

THE Sandy Post

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Wise Decision by College Board

We heartily concur in couple of early pronouncements by the board of the new East Side Community College.

One is the decision to work as closely as possible with the Portland Community College to avoid duplication of courses. The other is the determination to keep the new college a two-year school; to avoid temptations to push for a four-year degree-granting institution.

The directors are right on both counts.

There was some early friction between the Portland school and proponents of the East Side College. This has long since disappeared, however, and both now realize they must work together to prevent needless overlapping.

If Portland, for instance, sets up a highly-technical course, it wouldn't make sense for East Side to duplicate. Ditto on something which might be offered out here.

Obviously, some courses will have to be duplicated... such as beginning English, mathematics etc. But those which require expensive equipment can well be limited to one location with resultant interchange of students.

Similarly, some community college administrators find it difficult to resist the temptation to press for four-year status. But to do so here would be to defeat the very purpose for which the East Side school was established... to provide post-high school education for those who have neither the time, money, grade-point-average nor desire to go on to four-year school.

The emphasis in the East Side school probably will be as heavy on vocational courses as in college transfer. Any move to four-year status would necessarily limit the former.

We are glad that directors have, well in advance, disavowed any such intentions.

Another Drop-Out Problem

You read reams these days about the problem of high-school drop-outs and what should be done to stem the tide.

But we heard someone the other day say that a "dropout" problem just as pressing was the attrition among college students.

On the average, less than half of the youngsters who start college ever continue on to graduate. At Portland State, something like 20 per cent drop out during the first year; another big group during the sophomore year.

For the large part, these are intelligent youngsters. Can something be done to keep them in school?

Colleges all over the country are looking for the answer. Grades aren't the only reason for drop-outs; lack of motivation, which leads to bad grades, is just as important.

Many youngsters, poorly prepared and perhaps poorly advised, go off to school every fall. Not all should. A

community college, such as that soon to get under way here, would be a better beginning for many.

Those of us who went to college 15, 20 or 30 years ago aren't really in tune with today's students. The riots at Berkeley show an unrest, a lack of identification with institutions which isn't susceptible to easy answers.

Portland State, for instance, is studying the problems which arose at Berkeley to see if some might also attain here. They could, you know.

Eventually, there must be some answers; answers which not only will keep students in school but also will provide the motivation which, so often, seems lacking today.

Education for everyone is fine. But not everyone has equal ability, equal desire. This is a problem just as important as getting everyone into a college. Hopefully, many studies are under way which will provide some answers.



Strawberry pickers were speckled across this berry patch located near Kelso along Highway 26. For many of the fields this week will nearly wind up the bulk of the strawberries in the area, it was reported. Post Photo

The MOUSETRAP

"Making Tracks With Jerry"

Only time will tell what is going to happen to Sandy once the new highway goes zooming through what is now called Main Street. Some people have the mistaken impression that all will be rosy here when it is completed and that business will just come racing in.

Again and again we have repeated ourselves and stated this is not the case in most instances. You've got to have something enticing enough for them to want to stop, eat, shop and gas up. Granted, things are picking up here but now is the time to make even greater changes... not when the highway is past business.

When Richard E. Ritz, Portland architect, talked to members of Kiwanis last Thursday night he gave a generous two years to this community and area before it would be swallowed up. He volunteered the possibility of being swallowed up and becoming another suburb of Portland unless something was done to retain individual identity.

The town can help to decide its future, he added, if it acts. One suggestion included planned growth here but the first step is to have a plan. By developing a plan he meant determining what kind of a town we wanted and progress from there.

As for ourselves we wish to see a community that has a thriving business district, not a huge metropolitan-type center, but rather, one that does contain a good variety of merchandise with an added plus—friendly, courteous, and personal interest shown to each and every customer. The latter is one quality that we cannot find in the metropolitan center... a rare and a precious item it is to the shopper.

Add to a thriving and friendly business district a community with a nice, homey atmosphere surrounded by natural scenic beauty, such as we are fortunate to have, makes for a pleasant place to live. Homes and yards that are well-kept are an encouragement to the resident and the passer-by.

Next, there is an interest by ourselves to see adequate recreational facilities for adults and children. With the upcoming swimming pool election we have a recreation facility of this nature. In contrast to the nice football fields being constructed here in the area which will only allow recreation for a limited number of persons the swimming pool can be of recreational value to unlimited numbers -- myself, my children, my friends and visiting relatives, and yours, too.

You might say that the football field provides recreational enjoyment for many. This is true to a degree. For there should not be the spectator value overlooked here. But let's not overlook the fact that a swimming pool has spectator value, too. And that phase is increasing all the time.

A nice park for family picnics and just plain relaxation should be added. Pioneer Park has the makings of such a facility.

Space will not allow me to elaborate on other items today that make the ingredients I would hope to find here in the few short years ahead. But I

do want to let it be known that I favor extending the boundaries of our city limits and TODAY not when everything is built up around us.

When it comes to talking about expanding our boundaries there are many who will throw up their hands in disgust and say Mouse's putting "the cart before the horse." But, nothing could be further from the truth. The first step is to spread out and the second step is to develop. Water presents a problem here and most feel the immediate squawk would be all within the annexed area wanting city water... and it couldn't be furnished.

So it is, and what were they doing all the time they were not a part of the city limits, I ask you? No, building a city is little different from home-steading a new area. First you acquire the land and then you go to work on improving it. You improve the homestead in the manner you desire and so it can be a community. Think about it, Sir!

The Snoopers have decided that eating crow isn't so bad after all and we print her acknowledgments herewith.

Dear Mousie,
Congratulations Boss, you've passed the "test-of-time"!

You've been Editor of the Sandy Post for over six months now, so I guess we can consider you a permanent fixture around here. You've not only made the grade time-wise, but you have also managed to get through the "other offers" stage without suborning to temptation. You even managed to by-pass the opportunity of publishing your own newspaper with your brothers.

I guess if this doesn't prove to us you're here to stay -- nothing ever will!

As long as you've forced me

to eat a little crow, I might as well go all the way, Mousie. You said at the very beginning that you intended to make the Sandy Post a real newspaper, with complete coverage, that would keep people abreast of all community events and affairs of the area. I must admit, you have kept your word! You have gone all out to live-up to the community spirit in Sandy and you're efforts are bearing fruit.

I think your new heading for the paper is great. Sandy really is the "Gateway To The Mt. Hood Playground," and if you have your way, the city of Sandy will live up to the title before long. In fact, if we Hoodlanders don't get on the ball, people will get as far as "The Gateway to Mt. Hood", and stay there. I guess that's a bit exaggerated, but there is every indication that people travelling through, take notice of Sandy, and stop and shop there. You'll see to this, Mousie, or die trying! And since you're too young to die, boss, your dreams of putting Sandy on the map will just have to come true. You have my whole-hearted support!

Now that you have been properly buttered-up, boss, would you please get me another supply of copy-paper and forget to charge me for my new typewriter ribbon?

I would also like to decline your offer of helping you find another place to live. If you would consider moving to the mountain, this would be a horse-of-another-color. I would go all out to help you re-locate. But to house-hunt in any other territory goes against my grain. After all, Mousie, you know by now how I feel about Hood-Land -- there just isn't any other place to live!

You can continue to be Sandy's biggest booster and I'll

be the same for Hood-Land. O.K.?

Besides, I'm a little concerned about this house-hunting thing -- it could well become a continual chore. Like once every year. This worries me because I heard you tell someone you expected to eventually see the population of Sandy doubled. And knowing your eagerness to ring true -- I expect you intend to do your share of adding to it! Come to think of it, Mousie, why don't you consider building a house? You could start right out with a half dozen bedrooms and add more as you need them. I know of a lovely piece of property that's for sale, but no need to go into details, you wouldn't be interested because it's in the Hood-Land area. Oh well -- if you're satisfied to stay in the "Gateway" -- when you could live in the "Playground" -- I'll simply refuse to worry about it!

Let me know if I can be of service to you in some other way, boss, and I'll do my best to help you.

Bye now, your over-worked, under-paid, (and probably un-employed, after this) faithful pal and employee, "Snoop".

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