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ISSUES AND VOTES

Anyone who follows elections at all closely cannot but marvel now and then at the keen interest displayed in relatively trivial issues and the calm, amounting almost to apathy, with which questions of great importance are too often received. In Bend this month there has been full cause for such wonderment, first in the enthusiasm shown in the city advisory election and then in the slight recognition which voters gave when the school district's excess levy was at stake.

Let us point out that, in the main, the city of Bend and the Bend school district occupy the same ground, possess the same wealth in land, improvements and chattels, and have the same registered voters. The school district does, of course, have somewhat more of each of these than the city. All of the city of Bend is within the school district; not all of the school district is within the city of Bend. Nevertheless it was for the city balloting that 2,443 voters turned out, while in the district election 394 recorded their opinions at the polls.

As school district elections go, it wasn't so bad. The number was slightly greater than that at the levy election in 1948 and far greater than the few dozen who went to the trouble to "X" their simple ballots and decide the extent of district taxation in many of the years preceding. But in this voting Tuesday, a matter of \$268,467.17 was at issue, well over half of the district's proposed tax levy for operation and maintenance for the 1950-51 fiscal year.

Now the city of Bend has a registered voting strength of 6,543. That of the school district is difficult to give exactly because its boundaries do not coincide with precinct boundaries, and it is by precincts that the registration is taken. We know, however, that there are more voters in the district than in the city and so it may readily be computed that approximately six per cent of the voters passed upon this tax of \$268,467.17. Those who voted for it were only four per cent of the registration.

Understand that we have no quarrel with the results. The money is needed and will be carefully expended. But we shudder at the willingness of the majority to leave such decisions to the minority. That is not government by the people. For the outstanding modern example of minority rule and what it leads to, consider Russia.

But get back to the city election. It was called solely to offer advice to the commission on daylight saving and whether or not to require dogs to be tied up. It was unneeded advice on subjects not of primary consequence, yet 2,443 men and women rushed to give it, then anxiously awaited news of the results.

It is apparent that such things interested them greatly and equally apparent that the matter of a \$268,467.17 tax levy, on which depended the operation of their public school system, interested them but slightly. We don't know just why.

FEW COUNTIES FILL CHESTS

In line with what we were saying Tuesday regarding the multiplicity of campaigns for funds and the failure of most of them to attain the arbitrarily determined quota, reports just received from Oregon Chest headquarters are, we think, of considerable interest. A few of the counties had made a go of it by April 1; more of them hadn't. Hood River, Clackamas, Sherman, Harney, Grant, Curry, Lane, Gilliam, Multnomah, Baker and Wasco completed their work, balancing local and state chest budgets. The rest of the counties, of which of course Deschutes is one, had chests that were from 6.833 per cent to 71.672 per cent empty.

To make it exact, 31,421 per cent of the Deschutes county chest remained to be filled at a time when all this was supposed to be finished. In the meantime other drives had come and gone, some successfully, some unsuccessfully. Enough of them, it seems, to make a chest program, which is supposed to be all-inclusive and isn't, extremely difficult to put over.

Enough of them also, according to our observation, to enable people to find out how very easy it is to say no.

Referring once more to our Tuesday discussion, a correction is in order as to the record of success in funds campaigns in the past five year period. The Red Cross made it in 1948 under the chairmanship of W. J. Baer. Not only was the \$8,000 goal reached but continued solicitation brought the total close to \$9,000.

Cold War

(Continued from Page 1)

American influence in eastern Europe which was culminated in the closing of American "libraries" in Czechoslovakia and the ouster of a U.S. embassy attaché on "spy" charges.

3. The long-dormant soviet campaign to gain control of the Danubian river as the controlled Moscow press attacked Turkey and demanded revision of the Montreux convention designed to keep Russian warships out of the Mediterranean.

4. Increased pressure on Finland to force her more firmly into the Russian orbit through thinly veiled charges that Finnish-Americans are spying on the soviet union.

In its Trieste note, Russia said the situation has become "intolerable in the Adriatic seaport. It charged that the western powers had violated their obligations under the Italian peace treaty, which set up Trieste as a free territory and provided for appointment of a governor by the U.S. security council.

Russia ignored the fact that the security council never was able to agree on a governor, and that the United States, Britain and France proposed in March, 1948, that the territory be returned to Italy.

That proposal still is the official basis of American policy, although U.S. officials now acknowledge that any settlement "must take Yugoslavia's interests into account." This is widely interpreted as the result of better relations with Yugoslavia following Marshal Tito's break with the Kremlin.

Some 6,000 American high schools are now offering some form of automobile-driving education to about half a million students.

Mary Ferguson Dies at Spokane

Mrs. Mary Ferguson, 86, former long time Bend resident, died early this morning in Spokane, where she has been making her home with a son, Hollie, since last fall.

Mrs. Ferguson had lived in Bend approximately 30 years. She was a member of the Bend Methodist church and for 50 years a member of the Rebekah lodge.

Survivors include a son, Ralph, of Bend.

Complete obituary and funeral arrangements will be announced later by Niswonger-Winslow funeral home.

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Time for Another Tuneup



WASHINGTON COLUMN

By Peter Edson
 (NEA Washington Correspondent)
 Washington (NEA)—A lot of the questions being asked by census takers these next few weeks may seem pretty silly. For instance:

"If your house is rented furnished, what would it rent for unfurnished?"

"Did this person do any work at all last week, not counting work around the house?"

"Last year, how much money did his relatives in this household receive from interest, dividends, veterans' allowances, pensions, rents, or other income, aside from earnings?"

For farmers, there are a couple of hundred special questions to fill out, on both sides of a big sheet of paper. They want to know everything about the farmer's life, including how many cantaloupes, cowpeas, tame dewberries and turkeys over four months old he raised.

All these seemingly silly questions are supposed to have a purpose. It may take a year and a half to compile the answers.

By that time a lot of data may be out of date. The country is growing faster than many experts thought possible. Marriage and birth rates are up. Total population will be over 151,000,000. Farm population is declining. There may be 47,000,000 families.

All these things create new problems for congress. Answers to the census taker's questions may be the basis for new farm, housing, social security, education and other legislation for the next 10 years.

Take housing. All housing legislation proposed or passed since the end of the war has been based on conflicting estimates of supply and demand. Private industry home builders insist they can take care of the situation. Advocates of more public housing insist that the private building industry hasn't taken adequate care of the situation in the past and won't be able to do it in the future.

The 1950 census taker's first housing question is to determine how many families are living in

single houses, row houses, apartments, flats, trailers, tents, rented rooms, hotels or other institutions.

The census taker will also have to determine how old housing units are, and how many are dilapidated. He will have to count houses with hot and cold running water, cold water only, outside faucets, hand pumps, wells, baths, showers, outside privies, radios, TV's, iceboxes, kitchen sinks—or no such fixtures at all. Also, how many families have to share such facilities.

All this detailed information, involving some 30 questions, each with from two to five possible answers, ought to give a pretty accurate picture of America's housing situation. It will also be good market data for manufacturers and merchants of house furnishings.

All this housing data can then be coupled with answers to the most controversial question of all, which every fifth person must answer. It is, "Last year, how much money did you earn working as an employee for wages or salary?" This will provide a good basis for determining just what income groups need what housing, and what price they can afford to pay for it. This is the key to all housing legislation.

The questions on employment—about 20 of them—are going to give an accurate answer to unemployment conditions. There has been much criticism of present bureau of census sample surveys on unemployment. The present figure of over 4,600,000 is considered low, in that it does not include workers laid off, temporarily unemployed, or working only part-time. If all these categories were included, unemployment might be over 6,000,000.

ONE SOLUTION
 Litchfield, Minn., April 21 (UP)—The county treasurer today wondered just how to take this note which accompanied Theodore B. Larsons real estate tax return:

"The cannibals had a way of solving high taxes. When they got higher than the cost of food, they ate the tax collector."

CHANGE REQUESTED

United Air Lines today asked the civil aeronautics board to include Redmond as a co-intermediate point with Bend on its route certificate, according to J. C. Sedell, station manager here.

"Such inclusion," Sedell said, "will make official a service which has existed in actuality since United began operations to Bend-Redmond October 1, 1948."

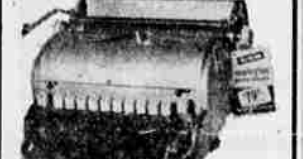
The designation "Bend-Redmond" regularly has been used in United's passenger schedules, although the airline only has been able to list Bend in its official air freight traffic.

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Flood Threat

(Continued from Page 1)

area showed water content 41.7 per cent above normal. He said the stream flow in the Spokane river would approach the record 1948 high. The Chelan reservoir was 45 per cent above normal and would be filled by June 1. He termed 1950 "another lush year" for the northwest power pool.

W. T. Frost, Medford weather forecaster, said western Oregon's record snowfall had increased 19 per cent since March 1. He said the water content was 63 per cent greater than in 1948 and 90 per cent above average. A new snow record was set at Cascade summit near the Willamette pass highway with 106.4 inches of snow containing 51.3 inches of water, Frost said.

Frost said the flood potential was great in the Willamette, Santiam and McKenzie rivers.

There will be less than average precipitation in the Columbia basin in the next 30 days with weather slightly warmer than the season average, Col. E. S. Ellison of the weather bureau predicted.

School Music Event Stated

A grade and junior high school music festival has been slated for Friday, April 28, it was announced today by Don Pence, director of music for Bend schools.

The program will be held at the high school gymnasium and will begin at 8 p. m.

Participating will be the beginners and advanced bands and orchestras of Kenwood and Allen schools, chorus groups from the Allen, Kenwood, and Reid schools, tonette bands from Reid and Yew Lane schools and the junior high school band.

A similar program is planned for the junior and senior high school on May 12.

Tickets for both programs are available from students.

OUT ON THE FARM

By H. S. Grant

April 21 — Everyone knows about the "serenade of the bells," but I think the "serenade of the frogs" is just as romantic. The frogs were singing part-music last night, with lusty voices. We first noticed their nocturnal harmonizing about a week ago. How they can congregate in such large numbers, so soon after the ditch is turned on for the season, is a mystery to me.

Do the frogs burrow down in the stream beds for the winter, and sleep soundly while ice and snow cover their resting place? Do they float down from the source of the water, when the irrigation season starts? Or did they rain down from the heavens on a cloud of mist, or sail on a saucer from the planet Mars? It doesn't seem likely that they would develop from tiny polywogs to grown-up frogs with baritone voices in two short weeks.

I must remember to spend a sunny summer day dreaming by the ditch bank. Maybe I can figure it out.

Of a total of 162 surplus bison of Yellowstone park slaughtered the past winter, the carcasses of 161 were sent to Indian schools, and Indian reservations.

PLAN TO ATTEND
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 YOU MEAN WHAT HAVE WE GOT TO WIN?
 SO IF WE BEAT THEM, EVERYBODY EXPECTS US TO! NO CREDIT! BUT THEY'LL BEAT US OR IT'S EVEN CLOSER!
 YEAH! THEN WE'RE BUMS!