

# The PILOT

BROOKINGS-HARBOR PILOT

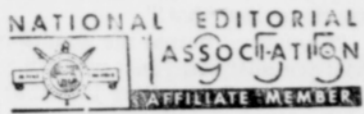
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## COUNTY IS BIG BUSINESS

The county business is a big business, indeed. Besides taxes, this county has revenues from Oregon-California and Bureau of Land Management Timber Sales, and U.S. Forest Service Timber Sales.

Income from these sources provide a whopping hunk of money each year, and this community is interested in what becomes of it. Some of it is, of course, earmarked for certain projects. Some of it has been petitioned for by county schools.

The following amounts were received by Curry County from O & C, and BLM timber sales in the past three years. 1953, \$31,673.36; 1954, \$156,063.66; 1955, \$313,576.66 for a three year total of \$505,313.68—all of which was credited to the general fund.

U.S. Forest service timber sale money coming into the County totalled \$94,424.93 in 1953; \$110,346.10 in 1954; and an estimated \$150,000 to \$160,000 this year. Of this 75 percent goes into a road fund, and 25 percent goes into a school fund. The three year total on that will be around \$360,000.

Now, over the same period the county taxes levied to be raised were \$135,038.02 in 1953; \$125,276.60 in 1954; and \$132,152.16 in 1955. The three year total on those figures in round numbers show close to some 400,000 dollars.

In other words, over a three year period, approximately \$1,261,000.00 have poured into, or shall be received by the Curry County Court. A big business indeed.

Again, we make the claim that 40 percent of the inhabitants of this country live on this side of Pistol River. To that we add a new claim. We don't believe that more than two or three people in this end of the county know even casually what distribution has, or is, being made of that whopping figure.

We do know that the sinking fund for the new courthouse at the first of 1955 totalled approximately \$110,000. We assume most of that came from the last two years receipts. We know that the estimated cost of the new courthouse will be between \$260,000 and \$300,000 and we assume the difference is to be made from revenue from O & C Timber sales.

We are not being critical. We have to assume that our elected county officials are making sure that the money is being well spent. However, we do think that public information on the spending of such a sum of public money has not been adequate.

The Brookings Chamber of Commerce has taken steps to improve that. They have appointed a committee to study the receipts and expenditures of the County Court. We are sure that they will get complete cooperation from that court, and we're further sure that the many questions local residents have will be completely answered in their report.



### VISUAL PERCEPTION Part 20 Gestalt Psychology

It requires a bit of imagination, to see a relationship between the last few articles, and Gestalt Psychology. However, Gestalt is so closely related to other processes, we understand Gestalt.

I have attempted to take the subject down, from the lofty position, which it has enjoyed for the past fifty years, and explain it in terms of the layman's language, instead of the highly technical language, in which it is normally presented. Whether or not I have succeeded, is not for me to say. Needless to say, I have not been able to dispense with all technical ideas and terminology, and still present an authentic account of the subject.

I have lectured on the subject of Gestalt Psychology, in relation to art appreciation, many times, and have found that one of the disadvantages of explaining it, in terms of everyday language, is the fact, that, there are always a few who feel cheated. Some people just naturally like to feel exclusive, and if a thing is explained in simple terms, they regard it as being common place. However as a whole, most people would rather understand what the speaker is saying, than feel exclusive.

Visual and Gestalt functions are so interrelated, it is impossible to separate them, and still present a clear picture of the total visual process. This accounts for these articles appearing under the heading of Gestalt.

Last week we discussed the eyeball, cornea, and iris. This week I shall discuss the inner lens, which is directly behind the pupil. The lens has the unique characteristic of being elastic. It adjusts to depth of focus, by changing its curvature. Its shape can be compared to a slightly flattened sugar coated pill. It is about three eighths of an inch in diameter, and averages about three sixteenths of an inch in thickness. It flattens out to focus on distant objects and contracts for close vision. This adjustment to visual objects, is controlled by small fibres, surrounding the lens, which are called ciliary muscles. The lens can be pictured as a draw curtain contact with the iris. The iris can

be pictured as a draw curtain separating the two lenses; the inner lens, and the outer lens, described last week.

The inner lens is in a constant state of adjustment, to keep the image sharply focused on the retina. The process might be compared to the protographer's adjustment of the camera lens, to get a sharp focus on the ground glass.

While the lens aids in perception of distance, it is not entirely reliable, because of limitations inherent in its structure. Normally both eyes work in unison, in judging distance. For now it should be sufficient to say, that the inner lens of either eye takes over the job, normally performed by stereo vision, in case one of the eyes is incapacitated.

One of the disadvantages of judging distance with one eye, is the fact that, it is erroneously effected by color. Disregarding all the other means of judging distance, objects of different colors, appear to elist at different locations in space, depending on their color. The lens focuses about the same, for a red object only a few feet away, as it does for a violet object, several blocks away.

If one eye is focused on a white object, illuminated by a red spot

light, it would be out of focus if the illumination should suddenly change to violet. Likewise, if you were to put two disks—one of a bright red and the other violet—on a jet-black background, leaving just enough space between them, so they would be seen separately, the red disk would appear much closer than the violet disk.

This kind of optical illusion could be intensified, by cutting two complex shapes out of colored paper. They should be identical in shape, except, the red shape should be large and the violet shape small. The cut-out figures could be glued to a large piece of glass. There should be no reflection on the glass, as reflections tend to establish the location of the frontal plane in space. Also, there should be ample space between the two figures. All things being equal, the red figure should appear to be suspended in front of the frontal plane, and the small violet figure, should appear to be far in the distance, as though you were looking through the solid black glass.

The average person is not aware of the dimensional quality of colors, because of conditioned sensibilities. True perception of distance, established by other perspective factors, prevents color dimension from crossing the threshold of consciousness. However, in painting, the unique quality of color dimension can be exploited to its utmost.

A slightly technical explanation, as to why some colors appear closer than others, is explained here, for those who are interested in the way things work.

For example, the reason why violet colored objects appear farther away, is because violet rays bend at a sharper angle than red

rays. Violet has the shortest wave length (390 ml of a mil., compared to 760 ml. of a mil. for red). The total spectrum lies between these two extremes. Those who have experimented with prisms should recall, that the prism divides the white light into spectrum colors, according to their wave length. Short, wave lengths bend at sharper angles than long wave lengths. Beams of light pass through the pupil, onto the retina. Because of the sharp angle generated by violet rays, they converge before they are focused on the retina. The lens attempts to keep objects in sharp focus, and in so doing, sends false messages to the brain, as to the correct distance of the objects.

Normally the brain is informed, by certain optic nerves as to the curvature of the lens, from this data it calculates distance. When the lens has to flatten out, in order to focus the image on the retina, it sends a "flattened out" report to the brain. From this the brain, which has no contact with the outside world, concludes that the object is far away, because when the lens is flattened out it usually means, it is looking at a distant object. Even though the violet object is only a few feet away, the brain receives a report, that leads it to believe the object is far away. And so our consciousness perceives the object

### CURRY'S OWN SQUAD

Oregon men contemplating going into the armed forces are offered a special inducement by the U.S.M.C., according to Staff Sgt. Marvin Cox. Cox will be in Brookings on December 5th and 6th, to talk to prospects interested in a Curry County Pioneer Squad, now forming, which will be integrated in the 5th, Oregon Beaver Platoon, an all-Oregon unit, to go through basic training, at least, as a group, and may continue on for the full 3 or 4 year period of enlistment.

Sgt. Cox knows what this may mean as he was born and brought up in the northern end of Curry and has seen a great deal of combat service.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Crissey returned, the past week, from an enjoyable trip to Calistoga, Calif.

at a distance, when it is close.

It is hoped that this lengthy dissertation has clarified the reason why some colors seem closer than others. Next week I shall concentrate on binocular vision, and color dimension. I will also explain, in some detail how the dimensional quality of color can be used as a foil, to create dynamic tension and plasticity in a painting.

**JEFFY TOP**

BROOKINGS FEED and SEED

After All, Goliath Outweighed David

THE BIBLE STORY of how little David killed the giant Goliath with a slingshot is familiar to all. Size is not the only thing that counts. The fact that you are big and husky or unusually strong doesn't necessarily mean that you are immune to disease. Be prepared for any emergency. Have in mind a graduate physician and a competent prescriptionist to whom you can turn when necessity demands. We can fill your doctor's prescriptions with fresh, dependable drugs at a moment's notice.

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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

**Easy Coins A Quick Profit**

Hear about Easy Roberts last Friday? I helped him count his money—both before and after—so believe me, the story's true.

Easy was on the way to the bank to deposit his "cookie jar" savings—exactly \$24.95 in nickels, dimes and quarters. He had them in a paper bag and as we crossed Main Street the bottom fell out.

Money went flying. Passers-by pitched in to help recover the coins. Later on when Easy counted up, he had \$25.05. The "search party" had turned up all of

Easy's money plus ten cents someone else had lost!

From where I sit, I wouldn't want to try this "Easy" way to make money. Usually, it takes time for a bank roll to grow... just as it takes time for a friendship to grow. But by respecting a neighbor's rights—including his right to drink coffee, tea, beer or buttermilk, whichever and whenever he chooses—it's wonderful the solid friendship you can build. You can "bank" on that.

Joe Marsh

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