

Attorney general's opinion lauded

The Oregon attorney general last week made an about-face and changed that office's opinion on releasing the names of juvenile offenders to the press.

Local law enforcement agencies had been prohibited from releasing a juvenile's name at the time of his or her arrest, or the grounds for the arrest, since a 1974 opinion from the attorney general's office.

Present Attorney General Dave Frohnmayer should be applauded for last week's action.

Since that earlier opinion, there has been a major Oregon Supreme Court case involving a reporter's, and thus, the public's right to gain access to and report about juvenile court proceedings. Refusing access to the press, according to the state's high court, is unconstitutional because there is a constitutional prohibition against "secret" courts.

By following the high court's lead, Frohnmayer opens the door

to more complete news coverage of juvenile offenses—an area of crime that statistics suggest is growing rapidly—and, therefore, more complete coverage of the realities of day-to-day life.

The attorney general's opinion does not mean the pages of The Post or any newspaper will become inundated with weekly lists of juvenile offenders. Rather, the press now gains the added responsibility of determining when it is in the newspaper's and the public's best interest to print the names of juvenile offenders.

The Sandy Police Department has taken great precautions in the past protecting the names of juvenile offenders. Now that the attorney general has ruled that release of those names is not prohibited, it is the press' responsibility to take similar precautions and not abuse the rights of arrested individuals.

Readers are right; left turns legal

Observant readers have pointed out an error last week in our editorial about left-hand turns from Meinig Avenue onto Pioneer Boulevard.

Indeed, free left-hand turns ARE legal, according to page 34 of the current Oregon Driver's Manual. In fact, failure to cash in on free left turns there could cause a traffic bottleneck.

Left turns from a two-way road to a one-road are legal in Oregon—

provided certain conditions are met. Such turns "may be made against a red light after stopping and yielding, when necessary, to vehicles or pedestrians."

Apparently we all could straighten up our acts, as we glibly suggested here last week.

Thanks to readers and local police for straightening us out on how to turn left. And safe motoring to all. (VB)

Legislature reminiscent of first marathon session

JACK ZIMMERMAN
Associated Oregon Industries

Oregon lawmakers, nervous about the length of the current meeting in Salem, might find solace in the outcome of the Assembly's first record-setting long session back in 1868.

Historians keep reminding us history repeats itself and we're supposed to learn valuable lessons from studying the past.

It just so happens there are striking similarities between the fifth session of the Oregon Legislature 113 years ago and this year's gathering which this week approaches 200 days of deliberating.

For instance, Democrats were firmly in power in both House and Senate. The Democracy in the Senate (as described by writers at that time) consisted of 13 of the upper chamber's 22 seats. Twenty-three Democrats ruled the 43-member House of Representatives with 17 Republicans (the Union) and three seats occupied by individuals profession nonpartisan loyalty.

If that isn't enough ammunition with which to draw parallels between fifth and 61st Legislative Assemblies, consider the fact Republicans then, as now, occupied the offices of governor, secretary of state and treasurer.

So much for setting of the scene in Salem. How about that 1868 session?

It dragged on for a then-terminable 45 days!

That may not seem so long by today's standards. But consider the fact Legislators those days by Constitutional mandate—drew the \$3 per diem for only 40 days, meaning they served without pay for sessions extending beyond an aggregate salary of \$120.

Rebellious minority members of the House pointed out the Constitution also specified no services of any man could be demanded without just compensation—together obvious deterrents to lengthy sessions.

History reveals the Constitutional legislative pay provisions were so effective that most sessions ended in 40 or 41 days and the average length of sessions prior to 1943 was only 45.8 days.

Only since voters in 1942 agreed lawmakers could set their own salaries have sessions expanded to three, four, five and six months or more.

Back to post-Civil War Oregon in 1858—emotionally divided on civil rights (slavery). Oddly enough, pre-slave sympathizers—largely former Southern Democrats—represented a numerical minority but achieved significant seats of power. Particularly in the Legislature, where the house speaker, for instance, was none other than Honest John Whiteaker, former first governor and later two-term Senate president and eventually member of Congress.

Political machinations ran rampant during that fifth session of the Oregon Assembly. Senate Democrats effectively



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shortened the elected terms of Republican members of that chamber and House Democrats unseated a duly-elected Republican and replaced with with a member of their party.

Democrats censured both the former and then-current Republican Governors and were hatching a plan to unseat the GOP officeholder and replace him with one of their own.

Democrat Legislators also voted to withdraw previous consent of Oregon to the 14th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution, preventing abridgement of citizenship rights—even though that amendment had earlier achieved approval by the requisite number of states and been officially declared part of the Constitution.

Failing to achieve what House Republicans decried as a treasonable act, historians relate: "The next movement was to hurl Democratic thunder upon the heads of our Senators in Congress, declaring they were acting from unworthy motives, and peremptorially demanding their resignation."

Meanwhile, as all this partisan manipulating continued, the 1868 session reached the so-called limit of 40 days without bringing the "Appropriation Bill" to a vote.

Republicans railed against circumstances that saw "most important measures... thrust aside for consideration of these revolutionary" issues. A Democrat Senator from Lane County resigned his seat in protest.

Still refusing to allow consideration of the money measure on the 43rd day, two more Democrats went home and an even dozen Republican members resigned in protest. Only one returned to service next session, T. W. Davenport, father of the renowned cartoonist Homer Davenport of Silverton. Nine, all freshmen, were so disenchanted they never again returned to the Legislature.

Nonetheless, the appropriation measure—consisting of some \$225,527 to cover two years of spending—eventually was passed and the first 45-day session adjourned sine die.

Did the voters turn those rascals out? On the contrary. Democrats continued to control the Legislature for most of the ensuing decade.

All of which brings to mind another adage dealing with things historical. It claims, "One thing history teaches is that it doesn't."



KEELINGMAN (HEAD)
Lodman (9/81) N.W. FEATURES

Battle lines drawn against invaders

Somewhere on the Front Lines.

It's no good. A couple of us ace war correspondents are holed up with the Sixth Brigade SWAT Team in an abandoned gazebo.

They've got us surrounded. We're outnumbered a million to one. We know they're out there. We can see their cold, multi-faceted eyes glowing in the dark. Life means nothing to them. They're obviously preparing another insect-wave assault. They're bound to overrun us this time.

The radio crackles. Secret headquarters wants to know if there's anything we need. "Send us more medflies," replies Captain Buck Ace bravely. A real glory-hound, that Captain Ace.

"Oh, why did we ever leave East Oakland?" sobs a downy-cheeked recruit huddled next to me.

Yes, why? It had been a cheery scene in that warm East Oakland



by ART HOPPE

canteen: the gallant helicopter pilots in their puttees and white silk scarfs sipping brandy before their pre-dawn patrol; and the doughboys quaffing beer and singing "Over Here" and "It's a Long Way to Pasadena."

Then Lili Marlene, the pretty waitress, leaping on a table and bringing the crowd to its feet with her rendition of: "Spray the little med-

fly, spraying, spraying; / In our kumquats, you'll not be playing; / When the drops fall, we'll all be praying; / Go, little medfly, go!"

Our hearts were filled with patriotic fervor as we marched off to battle. But our ardor cooled as the grim sights of war met our eyes.

First it was the long lines of refugees crawling along the roads, their Fairlane station wagons piled high with their pitiful possessions. Then the ugliness of the battlefield itself—the stripped trees, the green body bags on the sidewalks containing casualties plucked from life before their time, the shrouded vehicles along the curbs, the empty streets.

Our leader, Governor Brown, gave our morale a temporary boost when he personally appeared in the combat zone and tried to get sprayed on. And that lifted our spirits, even though he failed. But now...

"You want to live forever!" cries Captain Ace. "On your feet, men, and let's take as many of them with us as we can."

Wait! What's that distant roar? It's the choppers coming in, playing Wagner's "Ride of the Valkyries." The blessed malathion is raining down. An innocent ladybug screams and doubles up. War is hell on civilians.

The enemy is dying like flies. The troops draw their M-16 swatters and wade in to mop up the survivors; "Take that for America," they shout, "you dirty bugs!"

Victory! We have won the battle. But not the war. Again, the radio crackles. The main body of the enemy has outflanked us and has laid siege to downtown Gerbleford!

Can we reach them in time to rescue the population? In time to save America? In time for my next edition?

Letters to the editor:

Smooth festival garners reader approval

Police applauded

I would like to commend the Sandy Police Force, both the regulars and the reserves, for the excellent job they did during the Sandy Mountain Festival festivities. When a town of 3,000 people balloons to 50,000 people, and order is kept in a courteous manner, we can feel confident and proud of our police force.

Sincerely,
Bruce Cook
Sandy

A big 'Thanks'

The Sandy Civic Services organization wishes to publicly express its sincere appreciation, individually and collectively, to the Sandy Elementary School District board members and the Sandy Union High School board members, to Superintendent Clark Lund and his staff and to Superintendent Jack Peters and his staff for their sanction and approval of the use of their respective facilities during the 4th of July program and for the carnival during Sandy Mountain Days.

The cooperation, which is annually given by the board members, administrative and custodial staffs of these two schools, is essential to the success of these outstandingly popular Oregon events.

By way of information to the public at large,—the proceeds received by the Sandy Civic Services from the carnival pay for the insurance coverage of the parade and the Mountain Festival, and related activities, plus the costs of the 4th of July program and fireworks display.

The grade school grounds is the only location in Sandy large enough and centrally

located to accommodate a carnival. Without the use of the grade school grounds, there would be no carnival and subsequently, no funds for the 4th of July program and fireworks display.

The 4th of July program and the Sandy Mountain Days activities require the cooperation of many public-spirited individuals and organizations.

A special thanks to Jerry Swails for his help at the high school and to Jeff Yeager who has been responsible the past two years for setting off the fireworks.

Thanks also to the local Boy Scout groups who provide the color guard at the 4th of July program and help with the cleanup of the grounds along with the Sandy Lions Club and the Little League groups.

Also essential to the success of the 4th of July program is the cooperation and effort put forth by the office of the mayor, the city manager and the city council. Police Chief Fred Punzel and his able crew are deeply involved along with the Sandy Police Reserves and the Clackamas County Police Reserves. Fire Chief Bob Rathke, the Sandy firemen, both full-time and volunteers, contribute much time and effort.

The organizations and individuals mentioned along with many more people and groups in active cooperation make the 4th of July program and the Sandy Mountain Days the successes that they are.

Until next year, when we all go through the same processes again, thank you all once more.

Sincerely,
Fred D. Rockwell
President
Sandy Civic Services

Support the school

All across this vast land of ours there seems to be a stirring deep down in the roots of each community brought on by frustration, fear and insecurity. It is being felt by the young and old alike. Each day through the pages of the press and belching forth from the tube, we hear about this theme. It grows and grows.

Recent events put into motion by the new administration have much to do with this concern. Fear has entered into the hearts of our older citizens who daily depend on 'government' for their very existence through government-controlled programs, Social Security and the like.

The cold computer-like action of recent weeks has caused this uncertainty and frustration. Their actions affect all of us in different ways.

Perhaps, we in our own communities need to come closer together and listen more carefully to matters closer to home. Certainly we should all support a better voting record than we have shown recently. If compassion and love for mankind has disappeared from the thinking in Washington, need it do so in this community? I think not.

Those of us who lived through the great depression know what togetherness really can do for each other and a community. If we had not banded together in those days we would never have survived.

Today we are in a depression of a different kind than the previous one, but a depression never the less. There is a lack and want. A lack of compassion for our fellow man. Also a want for a more compassionate

understanding of the ordinary people. Recent decisions seem cold and heartless and truly lacking in understanding of basic human dignity.

One way we can prove that our community can band together and prove that we can work together for the common good is to get out and try to save the Sandy Community School and not just sit back and let it coordinator, Jan Reynolds, and the city manager work alone. Surely there are enough community-spirited groups and individuals who can come up with the necessary answers.

To lose this school would deprive many of a learning experience that they really need. Many could not travel to Gresham or Oregon City to continue their learning. Judy Sheppard showed Sandy the way. Give Jan the right to continue its operation.

Sincerely,
Matt and Louise Shields
Boring

Anderson OK

It seems that satire is still very interesting to write but interpretations vary greatly.

I missed the July 9th issue of The Post (I have one now) so I was quite surprised at the reaction to Shara Deen's efforts as expressed by W.H. Tuttle and Dixie Marshall. After reading her article, I'm not too surprised. Such is the nature of satire.

That the writers had such a negative reaction is no reflection on their intelligence or personal opinions. Again, satire always brings mixed reactions.

Different things cause different reactions. Cost of education, as expressed by

Dixie Marshall, usually upsets me. When my three children were in school, I read an article stating that anyone with three children could not live long enough to pay for their cost of education.

The statement: Three children attending school from grades one through 12 would accumulate to 36 years. Property taxes cannot pay for their education.

According to my property tax statement for that year multiplied by 36, I found the statement was true. So, I'm a little disappointed when people with large families vote against school budgets. But this does not, in any way, mean that I'm against large families.

So, satire bothers some people — not me. I guess they have a right to be against school costs.

Sincerely,
C. Richard Riley
Gresham

Thanks, again

The Paola's Pizza Barn women's softball team members would like to express our thanks to all the merchants of Sandy who contributed to our raffle. We appreciate your support in helping us earn our way to state playoffs Aug. 8-9 in Eastside.

Thanks to, to all those who purchased the tickets. We couldn't have done it without your support.

our next fund-raiser will be a car wash and bake sale July 25. It will be located next to the fire station and the Odd Fellows Hall. Satisfy your sweet tooth while we wash your car. Sincerely,
Paola's ladies softball team