

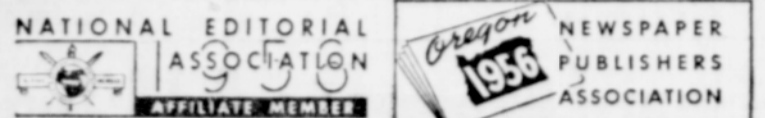
The Cottage Grove Sentinel

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Educating the Masses

Public conception of what schools and colleges are for has changed radically in the past 20 years, it seems to us. To raise the standard of literacy, the policy of most schools has been to expose as many pupils as possible to the art of learning with the hope that such a policy "takes." This policy won't produce any more Rhodes scholars than under the old system, but it may make some better citizens; at least most of the educators hope so, otherwise the mass effort made by the educators and the expense to the taxpayers is largely a wasted effort.

Figures on the national high school enrollment are not available at the moment, but undoubtedly there has been a big increase in the last two decades. Last year about 2,839,000 pupils, a third of the Americans between the ages of 18 and 21, were enrolled in the institutions of higher learning, which proportion was higher by far than any other country. Indications are that we shall see a larger proportionate increase and it's been officially forecasted that the number attending colleges and universities will reach 3,500,000 by 1965, an increase of more than a third.

One of the problems faced by both the public school and college is the matter of maintaining a high standard for graduation. Most instructors would like to maintain this standard, if left up to them, but a high standard is no good if the function of the school is to turn out pupils on the assembly line basis. We sat in on a discussion the other day centering around this problem. Practically all of the instructors of this particular school were of the opinion that a passing grade should be maintained and if it was not no degrees in this school would be given.

Another disturbing educational sign is the fact that state-supported colleges have increased much more rapidly than the privately-supported colleges since World War II. Private schools set the pattern for the basis of our higher educational institutions in the beginning of this century. They should still play an important part, but they have been harder hit by inflation than any type of college. Even the larger ones are having a struggle. They must look in the future to large corporation grants, like the Ford Foundation.

The modern education trend has not stopped by creating one problem, it has created several. As for instance, in the public schools, it has furthered the conception that "we must not walk," by having at its disposal several thousands of dollars in motor transportation equipment. If the present trend keeps up in riding from the cradle to the grave, the human legs are bound to atrophy in the process of evolution and in the course of time we are likely to have a race of legless Americans.

We have already reached a point in our public school system where federal aid is demanded as the only solution of mass education. We might be a bit old fashioned, but unless we are careful, aid of this sort might lead to political or bureaucratic domination of the schools. We might cite the example of Juan Peron as president of Argentina. Before he was kicked out as president. The first graders were reading such lines as, "Pres. Peron is good." "Eva is pretty." Referring to Peron's late wife.

High standards in a good many professions are still needed if we are to progress. We hope the college professors don't all succumb to the mass production idea.

A City Without A Newspaper

What is it like to live in a city without a regular newspaper?

The people of Detroit know—after a prolonged strike that shut down all three of its dailies. The merchants of the city learned it particularly well—the hard way. They used all other media to the limit. Some stores put out handbills of their own, to advertise their holiday wares. Yet, though Christmas trade for the country as a whole was well above last year, many Detroit stores did less business. The lack of newspapers was responsible.

Again, the merchants faced a fresh problem at post-holiday sale time. They had bargains and specials to offer as usual—but moving them was another matter, without newspaper advertising space.

The community problems that arise from lack of newspapers are certainly not limited to the big cities. The smaller towns are equally dependent upon the weeklies and dailies that serve them. In the small town, especially, the newspaper is a running record of its history—a thread that constantly touches the lives of all the people who live there. And, despite the newer media, it remains the most effective means of advertising for merchants and others.

Infinitely more important, the newspaper, small or large, is a guardian of our rights and liberties which is always on duty.

Poor Substitute

A good many taxpayers are waking up belatedly to the fact that the recent revised state income tax law is a poor substitute for a sales tax, which should have been passed in the first place. Home owners and the small wage earners are learning to their dismay, the supposed heavy tax designed to take the gravy from the big fellow, is working in the opposite direction.

Under the present tax system, where we refuse to take anything off the tourists as they do in most western states, we are finding that the matter of owning a home in which to live is fast becoming a luxury.

Women at Work

The Kiplinger letter says there are more women working today than ever before and the number has reached 21,000,000. Before the last war only 27 percent worked, 1935, 36 percent did. At the present time 30 percent of the married women are working or twice as many as in 1940. Women's jobs are fairly plentiful and young couples need the money to lift the standard of living.

Voting Age May Be Changed in State

Voters will likely have opportunity to pass on the merits of lowering the voting age to 18 during the next general election. At least petitions are being circulated calling for such a vote.

There are some merits and demerits connected with a proposal of this sort. Proponents of such a measure say that if the 18-year-old is old enough to fight, he should be old enough to vote and thus participate in governmental affairs. The only catch to this argument is lack of maturity. The present voting age of 21 is merely an arbitrary age and does not mean the person reaching 21 is mature, but that he has a better chance of becoming so.

Voting at even an earlier age might be desirable, if the new responsibility is met seriously and if the voter is trained in the same manner as when he enters the armed services. In the latter he performs his duty under supervision, whereas in the former case of voting at an early age, it's up to the individual to meet his new responsibility by self training.

Congress in Second Week of Action

By Congressman Harri's Ellsworth

The second full week of this new session will see floor action on several bills including long needed legislation for the care of mentally ill people in Alaska; a bill to increase compensation for veterans who have lost arms, legs or eyes; and an irrigation project in Oklahoma. The bill to increase funds available to the Small Business Administration for disaster loans, which I mentioned last week, was also sent to the floor by the rules committee. It will probably be the first bill acted upon by the house in this session. A bill to provide flood insurance is also under consideration by the house banking and currency committee. It may come up to final passage soon.

Meanwhile the President has authorized the first allocation of disaster relief funds to Oregon. I assume more will follow as needed. Meanwhile also, both the Small Business Administration and the Farmers Home Administration, which are authorized to make emergency loans in flood disaster areas, have established branch loaning offices in our fourth congressional district—most of which is classified as disaster area.

The President's message to Congress on the farm problem stepped up an already vigorous discussion of that subject here. I am sure the various comments (mostly political) have appeared in print so I will not take space for more of the same here. However, I cannot resist passing along the statement of one farm state congressman, Scribner of Kansas: "Some farm facts have been forgotten. In less than 2 1/2 years (March 1957 to August 1959), under F.D.R., farm prices dropped 35%. How many blamed him? World War II put a stop to that drop. Under Mr. Truman, farm prices dropped 22% in two years (January 1948 to January 1950). Who blamed him? The Korean War stopped that drop. Again under Mr. Truman, they dropped 16% from March 1951 to December 1952 (21 months). The drop which started under Truman has been about 13% in 3 years under Mr. Eisenhower. The decline started and was heavier under the Democrats than under the Republicans. The big drop occurred under rigid parity, and not under flexible supports, which have not had time to be effective."

Shades of the days of so-called "McCarthy Inquisition"! The present activities of the Neuberger-Chudoff sub-committees, in attempting to make their term "give-away" stick against the Department of Interior and Doug McKay, make what was called "McCarthyism" seem tame and listless by comparison. The present hearings are supposed to be investigating the issuance of some mining claim patents to the owners of the old Al Sarena mine in Jackson County. I attended parts of the first two days of hearings. It looked to me like a sort of filibustering operation with blistering political statements to open and close each session. Republican senators and congressmen were gavelled down when they sought permission to make answering statements.

Meanwhile the perpetrators of this inquisition are careful to avoid saying that there was fraud or anything illegal or wrong in the Al Sarena case. I believe the closest they get to that is to say it was unusual. In a later weekly letter, assuming that this committee ever does allow the factual story to be told, I will relate it here.

The mountains of Oregon contain great mineral wealth. Mining and smelting should be our second greatest natural-resource industry. Lumbering, of course, being first. If bonafide miners are to be persecuted in this way for political purposes the development of this important part of Oregon's economy will be long delayed.

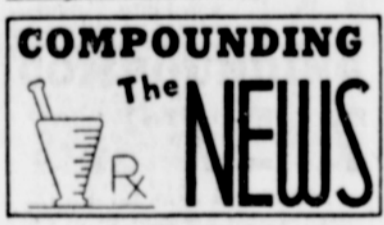


To the Editor: Shortly before adjournment of City Council meeting Monday, January 9, Robert Mills, chairman of the police committee, made a motion that the council okay salary raises from the emergency fund of \$10 a month retroactive to January 1 for three police patrolmen, which would raise them from \$325 to \$335 a month.

The motion caught the council by surprise, and especially the other two members of the police committee, Stan Daugherty and myself, as Mills had not consulted us with regard to such a motion. Investigation has shown that he also did not consult with the police chief or even the patrolmen involved. What followed was an attempt to block special, discriminatory wage raises for only a few of many city employees.

Immediately after the motion was made Daugherty, who is head of the fire committee, said that if the patrolmen were raised, the fire fighters also should get a like raise. Gil Gardner put in that if the patrolmen got a raise, the chief and assistant chief also should be raised. Then H. B. McMillan, assistant to the engineer, added his crew wanted raises, and J. M. Edwards, City Recorder, mentioned and whispered not to forget his clerks.

At this time I asked Mills if he were asking for the raise to equalize salaries to what others were getting in other cities, and he said yes. And Mills had already answered Daugherty by saying that the police worked harder than firemen. And the Mayor had



By Phyl Varley

A New York efficiency expert claims wives don't know their jobs. He says the "home engineers" would be fired in a hurry if they were working on a straight salary. Now there's a lad who leaves himself as wide open as a barn door. He's a real diplomat. It's not a question of whether he's right or wrong... it's a question of war and peace between the sexes.

Ever since the first cave man objected to the way his cave lady dusted the granite floor, men have cast a microscopic and critical optic on milady's housekeeping routines. And the dustfall side has responded as quickly as a pull on a bell rope. So the efficiency expert's diagnosis is nothing new... it's just foolhardy. Obviously he isn't a married man, or he might have hesitated before needing 20 million U. S. housewives.

California legislators voted against letting schoolteachers spank students. Apparently they figured some teachers were applying the pressure to the wrong end. However you cast your vote in cosmetics and toiletries, you'll find the name you like to vote for in our complete cosmetics department. You'll find that you'll get friendly service as well as a complete selection when you shop at

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answered Gardner by saying the department heads already were getting enough. At this point in the play I pointed out that it was dangerous to take funds from the emergency fund, and that before a decision was made the matter should be turned over to the finance committee for study, which the Mayor did.

Ralph DeJarnet, head of the finance committee, asked me as a member of his committee to gather as many facts and figures as I could concerning the wage issue for a report to him and Gardner at a later meeting. The committee was asked to have a report ready for the council at the meeting called for January 20.

On Wednesday night last week the Register-Guard came out with a story headlined that "the firemen sought raises, and the story read that Mills had made a motion that raises be given four firemen (not three patrolmen). The reporter must have gotten her notes mixed up. This is unfortunate. Not in that it matters too much to the public whether it is firemen or policemen seeking raises, but the fact that the true story often is not found. (And of course taking into consideration that the chairman of the police committee would not be asking for firemen's wage raises.)

Preliminary investigation shows that all department heads of the city, and many of the other employees, do not seek any kind of a raise now, although McMillan states the street and water crews have been dissatisfied for some time with the base pay of \$1.60

per hour. All those interviewed showed a very realistic attitude towards the dangers of using money from the emergency fund at this time of year for salary raises. They say they are willing to wait and put in their regular requests for the start of the fiscal year July 1.

Actual cash in the emergency fund on January 1 this year was only \$612.37, but the remaining budget is \$1,888.00, and the recorder said he was sure it would be there. But even if it is, it is short of last year's figure because the council budgeted smaller. At the end of the fiscal year in 1955 sums in the emergency fund of \$7,644.77 were transferred to make up deficiencies in other funds, as was the \$3,121.90 on hand at the end of the fiscal year 1954.

Another interesting thing to come out of this investigation was a talk with the City Treasurer, Mike Siebert, who said that in connection with his experience in payroll work the most fair way to grant any wage raise was on a percentage basis rather than a flat increase. He said that this gave the men with the higher jobs and more responsibility the larger increase, which was only right. This suggestion can well be taken into account when the new budget comes up.

I have written to the League of Oregon Cities for information as to what other cities are paying employees, and I hope this will be available soon. Printed information of this type should be out about March in time for budget sessions, but we may have data from the League sooner for study at this time.

This letter to the editor should not be construed as a means to influence the finance committee or council in making a decision concerning wage raises at this time, but more to tell the public some of the true story behind the move. Taxpayers have a right to know what city employees are thinking and also what is happening to their money.

Joan H. Gallo
City Councilwoman

Enjoys Home Town Paper

To the Editor: Just a note to let you know how much we enjoy the Sentinel. We look forward to receiving the paper each week which usually arrives on Saturday.

We look the paper over thoroughly to see and find out the local happenings as we miss our friends and relatives very much.

We appreciate your courtesy in sending us the Sentinel. We plan on continuing our subscription, which keeps us in touch with the home town.

The Carl Jenkins Family
Turlock, Calif.

Too Late to Classify

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REMEMBER THIS date, January 28. North Douglas Grange rummage sale at 5th & Wash. 23-2t-2t

Mimeograph Stencils and Ink
The Sentinel

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HURRY! Sweepstakes closes March 10, so don't put it off! Come in and get your entry blank and official Sweepstakes TODAY!

Elizabeth R. Rose

Elizabeth Ruth Rose, 326 S. First St., passed away at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Coda Pentico, 1403 Quincy, January 18, at the age of 71 years. Funeral services will be at 2:30 p.m. Saturday, January 21, at Mills Mortuary, the Rev. Sydney Gaither officiating. Interment will be in the Masonic - JOOF cemetery.

Mrs. Rose was born January 3, 1884, at Stewart, Iowa, and was married to Hallie C. Rose, May 7, 1910, at Atlantic, Iowa. The family came to Cottage Grove from Saskatchewan, Canada, in

1923 and have lived here ever since. She was a member of the Methodist Church. Survivors, besides Mr. Rose, are three daughters, Elsie McClernan, Evelyn Pentico, Hazel Kelly, all of Cottage Grove; seven grandchildren; one sister and one brother, Helen N. Partridge of Portland and Glen D. Fleak of Texas.

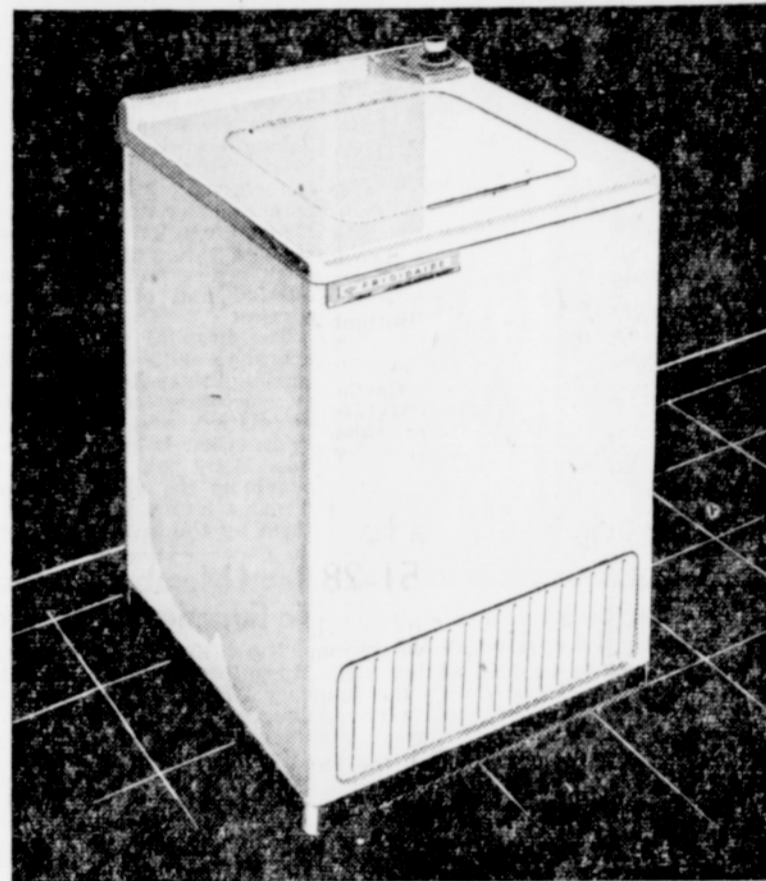
WILFORD REEVE ACCEPTED IN 40 ET # VOITURE 80

Wilford Reeve, adjutant of Cottage Grove's Calvin T. Funk American Legion Post 32, was accepted for membership in the

Lane County Voiture #80, 40 at 8 at the Promenade held at Springfield January 12. He will be "Wrecked" (or initiated) at the Inter-State Wreck in Portland, February 25. Leslie Eakin, a member of the Douglas County Voiture transferred to the Lane County Voiture #80 this month. He is now a member of Post 32 at Cottage Grove and his wife is an active member of the Auxiliary.

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SUPER DRYER

The Frigidaire Super Dryer—Matching dryer to the above Super Washer.

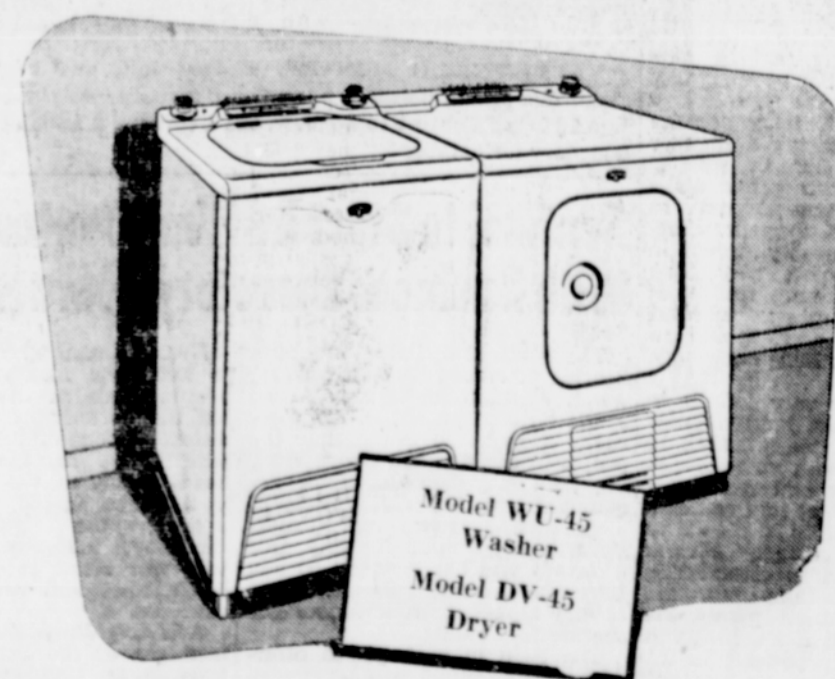
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