

Profiles in politics

Jim Redden

State Treasurer Jim Redden is a candidate for the Democratic Party's nomination to the office of Attorney General. With a degree from the Boston College School of Law, Redden practiced law in Medford from 1956 until 1972. He was a member of the Legislature in the 1963, 1965 and 1967 sessions and was House Minority Leader in 1967. He was voted the "Most Effective State Representative" by the Capital Press Corps in 1967.



An early advocate of environmental protection, he drafted and passed environmental legislation in 1963 and was a co-author of the beach bill in 1967. He drafted Oregon's first legislation on child abuse and the first property tax relief legislation.

Redden was elected State Treasurer in 1972. As Treasurer he has brought Oregon a AAA board rating, established the nation's first Local Government Investment Pool to increase earnings of local governments' investments, and has established standards and practices that have become national models.

"Probably the most important phase of this office is in the role of 'the people's lawyer.' It is the role of lawyer to all state agencies. If our state agencies avoid the law, or become bogged down in red tape because their rules are badly drafted, all of us suffer. It is my pledge that advice to those state agencies will be clear, concise and designed to increase their efficiency and responsiveness."

Don Willner

Don Willner, candidate for the Democratic nomination for Attorney General, is a practicing attorney in Portland. A graduate of Harvard Law School, Willner served as a State Representative from 1957 through 1959, a State Senator from 1963 through 1973, and was a part-time Circuit Court Judge from 1973 to 1975.



Willner is known for his advocacy of consumer protection, having been an organizer and first president of the Oregon Consumer League and a national president of the Consumer Federation of America. He also has a strong record in environmental protection, civil rights and legislation to protect farm workers.

Willner was an author of the bill establishing the Oregon Scenic Rivers System, providing for a vote of the people in abolishing the death penalty, expanding apprenticeship programs, and creating Portland State University.

"I want to be the people's lawyer and make sure that government treats all Oregonians in a lawful way. This state should not be the adversary of its citizens. Businessmen need an Attorney General who is competent, practical and accessible - competent to run the biggest law office in the state; practical enough to understand the impact of his decisions on people's lives and work; and accessible so that he can listen to the problems that citizens have with their government."

Jim Durham

Jim Durham, currently Deputy to Attorney General Lee Johnson, seeks the Republican nomination for Attorney General. In addition to his law degree and experience as a practicing attorney, he holds degrees in Business Administration.

Durham advocates mandatory prison sentences, with no possibility of parole, for every person convicted of a crime, with the possible exception of first offenders. "The greatest deterrent to crime is the likelihood of being caught...the second most effective deterrent...is the certainty of imprisonment for a definite period of time for those who are caught."

Since he has been in the Attorney General's office since 1971, Durham considers himself to be the most qualified candidate. A strong supporter of Lee Johnson, he sees no need for changes in the Attorney General's Office.

Stan Bunn

Stan Bunn, candidate for the Republican Nomination for Attorney General, is an attorney and served in the Oregon legislature for two terms. He served on the Judiciary Committee for two terms and was vice-chairman of the Human Resource Committee in 1975.

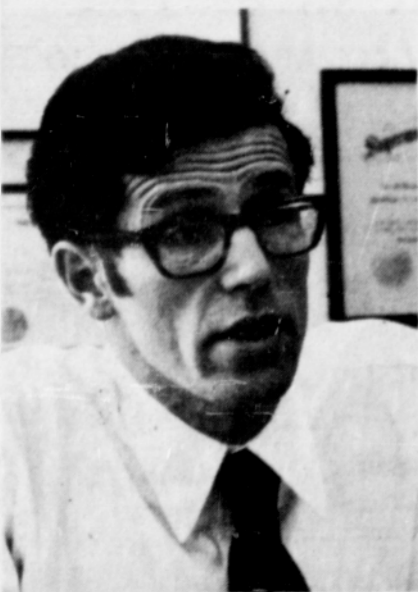
Bunn advocates a more even break for private citizens who find themselves at odds with governmental agencies. He would like to initiate a system where the state would pay court costs and legal fees when the citizen is right and government is wrong.

"In our complex society we must have some regulation, but we shouldn't stack the monetary deck against the individual citizen."

The two-term State Representative, from Newberg pointed out that there "is now an obvious chance of great injustice to the individual when he contests a governmental action; if the citizen loses, he pays and if he wins, he pays." "This means that there are some complaints never filed because the whole process would be too costly for the individual even if he were in the right all along," Bunn said.

"We have here a situation in which a citizen knows that even if he wins the battle he will lose the war because of the burdensome costs. This has a chilling effect on our constant search for justice," noted Bunn.

Jonathan Newman



Jonathan Newman seeks re-election to his position on the Portland School Board. Elected to the board in 1968 and 1972, Newman serves on the legislative and personnel committees.

Newman has been a leader in enacting regulations in student's rights and responsibilities, in promoting Portland's administrative transfer program for minority children, and encouraging parents and students to participate in school planning. He led the movement to establish citizens advisory committees, which are appointed by the school board.

Newman is First Vice President of the Oregon School Boards Association, served a six-year term on the State Intergroup Human Relations Commission, and is a past president of the Greater Metropolitan School Boards Association.

Measure 26 - 1

Measure 26-1 (Auto Registration Fee/Credit for Transit) approves a Tri-Met Ordinance establishing a \$10 Motor Vehicle Registration and renewal of registration fee paid every other year to help Tri-Met improve services; makes effective \$10 credit toward one month's pass for each fee payment; exempts certain commercial and farm vehicles; and provides refunds for certain commercial pickups and vans.

The measure is proposed as an equitable way to generate from the widest group benefiting from improved mass transit. According to the proponents of the measure, most bus riders also own cars and auto owners not riding the bus will benefit from lessened congestion and pollution as well as less competition for parking space.

The measure will provide an average of \$4 million annually. Funds will be used to more fully meet the area's transit needs.

Measure No. - 1

Measure No. 1 (Expands Veteran's Home-Farm Loan Eligibility) amends the constitutional provision relating to eligibility of veterans to receive home and farm loans from the Oregon War Veterans' Fund. It extends eligibility to World War II veteran residents of Oregon who have two year Oregon residence after separation from the service and before December 31, 1965 and to veterans with service after January 31, 1960, with two years residence before May 1, 1977.

All loans are based on a minimum length of honorable service, a residency requirement and a terminal date for application. In some cases surviving spouses are eligible. Funds for the loans have been raised by the sale of bonds. As the bonds have been retired over the years, a substantial surplus has been placed in the fund.

This measure would add approximately 25,000 veterans to the eligibility list. Those eligible can borrow up to \$35,000 for a home or \$125,000 for a farm at a 5.9 percent rate of interest.

Measure No. 3

Ballot Measure No. 3 (Housing Bonds). This measure authorizes bonds up to one-half of one percent of true cash value of taxable property in state to provide funds for advances to lending institutions and qualified housing sponsors to stimulate the state's economy and provide multi-family housing for the benefit of elderly households.

As of August 31, 1975, the cash value of property within the State of Oregon was \$32,174,592,141. \$160 million would be made available for housing if this amendment passes.

The program is designed to be entirely self-supporting. Borrowers from the fund will pay loan fees plus and interest rate slightly higher than the bond rate.

The program would be administered by the State Housing Division in the Department of Commerce. The Housing Division would work through lending institutions and through qualified housing sponsors such as private developers, non-profit housing corporations, or housing authorities. The Division would decide which are the qualified lending institutions and which are qualified housing sponsors. It would also decide the loan fees and the interest which may be charged.

An elderly household is one whose household head is over 62 years old, a state resident, and cannot get decent, safe, and sanitary housing on the open market for 25 percent of the household's gross income. The Housing Division would decide the income limitations of elderly households which qualify for the program.

Business conference success

The community's first Business Conference was held Monday under the sponsorship of the Contractor's Management Association. The conference, designed to allow business people in the Albina area to become acquainted with each other and to recognize common goals and problems, was considered a huge success by Dr. Tom Boothe, director of CMA.

"For the first time, a broad cross-section of business people met together, from the owners of small boutiques and barber shops to industrialists. They found that they have similar problems and formed a basis for cooperation."

Boothe sees the conference not as a permanent organization, but as a method of organizing around particular issues. "The business people are the strength of the community, yet they have never been asked to participate as a group in community decisions." Business people have been involved in community organizations such as Model Cities but as individuals, not speaking for the business community.

Over 65 businesses were represented, with each giving a short statement about the business. MC for the forum was Paul Knauls, owner of Geneva's. Daniel Bogan, Director of Budget and Management for the city, was keynote speaker, addressing the group on "Minority Business Nationally."

Boothe especially thanked Coast Janitorial Service, Booker Distribution Center of Seattle, and Jim Britt who provided space for the conference at the "Downstairs."

Washington schedules candidates

Washington High School plays host May 5th to a forum for candidates for three open positions on the Portland Board of Education.

Co-sponsored by the Portland Council/Parent Teachers Association and the Schools for the City Committee, candidates fair will be held from 7:30-10:00 p.m. in the school cafeteria at 531 S.E. 14th Avenue.

Each of the eighteen candidates will be given five minutes to answer two of three questions posed by the co-sponsors:

- How do you think the school district should cope with the problem of decreasing enrollment?
- How effective have the area citizen advisory committees been and what can be done to improve them?
- What five key issues do you see for the next twenty years in Portland Public Schools?

The non-salaried school board positions will be filled by plurality vote during the May 25th primary election. The terms, each running four years, begin next July 1st.



Legend has it that James Watt got the idea for his steam engine by watching his mother's steam kettle as a young boy!

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