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Battle Lines Are Being Drawn

The 1976 presidential election is still a long ways off, yet the battle lines already are being drawn.

Quite obviously, the Democrats will charge that the economic policies of Pres. Ford are prolonging the recession if not actually inviting another one.

The Republicans obviously will take precisely the opposite view. They will claim that the recession has been ended and that Pres. Ford deserves the credit.

Of equal importance is the energy situation. Pres. Ford feels that natural, competitive factors will bring gasoline prices into line. The Democrats feel that gasoline is today a necessity, that it has grown so powerful that these competitive factors are incapable of bringing about needed adjustments. The government must step in.

There are other, less emotional issues. There is the matter of grain sales to Russia. There is the matter of

soaring social welfare costs which Pres. Ford seeks to trim and which Democrats seek to expand.

Much depends upon the state of the economy. If we are still in a recession economy a year from now, Pres. Ford won't be re-elected. But if we have climbed out of the current recession, all the Democratic rhetoric won't make much difference. Pres. Ford will be re-elected.

Foreign affairs will swing votes. There is detente with Russia, there is the explosive Middle East situation which, for the moment, seems to have been defused by Sec. of State Kissinger. There is the trouble between Greece and Turkey over Cyprus.

All of these things are important, but the state of the economy will be of over-riding importance. That's why all the politicians are watching the economic weathervane so very closely these days.

A Lesson from Portugal

We think there is a considerable lesson to be learned from the current turmoil in Portugal.

It's this: Communism isn't everywhere the wave of the future and there are people everywhere (not just in the USA) who are willing to fight to resist Communist domination.

For a host of reasons, we have played no role whatsoever in the problems currently besetting Portugal's pro-Communist government. What has happened there is purely an internal thing, people rising up

against Communist subversion.

This is exactly what the CIA might have had in mind, but this time there were no CIA agents in the woodpile. No one can accuse the USA of having any part in the proceedings.

Again, this is an important lesson. We can't do everything for everybody and letting a people fight Communism in their own way, is often very much more effective than US intervention. This lesson learned 15 years ago might have kept us out of Viet-Nam.

Sen. Jackson Speaks Out

Count Sen. Henry Jackson (D-Wash.) as one who thinks we should "barter tough" with the Russians if they want our grain.

Count him also as one who is extremely worried about the economy when oil price ceilings go off next Sunday.

The Senator, who spoke to a group of supporters Tuesday, feels the impact of grain sales to the Soviet Union, coupled with removal of price ceilings on petroleum products, may plunge us right back into another severe recession.

He can't understand the politics of Pres. Ford's decision to let controls expire and at the same time, veto everything on energy sent up to him by the Congress.

The Senator, an expert on oil problems, says service stations in Oregon soon may not have enough gasoline to sell. This is because of our

peculiarly unfavorable position in the allocation of gasoline and other petroleum products. A bill to equalize allocations nationwide is about to be vetoed by Pres. Ford and this could cause extreme problems here in Oregon.

Sen. Jackson long has been an advocate of standing tough to the Russians and he most assuredly would do so on grain. "If they want our grain, let them barter for it with something we want." And he leaves no doubt that this something is oil.

The Senator is running very hard for the Democratic presidential nomination. He talks sense about a great many things and thus far has avoided the extreme positions taken by several other Democratic hopefuls. If he doesn't peak too early (as did Sen. Muskie last time) he could be a very formidable contender.

A Chance To Speak Your Piece

Ever want to put in your two-bits worth about the operation of Mt. Hood Community College? But don't know just how to go about it?

Weil, the College is actively seeking input from its taxpayers. It wants to know what it's doing right, what it's doing wrong, what should be improved, changed, revised or repealed.

At each board meeting, the College has a spot on the agenda for "Communications from the public." Only nothing ever happens, no one ever appears.

Dr. Malcom MacGregor, new MH-

CC board chairman, wants to fill that spot on the agenda. He wants to hear from the taxpayers, the people who make the College possible.

"We want to find out what people are thinking so we're making a special effort to urge anyone who has anything to say, to appear. They can praise us, they can criticize us. We don't care. We just want to hear."

Board meetings generally are held twice a month, on Wednesdays. Call the president's office at the College for a place on the agenda. Your call will be welcome.

Construction declines in June

Figures released Friday by the state Employment Division show Clackamas County building permit values to have

been \$8,776,550 for June.

This is \$1.2 million below figures for May and about a \$1.8 million drop from a year ago. The decline was concentrated

in commercial and multi-family dwelling construction with single family dwelling building permits climbing \$1.3 million over May's total



Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

Last week I sent a copy of the findings of fact and conclusions of law relating to a suit brought against the Environmental Quality Commission by an Oregon corporation to the Post along with a letter. The letter was printed in the Post, but I'm sure many readers were bewildered by reference made to the suit which was not identified.

For those who would like to know just what the findings were, here are two paragraphs from the findings: "Defendant DEQ demonstrated a course of activity amounting to an odious, opprobrious, arbitrary, capricious, collusive and conspiratorial abuse of power. The delay and bad faith which was demonstrated by defendant DEQ contributed to the irreparable harm suffered by plaintiff."

These findings corroborate accusations made by many of us against the DEQ. However the DEQ is not acting alone but conspires with other agencies to bring us to our knees. Most of us have been hurt in some way by the inexcusable behavior of this "state" agency. When the involved corporation couldn't build, lumber wasn't used and now stands in warehouses. The chain of damage extends through the carpenters who weren't hired, the electricians, plumbers, lumber men in the woods, the truck drivers, who haul the logs and the finished products, the makers of glass, the concrete finishers and ultimately the people who can not find suitable housing. The list would extend to dozens more who lost employment, and this was just one of hundreds of projects that were stopped by this and other state agencies. In Oregon alone over a billion dollars of construction was halted by the DEQ and the Oregon Health Division last year.

Many have contributed to bring about changes in laws which previously granted power to the Oregon Health Department. We need more changes and better control over these agencies. These changes can be brought about if we stick together and back these legislators who serve us and not those who wish to suppress us. Bill Schneider Boring

are one who has been offended that you forgive us and give us another opportunity to demonstrate our sincerity. Here is a saying that I believe is apropos: Good, Better, Best, Never Let It Rest Until Your Good Is Better And Your Better Best.

Next week, we will address budget facts and we hope you will be listening because we will be speaking out.

Earl L. Covey
Supt.-Principal
Welches Elementary School
Wemme

To the Editor:

Probably no one or organization regardless of how great they are has no room for improvement. It is well to be aware of what it is you have going and what it is you don't in order to maintain the good and free yourself from the other. On the side of strength it seems to be the broad general consensus that so far as our providing a full comprehensive education program is concerned, we get a star. This applies to general academic achievement and to the broader cultural experiences that enrich our children's lives. A high score in this area is gratifying as we believe that this is why we are in business.

On the minus side, the cry from some has been "lack of communications," both in our speaking out and in our listening. We have heard that we are not friendly, that we are defensive and that we are inconsistent.

I'd like to think that it is only true that we manage one of the finest educational programs to be found and that any comment about the negative features was totally untrue, unfounded, false and biased, but as Rudyard Kipling said "Trust yourself when all men doubt you, but make allowances for their doubting too." The Lord's Prayer has these words "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors." So with these thoughts in mind we respond to the criticism in this manner. We are establishing a priority to do a better job of listening and to keep you better informed and we ask that if you

Keeping Posted

THURSDAY, AUG. 28

A businessmen's coffee hour for area people begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Oregon Trail Saving and Loan office in Sandy.

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SATURDAY, AUG. 30

The Hoodland Women's club is holding its annual fall rummage sale today at its hall near Wemme.

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Kid's pet show gets under way at 10 a.m. in Meinig Memorial Park in Sandy.

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SUNDAY, AUG. 31

The women's club rummage sale continues until this evening.

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MONDAY, SEPT. 1

Today is the Labor Day holiday; drive safely.

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The office of the Sandy Post will be closed today.

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Because of the holiday the regular monthly meeting of the Sandy City Council has been postponed until 7:30 p.m. next Monday at city hall.

TUESDAY, SEPT. 2

Grade schools in the Sandy-Hoodland area open today. Drive carefully.

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Basketball star Leroy Ellis is scheduled to speak to the Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce at noon in the Amber lantern.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 3
The Sandy Garden Club holds its first meeting of the year at 10 a.m. at the Assembly of God Church in Sandy.

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Sandy Business and Professional Women meet at 7 p.m. in Lydia's Restaurant in the Rockwood district.

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 4
At 9:30 a.m. a businessmen's coffee hour will start at Oregon Trails Savings and Loan.

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The first meeting of the year for the Sandy Women's Club will be at noon in the club hall. Plans for the forthcoming year will be discussed.

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At 8 p.m. the Cottrell School Board will hold a special meeting to open bids submitted for kitchen equipment for the school.

Cities receive funds

Quarterly allocations of state highway funds have been announced for Gresham, Troutdale and Wood Village.

Gresham will receive \$54,946.08, Troutdale gets \$6,338.90 and Wood Village's share is \$5,869.85.

The State Highway Division will distribute \$3,600,491.28 to 240 incorporated cities in Oregon with a combined total population of 1,320,000.

The allocation is based on the statutory 12 per cent for the periods April 1 to June 30. Because of action during the recent legislative session, starting in August apportionment to cities will be distributed on a monthly basis rather than quarterly.

The funds come from the following sources: motor vehicle registration and operators' license fees, gasoline tax, use fuel tax, motor carrier fees, and fines and penalties collected for violations of the size and weight statutes where complaints were made by the Highway Division weighmasters.

Shawn Fox gets ribbon

Shawn Fox of Boring received a blue ribbon for her color slide photography at the Oregon State Fair in 4-H competition.

If You Receive Social Security Checks . . .

Now you can rest a little easier.

Federal legislation now permits you to authorize the deposit by the Treasury Department of your Social Security check into your checking account or savings account with us.

Now you can avoid a wait in line.

Just because your Social Security check arrived doesn't mean you have to go the bank. We deposit it for you automatically.

Now you don't have to cash the whole check.

Since your check is already in your account, you merely write a personal check for as much as you need.

Now you can arrange for direct deposit of your social security check. Drop by the bank and fill out the authorization form.

Remember, no service charge on your personal checking account if you are 65 years of age or over.

George Morgan
Local Representative

WALRAD
Sandy, Oregon

SERVICE WE GIVE!

INSURANCE WE SELL . . .

The personal insurance counsel and advice of a local agent is important to you in planning a complete insurance program.

INSURANCE AGENCY
668-4421



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