

# The News-Review

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## MORE SCHOOL BONDS

By Charles V. Stanton

Voters in the Roseburg school district will go to the polls Jan. 11th to act on recommendations from the Board of Directors that bonds be issued for construction of a new elementary building in the Hucrest area and to add needed facilities at Joseph Lane Junior High School.

Desirability of both of these projects is obvious to anyone concerned with the problem of adequate educational facilities. Even with the facilities made available through the proposed bond issue, if approved, the district still will be lagging behind actual need.

Recent figures released by the State Board of Health show Douglas County to have gained 24.8 per cent in population since 1950. This is compared to an average of approximately 10 per cent for the state as a whole. Coos, Curry and Wasco Counties had a slightly higher percentage of gain than Douglas County. These are small counties, however, and it takes fewer people to create a higher percentage rate. Douglas County's growth has been uniform for the past 10 years, and there is every indication it will continue to grow at not less than the current rate for another 10 years or more.

Coupled with continuing migration of settlers into the county is the exceptionally high birth rate prevailing throughout the nation. The birth rate is creating a national school problem. This problem is doubly critical in Douglas County where heavy immigration is an added factor.

### Citizen Committee Aids

The Board of School Directors is not the only agency engrossed in a study of school facilities. A citizen's committee, selected from among business, industrial and financial leaders, made exhaustive studies. Conclusions by this committee were that the district's construction program must continue until at least 1960. Further expansion of industrial resources could, of course, force additional construction after that date.

But, if the Roseburg district is to furnish adequate educational facilities for its children, it will be necessary to maintain a continuing building program for many years to come.

Too many people are inclined to shrug off the demands of our educational system. Money is being wasted in "frills." Less expensive buildings could be erected. Supervision costs too much. Teachers are paid more than necessary. These are assertions heard whenever a bond or budget proposal comes before the district.

It is true that we could give our children a less rounded education. We could house them in log cabins and seat them on hewn benches. We could impair efficiency by reducing supervision. We could hire second rate teachers at lower salaries. But we doubt if many parents want that kind of an education for their children. Nor do we believe that anyone sincerely interested in the future of our nation approves lowering our educational standards.

### Mounting Cost Is Problem

The welfare of our country depends upon an educated citizenship. Our public school system is one of the strongest protectors of Democracy. The American people have long recognized this principle. The church and the school moved with our frontier, often at extreme sacrifice.

That residents of the Roseburg school district must make sacrifices, if school facilities are to keep pace with need, is obvious. Supported entirely by tax revenues, schools are the first of public services to demand additional dollars. If educational standards are to be maintained, tax costs must rise in proportion to growth and with the general economy of the country, when inflationary conditions are experienced.

In the issues being submitted to district voters the Board of Directors proposes an absolute minimum of construction program compared with actual need. To meet the full demands of the district, additional facilities could be most advantageously used.

The bond issue would add slightly less than two and one-half mills to our school tax. Despite the fact that school taxes already are exceedingly burdensome, we believe the two proposals, being essential to educational efficiency, should be given approval.



By SAUL PETT  
For Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP) — The new year is well into its first week but I'm still thinking about the old one.

Like a man cleaning out his desk after new year's, I find myself cleaning out the cluttered drawers of my mind after the havoc of 1954. There are so many odds and ends left over, so many little bits of thoughts or phrases once so dear but which somehow never made it.

Mostly they are things which couldn't get by editors or things which I didn't think of until it was too late. Now they are alone, unloved, unwanted, pitiful in their rejection, a little stupid looking since they have been cut off completely from the father of the thought.

Almost every year I try to get in the phrase, "A man with an utterly resistible personality." Why couldn't I make it in 1954? There were so many fine opportunities.

Rummaging through another drawer, I find, "There was absolutely no news today. None at all." Period. End story. When will I be able to say that?

Sure, I know it's been overdone. I know the boss grabs his ulcer every time he reads it. But are there many better ways of starting a story than "This is the story of..."

Sad to relate, there are so many "but's" and "and's" left over. Why do editors cut them out so often? A "but" or an "and" is the kind of word an editor can pounce on and eliminate with the thirteenth of a business manager removing

ing the water in an expense account. You'd think he had to pay for every letter of type himself. "But" can be one of the strongest words in the English language. It says that may be true but not this. It says turn left but not right, at the risk of life and limb. It says, stop, now we got something else.

And the lovable, harmless little "and." "And" moves you along gently; it lets you know you're still in the same room, maybe just facing another wall. It's a friendly word, inviting another look, another thought. Really, the word needs more "ands."

And someday I'll get to write about a big operator, a diamond-studded tycoon who made his pile in the junk business. And, I hope, the story will begin, "Joe was a big man in junk." Neat, simple, to the point.

I know lots of writers and they all have beloved bits and pieces left over from 1954 and many years that went before. The lady next to me keeps wanting to write, "He started a brouhaha." She's not sure how to spell it but she

## No Room at the Inn



## Long Session Is Predicted For Oregon's Lawmakers; Financing Poses Problem

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.  
SALEM (AP) — In every odd-numbered year it is customary at this time for leaders of the Oregon Legislature to tell about their hopes for a short session. They say that the lawmakers will buckle down to business and get through in jig time.

With the new session starting next Monday, they aren't doing any talking about a short session. They don't have any hope. It looks as though the 1955 Legislature will last at least as long as the 100-day session of two years ago. It might even be longer than the record 116-day marathon of 1951.

When I came here in 1937, the Legislature had just completed a 57-day session. We thought that was long enough.

There are three factors that will make the next session a long one.

First is the financial problem. The lawmakers will have to balance a two-year budget that will be some \$30,000,000 in the red. Tied in with this will be a bitter argument over a sales tax.

The second factor is that there will be more controversies than ever before. Arguments take up lots of time.

Third, we now have a two-party Legislature for the first time since 1937. When you have two parties,

### Joseph Petersen Serving Sentence

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — Joseph S. Petersen Jr. has begun a seven-year prison sentence for misusing government secrets entrusted to him as a veteran employee of the hush-hush National Security Agency.

U.S. District Judge Albert V. Bryan, who imposed sentence late Tuesday, said Petersen "deliberately violated both the confidence and the trust" placed in him by the government. A native of New Orleans, Petersen worked for the NSA and predecessor agencies for 13 years before his arrest three months ago.

Petersen, 40, pleaded guilty Dec. 22 to a charge that he unlawfully stored government secrets in his Arlington (Va.) apartment.

Included were notes from two documents classified as top secret. The notes indicated that this country had succeeded in breaking a Netherlands' code and had intercepted North Korean security communications. Two other documents found in the apartment bore lower classifications.

There will be the usual fight between the truckers and the truckers, but it will be a little different. This time, the truckers are asking that the public utilities commissioner be given power to put a floor under railroad freight rates.

Those are just a few of the many subjects that will cause long and loud arguments.

So get ready for a long session. We are.

### Marriages Up, Divorces Decrease In Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Marriages increased and divorce suits decreased, both just a little, in Los Angeles County during 1954.

The county clerk's office issued 32,995 marriage licenses for the year compared to 31,980 in 1953.

The total number of divorce, annulment, separate maintenance and other domestic relations suits totaled 22,280 which is 396 fewer than in the prior year.

It marked the first decline since 1947.

It means a flurry of activity or small riot. Nice word brouhaha.

Another fellow has been frustrated all the 18 years he's been in this business. Someday, we all hope, he'll be able to start a story beginning, "A human skull rolled out on the table."

Still another lady writer complains, "I'm an 'actually' and 'however' and 'on the other hand' girl myself. When will they stop cutting them out?"

But with all his tender sensibilities, a writer is made durable by hope. Some day we'll get these things out of our system. Some day I'll be able to say of a certain party, "He was never too busy to say an unkind word."

## In The Day's News

(Continued from Page One)

old heads for counsel. He'll be 73 tomorrow. He has been in congress for 42 years, and has been speaker of the house twice before.

He knows his way around.

Veep Barkley's back again. He was born in 1877. He was elected first to the 63rd congress. The one now assembling is the 84th. There's a new congress every two years. Except for time off while he was vice-president, Barkley has been in every congress since the 63rd.

He too knows his way around.

There is interesting financial news in the papers these days.

On the first business day of 1955, the stock market went on a bender that was reminiscent of 1929—when the country first went hog-wild on speculation and went from there into a tailspin that ushered in the Great Depression.

It scared the Federal Reserve Board, which promptly raised "margin" requirements on security purchases from 50 per cent to 60 per cent. That is to say, the Federal Reserve Board required the purchaser of securities to put up 60 per cent of the purchase price in cash instead of the 50 per cent previously required.

That was Tuesday.

When the market opened Wednesday, there was an early rush of selling that forced stocks on the New York exchange down a maximum of four points. A general recovery then set in and at the hour of writing this average losses have been cut to around two points with GAINS of as much as three points in favored issues.

The bulls on the market are still full of vim and vigor.

What's in the wind? I wouldn't know. But let's put it this way:

The proper function of the stock market is to provide capital for American industry by the sale of "shares" in industry to people who have money to invest. As long as they perform that function soundly and efficiently, stock exchanges are a useful and essential element in our economic system. Our vast industries require a vast amount of capital and this capital can only be provided out of the savings of the people.

As long as people with savings to invest are willing to bid up the stocks of our important corporations for no other reason than their belief that these stocks are wise and sound investments it is a good good sign.

But—

If our people begin to buy stocks in the hope of GETTING RICH QUICK out of purely speculative gains, it is a danger signal.

Let's leave it there.

### Young Father Charged With Beating His Son

PORTLAND (AP) — A young father, charged with beating up his infant son in a blind rage, was in jail here this week on a charge of attempting to kill and the child was in "poor" condition in a hospital.

Willis L. Russell, 22, who came here with his wife and their son, Willis, Jr., 18 months, from Clarkston, Wash., Dec. 31, told sheriff's deputies he lost his temper when the child wet his pants Monday night.

Mrs. Russell, 19, in a statement said her husband, for no apparent reason, also had given the child a beating Jan. 1.

Russell was discharged from the Army in October and lived at Clarkston until moving here where he planned to take a technical school course under the GI bill.

Hospital attendants said the child, although in poor condition, was not listed as critically hurt. The child was cut and bruised and hair was torn from his head.

## Democrats Combine Efforts To Pass Multiple Dam Bill Including Hells Canyon

By A. ROBERT SMITH

News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — Oregon's two senators in the new 84th Congress, Wayne Morse and Richard L. Neuberger, are expected to be projected to the forefront of the dominant political fight now shaping up as far as the entire west is concerned—fight for control of Hells Canyon and the future of western reclamation development.

This is assured by the outcome of a secret meeting held here last week by the incoming Democratic chairmen of the Senate and House interior committees, Sen. James E. Murray of Montana and Rep. Clair Engle of California.

Murray and Engle agreed on a plan to tie together four big irrigation projects into one major reclamation omnibus bill. It is Hells Canyon dam, long designed by the Bureau of Reclamation for construction in the Snake River, is one of the projects.

Object of the Murray-Engle agreement is to gain as unified a front as possible among western senators for legislation that would include projects which in themselves might never be authorized separately due to sectional strife concerning them.

Neuberger and Morse, who are the stoutest advocates of a high federal dam instead of three low head dams as proposed by Idaho Power Co. in Hells Canyon, have already announced they have planned a joint drive to get the big dam approved. Congressional authorization of the project would block the Boise power company from getting the license it seeks from the Federal Power Commission for the low dams.

Besides high Hells Canyon dam, the projects agreed on by Murray and Engle, who are now the two most powerful members of Congress in their field, are:

1. Upper Colorado storage — involves power and irrigation development for Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico and Arizona.

2. Hasport and administration and Republican solons of mountain

states, despite big fight from conservationists who oppose Echo Park dam which would partially flood Dinosaur National Monument. Even Sen. Eugene Millikin (R-Colo.), outgoing chairman of Senate Irrigation subcommittee, could not push the bill through this past Congress.

Trinity River — San Luis combined project — involves providing added water for California's Central Valley project. Like Colorado project, it has wide GOP backing — but mountain state Republicans say they won't support it unless California gets behind their Upper Colorado project.

Yellowtail dam — a Montana-Wyoming border dam designed to give central Montana more irrigated farmland. Just as Trinity River is Engle's pet, this is Murray's favorite item in the package.

Agreement to wrap Hells Canyon up in this package bill is expected to boost the chances of congressional approval of the high dam to a new mark. Ironically, the high dam was first introduced in a package proposal in 1950, too near the end of the 81st Congress to have any chance of being considered by both houses. It ran into a jurisdictional dispute among Democrats in the Senate. Also it was handicapped by opposition to a Columbia Basin account system, which was part of the package bill and drew sharp fire from Sen. Guy Cordon (R-Ore.).

It came up again in 1952, when the House Interior Committee held hearings. But again time ran out before a vote was taken. During the recent Republican 83d Congress, bills authorizing the high dam were never dealt with by committees of either house. If the Murray-Engle plan is implemented, it would give Hells Canyon advocates the full two-year length of the 84th Congress to carry through with their drive for enactment of the bill — but they are planning to turn on the speed of the hearing process as soon as possible.

Investigations: They will cover a wide range of subjects, with "security firings" and the Dixon-Yates power contract likely to hold the limelight.

## Bruce Blossat

Trial by jury has been an accepted part of the legal fabric of the English-speaking peoples for many centuries. It probably should not be necessary to have to defend it. But occasionally it is.

Perhaps inevitably, a highly publicized, mysterious affair like the Sheppard murder case stirs a good deal of emotion and argument. One cannot help but be a little surprised, however, that at the end this involved the worth of the jury system and the competence of this particular jury.

The most astonishing argument which turned up suggested that because a jury is a body of ordinary citizens and not a "panel of experts," it should trust its emotional judgments rather than try to weigh all the evidence in arriving at a verdict.

Whether intended or not, this is an assault on the jury system, since it assumes that jurors cannot in fact do what in theory they are supposed to do. Yet it is really fair and proper to assume that?

For one thing, the argument contains more than a hint of intellectual snobbery, with its suggestion that only lawyers, enforcement officers, criminologists and other such experts are competent to weigh evidence.

Any sensible person would have to dismiss this notion as nonsense. A jury does not pass on points of law. And though it can consider evidence of motive as one element in a circumstantial chain, the jury does not have to find proof of motive in a murder case. Nor does it have to probe generally into the mind of a defendant.

A jury's job is to try to ascertain facts. What happened? Did this man kill his wife as the prosecution says? Or did he not? What story does the evidence tell? In making this determination, a jury of 12 ordinary individuals of normal education—let them be railroad foremen, grocery clerks, typists, housewives, sales-

men, or whatnot—is every bit as competent as any "panel of experts."

Neither Nature nor training gives the specialist superior ability to choose between conflicting testimony as to what, in fact, happened in a particular case. Basic intelligence is what counts, and jurors must be presumed to have that unless the process by which they were chosen has broken down completely. For the impinging procedure is designed to eliminate not only prejudiced persons but mental incompetents.

Not only is a jury thoroughly qualified to weigh the evidence, but it has a positive duty to do so. Millions of words of testimony and perhaps hundreds of physical exhibits are not presented merely for the benefit of appeals court judges who later will try to decide whether a jury "guessed right."

That is a quaint distortion of our jury system which in fact subverts it. The whole theory at work in the courtroom during a long trial is that testimony is being offered for the jury to study, and that the jury is quite capable of analyzing it.

The jury in the Sheppard case showed by its later remarks that it fully understood its responsibilities. The verdict of guilty may be wrong or right. The key point is that the jury arrived at it by time-honored method of carefully reviewing all the evidence in detail, and acting on the basis of what it believed were the clear indications of that evidence.

## Many Interesting Things Predicted About Formosa

TAIPEH, Formosa (AP) — If current predictions in Chiang Kai-Shek's capital are correct, a lot of interesting things affecting Formosa are going to happen in 1955.

It seems just now that the most the Nationalists can hope for this year is to play a successfully defensive role against the Reds.

The first real tests will come if the Communists launch amphibious attacks on any of the island outposts Chiang's forces hold off the Red China coast.

The Nationalists admit the Reds possess the capability of delivering such assaults. Whether they will be deterred by fears of possible American intervention remains a big unanswered question. It would surprise Taipei if it were not answered in the present year.

The feeling that 1955 will be a year of trial for the Nationalists persists everywhere in Formosa.

President Chiang, in his New Year message, summed up by saying the Communists attacks on Quemoy and the Tachens were "overtures to the battle of the Taiwan Formosa Strait" and predicted that "a fullscale war may break out at any time."

His sons John, 16, and Coy, 12, first claimed they were attacked by an unidentified man while gathering wood near their mountain home nine miles from here.

Brought from a hospital at Jellico, Tenn., the brothers repeated the story at a court of inquiry. But officers, who surmised they were afraid to talk, treated the boys to meals and new clothing, and the brothers admitted later they knew their assailant.

## RECEIPTS 11 MILLION

PORTLAND (AP) — Receipts for the Portland post office last year totaled \$11,255,976. Postmaster Albert Hodler reported this week.

That is a 5 per cent increase over the previous record set in 1953, he said.

Vogel rushed to Orr's aid and held open the cab door. Orr climbed out but the door slammed shut and cut off the tip of Vogel's right index finger. Orr was unhurt.

Shreve also testified that Hornmel put the cigarettes about the sun visor of his convertible and drove away.

## Major Issues Facing Congress Are Itemized

WASHINGTON (AP) — Major issues facing the 84th Congress convened Wednesday included the budget, military manpower, the president's draft law expires in June and is up for extension or replacement.

Reciprocal trade: The President's power to negotiate trade agreements ends in June; he wants it extended three years.

Farm prices: The issue here is whether to retain the present flexible price support program or return to the former rigid support plan.

Taxes: Present corporate and excise tax rates expire in April; the President wants them continued. Many members want income taxes cut.

Housing: The controversy is over the scope of the federal program of public housing construction.

Labor: The President is expected to seek revisions in the Taft-Hartley law and will request a boost in the minimum wage law.

Pay increases: All government workers, and probably members of Congress, are likely to get pay raises. The controversy will be over how big the raises should be and whether postal rates should be hiked.

Highway construction: The President wants Congress to embark on a long-range program of highway construction.

Health: Congress will be asked to encourage private companies to expand their existing health insurance programs.

Investigations: They will cover a wide range of subjects, with "security firings" and the Dixon-Yates power contract likely to hold the limelight.

## Military Planes Crossed Oceans Over 9,000 Times

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Military Air Transport Service (MATS) has reported that it sent planes across the Atlantic and Pacific oceans at the rate of one every 54 minutes throughout 1954.

Every hour during the year a MATS plane lifted into the air an average of 56 military passengers, five patients and more than 20,000 pounds of priority cargo.

Lt. Gen. Joseph Smith, commander of the nation's largest airline operation, gave these figures in a year-end summary.

He said MATS planes:

1. Crossed the Pacific ocean 5,810 times, carrying about 250,000 passengers and patients and 33,600 tons of cargo and mail.

2. Spanned the Atlantic about 4,000 times, with 250,000 passengers and patients and 49,300 tons of cargo and mail.

3. Airlifted 90,000 passengers and patients and carried 8,476 tons of cargo and mail on its continental division, extending to Alaska, Canada, the Caribbean and South America.

These brought MATS total operations since its establishment June 1, 1948, to 44,300 flights across the Pacific, 20,788 across the Atlantic and 1,348 in the North Pole area.

MATS also claimed the longest aerial mercy mission in history in the movement of more than 500 French troops three quarters of the way around the world, from Indochina to France.

## Live Ammunition Nuclear Weapons Will Be Tested

WASHINGTON (AP) — The intensifying emphasis on nuclear weapons for the battlefield may bring "live ammunition" tests of atomic warheads fitted to guided missiles during the approaching series of shots at the Nevada Proving Ground.

Although Atomic Energy Commission and military scientists have proof-fired the Army's 280-mm cannon with a nuclear shell, there has been thus far no known trial of a nuclear guided missile or rocket.

Announcements by the military that several types of missiles and rockets are capable of carrying atomic warheads apparently have been based on tests of dummy warheads of shape and weight identical to nuclear charges—but without either the explosive charge or triggering mechanism of actual weapons.

Among the missiles and rockets which the Pentagon has designated as capable of mounting atomic warheads are the Army's Honest John bombardment rocket, the Corporal guided missile and the still developmental Redstone missile; the Navy's Regulus missile; and the Air Force's Matador missile. The Army has announced it is sending Honest John batteries to Europe and the Air Force already has several Matador missile outfits in Germany.

## Bass Fiddler Testifies Hornmel Bought 'Reefers'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The bass fiddle player in George Hornmel II's night club trio has testified that he and Hornmel paid a parking lot attendant \$20 for a roll of marijuana cigarettes.

It was Hornmel's money, added the fiddler, Robert (Iggy) Shevak, 35.

He testified for the prosecution in the Superior Court jury trial of Hornmel, 36, jazz pianist and meat packing fortune heir, on charges of possessing marijuana.

Shevak testified that last Sept. 19 the night club parking attendant, Mark Lamb, 21, gave him one marijuana cigarette and he and Hornmel smoked it. He said Hornmel then gave him the \$20 and they bought a roll of the cigarettes from Lamb and divided it. Hornmel getting approximately 13 cigarettes.

Shevak also testified that Hornmel put the cigarettes about the sun visor of his convertible and drove away.

## Man Wasn't In Accident But Proves Only Casualty

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) — He wasn't involved in the motor accident near his home but Arnold Vogel, 61, was the only casualty, nevertheless.

Vogel was standing in front of his home Tuesday when a lumber truck tipped over in the street and trapped the driver, Charles Orr of Compton.

Vogel rushed to Orr's aid and held open the cab door. Orr climbed out but the door slammed shut and cut off the tip of Vogel's right index finger. Orr was unhurt.