

Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us. No Fear Shall Awe." From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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City Measures Warrant Support

On Salem's ballot at the May 16 primary election will appear four special issues submitted by the City Council to a vote of the citizens. Two of these carry "price tags" as they propose special tax levies for replacement of worn-out fire-fighting equipment.

The immediate problem prompting the latter ballot measures is a 27-year-old pumper truck, long past its prime and now requiring either outright replacement or a major overhaul job. Parts are out-of-date so the city must scrounge around for them or have them specially made. City Manager Kent Mathewson has concluded this particular fire truck is no longer dependable as an emergency vehicle. It was out of service 43 days last year and 76 days the year before.

Voters are being asked by the city to approve a \$24,000 tax levy to make possible the immediate replacement of the old truck. A modern fire truck similar to those purchased in recent years by Salem would cost an estimated \$24,000. That amount represents about six tenths of one mill and would be levied this year only.

A second ballot proposal is for an \$8,000 tax levy annually for 10 years, earmarked as a reserve fund for the acquisition and maintenance of firefighting equipment. This modest annual levy would start a year from now, so it would not overlap with the \$24,000 levy if both are approved. The reasonable theory here is that Salem taxpayers should be putting a little aside every year so they can be assured their firefighting equipment will be replaced when necessary, without each time having to submit a special tax to a vote. In 1961, for example, the city would have accumulated \$24,000 which would buy a new fire truck to replace the 1937-model pumper that is Salem's next-oldest regular fire truck. Three years later, a 1940-model truck would be due for replacement.

The Statesman recommends both these fire facilities tax levies be approved by the city voters as good business.

Two other city ballot issues merit voters' support. One would change the city charter so that the city treasurer would become an appointive officer and, therefore, a full-fledged member of the city manager's administrative team. City law already authorizes the appointment of a finance director, with the result that at present Howard Brandvold serves as both elected city treasurer and appointive finance director. Having an elective treasurer is a hangover from the final compromises which paved the way for conversion to city manager type government in Salem in 1947.

The charter change also would abolish two designated offices that have not been filled, but by long practice have been consolidated with other functions. The positions are street commissioner and sanitary inspector.

Fourth ballot issue proposes annexation of a small acreage in West Salem, shaped like a "7" and completely surrounded by the city. All city voters will ballot on this. In the in-

terest of smoother governmental operation and avoidance of complications over who's responsible for police and fire protection, etc., in this awkward spot, the area should be annexed. Originally farmland, it now has some homes and business property which by fact of location, if not present technicality of law, are part of the city of Salem.

In brief, all four city measures as they will appear on next Friday's ballot merit full voter support.

A Difficult Field For Assessment

Newspaper editors and reporters are in an exposed and vulnerable position these days in handling the always controversial stories on the so-called recession. Although they try to cover each story as objectively as possible, they frequently are subjected to scathing criticism and cries of "bias."

With many such new developments, it is hard indeed to separate fact from fiction, truth from supposition. The continuing story of economic trends is exceptionally difficult to handle.

Since the slump became evident, the press has been accused of over-playing both optimistic and pessimistic points of view.

One faction of critics opposes publication of the less palatable news on the grounds that such stories tend to make consumers hold on to their money and thus deepen the trouble, some seeming to feel that if ignored the recession would cease to exist.

Other critics seem equally certain there's a conspiracy among U.S. newspapers to "play down" the curtailed economy in the interest of the business world.

The daily flow of verbiage in a newsroom, both local and worldwide, is almost staggering. Tens of thousands of words on countless subjects are scanned and appraised, used or rejected. And lately a good many thousands of these daily words have been on the economic scene.

The Associated Press and the Statesman's own news staff faithfully report the national and local picture as it comes to light. Both the doom prophets and optimists are quoted if they rank far enough up the official ladder to rate coverage. But just how right or how wrong each one is is not always easy to judge. The best we can do is use the best available sources to keep our readers informed. Each will reach his own conclusion. (V.E.)

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ The company which came up with a new anti-sunburn drug picked a perfect time of year for it, anyway.

Editorial Comment

Advice From Men Who Know

It is good news that two such eminent military leaders as Omar Bradley and Arthur Radford have thrown their complete support behind the President's program to modernize defense.

General Bradley's support carries with it all the prestige of the man who commanded the largest army group against Hitler and, like Radford, is a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Even more, the support of Admiral Radford, coming from a Navy veteran, helps to overcome the stiffest opposition to the program, which originates with Navy. In fact Admiral Radford goes so far as to say within ten years the President's changes may not be adequate to meet the swiftly changing nature of military roles and missions. Let Congress heed the warnings.

Equally vigorous, equally forceful, equally helpful is the support which came from a powerful Democrat, Clarence Cannon of Missouri, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. It is, he said, a "reasonable, sensible, long-delayed, much-needed revision. . . . It is high time we put an end to this insane bickering between the services and eliminate billions of waste and begin to develop sufficient military strength to keep us out of war." The House gave him a standing ovation. He deserved it. — (New York Herald Tribune).

McElroy 'Confidence-Producing' New Defense Boss, Scribe Says

By JOSEPH ALSOP
WASHINGTON — In a quiet talk the other day, secretary of Defense Neil McElroy made the best argument that has yet been highly controversial bill reorganized for his organizing his vast department.



Joseph Alsop

"I can't see anything ahead," he said, "but an increasing American defense effort, unless there is a pretty sharp and unexpected change in the world picture. The greatest economy, the greatest efficiency, will not keep costs from going up as the effort increases. So it's only common sense to try to get a hundred cents worth of fighting power for every dollar we lay out."

This is a sort of talk very different from the talk of the other great reorganizers of the Eisenhower administration, who recruited from the ranks of big business. Under McElroy's predecessor, Charles E. Wilson, the unit cost of American defense rose enormously while spending dropped. The alleged "economies" caused a catastrophic decline in America's relative strength. And Wilson just went on repeating fatuously, "The Russians aren't ten feet high."

Wilson, one finally had to conclude, would not have understood the harsh facts of the world power balance, even if he had been ordered to study them carefully by Harlow Curtice or Alfred Sloan. In contrast, a really powerful intelligence was part of the remarkable equipment of Wilson's real master in government, former Secretary of the Treasury George M. Humphrey. But Humphrey, just did not believe anything that was not told him by an in-

dustrialist of a rank equal to his own, and this limited his intake of world-strategic facts. McElroy came to government with no greater preparation than Humphrey or Wilson. Yet McElroy has already understood and faced up to the two grim, central facts that the others always refused to face. He has realized that the Soviet system has its own terrible kind of efficiency, as a brutal machine for increasing the brute power of the state. And he has realized it is unsafe not to match increasing Soviet power with increasing American power.

"Today we may be about in balance," he says earnestly. "But I'm terribly concerned about tomorrow. Really, there are only two alternatives—increased effort on our part, or decreased effort on the Soviets' part. Maybe the Soviet leaders will decide they have to give more to their own people, which will mean less for heavy industry and arms. But I doubt it very much. If they don't make this decision, then we are going to have to choose between accepting a position of dangerous inferiority, or pulling in our belts and intensifying our own effort."

"It's a contest between two different kinds of social organization, one organized for the welfare of the individual, and the other wholly organized to strengthen the state. Thank God, our system got there first, and we've won the fight. But at least on their chosen ground, the challenge of the other system is now very serious. It's an interesting contest—or rather it would be, if we weren't involved in it so completely. Interesting is hardly the word when you're playing for keeps."

As these remarks suggest, there is a philosophical side to this large, solid, unpretentious man who left a big job and a comfortable life for a small Wash-

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"A lot of talk about the educational crisis in our schools, but not a word about the immediate danger . . . that soon they'll be out for the summer!"



Mothers were not the only persons who had an exciting weekend. Remember the Statesman story some time ago about Ed Booth and his mysterious object? Seems that Ed has had kicking around his house a weirdly-marked metal object which he dug up some 30 years ago in the Salem Heights area. But he never did find out what it was. It was shaped like a spear head. He finally gave it to Marion County Sheriff Denver Young for the sheriff's weapon collection . . .



Well! it turns out the object is a weapon made years ago and traded to local Indians by the Hudson's Bay Company. According to a letter from Mike Haggerty, of the Oregon Historical Society at Portland, these pointed weapons could be fixed to a stick and used as a sort of spear. They were made by early-day blacksmiths and the one Ed found is similar to the one used to kill Dr. Whitman . . .

And fame came too late for two Salem hot rod fans—Lee Harra and Don Porter. Latest issue of Hot Rod magazine has a six-story on an odd-shaped racer built by Harra and owned by the two boys. It's a good article. Only thing is the scooped-nosed dragster was dismantled and sold over a year ago. The body went to the Mt. Angel hot rod club and the motor was sold to various persons . . .

After that to-do about the new dining-conference room in the Capitol building last week signs have suddenly sprouted around the room indicating it was an economy job. Signs on the drapes note they are the old drapes that hung in the Legislature. A note on the wall points out it is reject plywood. A note on the modernistic furniture tells snooters it was made at state institutions. "I wonder," murmured one snooter, "if they used non-union labor, too." . . .

Mrs. Kenneth Johnson, wife of the assistant director of the State Motor Vehicle Dept., won a prize at the newspaper guild's ball in Portland Saturday night. She wore a skirt made of "Re-elect Gov. Holmes" bumper stickers. Also winning a prize was Travis Cross of the secretary of state's office. Travis sported a large, red space helmet. And, considering the space hassle the MVD is having with the secretary of state's office, it all seemed appropriate. Anyway, Travis was congratulated for using his head . . .

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from Page 1.)

recent line of court decisions in an article in the Harvard Law Review.

All this led up to bills designed to curb the appellate jurisdiction of the court, for which Congress is granted some authority in the Constitution. Senator Jenner had a radical bill but the Senate judiciary committee pre-

ferred a more moderate one offered by Sen. Butler. Its provisions would strip from the court authority to review cases on state rules for admission to the bar. (One case where that was done arose in Oregon.)

It would confirm the authority of congressional committees to ask such questions as they deemed pertinent. It would "amend" a decision of the Supreme Court that the Smith act did not extend to making "theoretical advocacy" of overthrow of government a crime; and it would permit states to have laws against sedition. (The court held that Congress had preempted this field for federal action.)

The layman finds it hard to thread his way among the various rulings of the court on the questions that have been raised. The rulings may not be fully consistent with each other; and even the justices break apart as they pass on the cases before them. But I question the wisdom of trying to reform the court by legislation restricting its appellate powers. Supporters of the Butler bill belong among those who lined up to defend the court back in New Deal days. And when it comes to legislation which infringes civil rights as laid down in the constitution, then the court presumably would strike it down as unconstitutional.

It is better to let things jell. Somehow, Time seems to be positive influence in keeping the Supreme Court on the right track. Where it goes to an extreme, further reflection leads to a retreat, usually by slow stages in subsequent cases.

The Warren court has done a job that needed to be done to prevent excesses in violation of fundamental rights in the name of patriotism. Its decision in the school cases was the only one plausible in this day of enlightenment, hard as it is to apply to the recalcitrant South. The chance of enacting the Butler bill seems slight; but it does have the merit of raising a warning sign which even the high court can understand. The court is composed of able and honorable men, and they not go far astray as they seek to measure laws by the constitution and individual rights by the requirements of national security.

Emma Schiess Dies; Came to Salem in 1925

Mrs. Emma Schiess, 74, resident of the Salem area for more than 30 years, died Monday at a Salem hospital. Her home was at 669 Front St. NE.

Born in Switzerland March 29, 1884, she came to this country in 1920. She was married to Otto Schiess in Portland in 1920 and the family came to Salem in 1925 and had lived here since.

She and her husband operated the old Leonard Hotel here for many years.

Mrs. Schiess was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and past president of that church's Altar Society. She was active in the Salem YWCA and Salem Garden Club.

Surviving are the widower of Salem; daughter, Mrs. Trudy Emerson, Salem; two sons, Edward O. Schiess, Salem, and Dr. W. Ray Schiess, The Dalles; two sisters in Switzerland and five grandchildren.

Recitation of the Rosary will be at 8:15 tonight at Clough-Barrick Chapel. Requiem Mass will follow at 9 a.m. Wednesday at St. Joseph's Catholic Church, with interment at St. Barbara's Cemetery.

Contractors, Labor Union Due to Meet

A meeting between Associated General Contractors and striking Oregon District Council of Laborers union is scheduled today in Portland to discuss union demands for increased wages, travel and pension benefits.

All heavy construction in the state, including several projects in Marion and Polk Counties, has been shut down for a week because of the contract dispute.

Chemeketas Plan Mt. Hood Climb

Two trips are planned this Sunday for Salem Chemeketa Club. One is a climb up Mt. Hood and the other a 9.9 mile hike up Slate Rock near Detroit.

The club will also visit Owyhee Reservoir in Eastern Oregon south of Ontario May 30-June 1. Forty can take the trip and registration must be made by May 21. Sign ups for all trips are made at 248 Commercial St. NE.

Time Flies

FROM STATESMAN FILES

10 Years Ago

May 13, 1948
Donald A. Beals, Salem, is one of 24 Oregon youths selected for four-year college scholarships under the Navy Reserve Officers' training program. Associated Press reported from Washington, D.C. He is one of 1,786 selected in the nation.

One of the oldest living natives in Oregon allows that good hard work could be responsible for his longevity. He is Martin Luther Morris, 94-year-old descendant of Robert Morris, who signed the Declaration of Independence. Dr. Henry E. Morris, Salem, is a son.

25 Years Ago

May 13, 1933
Milton Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Taylor of Salem, has earned a monogram for his gymnastic activities at West Point Military Academy.

The musicale with William Wallace Graham playing Beethoven's violin Concert in D Major proved to be a brilliant event at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Livesley. Assisting were Mrs. O. C. Locke, Mrs. William Walter and Mrs. Conrad Paulus.

40 Years Ago

May 13, 1918
Encouraging word came to Gov. and Mrs. Withycombe concerning their son, Earl, who has been ill for many weeks in Washington, D.C. Earl was sent to Reed Hospital just prior to preparing to embark on the ill-fated Tuscania.

Tom Ordemann was recently presented in concert in New York City by F. X. Arens and met with high success. Ordemann will be remembered in Salem. He sang in open-air band concerts here.

Honor Graduates Chosen



Kathleen Fischer (left) and Darlene Michels, who were chosen as valedictorian and salutatorian respectively of the 1958 graduating class at Sacred Heart Academy.

School Reporter

Top Students Kept Busy at Sacred Heart

By LOUISE SCHROEDER
Kathleen Fischer, recently named valedictorian of the senior class at Sacred Heart Academy, has been an outstanding leader during her career at Sacred Heart. Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Fischer, 1005 Highland Ave. NE, Kathy is student body president and in her junior year was student body secretary. She was president of both her Freshman and Sophomore Classes and was Sweetheart Princess in her sophomore year.

Kathy has a four year grade point average of 3.95. She has been in the honor society for two years and is treasurer of the Sacred Heart chapter. In her junior year, she was Sacred Heart's representative to Girls' State and while at the convention, was elected state attorney general.

Kathy has received two scholarships, to Gonzaga University in Spokane and to Seattle University. In a recent nation-wide test on the United Nations, she placed third in the state and received an honorable mention trophy for her entry in the Catholic Charities essay contest held last month. She is undecided as to what college she will attend, but does plan on majoring in elementary education.

Salutatorian of the Class of 1958 is Darlene Michels, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rich Reiman, 2180 Maple Ave., NE. She has a four year grade point average of 3.74 and is president of the Sacred Heart chapter of the National Honor Society, being received into it in her junior year.

Darlene was vice-president of her Sophomore and Junior classes and secretary of her Freshman Class. She was prom committee chairman in her junior year and has been a member of the Treble Triad and Cecilians for two years. Planning to attend Maryhurst College, she will major in education.

The annual Mother and Daughter Banquet of Salem Academy was held Friday evening at China City. The banquet was sponsored by the girls' league, and was attended by about 130 people.

Mothers in Program at Academy

By EVADEANE RUPP
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Public Relations Expert to Teach Salem Course

A three night course in public, personnel and human relations will be conducted June 2 through 4 at North Salem High School Little Theater by S. H. Womack, University of Texas, Austin, Tex.

The course, open to the public for a small registration fee, is sponsored by Salem Retail Credit Association, Salem Credit Women's Breakfast Club and Credit Bureau of Salem. It will deal with proper use of fundamental principles in all degrees of human relations, according to Charles E. Schmitz, credit bureau manager.

Womack, who has a wider reputation in the public relations field, is professor of public relations and teaches several courses on the subject at University of Texas.

CARS, POST DAMAGED

City police said cars driven by Robert Lee Williams, Salem Rt. 4, Box 600-W, and Elizabeth Blodgett Lord, 545 Mission St. SE, collided about 3:53 p.m. Monday at Superior and Commercial streets SE. No injuries were reported. The Lord car hit a street sign, breaking it off, officers reported.



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