Obsolete, Conflicting City Ordinances Being Repealed; Many Oddities Are Noted

The first tide in what appeared to be a gathering flood of obsolete or conflicting city ordinances were turned over to the Roseburg City Council Monday night for action.

No less than 74 obsolete or conflicting ordinances were turned over to the council for repeals. More were expected later from the League of Oregon Cities, which is now in the process of revising and codifying the city's laws.

The ordinances for repeal were given their first two readings. The third reading will be given at a subsequent meeting.

One of the ordinances dated back to 1872, the year Roseburg was incorporated. It concerns licensing of such things as circuses, shows, barrooms, billiard tables and licensing of liquor dispensers, a duty now held by the state.

An 1877 ordinance provides that taxes, fines and licenses shall be paid either in gold or silver. In 1878, it became illegal to hitch or tie horses, teams or cattle to light posts.

It was on Jan. 24, 1884, that the city passed an ordinance creating a police force. It gave the governing body the right to have policemen on duty both day and night. Before that, the city had a marshal.

Prisoners in those days didn't have it easy, apparently. It was stipulated in an 1884 ordinance that all city prisoners should work, if necessary while shackled by ball and chain. In the event the prisoner refused to work, he was placed on a bread and water diet by the ordinance.

One select group in the city, however, appeared to be the milk cows. Several ordinances concerning them were early laws. Except for milk cows in the city, no stock was allowed to run free. Even they, however, were later limited in their freedom to certain hours of the day. One ordinance then prohibited milk cows to run free from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. while wearing bells.

Also dealing with cattle, one ordinance stipulated that they could only be driven through the city on the streets.

On another subject, most of the city's streets were barred to laundries. One such was Lane on which the present New Service Laundry is located.

Ordinances such as these were declared obsolete by the League of Oregon Cities on the basis of a reserved understatement appearing under one suggestion for repeal. "Its terms are not applicable to modern trend of thought."

In other action, the council:

1. Approved an application for a Swedish Kitchen at 816 NE Shambrook.
2. Called a public hearing May 14 on a request by L. W. Riley of 934 SE Kane to allow construction of a carport next to his garage despite the 15-foot setback required by the city.
3. Accepted three deeds given by citizens to allow extension of Pilger Street through from Harvard to Military avenues.
4. Approved the public display in Roseburg of antique and modern firearms and war equipment by the Military Order of Purple Heart Inc. The date will be announced later.
5. Heard a request from Umpqua Dairy that the entire end of Burke Avenue next to the Southern Pacific tracks be vacated by the city. This follows an earlier request by Fred Hamilton that half the street be vacated.
6. Took no action as the result of a public hearing on rezoning to business an area from the relocated Pacific Highway west to West Fir Street.
7. Approved construction of a garage only one foot from the street line by Henry Bailey of 1166 NE Klamath Ave.
8. Set the next meeting for 8 p.m. March 14. The later time was set to allow the council to explain the request for a new tax base to the Junior Chamber of Commerce. It will explain the same subject at a Thursday meeting this week of the Rotary Club.

PONKEY—In a difficult genetic trick, Milton Corely managed to breed the Shetland pony with a donkey, resulting in the birth of the midget mule above. The little mule, named Davy Crockett, was born this month. The mother, above, is owned by Larry Corely, who is shown with the two animals. Corely has been trying for several years to achieve the cross breed. In about two years, the little "ponkey" is expected to reach a mature height of about four feet.

OFFICERS AND SOME DIRECTORS of the Douglas County Tuberculosis & Health Assn. posed for a picture minutes after their election Monday night at the association's 35 annual meeting. Left to right are Dr. Donald M. Jeppesen, Mrs. Petrequin, Donald A. Dole, Mrs. Robert Fisher, Mrs. Elwood Foster, Dr. J. A. Colbrunn, Mrs. W. F. Amiot, Rev. Robert N. Peters, Mrs. Robert O'Neil (partly hidden), Mrs. Fred Hermann, Kenneth Kirk and Dr. E. Carlson Stadler. (Master Studio photo).

RHS Senior Class Plans 'Seven Keys' Presentation Friday

"Seven Keys to Baldpate," the comic mystery story of a writer seeking solitude in a shuttered snowbound summer hotel, will be presented Friday and Saturday by the senior class of Roseburg High School.

Writer Willie Magee can win a $5,000 bet if he turns out a novel in 24 hours. Magee goes to Baldpate Inn for solitude, believing he is the only person with an entry key. As it turns out, the play's author, George M. Cohan, has complicated the plot. Six others have keys, and the story involves, reporters, crooks, thieves and a man-hating hermit.

The Cohan story has been presented three times on Broadway and been taken on several cross-country tours. It had its initial run Sept. 15, 1913 at the Astor Theater in New York City. Cohan played the lead. It was a unique switch for the composer of such tunes as "Yankee Doodle Dandy."

Since the original production the play has twice been made into a motion picture.

Last produced on Broadway in 1935, it drew the following praise from John Mason Brown: "The work of an expert and ingratiating showman. And as it tells its intricate story, it continues to contain the full quota of laughs and surprises and suspense."

"Seven Keys To Baldpate" will be presented Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. at the high school auditorium. Tickets may be purchased at the school or at Harmony House. Miss Jo Tallman is director.

Mrs. Celia Day Attending National DAR Congress

Mrs. Celia Day, Roseburg, is one of several Oregon women attending the national DAR continental congress in Washington, D. C. She is the official delegate of the local DAR chapter.

Members of the chapter held a luncheon meeting in Yoncalla at the home of Mrs. Mildred Chapman April 17. At that time, they discussed the congress.

HUBCAPS STOLEN

Bruce L. Yeager, 1063 SE Jackson St., complained to Roseburg police Saturday that four hubcaps were stolen from his car the previous night.

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Fred Edmonds To Speak To Local Rose Society

Fred Edmonds of Sherwood will be featured speaker at a potluck dinner to be held by Roseburg Rose Society members Thursday at 6:30.

The dinner will be held at the Farm Bureau Social Hall on Spruce Street. Members are asked to "come as a rose" in costume or identification. Committee members in charge are Mrs. Margaret Burt, Mrs. W. J. Mess, Mrs. Leo Manske and Mrs. Helen Mikkelson.

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