

# The News-Review

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## VOTE SCHOOL BUDGET!

Charles V. Stanton

Elsewhere on this page today are letters both for and against the budget which comes before voters of the Roseburg school district at tomorrow's special election.

We find disturbing some of the opinions expressed in the letters opposing the budget; disturbing because of the emotional appeal and unrealistic appraisal of facts and conditions.

Just because the old one-room school, with its rough-hewn seats and benches, its common drinking cup, poor lighting and ventilation, with heat from a wood or coal-burning stove, produced educated people for their day and age, how many parents would want their children to attend such schools today? How many qualified teachers could we employ for \$35 or \$40 a month?

But \$35 or \$40 per month in the times referred to by the writer was a salary comparable with that received by other workers.

The reader should also keep in mind that the average worker in those days had no automobile, no radio, no refrigerator, no washing machine, no electric or gas range, nor other of the comforts considered essential in the modern home. A person could buy for \$12 a suit of clothes comparable with a \$75 suit today. Can we expect today's schools at yesterday's costs?

### Facts Versus Emotion.

The writer endorsing the budget proposal urges people who have honest questions about the budget to seek facts. It has been the effort of this newspaper to bring to the voters of the district the facts as outlined by the school board budget committee, citizens advisory committee and school officials. We know of no more qualified source for such information.

Members of the school board are men and women willing to accept election to a thankless job because of their interest in the welfare of our schools. They are taxpayers. The budget committee is chosen from among representative and civic-minded citizens willing to advise with the school board in the preparation of the budget. They are taxpayers. The advisory committee is composed of many citizens selected for their knowledge of the various factors entering into the financing and administration of a school district. They are taxpayers.

Certainly this large group of dedicated men and women, who have made intimate study of school demands, yet who, because they pay taxes, are equally interested in economy, are entitled to a vote of appreciation from the residents of the district rather than the criticism that has been heaped upon them.

We believe that these men and women who have carefully examined into the school situation—men and women of highest integrity—and who, like the rest of us, must pay the bills, are more qualified to advise us than are those who have made no study of the schools but who simply oppose taxes per se.

### These Not "Good Ol' Days"

If we are to be practical, rather than emotional, in our consideration of the school budget, we must realize that, just as a modern home costs from three to five times as much to build as was the case a few years ago, a school building costs in the same proportion.

With salaries three to five times higher than before inflation, we can't expect to employ qualified teachers and supervisors at yesterday's wages. Nor can we expect to hire qualified instructors at less than they can obtain elsewhere.

Just as everything we buy for the home costs far more today than it did a few years ago, so it costs more for equipment, supplies, furniture, textbooks and everything entering into the operation of our schools.

We can yearn for the "good ol' days" but we doubt if many people would really want to live under those conditions now.

And so it is with our schools. If we want schools meeting the demands of today, we must expect to pay today's prices for education.

We must decide tomorrow whether we want efficient schools or whether our school system is to be so badly crippled that it will take many years for recovery. We should face this issue squarely on a basis of fact and not emotion.

We believe the advice given us by men and women in whom we have the utmost trust that we can't maintain efficiency in our schools with less money than asked for in the budget. It seems the proof of that claim is to be found in the very fact that we will have more children in school and, therefore, will need more money than last year. Surely we can't expect to educate more children with less money.

Honest appraisal of school needs, in our opinion, should compel every person having a real interest in the welfare of our school system to support the budget at tomorrow's election.

# Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—"It is a rather pleasant experience to be alone in a bank at night."

Now who would say a thing like that? Well, as a matter of fact, Willie Sutton, the notorious bank bandit, tossed off the remark while philosophizing on the rewards of a career that has kept him behind prison bars most of his life.

It is one of several thousand quotations collected by Jim Simpson and Ann Gillis, the sprightly lady who bosses NBC's "Who Said That?", the most durable of all TV panel quiz programs.

Feeling that Bartlett did a good job for his day but that someone ought to also preserve the attic wit and glided wisdom of the current generation, Simpson and Miss Gillis are bundling together for book publication the quotations they feel best reflect our times.

Most books of quotations lean too heavily on poets and politicians. Miss Gillis and her co-workers have a more cosmopolitan approach. They see no reason why a really witty observation by a gangster—or a housewife—shouldn't be preserved by posterity.

As a result their volume promises to reflect the real mental life of our recent past more accurately than a formal history.

**Gem Highlights**

Here, for example, are a few gems from their collection which should help give posterity some kind of insight on the kind of human beings who dwell in the middle of the 20th century.

"A committee is a group that keeps minutes and loses hours"—Milton Berle.

"May the Lord bless you real good"—Favorite benediction of evangelist Billy Graham.

"Politics is the diversion of trivial men who, when they succeed at it, become important in the eyes of more trivial men"—George Jean Nathan.

"Age is no matter. You can be ravishing at 30, charming at 40, and irresistible—Mama de Chantal, French perfumer.

"Behold the turtle. He makes progress only when his neck is out"—James B. Conant, former president of Harvard.

"Washington is a place where half the people are waiting to be discovered—and the other half are afraid they will be"—Rep. Hugh Good of Pennsylvania.

**Good Calf Beats Head**

"A good education is harmful to a dancer. A good calf is better than a good head"—Agnes DeMille.

"The way for the armed forces to win an atomic war is to make certain it never starts"—Gen. Omar Bradley.

"The only normal and classic thing I ever created are my children"—Pablo Picasso.

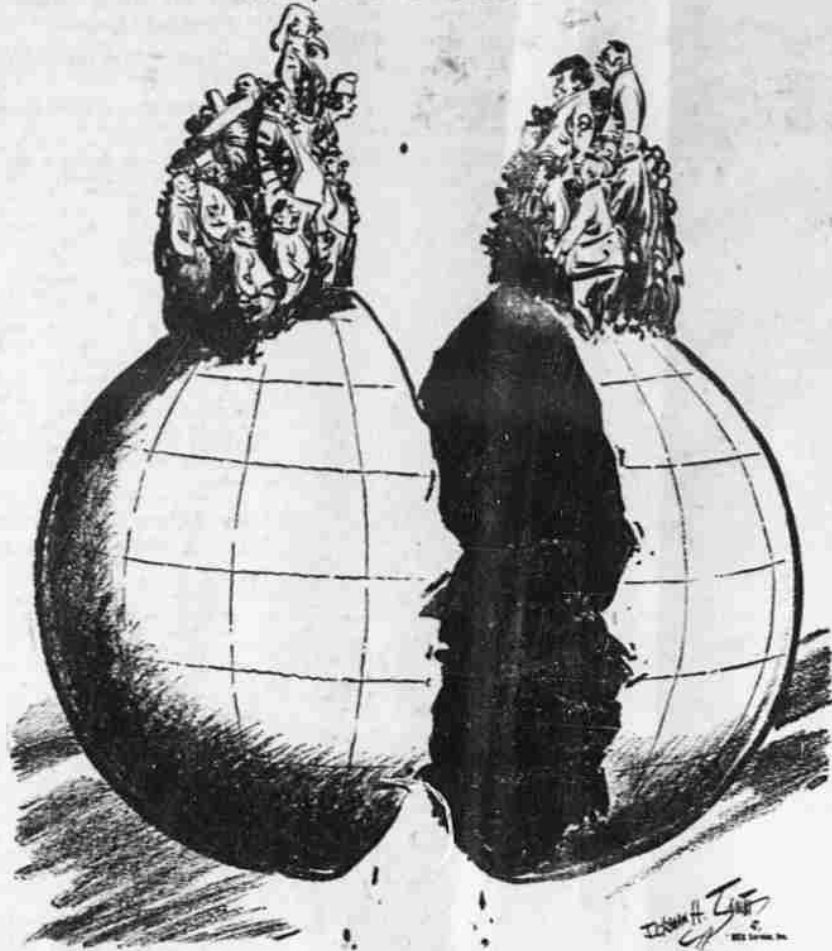
"If a man is vain, flatter. If timid, flatter. If boastful, flatter. In all history, too much flattery never just a gentleman"—Kathryn Craven, author of "Pursuit of Gentlemen."

"I haven't sold bibles all my life"—Frank Costello.

"The work was killing me: They called me out of bed at all hours of the night to receive the resignations of prime ministers"—Vicent Auriol, on vacating the office of president of France.

"American soldiers have taught me better than I could have learned in any other way what America means to me"—Francis Cardinal Spellman.

## Well, It's One Solution



# Bruce Bioassat

## Editorial Comment

### GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS FOR THE FISHING INDUSTRY

There was good news and bad news for the fishing industry Friday.

The announcement that President Eisenhower had signed a bill making \$3 million a year more money from the agriculture department available for the fish and wildlife service's research program was certainly good news.

It was somewhat offset, however, by the news from Salem that sponsors of a petition for a November election on closure of coastal streams to commercial fishing had succeeded in getting enough signatures. This presents a serious threat to the production of salmon in the state.

The United Press reports that the \$3 million for research will be used partly to devote into the causes of shrunken Alaska salmon runs and partly to study the disappearance of the albacore tuna runs from the Pacific coast. Both of these are phases of needed fishery research of direct importance to this community. We have suffered from the vanishing of the albacore schools as well as from reduced fish catches in Alaska where Alaskan fishermen are involved. Money has long been needed badly to make possible adequate studies of both these problems.

The election on coastal stream closure forces the fishing industry once again to fight for its security from enemies within its own state.

The fishing industry has had a lot of this sort of stuff. It alone, among the state's major industries, must constantly defend before the people its right to exist.

The fishing industry has been able to convince the legislature and the people in most cases in the past that it should not be abolished, but the threat is always there and constantly being implemented by such attacks as this one.

Such a nonsensical and misleading title as "save our salmon" is used by the sponsors of this measure, and it is calculated to deceive the people into thinking they are voting for conservation when such is not the case. It is up to the industry to try to explain to the voters what true conservation is.

### THE BULLETIN MAN'S SEND GUARDIAN

Writing editorials is hard work. Ask the man who writes 'em.

For that reason it's seldom you find more than one person on a small paper who does a creditable job. The larger, metropolitan papers maintain regular fleets of editorial writers, each of them concerned with a special field or fields, a literary which the smaller papers cannot afford.

It's been interesting to watch the editorials in the Eugene Register-Guard during the past few weeks, during which Editor Bill Tagman took off to attend his class reunion at Harvard and presumably for some side trips.

For the editorials have demonstrated clearly that the Register-Guard has another man on the staff who is capable of turning out good readable, thoughtful editorials every day, an extremely hard job to fill adequately.

The man now temporarily filling Bill Tagman's shoes on the news paper is Bob Frazier, a graduate of the news-writing school conducted here at The Bulletin by Oregon Phil Hogan for so many years. Frazier was one of the youngsters who, before the war came up to fill in on summer vacation news assignments.

For the past few years Frazier has been considered one of the outstanding young newsmen in the West, as was demonstrated when he was chosen to spend a year at Harvard in 1952-53 on the coveted Nieman Fellowship.

# Reader Opinions

## School Election Not Time To Change Budget

ROSEBURG — Recent actions and lack of action of our citizens prompts this letter.

The timeworn phrase, "the public's business is everybody's business and nobody's business" would seem to apply to us locally. We are a fine example of the value we place on ourselves and our individual vote on public affairs.

Let's remind ourselves now of one side of the picture. We cannot discredit "the little red schoolhouse" which cradled our public education. Americans value and recognize it as a precious heritage, but one too easily taken for granted, as are the many good things of our land and the American life. Good schools do not just happen. People first have to take enough interest to care.

It also seems logical that we should occasionally realize our human tendency to glorify the past—especially in our feelings regarding school curricula. Who doubts that the world is changing at a rapid pace? We must face the issue of the adequacy of this golden legend of our past to suffice entirely as the only tools today's children need, whose responsibilities as citizens must extend beyond the boundaries of the United States. As future citizens of this world, whose myriad problems they will inherit because of our frailties and inadequacies to meet changes, can we afford to suffice cap them because of our reluctance to face up to our present situation honestly? For, let us say, the cost to an average home owner of two dollars a year?

Why are we apathetic about our most vital "industry" schools? Why are we willing to decide an important budget vote on district "information" passed down from a friend to stranger? As parents, why are we too busy to express an opinion at the polls? If we have questions, the logical and fair procedure would be to go to the source for a true understanding and an answer based on fact.

We become aroused, no doubt about that. But what sensible direction do we do about it? We childishly blame our protests on "frills, rumors, personalities." This should not enter into the question of whether this school district maintains its standards. Aren't these separate problems?

Certainly, I would agree with other writers that property is taxed to a dangerous degree. It is our business to do something about that, too, but not at a school election unless we can afford to forfeit good education for such a principle.

If the academic program we have seems unrealistic to us in some department, we can remember it is the closest interpretation the school directors can make of the public's wishes in this direction, with the expression of interest and constructive criticism at the low ebb it has stood these many years. Citizens must also take the credit for the election of the calibre of men who serve us, without pay, as our school directors. In most cases, it takes a larger amount of public spiritedness than you and I possess to show willingness to give time to such a position. I imagine the school administrators could count on their fingers the number of us who have made the effort to arrive at an honest appraisal of school affairs by attending a meeting of the school board or budget committee. Understanding and an honest interest are the least we owe them. However, we stand on their many decisions they must make for us; it's possible we owe a large bouquet to our dedicated, and often maligned, educators and directors.

When we owe gratitude to the importance of our heritage in relation to the world we live in, we will make an honest attempt to face the problems in our expanding community, to seek facts directly and weigh both sides of public questions. How long can we confuse our patriotism with small issues? It's our right to disagree, and also to grumble, but at this crucial time in city and school affairs, shouldn't we take a look in the mirror? I believe our citizenship is showing!

MRS. JACK CHAPMAN  
Roseburg, Ore.

## Taxpayer Needs Relief, Says 83-Year-Old Man

MYRTLE CREEK — I would like to express my views on the hot issue of high taxes.

I was born in Kansas 83 years ago. I have always wanted to see children educated. However, I do not think they should be forced out of their homes along with their parents.

Who is to blame for the high taxes? Who says the six-year-olds cannot go to school because we want a little economy? Who thinks the superintendent should be paid \$10,000 a year and the teachers up to \$8,000 a year and that the small children should roam the streets? Are the school teachers and the high school students of today too nice to clean up the dirty mess they make, or must the little children suffer and the janitor work go undone in order to keep the school tax from going over 80 to 90 per cent of our tax burden?

It did not cost as much for the president's education. It seems to be the idea of some people that the more it costs for instructors and the more students are pampered, the smarter they'll be. However, many boys who worked all night and studied their books at night, with only four to six months each year in a country school, taught by a teacher who got a salary of \$35 to \$40 a month, are our best and most honest citizens today.

One of them lives in Roseburg. Through his own efforts he has become the lumber inspector over all lumber inspectors on the Pacific Coast. I was a school director in the district where he attended school of winners. He worked on the bonds all the time he was not in school.

I think it is that class of boys who become good honest leaders in our state and federal government. Not the boys that are too good to work.

Do you know that some of these pampered youths will sweat to pay off these bonds that their parents are voting? As much money is spent for non-essentials as for education.

Do you think we have reached the place where the wealthy cannot pay their taxes and that we must have a sales tax so people with no income will have to eat from garbage cans? Do you think the new income tax law helps the domestic or part-time worker? Or does it help the steady worker, who draws a big salary, when he is out of work a short time?

We have voted the sales tax down by a large majority several times and we can do it again. The wealthy and the white-collared class have spent a lot of their money and a lot of our tax money trying to get a sales tax in Oregon. However, we all know that the more money we give a state, county, city or school district, the more they will spend on non-essentials, and still ask for more. If a sales tax were passed for the schools, it would be an opening wedge. Then the legislature would keep adding more items and soon there would be a sales tax on everything and for everything, with those least able to pay going on the relief rolls. In the long run there would be no relief for the taxpayers.

M. MORGAN  
Myrtle Creek, Ore.

## Arguments On Budget Called Unconvincing

ROSEBURG — The school budget question is very important in this week's thinking, I have before me and have studied a few articles in The News-Review and the arguments set forth are so unconvincing and controversial as to be worthless.

The first article reveals that a man with a \$3,000 assessment must pay \$12.75 a month in 1953 and in 1954 would pay \$18.25 a month on the same valuation. But we are told valuations will go up, so up go taxes still more.

Those who propose a sales tax are so undemocratic as not to believe in majority rule, inasmuch as it has been voted down so many times. Sales taxes do not replace property taxes. Ask anyone from Washington. Let the dead lay buried.

Supt. M. C. Deller has presented a budget that can operate under the 5 per cent limitation. Why isn't that budget made public? Our budget sponsors seem to be like the headstrong child that needs the woodshed treatment to realize there are other and, perhaps, wiser heads.

In the fourth article we are appraised of the wonderful, continued growth of population and business. In the last year four machine shops have closed and gone, groceries have closed, chain saw shops have closed, other businesses have combined and retreated.

In one paper last week there were advertised 25 rooms for rent, 54 apartments and 25 houses and three different motels have cabins for rent by week or month. One year ago rooms could hardly be rented in a hotel for steady living. Where have all these people gone? They are not in Roseburg. Arguments should stick to facts to be convincing.

The school can operate on the six per cent tax if a few controversial subjects are omitted, fruits taken off, children living in a blocks from school required to walk, etc.

I agree with C. E. Young of Gladvale that the men and women educated in the ancient, antiquated school building are not our taxes. My taxes are up over 400 per cent now.

LYLE D. BOSTWICK  
Rt. 2, Box 916,  
Roseburg, Ore.

## Housing Scandal Witness Hides Behind 'Rights'

WASHINGTON (AP)—A Tenafly, N.J., builder Monday refused to testify before senators probing multi-million dollar "windfall" profits in FHA-insured apartment construction. He claimed his "rights" under the fifth amendment not to be a witness against himself.

Sidney Sarnar, identified as the builder of a Linwood Park, Inc., N.J. apartment project, declined to answer any questions at all. But his attorney, George Marcus of Hackensack, N.J., criticized the Senate Banking Committee and accused its members of "abusing off" their mouths. He shouted at Sen. Capehart (R-Ind.), committee chairman: "We did nothing wrong."

The Banking Committee is in the midst of a probe of all federal housing programs. Right now it is concentrating on an expired post-war apartment program under which builders could get loans insured by the FHA up to 90 per cent of the estimated cost of the project.

Sarnar was the third witness, but the first builder, to take the fifth amendment in the course of the hearings. The other two were ousted FHA officials Clyde C. Powell, former assistant commissioner in charge of rental housing projects, and Andrew Frost, former assistant state director projects, and Andrew Frost, former assistant state director of the FHA in New Mexico.

Another witness, Gustave M. Berne of Great Neck, Long Island, testified it was a "common understanding" in the FHA that builders of the projects "would be likely to end up" with windfall profits.

Berne said he netted a profit of \$1,370,000 on construction of the Hickenlopp Apartments he built in Far Rockaway, N.Y., an additional one million dollars in increased land values. He still owns the project, built between 1949 and 1952 with FHA-insured loans totaling \$14,486,000.

## Oregon's Tourist Trade Holding Up Despite Weather

PORTLAND (AP)—Oregon's summer tourist trade is holding up pretty well, considering the wet, chilly early vacation period.

P. L. Crowe, manager of the Oregon State Motor Assn's travel department, said that, in fact, the weather hasn't cut tourist travel at all.

H. Ray Henderson, executive secretary of the Oregon Motor Club Assn., said motel operators have reported a slight increase in July business although three told him last week the weather cut the June volume.

Chamber of Commerce's visitor service manager, said indications are tourists are here in normal numbers although forecasts of bad weather have hurt beach resort business.

According to Highway Department traffic counts, there was 7 per cent less travel in May than the same month in 1953 and less in June than in that month last year. But these figures do not show how many were tourists. That count is made in August.

## Union Head Charges Big Smear To Be Used

PORTLAND (AP)—A letter predicting that "the big smear" will be used against Richard L. Neuberger in an effort to re-elect Sen. Guy Gordon (R-Ore) has been sent to all Oregon AFL unions.

The letter, signed by James T. Marr, state AFL secretary, was read at the Portland Central Labor Council meeting Monday night.

Neuberger is the Democratic nominee against Gordon. He has labor endorsement.

Marr forecast that the Gordon campaign "will rely almost entirely on a vicious personal smear" of Neuberger, trying to portray him as a dreamer and a radical.

He said the attempt will be made to swing attention from Gordon's Senate record which Marr described as "against the welfare of the average man and woman on nearly every bill."

## Judge To Help Robinson Discontinue Drinking

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"I want to stop drinking but I can't," Edward G. Robinson Jr. told the Domestic Relations Court Monday.

"I've had some experience in these matters," replied Superior Judge Elmer D. Doyne. "I'll show you how."

So the busy judge, who handled more than 100 cases a day, offered to set aside his lunch each day for two weeks to talk to the actor's 21-year-old son, who has been arrested three times in recent months for intoxication.

Young Robinson's wife Frances, with whom he recently was reconciled, promised to help the judge. "I hope it works," he said. "It must work."

## Appeals Court Orders New Trial For Voorhees

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. Court of Appeals Friday ordered a new hearing for Col. Melvin B. Voorhees of Seattle, who was convicted by a court martial as the result of his writings about his experiences in Korea.

Voorhees, a reserve officer and former Tacoma, Wash., newspaper editor, was convicted on five charges, but a board of review later set aside all of the findings of guilty except that relating to a single offense.

## FINALIST

LOUISVILLE (AP)—Nancy Stuart, Salem, Ore., was a finalist in the International Toastmistress Club's speech contest here Monday night. The contest was won by Mrs. Jean Thomson, Laguna Beach, Calif.