

Port Orford News

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The Absentee Vote

In close elections, the absentee vote often decides the issue. In the 1960 presidential election, Richard M. Nixon carried the State of California by the absentee vote. There are countless examples of absentee votes making "the" difference between defeat and victory in close elections.

It has been estimated that there are nearly a million Americans presently outside the continental limits of the United States. In addition to this, there are always countless thousands of potential voters away from their home precincts on Election Day but still within the borders of the United States. The mobility of the American people makes the absentee ballot a highly significant factor in every election. It enables millions of American citizens who would otherwise be disenfranchised to cast a ballot for the man of their choice.

If you expect to be away from your permanent residence on Election Day, you owe it to yourself as a citizen to obtain an absentee ballot. The right to vote is the most fundamental of all our rights. The behavior and performance of officeholders, at every level of government, is dictated by the knowledge that periodically they must come before the bar of public opinion in the polling booths.

The caliber of men in public life is a direct reflection of the wisdom and judgment exercised by the voters. When it is time to vote, you are the only person in the booth. If you cannot be there personally, let the absentee ballot serve as your proxy.

The Shoe Fits Many Feet

When President Johnson recently prescribed a "strong dose of self-discipline" for the nation, the skeptics could hardly be blamed for wondering if he were referring to the behavior of Congress as well as the people. The spending record of Congress suggests anything but self-discipline.

It is a lack of discipline in government spending that is causing inflation. It is a lack of discipline in the enactment and enforcement of equitable laws that have led to virtual labor anarchy and strikes that cripple essential public services. It is a lack of discipline in public life that is responsible for the rise of a "get-elected-at-any-price-to-the-taxpayer" philosophy.

It will take more than superficial self-discipline to meet the disintegrating processes of inflation. It will take a return to first principles—a determination on the part of the people to stop asking government for handouts and a determination on the part of government to curb public spending that is beyond the ability of the taxpayers to pay. When talking about self-discipline, it will be found that the shoe fits many feet.



Mimie King Jolly yanked me up short by telephone Monday to inform me that the picture we published last week of the first school was not the first school, maybe the second—but not the first. And she was short enough right. In fact, she very pointedly pointed out that we had published a picture of the real first school way back in 1957 in the old Port Orford Shopping News, and she still had a copy for proof so we stand corrected. We have included that picture elsewhere in this issue.

Mrs. Jolly is also very interested in gaining renewed support for the Art Association and would like to see a goodly attendance at Monday night's meeting to discuss new quarters... and new classes. So if ya can... make it.

National Newspaper Week was last week but do to space problems, we didn't have room for our usual salute to the event, hence of which was "The Public's Right to Know."

The youngun's school pictures turned out much, much better this year... compared to last year's miserable flops. Colors were more natural and it looked as if some time was spent to insure professional quality poses.

The State Dept. of Education said this week that Oregon high school dropouts have increased to 19.1 per cent in 1966, an increase of 1.6 per cent over the 1965 rate of 17.5. This is the first year since 1952 that the holding power of the schools has decreased. But on the good side, Oregon is rated the seventh lowest in the nation... of which the average is 24.1 per cent. The

dropout rate is figured by deducting the number of students who started as freshmen in 1962 from the number who graduated in 1966.

Frank Morris, our jolly public works supt., told me the other day that a war surplus Kohler generator is being overhauled and will be set up at the city hall to provide power for lights and police and Civil Defense radio in case of electrical failures. A right good move there Mr. Morris.

The Game Commission is urging hunters to be sure and check arms and ammunition rules for both big game and upland game birds. Seems like a rather late move on their part... with most of the deer season nearly to an end.

Battle Rock eighth graders will again conduct a UNICEF drive on Halloween this year. So, on Oct. 31, local residents will be asked to donate "treats" of coins... only to properly identified children. They will carry the official black and orange collection cartons bearing the UNICEF symbol of the mother and child... have YOUR coins ready... every dollar collected provides a daily glass of milk for 20 children for a month... or the penicillin to cure 40 children of yaws... or many other things in terms of aid for youngsters of the world.

The local BPW club has issued an invitation to a no-host dinner meeting to the chamber of commerce. The event will be held on Tuesday, November 1. Club representative Geneva Tucker said the BPW would like a resumption of chamber activities for the past year.

These past few cold mornings... frost in the back hills... serve as early reminders that Thanksgiving is just slightly more than a month off and Christmas just over two months... and then it will be 1967. Wow!, there's lots of things to get done before then so I'd better get to doin' 'em.



RE-ELECT . . .
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DEMOCRAT

COOS-CURRY
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Back has represented you well the last ten years and deserves your support.

Back for Legislature Committee
JIM MOIR, CHAIRMAN, GOLD BEACH, ORE.

LETTERS to the Editor

TO THE EDITOR

All the talk on national issues is great, but let's remember the government of Oregon is the biggest operation in the State—and needs the best manager available. Robert Straub is just that type of person. He started from scratch and made a success in business... knows how to meet a payroll, and get a maximum effort from a large organization. As our present State Treasurer Robert Straub has organized the Treasurer's office so it now handles over 20 per cent more work than ever before, with a smaller staff than under his predecessors. Some talk. Some do. Oregon has had a lot of talkers—now it's time for a doer, and that's Bob Straub for Governor.

Leroy F. Stevens
Port Orford

TO THE EDITOR

An excerpt taken from the Curry County Reporter of September 22, 1966, reads as follows: "According to the county court, the commissioners' salaries are still about \$30 per month below those of surrounding counties." Del Norte County is one of the surrounding counties and the commissioners' salary was \$3600 in 1964; \$3600 in 1965; \$3600 in 1966. And no salary increase for several years.

The salary paid commissioners in Curry County was boosted to \$7200 in 1960. Boosted to \$7800 in 1964 and boosted again in 1966 to \$8580, \$1500 is budgeted each year for meals and lodging outside the county, with free transportation to goodness knows where. The \$1500 item, indicates a lot of time spent away from the county.

Heretofore, and from time memorial, a commissioner's salary was based or adjusted, according to population, which is the only fair method, regardless of any substitute arrangement. A commissioner's salary in Hood River County in 1960, was \$2250, population 13,344. Baker County, \$2985, population 17,185. Josephine County, \$5700, population 29,650. Coos County, \$6600, population 34,355. Curry County, \$7200, population 13,869. No up-to-date figures on salaries paid commissioners in other in Oregon have been obtained as of this date. With the exception of Curry County, salaries correspond with population as to size, and it occurs to taxpayers association that taxpayers money paid to an outfit in Salem to gather data in support of a substitute salary arrangement for Curry County, is needless expense and a total loss. Yours for better government at a better price.

Southern Curry County
Taxpayers Association
M. L. DeMartin, Secretary

To The Editor:
The Board of Directors of the Oregon Homeowners Association feel that the public

is entitled to know all of the facts about the formula used to establish the number of signatures required and who is responsible for it not being on the ballot. Tom McCall's office is NOT responsible and can in no way be held accountable for the legal technicalities that robbed you of your right to vote on the 1 1/2% Initiative Petition to Limit Taxes on property, for the following reasons:

1. In 1961 the base was established by the elections division of Secretary of State, Howell Appling, Jr., after competent legal advice and published in 1961, 1963, and 1965, stating the base for Initiative Petition was 10% of the vote cast in the state for the candidate for Justice of the Supreme Court who received the highest vote at the last general election. No one challenged its correctness, until our petition was presented.

2. In 1961, the legislature passed ORS 252.810 dealing with nomination petitions stating in part: "Percent of the vote cast in the state for the candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court who received the highest vote in the last general election." This shows that the legislature was in full agreement with the formula used by the elections division of the Secretary of State's office.

3. In 1961, the legislature created a Legislative Interim Committee to study revision of the constitution. This committee consisted of Justices Goodwin and O'Connell of the Oregon Supreme Court, Judge Schwab of the Multnomah County Circuit Court, former Governors Holmes and Sprague, attorney members of the legislature and other attorneys. Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr., in his testimony, gave detailed explanation of the methods used by his office to establish the requirements necessary to file the various petitions, which included the 10% requirement for Initiative Petition to Amend the Constitution. Not one word of criticism



Polly Culver, Phebe Culver, Belle Nordberg, Rosha McBride, Bertha Lane, Josie Nygren, Jennie Culver, Howard Culver, Allie Nygren, Johnnie McBride, Pete Culver, Bob Culver, Larry Nordberg, Tom Carey and Johnnie Blacklock. Teacher is Tom Carlson. The photo published last week was taken about 1899.

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THIS is the first school in Port Orford, not the one published last week, according to Mimie King Jolly. This photo was taken in 1885 and shows, left to right: Lillie McBride, Jennie Carey,

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PETROLEUM JELLY White lubricant-dressing. 1-lb. reg. 99¢, 2 for 90¢; 4-oz. reg. 30¢, 2 for 29¢.
HYDROGEN PEROXIDE 3% 10-oz. medic. inst. strength. 11.49¢.
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TURN THIS PAGE TO MAKE YOUR PENNIES WORK WONDERS |
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PORT ORFORD REXALL DRUGS