

THE Sandy Post

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Entered at the Post Office at Sandy, Clackamas County, Oregon as second-class matter under the Act of Congress of March, 1879.
Member of Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association and National Editorial Association
Published every Thursday by Outlook Publishing Co. \$2.50 Annual Subscription

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Sandy Post, Sandy, Oregon

December 22, 1966

A Way Out in Viet Nam

It is heartening to note that the United States seems to be moving toward the United Nations in efforts to solve the Viet-Nam impasse.

It hasn't always been thus. In fact, it is well documented that twice—in 1964 and again in 1965—we turned down U.N.-arranged efforts to bring together the warring factions. The decision of U.N. Secretary-General U Thant not to serve another term (later reconsidered) was primarily due, insiders say, to our reluctance to accept U.N. mediation.

Now, however, it is obvious that we must go along with U.N. peace efforts. There just isn't any other way.

The official U.S. position long has been that U.N. efforts would be fruitless because of the Russian veto power in the Security Council. True, but as Sen.-elect Mark Hatfield and others have pointed out, we always could go through the General Assembly where the Soviets have no veto.

The plain fact is that both sides—the U.S. and the Communists—have adopted such an unyielding hard line on Viet-Nam that no compromise is possible. But an outside agency, such as the U.N., might allow both a face-saving means to solve the impasse.

It is increasingly clear that a military solution is impossible to either side. The Communists, without massive help from Red China and Russia, are not going to drive us out of Southeast Asia. And despite our massive fire power, it would take generations for us to win the type of guerilla warfare which the Viet-Namense are capable of fighting.

We've always thought, of course, that our involvement in Viet-Nam is a massive mistake. But we just can't pull out and leave a vacuum into which Communists would pour.

Thus, it's extremely heartening news that concrete efforts for a U.N. solution of some sort seem to be starting. This is the only way we'll ever get out.

Tax Increase Not as Likely Now

Oregonians currently involved in discussions about a 1½ per cent tax limitation etc., would do well to keep one ear cocked on Congress.

Early next year, Congress may or may not be asked to increase income taxes. If a tax increase does come, it would make our local tax problems seem pretty petty, indeed.

The vast bite that the federal government takes out of everyone's paycheck is pretty well concealed by the withholding feature. We really don't realize what's being taken because we never have it in the first place.

However, there are increasing signs that the administration may not seek a tax boost after all. The economy in November showed definite signs of softening and the prime reason the administration was said to be thinking of a tax increase, was to hold down inflation.

Originally, Pres. Johnson was to have made an announcement on a

tax increase by Dec. 10. That date came and went and nothing was said. Now, reports leaked from the administration indicate that no decision has been made even yet.

Government economists are said to be divided on the advisability of a tax increase. Some feel it would halt the runaway inflation of the past couple of years. Others feel that it might have a depressing effect on the economy, depressing enough to push us over the cliff into a full-scale recession.

Congress, of course will have to decide in January and the new Congress obviously is going to be no rubber-stamp. LBJ will have to sell his goods this time; no longer will he be able to wiggle his little finger and have the troops fall in line.

In view of the admitted indecision even among economic experts, we doubt that much of a tax increase, if any, is in store.

To Tighten Up the Traffic Laws

The recent Governor's Conference on Traffic Safety passed some interesting resolutions, several of which are sure to be implemented by the coming legislature.

We'd like to comment on several. 1. The Conference recommended that driver education be offered at all Oregon high schools. We fully concur; in our own family we've seen its value.

2. All students be included in driver training. Even in schools where driver training is offered, not all students take the course. They should.

3. All drivers be re-examined every four years and those over 65 every two years. We think periodic re-examination is a good idea but we think those over 65 should get special allowances consistent, of course, with safe driving. Oldsters shouldn't

be unnecessarily harrassed by traffic authorities as they are in some states.

4. All vehicles should be inspected yearly. We agree again, but the cost would be very great. We don't think the state could afford it.

5. Adequate financing and manpower should be provided for investigation of traffic fatalities with the intent to use such information in preventing future fatalities. Too many accident investigations today quickly become nothing more than street cleaning efforts to get traffic rolling again. Thorough investigation might help immeasurably in preventing other accidents.

There are a number of other proposals, most of them eminently worthwhile. We hope the legislature gives serious consideration to all of them.



One of the major projects completed by the Oregon State Highway Dept. this year was the new Mt. Hood Loop Highway. Shown here is the new section looking westerly from Sandy, Old Highway angles off to the right. The 8.25 miles of the new road was completed in July at a cost of \$2,190,925. (Oregon State Highway Dept. photo)

★ LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ★

To the Editor

When my last letter to you was published I was quite surprised to read in that issue that the irate citizens had already been heard, and it is interesting to note now, how the will of people can so annoy some of our "leaders."

Regarding some of the statements made by Stan Skoko, in the Dec. 15 issue of the Post I would like to comment on the following: 1. Quote "The commissioners found it necessary to enact an interim zoning ordinance to insure the purposes and objectives of a master plan for the orderly development and growth of our county" end quote.

Have not the commissioners taken into consideration that we, as citizens and residents of the county are equally interested in growth and development of our county.

We to enjoy the natural beauty of our clear streams, our beautiful mountains and the peaceful existence of our rural life. These are just some of the reasons we are residents of this community.

Why is the zoning necessary, and how did our commissioners ever climb so high on the political ladder, and understand so little of the American way. Have they no faith in judicial system.

We have laws governing sewage disposal, electrical installation, and mandatory requirements for all plumbing.

We have courts to administer justice and issue decrees.

We have a sheriff to enforce the decisions and decrees of that same court.

And then we have a prison, for the person who has been found guilty in the court.

The laws differ from state to state, and from county to county, but nothing should ever depart from the basic principal, that each person may determine for himself what he feels is best for himself. The smoke, the fumes, the obnoxious gases mentioned by Mr. Skoko are exceptions, and we should prosecute each violation under existing laws with existing courts. We should not force the entire population to submit to zoning, in order that the present officers of the court and the community might be able to force their will on the people without due process. We as citizens accept and appreciate good government and fully realize it is necessary for the welfare of the community, and the people in the community.

It is true, that there are obnoxious fumes smoke, cluttered areas that distract from the beauty of our county, and we are naturally opposed to them, but I am positive that the many benefits far outweigh the existing evils.

Under the existing laws we have the right to petition the court, for an order to cease and desist in any of the above that might be offensive to us.

2. Quote "Objections have been raised by individuals who claim abuse of freedom, loss of personnel rights, and make other flag waving statements," end quote.

Does not the enforcement of

this ordinance remove personal rights, were there enough public hearings, to determine that this was the will of the people. And in this day and age Mr. Skoko it does my heart good to hear a few flag waving statements. Some of our commissioners should think along this line.

3. Quote "A landowner has freedom to contribute to the welfare of his neighborhood, but this freedom should not permit him to infringe on his neighbors rights," end quote.

Do the commissioners intend to regulate all human relations, forgetting completely that it is the right of that neighbor to determine whether or not he has been offended, and it is not the duty of our commissioners to tell us what is offensive to us, we should be the judge, Mr. Skoko.

4. Quote "The building and plumbing codes have come under unfair attack accusation. It is these erroneous and sometimes malicious statements made by certain individuals and groups that have incited many rural area residents to demonstrate against planning and zoning," end quote.

It is really so unfair, Mr. Skoko for the lowly citizen, who still believes in democracy, to raise his voice when he sees another tenacle of an anarchy raise its dirty head.

Are the statements so erroneous and malicious, I think not, these people also have rights, or don't you agree, are we in a minority or a majority. We have the right to know.

5. Quote "Your writer believes that proper planning and zoning are a must."

And because of this, Mr. Skoko is it right because you believe it, perhaps you still believe the world to be flat.

You still want to say we will do as you say, as much as you say, the direction you say, in as much detail as you say, we will work in ignorance, and without question, and later we can determine your judgment, by the result.

The voice of the people is now ringing Mr. Skoko, will it fall on deaf ears, or is it the answer to a politicians prayers. Let us never forget, that revolutions are never made, they are caused.

Earl Smith
Rt. 1, Box 880,
Sandy, Ore.

To the Editor

In regards to Clackamas county zoning.

This does not seem to be a matter that Mr. Skoko, Mr. Jones and Mr. Ely can force the people to abide by.

If this is something the people want, why were they not allowed to vote on it?

By the way are we the public paying for Mr. Skoko's big spread in the paper or is he?

Let the tax payers know what this planning commission is costing the tax payers, besides the money collected for permits.

The plumbing code of the state if enforced takes care of this area, why pay double for this. Many retiring people have the desire to buy a small tract of land and a trailer home, which by the way is comfortable and very ample. Why can't they?



"...and a real live pony," says this tot as he finishes giving Santa his order after free show at Sandy Theater in Sandy last Saturday. (Post Photo)

Service Lines

Marine Private First Class Richard F. Nichols, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Nichols of Rt. 2, Boring, is serving as a member of Headquarters and Service Company, Second Battalion, Fifth Marine Regiment, Third Marine Division in the Dong Ha area of Vietnam. Members of the unit participate in day and night patrols, ambushes and extended search and destroy operations against the enemy.

As long as we are lucky we attribute it to our smartness; our bad luck we give the gods credit for.—Josh Billings.

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SEASON'S GREETINGS

Time to put on our Santa suit, and extend to you, from our heart, every joy at this Yuletide season.

STAN SKOKO

Clackamas County Commissioner

Make Christmas calls early

Your long distance holiday calls will go through faster and easier if you make them early this year.

WEST COAST TELEPHONE CO.

at Christmas time...



... it's a pleasure to take this opportunity to greet our many patrons... and to wish each and every one the brightest of holiday seasons!

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CITIZENS FORUM

News and Views About Mt. Hood Community College

BY JEREMIAH J. O'BRIEN

LAPIDARY

Chuck Reinmuth, Director of MHCC's Evening College, reports that he has received many requests for the college to offer a Lapidary curriculum through the Adult Education Services program of the college.

Because of the large number of inquiries both Reinmuth and Arnie Heuchert, college vocational director, have received from "Rock Hounds" and persons interested in Jewelry Design, advisory committees will soon need to be formed to determine whether a full Lapidary program should be considered in the development of the new college plant. Plans are to organize an advisory committee during the spring of this year. Persons interested in assisting the college in determining the needs of the area for Lapidary offerings should contact Reinmuth.

ADVISORY COMMITTEES

More than 40 persons were on MHCC's temporary campus at the Multnomah County Fairgrounds to participate in advisory committee meetings last Wednesday. The committees study specific areas such as vocational technical education,

the college transfer program, college financing, and advise the board of education of necessary development. The approximately 150 lay citizens currently hold appointments on the various committees. Additional committees are to be formed in the future.

HANNIBAL
The Citizen Committee for

Church Offering To Aid Hospital

A Brazilian hospital for victims of the dread savage fire disease (pemphigus) will benefit from a special offering given this Saturday by Sandy Seventh-day Adventists. This is their Christmas present to these far away sufferers.

"The appearance of the victims of savage fire," explains Pastor George W. Chambers, "is repugnant. His face is swollen, and his scaly skin burns and itches from head to toe. It falls in shreds when he touches it. Affected men wear loose trousers and women wear large sacklike dresses to avoid irritating the painful, open sores, which often become

ulcerated." Pastor Chambers says the victims, if fortunate, hear about the Adventists' Penfigo Hospital in the state of Mato Grosso. There they are treated without charge with a cream with a pitch base. All the sheets in the hospital, though clean, are permanently stained gray from the black cream.

After treatment with the coal-tar base cream and Cortisone, many patients completely recover. Two of the nurses at the hospital were themselves formerly victims. The death rate once was 40 per cent. It is now about four per cent.

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