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Big Brother Changes His Mind

The utter, utter futility of waiting on the federal government for the good things of life has been amply demonstrated.

We're talking, of course, about the 11th hour decision by the government to withhold use of surplus F.C.C. property at 148th and Halsey for educational purposes.

It long had been assumed that the 100-odd acres would be divided up amongst the Mt. Hood Community College, the Parkrose Water District, and Concordia College.

But now, after interminable delays, we learn that the government proposes instead to trade the property for land adjacent the Interior Dept. building near Lloyd Center. The government, it seems, needs more parking.

No one outside the bungling bureaucracy in Washington, D.C., really knows what happened. The Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare last winter announced that the property, declared surplus, would be divided among the two colleges and the water district.

Award of some of the land (25 acres) to Concordia brought howls from the American Civil Liberties Union and eventually a court suit. The separation of church and state was said to be involved.

In addition, some nearby residents protested award of the property for any college use, public or private.

The Build-Up in Viet-Nam Continues

Practically the worst thing that can happen in Viet-Nam is for Sec. of Defense Robert McNamara to say that things are getting better.

Every time he waxes enthusiastic, our troop commitment shoots higher. It happened again over the weekend. Sec. McNamara said military successes in Viet-Nam had "exceeded our expectations" in the first quarter of the year.

And in the same breath, he disclosed that 18,000 more U.S. troops were being sent in. This would bring to 285,000 our commitment there with 400,000 expected by year's end.

We hate to think what would happen if McNamara ever admitted things were going badly. He'd probably order over the entire standing army.

Obviously no one needs to be told that the war in Viet-Nam isn't going well. Despite the massive U.S. build-

up, more and more Communist troops are filtering in from the north; the Saigon government controls less and less of the countryside. And the opposition of Buddhist leaders to our intervention hardly needs repetition. Our "image", which figured so largely in the Democratic campaign of 1960, isn't worth much overseas today.

Viet-Nam obviously is going to be a major issue in the coming political campaign. Polls indicate LBJ's popularity is sagging to an all-time low; Republican candidates couldn't be happier.

But at the same time, they must offer some solutions. Merely opposing the LBJ-McNamara escalation in Viet-Nam accomplishes no more than the vacuous "me-tooism" of most Democratic candidates.

Gov. Hatfield has the opportunity to lead; we hope he takes it up.

Chamber President Roy Carothers says he would like to see the hall filled to capacity for this regular Chamber of Commerce meeting. If you live in the area, especially from Alder Creek to Rhododendron, perhaps you should be present to hear what's going on concerning the highway you drive so much. As Roy is so prompt, you'd better be there at 8 p.m., otherwise you might miss some of the goodies.

Saturday evening, the Jokers will provide the music for the dance sponsored by the firemen. I'm happy to see that the firemen take the lead in such community get-togethers, and they don't need a "cause" to have a dance. Have fun with the Jokers this Saturday evening, June 18.

Lloyd Holt is one of a group gathering information on forming a new water district. The area under consideration is between Bluff Road and Boring, and that's quite an area, that includes Kelso, and Cottrell, Aim of the group at present is to get signatures of people interested in forming a district that will provide Bull Run water in unlimited amounts. You can get further information by stopping to see Lloyd at Holt Shopping Center, or the Little Toot at Kelso. You may also call Mrs. Cap Malar, MU 7-3007.

There's a nice letter on this page from County Commissioner Stan Skoko. He is patting me on the back for defending the county's action in using voting machines. In any new movement, and I use the term "new" rather loosely, for voting machines of this type have been in use for decades, there is bound to be opposition.

This opposition stems mainly from politicians seeking office, and others in the nut fringe. Cost of the machines has been given as a reason for not using them. Of course cost is a factor, but consider the cost of printed ballots for example, and the cost of an election board. County Clerk Robert Schumacher said election boards cost the county \$32,000 last year. The machines will cost \$345,000, spread over a 10-year period; that amounts to \$34,500 a year. This year election boards will cost the county about \$5000, so already the machines are saving some \$27,000 a year.

While I'm in this frame of mind, I'll tackle Dale Plumb, editor of the Enterprise-Courier at Oregon City. Dale writes the "Plumbline" in Clackamas county's only daily newspaper. Wednesday, June 8, 1966, Dale's Plumbline was on tilt!

In writing about the new



The city crew painted the curb in front of the post office Tuesday afternoon. The color is yellow. Normally, when a motorist sees a yellow curb, he knows it means no parking. Not so in front of the Sandy post office. People park right at the door, walk in, get their mail, chat with friends, read a letter, and finally buzz off. You really should not park in a yellow zone, you know.

Of course, there is a lot of unmarked curbing across the street from the PO, but very few Sandyites are agile enough to make the crossing in the face of the 40-mph traffic coming up Main. I use the figure "40-mph" because that is a conservative estimate on the speed of the average car or truck, passing through Sandy.

In fact, I helped judge a speed contest between two empty Peterbilt log trucks Monday afternoon, that raced side by side up Main street. The drivers got a big kick out of the contest. They should have got a big kick in the rear. (The trucks belong to that outfit that paints them a beautiful red and black, Chief.) Next time I'll get their numbers for you.

John Inskeep, Clackamas county state senator, will be present for the Hoodland Chamber of Commerce meeting Thursday, June 16, at the Lions hall at Wemme. Under discussion at that meeting will be the Mt. Hood Loop highway, or Hwy. 26, or whatever you wish to call it. Also present will be an engineer from the state highway commission, I think, and perhaps some county officials.

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brochure published by the Oregon State Highway Department, Travel Information Division, Dale complained that Clackamas county got very little mention, and then only vaguely. Timberline Lodge, one of the state's greatest tourist attractions, is pictured in the brochure. Dale thinks that Timberline Lodge is supported by county money. Come, now man, you know that's federal property. Dale asks, "Just how does the great lodge and its ski lifts help Clackamas county economy?" You could ask the Clackamas county residents who work at the lodge, or who have businesses at Government Camp, Rhododendron, Zig Zag, Welches, Wemme, Brightwood, Alder Creek, or Sandy.

By golly, Dale, what you need is a tour of this end of Clackamas county. (And this is still Clackamas county territory, though John Mills and I are thinking of starting a movement to form a new county, encompassing BLM and O&C timber lands in this area.)

Dale suggests "Some of the money down the drain for Timberline and appurtenances could be better spent on county parks on the Clackamas and Willamette." Now Dale, are you suggesting federal grants for county parks? Actually, Timberline is under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service, and federal money is available for spending on U.S. land only.

As a gesture of good will on the part of us Clackamas county residents out here in the boon-docks, Dale, I hereby invite you to be my guest on a tour. I'll get Pete Wingle, Zig Zag district forest ranger, to help out, maybe even Commissioner Jones would like to be along. We'll visit some of the tourist attractions up here, including that beautiful golf course at Welches, called simply "Bowman's."

I know Oregon City and surrounding areas offer quite a few tourist attractions, but when I visit the town, I get the uncomfortable feeling that someone is committing grave social errors, and in my car yet. Then I realize that Crown Zellerbach and Publishers' Paper mills contribute immensely to the OC economy, and should be allowed this bit of byproduct, smell or no smell. So who goes someplace to smell something?

Now here on the fringes of Hoodland, there is only fresh Cascade air, and that beautiful mountain the natives call "the hill," and of course, Timberline Lodge.

Sandy is not widely known for its paper mills, nor water falls, nor salmon hog-line, but it has a distinguished citizen, known throughout the west. He is that octogenarian, Robert S. Smith, who continues to mop up the opposition and win trophies shooting skeet. Last weekend at Bend, he entered the "over 70" age group, and broke 191 out of a possible 200 clay pigeons. He took first place in this division, and with that score beat just about all the shooters half his age. He is the state singles champion in the veterans group. Since there were some 260 entrants in the Bend shoot, you can see why Bob Smith has made a name for himself, in skeet, and Sandy.

The district director of the Internal Revenue Service, (that's income taxmen for the poverty-stricken), has issued some directives on what forms to use when filing for occupational tax stamps. So if you intend to run a gaming device, use form 11-B; if you intend to be a bookie; wagering, use form 11-C; if you plan on a narcotics or marijuana business, use form 678.

Should you wish to deal in distilled spirits, beers, and stills, use form 11. Last on the list is firearms, use form 11. You might as well use the firearm on yourself if you get caught engaging in any of the above businesses, too.

During prohibition days, My Drinking Uncle was known far and wide for his good "spirits." His theme song went, "the moon shines east and the moon shines west, but my little still makes the moon shine best."... J.C.C.

When there is nothing more to be said, depend on it -- some boob will say it. --Seattle Daily Journal of Commerce.

Letters to the Editor

Your comments in the June 2nd issue of Off the Record, relative to the Clackamas county voting machines, used for the first time in the recent May primary election, are certainly most apropos and to the point.

Certainly if we were all acquainted with the operation methods of the voting machine there would not have been any need for any long lines to exist at the close of the polls on election day.

Let's hope that those people who did not vote during the May primary, and who have not yet had the opportunity to manipulate the levers on these machines, will do so prior to the General election in November. Certainly then there should be no cause for a long line up and delay in voting on election day.

Sincerely,
Stan Skoko
Commissioner

Due to the untimely death of our faithful co-worker and friend, Hal J. White, we the executive committee of the Clackamas County Democratic central committee bow our heads in prayer.

We extend the hand of helpfulness and hope to his widow Mrs. Jessie White and the family.

Be it resolved, the committee go in mourning for the balance of this month, and to show our good faith, that as a committee omit any meeting this month, and recommend to the whole central committee the same.

s/s Mrs. Richard Long
Secretary pro-tem

Goodwill Truck Visit Listed

The Goodwill Industries pickup truck will be in Gresham Wednesday, June 22, to gather materials used in Goodwill's program of rehabilitation. If householders have clothing or home furnishings they wish to discard, they should call Goodwill Industries direct at 234-0321. They will arrange for the truck to pick up the goods at home or store.

Contributed household discards are repaired and renovated by handicapped people for resale in Goodwill stores. Money from sales pays the wages of the workers, that now number more than 500 persons. Your donations will be greatly appreciated.

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CITIZENS COLLEGE FORUM

News and Views About
Mt. Hood Community College

This week the final determination will be made: the college board will vote whether to accept the county commissioner's offer to use the county fairgrounds in Gresham for a temporary campus for Mt. Hood Community College. The college board will meet Thursday, June 16, if terms are agreeable, a full explanation of space and building utilization will be offered in this column next week. The preliminary investigations and discussion look positive; the staff of the college are modifying plans and making preparations for moving onto the Fairgrounds if that is to be the campus for next year's college.

SITE SUPPORT CONTINUES
Last week Dr. Earl Klapstein, Mt. Hood president, received a telephone call from the office of Gov. Hatfield pledging assistance in securing the 148th and Halsey St. site, Pete Suklac, administrative assistant to the governor, said that Hatfield is interested in Mt. Hood's problem and will assist the college in trying to get an immediate decision from General Services Administration. Additional support has come from U. S. Representative Wendell Wyatt. In a letter to the Multnomah County Commissioners, Wyatt said, "I note that you have been advised that G.S.A. is holding up the whole matter much to the dismay of the Community College and concerned citizens of Multnomah county. I certainly appreciate your calling this matter to my attention and I have immediately contacted Commissioner Greenberg in every effort to get prompt and helpful action..."

A COLLEGE FIRST
Monday, June 13, the college planning staff met with Mt. Hood's advisory committee to discuss the proposed licensed practical nurses training program. The LPN advisory committee is made up of hospital administrators Ben Doerksen of Gresham General and Eugene Brim of Woodland Park hospital; physicians Dean Macy of Gresham and Estill Deitz of Portland; nurses Pauline Kramer of Gresham and Billie Miller of Woodland Park; Oregon State Board of Nursing members Mrs. Estelle Singleton and Miss Virginia Hildebrand; Multnomah County Division of Public Health representative Mrs. Stella Meagher; and lay advisory citizens Mrs. Gloria Glascock and Rev. William Hofflines. This committee will establish criteria, assist in curriculum planning, and provide suggestions and advice to the college in its efforts to develop a licensed practical nurse training program.

If there were citizen awards to pass out in this area, Mt. Hood Community College would nominate Ross Morgan and Ben Doerksen for the public's applause. Although time and space do not permit us to report the valuable assistance we have received recently from these men, the future will reflect their significant contributions. We trust that our citizenry is interested in knowing about people who offer service to society.

The practice of urging an expensive funeral upon a family unable to afford it is, we feel, unethical and harmful to the profession.

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Berries Are Big Business

If anyone ever doubted that berries are big business in the Gresham area, he should take a drive out into the nearby farmlands.

Everywhere, strawberry pickers are at work and the raspberry crop isn't far off. Thus far, this has been an excellent year for strawberries although the shortage of moisture has some growers worried.

Raspberries also should be good this year although they, too, could use more rainfall. Crops in the Willamette Valley depend more heavily

upon irrigation than those locally and thus may come through the current dry spell in better shape.

In short, we need more rain. We were at the Coast last week and met the wife of a Newport businessman in a restaurant. Her first question:

"How are the strawberries in this year?"

Seems she was raised in Portland and had spent many an hour in the berry fields. Gresham and berries still are synonymous.

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