

Sandy Post

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 Published semi-weekly Mondays and Thursdays by The Outlook Publishing Co., Box 68,
 Sandy, Oregon 97055. Second class postage paid at Sandy, Oregon.

668-5548
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
 In Multnomah and Clackamas Counties, per year \$8.00
 Servicemen, any address \$8.00
 In Oregon, outside Multnomah and Clackamas Counties, per year \$9.00
 In Northwest and Pacific Coast States outside Oregon, per year \$10.00
 Outside Northwest and Pacific Coast states, per year \$12.00

Page 2 No. 17 Mon., April 21, 1975

It's Twice a Week for The Outlook and Post

Today's issue marks the beginning of twice-weekly publication for The Gresham Outlook and The Sandy Post.

This is something we've contemplated for some time and something we haven't undertaken lightly. Shortages and the recession have caused us to take this step most gingerly.

However, the continued growth of our area and the resulting need for greater news and advertising coverage convinced us now was the time. The Monday paper obviously

How To Finance Tri-Met

Tri-Met currently is holding a series of hearings (one is scheduled here next Thursday) to discuss its money problems.

Tri-Met has projected tremendous deficits and wants to cut service or raise taxes. The hearings are designed to bring out public sentiment relative the various alternatives.

One of the alternatives certainly will be to increase the payroll tax. By law, Tri-Met can go to .5 per cent of gross payroll in the metropolitan area and since the figure is at .4 now, it's a pretty sure bet they'll stick it to employers again.

But Tri-Met can't solve all its money woes, real or imagined, with the payroll tax. It has to seek other sources. By law, it can enact a sales tax or an income tax, but both of these are pretty difficult politically.

The High Cost of Living

The next time you sit down to work out the family budget, you should start with the big items like food and housing. Right?

Wrong! If you want to start with the really big items, start with taxes.

The Tax Foundation Inc., says that taxes are by far the largest single item in the average family budget. If you're a typical American, you spend two hours and 35 minutes of every working day toiling for the government.

Lessons Learned in Viet-Nam

Historians probably will record that the Truman Doctrine ended in the spring of 1975 when the Communists over-ran South Viet-Nam.

The Truman Doctrine dates from March of 1947 when then-Pres. Truman asked Congress for funds with which to aid Greece and Turkey.

It worked well for 20 years... in Greece and Turkey, in Korea, in Lebanon and to a degree, in the Dominican Republic. Basically, it was a commitment to help anyone asking for help against a Communist take-over.

The Truman Doctrine started to unravel when Pres. Kennedy and especially Pres. Johnson committed us in Viet-Nam. The latter decided, early in 1965, that a massive infusion of American troops and supplies were needed.

This brought on the longest, bitterest and most divisive war in U.S.

An Ill-advised Decision

It was only a few years back that just about everything from fallen arches to the end of Western civilization was predicted unless Congress killed the SST program.

The SST, of course, was the supersonic jet being developed for the U.S. government by the Boeing company in Seattle.

Leading protagonist for the anti-SST forces was Sen. William Proxmire (D-Wisc.), abetted by a noisy clique of assorted environmentalists.

Proxmire's arguments evoked so much fear and concern that the SST project was scrapped. Foreign nations, also developing their own versions of the supersonic jet, didn't have the advantage of Proxmire's

will give us twice the opportunity to serve the community. And that's what we're here for.

We're sure it will take a few weeks to work out all the bugs and kinks in the new paper. But given some time, we're sure the Monday paper will very soon become a much-anticipated equal of our Thursday edition.

Meanwhile, our most sincere thanks to all our readers and advertisers who have made the Monday paper possible. Without you, we obviously wouldn't be here.

A more likely answer is a gasoline tax which Tri-Met tentatively tried and then backed away from last winter. Whatever the ultimate solution, Tri-Met's paw is going to be in your pocket somehow.

However, we're not alone in mass transit woes. Taxpayers in Washington state had better be prepared for some bad news from Olympia where the transit lobby is pulling out all the stops.

Legislation there doesn't give transportation districts any taxing power at all, at least compared to Tri-Met. But changes are in the wind.

The legislature is studying proposals that "public transportation benefit" areas be formed in which sales taxes, or a household tax, could be levied. Also being considered is an increase in the motor vehicle excise tax.

One hour and 38 minutes goes for federal taxes; another 57 minutes goes into state and local taxes. This is more than the working time required for food, housing, clothing, medical care, any other necessity you can name.

Only when we demand that our representatives cut spending, only when we quit demanding more and more from the government, will the tax bite be reversed.

Unless, of course, you like working for Big Brother.

history. We bought a few years of tenuous freedom for the Vietnamese but only at a terrible cost in money and manpower, U.S. and Asian. In the end we were ignominiously defeated.

Pres. Nixon started tentatively to pull back from the outer fringes of our commitments but his altogether praiseworthy efforts in foreign affairs fell apart with Watergate. Now, a full-scale retreat has been forced on Pres. Ford.

The lesson from Viet-Nam is one of overcommitment. Compare what we gambled and gave away with what the Russians or Chinese invested in Viet-Nam. And they came out the victors.

This is not to urge a new isolationism in our foreign policy. But it is to hope that future U.S. commitments are weighed more carefully, a whole lot more carefully.

wisdom and thus proceeded un-concerned.

Now, little by little, Proxmire's arguments are being demolished and despite the presence of foreign versions of the SST, the sky hasn't begun to fall. In fact, Russell Train, head of the Environmental Protection Agency, has given his blessing to the landing of foreign supersonic transports in and out of New York and Washington, D.C. "The noise impact", Train says, "is not distinguishable from current big US aircraft."

In short, were we stampeded into a monumentally unwise decision which we're going to regret in the years ahead? We think we were.



Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

The attached is a copy of a letter I have sent to Dr. Cherry and Senator Ed Fadeley, Chairmen of the Legislative Committees on Education.

I feel it is time that people of the district need to understand the position in which the school board was placed.

Curtis R. Close
 555 NW Riverview Pl.
 Gresham

I am writing to urge your support for revision of the Teacher Tenure Law.

I am on the Board of the Gresham Elementary District. I do not necessarily speak for that Board, but as an individual.

Last Monday night (April 7) our Board, at the request of Mrs. Pat Miller, a probationary teacher in our district, held an informal hearing regarding our action not to renew her contract, which would have given her tenure.

The hearing lasted from 6:30 p.m. to nearly 3 a.m. the following morning.

The questions involved in the hearing related to Mrs. Miller's ability to get along with her fellow staff members and participation in professional activities relating to her job.

At no time was there any question about her ability to function in the classroom, or to relate to the parents of her children. There was widely based support for her from the parents who had children in her class and felt she was doing an outstanding job.

There was likewise substantial testimony from her co-workers to the effect that they could not get along with her, and in fact, went out of their way to avoid having any dealings with her.

If the Board had the option of extending her probationary period (perhaps with her consent) it may have been possible to resolve the problems, and she could have been retained.

The tragic consequences of that hearing were predictable: an effective classroom teacher was not retained, and her career very seriously jeopardized, teachers were pitted against teachers, parents were understandably irate, the school and district were thrown into a turmoil, but most importantly the children in her school suffered because they did not understand and teacher effectiveness lost.

I strongly urge your serious consideration of the suggested modification, whereby Boards may have an opportunity to try and find solutions to a problem without the extreme measures now mandated by the Tenure Law.

To the Editor:

The Fair Dismissal Law was not designed to guarantee a job

for a lifetime or keep ineffective teachers on the job. It only guarantees that no teacher can lose his livelihood without due process.

I strongly take exception to the editorial "Tenure Law is the Problem;" this is "passing the buck." If the teacher in Gresham Grade had had the opportunity to due process as defined under the Fair Dismissal Law, an unbiased decision would have resulted based on evidence presented.

Causes for dismissal of permanent teachers number more than criminal activity or proven immorality. They are: inefficiency; insubordination; neglect of duty; physical or mental incapacity; inadequate performance; failure to comply with such reasonable requirements as the board may prescribe to show normal improvement and evidence of professional training and growth; any cause for revocation of teaching certificate; reduction in teacher staff from failures of levies.

This is true that all the evidence was not brought forth because the school board limited questions to witnesses that kept the real reason behind closed doors.

Under the Fair Dismissal procedure for permanent teachers there is a definite due process — simple, inexpensive, with a short timeline — which presents all evidence openly, permitting an impartial appeals board to make a fair decision for either party. The procedure is:

1. The superintendent shall give written notice to the teacher of his recommendation for dismissal, indicating statutory grounds and statement of facts, and limiting evidence to allegations supported by personnel file statements as of notification date.

2. If the board approves, teacher shall be notified. Teacher can appeal to the Fair Dismissal Board composed of people outside the school district.

3. Fair Dismissal Board hearing allows representation, witnesses and right to cross-examine.

Is it that difficult to remove a teacher from his job?

Teachers ARE accountable, but they ask due process guaranteed any citizen under the Constitution.

Pat Wohlers
 OEA consultant
 6900 SW Haines Rd.
 Tigard

To the Editor:
 My husband and I would like to express our appreciation to everyone who supported me through the recent non-renewal of my teaching contract, and the subsequent hearing before

(Continued on page 3)

AFTER HOURS

By Lee Irwin

EXTRA GUEST

How would you like to come home from a hard day at the office and find an elephant in your living room?

That's precisely what happened recently to Dr. Dale King of 1245 N.E. 153rd. Only it wasn't a real elephant, it was a big papier mache job which really does fill up half the King's living room.

Mrs. King, you see, is in charge of decorations for the all-night party scheduled May 30-31 for graduating seniors at Reynolds high. There just wasn't any other place in the King household big enough for the elephant.

1912, a Portland councilman, Clyde by name, rhapsodized about the glories of consolidation. He felt Portland police could "handle the county easily", and the mayor's duties "would not be greatly increased." Moreover, dozens of employees "could be eliminated."

Times—including fantasy flights by politicians—just haven't changed.

Centennial banquet scheduled

The Father-Daughter dinner sponsored by the Centennial Boosters Club will run from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, April 30, in the Town and Gown Room at Mt. Hood Community College.

Tickets are on sale at Centennial. Dance team members will be honored guests at the dinner. Centennial's C-Notes will be entertaining at the banquet. A style show, with boys and girls from Centennial as models, will be featured at the banquet.

Reward offered

The Bud Metzger family of Gresham is offering a \$100 reward for five German steins taken during a recent burglary of their home.

The steins have been in the family for many years and have a great sentimental value, the family explains.

Persons with information on the steins are asked to call 665-4701. There will be no questions asked and the police are not involved.

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ALL IN THE FAMILY

The new Foothills Inn (nee the Dew Drop Inn) will open this week in Sandy and you might say The Outlook is somewhat involved.

Owners are Joe and Cheryl Darr and Reg and Suzanne Ashmun. Suzanne, of course, is Outlook "People's editor." The logo for the new restaurant was developed by Roy Bunting, head of our commercial printing department.

Roy, along with Velma Lown (paste-up) and Vince Uhlig (press), provided the menus. Ralph Fuccillo, our sales director, handled the advertising, Outlook-Sandy Post classifieds were used to hire the help and to dispose of old fixtures.

And finally, Betty Sword, receptionist at The Outlook and an amateur artist, provided paintings for the inside.

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GARDEN NOTES

Poking around in the woods, we've observed a truly exceptional crop of trilliums this year.

Only please don't pick them. If you pick the blossom and take off the leaves at the same time, you'll kill the plant. It won't come back again.

The flower itself has a short stem so most people pick the blossom, leaves and all. This is fatal.

Trilliums are, of course, a part of the lily family and can be spread either by seed or bulb. But they shouldn't be disturbed; don't spade around them.

But most of all, don't pick the flowers!

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CURTAIN CALL

Reynolds high students saw one of their teachers, Bernard Leopold, on television Thursday night.

He is an actor on the side and had a bit role in an episode from "Movin' on", a weekly TV show. Leopold, who is a pretty friendly guy in real life, played the part of a heartless field boss.

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DOUBLE FEATURE

Someone in the Hood theater has a sense of humor.

Their weekend double-bill, advertised in Thursday's Outlook included:

"Blazing Saddles" plus "Where Does It Hurt?"

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REPEAT PERFORMANCE

We just didn't realize how persistent Portland folk have been in pursuit of city-county consolidation.

In an Outlook from July 9,

Moose Lodge burglarized

Gresham Moose Lodge No. 2265 was burglarized sometime during the night of April 11 and beer, snacks, cigarettes, decanters and a television were taken, according to Gresham Police reports. Loss was estimated at \$365.

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