

Capital Journal

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ESTABLISHED 1888

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Ballot Recommendations

Of the four state and city measures on Friday's special election ballot the Capital Journal makes the studied recommendation that two be approved and two rejected, that 50-50 division of affirmative and negative votes be equally divided between state and city proposals.

Because it offers the last opportunity of securing a 43-acre addition to the Bush Pasture site for a municipal park and recreational center in the heart of the city at a reasonable price, the proposal that the city of Salem purchase that tract assumes the most pressing importance for voters of the capital city. It provides that the city of Salem shall bond itself for \$125,000 to purchase the land adjoining an undeveloped 57 acres and that the remainder of the purchase price (\$25,000) shall be contributed by friends of Willamette University in exchange for a 10-acre tract for an athletic field for the university. The consolidated tracts will provide a 100-acre site for park, recreation and athletic game facilities such as few cities can boast of.

Those favoring this far-sighted project will mark their city ballots 500 X Yes.

The second measure deserving and demanding approval appears on the state ballot. It provides funds for a long delayed and much needed \$10 million building program for state institutions out of accrued income tax surpluses. Four million dollars of that amount will go to the University of Oregon, Oregon State College, the U. of O. Medical School in Portland and the three teacher colleges at Monmouth, Ashland and La Grande for remodeling of old and the construction of new buildings.

It is in the remaining \$6 million that Salemites have the greatest personal interest. That sum will be earmarked for long delayed improvements and additions to the state hospital, the penitentiary, tuberculosis hospital, Fairview Home, Hillcrest School for Girls, the Woodburn training school for boys and similar institutions at The Dalles and Pendleton. This money is to be expended under the direction of the state board of control and, besides filling needs of long standing at the institutions, will provide jobs for unemployed in the postwar period.

To vote for this proposal mark your ballot 300 X Yes.

The state and local measures recommended for defeat are one levying a tax on cigarettes and another granting a special franchise to the Salem Electric co-operative.

The objectionable feature about the cigarette tax proposal, which would impose a levy of two cents per package of smokes, is that it singles out one commodity for taxation and therefore constitutes class legislation. It is also objectionable on the grounds that the \$2 million in annual revenue would be distributed among the common school districts on the basis of teacher population rather than pupil enrollment. We suggest a ballot marking of 303 X No on this measure.

Most vicious of the measures is one on the city ballot which would grant an electric power franchise covering 30 blocks in the heart of downtown Salem to the Salem Electric co-operative also a camouflaged private concern. The disadvantages which would accrue to the people of Salem out of such a franchise outweigh any advantages which it might hold for a few individuals. It has been misrepresented in the claim that it would bring Bonneville power to Salem, which already enjoys that service through the existing private utility. It would also impose unfair competition upon the private utility serving the entire city by skimming the cream of the power business and preventing the private company from further reducing rates, already low, of home users of electricity. It would set up a duplicate system of power distribution to be purchased by the city in the event it should venture into the field of municipal ownership and operation. Further, neither the city nor the state would exercise any supervision or control over co-op rates or practices. Voters having the best interests of the city at heart will mark their city ballot 503 X No.

Slaughter Plants Closing

With an abundance of livestock ready for market six Oregon slaughter houses were closed today and hundreds more have been closed throughout the country while meatless days are in effect in most large eastern cities. The Oregon closures included three in Portland together with plants in Salem, Hillsboro and St. Paul. Meat buyers for hospitals and restaurants, retail and wholesale dealers will be affected along with consumers.

The Oregon Meat council blames the OPA, non profit custom killing price regulation as the cause, and states that while some changes have been made in regulations they are still "impossible to follow." Oregon cattle producers are affected by the failure of wholesalers to bid prices up and drops from 50 cents to \$1.50 a hundred pounds are reported at the Portland stockyards. All of which will boom the black market.

The closed Salem plant, the Midget Market, states that under the OPA regulations, only 75 percent of beef and 50 percent of pork slaughtered during the corresponding period last year can be slaughtered this year, although supplies are abundant, which has created an unprecedented demand that cannot be supplied under the present limited quota. Slaughtering restrictions therefore force the closure after 30 years service because "our quota has already been slaughtered."

Of the OPA handling of the meat situation, Senator Gordon says, "I couldn't conceive of an utter and more miserable failure. The OPA couldn't have done a worse job if it had deliberately attempted sabotage. That there should be any scarcity, even with a heavy set-aside is without reason." But every bureaucracy must rule the roost and enforce its edicts regardless of the result.

Cities, Counties To Air Views

City and county officials will be invited to air their views on Oregon's tax problems at the next meeting of the newly created tax study committee, it was decided at the initial meeting of the group here Wednesday.

No action was taken by the committee relative to the employment of out-of-state experts as recommended by Governor Snell but Earl Fisher, member of the state tax commission, was instructed to contact a number

of nationally recognized tax experts to ascertain if their services are available and at what cost.

A sub-committee was appointed to investigate the qualifications of applicants for the post of executive secretary to the committee and report back to the next meeting. This committee consists of Chas. V. Gallaway, state tax commissioner, Eugene E. Marsh and Harvey N. Black.

It was decided by the committee to meet in Salem on the third Monday of each month for the time being. Some sentiment was expressed in favor of district meetings over the state but no action was taken on the suggestion.



German Tourists—1939 and 1945

Sips for Supper

By Don Upjohn

Summer got under way today, this being the longest day in the year, and just in case anybody wants to be getting ready for it, winter doesn't start until December 22, this last being just a little public service for our customers thrown in extra, as they say on the radio. Spring didn't go out like a lion or lamb but more like a fiery furnace, summer in turn coming in mild and springlike.

Dropped by the city hall expensy bed and stopped to converse a minute with Ellis Hughes, the well known fire laddie. "That are sure good looking tomatoes," remarked Ellis. "Tomatoes, nothing," we said. "Those are marigolds," thinking he was talking about the plants they've put in the former pansy bed. "I didn't mean those," said Ellis, "I was talking about the two who just got on the bus."

Higher Education

Portland, Ore. (UPI)—The old confidence game of coin-matching cost a mathematician some embarrassment and \$120 early today. A man who identified himself as a professor of mathematics at Oregon State college reported to police that he met a stranger in the central bus depot and went to breakfast with him. On the way, the stranger suggested they match for the breakfast. When a third man entered the game, the matching continued on a cash basis. The two experts had the victim's \$120 before he caught on.

What's a college professor doing running around with \$120 in his pocket, anyway?

We have sad news from the Magee family of the Waldo Hills. It seems all the five little polecats they saved from what looked like an early fate when they were rescued after their mother was snared in a trap, have up and died. Whether it was the food, grieving for their mother, or what, life proved too much for them. And so the hills can rest secure this summer in the aroma of new mown hay and other familiar scents of vegetation without the odoriferous interludes of wild life.

\$100 a Month for Life



The Golden Years Plan gives you:
1. Definite monthly income for life when you wish to retire.
2. Protection for family now.
3. Pays double for accidental death before retirement age.
4. Builds up large cash reserve.
5. Pays steady income if you are permanently disabled.

Oregon Mutual Life
INSURANCE COMPANY
CHAS. S. McELHINNY
19 Breyman Bldg.
LYDIA F. WOOTTEN
570 North Liberty Street

We were always slightly doubtful about the exact propriety of polecats as pets, anyway. Some seem to like 'em and say they can bring them up as ladylike as you please with proper treatment. But the ordinary housecat with a purr is plenty of house pet without the extra trimmings.

Casting a couple of ballots in town tomorrow shouldn't take over four minutes, this giving a minute to an X, a little enough time to take out to decide the important issues involved.

Forum

Contributions to this column must be confined to 300 words and signed by writer.

To the Editor—In my opinion the best argument against granting a franchise to Salem Electric company is contained in the schedule of comparative rates of other cities which is being advertised by Salem Electric.

Note that the Seattle municipal system charges considerably more for power than the Portland General Electric company charges in Salem, in spite of the fact that Seattle City Light has dual advantages of not paying taxes and of serving a concentrated city market.

The reason for their higher rates is this: Seattle City Light has to compete with Puget Sound Power and Light company and this duplication of service keeps rates higher.

It has that same duplication of service that we must avoid in Salem, so the franchise for Salem Electric should be defeated in next Friday's election.

I used to live in Seattle, and

now I am more than satisfied with my electric service here. The lower rates make my power bills lower. I am amazed that the privately-owned power company can charge lower rates than the Seattle municipal plant and still contribute substantial taxes and also serve isolated rural areas.

Wallace Johnson,
E. Center street.

To the Editor: We are to vote Friday of this week on several issues and I have been reading in local daily newspapers the ads and editorials, especially those relating to the power franchise.

One that concerns me most is the question of having two electric power companies in Salem. I formerly lived in Portland and for some years back, the people there voted to allow a franchise to a second telephone company and it turned out to be a sorry mess indeed, with result that in order to give decent service the two companies were forced to consolidate. It appears to me that this proposition is just a scheme by the Reed company to have an opportunity to gouge the PGE company at the expense of the people who are using electricity to cook their meals, wash their clothes and light their homes.

I have a family and a little home, and my power bill has decreased to quite an extent. In fact, I am able to cook cheaper with electricity than with any other fuel. I realize that a second company is not interested in me or my problems, but only seeks to obtain the cream of the business, then sell out to the larger company and let the people stand the loss.

HENRY HARRISON,
North Salem, Ward 5.

Osmond, Neb. — Nebraskans who believe the seasons are reversing themselves may use the Christmas cactus owned by Mrs. Martha Henzler of Osmond as evidence. The plant, which normally blooms during the winter holiday season, burst into full bloom in mid-June.

The War Today

An Interpretative analysis of war developments by a famous Associated Press war correspondent.

By J. M. Roberts, Jr.

(Foreign Affairs Analyst)
The Tokyo radio, broadcast as though it had something new, deviated today from its recent fretting over imminent invasion to record that the United States has started long and complicated preparations against Japan.

That's not exactly what you would call a military secret. Aside from unconditional surrender, the Japanese have no other future, and there are few signs that is being considered. Tokyo broadcasts on the subject are almost identical with those which emanated from Berlin a few months ago. One official broadcast that, for the Japanese people, "There is no choice but to take death."

The big question is when we will be able to deliver that death. It can be answered specifically only by events.

Clean-up operations are proceeding throughout the Pacific while the invasion preparations go forward.

Important troop contingents, released by the victory in Europe, will begin to arrive soon.

Another Area Possible

From past performances we can expect the staging period to last for several months. Then, because of the distance from Luzon, the only staging area we now have which is capable of supporting millions of men, it may be necessary to choose another staging area, so

to speak in Japan proper. This would involve capture of some outer area which could be filled with the necessary strength for the climactic attack against the heart of Honshu. This would be comparable with the establishment of the Normandy beachhead and the subsequent breakout toward Germany, except that in the Japanese islands it might take on more of the aspects of two separate invasions and therefore require more time. It could work like the Salerno-Anzio hop in Italy, or could involve taking one of the smaller islands before Honshu is attempted.

This is indicated by the fact that Okinawa is hardly large enough to base forces of the size which will be involved. The initial invasion of Japan, for various reasons, is likely to require considerably more men than did Normandy. Okinawa seems destined to become one big aircraft carrier, too crowded for a large army, although it may prove a big help as a jump-off point for certain short-range forces.

Novelties In the News

(By the Associated Press)

Homesick

Salt Lake City—"I haven't been out 15 minutes when I realized I'd made a mistake," Adelbert Budshun, 22, told Warden John E. Harris of the Utah prison, when he phoned from Ogden, Utah, after his escape Monday. Budshun volunteered to re-

Indignant

San Francisco — "Two dollars" a pretty blonde said when some coolie hats were placed on the block by the postoffice auctioneer who was disposing of a large accumulation of undeliverable goods.

"Three dollars," said a man behind her. The blonde bid again.

"Five dollars," said the man, and the auctioneer said "Sold."

"You . . ." rasped the blonde as she arose, brought her tightly rolled auction catalogue down on the man's head and stalked out.

Exception

Dallas, Tex.—"What are you commonly called," an auto-graph hunter asked Lt. Audie Murphy, Farmersville, Tex.

"A fugitive from the law of averages," the lieutenant wrote.

Murphy, wounded three times in France, holds the Congressional Medal of Honor and almost every other award obtainable by foot soldiers.

Better Hearing With Postwar Maico Aid

The Shaw Surgical Co. of Portland invites all hard of hearing persons to try the new Maico postwar hearing aid this week in Salem. Have your hearing tested and see the instrument that is giving clearer, easier hearing to thousands. Saturday, June 23, 3 to 9 p.m. Marion Hotel. Ask for Mr. Peterson.—Adv.

Cleverly Worded Vote Getting Salem Electric Franchise Ballot Title

Note these "niggers in the woodpile"

1. It states — power to be distributed "ON A NON-PROFIT BASIS"

Salem Electric's own advertisements say: "OUR PROFITS", etc. . . .

They admit there ARE profits!

2. It states — "within an area of 30 city blocks." Why are the blocks not specified?

Why the Secrecy?

3. It states — Salem Electric now has poles in 22 city blocks.

We can only find them in 15 blocks.

Why does it say 22?

4. It states — franchise to be "subject to federal, state and city laws and regulations pertaining thereto."

The catch is, what, if any, such laws ARE there "pertaining thereto"?

Certainly not any "pertaining" to the most important matter of RATES, under which they can be regulated by the state or city.

Ask the Public Utility Commissioner of Oregon or any other authority if you doubt the above statement.

Why that catch phrase in the Ballot Title?

Apparently . . . to get votes.

DON'T BE CAUGHT NAPPING!

P.G.E. Co. Also Distributes Bonneville Power in Salem

VOTE 503 NO [X]

against the proposed franchise
FRIDAY, JUNE 22nd

SALEM CITIZENS COMMITTEE

CARL E. NELSON
Chairman
171 North Front St.

J. N. (SAM) CHAMBERS
Vice Chairman
Salem, Oregon

O. K. DeWITT
Secretary
1287 Chemeketa St.

VOTE 300 X YES

Paid ad., United Citizens Committee, Inc., Ralph D. Moore, Manager, 233 S. W. North Avenue, Portland

VOTE FOR STATE BUILDING FUND FRIDAY JUNE 22