

The News-Review

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SCHOOL BUDGET AND BOND

Charles V. Stanton

Voters in the Roseburg school district will go to the polls Friday to act on the 1956-57 budget and a proposal for the issuance of \$345,000 in bonds.

The budget is startling at first glance. It amounts to \$2,137,103.34, an increase of \$207,577.67. But, if we analyze the proposed expenditure, we will find that it is not unreasonable. Some voters may contend it is excessive and will vote for reductions. But it is doubtful if any material cuts can be made without impairment of educational efficiency.

The Roseburg school district has grown in recent years to embrace a very large territory. It has grown enormously in the number of students. It will add an estimated 335 students next year. Based on dollar cost per capita, and considering the value of the dollar, the cost per student probably is closely in line with years before our area started its boom growth.

We must take into consideration that a dollar today is worth only about one-third of its purchasing power of pre-inflation days; that, measured in dollars, wages, building costs, maintenance, supplies, and all other operational factors are roughly three times as high as in the "good" old days.

Ridiculous Tax Base

We have a tremendous psychological obstacle, when budgets are brought before voters, in the wide discrepancy between tax base and budget needs. In this respect Oregon's six per cent limitation statute is ridiculous.

Had we added the normal six per cent annually to the school budget of years prior to the boom, we now would be able to levy a tax of \$153,682.39, plus \$270,660 voted by the people for bond retirement. Thus we should have a legal budget of \$424,343.14, one-fifth our actual requirement.

If the school district were to establish a new and realistic tax base, the discrepancy would have less psychological shock upon the voter.

This year's budget is being submitted much earlier than usual—and this is because of another ridiculous law. School districts are supposed to issue contracts to teachers in March of each year. But how can a district contract its teachers when it has no idea of what budget will be provided?

The Roseburg district will need 14 more teachers next year. Will the voters allow money needed to employ such teachers? The school board must know how much money is to be available before it is in a position to enter into contracts. The conflict between budget operations and the contract law has given trouble for years and should be corrected.

Trust In Budget Board

I have before me on my desk several hundred pages of statistics concerning the budget, bond issue, forecasts of future enrollment, capital investment needs, etc. These statistics have been carefully compiled by people who have made a special study of the problems.

I doubt if very many people, other than the school board, budget committee, advisory committee and those particularly assigned to school affairs, have ever made a detailed study of school expenditures, current and contemplated. I know I haven't.

There is something incongruous in the fact that people who have made little if any study into the details of operation, and who have, for the most part, only a very sketchy idea of the multitude of factors involved, are called upon to decide the budget for a better than two million dollar business. Yet, the people must control the purse strings.

The people are represented by a budget board. The members of this board are taxpayers who have as much personal interest in keeping taxes low as do any of us. They are competent and responsible people. They have made careful and exhaustive studies before submitting to us a budget they believe to be as low as is consistent with school efficiency.

For myself, I respect the board's judgment, and am willing to accept its recommendation that the budget and the bond issue be approved.

Hal Boyle

NEW YORK (AP)—Deborah Kerr likes to munch on "love-lime-lemonade."

This, she says, is a British weed with a memorable, drooping, heart speckled flower—and tiny leaves which, when plucked young and put in a salad, "give it a wonderful sharp taste."

Deborah, who has overcome the handicap of a flawless beauty to prove herself one of the most rugged and talented of modern actresses, likes her food pretty raw—and hopes her life will stay pretty kind.

At 17, as a young ballet dancer, she tried out before the late Gabriel Pascal for a film role in "Mad for Barbara."

"You are too fat, your hair is all wrong, and so is your complexion," he told her. Then Deborah read the lines of the role she sought, and Pascal—"Dear Gaby," she calls him now—immediately signed her to a contract.

"I was chubby then," admits Deborah. No one today could complain about Miss Kerr's figure, her red gold hair, or her complexion. She became almost too beautiful. For a while it held her to impossibly "good" roles.

She broke that pattern in "From Here to Eternity," and the Broadway way play, "Tea and Sympathy." She carries along her exploration of the clay-beauty theme also in her latest film, "The Proud and the Profane."

In the actual flesh Miss Kerr's patrician charm has a warm, down-to-earth quality that makes it no less appealing. She has an rare among beautiful women—the ability to talk in such a way that

DISCOVERY AT OAK RIDGE

By Len Lesourd

Managing Editor, Guideposts Mag. William Pollard was a typical college graduate of 1932—cocky, bright-eyed with ambition and convinced that man could shape his own destiny.

Science, he felt, was the vehicle of sure dependable knowledge that would eventually produce the good life for all. Religion—fairly tale stuff, Pollard called himself an agnostic.

Dr. William Pollard climbed high in his profession. He helped produce the atom bomb, becoming Director of the Institute of Nuclear Studies at Oak Ridge. But if this brash 1932 graduate could have foreseen a newspaper story about him 22 years later, he would have been stunned.

Oak Ridge, Tennessee, May 1, 1954. Dr. Pollard, Physicist who helped develop the atom bomb, was ordained a priest in the Protestant Episcopal Church here today, with his four sons, aged 13-19, serving as acolytes.

What happened?

Dr. Pollard didn't abandon science for religion. He is still vitally absorbed in atomic research. I visited Dr. Pollard in Oak Ridge, and together we went over the step-by-step process of his conversion. It is really the story of a whole decade where men groped desperately for values and beliefs.

Soon after graduation young Pollard got a graduate fellowship at Rice University and married at attractive Marcella Hamilton. Three months after the wedding, Marcella asked him pointedly to go to a Sunday morning service with her.

"I'm sorry, Marcella, but I have more important work," he said. Pollard went to his desk, but thought only about his wife. If his sitting through a church service would keep harmony at home, he reasoned, better do it from now on.

An Agnostic

But he remained an agnostic and refused to say the Creed. "I considered it ridiculous," he said.

Bruce Biossat

While declining to participate in President Eisenhower's admirable plan for world-wide peaceful development of atomic energy, the Soviet Union has continued to boast mightily that it leads all other nations in such peaceful uses.

The United States thinks this is an empty boast. It has now called the Soviet bluff by making available for sale or lease \$1 billion of nuclear fuel for the building of atomic reactors in the U.S. and the free world.

The President's program would distribute 44,000 pounds of Uranium 235 for civilian purposes in America, and a similar amount abroad to countries which do not produce it on their own.

What this means is that this nation is going ahead to carry out the President's atomic-for-peace plan without flinching. Even the most skeptical neutralists were deeply impressed by the plan when Mr. Eisenhower announced it in December, 1953. His latest move should show them he was not talking idly.

The Soviet Union cannot any longer rest its claims of peaceful atom development on mere propa-

WILDLIFE AND CONSERVATION

Groups Now Step Into Fight Against Hells Canyon Dam

By A. ROBERT SMITH
News-Review Correspondent

WASHINGTON — The nation's major wildlife and conservation organizations this week stepped into the Hells Canyon fight for the first time in what may be a last ditch effort by sponsors of a high federal dam to gain congressional authorization of the project.

The conservationists are fresh from one of their greatest victories in recent years—stopping the Eisenhower administration from winning authorization of the proposed Echo Park dam, one unit of the Upper Colorado storage project which would have flooded out parts of the Dinosaur National Monument. Under heavy criticism for backing Echo Park dam, Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay finally agreed that it should be dropped—and the Upper Colorado reclamation bill is now expected to be enacted into law within the next month.

Still Curiousity

"My approach was still more curious than dedicated," he admits. Meanwhile, what conflicts between scientific and theological points filled Pollard's mind?

"I expected these to occur as I approached each new phase of theology," he said. "But I found nothing in my studies that belittled the importance and need for scientific questions. The Rector heard about Pollard's effective Sunday School talks and approached him."

"Dr. Pollard, would you be willing to become a lay reader?" Lay reading, the Rector explained, meant reading appropriate prayers from the Book of Common Prayer at morning and evening church services. Again, somewhat hesitantly, Pollard agreed.

Turned To Prayer

Pollard, who 20 years ago would have scoffed at the use of prayer in such a decision, now turned to it without reservations. At the meeting, he spoke his convictions frankly to members of the board.

"There's something you ought to know," he told them. "In two weeks I'll be taking my examinations for ordination in the Episcopal Church. If I am ordained, I do not think I will in any way alter my direction of the Institute."

"I am aware, however, that some denominational universities among our sponsors might object. I do not want to leave the Institute, but I'll certainly understand it if you ask me to."

They asked him to leave the room. In five minutes he was called back. They had voted Pollard a new five-year term and a raise in salary.

When Pollard was ordained as full Episcopal priest in May, 1954, the transformation of an agnostic into a priest was complete. The curious attitude had become wholly dedicated.

TOMORROW — Jimmy Durante tells the secret of the chain he wears around his neck and how it reminds him of the four incidents in his life which renewed his faith.

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Reader Opinions

Roseburg Need Of More Industries Emphasized

ROSEBURG — I read with interest the article in The News-Review about the industry in our town having too many eggs in one basket. I have heard numerous discussions about the same thing, and I also feel that we need new industries in our city. We need additional payrolls and something that will bring year round income.

When I read about our need for additional payrolls now and in the future, I know that it is true, but I also wonder what would happen if our "one basket" industry were to be curtailed for one reason or another, after building these additional schools.

Along this same line I read with interest the article in the latest Roseburg Digest about how one southern community brought industry to their town. I know our good leaders in the Chamber of Commerce have probably thought about additional payrolls in our community, but I am wondering if we couldn't do something along similar lines, as did this southern city, to bring the needed payroll to our city.

Mrs. Meredith Wilson
Roseburg, Ore.

Tigard Woman Killed In Highway Crash

LA GRANDE — A head-on highway crash was fatal late Sunday for Mrs. Leonard Davis of Tigard.

Her husband, Dr. Leonard Davis, 58, driver of the car in which she was riding, and C. E. Hyde of La Grande, the other driver, were seriously hurt.

Police said cause of the accident was not immediately determined. The scene was between Ordeil Bridge and the Highway 20 railroad overpass, three miles west of here.

RHEE RENOMINATED

SEOUL, Korea — President Syngman Rhee's Liberal party renominated him for a third term today. The 83-year-old President replied that he did not want to run, but observers took it as a political gesture rather than an outright refusal.

Rhee cited his age and said he wants to retire.

Wildlife And Conservation

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CHRISTENED

BONN, Germany (AP) — West Germany's new armed force was officially christened as the Bundeswehr Tuesday.

Parliament, debating legislation for the buildup of the forces, rejected Wehrmacht, which was the name used under Hitler.

Bundeswehr can be translated as federal forces or federal armed forces.

Most observers feel if Congress fails to enact a Hells Canyon bill this session, Idaho Power will have won its fight against the government project and will have little or no interference from there on out to building its low dams in the Snake River. High dam backers hope the conservationists will help turn the tide.

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