an imbecile to submit it to President Truman, Secretary of State Dean Acheson, or almost any other high official of the present administration.

Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who says he has a plan for ending the Korean war, is probably more aware of the futility of seeking action from Truman and Acheson than any other prominent military leader in America. While in Japan, the general spent months pleading with the Pentagon, White House and State Department for adequate supplies, equipment, manpower and permission to execute a workable battle plan. All he got for his pains was abuse from Mr. Truman, which continues to this day.

One of the major reasons it would be foolhardy to appraise the administration of a victory plan for Korea is that the odds are 100 to one that the battle plan would be in Russia's hands within 48 hours. It would get there by one of two methods. Either via the Communist-ruled United Nations, where all strategic plans for Korea are submitted, or via Soviet Agents who remain inside the American Government.

Mr. Truman charges that MacArthur's silence, if the general has a victory strategy for Korea, is costing more American lives hourly. This is the ripest type of political demagoguery, a word the President has reserved to describe President-elect Eisenhower's morale-boosting trip to Korea.

If the Eisenhower-MacArthur meetings do produce a victory strategy it will be less costly in American lives in the long run, because the odds are that the Chinese and North Korean Communists won't know what it is and from where the attack is coming. It is almost as important now to keep the secret from the present administration as it is the Communists. Far too many suspicious characters are in the State Department, plus the perpetual left-wing gabbers in the White House, who could not refrain from making jokes about anything MacArthur would suggest.

No one but an outright traitor would hand over to the Russians our military plans for Korea. We can hope there are none on the government payroll at the moment, but it is only a hope. Sending the plans to the Kremlin intact is not the way we are normally betrayed, however.

If there is to be an Eisenhower-MacArthur victory plan it will require the cooperation of the Defense Department, the Department of State, the Treasury Department, and almost every emergency agency or bureau now operating in Washington. If more troops are needed they have to be

head caught the last few days, several from the bank. How can a fish see "egg bait" in that muddy water?

We wondered if the Bradshaws were ready for high water at Echo? We noted a lot of their boats idly in a row on the opposite side of the highway. For a wonder we didn't stop there. My, haven't they made that "port" a pretty place! Quite a port, too. That pool is so lovely; and Mrs. B's fuchsias and other flowers are proof she has a green thumb. We liked the new Oregon State Highway signs at the construction near Reedsport: "next 2 miles under construction to provide a modern highway for your future benefit. Please drive carefully." And at the end of the 2 miles: "Thank you for your patience." What a wonderful work the State Highway Commission is accomplishing! And Douglas County is only a part of it.

ordered into action; if more supplies are required they have to be produced and shipped. And under the present set-up the State Department must be notified and its approval obtained for such activity.

Russia already is at work trying to divine what Eisenhower and MacArthur have in mind. Couriers from the Kremlin have undoubtedly been dispatched with orders to their overseas comrades, including those in the U.S.A., Moscow doesn't want to lose in Korea.

An agent of the Kremlin does not need a blueprint. One Communist in the State Department, reading a secret diplomatic cable, may get a fragment of the total plan; another in the international monetary fund picks up an unrelated tidbit; a White House "expert" can talk too much at a Washington cocktail party. But by hit the Communist underground assembles its fragments of secret information for transmittal to the Kremlin. There Soviet military experts put the mosaic together. This is not fiction; it's the way it could be done unless any victory plan for Korea is guarded with the utmost secrecy. It has been done many times in the past.

If the Communists lose in Korea they may lose control of Asia. Preventing a U. S. victory there is as important to the Kremlin as securing the secrets of the hydrogen bomb, and we are all aware of how busy the little Muscovites have been on that project.

I do not propose to tell Gen. MacArthur what to say in answer to Mr. Truman's demands that the general fork over any ideas he might have on winning in Korea. But if I had the job to do I would tell Mr. Truman that when he steps up and cooperates in cleaning out the Communists now sheltered in his administration and the United Nations, I would then—and only then—consider discussing the road to victory in Korea.

We can't trust the present administration to keep anything from the Kremlin. Disturbing as it is, public exposure has proved it time and again.

WAR KIDS NOW PROBLEM

NAPLES — Some of the little boys who found friendly GIs "easy marks" during World War II have grown up to become Naples' biggest police headache.

The youths, now in their late teens and early 20s, are still practicing the "trades" that hunger taught them during the war—chiefly pickpocketing and theft of automobiles, their parts and contents.

Hunger still is the cause of some of the crime. Habit also plays a part. Despite an all-out drive by police, the problem will probably continue, says a Naples police official.

In the Day's News

(Continued From Page One)

singing stuff (in the bath or elsewhere) WENT OUT when all these modern gadgets came in. It's getting so it takes all the time any normal person can get away from his job to keep the darned things in repair.

More on this modern life: When this man Humphrey of Cleveland, was notified that Ike had announced his appointment as secretary of the treasury, he commented to the reporters:

"It will be an important family, business and financial sacrifice for me, but I COULDN'T SLEEP NIGHTS IF I DIDN'T DO IT. "I expect nothing but headaches and plenty of them."

The mess in Washington being what it is and has been, I reckon he's right.

Which prompts another thought: Wouldn't it be wonderful if we could get the finances of our federal government into such a condition of safety and sanity and solvency that the secretary of the treasury of the United States of America could read and relax and sing in his bath every day?

While we're on that subject, I can think of something that would be STILL MORE WONDERFUL.

Namely: Getting the finances of our federal government back into such a condition of safety and sanity and solvency that taxes could be reduced to the point where along about the 15th of March I COULD READ AND RELAX AND SING IN MY BATH.

Each of us, you know, is interested in HIMSELF first.

Seriously, though, I was pleased to hear Mr. Humphrey, who is one of our top industrialists, say he couldn't sleep if he refused to tackle the terrific job Ike had dared him to tackle.

It takes big men to get away with BIG JOBS, and if the time ever comes when they are unwilling to face the responsibilities involved in giving the best they have to the public good, we'll be sunk.

Williamsburg, Va., was once capital of a province which included territory now covered by Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin and parts of Pennsylvania.

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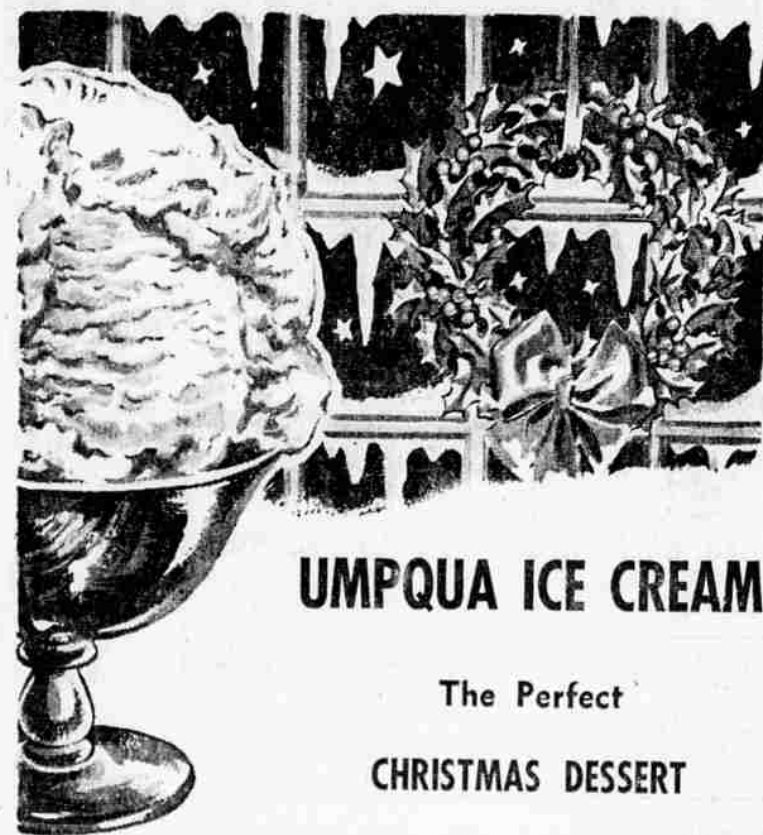
HEAR TEX SING — "HIGH NOON"

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GOOD DANCE MUSIC



Ice Cream knows no season! It is as popular at Christmas as it is during summer. Look for the many new, interesting flavors now being featured at your local grocers. Buy and serve rich Umpqua Ice Cream to your guests. They'll appreciate your thoughtfulness as a hostess.

Buy the Christmas Tree Center brick at your grocers. Just slice and serve during this holiday season. There's no other dessert so easily prepared. Buy a quart today.

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