

Highway Department Playing Footsie With Sandy?

References are often printed about Oregon's honest, efficient highway commission. This reputation is certainly not enhanced by the handling of the City of Sandy route decision on Highway 26. Sandy's mayor and city council aren't clarifying the matter either.

During last month's public hearing a highway department employee implied that Sandy must make an immediate decision for the highway commission to complete its planning.

Now the state highway engineer tells us that there is "no hurry" in making this decision.

What happened? Did the city council make the wrong decision for the highway engineer? Is the highway commission waiting until new Sandy councilmen are elected? Is the highway department waiting for public interest to die down and then sneak its decision over?

Or is the Sandy city council trying to delay some highway commission decision that it thinks detrimental to Sandy's interests? Or are personal interests of councilmen clouding the issue?

An apparently secret meeting this week between the highway engineer and some select (not all) councilmen who were invited has been reported to the Post. What took place at the meeting? Why were some not invited?

This bulky batch of unanswered questions doesn't do either the highway department or the city council any good. Suspensions are many and varied, and some of them may be true.

The longer the route decision is put off, the more friction will be produced (and brother there's been plenty of that in Sandy since the hearing!).

A good case can be made for either route. The public indicated which route it wanted, and the council and mayor picked the other route.

Their decision to ask for a five-lane highway as first choice, and a one way couplet as second choice is clear enough.

A simple statement is owed the public from the highway engineer. He can't make everyone happy, and he may as well face it.

Pioneers Plan Annual Picnic

Sandy Pioneers will hold their annual picnic Sunday, July 22, at the Pioneer Park, west of Sandy. It will be a pioneer days with the old-timers as well as new-comers and everyone is invited to bring their picnic lunch (coffee will be furnished) and attend.

It is hoped that Lige Coalman, former Sandyite and pioneer mountain man in this area, will be able to attend. The program will start at 1 p.m. with Rev. William E. Rose giving the invocation followed by a short talk by Lige and music. Mrs. John Mitchell will be in charge of the children's games and program.

Pioneer King and Queen elected at the January meeting of the Pioneers are Max Bartsch, Boring, and Maude Littlepage, Portland.

The Clackamas County Pioneer Assn. plans to attend the meeting at the invitation of the Sandy Pioneer Assn.

Bridgman's Lil Toot will have a refreshment stand at the park, Sunday.

MRS. JENNIE EDMUNDS
Mrs. Jennie Edmunds, sister of Mrs. Vernon Elmer Sandy, died recently in Baldwin Park, Calif. She had resided at Cherryville a number of years before moving to California.

Saskatchewan Doctors Face Challenge

Last week Sandy's Dr. Walter Noehren was called to Saskatchewan, Canada, in conjunction with that province's current "doctor's strike." Dr. Noehren here records some of his observations and impressions for the Sandy Post.

By Walter A. Noehren, M.D.

I flew to Regina, Saskatchewan, because as a family doctor I am interested in basic research in medical economics. I found, as I rode in a cab to the government buildings, crowds of people, many of them carrying placards.

"We will not be able to get close," the driver told me, "because of the crowds." We converged with other cars, all with placards reading "Keep Our Doctors," "Save Our Family Doctors," "Suspend Medicare Now," "Do you want dictators or doctors?" There was much emphasis on the "family doctor."

I walked the last few blocks to the state legislative buildings where the flag of Canada floated in a light breeze under a clear sky. In front of the building there were platforms and men and women were giving speeches, greeted with applause and cheering. I didn't try to listen to the speeches.

Sees Premier

Inside the building I went upstairs, past the portraits of Canada's greats, to the office of Premier W. S. Lloyd. I was greeted by Mr. Lee, the premier's executive assistant. The premier and his cabinet were meeting in a large room overlooking the front lawns where the crowd was gathered. I felt they were very much aware of the crowd though they acted as if it did not exist.

Since the premier was occupied I was not able to talk with him. After a time I was greeted by one of "the bright young men" of his staff. This young man told me that after all the law did allow for "fee for service" and "free choice," expressions which I do not believe he either understood or believed in.

No Change

I made my way back, then went to the room where a press conference with the premier was to take place. Mr. Higginbotham, the government press representative conducted the conference. The premier, showing strain and not smiling, stated that the government would not change its attitude and that the rally would have no influence.

Questions were asked about when Lord Taylor, called from London as consultant by the government, would arrive. The answer was that no schedule had yet been learned, though it was made clear that the mercenary doctors were coming from England, ostensibly to make certain the people of Saskatchewan should suffer no lack of care.

That good care was being provided by the emergency service was slurred over.

Meets Premier

After this conference I met the premier briefly as he walked down the hall, and this was my only direct contact with him. He turned me again to Mr. Lee and suggested a conference between us for the next morning.

As I rode back to the hotel with a cab load of reporters

the discussion centered on the size of the crowd. Estimates varied greatly and the papers next day came up with 6,000, though the police chief placed the figure at 16,000.

Later I went to the hospital where a strange quiet emptiness pervaded the corridors. The emergency service was busy, but hushed. A farmer was in with a broken leg, a child with an infected hand. People waited, but were friendly, cooperative, treasuring the care they received.

Talks Oregon Proposal

The doctor on duty was very friendly and took 15 minutes to talk with me. I pointed out to him, as to the other doctors, that the proposal we are working with in Oregon is identical to the proposal the doctors of Saskatchewan have proposed as the correct answer to the problem of getting medical care to everyone.

I related how we also may be failing to convince our government of the possible correct mechanisms, so their situation is of great importance to us.

"No Strike"

"This is no strike," he pointed out. "We are simply withdrawing — temporarily, we hope — but taking care that our people will not suffer. Some of the patients say they are getting better and more prompt care than before, but this is because the public is being considered not to overload our emergency units. We cannot continue this indefinitely, but neither can we compromise."

As a student of this problem, I could not but marvel at the accuracy and care of the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons in this difficult situation. But there has been practically no interchange in this problem.

With all our vast modern media of communication only one brief article in a commercial medical journal had mentioned the positive program of the Saskatchewan doctors. It was this that led me to them.

Visit To Doctor

In the early evening of July 11 I visited in the home of another doctor, a general practitioner like myself. He was tense, tired. His wife and children were equally so. He was public relations representative of the College of Physicians and Surgeons and suggested I talk to anyone I could.

At 8:30 a.m. the next morning I was again at the premier's office, but he was already working in another part of the building. I had a half-hour audience with Mr. Lee, during which I attempted to show that I am an objective expert in this problem of medical care socio-economics.

Are there really any experts in this? And how does one establish expertise? I presented letters from Wilder Penfield, from Ronald Reagan, from Wayne Morse, from Stuart Wolf, from Norman Cousins and from Dr. Mott, the government's own medical consultant.

I tried to point out that if the physicians left Saskatchewan, due to loss of income, they could not develop new family physicians in less than five years, for a physician must know his families for a period of years.

I told Mr. Lee of our experience in Oregon and in other areas of the states, and of the work in Puerto Rico. His politeness was like a brick wall.

Won't Reconsider

I asked him whether the government would reconsider the problem in the light of new scientific data if we could provide such data.

His answer to this was blunt. "No," he said, "the problem is beyond this. We cannot reconsider."

I asked if it might be possible for me to see the premier, but he said this would not be possible for several days at least.

Final Impressions

I left. I walked to the hotel and as the realization of what had happened grew in me, feelings of anger flooded my thoughts — the anger that comes when I see sickness, especially preventable sickness.

How, I wondered, can any man deny the stress of any living thing? Of any hungry people, of any sick neighbor, of any child or parent or husband-wife love?

Though they may not be aware of it in these terms, these are the profound questions the doctors of Saskatchewan study. Their courage and sensitivity will stand out in all history, but only if the correct answer can be found, so that history can be possible.

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Send contributions to Nettie Connett Medical Care Foundation, Box 428, Sandy, Oregon.

This is a non-profit foundation, all donations are tax deductible.

Nell's Notes

By NELL HOWE
Hood-Land Reporter

Mrs. Hughes, formerly of Welches, now living in Palm Springs, was on the mountain visiting with her many friends this past week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Mosier, Portland, were guests for a week with the Harrys. It was a pleasant surprise to meet Ruth Mosier, and find she was one of the very special people who worked at Lipman Wolfe when I did. Visiting with Ruth brought back many fond memories.

The Al Greenwelts are proud possessors of a new circle driveway. Sure beats backing out to the highway. Just another one of Al's many projects completed.

Julia Green, fondly known as Grandma Green, formerly of Faubian, was on the mountain a week ago with her daughter and great granddaughter for the latter's birthday. They lunched at the clubhouse complete with birthday cake and candles, then a swim for the girls and then back to the city.

Grandma Green wished to be remembered to her many friends on the mountain. Received word of the marriage of Lt. Gerald Goff, son of the Roy Goffs of Sandy, and Virginia Hodgins of DeLand, Fla. The wedding took place in DeLand on June 15. The young couple are now in Wichita, Kan., where Jerry is stationed.

Hattie Kelly has donated a hospital bed to the Mt. Hood Lions club. It will be easier for those in need of one to contact the Lions club right here in the community instead of going to the city.

Bill Drips had an argument with the chain saw and came out on the losing end, and almost minus a thumb. Five stitches saved the thumb for him, but it has slowed down the Davis and Drips woodcutting project for a spell. Keep up the good work boys, but watch those sneaky saws.

Took in the Kiwanis Fly-In Breakfast at Sandy Sunday. What a mob. The food was delicious, and they ran these hordes of people through the lines in very quick time. Watched the planes flit around for a while, till one gay blade who was showing off for the spectators left me completely paralyzed, and on that note we left.

And just when I had almost convinced myself that I had the courage to go up in a plane. Now I will have to be brainwashed all over again. It is a tough battle when you get as old as I am, and have to try something so daring as flying. Could be that in another 10 years I will be able to brave the air.

After working with the public practically all of my work-

ing years, and a great many of those in restaurants, I have decided that what the world needs, is not books on how to be a waitress, bartender, or any of the other things connected with that type of work, but a book on how the public should act when they go in a restaurant.

Everything that is wrong is the waitress's fault! She never goes into the kitchen but it is her fault when she doesn't bring your order immediately. Wonder if people ever stop to think that the poor gal brings it as soon as the cook gives it to her, but she can't go out and cook it herself, and there are probably other orders up ahead of yours.

Never could figure why customers think, just because it is a buffet meal, that it is not any trouble for the waitress. We have to set the tables up, see that there is plenty of coffee, see that you have your dessert, and listen to all the wise-cracks about some particular dish that one person doesn't happen to like and it is your fault that it got on the buffet in the first place. Then you have to clean the whole dog-gone mess up after they have left.

In the mean time you are trying to keep your other customers contented. There is more running back and forth for a buffet than if they ordered a meal and had it served. And many more little things to gripe a "working gal."

As I just said, someone should write a book.

Thought that we had lost our bear, but he returned on Saturday night and batted our garbage cans around. Mad be-

cause they had nothing but ashes in them, I guess. Didn't bother to get up and see if he is the same huge one that we had before, but he made the same amount of noise so I'm sure he is the one.

All children within the ages

SNOW CHATTER

Around Wemme and Brightwood
By GRACIE SHAYER
Hood-Land 547

Strawberries are now in the past and it's now the time for the rattle - dazdles. Old yellow still leaving the wee hours of 5 a.m.

Ray Shaver has made it home from his hospital bed, and now runs a few drag races about his front room in his wheelchair. So far Pop hasn't ventured outside but hopes to real soon. Pop says to thank everyone who wished him well.

Another mountain family had some tough luck. Marty Ruegg flipped over the family car. Marty received a broken nose, cut eyelid and bruises.

Ray and Agnes Novotny home to Wildwood after spending the week of the fourth in California. Returning home with the Novotnys were out of town relatives and friends, Ray's sister Helen and husband, L. E. Netzen, and the Harry Mosiers.

Marylou Mosher for some reason looked for a certain tribe of natives all the way to Oregon. Ray, Harry and "Suede" left for Hart mountain to attend the bigshin dig of the Antelope leaving their three wives to fend for themselves. Needless to say the gals found plenty to do.

Girls See Seattle
Sharon Shaver and Lorrel Purdy took off for a few

days to Seattle. Aside from missing a bus or two the girls enjoyed their big venture. See that the big excavation down at Purdy's has been refilled and business is booming.

Up to visit the Purdys for a few days were the Roy Boppers. Guess they miss our mountain from all reports.

Two of our mountain Misses enjoying the same birthday were Christine Ruegg and wee Maureen Doudna, July 15. Chris, I hear, received a brand new bike while wee Miss Doudna getting the usual toys a one-year-old enjoys.

Son and heir Clyde Ray out plucking rattle - dazdles berries, much to his dislike. Yours truly being just plain pooped to cook a big dinner delayed the big deal till Sunday, July 15.

Donald McAndie had his big day July 12 too, celebrating with a party. July is full of birthdays for the mountain. Next in line will be Joyce Currier, July 21, Sharon Shaver on July 26.

Andersons Return
Gene and Catherine Anderson have moved back to their mountain home at Faubain. Just couldn't take the big city life any longer.

First board meeting for the new term PTA board was held Wednesday July 11 at Hal Dudley's home in Rhododendron. Board just getting ready for next term duties.

A reminder to all the 4-H Rock and Mineral club members: bring your box exhibits to me before Aug. 13. Got to put on a real good exhibit this year for sure.

Well, I shall go lay my weary body to rest as 4 a.m. is still early. Try this berry picking — it is a lot of fun plus work.

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