

## Guest editorial:

## Can poor cure world woes?

Problems of economics and war suddenly have become critical. Studies of the issues and participation in solutions is every citizen's duty and opportunity.

Our economic system is faltering. Real wages are being cut. We have lost markets to competitors. Inflation continues, even as our government debt of \$975 billion plus a staggering amount of civilian debt threaten collapse into a depression.

The care for people features we have built into our living is being dismantled. The poor, the fatherless, aged and the disabled are to sacrifice to save the economy. Tax reduction is to benefit the wealthy, so that they will make investments.

The threat of war is very real. We have an empire—spheres of influence—areas of the world, where ours is the controlling force. We have spent \$2 trillion on a military establishment to hold that empire and protect those countries that join our system and accept our dollar as the medium of exchange.

The Russians have an empire, too, and spend vast sums of their people's money and labor on it, just as we do. Our empires collide, and war threatens in distant pines.

President Reagan has refused to renew SALT II talks or any negotiations toward reduction of great numbers of H-bombs that threaten our lives. We are to increase our military budget (already huge), invent new means of mega-death and offer our enemies a chip-on-the-shoulder attitude.

Part of our empire is Central America,

where we have intervened often and usually support dictator-type regimes and the economic welfare of our multi-national corporations.

Now we are expending millions in economic and military aid to a very small minority of rich land owners who hold poor in El Salvador. We are helping them in repression of the landless, \$100 per year, undernourished 80 percent of the people.

Only public opinion holds back a Vietnam-type intervention in the civil war there.

Oil from the Middle East looms large in our war plans. We have loaded the Island of Garcia off the Persian Gulf with armaments and anchored ships full of the same ready for use. Our special mobile force of 200,000 is ready to be flown anywhere there is threat to our oil supply. The draft is being prepared to provide replacement bodies.

A revolt against the king in Saudi Arabia is one way we could get into war in that area.

Meanwhile our federal government has cut its former program is conservation and use of alternate forms of energy, which could ease the demand for foreign oil. Rationing by price is favored to get us to cut down on oil demand.

It seems to me that we are in a dangerous time. We need not only to pray for the beloved country, but take a part in making decisions. We can at least write to our officials to express concern.

W. Pete Sulzbach  
Sandy

## Survey describes local trends

The Sandy Post gratefully acknowledges the many readers who took the time to answer our recent extensive readership survey.

The results in some cases are quite startling. Many of the findings should prove helpful in plotting future direction of this newspaper. Credibility comes on the heels of 216 respondents, most of whom signed their surveys. Most (93 percent) were subscribers and long-time residents (69 percent longer than five years). Ages were about equally divided between those younger than 40 years of age (49 percent) and those older than 40 (51 percent). Most, however, were women (78 percent).

One of the disturbing elements of the survey involved local shopping habits and marketing information. It appears that readers consider local stores friendly (70 percent said so) and accommodating (51 percent agreed), but not competitive (69.5 percent thought).

Furthermore, 62.5 percent don't consider local stores extensive enough. Consequently, few local consumers shop for clothes here (66 percent seldom or never), and few local consumers make automotive purchases here (50.5

percent seldom or never shop here).

Local grocery shopping fared better, with 91 percent of readers often or sometimes shopping here. Also, 68.5 percent said they window shop here often or sometimes, while 66.5 percent shop for gifts here often or sometimes. Actually, there were only 9 percent in the survey who said they never window shop here and only 11 percent who said they never shop for gifts locally. (The rest said they shopped locally "very seldom.")

Still there is hope for local stores in the eyes of readers in our poll. While 65.5 percent said local stores weren't very exciting to shop, 78.5 percent said that local stores—described as friendly and accommodating—are convenient as a group.

While the survey produces some moans for local merchants, it also shows some promise and direction. Perhaps merchant groups can use the data as a guide for corrective action with a little promotion along the positive points listed by readers. (VB)

(SEE complete survey results listed on page four of section one.)

## Salem scene:

## Women a factor in Salem

"Dear John,

"In the new code of laws, which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make, I desire you would remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than were your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands. Remember, all men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to instigate a rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation."

Abigail Adams  
March 31, 1776

American history's first "Dear John" letter was delivered to the man destined to become the nation's second president.

The success of this determination is perhaps nowhere more obvious than in the Oregon Legislature now meeting in Salem.

The vast bulk of Oregon's female lawmakers have served in the House of Representatives, and this session all but one of the 20 are seated in the lower chamber.

With a block of 19 of 60 votes in that chamber, one can't help but wonder what effect women are having on deliberations in Salem.

For instance, answers to a question about effect 19 women are having on deliberations so far brought generally negative response. More women thought they were an influence than did the men.

Responses were a toss-up between sexes over whether women were more loyal to party dictates than men. Women, however, think they're more independent than men give them credit for.

Answers from both male and female representatives were evenly divided on the ability of women to united across party lines on specific issues.

While men were evenly split on the question of women's ability to lead either

chamber or caucus, female responses were positive, eight to one.

Both sexes agreed with near unanimity that male lawmakers accept their female counterparts as equals. But an obvious difference of gender opinion exists regarding impact of so many women on conduct of the Assembly's business. Men responded two—yes and seven—no when asked if the process has been changed to accommodate women. Females responded four to five that their presence, indeed, has changed the way business is conducted.

Women claimed by a seven to two margin that they have achieved specific accomplishments so far this session, while only three male members responded affirmatively.

When it came to the question of which sex demonstrates the greatest political expertise, one male said women were better politicians, six believe they are equal and two said men were better. Four women said females were more politically astute than men, four said women are equal and one said women are less capable.

Proof this survey is inconclusive, somewhat biased on both sides and pure unscientific is evident, since it was conducted before the session adjourned. On the other hand, further probing indicates the gals really are doing quite well and a lot of the guys aren't aware of that fact yet.

Examples: Women have achieved a remarkable degree of leadership in the House, more than commensurate with their number. Women served as speaker pro tem and assistant minority leader. Four women chair committees, four more are vice-chairpersons, two chair important subcommittees on Judicial and Ways & Means Committees. Women have majority membership on four committees. Women, too, are leading advocates on several issues this session that heretofore have been strictly in the male domain, such as the budget, transportation and bonded debt.



## Letters to the editor:

## Copter, water woes debated

## Fight heliport

In opposition to the proposed Zigzag Heliport location, concerned citizens of the Mt. Hood corridor area are making a concerted effort to stop this project.

This effort addresses the fact that a significant portion of residents find the proposed site unsafe and disruptive to the use of Welches Grade School and the Hoodland Women's Club building and facilities.

A project with such immediate and potential long-term impact that directly affects a large proportion of our population only should be justified with the total support of the community it affects.

The effort to stop the heliport must come from the community. A handful of people can not do it alone. We can coordinate and disseminate facts, but you—the people—must provide the momentum for success. Those of us opposed to the heliport are seeking to make these facts public as quickly as possible.

You can represent your opinions by writing to the following agencies and public officials: Clackamas County Board of Commissioners, Clackamas County Planning Commission, Clackamas County Park Bureau, Oregon Board of Aeronautics and Wayne Fawbush in the Oregon State House of Representatives. Environmental Committee on Suitability (ECOS)

George Sheets  
Carol Smith  
Mabel Browns  
Marilyn Leslie  
Blythe Creek

## Diogenes, rest

Dear Diogenes,

Sound the trumpets, ring the bells and blow out your lantern, old man. I have found him, at last—an honest man. He runs a small business in Sandy called Ferguson's Power Equipment.

Three years ago I bought a piece of equipment from him. It carried no warranty, but he said that he stood behind what he sold. I had heard those empty words before, as I'm sure you have. But this man meant what he said.

In these past three years, my equipment has suffered four serious breakdowns. Each time, I hauled it back to Ferguson's, pulled out my checkbook and asked for the bad news. Each time I was told, "There's no charge. It wasn't your fault."

But it wasn't his fault, either. He could've justly have charged me for all those repairs, but he chose to absorb the cost. Like the man said, he stands behind

what he sells.

I don't even know this man's name, but if there is a "business man of the year award" in Sandy, I would like to nominate him for it.

What do you say, Diogenes? Will you second that? Diogenes? Where are you, anyway? I can't see you here in the darkness.

Charles R. Anderson  
Boring

## Play good

As a class of 1980 graduate from Sandy Union High School, I would like to make a comment on the play that Sandy Community Players and Sandy Union High School put on, called "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum."

The acting and singing were of the utmost excellence. The play was exciting and very funny.

Something that disturbs me is the turn-out rate. The past four years during high school, the only times the auditorium was completely full was when the school produced a large, well known musical, such as "Music Man," "Bye Bye, Birdie" or "Sound of Music."

What's upsetting is that the Sandy High School and Sandy Community Players put on excellent plays all year that people miss, because they think they aren't worth their time and money. What they don't know is that the acting and singing are of utmost professionalism and quality.

What they're missing is fun and enjoyment. All I have left to say is that congratulations are in order for both Sandy Union High School and Sandy Community Players on a job well done.

Kenneth Jones

## Thank you

The Head Start program of Clackamas County recently held a picnic for all the children and families enrolled.

We would like to publicly thank Williams Thriftway for their donation of hot dogs to the picnic.

With the help of merchants throughout the county, the picnic was a great success.

Again, thank you, Williams Thriftway.  
Davie Bartlett  
Family Service coordinator  
Clackamas County Head Start

## Water bad

A visit to my mountain property at Meacham yesterday prompts me to write this letter. Parked in the mountains was a young family in their motorhome, who were obtaining their water supply from a nearby small stream.

There still exists a common belief that mountain streams are safe to drink. In truth, regardless of how pristine the setting, no surface water is safe for human consumption.

At a recent American Waterworks conference a parasite commonly referred to as giardia and a bacterial organism commonly referred to as yersinia have been found in mountain streams, originating from the waste products of muskrats, beaver, deer, elk and other wildlife.

Depending on an individual's level of natural resistance, the illness symptoms for giardia are those of a true "flu virus" and can range from average to severe. The illness symptoms for yersinia closely resemble appendicitis. Because of this close parallel, it has actually resulted in the unnecessary removal of appendix from children.

After an initial attack of illness from either giardia or yersinia and apparent resumption of good health, they may remain as a host in your body and reactivate numerous times during later periods, when an individual's body is under either physical or emotional stress.

If you have had these symptoms, contact your doctor, who can verify if your body has been acting as a host for either of these diseases and can prescribe an appropriate effective remedy.

If you go camping, take adequate potable water with you for drinking, washing hands and dishes and preparation of food. If you run short of water while in the mountains, then you should boil and adequate supply of water from the mountain streams the night before for the following day.

Do not rely on disinfectants or filtration (such as paper, cloth or charcoal) to remove giardia (which is an extremely small and hardy parasite).

When you visit a community in your travels, inquire about the source and treatment of that community's water supply. Deep well sources and surface streams that have received coagulation, settling, filtration and disinfection are reliable water supplies.

Anything other than this involves an unnecessary degree of risk to avoid. The individuals that fell victim to giardia in Rockaway last year can document the presence of giardia in Oregon. You may do well to consider this, when you select where to stay overnight.

The knowledge of the

presence of the parasite giardia has been known for some years here in the northwest. Only this last week has the state of Oregon added giardia to the list of reportable diseases.

I was informed at the American Waterworks conference that yersinia will probably be added to the list next year. Yersinia, unlike other bacteria, thrive in cold temperatures and therefore pose a special hazard.

I feel that our state, well known for its pride in its environment, has through its officials performed a real disservice by not informing the Oregon public of these well documented hazards to health in our most precious natural resource—water.

This letter is written out of genuine concern to inform, not to alarm. The consequences of failing to exercise prudent caution may be very distressful, but in all probability not fatal.

If one adult's illness or child's appendix removal is avoided, then the time taken to share this information has been spent well.

Please share this information with your neighbor, as the camping and traveling season soon will be upon us again.

Stanley G. Wallulis, P.E.  
President, Wallulis & Associates  
Pendleton

Legislator's report:

People should decide death

by KEN JERNSTEDT  
State Senator, District 28

Following are some quotes from my column June 29, 1979, written during the last legislative session:

"Only last November Oregon voters reinstated the death penalty by a margin of two-to-one. Yet last week the Oregon Senate approved a measure to repeal the action voters took only eight months ago."

"I certainly believe that passage of this measure was an act of arrogance on the part of the Senate and is a disgusting slap in the face to the people of Oregon, no matter how one feels about the basic issue."

"This attempt to defy the will of a majority of the people is an example of the Legislature at its worst."

Although the bill squeaked through the Senate on a 16-14 vote, fortunately it failed in the House, 27-32.

This time the arrogance and the slap in the face have been administered by certain members of the seven-man Senate Justice Committee when they voted against Senate Bill 806.

At this point, let me give a little background on SB 806.

After the 1978 approval by the people of the death penalty, the Oregon Supreme Court found a technical flaw in the law and struck it down. The objection was that a judge, rather than a jury, would determine whether or not a person should be executed.

SB 806 was drafted by the attorney general's office, and that office feels that the language would pass the constitutionality test if challenged.

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