

THE Sandy Post

GREAT WAY
TO THE MT. HOOD PLAYGROUND

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Elizabeth Hartman, Editor

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Page 2

Sandy Post, Sandy, Oregon

December 26, 1968

Federal Controls Not the Way

We're no great fan of television-much of their programming is deplorable-but we're 100 per cent in agreement that TV news coverage is not a proper subject for federal controls.

The subject was broached during last week's Congressional hearings into TV violence. The discussion soon got around to the coverage of the Democratic national convention in Chicago and suggestions were made that some sort of federal controls be imposed.

We disagree heartily, as did the assembled TV executives.

In the first place, there is considerable difference of opinion as to the TV coverage. A lot of people say it was calculated only to cause problems; other people, just as knowledgeable, say TV did a good job.

But far overshadowing the

coverage-good or bad-in Chicago is the question of government control. We just simply cannot let the federal government decide what is good and what is bad for the listening, or reading, public.

Censorship of what is happening in Viet-Nam-the so-called credibility gap-is only a small sample of what would happen should the government ever get control over news dissemination. Freedom of the press, of course, is guaranteed by the constitution but the freedom of radio and TV is much more tenuous because of licensing requirements imposed by the Federal Communications Commission.

Once the federal bureaucracy is allowed to decide what is fit for public consumption...well, we've traveled a long way towards ultimate collectivization. It can't happen here.



OLD MAN WINTER made a pre-Christmas visit to the area last week and displayed his decorative talent for turning dreary landscapes into wonderland scenes. (Post photo)

Column Comments

By Jack Parsons
Extension Agent

Since this is the Christmas season, today's subject should not be concerned about problems of farming or new ideas being adopted by farmers.

Certainly by now you already know what a good job farmers are doing for you in providing abundant food in whatever quantity you wish at a reasonable price, available at all seasons of the year. We have talked in the past about high costs of production, and, because of low prices received for products, the resulting low net income which farmers are concerned about. The much talked about decline and loss of family farms is of great concern to most of us.

But this is Christmas and problems such as the fickleness of weather and the frustrations that this often brings to farmers, and his attempts to plan and operate his enterprise, should be put aside.

The problems of farm labor have been publicized widely. The great advances in mechanization of crop harvest, and in fact mechanization of total farm operation, is becoming a well-known story. The upward spiral of land values and the affect of this upon expansion of farms and taxes is well known.

The sprawl of housing and industry on to the better agri-

cultural soil types and the loss of this land forever to food production. The need to plan the use of our total environment in Clackamas County. The potential benefits to be derived from a comprehensive land use plan for Clackamas County. These should not be forgotten, but put aside during our Christmas holidays. The value of agriculture research in stimulating new ideas. A rapid expansion of processing industries and production of intensive crops. The problems of day-to-day living and the unique ones that each of us have in our circumstances are to be put aside. Christmas symbolizes the joy of giving and the pleasure of receiving. A time to express best wishes and the love in our hearts to friends and family. On behalf of Clackamas County Extension staff, we wish you a most joyful holiday season.

Nebraskans to Meet

The Nebraska Social Club will meet Saturday, Dec. 28, for a potluck dinner and dance.

The dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will be followed by old time dancing at 8:30. All Nebraskans and their friends are welcome to attend.

The meeting place has been changed to a larger hall at 3536 SE 26th St.

Letter to Editor

To the Editor:

I do not know how to say what I want to say but feel I must, at least, try.

In this war-torn world it is a joy to know that there are people in the world like I met when I attended the funeral of my sister and niece, Molly and Laura Budd.

I know people are always kind when there is a tragedy, but the things people around Wemme, Brightwood, Rhododendron and Government Camp did at that time went far beyond anything I've ever seen before.

The only names I know are the John Strickers, James Purdys and Jim Howards. The rest I cannot remember or never heard, but I want to say God Bless everyone of those wonderful people!

The Strickers gave all of the relatives of Molly and Laura their home to stay in. Food was furnished by all the neighbors and beds by the Forest Service. We were treated with more kindness than I knew existed.

So to everyone, Thank you, and a Happy Holiday. Mine is far happier for knowing there are such people in the world.

Molly used to say she loved Oregon and its people -- now I understand why.

Sincerely,
Molly's Sister,
Dorothy Johnson
P. O. Box 634
Phillipsburg, Montana

SALEM SCENE

by ERRETT CUTLER

In an informal poll recently, legislators who will serve next session voted property tax relief as their first order of business.

They will be convening here in three short weeks to tackle that and other issues. For their first order of business, they have some realistic guidelines from Gov. Tom McCall, who now has proposed a broad tax reform package as the revenue half of his total revenue-budget answer for the 1969-71 biennium.

His comprehensive plan to relieve property taxes would establish a 3 per cent retail sales tax -- "adding a third leg to our tax stool" -- and make other adjustments in the state tax structure to raise an estimated \$100 million annually for schools. This increased amount, the governor estimates, would bring state aid to local school districts up to the long-sought 50 per cent figure, reducing schools' heavy dependence on local property taxes.

To ensure property tax reductions, the plan would replace the present 6 per cent growth limitation on school budgets with a 2 per cent lid. Local property taxes could increase only by that amount annually without a vote, and only two votes to exceed the 2 per cent would be allowed.

In addition to bringing basic school support up to the magic half-way mark, Gov. McCall estimates there would be enough revenue left to provide direct payments to cities and counties for further relief. He suggests completely phasing out the "discriminating and unfair" inventory tax at a rate of 5 per cent each year, using those direct payments to "more than offset any decline resulting from phasing out the inventory tax."

The governor's plan also recognizes the desirability of equal tax relief for all types of property, an equality which has made Oregon a model state in property tax fairness. Business, to balance part of its share of the relief, would be asked to increase its corporate tax rate by 16 2/3 per cent, in addition to its substantial sales tax liability.

Some other proposed adjust-

ments in the total tax picture may encounter legislative resistance, but the sales tax is expected to pass. It failed last session by only one Senate vote, and the complexion of the upper house was changed by November's election. Many members of both houses now feel that the governor's plan incorporates all the best features of the nearly successful draft of two years ago.

Adjustments which probably will be debated are the proposed elimination of the federal deduction from state income tax returns and some of the "something-for-everyone" features which tend to complicate the package. These may include special relief provisions for the poor, the elderly and for renters, and exemptions from the sales tax.

On the latter point, Gov. McCall said he would support a tax refund program in lieu of the exemption of food and prescription drugs if the legislature preferred. Such a plan no doubt would be less expensive to administer, both for the state and for retailers, but it is more complicated to explain than exemptions.

The refund plan included in last session's bill allowed a \$12 refund per citizen to offset the sales tax estimated to be spent on food and drugs. The \$12 figure was considered liberal -- at a sales tax of 3 per cent it would represent expenditures of \$400 per person for those necessary food and drug items.

Hopefully, a simple method of explaining this concept will be developed by the legislature. The whole issue of tax reform ultimately must go before the voters, and taxation matters often are confusing enough.

As they prepare to convene, some lawmakers talk of submitting a proposal to Oregon voters at a special election in the spring. Many consider a sales tax, tied to property tax relief, and limitations, likely to pass the statewide test.

So, after seeing his tax reform proposals virtually ignored by the 1967 legislature, Gov. McCall now is likely to be heard and to receive wide support. Coupled with his budget message, his bold plan for tax reform goes a long way

toward relieving many inequities and deficiencies in a government finance structure which has been criticized for many years.

Insurance Careers

NEW YORK--The Insurance Information Institute reports that the 1,310,000 persons employed in the insurance business in the United States include hundreds of persons trained in numerous other fields, such as doctors and nurses, lawyers and accountants, and safety engineers and computer experts.

Civil Disorders

NEW YORK--The civil disorders that raged across the nation during the summer of 1967 caused insured losses of more than \$64 million, the Insurance Information Institute reports.

Yuletide Joy



668-4744

Curl Shop

112 Proctor
Sandy

GOOD WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR

START '69 RIGHT... START SAVING FOR A HAPPY YEAR

We wish you all a very prosperous New Year, which we're ready to help you have.

Rely on our experience plus our convenient and friendly full-service banking to guide you in saving or borrowing wisely.

1969

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"Sandy's INDEPENDENT Bank"

SANDY, OREGON 668-4141

HOOD-LAND BRANCH, WEMME 622-3131

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
OPEN FRIDAYS 'TIL 6 P.M.

Post Capsule

(Continued from page 1)

Hunt and gift drawing, that he would return the night of Dec. 24 with presents for all and he's a gentleman of his word. We hope you had a Merry Christmas and that the New Year will bring you happiness. Before concluding this history, we'd like to bet that the soft ball game between the Sandy Jaycees and the Chamber of Commerce won't be played this year because of inclement weather and, also, to assure you that there will be no increase in city water service charges, in 1968 anyway.

Student Loans Given to MHCC

Mt. Hood Community college will receive \$268 for student loans from the U. S. Office of Education in 1969, according to Rep. Edith Green. Rep. Green's office announced that MHCC was one of seven Portland area colleges to receive a total of \$14,222 in NDEA student loan funds.

Columbia Christian college, which is relocating their campus in the Gresham area, was allocated \$589.

SPEECH TOURNAMENT

Recently the MHCC speech squad attended the Clark Junior College Speech Tournament in Vancouver, Wash. Dan Robertson, a sophomore student at MHCC, was a finalist in both expository speaking and interpretative reading. In the final round in interpretative reading, Robertson won a first place trophy.

CYCOLOGY SET



WE DON'T MAKE NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS TO BREAK BUT WE EXPECT THEM TO BEND A LITTLE

S&H Green Stamps
Clackamas County
Bank Money Orders

Pay Station for
P.G.E.
West Coast Telephone
Northwest Natural Gas

SANDY DRUG

YOUR Family STORE
668-4111 Sandy Shopping Center



LIKE SPRING BLOSSOMS, snow clusters on tree reflected against bright blue sky and made up in beauty for inconvenience caused by six inch snow storm last week. (Post photo)