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Change in Charter Needed

One of the needed changes in the operation of the city government will be up for approval, probably in the May primaries. This will be that the office of city recorder be made appointive and not elective. This change was suggested in a report submitted to city council members last Thursday night by a committee appointed by Jess Hill, mayor, to make an analysis of the operations of the city. The good part of this suggestion is that it would take the city recorder's office out of politics. It would insure a closer cooperation between the councilman and the recorder's office and it would make the recorder subject to the will of the council.

There are several benefits which may be expected which would result in better city government at less cost and we have no quarrel with any city official or councilman. The council should be the governing body in city government and set the policy under which all city officials operate. Any change in governmental affairs could thus be brought about quickly.

The trouble has been in the past that too often we have had both new councilmen and new officials. The elected councilmen often feel that it is a personal sacrifice to serve on the council and he feels that a two year term is really too long to serve and he never really gets acquainted with all the duties of his office. Or he feels that this or that is really wrong, but perhaps after all what he thinks is really wrong has never been tried. So under conditions of this sort, reforms, however worthy, are never tried and pretty soon city government operations get in more or less of a rut.

It's a funny thing too that the average voter never stops to try and figure out whether the government he supports is doing a good job or costing too much. That is unless he has a pet project and in this case he is really ready to go to bat. Taxpayers generally have not bothered to learn why the taxes have increased. In a school budget election here several years ago, where taxes were sharply increased only a few bothered to get out and vote.

Let a few personalities be injected into an issue as in Cottage Grove's first attempt to have a city manager a few years ago and immediately there is interest. Perhaps in this one instance the interest was too great for the good of the city because the voters instead of getting rid of the manager, got rid of the system.

We have talked with various council members many times and so far as we have gone, all have agreed that it would be desirable to have some one like a city manager around. Perhaps we could not call him a city manager after the experience with this office as far as the one who was hired is concerned. There are various ways of saving funds for the taxpayers if an experienced council or some other city official could be retained to give advice on certain matters, but generally the councilmen are businessmen who have to make a living in addition to serving the city and it's too much of a sacrifice to serve year in and year out.

The present mayor, Jess Hill, has stated that a good businessman acting in the capacity of a city manager, or by some other name if this is repulsive, could more than save the price of his salary. At times a manager could have saved the price of his salary several times.
Many other former councilmen are in complete agreement with the above statement.

Profitable Sideline

The big-town newspaper editor, on vacation, decided he would learn how his small-town brothers managed to earn a living. Stopping in one such shop he asked the country editor, "Do your subscriptions pay well?"

"No, and you could say the same for my job printing."
"Then you make money on advertising?"
"Just about break even there," the weekly's editor admitted.

"Then how do you manage to show a profit at all?"
"Well, it isn't easy in a community of this size. Fact is, we couldn't do it only that we sell our typographical error to the humor departments of the big city dailies."—Wall Street Journal.

ROAD-BLOCK



ROAD MUST BE CLEARED. Tax discrimination—the excessive, steeply-graded surtax rates—has destructive effects that go far beyond the penalties on those who bear the heavy burden. They form a "tax block" to the economic growth of our country—to the investment in industrial plant and equipment, investment in jobs, which will be needed on a vast scale to provide for our rapidly growing population. Thus, our present tax structure adversely affects everybody. Removal of these blocks on the road to economic progress would release both incentives and funds for capital formation, clear the way for a better life for all of us.

Tomorrow's Farm Problem

The basic agricultural problem today is found in the staggering surpluses of major crops. That of the comparatively near future will be entirely different. As the Portland Oregonian put it, "The problem in a few years will not be how to set aside farm land and avoid surpluses of foodstuffs, but how to produce sufficient food on the remaining cultivatable land."

This view may seem startling, but it stems from the hard rock of fact. From 1942 through 1956, reports the Soil Conservation Service, some 17 million acres of cultivatable U. S. land will have been converted to non-agricultural purposes—industrial areas, housing developments, airports, highways, and so on. An additional 3 million acres have been planted to trees. To quote the Oregonian again, "Recently President Eisenhower recommended that 25 million acres be taken out of cultivation and placed in the conservation reserve part of his proposed soil bank. This is not much more than has been taken permanently out of cultivation . . . in a decade and a half."

That trend, it is expected, will not only continue but probably intensify. At the same time, our population is expected to reach the 210-220 million level in a mere 20 years. We will thus have a great many more mouths to feed—and a much-reduced acreage to produce that food.

It is evident from all this that agriculture's future job will be to make the croplands more productive, not less. That will require the use of more and improved farm equipment of all kinds, along with the other tools and techniques that science and technology have made available to the modern farmer.

Methods of World Dictatorship Revised

Those who profess to know anything about foreign affairs and foreign governments agree that Russia has changed her tactics and is now using an economic weapon rather than a military weapon to secure the coveted goal of world domination. John Foster Dulles, secretary of state, believes the about face of the Russian policy is a victory for the west. He says the Soviets are revamping their creed for intolerance and forming a policy nearer like that of the west.

Observers believe the new line of propaganda has a broader appeal for most of the west, which makes it more dangerous. The only bright spot in the general outlook is that the possibilities of war in the near future has been a little further removed.

Glorified Cowboys

There are a good many Americans who like to imagine themselves as glorified cowboys. It seems to us that they are living about a half century too late to get in on the old west. Old-timers can not recall a time in the last half century when it was so enthralling to be a cowboy. For riding the range in those days was not particularly romantic and few were heroes. We would hazard a guess that the role of the old-time cowboy has been enlarged about a thousand times to fit modern day movies and TV roles.

The old-time cowboy was not a song bird as he is pictured today, singing thru his nose and strumming a guitar. Rather he was a fellow who kept to himself and tended to his own business. Fifty years ago about the only way you could tell a cowboy from his western neighbors was his bowlegged walk.

One can still see the old-time cowboy by going to some of the larger ranches in the southwest, but the chances are you found that he rode into town from the ranch in an automobile and left his leather chaps at the ranch. Until you become acquainted, he is a hard man to talk to.

Congress Displays Speed Enacting Appropriation Bills

Letter From Washington

30—CONGRESS SHOWS
Every year, congress must enact 13 regular annual appropriation bills plus two or three supplemental appropriation bills. There is usually at least one measure called an urgent deficiency appropriation bill.

While this session of congress has not handled much other legislation, thus far, it has made an all time record for speed in getting out the first of the regular money bills. The house has passed two and sent them to the senate. Before this letter appears in print, another will have been acted upon. Already passed are the "Treasury-Post Office" bill, and the one for the Department of Interior and related agencies." Next will be a catch-all bill called "General Government Matters" which will be followed in a few days by bills for "Health Education and Welfare Department" and for the so-called "Independent Offices" which bill includes money for the numerous government commissions such as the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Federal Communications Commission.

Several items in the bill for the Department of Interior and related agencies are of particular interest to us. That bill provides money for the forest service and for the bureau of land management (O & C Administration). Some substantial increases were given the forest service. An additional \$1,600,000 is provided for preparing timber sales; \$470,000 more will step up care of camp grounds and \$465,250 more will provide improvements on the forests. The bill included the full authorization of \$24,900,000 for forest service access roads, and \$4,400,000 for access roads on O & C lands. It should be noted, however, that the access road money for the O & C lands is really not a federal appropriation at all. It is money which the counties are entitled to receive under the O & C law but which they have agreed should be spent for access roads so that the proper level of timber harvest on the lands can be maintained.

At long last, the necessity for a good construction program for forest timber access roads is becoming recognized both by the members of the appropriations committee and by the committee on highways. The first big "break through" was in the highway act of 1954 when the authorization for such roads was increased to \$24,000,000 and made on a three year basis. That sum has actually been appropriated each of the three years. The 1954 authorization has now run out. It will be necessary to have an access roads authorizing section in the big highway construction bill which will be up for final consideration soon.

I have discussed the timber access road problem with the chairman of the highways sub-committee and have written all members of that committee setting forth my views. I guess I am not much of a politician because in attempting to work this problem out with the committee, I have used sound reasonable figures as worked out by the forest service. In other words, a careful survey reveals that \$25,000,000 a year for five years will provide enough road capacity to bring the forest out up to the sustainable yield capacity. That is about the amount of money that can be efficiently expended. So that is my recommendation. But access roads provide jobs which makes this a pretty potent political subject. The Oregon Senators went before the committee and asked for \$50,000,000 a year! Could be things like that which caused our federal budget to get out of balance in years past.

Rod and Gun Club Sponsors National Wildlife Week

Jim Hendricks, president of the Cottage Grove Rod and Gun club, has announced that local conservation leaders are making plans for participation in National Wildlife Week, to be observed March 18-24.

National Wildlife Week is a nationwide educational campaign, he said, sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation and its state and local affiliates. The purpose is to focus public attention on problems of natural resource management and the pressing need for better conservation practices. The special theme for 1956 will be "Save Endangered Wildlife."
The plight of the rare whoop-

ing crane, with only 28 of its kind left alive on earth; the grizzly bear, forced to retreat to a few remote wilderness areas in the west; and that of the sea otter, the lake sturgeon, the Key deer, the California condor and other threatened animals will receive special attention.

"Every state — indeed, every community — has its endangered wildlife," Mr. Hendricks pointed out. "Research and education, together with the cooperation of sportsmen and farmers, can bring many species back to abundance through conservation practices."
"It has been demonstrated that the advance of civilization need not destroy wildlife, which is one of the natural resources that make civilized life worth living."
"Some 35 million Americans turn to hunting and fishing each year for health-giving recreation. Other millions who do not hunt or fish enjoy seeing wildlife in the national parks and national forests, and even in their backyards and gardens where songbirds may nest and feed."

Germany First of 6 Issues on Policy To Be Discussed

"What can the U. S. do about Germany?" is the first of eight foreign policy issues which study groups organized at the community level in Lane County will study under the Great Decisions program.

For information on forming or participating in a group to discuss this and other Great Decisions contact Bill Woodruff, county chairman, 1008 Willamette Street, Eugene; Martin Edberg, Springfield; or the Lane County Extension Service, 1170 Pearl Street, Eugene. Additional information is available from the World Affairs Council, 831 S. W. Sixth Avenue, Portland 4.

Germany, the Foreign Policy Association points out, is the key to the future in Europe, and 1956 will be a year to watch that nation. A decisive problem for the U. S. it says, will be how to keep Germany facing west, as the great stronghold in our defense line in Europe.

Top Questions
Topmost questions on the minds of both strategists and voters are: How long will Germany tolerate the division of their country? Will Germans revert to their old military tradition? Will Germany attempt to make an alliance with the Russians?

Assuring factors about Germany today is that both major political groups are solidly anti-communist and the German people seem less militaristic than before. Winning Germany as a dependable, permanent ally will depend on wise decisions. Public opinion will go far to determine which choices are open to American government leaders.

Stamp Society

(Continued from Page 1)
Bill Randall for 1953, and Ivan C. Hoyer for 1954.

Over 50 frames of postal materials will be on display at the fifth annual exhibition, which will be free to the public. Additional specially prepared Cachet covers commemorating the early day Le-mati Feud, a stamp auction and a free door prize for the visitors. A dealer in stamps will be available at the show.

In addition to the many featured frames to be shown, as announced earlier, a special collection of ship cancellations from all the ships sunk at Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941, will be exhibited by Mr. Hilbert, now of Oakland, Calif. A special frame of Latvia semi-postal stamps printed on the back of unfinished Bolshevik bank notes by the new government of the republic set up in 1918 will be shown, along with a special showing of a prize-winning collection of Rooseveltiana on Stamps by Cyrus Prouty of Eugene. The later collection won a gold medal at the 1955 Northwest Federation of Stamp Clubs Exhibition held in Eugene.

The public is invited to visit the exhibit and join in the afternoon activities of the South Lane Stamp Society. All materials shown have been prepared with the express purpose of displaying as wide a variety as possible to interest the general public, whether stamp collectors or not.

To exert every possible effort to eliminate un-democratic practices and undemocratic attitudes, to do all that we can do to close the gap between our professions of democracy and our practice of it—is the only way that we can achieve our maximum national strength and unity and fully discharge our international responsibilities. In these critical times, this we must do. We cannot afford to do less.—Ralph J. Bunche

Folks Known Here Featured in News In Redmond Paper

The March 1 issue of the Redmond Spokesman has two front-page stories referring to persons of well known here. Bill Bumpus of this area, state president of the Oregon State Poled Hereford association, is shown in a four-column picture accompanying a news story on the association's news story on the association's show and sale March 2 and 3 at Redmond. Pictured with Bumpus is the bull, F. R. R. Helmsman, which he has raised on his Fir Ridge ranch south of town.

The other article is about Mrs. Lev (Fay) Van Schoiak, formerly a resident and teacher here for many years. The article follows: "Spokesman readers will have the opportunity of taking a look at the tutelage of a trained astronomist, Mrs. Fay Van Schoiak, whose series of articles start today."

"Mrs. Van Schoiak, who has taught science at Prineville junior high school the last 12 years, studied under the late Dr. J. Hugh Pruett at the University of Oregon."

"A UO graduate, she also has taken a number of extension courses and worked with Dr. Pruett in the Evergreen observatory in Eugene. Dr. Pruett once declared that she was "better prepared to handle astronomy than any teacher in the Northwest." Mrs. Van Schoiak knows how to make astronomy interesting to the person who never has studied the subject. Each week in her column she will bring to readers a bit of what's going on in the sky, how to locate the various stars and planets and what the average person would like to know about them."

CARBON PAPER FOR SALE
THE SENTINEL

COMPOUNDING
The NEWS
By Phil Varley

If you ever wondered what scientists do when they aren't doodling with atom bombs or figuring how to launch a commutator's special to the moon, we wish to report that they brood over romance. A Harvard scientist has just penned a novel in three classes; the tall, skinny type; the roly-poly type; and the muscle man.

He says the ladies can expect the stringbean to be moody and the secretive, yet he can also turn out to be the life of the party. The chubby chap is a good mixer and affectionate, but he's also self-sufficient. The muscular marvel is cautious and aggressive. The trouble with this is that if people got married scientifically, marriage figures would drop like a bride's muffins. You can't put moonlight into a test tube, or play a love song on an electronic computer.

Dr. Rudolph Marx claims that 43-year-old George Washington would have rated 4-F today due to previous attacks of smallpox, influenza, dysentery and malaria. But his courage was 1-A. You'll find an A-1 selection of America's best known toiletries and cosmetics included in our complete stocks. Whether it's shaving needs for him or beauty aids for her, we have it. Stop in and shop at the friendly

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