

Port Orford News

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Ripper Reports

BY SEN. JACK RIPPER
Coos and Curry Counties

Counting today, George, there is only 12 days left of summer for the youngsters... then it's back to the textbooks one more time. Sept. 4, that's the Tuesday after Labor Day, is the Big Day. Can you wait?

See some of the teachers arriving back on the scene, from summer courses or vacations, getting geared up for "first day." And I gotta tell you that my feelings really go out to 'em. Nine months in the classroom... wow! No, thanks.

-P-
Anybody had trouble returning "empty" beverage containers? Oregon retailers are required by law to accept and pay refund value on 'em, but there is one little 'ol catch. The inclusion of the word "empty" gives the retailer the right to refuse to accept or pay refund value for any beverage container that is not empty. And according to the legal definition, that means that the container doesn't contain a portion of beverage or other substance. The state statute requires the container to be empty, but doesn't require it to be clean. And that's the opinion of state attorney general Lee Johnson. Therefore, if a container either sloshes or rattles or whatever, you may not get your money out of it. And these days those refunds count up fast.

-P-
The State Highway Division has proclaimed that "billboards along Oregon's highways will soon come tumbling down at the rate of about 25 per week." About 2,400 billboards are expected to be removed under the program. But here's the sad news... removal of the billboards is estimated to cost \$6.5 million, 75 per cent of which will be funded by the federal government and 25 per cent from state highway funds.

But there's still hope for businesses who desire to advertise services, such as service stations, food service establishments and lodging facilities. The state, ya see, is erecting their own logo boards near selected interchanges along the interstate system (where approved by the Federal Highway Administration) and businesses may display their own logos on these boards... by paying a fee, or course.

Let's see, now. The business would have to be located along a selected interchange along the interstate system and pay the state for a logo board... that's what my information tells me. Oh, yeah, another thing. The Travel Information Council is also considering the construction and operation of information plazas in rest areas adjacent to the freeways and highways which, they hope, will compensate for the information services that had been provided by the billboards without detracting from the scenic beauty of the roadside. No estimate on what that'll cost the poor taxpayers.

-P-

A short course for builders, planners, developers, realtors, educators and government officials is scheduled for Sept. 7-8 at the Holiday Inn in Medford, the county extension office said this week. The program will feature four categories of up-to-date information on Marketing and Financing, Modern Technology, Consumer Know-How and Interior Planning.

Sponsors for the program are Southern Oregon Home Builders Association, Oregon State University, Extension Service, and the State of Oregon House.

At the two-day Emergency Board meeting in Salem last week, we had over 40 requests by the State Agencies for authorization to spend extra money, apply for federal grants, or make changes in allocation of funds. This is part of the process to guarantee that the people of the state have control and input into the daily operation of our state government.

One of our hardest decisions was on the Department of Environmental quality request on automobile emissions in the Portland area. This request would allow auto-testing stations for checking the exhaust of cars, and if they could not pass the test, the car would not get a new license to be on the highway. It is an effort to clean up the air in the Portland vicinity and would only affect those cars registered in Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas Counties.

Like many problems, it is going to affect the low income and elderly persons more than any other group. These people are the ones who drive the older automobiles. Older cars which cannot pass the emissions test will have to be equipped with pollution control devices at a cost of about \$50 plus about the same amount for motor tune-ups. The testing will cost \$5.00.

The Emergency Board was forced to take this action because the Federal Government threatened to stop all truck traffic into Portland, except at night. Pressure by community leaders and environmentalists of that region helped make this decision, but we left the matter open to the consideration of the Legislature at the special session in January.

It will be along time in the future before this testing would be extended into our area because it takes a very heavy concentration of cars to create the problem.

Another request we accepted was for a \$197,000 grant from the Federal Government to study and revise our Motor Vehicle laws. We would like to improve the poor driving attitudes, thereby reducing the appalling toll of highway deaths and property damage.

Our present code, which relies totally on punitive measures, has not cut down on the alarming increase in the accident rate. Driving a car is a privilege not a right in Oregon. For those people who habitually have accidents and speeding arrests, we may have to consider compulsory driving

ing Division.

Those seeking further information may contact Medford Builders Association, 406 W. Main St., Medford, Oregon 97501, or the Curry County Extension Office, Box 488, Gold Beach, Oregon 97444.

-P-
Read an announcement elsewhere, I didn't get a copy of the news release, that the Curry County Health Dept. has announced that the next immunization clinic will be held at the Curry county office building, Moore St., Gold Beach, on Wednesday, September 12, from 9 to 11 a.m.

The schedule is as follows: 3 months, DPT and polio; 4 months, DPT; 5 months, DPT and polio; 12 months, measles and rubella; 18 months, DPT and polio booster; 4 years, smallpox; 5-6 years, DPT and polio boosters.

-P-
Our Goode neighbor called the bride the day after Nixon's Watergate speech and asked her if she had heard it. "No," said bride, "all we could get on our tv was static."

"Then you heard it," said neighbor.

-P-
A once familiar phrase passing from the family meal-time conversation is "Please pass the meat."

Nuff said.

training and attendance to safety classes as additional punishment, if we expect to change their driving habits and protect the more careful drivers from this menace. From driving records, we can almost predict who the killers will be.

Another of the requests was by the Game Commission to use Federal Funds to study the best release time for the salmon fry that are to be released from the new hatchery on the Rogue. This new hatchery is one of the world's largest, with over 90 rearing ponds. It will improve the fishing on the Rogue and offshore. To research the downstream migration will make sure the spring Chinook get to sea.

There were many requests, such as giving the State Library \$500,000 federal funds to carry on programs throughout the state, allowing \$20,000 to teach the blind the bicycle repair business; the Fish Commission given permission to join California and Washington to develop a plan to manage the Dungeness Crab.

We also approved a request by the Public Utilities Commission to hire an additional person to develop an intrastate air transportation system. At the present time there is no scheduled airline to get to Salem, the Dalles, Klamath Falls and other cities. When Hughes Air West goes to jets, there will be no scheduled airline facilities from Southwestern Oregon, unless we develop one.

We need an intercity airline throughout Oregon much like we had when the original West Coast airlines operated here so successfully.

Humdinger Open House Set Sunday

The annual open house at Camp Humdinger has been set for Sunday, according to Richard Sebasta, chairman of the board of Camping Unlimited, Inc.

The camp, located about 5 1/2 miles up Sixes River from the highway north of Port Orford, will host the public to a first-hand look at the free program for low-income children from Southwestern Oregon families.

A special welcome has been extended to those individuals and groups who have contributed money and materials to the camp, said Sebasta.

Open house will be held between the hours of 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. "so bring a picnic lunch," he said. Coffee and cookies will be served throughout the day.

Guided tours of the camp will be given by staff members, according to Sally Dana, camp director.

The Port Orford Meteorite Association will have its annual fall meeting and camp-out Labor Day weekend, Sept. 1, 2, and 3, at China Flat, about 15 miles above Powers on the south fork of the Coquille river.

The organization meets two times each year, in March somewhere under a roof account of snow, and in the fall near where one person thinks the Port Orford Meteorite might be located. "Notwopople have ever agreed on where to look for the lost meteorite."

The Organization has no officers, no by-laws, no dues and no high moral purpose, it's just a group of people who want to get together and exchange

OCA Plans Expo Book

The Oregon Coast Association will coordinate publicity for the Oregon Coast in all official Expo '74 publications, according to Steve Saubert, chairman of the Expo '74 Publicity Committee. Saubert stated there will be two official Expo '74 publications—a guidebook and a program. The Coast Association will coordinate both advertising and editorial copy of these publications. The guidebook will be completed in November of 1973 with worldwide distribution to start immediately.

Emphasizing that time is of the essence, Chairman Saubert urged all chambers of commerce and others wishing to submit editorial copy (where to go and what to see and do) for inclusion to do so as soon as possible. Copy deadline is Sept. 5, 1973. There will be no charge for this editorial copy for the coastal area. Anyone interested in obtaining paid advertising space in either publication should contact the Coast Association at once.

Saubert has requested the Coast Association to call for a meeting with Governor McCall to discuss the State's role in assisting the Coast Association in promoting travel to and through Oregon by Expo '74 visitors. Saubert said he is quite concerned by the lack of interest in Expo '74 evidenced by the State of Oregon to date.

Further information on Expo '74 may be obtained by writing to the Oregon Coast Association at P. O. Box 670, Newport, Oregon.

ideas on where to look for the lost meteorite and have a good friendly visit with other lost meteorite hunters. With everyone bringing a little extra food and having a big potluck dinner Sunday the 2nd.

For those Johnny-come-lately who have been here less than fifty years, a little background on the Port Orford Meteorite might be a good thing.

Dr. John Evans, a medical doctor turned geologist was sent to the Oregon Territory in 1854 by the United States Government to make a survey of the mineral wealth and agricultural possibilities of the region. Dr. Evans left Port Orford July 18, 1856 with some packers and a small pack train. He was four days traveling from Port Orford to the Johnson creek gold diggings on the south fork of the Coquille river. According to his diary his first camp was near Edson butte, the second near Sugarloaf mountain, and the third and fourth on the north end of Iron mountain. Somewhere along the route he acquired a small piece of pallasite, a rare type of meteorite. He spent two nights at the Iron mountain camp, according to his diary in which he kept the record of his day to day travels. He didn't know at that time that his find was of meteoric origin.

After returning to the east coast Dr. Evans gave a number of mineral specimens to a Dr. Jackson of Boston, Mass.

While going through these specimens, Dr. Jackson found what he thought was a small piece of meteorite, not being sure he cut off two small pieces and sent one to Vienna, Austria and the other to Calcutta, India for analysis. Some five years later when both of these scientific bodies confirmed his judgement that the specimen was indeed a meteorite, he got in touch with Dr. Evans and told him of his find. Dr. Evans replied that he would have no difficulty in returning to the place where he had found the meteorite. That it was on a high bald mountain that could be seen from long distances at sea. That it stuck out of the hillside about four feet and could be easily reached with pack mules, or floated down a small river that ran by the base of the mountain.

Dr. Jackson then approached Congress and asked for money for an expedition to the Oregon country to recover the meteorite. At that time the Civil war was just coming to a boil and the government was in no mood to spend money on such a hare-brained idea as this. In the meantime Dr. Evans had died without giving any detailed description of the exact location of the Port Orford Meteorite.

From that time on, hundreds of people have hunted for the lost meteorite. Every bald mountain in the Sixes and Elk river country has been picked out as the location of the lost meteorite. Every summer many people take their vacation in this mountainous area and hunt these deep canyons and steep hillsides in hopes of finding this rusty piece of rock.

This being an extremely dry year, any one going to the campout should take a set of fire tools, an ax, shovel and a water bucket. Also taking your own drinking water might be a good idea, and a few six-packs of beer will not come amiss at this kind of gathering.

dellenback Report

BY REPRESENTATIVE JOHN DELLENBACK

CONGRESS STUDIES SCHOOL FUNDING

Sometimes it seems as if Congress has established far too many study commissions with mandates to make massive reports that are all too often ignored. Hopefully, however, the National Commission on the Financing of Postsecondary Education, on which I am now serving, will issue a report that will have a significant and long-range impact on education beyond the high school level in the United States.

The need for our Commission became evident during the three years the House Special Subcommittee on Higher Education spent preparing the omnibus Education Amendments of 1972. Our Subcommittee became increasingly aware of the appalling lack of coordinated data and standards for the financing of education beyond high school.

One of the primary concerns of the legislation was the question of institutional aid. When the committee attempted to determine whether direct federal aid to educational institutions on the basis of enrollment would discourage other sources of assistance for postsecondary education, we could find no reliable statistics to decide the issue either way. This problem of lack of solid information and analysis reoccurred throughout our study of higher education.

As a result of the incredible confusion of data in this field, Congress established the National Commission on the Financing of Postsecondary Education to thoroughly research and analyze the financing of education beyond high school. I was one of four Members of Congress (2 Representatives and 2 Senators) appointed in September, 1972, to the 17-member Commission.

During the past 10 months the Commission has held monthly meetings to coordinate our study of past practices of funding postsecondary education in relation to the programs and assistance needed in the future. To prepare the first draft of our final report for Congress, the Commission has divided into two committees. One committee is dealing with the technicalities of allocating education appropriations and the costs of specific programs.

The other committee has dwelt on analyzing goals and inconsistencies that we feel have helped to cause inadequacies in education. Too often the changing needs of students and institutions have been neglected. Private and public funds have too often not reached those individuals who have needed them most.

The bulk of institutions providing vocational training or practical learning opportunities to individuals beyond high school have been receiving no federal assistance of any kind. There are great discrepancies in costs per student at colleges and universities, even where generally comparable educational opportunities are being offered.

To eliminate the conflicts and to allow for change in the future, the Commission has proposed specific objectives for financing of postsecondary education. These objectives can be used as guidelines as times and priorities change, and when Congress reviews education budgets to appropriate funds.

Objectives will help set the standards in evaluating what education programs should be maintained and where federal, state, local and private funds can best be channeled.

The research this Commission has done, and the report we are writing, should help stabilize postsecondary education financing and give it a more solid base on which to build.

Vets Home Loans Easier

The Veterans Administration has initiated new measures making it easier for married veterans to qualify for guaranteed home loans, according to Henry G. Helmstetter, acting director of VA's regional office in Portland.

"In consideration of current social and economic patterns, VA will recognize in full the income and expenses of both the veteran and spouse in determining ability to repay a loan obligation," Helmstetter explained.

He noted VA is required by law to determine if the contemplated terms of repayment bear a proper relation to the veteran's anticipated income and expenses before approving



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