

Sandy Post

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A Disservice To Teen-Agers

Late last year, the State Wage and Hour Commission announced with much satisfaction that the minimum wage for minors was being upped to a parity with adults.

No longer would Oregon youngsters be forced to work for substandard wages, no longer would greedy employers exploit teen-agers.

That's precisely what happened, only not exactly in the fashion the Wage and Hour Commission expected. Fewer and fewer youngsters are working, period.

The Wage and Hour Commission didn't realize, or didn't comprehend, that for a sizable number of Oregon industries, this could mean minors would draw a higher salary than adults because of intricacies of the wage and hour laws.

Obviously, then, job opportunities for minors are shrivelling up all across the state. Why take a chance on an inexperienced youngster when you have to pay him as much—or

more—than an adult?

High school counselors report fewer and fewer jobs for teen-agers. In effect, they're being priced right out of the job market.

The new wage figures meant, quite simply, that minors would hereafter be protected from the values—and there are many—of working and making money.

Hopefully, changes may be in the offing. AOI (Associated Oregon Industries) has proposed a 120-day learning period during which minors could be paid at 85 per cent of the minimum wage. Exemptions also have been proposed for students involved in work-study programs.

The Wage and Hour Commission defends its regulations but will listen to these proposals and others later this month. We think the exemptions are reasonable. It's obvious that fewer minors are being employed under the new standards, and that's hardly what anyone wants.

The Public Should Be Heard

A lot of maneuvering is going on as to just whom should be consulted, just whom should be heard in the forthcoming appointment of a new president at Mt. Hood Community College.

We hope the public, the people who pay the bills, doesn't get lost in the shuffle.

Thus far, just about everyone in the college family is getting into the act but with no noticeable public input except from a couple of former board members, Dr. George Casterline and Sed Stuart.

Dr. Casterline suggests a screening

committee of 25 or so persons to aid in the selection process. His plan broadly represents the public, the students, the faculty, etc.

It's our opinion that in any such listing, the public should come first. Then the students. After that, college faculty, administrators, classified employees, etc.

But above all, the people. The new president will set the tone and flavor of Mt. Hood Community College for a long time to come. It's extremely important that the ones who made Mt. Hood possible have a strong say in that decision.

Something New in School Finance

Presidential hopeful Milton J. Shapp would like to do something about soaring school taxes.

His idea: Students themselves should pay for public education through a special tax surcharge after graduation.

The student who completed college would pay a 3.68 per cent surcharge on his adjusted income for 40 years. If he went on to graduate school, he would pay more. If he stopped after high school, he would pay less.

In other words, you'd pay for exactly the amount of education you received. Collections would be made by the Internal Revenue Service, thus eliminating the wave of defaults which have plagued other student loan programs.

Under Shapp's plan, students would be given vouchers from a \$60 billion National Educational Trust Fund. These could be used to finance whatever level of education they desired.

After graduation at public expense, they would be required to pay something back. Half of school costs would continue to be paid by state and

federal revenues.

Mini versions of the plan already are under way on an experimental basis in several states.

There are two drawbacks... the immense amount of seed money necessary to get the program under way (estimated at \$4 billion the first year), and the fact that some students—especially women may never enter the work force.

Even so, there is much to commend Shapp's plan. Students, rather than their parents and property owners, would pay for a major share of whatever education they desired. Property taxes thus might be appreciably lessened.

Shapp, governor of Pennsylvania, is given no chance whatsoever in the Democratic presidential primary and thus his school plan won't be widely publicized.

Nevertheless, it is one of the most innovative ideas on school finance to come along in some time. We would hope that some other presidential candidate might borrow Shapp's idea. It's too good to bury.

Big Government, a Universal Ailment

It's commonplace for commentators (including newspaper editorialists) to rail about the growth of the federal bureaucracy, i.e., big government.

But some people are beginning to ask "What big government?"

The facts are that state and local government is growing a whole lot faster than the federal government. We mean the schools, local municipalities, special districts, etc.

The federal debt, for instance, has not quite doubled over the past two decades. State and local government

debt has increased more than five times.

Since 1954, the cost of the federal payroll has risen four-fold. State and local payrolls have gone up seven-fold. During the same period, the federal government decreased its share of the total work force while local entities tripled theirs.

All this suggests that while hacking away at the federal bureaucracy still may be the thing to do, it could be a whole lot more virtuous to shop at home.

"My first love in the ministry is serving the people," Pastor Ring says.



"I don't care if it purrs and says 'meow,'
it's not spring until March 21!"

Letters to the Editor Get interested

To the Editor:

Within a very short time the voters of this district will decide on the fate of operating budgets for the grade school and high school. I can't conceive of a business where the stockholders take as little interest in their profits and debts as the people of this district do in their business of educating the students. A person well prepared will enter the community as an asset to himself and the community. A person unable to function will be a liability and burden.

Where are the members of the community when the school boards are discussing and deciding upon the issues which may enhance or weaken the education of the youth? The meetings are open and the boards welcome visitors.

At this time the issue of busing 77 Redland students to Sandy High School next year is before the board. If you are a parent in the district in days or years to come you may ask yourself the following question: Where was I when it was decided to fill up classroom seats with Redland students?

Helen Leith
42662 SE Wildcat Mt. Drive
Sandy



William W. Ring

Pastor arrives

William W. Ring assumed duties as pastor of the Sandy Seventh-day Adventist Community Church, Sunday.

Pastor Ring has replaced Pastor Edwin Brown who left Sandy for evangelistic service with the Oregon Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church. Pastor Brown was assigned to Anchorage, Alaska. An alumnus of Walla Walla College, in College Place, Wash., Pastor Ring took his advance training at the Adventist Seminary in Washington, D. C. He and his wife, Gladys, have served congregations in Oregon, Washington and Florida.

"My first love in the ministry is serving the people," Pastor Ring says.

The Willows of Spring

Keeping Posted

Bull Run hearing

THURSDAY, MARCH 11
A public hearing on a \$105,800 operating levy will be held at 7:30 p.m. this evening at Bull Run School. The levy is needed to balance the district's \$171,874 total budget for the 1976-77 school year.

Bull Run has no tax base and must have voters approval for its budget each year.

Firwood Neighbors, Inc., meets tonight at 7:30 at Firwood School.

State Rep. Ralph Groener and County Commissioner Tom Telford will be the speakers.

council chambers of city hall.

TUESDAY, MARCH 16
The Sandy Chamber of Commerce meets at noon in the foothills Inn.

The Hoodland Chamber of Commerce holds its annual banquet tonight at the Barlow Trail beginning at 6:30 p.m. with dinner at 7:30 p.m.

College levy fails

Voters in the Clackamas Community College district defeated the school's 1976-77 operating levy proposal Tuesday by 231 votes, according to complete unofficial totals.

The final count showed the \$2,874,044 levy failing, 6,059 - 6,290.

The levy would have meant an assessment of about \$1.60 per \$1,000 of true cash value for residents of the district. The school's current levy is \$1.57 per \$1,000.

The college's response to the 2 per cent vote difference will be discussed at its next board of director's meeting.

SATURDAY, MARCH 13
A representative from the Clackamas County Weed Control office will be guest speaker at 7:30 p.m. at the Sandy Grange meeting. Anyone interested in hearing him is invited to attend. A potluck supper will be held at 6:30.

SUNDAY, MARCH 14
The Sandy Stumble Bums will hold a 4-H horse show at the Bar-2 Ranch at 9 a.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 15
The Clackamas County Board of Adjustment will meet in the county courthouse in Oregon City at 7:30 p.m. Several appeals for temporary permits in the Sandy and Hoodland area are on the board's agenda.

The Sandy City Council will hold a continued council meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the

Mt. Hood management study awaits response

A U.S. Forest Service poster announcing completion of a management plan for the Mt. Hood corridor depicts a steam shovel scooping up a chunk of mountain, forest and waterway.

The caption reads, "Mt. Hood land development... To what level?"

John White, Forest Service coordinator of landuse planning, said the design was created to attract attention. Citizen input is requested from anyone who uses the area, which extends in a wide band along highways 26 and 35 from Cherryville to Parkdale.

"We want to be sure the final plan represents the wishes of the majority of people."

The agencies that drafted the environmental statement will conduct three open house sessions at 7:30 p.m., March 25 in Mt. Hood Town Hall, Mt. Hood; 1 p.m., March 27 at Welches Community Center, ZigZag; and 7:30 p.m., April 6 at Mt. Hood National Forest Supervisor's office, 195th and SE Division Streets, Gresham.

Planners will be available to acquaint citizens with the proposed plan and two alternatives. Public testimony may be given at subsequent public hearings conducted by the individual planning agencies.

The Bureau of Land Management, Clackamas County, Columbia Region Association of Governments, Hood River County, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District, Oregon State Department of Transportation, Oregon State Forestry Department and U.S. Forest Service participated directly in the study.

A 29-member citizen advisory committee and other government agencies supervised and contributed to the project.

The two and a half year study examined environmental carrying capacity at various

levels of land use in the area. Elements studied include highway system, available land, available water, water quality, wildlife diversity, scenic quality, public recreation, regional allocation and perspective, air quality, energy consumption, public services and public attitudes and opinions.

According to White, the study determines if an area can support public facilities that accompany various levels of development.

"If you build a highway," he explained, "development will spring up along it. We wanted to decide first how much development should take place where, then provide supporting services."

The multiagency planning team that conducted the study, Clackamas County Planner Ken Dauble emphasized, is not some form of super government. The agencies already responsible for land use planning joined voluntarily, he noted.

"Clackamas and Hood River Counties still maintain jurisdiction over private lands while the Forest Service administers public land within the Mt. Hood corridor."

No single agency is in charge, Dauble indicated. In the long run, the interagency approach will save money, since each agency won't have to approach the public separately, he said.

The proposed plan, which a majority of citizen advisory committee members advocated, supports a balanced use system. The plan calls for maintenance of a substantial agricultural and timber production base. It proposes increases in housing and development, but advocates doing so in concentrated areas.

"The plan calls for expansion of some ski facilities," White said, "in order to disperse people more and provide a total

skiing experience. The potential population area will be reduced by concentration."

The proposed plan allows two optional population levels, based on supporting sewer systems.

With sewers installed at Parkdale, Government Camp and Welches in option 1, population capacity would range between 16-21,000. The second option would add sewers at Brightwood, increasing people.

The plan provides the opportunity to increase population in those areas to those maximum levels, White pointed out. Whether or not the population actually grows is up to individual land-owners.

Alternative plan A calls for no change in the present development plan for the area. One provision of that alternative is a sewer system stretching from Cherryville through Rhododendron, allowing a capacity population of 60,000 in the area.

Alternative plan B calls for lower development levels than the proposed plan. Sewers at Brightwood would no longer be possible and the Welches system would be smaller than in the other plans. Maximum population of the entire corridor under plan B would be 12-16,000.

Other considerations taken into account by the three plans are listed in much greater detail in both official documents.

Copies of the entire statement are available for review at all local, public and university libraries. Check out copies are available at Clackamas and Hood River planning department and Forest Service offices.

A more readable 54 page summary, maps and response form may be obtained by writing or calling Clackamas or Hood River planning departments, or Forest Service offices at Hood River, ZigZag or the Mt. Hood Supervisor's office.

Sandy High to host choir

The A Cappella Choir from the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif., will present a free concert Monday in the Sandy High Commons beginning at 8 p.m.

The 43 members of the college choir, will be the guests

of Sandy symphonic choir members.

During his time here, director William Dehning will work with the Sandy choir.

All members of the Stockton group are music graduates or music majors.

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