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The Penny Post Card and Our Two Cent Congress

If there are any who fail to realize what our so-called public servants in Washington are doing to us, we'd like to say a thing or two about the late lamented penny post card.

The penny post card was not a suicide as the wheels in Washington would like to make you think. (The penny post card, an American institution, died a horrible death in the waning hours of 1951—on December 31st.)

Appointed by Congress with the approval of the president as successor to the penny post card, was a two cent mailing piece with the same efficiency as its predecessor, the same mileage, the same time table and the same little space for you to write on.

The verdict of Congress, following its inequest over the remains of the penny post card, was that it killed itself because it was no longer able to pay its way.

And so the big shots in Washington dismissed the beloved penny post card into the great beyond with a flowery speech, a motion, a vote and a flourish of the presidential pen that should and probably will go down in history as a prize governmental blunder.

Many will disagree with us as we grieve over the demise of the penny card and as we brand as assassins those who contributed to its (we think) untimely passing.

But before these willing mourners take issue with us in our reverence for the penny postal, listen while we tell what Congress has done to the detriment of the good people in this wanton murder while it reserves a cut rate for the chisellers, propagandists and purveyors of pornographic publications.

If your church, lodge, civic club or other organization wishes to send out to its members and friends a special notice of an outstanding event it will cost two cents per address to mail it.

But, if the publisher of dirty books wishes to advertise his latest production, such advertisement can be mailed at half the cost.

It costs a phony lobby sending out literature to sell you on the idea of supporting some self-seeking commercial interest half as much to reach you through the mails as it costs your son to write you he needs more money to finance his college education. That is because Congress has decided the post-box salesman can send his mailing piece for 1 cent while your son's post card will cost him 2 cents.

Your water bills and tax bills which have come to you on penny post cards now cost your local government twice as much, or more, while the self-by-mail enterprises, some of which are fine upstanding business organizations and others of the gyp variety still mail at the one cent rate.

—Otero County Times

Freedom of Information

The public has read with interest and shock surprise the reams of copy on corruption in high public office recently. We can be sure that the majority of persons believe investigations that led to the scandals of bribery and low moral standards in agencies such as the Internal Revenue Department, RFC and others, was a very good thing.

What the public may not realize is that much of the work was done by newspapermen fighting suppression of news on national levels, also on state and local levels.

Such a newspaperman is James S. Pope, executive editor of the Louisville Courier-Journal and head of the Committee on Freedom of Information of the American Society of Newspaper Editors. Mr. Pope delivered the Eric W. Allen memorial lecture before the 33rd annual Oregon Press conference at the University of Oregon on February 22.

Mr. Pope, a slim, determined and courageous investigator said that the importance of freedom of information was not only directed at the national levels, but also on the state and local levels.

"What happens in the smallest unit of democracy happens to democracy itself. It cannot be subdivided and its basic principles are not subject to personal amendment," he said.

This means that suppression by a local school board, city council, Chamber of Commerce, or police officer is as much a blow at freedom and democracy as suppression by the RFC or any other Washington office.

"The tendency of a local official is to think locally," Pope said. He can easily persuade himself that delaying or sealing off a piece of community news is for the best interests of the town. He forgets many things.

"He forgets that he is duplicated thousands of times in other communities. If all local officials assume the prerogative of controlling official news, the total loss is paralyzing to the operation of municipal governments in any open and honest fashion."

He called on the newspaper profession to take more interest in the suppression problem, although he said Oregon has a good flow of information.

It is a matter of education, he said, to teach the people there can be no double standard.

"There can be no privileged class of public servants in our system," he said.

He hit at school boards who "look upon newspaper reporters as Peeping Toms."

"If you will just tell people how much they have not been told, just keep them informed on how much information they are rising magically above the surface," he concluded.

(The editorial staff of The Sentinel wishes to take this opportunity to thank all the public officials and civic groups in the town for their fine cooperation in the dissemination of news. With only a few exceptions the search for news that is of public interest has not been suppressed.)

Interest in Civic Affairs

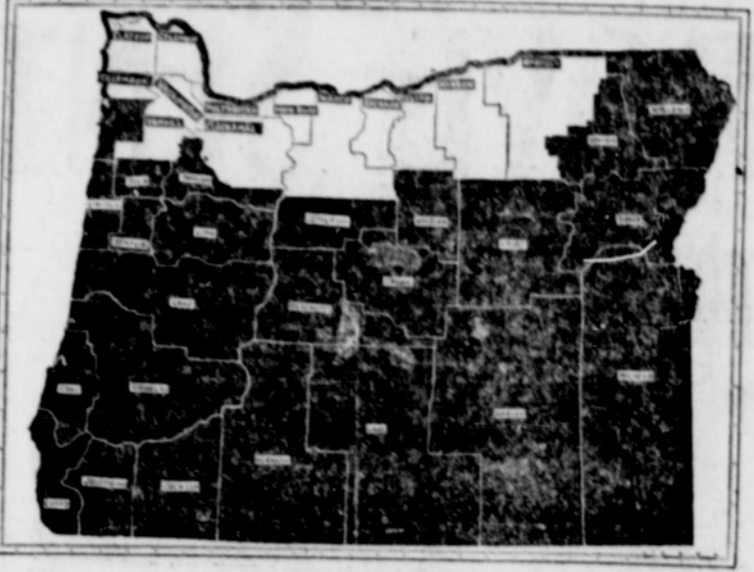
Most of us never go about a city council meeting or a public meeting of any sort unless there is a hot issue at stake or we have a personal aim in attending such sessions. At times there may be issues just as vital to our welfare as those which may be more highly advertised and yet we give the matter only a passing thought.

In Switzerland, said to operate the purest democracy in the world, citizens there take a vital interest in every issue, regardless of how trivial it may seem. Our apathy to public matters is certainly contributory to the graft and corruption which sometimes springs up in public affairs.

In public meetings you at least have the satisfaction of getting the two view points and you don't have to depend on hearsay as to what is going on.

A Texan, asked why he was collecting Confederate money, said, "Confederate money hasn't changed in value in 75 years, but look what's happening to this Yankee money we're using!"

OREGON'S "DARKENING SHADOW"



There's a "Darkening Shadow" of 1952 taxes over Oregon! The 1951 total assessed valuation of all property in Oregon was \$1,695 billion. The total tax bill on Oregon people for fiscal 1952, has been estimated by the OREGON VOTER to be \$728,000,000. — all federal, state, local, direct and indirect taxes and fees of every kind. The total 1952 tax bill on OLD Man Oregon and his 1,521,341 men, women and children equals the assessed value of all property in Oregon in the blacked out area shown in the above map.

—Prepared by Oregon Business & Tax Research

Gilbert to Attend Penney Co. Jubilee

Howard Gilbert, manager of J. C. Penney Company department store, will leave here March 4 to attend the Company's Golden Jubilee convention being held in San Francisco from March 5 to 7.

"This year marks our 50th Anniversary of serving the American people," Mr. Gilbert said, "and our convention has been built around that theme. 'Naturally we are proud of our past—our Company started as a single, tiny store in 1902 and has grown to be the biggest of its kind in the world. Look to Future'

"But frankly we are looking to the future, rather than the past. We want to continue serving the American people the best we know how in the next 50 years—and that's what we are going to talk about at our convention." He added:

"We have built a great business following a simple principle—the Golden Rule. We believe in it and we are going to take the opportunity, at the convention, to reaffirm and rededicate ourselves to this great principle in 1952 and the years ahead."

J. C. Penney, founder of the Company and its board chairman today, will make the keynote address at the two-day meeting. The subject of his talk will be "Do It Better."

City Judge Illness Postpones 2 Cases

Due to illness of municipal judge Don Allen two cases scheduled for Monday morning have been postponed.

The first case involves two Creswell men, Elmer L. Odell, 24, and Roland E. Oibekson, 22. They spent the night last Thursday in jail after being arrested by Cottage Grove police and then fighting with two officers at the station. They are free on bail.

Arrests were made after a chase through city streets. Odell was charged with reckless driving, failing to heed an officer's warning to stop and disorderly conduct. They posted bail bonds of \$150 and \$50, respectively, then an argument and fighting followed. Resisting arrest was added to the counts.

Second case involves Morris Horn of Cottage Grove charged with driving under the influence of alcohol. He was arrested by officers early Sunday morning on 5th street. He posted \$250 bail. A companion in the car, Ivan Patten, was charged with being drunk in a car, and bail was set at \$50.

Aid, Welfare Work Listed By CD Head

If war strikes the Northwest, Lane county has a definite spot in aid and welfare work, according to Miss Loa Howard, who heads this department for the Oregon civil defense agency.

Miss Howard said emergency will be taken care of fairly close to a disaster scene—within 10 to 40 miles if possible.

"But every county has been asked to designate mass shelters, such as schools and community halls, for possible evacuation of their areas," she stated "And most counties have been asked to prepare for another job: Sending direct aid to the disaster scene."

(According to quotas released by the Oregon civil defense office, Lane county has been asked to establish 7 1/2 mobil welfare teams, which would involve 326 persons. These teams will be sent to stricken areas to handle such mass-care requirements as feeding, registration and billeting.)

Lenin, who was nobody's fool, once said "Germany will arm herself out of existence. The British Empire will expand itself out of existence and the United States will loan itself out of existence."

The first two predictions have already come true.

—Louis Bromfield

POTATO RETAILERS TOLD TO FILE PROPER FORMS

Potato retailers, including fruit stands, must file proper forms with the Portland District Office of Price Stabilization as soon as possible since the rollback in potato prices has resulted in specific ceilings on retail spuds.

District OPS Director Carl Donough said all retail potato sales are now under specific price controls.

Eastern Firm Low Hiway Bond Bidder

The low and successful bid received by the State Highway Commission at its recent session for the \$15,000,000 in state highway bonds was Bankers Trust Company and the National City Bank of New York City and Associates, at a price of \$98.81 for each \$100 par value.

Associated with the successful bidders were The United States National Bank, Blyth and Company and Dean Witter & Company of Portland, Ore.

The bonds mature in principal installments of \$750,000 each year during the years 1953 to 1972, inclusive. The interest rate offered by the successful bidders was 1 1/2% per annum for the bonds maturing during the years 1953 to 1958, incl; 1 1/2% per annum for the bonds maturing during the years 1959 to 1970, inclusive; and 1 3/4% per annum on the bonds maturing during the years 1971 to 1972. The effective rate of interest in the successful bid was 1.6348%.

Report cards and individual differences in children were the subjects of discussion at the PTA session Monday night at Jefferson school.

Elmer Fleming, superintendent of city schools, was the key speaker and presided in the absence of PTA president, Mrs. Richard Kensit.

Stressing the difference in kinds of intelligence and shades of talent, Fleming said, "The mark doesn't mean anything unless you know who gave it." By this he meant that teachers themselves grade students differently.

Trying an experiment on the audience, he passed around printed sheets giving hypothetical examples of children, their school work and general background and asked the over 100 parents to grade them.

Grades ran all the way from A to F in one case. This was the example of a girl named Betty who was from a prominent, wealthy family and a bright, studious child. Her parents had told her they would give her a car and send her to an exclusive school if she did well. She was brilliant, especially in Latin. However she missed a week near the end of the term and knew she must have a perfect exam. She was caught cheating on the last test. Some parents graded her A, some as low as F.

"The classroom has uneven competition," Fleming said. "We are trying to stress to parents that a child must be judged according to his or her ability."

However, he admitted that in the present system of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 grading that this was sometimes impossible, as a low student often remained low even though he was doing as much as he was capable of.

He went into the background of report cards, explaining that the local schools did away with S (Satisfactory) and U (Unsatisfactory) several years ago because it did not give the true picture.

"For example a young girl is taking typing, trying very hard although it is very difficult for her. She gets up to 10 words a minute with only three errors. This is very good for her. So the teacher gives her an S. She takes this home to her parents, they say she is doing pretty well, so let's make a stenographer out of her."

He also explained the system of the curve of normal distribution where a teacher gave a certain percent of the class certain grades, taking away the individual meaning and merely making a student the victim of a system.

He told of the new system being tried in two Salem and one Eugene school that did away with report cards and substituted parent-teacher conferences.

"This is being done in selected areas where parents are in upper income brackets, many of them professional people who have the time and are willing to meet with teachers," Fleming said.

He called this system ideal but admitted it was not practical in all communities. He said this way the boy or girl who was a poor student did not have it publicized but that the problems were explained to the parents.

Mrs. J. H. Minkler, program chairman, gave a short talk on Founders' Day.

Mrs. Lenora Flyburn's third grade class provided entertainment. There were piano duets by Cindy Clearwater and Linda White. Cindy also was announced. Choral reading was done by 15 members of the class, with Mrs. Dove Trask leading them in songs. The poems and songs were built around various animals the children were studying in the class room.

Three major midwest pharmaceutical houses will be visited where students will see commercial preparation, testing and packaging of drugs. They are Eli Lilly, Indianapolis; Parke Davis, Detroit; and Abbott Laboratories, Chicago. Of special interest will be the output of "wonder drugs" such as penicillin and streptomycin.

Lodging and transportation in midwest cities are provided by drug companies, which also assist in furnishing meals en route. The OSC school of pharmacy is directing this biennial trip. Chaperoning the trip are Frederick Grill and Mrs. Harriet Sisson, both assistant professors of pharmacy.

Miss Jenkins is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Jenkins, Rt. 1, Box 546, Cottage Grove.

DAUGHTERS OF NILE TO MEET MARCH 5

The next meeting of the Daughters of the Nile has been announced for March 5, at the home of Mrs. Gurea Arnold. This is to be a costume party at 8 p.m.

Red Cross Drive

(Continued from page 1) marked a good record for the town. Mrs. Virgil Lomax as a volunteer headed the one-day drive that took many days to prepare. Many local women volunteered their help, and the high school group did canteen work to assist.

The Red Cross motor corps does a good job in transporting children to children's hospitals in the Eugene or Portland areas. Mrs. H. E. Eakin and Mrs. W. A. Woodard have given many hours to this work.

The Red Cross also has hospital beds for loan in this area, and two wheel chairs are now loaned to local people.

The agency also provides requisitions to the police station as an aid to transients. Clothing and food are often made available to such persons in this way.

64-Year Resident Dies February 24

Ella Jane Willis passed away February 24, 1952, at the old farm home near London where she had spent the past 64 years.

Ella Jane Harris was born May 1, 1863, in Quincy, Ill., the daughter of David R. and Rebecca Grimes Harris. She was the eldest of four daughters born to this union.

On April 25, 1865, when Ella Jane was two years old, she accompanied her parents and other relatives and friends across the plains by pioneer wagon train stopping at the Platte River in Nebraska where a sister Martha Ann was born. They continued on by way of Reno, Nev., California, southern Oregon, and arrived at Portland one Sunday evening in the middle of September.

There were only a few houses in Portland at that time and they knew only one family by the name of Sparks. They remained there and rented a farm nearby. Ella Jane went her first school year to her uncle, Tommy Harris, who later studied to be a doctor and practiced many years in Eugene.

The family moved west of Albany for several years then to what was known as the Uncle Joe Powell place where Seldon Powell now lives by the edge of the Cottage Grove Dam. From there they moved to Washington territory where they bought a place 12 miles south of Walla Walla, Wash., where they lived for several years, returning to Oregon again settling near Eugene.

Ella Jane Harris was married to Oliver Perry Willis September 26, 1881 at Eugene and lived at Harrisburg for a short time returning to the London community. She was a charter member of the Hebrew Christian Church.

The following children survive: D. Ernest Willis, Vallejo, Calif.; T. Ralph Willis, Fair Oaks, Calif.; Delbert H. Willis, Chico, Calif.; Alice W. Noth, Salem, Oregon; Glenn W. Curran, Cottage Grove, Ore. There are five grand-children and six great-grandchildren: two sisters, Mrs. Minnie Jones, Cottage Grove, Ore. One sister, Mrs. Martha Ann Shortridge, preceded her in death.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p.m., Thursday, February 28, at Mills Mortuary, with burial in the Taylor Lane cemetery. F. Sherwood Smith will officiate.

Linda L. Barlow

Linda Louise Barlow, 2 1/2-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barlow, Blackbutte route, Cottage Grove, passed away Saturday, February 23, at the Cottage Grove Hospital. She was born in Cottage Grove, August 5, 1949.

Surviving are her parents; one sister Mary Elizabeth, at home; grandparents: Mr. and Mrs. Earl Marcy of Cottage Grove and Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Barlow, Homer, Alaska; great-grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Smith of Creswell.

Funeral services will be at Mills Mortuary at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 1, with the Rev. W. W. Sutterlin officiating. Burial will be in the local Masonic-IOOF cemetery.

Committeeman Files For May Re-election

Monroe Sweetland, democratic national committeeman for Oregon, has filed for re-election in the May 16 primary. A resident of Clackamas County, Sweetland is publisher of the Oregon Democrat, monthly party newsmagazine.

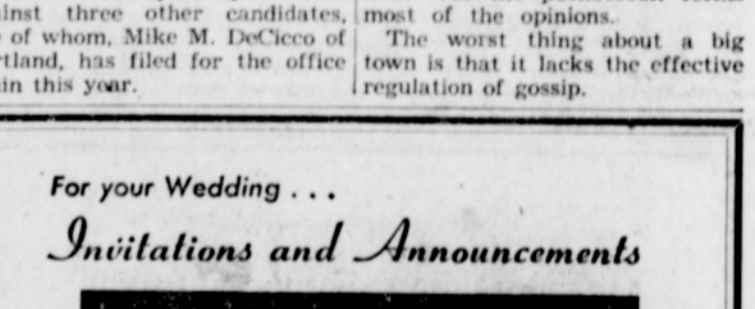
Mr. Sweetland was elected in the Democratic primary of 1948 against three other candidates, one of whom, Mike M. DeCicco of Portland, has filed for the office again this year.

Used car sales "between friends" or not from a regular dealer are still subject to OPS used passenger automobile ceiling prices. Of course, OPS points out, sales can be made under ceiling prices. If in doubt as to the ceiling price applicable to your particular make and model, your nearest OPS District Office representative is ready to help you. Allowance on trade-ins on another car can be above ceilings but not for more than the ceiling price of the car you are buying.

The brain was made to think with—but the pocketbook forms most of the opinions.

The worst thing about a big town is that it lacks the effective regulation of gossip.

For your Wedding . . . Invitations and Announcements



As important to the modern bride as her trousseau! See our many styles and sizes—each socially correct and reasonably priced; deliveries are very prompt.

Many helpful suggestions about your wedding are contained in our free Bride's Booklet. Call for your copy.

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