

RIGHT NEXT TO THE AIRPORT

This is where La Grande city officials propose to construct new sewage treatment plant, subject to a \$344,000 referendum here Oct. 2. Violent objections, however, may delay the hoped-for project and even the voting date. The entire upper and right central portion of area sketched on engineer's map shows proposed oxidation ponds.

IT'S UP TO THE VOTERS OCT. 2

Proposed \$344,000 'Sewage' Vote Somewhat Controversial

(Editor's note—The Observer newspaper is doing a series in the public interest on the pending bond issue—Oct. 2—concerning the proposed new sewage treatment plant to replace the present one located about two miles east of La Grande. This is the final of a three-part series.)

BY GRADY PANNELL
Observer Staff Writer

On Oct. 2 of this year La Grande voters will decide one way or the other on a proposed \$344,000 bond issue suggested by the city administration for construction of a new sewage treatment plant.

This proposed figure, we must point out, is subject to alteration between now and the planned ballot date, but is a certainty provided that the treatment sewage site is selected at a strip of city-owned land at Municipal Airport approximately four miles east of the city.

There are other alternatives, however, which loom as a possibility on this somewhat controversial question.

As pointed out previously, the city can forget about the entire matter even before the referendum is voted on, thereby making it necessary for a ballot by local citizenry; additional funds can be raised for reconstruction of the present sewage plant in an entirely different manner by city fathers; or a new site closer in, but possibly more expensive, could be selected.

"Nothing is definite or final except possibly the referendum," according to outgoing City Manager Fred Young.

City Engineer Dave Slaght may have additional and more current information at a later date, and which he will bring up before a city commission meeting.

Slaght along with the city manager, has been working very closely on the matter and also has been in direct correspondence and contact with district

and state sanitarians. Slaght also has compiled an extensive engineer's survey of his own about the present sewage plant and the proposed new one which has been favorably received by local, state and private consulting engineers.

His draft of the proposed new oxidation ponds at Municipal Airport is what the city officials are working with on the new project in mind.

Why Municipal Airport when this site has been objected to by various interested persons?

The city owns property (land) at the air terminal, enough acreage to more than take care of present and future growth of La Grande suitable for this purpose.

City spokesmen say that, based on engineering surveys, a lagoon-

type or preferably "oxidation" sewage plant would be the cheapest, best and most suitable facility for a needed new disposal plant, and the airport land is the logical site.

But there are objections by various organizations and persons to an airport site and this possibility even may stymie an Oct. 2 bond election vote.

Proponents of the oxidation or "lagoon" type treatment ponds argue thusly:

1. Special survey conducted by a competent engineering firm that has been indifferent to the "pros and cons" of the airport controversy.

2. Cost. City fathers are budget conscious to the extent that should the whole affair come to a vote and possibly pass there looms the possibility of initial construction being done entirely by city workmen and city equipment; and, they point out, the proposed oxidation type sewage facility is cheaper and is sanctioned "all the way" by the health departments.

Opponents of the proposed airport site say this:

1. A "lagoon" facility is in violation of zoning ordinances, according to the airport zoning board (joint city-county group) which is given state authorization on zoning control, rules, etc.

2. Such a facility would constitute a hazard to air flights in that the ponds would attract waterfowl.

3. Union County Pomona Grange states that the "lagoons" would destroy value of down-area water wells and would not be attractive to fish and wildlife.

Norm Daniels, chairman of the airport zoning board, told the city officials that his group was on record against such a located sewage plant.

The city countered with a ruling by City Attorney Carl Helm, Jr., that "No rule or regulation See PROPOSED on Page 7

City Dads Override Zone Unit

City commissioners, in regular session last night, voted to go ahead and use the airport property as the basis for the engineer's report relative to the planned sewage bond election despite objections by the Airport Zoning Board. The Zoning Board's letter, read to the commission, objected to the proposed location on five points involving airport safety and expansion. The objections, as stated in the letter, are:

1. It will be possible for fog to form and restrict pilot vision.
2. Flights of waterfowl may be attracted to the water and would create a flying hazard.
3. The sun reflecting on the ponds may cause a glare in the pilot's eyes.
4. In the case of forced landing, the ponds would restrict rescue operations.
5. The ponds would restrict the expansion of present facilities.

The soon-to-retire city manager, Fred J. Young, told the city commissioner members that the city engineer, in drawing the plans, took possible expansion of the airport into consideration. The proposed lagoons would not restrict extension of the present runways, Young continued.

Commissioner Merle Becket said, "I am not impressed by the letter. It reflects the thinking of a special interest group and doesn't consider the welfare of the entire community."

Beckett suggested that the commission pursue the matter further.

"If every small objection is to be considered we might as well forget the ponds, they won't be constructed without objections," Young said.

City Attorney Carl G. Helm Jr., when asked what alternatives were open to the commission, said it would be possible to take the matter to circuit court.

"No board has the final authority in a case like this. Even though permission was refused, you can probably go to court," Helm said.

The commission was warned by Young that if the city does nothing and the state is required to enter the picture they will be less impressed by the objections.

"The state will insist on better facilities. They will not necessarily require oxidation ponds," Young said.

The oxidation ponds are offered to the taxpayers as a savings, according to Young. They can be constructed for less than a chemical plant and the upkeep costs would be cut from an estimated \$2,000 a month to \$2,000 a year.

The bond issue of \$344,000 to be voted on Oct. 2 was based on construction cost at the airport, according to Young. If the ponds were built closer to La Grande, the construction costs would decrease but land acquisition would offset any savings in construction, it was pointed out.

Clarinet, Coats Are Stolen Here

Two cases of larceny were reported to the La Grande police yesterday.

Carmen Nelson, 1405 N. Ave., reported the theft of her clarinet from the band room of the Junior High School. The instrument, valued at \$40, has been in the band room since July 15, according to police.

Nothing else was reported stolen and the instrument was insured, police said.

Mrs. Delbert Houston, 1711 Z. Ave., told police that two wool jackets were taken from her car in a parking lot Saturday morning between 11 and 12. The items were described as a red and gray plaid women's jacket and a man's dark brown and tan plaid jacket.

The coats were valued at \$20.

FBI Chief Scores Americans On Disregard Of U.S. Crime

Rebel Argentine Army Generals Hurl A New Challenge At Frondizi

BUENOS AIRES (UPI) — Argentina's "rebel" generals hurled a new challenge at President Arturo Frondizi's government today, rejecting its dismissal of Gen. Carlos S. Toranzo Montero as commander of the army.

The Cordoba garrison and the anti-aircraft academy in the Mar del Plata had proclaimed their open defiance of the government order, and a "great majority" of the nation's other garrisons were reported siding with Toranzo.

Gen. Pedro S. Castineiras, chosen by the government to replace Toranzo, said he had no idea how soon he would be able to assume command.

Heavily-reinforced guards stood watch at army barracks in the Buenos Aires area, and troops were reported confined to barracks. Unofficial sources said similar precautions had been ordered at garrisons throughout the country.

Fourteen generals who announced their opposition to Toranzo's dismissal in telegrams to the provincial garrisons were reported under arrest Wednesday night as a prelude to possible court martial.

The Cordoba garrison, cradle of the revolution that overthrew President Juan D. Peron in 1955, was the first sizeable military organization to reject Toranzo's dismissal.

Col. Horacio Zanarruza, the Cordoba commander, denounced the "unjustified removal" of Toranzo. He declared that the troops under his command would obey only the orders of the deposed general.

War Secretary Elbio C. Anaya relieved Toranzo of command Wednesday, apparently because of reports that the army commander planned to dismiss a number of subordinate generals without consulting him.

Greenwood elementary—273; Riveria, 214; Willow, 176; Ackerman, 245.

In the high school, there are 144 seniors, 192 juniors and 178 sophomores. At the junior high: 170 freshmen, 186 eighth graders and 178 seventh grade students.

The largest single elementary class is the one at Central, with 82 first graders. Smallest elementary class is fourth grade at Willow, 22 youngsters.

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MAKING OF TOP U. S. CITIZEN

ARLINGTON, Va. (UPI) — Korean-born Dorothy Lee Dreil ignored labor pains, climbed out of her maternity ward bed and appeared in Alexandria Federal Court Wednesday just in time to become an American citizen.

"I've been waiting for this day so long I just didn't want to miss it," said Mrs. Dreil, 29, wife of a school teacher. She was among 71 persons naturalized.

Clutching her citizenship certificate, Mrs. Dreil returned to Arlington Hospital, Wednesday night she gave birth to a boy.

Enterprise Youth Dies In Hospital

Lantz Wayne Trump, 19, Enterprise, died in the Grande Ronde hospital yesterday afternoon of injuries suffered Wednesday morning in a collision at Upper Perry, about five miles west of here.

A passenger, James Victor, 19, also of Enterprise, was reported in fair condition at the hospital this morning.

State police said a westbound Consolidated Freightways truck driven by Joseph Hienzel of Billings, Mont., was just coming off the Upper Perry bridge on a curve when it met the eastbound Trump car which police said was in the wrong lane.

The officers said Trump apparently didn't see the truck coming.

The terrific impact tore the wheels out from under the truck's trailer and welded the two vehicles together. Two tow trucks were required on the scene of the 4:55 a.m. accident.

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Hits At No Man's Violence

WASHINGTON (UPI)—FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover lashed out today at Americans who stand idle while criminals turn parts of the nation into a "no man's land" of violence.

Hoover, writing in the FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, described as "shocking" the 9.3 per cent increase in crime last year. He noted it was the highest rate in the recorded history of U.S. crime.

The FBI chief said the report showed that some areas are a veritable "no man's land" where crime is ever lurking. He reprimanded citizens who have a "detached attitude towards crime."

No One Immune

"This country's citizens," Hoover wrote, "must awaken to the fact that the battle of the law enforcement officer."

"Every citizen has a stake when hoodlums prowling the streets brazenly committing atrocities which appeal even veteran police officers. No one is immune from the attacks of depraved murderers, robbers, sex offenders and kidnapers."

Hoover said the police officers are a "small patrol" when compared with the "army of law breakers roaming America."

Lonely Battle

"Often the law enforcement officer's battle is a lonely one," he added, "and too frequently the citizens who should be his allies are indifferent and apathetic."

Hoover noted that the International Assn. of Chiefs of Police hold their annual convention in New York City from Sept. 27 through Oct. 1.

He called it a "summit meeting" of law enforcement officers and said that citizens should look upon the meeting with the "same fervent interest" with which they view other conferences affecting their nation's security.

Cove High School To Open Sept. 8

COVE (Special) — Cove High School will open Sept. 8 at 8:45 a.m. with buses running on the same routes and schedules as last year, according to Charles Haggerty, principal.

It will be a full day of school and hot lunches will be available. New students at the high school are asked to register either Friday or Monday afterwards to give them sufficient time to study their schedules.

Pondosa House Owners Warned By Health Dept.

The Union County Health Department has issued a warning to those who purchased houses from the Pondosa townsite at an auction earlier in the year.

Investigation has revealed, authorities point out, that these houses are generally in poor condition in regard to wiring and plumbing.

The department has asked purchasers to carefully consider the requirements for health and safety in remodeling of the old houses.

No G.I. or F.H.A. loans will be given on houses which do not meet state requirements in regard to wiring, plumbing and sewage disposal facilities.

Further information can be obtained by calling or writing the department.

RESEARCHER DOUBTS 'LAST' CONFEDERATE VET SOLDIER

WASHINGTON (UPI) — A Scripps Howard staff writer reported today that a search of government records cast doubt on the claim of ailing Walter G. Williams, Houston, Tex., that he is the nation's last surviving Civil War veteran.

Lowell K. Bridwell said that his research shows that Williams "is a Confederate veteran only in his memory-clouded mind."

Records of the National Archives and the Census were examined by Bridwell as the basis for his story. He said that records of the Confederacy kept by the archives fail to back up Williams' claim that he served in the famed Texas Brigade of Gen. John B.

Hood.

Furthermore, according to the report, Williams is 103 years old instead of the 116 as he claims. This would have made him 8 years old at the time Williams said he was serving with Hood, the story said.

Williams applied for a Texas Confederate pension Aug. 5, 1932, and in an affidavit said he was a member of Company C, 5th Regiment of Hood's Brigade 11 months before the war ended.

Bridwell noted that Hood's Brigade had been broken up long before Williams "believes he enlisted."

Williams is now in extremely feeble condition at his Houston

home where he is being cared for by a daughter. Last month, Congress passed and President Eisenhower signed a bill which would declare the day of the Texan's death a day of national mourning with flags to be flown at half mast.

In 1958, a special federal pension was approved for Williams and Confederate veteran John Sallings, Slant, Va., who died last March 15. According to Bridwell, Sallings apparently was the last survivor of the war between the states.

He said the examination of Williams' claim was prompted by a letter from a Cincinnati woman who lived in Cincinnati's former home town of Franklin, Tex.

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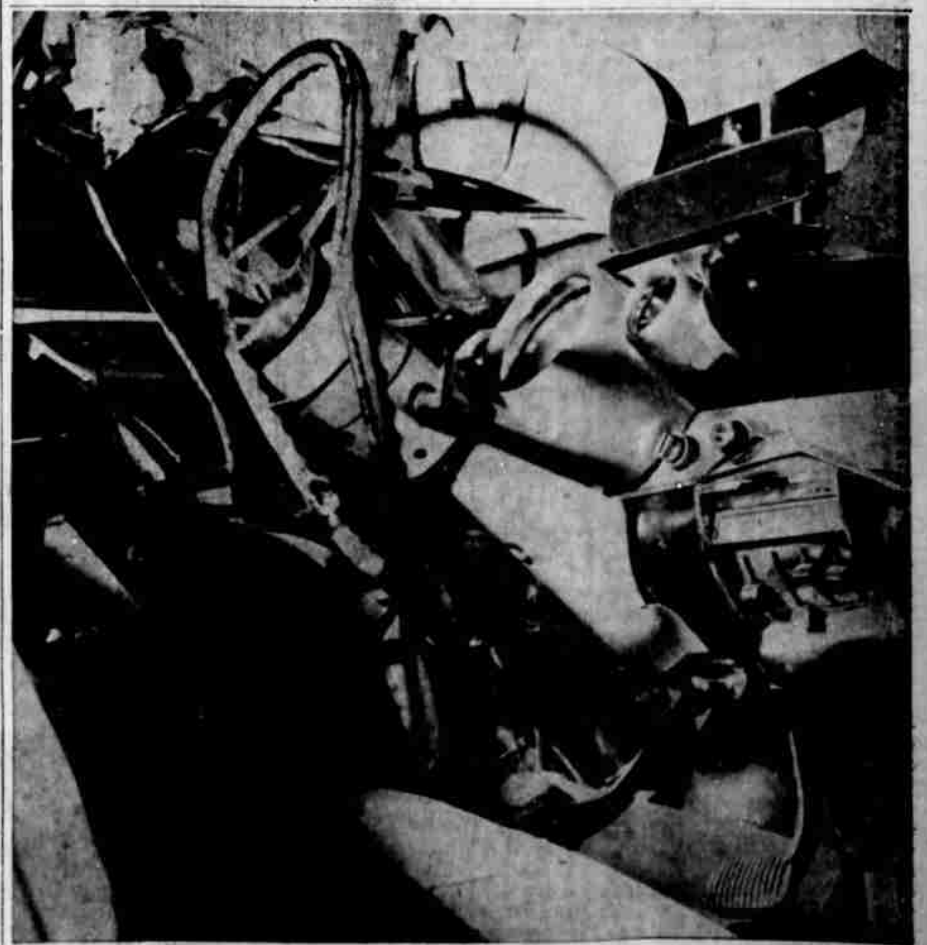
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MANGLED INTERIOR OF DEATH CAR

Shown above is the front seat of the late model car in which Lantz Wayne Trump, 19, Enterprise, suffered fatal injuries yesterday morning near Upper Perry. Trump died Wednesday afternoon in a local hospital. Note the twisted steering wheel in the upper left corner of the picture. (Observer Photo)