

### Defendant and Juror...

A week of pondering over, and talking over, action of the city council last week in qualifying alderman Smith still leaves us flustered with amazement. And still concerned over the stripping of authority from the City Charter. This, in effect, is like telling the very people who approved this document that the council doesn't have to abide by any such restrictive measures. Yet, we find in Section 2 of the Charter "Powers of the City"; that... "all of the city's authority, rights, powers, functions, privileges, immunities or benefits, whether expressed or implied, shall be exercised in the manner prescribed by this Charter..." It further says that if the Charter doesn't prescribe the manner, then it shall be by ordinance or resolution of the council, or State Laws.

Now, the council has by majority vote eliminated one of a candidate's requirements; property ownership on the day of election; without authority as prescribed by Charter. But more confusing, they have established their own "law" that permits a man to sit in his own judgement. Sounds like something out of an old Judge Roy Bean movie, or maybe a pilot idea for a future science-fiction epic. Either way, it's that far out. Can you imagine the judge sitting on a jury trial letting the defendant testify in his behalf, then taking a seat on the jury to decide his own fate?

But it's even more complex. In a fast maneuver, the mayor instructed the Recorder to administer the oath of office to a man that was not yet qualified in order that he COULD vote. The excuse for this action was that if Smith wouldn't swear in his position wouldn't be in question because he wouldn't be an alderman. A rise that was unnecessary because Smith was succeeding himself and an incumbent holds office until his successor is elected and qualified. Though Smith, however, had lost his qualifications for office two and a half years before his last term expired, which raises another point of confusion; would action passed by his vote stand the legal test if demanded? This was a point, at least, made in a previous ruling by the city attorney regarding the eligibility of a non-resident, but otherwise qualified candidate, to run for city office.

We shall stress again that Charter qualifications in no way affect the ability of a person to function in office. They only determine the eligibility of a person to hold an office. And they are part of the city's laws passed by the people and entrusted to city officials to uphold. In this case, there is a great deal of doubt that the Charter has been upheld in the manner it prescribes. When such a trust is broken, those responsible are apt to find their alliance with the people slipping to a serious degree. Further, it paves the road to other such cloudy legislation in the future. It also sets a precedent for arbitration over all such cut and dried regulations found on the city's law books. And this could cause a multitude of problems. The argument should be resolved by competent authority... as it should have been before any action was taken in the first place.

We are pleased to see that at least three members of the council share the belief that the Charter should control the authority of the city government.



**BACK**  
in Salem  
REPRESENTATIVE  
CARL BACK

The 53rd Legislative Assembly got off to a flying start after its January 11 opening ceremonies and by the end of the first week about 160 bills were already introduced and assigned to committees.

The general feeling among Legislators is that this session's business can and should be conducted quickly and this session will be much shorter than the 1963 Legislature which took 141 days, an all-time record. My committee assignments are quite satisfactory, even though for the first time in my eight years of service I'm in the minority party. I received two out of the three committee assignments I requested. I will be serving on the following: Highways, Local Government, and Natural Resources. I'm vice chairman of the Natural Resources Committee.

I have arranged to have complete sets of bills mailed to and placed at the following public places in Curry County:

Curry County Courthouse, Brookings City Council, Gold Beach City Council, Port Orford City Council, Agness Community Council and the Curry County District Attorney's office.

This is a service for the people interested in legislative measures that will be introduced during the session. Any individual, group or organization wanting copies of bills of particular interest to them can contact me and I will arrange for copies to be sent.

Do not hesitate to contact me on any legislative matter. Address: mail to Rep. Carl Back, Oregon State House of Representatives, Salem, Oregon. My home phone in Salem is 363-6078. Week days I may be reached through the State's switchboard, 364-2171.

### Hunting Accidents Set New High

Oregon hunters again were quite careless with firearms during 1964 as revealed by final statistics covering gun casualties during the regular hunting seasons as well as the off-season shooting period.

Final tabulation by Cal Giesler, hunter safety supervisor for the game commission, shows 9 deaths and 57 nonfatal casualties during the year. In 1963 there were 10 deaths and 62 nonfatal woundings.

Proportionately, juvenile hunters again rated high in the number of firearms accidents, with 17 youngsters involved in shooting some other hunter and 7 youngsters suffering self-inflicted wounds. Of the nine deaths, seven were juveniles. Two of the juveniles died from self-inflicted wounds.

Eleven juveniles, either the shooter or the victim, failed to have certificates in the safe handling of firearms as required by law. In addition, several youngsters involved in firearms accidents were hunting big game animals in violation of the law.

Of the total firearm casualties, 19 hunters shot themselves. There were 11 casualties which were the direct result of carrying loaded firearms in vehicles. Four of these were fatal. Pistol toters reported 8 accidental woundings, none of which was fatal.

Only five woundings could be classified as purely accidental with rocochets reported as the causing factor. Ten woundings resulted from the victim being in the line of fire, with three of these fatal to the victim. In eight instances the shooter either slipped or tripped while carrying a loaded firearm, shooting his companion in the process. Three of the victims were mistaken for game.

Most of the accidents occurred at very short range, with 35 woundings occurring at distances of 10 feet or less between the shooter and the victim. Several more occurred within the 20-foot mark. Only 11 victims were wounded at distances of 50 yards or more beyond the shooter. In all these cases, the shooter reported the victim to be either mistaken for game or in line of fire. Defective firearms were reported to be the cause of several woundings.

### Dairy Farming Remains Same

Oregon dairy farming stands among the state's farm enterprises that are likely to provide fairly consistent and comparatively favorable returns in 1965.

That is the way Stephen C. Mars, Oregon State University extension agricultural economist, sees the dairy situation shaping up for the coming year, assuming the current relative market price structure is maintained or is not seriously disturbed for very long.

Mars makes his observations in the new Oregon Farm and Market Outlook circular just published by the OSU Extension Service and now available from county extension offices or from the OSU Bulletin Clerk in Corvallis.

Dairy farms, milk cows and total milk output in the state probably will continue to become scarcer and production costs may edge a bit higher. However, he writes, cash receipts from milk marketings are expected to decline less than in some recent years and some individual producers may do even better.

Changes in the past 20 years in the dairy market structure in Oregon and the nation have been numerous and are likely to continue in varying degree, he notes. The downward trend in milk cow numbers is expected to continue this year, but at a slower pace.

Oregon milk production may fall below the one billion pound mark for the first time on record, but prices for milk and dairy products will probably hold near the higher 1964 levels. Marks adds that economic forces outside Oregon will help bolster market prices for milk and dairy products.

Forces working in favor of a firm market undertone cited by the economist include near depletion of government surplus stocks of butter, cheese and plus stocks of butter, cheese and non-fat dry milk, prospects of a stable 1965 national milk production, increased commercial use and exports of dairy products, world depletion of excess dairy products and the continued lag in milk production in the United Kingdom and Western Europe.

The effect of these developments is showing up in the farm reports is showing up in the form of higher world prices for major manufactured dairy products, Marks points out.

### To Curb a Freedom

A passage in George Orwell's book, "Animal Farm," has the farm animals changing their constitution, which reads: "All animals are equal," to: "All animals are equal, except some animals are more equal than others."

This seems to be the thinking behind President Johnson's plan to ask Congress to repeal Section 14-B of the Taft Hartley act.

That section is a provision of the National Labor Relations Act of 1947 permitting each state to prohibit by law "agreements requiring membership in a labor organization as a condition of employment" within that state.

The same Administration that promises more freedom to all and that is strongly backing the right to riot in protest over civil rights and other personal causes is now prepared to take a very real freedom from the people.

Twenty states now have the "right to work" laws on the books. If the Congress bows to the President's request, the right to make a living will be a vanished freedom. It can hardly be argued that a lost freedom for the pretended economic good of the individual is any more important than the loss of freedom for any reason.

The idea that a human being can be forced to work against his will has been long ago denounced as slavery. However, it is apparently considered socially acceptable to force a man

or woman to join a union and swear to discriminate against non-union workers.

Maybe the President was speaking for the labor union leaders when he said in his message to Congress: "We have achieved a unity of interest among our people that is unmatched in the history of freedom."

It is beginning to look as if that unity is going to be forced on us.

### Spray Schedules For Home Orchards

Winter is planning time, not only for the commercial farmer, but also for the home gardener who would keep ahead of insects and diseases on his backyard fruit and nut trees next spring, summer and fall.

A newly-revised Oregon State University Extension circular, "Spray Schedule for Home Orchards," will help the wise backyard gardener plan now on steps to be taken during the coming months. The circular is available at county extension offices or from the OSU Bulletin Clerk, Corvallis.

The recommendations are made specifically for the home gardener and do not meet the requirements of the commercial orchardist.

The pesticides recommended were selected on the basis of their effectiveness, availability and safety.

### Winchester Bay Salmon Anglers Hit Record Catch

As predicted in early September by game commission fishery biologists, anglers fishing at Winchester Bay and nearby offshore waters set a new record during the 1964 season in terms of angler use as well as the number of salmon caught.

The prediction at that time was based on excellent salmon angling which had increased in tempo from early August at this popular sport fishing center. More than 33,000 salmon had already been tallied up through the August period.

Compilation of data obtained from creel and boat checks through the entire season shows a total of 52,307 salmon caught by 53,125 anglers. The 1963 catch figures—also a record for Winchester Bay—show 46,174 salmon taken by some 46,811 anglers. Of the salmon caught last season, 5,441 were chinooks and 46,886 were cohos.

Charter boat operators apparently knew the waters well for fishermen aboard these craft held the edge over skiff and private boaters in angling success. It took the former group of fishermen about 3.3 hours of angling effort for each salmon landed compared to 5 hours of effort by the latter group.

About 760 anglers bank fished from the south Umpqua jetty during the season and reported taking 67 coho salmon and 14 chinooks.

### Science Briefs

Five scientific and technological advancements announced by General Electric Company scientists and engineers:

A strip of plastic full of tiny holes may be a new weapon in the fight against cancer. A plastic filter that can separate cancer cells from blood has been developed and may prove valuable in the diagnosis of the disease.

Plug-in electrical power for astronauts a million miles from earth is promised by a new way of creating electricity—magnetizing a superheated gas. G.E. space scientists say the new process could answer the need for relatively large amounts of electrical current required by spacecrafts.

"Superpressures" first used by the general Electric Research Laboratory to make diamonds have also made it possible to produce more than 20 new forms of matter never found in nature.

Small electrical explosions which cause the earth to reverberate are revolutionizing oil explorations. Using electrically drilled equipment, a system has been developed which records these reverberations and translates them into meaningful definitions of underground conditions.

### Salem Scene

by Robert L. Dornedde

### Property Tax Relief One of Major Legislative Concerns

"Property tax relief, congressional reapportionment, Constitutional revision, workmen's compensation and the Governor's record budget are issues of greatest concern."

This was the reply from House Speaker F. F. "Monte" Montgomery (R-Lane county) when asked what he considers are major problems facing the 1965 Oregon Legislature.

Montgomery said property taxes have increased 10% during the 10-year period from 1952-53 to 1962-63. Asked what he hopes the legislature would do to relieve the seriousness of this trend, Montgomery said he desires a return to counties of surplus General Fund monies exceeding \$5 million as a direct offset against county levies.

Sizable surpluses have existed in the state's General Fund at the close of nearly every biennium—\$166 million during the last 10 years.

Although several proposals have been discussed, Montgomery indicated he favors "tying down" these surplus funds as an offset against existing county budgets, thus providing "direct relief" to the property taxpayer.

He feels this proposal is "good, sound business management" for the state and predicted it would get favorable consideration by the legislature.

"Congressional reapportionment will have a much greater impact on this session than most would believe," the Republican House Speaker declared. He pointed out that some 15 different plans have already been suggested, and it appears it will end up being more a "geographical problem" than one of political nature.

Whatever the legislature finally decides, it is almost certain District Three (Multnomah County) and possibly District One, will have to yield some of its territory, Montgomery asserted.

Oregon's congressional districts presently vary as widely

as 522,813 in District Three to 265,164 in District Two (eastern Oregon), a difference of over 250,000 based on 1960 federal census figures.

"Constitutional revision," said Montgomery, "is almost a must. It has been three legislative sessions since a 65,000 majority in 1960 voted the legislature authority to come up with a Constitutional revision plan."

The House Speaker said the same revision bill introduced during the last session is now before the 1965 legislature.

Referring to the defeat of Ballot Measure No. 3, at the November elections, Montgomery said the "avenue is now open for a competitive system of workmen's compensation."

He said there is great need to strengthen employee safety programs and that a competitive system would assist immeasurably toward this goal.

A bill providing for benefit increases of 18 1/2% and broadened coverage under a competitive plan has been introduced.

"Budgets," he said, "are always serious problems for the legislature, and Governor Hatfield's record \$464.9 million proposal is no exception. He indicated it would get a thorough examination and that it is possible some reductions can be made."

Although it is too early to know the impact of December flood damages on income tax returns, Montgomery said the legislature, at this juncture, would be more inclined to make use of bonding programs for capital construction than increasing taxes, should a substantial amount of income tax revenue be lost to the floods.

Montgomery indicated he was "very pleased" with the makeup of legislative committees. He said committee chairmen are displaying good leadership in over-all programming.

Commenting that the legislature is shooting for a 100-day session, Montgomery said, "Committees will nonetheless go beyond those bills before



Dear Editor:

We want to thank you for the stories you ran about our boating course. The three column layout in the issue of December 24 was particularly gratifying.

Squadron members have expressed the belief that such cooperation has helped make this year's boating class the best ever. For our files we would like to have you send us two more copies of the issue of December 24 and two of the January 14 issue. Fifty cents is enclosed to cover costs.

Dallas M. Moore, PRO  
Coos Bay Power Squadron  
P. O. Box 315  
North Bend, Oregon

Dear Sir:

I have really enjoyed reading the paper from Port Orford and am sending a check for another year's subscription.

Yours truly,  
L. Olson  
Newport, Ore.

### Coos Livestock Meeting To Be Held

The 30th annual meeting of the Coos County Livestock Association will be held Saturday, Jan. 23, in the library of the Myrtle Point High School and will begin at 10 a.m.

All livestock producers are invited to this meeting reports R. C. Geaney, president of the livestock association.

State Representatives James B. Bedingfield Jr. and Carl Back are scheduled to attend this meeting and give a report on the work of the 1965 legislature.

County Commissioner J. J. Geaney will report on the effects of the recent flood to county roads and Francis Flanagan, assessor, will discuss livestock valuation.

Membership of the association will elect officers for 1965 and make plans for the work of the organization during the coming year. The noon luncheon will be served in the school cafeteria by the Broad-bent Community Church.

Geaney, a Bridge area rancher, urges all the livestock ranchers in Coos County to attend this important meeting.

More Suitable  
Wild Son—Father, I think I'll take up keeping hawks.  
Dad—Try owls, my boy. Their hours will suit you better.

### Fined For Drunk

A charge of drunk in a public place brought a \$25 fine to Mike Easter, Gold Beach, in Recorder's Court. Easter was also required to pay for a broken window.

## In Season and Out of Season

# NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING WORKS

## IN ALL SEASONS ALL THE TIME

Summer or Winter, Spring or Fall, people want the NEWS. No matter where they go or where they are, they want the news of home. Your newspaper keeps you informed of what's happening, not only around town, but maintains an interest in the offerings of your favorite stores.

## ADVERTISERS—

Those who wish to keep their names before their potential customers even to the extent of maintaining that contact while patrons are away from home, can do so through their advertising messages and announcements in the



Post Office Box 5 Port Orford, Oregon  
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY  
Second class mail privileges authorized at Port Orford, Ore.

Louis L. Felsheim ..... Editor and Publisher  
Paul L. Peterson ..... Managing Editor  
Subscription:  
In Curry County (per year in advance) ..... \$3.00  
Outside Curry County ..... \$3.50  
Single Copy ..... 10 Cents

Announcements, Notices, News and Advertising  
Must be in the Office by 5:00 p.m. Tuesdays

