

The Sandy Post

Walter C. Taylor, Lee Irwin, Co-Publishers

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Your Right to Say It

By Geo. L. Howeller

This is an important election year. It is a year in which we shall elect numerous local and state officials. It is a year in which we shall elect a new national Congress -- the Eighty-ninth in our history.

But above all it is a year in which we shall elect the President and Vice President of the mightiest nation in terms of material wealth, the United States of America.

Already some hats have been tossed into the political arena. Already the familiar sounds of political battle can be heard in the distance.

Before long these sounds will swell into such an antiphonal chorus of campaign oratory, party bombast, personal invective, claim and counterclaim that we shall find it difficult to distinguish between fact and fancy, between what is true and what is false, between the person of integrity and the political hack.

Sometimes the charges and counter charges will become so bitter and erratic that we shall wonder where freedom of speech ends and libel and slander begin.

And there will be some among us who will denounce our system of electing those who govern us, and who will avail themselves of the opportunity to champion a different system in which but one slate of candidates is offered to the

electorate, and where but one party is tolerated.

Certainly this system of ours is not perfect. You and I know that. We know for instance it is an expensive system, that it frequently results in the election of the incompetent, the wind-bag, the political pawn, and that fewer than two-thirds of those eligible to vote do so.

But we also know that it is a system that has endured for a 175 years, and that through it we have been able to enjoy life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness more fully and more democratically.

And this system of ours will continue to endure despite all its shortcomings. It will continue to endure largely for the reason that it is based primarily on the fundamental right of free speech, the principle enunciated so long ago by Voltaire when he said: "I may disagree with what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it."

A great many words will be written and spoken during the months immediately ahead. Some of them will meet with our warm approval; others will not. It will be our responsibility to examine them carefully, to recognize which of them present facts and which present mere opinions.

Therefore let us listen often and read much, in order that we ourselves may come to a better understanding of the issues involved and the positions of the can-

didates in regard to those issues. In so doing, let us remember those words of Voltaire in order that we may not be denied the opportunity to hear all sides of a political question.

If we do this we need have little concern lest our free election system be supplanted by a less desirable one. Let us take an active and enlightened interest in the campaigns that are getting under way.

Let us all get out when the time comes and vote, so that we can demonstrate to the world that this nation of ours is not only the mightiest one in terms of material wealth but a haven where government is truly of the people, by the people and for the people.

Stop Smoking Class Will Start Here

Ira D. Follett, pastor of the Sandy 7th-day Adventist church is completing plans for a class to help smokers break the habit.

Known as the "Five Day Plan to Stop Smoking", it was devised by some doctors in the east and is said to be 75 per-cent successful. This "Five Day Plan" will be brought to Sandy the latter part of February, Follett said. Details are being worked out and will be announced later. Those interested may write to Ira D. Follett, 640 NE 99th St. Portland or H.F. Meeker, R#1, Box 20, Sandy.



Audrey Colson, George Burg, Helen Lamke and Ruth Burg came down to the Post to tell us about the Valentine Sock Hop to be held in the new grade school gym Saturday, Feb. 8. They wore their socks to demonstrate the fashion for the evening. Somehow the Post cameraman got the pictures mixed up and we're still trying to match the legs to their rightful owners. Can you do it? (Sandy Post photo)

AT SANDY Elementary School

ESSAY WINNERS' TRIP TO CAPITOL

By Carol Clement

The Oregon Essay winners and two teachers met in the drugstore Saturday in preparation for traveling to the Capitol in two cars. Anticipation and excitement were high among the seven winners: Jim Kalahan, Marla Plante, Carole York, Bob Wessellink, Connie Berger, Claudia Duncan, and Carol Clement, even though clouds promised a wet day.

First the group was driven through Boring and Damascus to Oregon City. There we stopped to view the city from the tower, admire the beautiful falls, and see the McLoughlin monument which faces the river. Then we changed cars and drove to a roadside restaurant where we stopped for hot chocolate and donuts.

The gold-covered pioneer atop the dome of the Capitol was visible for a long way before we arrived at the building itself. When we entered the building through revolving doors we saw four beau-

tiful wall murals of the main historical events concerning Oregon. In the center of the floor was the impressive gold seal of the state with its motto, "The Union." To the right and left were long flights of stairs. We received brochures at the receptionist's desk and walked up the stairs to the left hand side.

First we visited the room where the State Senate meets and learned that Ben Musa is president of the Senate. The 30 members from 19 districts have their own desks and speaker systems. The design on the floor carpet was of fish and wheat, representing the wheat harvesting and fishing industries.

From that room we visited the room where the House of Representatives meets biennially on odd numbered years, and learned that in Oregon there are 60 members from 28 districts. The design on the carpet of the room represents the forestry industry.

After touring the governor's office, we left in Miss Tomlinson's and Miss Proett's cars for a Chinese restaurant. There we ate

dinner of sweet and sour spare ribs, chow mein, fried rice and shrimp, fortune cookies, and drank tea.

From there we drove to the state mental institution. We were quite amazed by the things the patients do for themselves, including their own laundry. Then the teachers drove us to see the reformatory schools for boys and girls. (They wouldn't let us stay).

On the way home we stopped at a store and had our pictures taken. Miss Tomlinson bought fudge for all of us, and later in Boring we stopped for ice cream. From there we were driven to our homes. Every one of the winners thought it was a worthwhile trip and are grateful to the teachers and the student body for making it possible.

"Earthshaking" data recorded by the Oregon State university seismograph station is not only providing faster and more precise information on earthquakes of the area but giving new insight into the nature of Oregon's earth crust as well.

Letter to Editor

To the editor:

Was shocked to read in your paper that the Sandy High School Board has ruled against freshmen competing in varsity athletics.

As a former four year letterman, I can assure you a boy doesn't "make" the team without ability and a lot of guts.

Not only is a rook on the spot in a game both from the opposition and the stands -- but every week that upperclassman is trying harder to get back in to replace him.

No coach in his right mind would go with a rookie and lose a game if he had a better, more experienced man on the bench.

Your article states the board acted after several parents had requested clarification of such a rule.

Who's competing anyway, the boys or parents?

I say let the coaches run their own ball clubs and let the best player play regardless of class.

Well farewell to the past -- maybe four-year letterman can start an old men's club.

Former player.

DOVER EXTENSION

The Dover Extension will meet Thursday, Feb. 13 at the home of Faith Craft.

Lesson: "Everyday chemistry--does the cleaning?"

Visitors are welcome. Bring sack lunch.

New Residents Need Licenses

If you have moved to Oregon recently, you need to obtain a driver's license as soon as residence is established, according to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

The department said some new residents have been charged with failure to obtain a driver's license and have indicated they did not understand the law.

The difficulty may stem from the fact that the law permits new residents to continue to operate non-commercial vehicles on out-of-state plates until the end of their registration period, but a Oregon driver's license must be obtained, even though the new Oregon resident may have an unexpired out-of-state license to drive.

No Oregon license may be issued if an applicant is currently under suspension or revocation in another state for a reason that would be cause for suspension in Oregon.

Out-of-state licenses must be surrendered when applying for an Oregon license.

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News deadline each week is 4 p.m. Monday. Deadline for ads is 12 noon Tuesday.



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