

THE EUGENE GUARD

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TUESDAY, APRIL 14.

The Bond Election.

THE special city bond election is tomorrow. The various proposals to be placed before the voters have been rather thoroughly explained and discussed publicly within the past two weeks. It is likely that most people have made up their minds how they will vote. Nevertheless, it is well once more to set out some facts regarding the measures and the views which have been reached through a following of their discussion in all its phases.

Three measures to be on the ballot are for the promotion and safeguarding of the public health and safety. It seems to this newspaper vitally important, therefore, that these three shall be carried. They are these:

- Lower McKenzie water project - \$375,000
Water reservoir and mains - 135,000
Sewer reconstruction - 50,000

Two other proposals on the ballot are designed to finance projects that are urgently demanded by public necessity and convenience. These are:

- Paving street intersections - \$50,000
To pay for fire apparatus - 25,000

Two proposals represent projects which are desirable but as to the present necessity or advisability of which there may well be differences of opinion. Upon them we offer no advice. They are:

- Enlarging fire department station - \$10,000
Paving street to Odd Fellows cemetery - 9,000

There is a proposal for a bond issue of \$25,000 for a municipal garbage incinerator. There has been no adequate investigation by Eugene city officials of the subject of garbage disposal. There should be such an investigation before there is a bond issue.

The City Planning Commission.

IF BACKED by the full power of public sentiment and approved, the city planning commission, for whose creation the city council has just made provision, can accomplish a valuable work. But public backing is essential to success for such an organization. It ought to be forthcoming here.

In other cities where city planning commissions have been organized and have operated, the truth of the foregoing observation has often been demonstrated. A city planning commission has no legal authority. It can only act in an advisory capacity. In cases where its purposes are not fully understood or there is lack of sympathy with them, the commission's activities have aroused resentment on the part of individuals whose property or other interests were affected by its rulings. It has sometimes happened, too, that after a planning commission has spent months in earnest working out of ambitious plans for city betterments, the plans have merely been filed or laid aside, because authority was lacking to give them effect.

The remedy for such conditions as these is an aroused public sentiment. If the people of Eugene or any city are generally determined to make their city beautiful and orderly through rational and consistent planning and zoning, then their planning commission will get the backing that it requires in order to make its work effective. That is the sort of backing that our proposed new city planning commission here will need.

A subscriber asks The Guard to explain in connection with tomorrow's bond election, the status of the \$500,000 municipal auditorium bond issue, voted by the people of Eugene last summer. The auditorium bond issue was attacked in court proceedings by Mr. W. T. Campbell, a taxpayer, on the ground of invalidity. The case was appealed to the supreme court and is pending there. If the bonds are upheld the amount which they represent will be added to the city's bonded indebtedness.

Ringling brothers' circus has announced the policy of elimination from its performances hereafter of all acts in which fierce jungle animals have been forced to play unwilling parts. The announcement says that the policy was adopted in response to the demand of a public which objected that it was cruel to force the animals to do their stunts. It is an innovation that does credit alike to public taste and managerial sagacity and humanity.

The Cottage Grove proposal for an Easter innovation whereby all the women of the Christian church would go to church hatless, seems to have turned out more or less a dud after all. Some of the ladies wore their hats to church, and explained that they did not know a hatless day had been contemplated. Anyway, the town and the church received some valuable advertising abroad through the proposal.

It took the Portland baseball team just a week after the season opened to gravitate to its normal position at the bottom of the league standings. Now the inspired Portland baseball writers will put in the rest of the season explaining how it is due to circumstances unfortunate and wholly unavoidable that the Portland team doesn't do better.

COMMENT OF THE PRESS

The Financing of the Strahorn Road. (Klamath Falls Herald) We cannot agree with Mr. Robert E. Strahorn that it is exclusively his business where the finances for the

yet he clearly emphasizes it when he asks special concessions from the city. There is a well-defined suspicion that control of the road has passed from his hands to those of the Southern Pacific. If this is correct the people should know it. First, because there would be some degree of possibility of the city securing a return of its investment in the railroad. Second, because there would be all the more reason for the closest scrutiny of any request for rights of way and other concessions.

The people of Klamath Falls are not antagonistic to the Southern Pacific. On the contrary, they have the warmest feeling of friendship for it. But this feeling of friendship is not great enough for them to cast aside caution and carefully guard the interest of the community insofar as future development is concerned. Everyone knows that if the Southern Pacific could bottle this city up and prevent a competitor entering, it would do so. It is not natural. Any railroad would do the same thing.

Nails, Grants Pass

Although Grants Pass, that torrid city near the Rogue river valley, might claim justification in trying to route tourist traffic over the road from there to and from Crescent City, Cal., a distance of 100 miles, holding that they need the business, it doesn't look like community spirit, according to several exchanges, among them one from Tillamook, where complaint is made in bitter and no uncertain terms. Tillamook charges Grants Pass directly with hampering construction of the Roosevelt highway, and using her influence to build a highway leading through an unsettled area, when the money could much better be expended for "toasting" the northern portion of the Roosevelt highway, and thus giving the coast section its rights. Grants Pass has been caught with the goods several times and the Tillamook complaint is an exposition of about what is happening in southern Oregon.

It Will Come.

That Coburg chap who went ahead and built a cannery on his farm, out from the racket of the street cars or freight cars, out from the throng of job hunters and strike makers, away from city advantages and disadvantages, has the nerve. He also has a lot of doggone good sense. He found out that this section of the valley produces the finest sweet corn in the world and he knows from experience that that fact doesn't cut any ice with the average farmer. He knows that to induce them to raise sweet corn in quantity he had to build a cannery right under their nose. The only regrettable mistake he made, in our opinion, is that he didn't build his cannery nearer Harriburg. But some day, profiting by his example, another enterprising man will build a cannery for us.

Short Sighted

Interests affected by measures adopted by the last legislature have undertaken to invoke the referendum against them. Several acts have been prepared, ballot titles secured, and the attorney general and shortly the business of securing signatures to the referendum petitions will be under way. Probably they can be secured without much difficulty—almost anybody will sign a petition for anything—and then they shall sit down and wait for the election when the vote will be taken. Right at the point of the whole business with respect to one of the referred measures, that providing for higher license fees for trucks and busses, no election can be held until next year. When the referendum petition duly signed is filed the operation of the new law will be automatically suspended until the election and thereby the interests affected by the higher fees will postpone the increase for a year. The estimated cost of the saying will amount to \$350,000. The bus and truck interests have no expectation that the people will not approve the law. All they expect to secure by the referendum is a postponement of the date when it will become effective. It is a short-sighted plan.

Oregon Briefs

Fifteen bids were submitted by contractors for the erection of the new school building at Silverton. The completed work will cost \$22,022.50.

The Clatsop county court will receive bids April 21 for the grading of three miles of the Nehalem highway from the Glass bridge to the Klaskanine summit.

The state board of control has authorized the purchase of 47 acres of land adjoining the state prison property at a cost of \$28,800.

The payroll of the Hammond Lumber company at Mill City is approximately \$1,000,000 per year and it is the largest manufacturing plant doing business in Lane county.

The Clatsop county court has voted to expand \$2000 toward the erection of an arch at the entrance of the Coos Bay highway six miles south of Roseburg. The arch will cost \$30,000.

E. J. Schneider, postmaster at Myrtle Point, has resigned, stating that he will devote his time to something which would pay him more than \$2000 a year, the postmaster's salary at that place.

While carrying a still on their backs and a two-gallon jug of moonshine, Ole Vivan and Norman Miller were arrested and lodged in the Hillsboro jail. They are both residents of Timber.

DR. POEHNER KILLED. BERLIN, April 14. Dr. Ernst Poehner, former chief of police of Bavaria and one of the most prominent Bavarian reactionary leaders, was killed Monday when his auto swerved off the highway near the Bavarian-Austrian frontier.

The nuclei of atoms moving about in a piece of iron has been detected by sensitive amplifiers.

Jack Spratt Could Eat No Fat—You Say It



15 PER CENT OF WEALTH IN TAXES

Nation's Income Groaning Under Heavy Mortgage Imposed to Meet Costs of Our Government

By HARRY B. HUNT (NEA Service Writer)

WASHINGTON, April 14.—Back of President Coolidge's insistence on "economy" in both public and private expenditures is his appreciation of the extent to which the nation's income is mortgaged for taxes.

Despite a 25 per cent reduction in federal assessments last year, taxes—federal, state, county and municipal—took 15 per cent of the total national wealth.

The fact is that the public debts, state and national, have reached enormous proportions that interest and sinking fund charges alone constitute a burden of approximately \$100 per family per year, on the average, for every household in America.

And while this is being paid, taxes for current government costs continue to pile up.

C. M. Keys, president of the Curtis

In New York

NEW YORK, April 14.—With the coming of warm weather comes the sightseer. Visitors in winter usually pass their holiday in a round of theaters and amusements. As a rule they are persons who have been in New York before. In the spring and summer those who are visiting New York for the first time predominate.

For those who are planning a trip to see the city rather than its amusements I am outlining here my favorite tour. It has two features to recommend it—its low cost and the variety of sights. It can be covered between noon and dark.

Take a train on any of the elevated lines to South Ferry. You are above the street and get a close-up of tenement life. (Cost, 5 cents.)

At the elevated terminal at South Ferry you can board the upper deck of the Staten Island ferry on the same level as the station platform. You pass the Statue of Liberty, see sailing craft and freighters at anchor and may witness the arrival or departure of ocean liners. The round trip takes an hour and costs 5 cents each way.

On returning to South Ferry you are one block from the Aquarium, a round brick building on the water's edge. (Admission free.) Leaving the aquarium, walk north-west toward the towering Whitehall building. You will arrive at Washington street, a quarter of Turks, Assyrians and others of the Near East. Signs in Arabic and strange tobacco, confections and pastries in windows will catch your eye.

After walking several blocks north, turn to the right on Rector street. There is a block of ice and tapestry displays. One short block on Rector street and you are at historic Trinity. If you are interested in historic figures you may stop there and find the

BIBLE THOUGHT FOR TODAY

IN THE BEGINNING was the word, and the Word was made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made.—John 1:1, 3.

Bible Question

(Look up the answer) Whence cometh judgment?—Prov. 24:25.

Rowell's Comment

By CHESTER H. ROWELL

MODERN psycho-analytic jargon has reached the assault and battery stage. A California school board candidate accused his opponent of "inferiority-complex" and "incipient paranoia." In other words, he was a boob and a nut.

Whereupon, bellicose manifestations ensued, with consequent traumatic contusions. In other words, they mixed it, and one of them got bumped on the head.

Which in these languages is English? Neither the highbrow nor the lowbrow is standard style. One is above and the other below the level. And yet we all tend to use one or the other. In our specialties, we use technical vocabularies; in conversation, we fall into slang.

In ancient Latin, similar tendencies finally developed different languages. The language of books and of the people became mutually unintelligible, until one of them, frozen into Monk-Latin, and the other fused into French, Spanish, Italian and their variants.

If the same thing does not happen to English, we may owe it to the newspapers and the radio. Newspaper reporters write "print English," but they have to write it so as to be "understanded of the people."

Radio announcers are not yet all literate, and what some of them speak is scarcely English, but as they and their broadcasters become an institution, they will have to learn to speak at least as well as reporters write. Thus the gap between print and speech will be bridged. Which is high-browese for being able to say, each to each, "I getcha."

Tom Sims Says—

A MAN downtown broke feels like a woman downtown without her powder.

We would hate to be a bigamist, unless we were dead and dumb.

Paris says printed voile is popular this spring, while London thinks printed divorce scandals all the rage.

A policeman should not be too hasty in charging a man with vagrancy. He may merely be shopping with his wife.

When you see a woman standing with her husband before a window full of fishing tackle, he's boss.

Very little sympathy is extended to a postman who gets run over by an auto on the first of the month.

You can easily see why some swimmers stay in the water and why others stay on the bank.

It is very hard in the spring to clean houses without cleaning the pocketbook, also.

25 Years Ago

(From The Guard April 14, 1905) Quite a sensation was created in the Cottage Grove district when Felix Carrin and Dave Mosby brought in a large pouter, measuring 10 feet. The animal had been killing a lot of sheep in the country.

The frame of Gilbert's new residence near the First Presbyterian church is up.

A marriage license was issued today to Frank E. Skinner and Martha E. Tilman.

The prohibition party of Lane county met at the courthouse today for the purpose of nominating a ticket for the June election.

A meeting of the wool growers of Cottage Grove and vicinity is called

to meet in Cottage Grove Saturday, April 26, for the purpose of organizing a wool growers' association.

A meeting of the fruit growers of Lane county was held at the courthouse this afternoon. About the only thing considered was the matter of going into the state association, or forming a county association. A very small number was present.

Hon H. R. Kincaid arrived home today from Portland.

W. L. Delano has quite an unique window decoration for Easter, an old hen and quite a brood of little chickens.

Mr. McCrady Writes About Water Bonds

EUGENE, April 11.—(To the Editor)—With your permission I would like to say a few things concerning the proposition to mortgage our homes for \$375,000 to bring McKenzie water to Eugene.

It is a fact, constantly proven by tests, that our present water is perfectly safe—made so by filtration. Both Mr. Russell, superintendent of our filtering plant, and Mr. McArthur, an engineer employed by our water board and who consulted that the Willamette river water is made safe and pure by the present method of filtering.

I was also informed by these gentlemen that the operation of the filter system is such that the failure of an operator to do his work can not allow unfiltered water to reach the water mains of the city. If an operator goes to sleep or in any way neglects his job, the filters will in time choke down and fail to pass any water at all.

The overflow in case of neglect is diverted back to the river. It is not possible to get unfiltered water to the water mains. Had we not better be satisfied, for a time at least, with our present water, and avoid this hideous monster, "Debt?"

Propaganda contrary to these facts has been passed to you people intended evidently to frighten you into voting for the bonds. The water being safe as stated had we not better wait on account of the cost?

Many of the cities in the east and middle west would consider the Willamette a good water supply as compared with theirs.

Very few of our people know how efficient our filter system is. On a recent visit to the plant I was informed by Mr. McArthur that the filter plant has never failed to do its work in all the years since its construction. Not a single case of typhoid has ever been traced to the use of our city water since the plant was installed.

Let us not be too free to borrow money or plunge into debt if we would keep our fair city prosperous.

Their estimated plan to take care of this enormous debt by raising the water rates, is based on our town continuing to grow about 18 times as fast as it has from its beginning. Isn't this even worse than counting chickens before they are hatched?

J. O. McCrady.

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Showanda, the choice of the smoker

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BONDS MEAN TAXES SAYS MR. KEENEY

EUGENE, Ore., April 14.—(To the Editor)—I ask space for a reference to Mr. Svarverud's communication to Monday's Guard, wherein he displayed a letter of mine that appeared in Sunday's issue of the Morning Post.

Just why Mr. Svarverud should grossly misinterpret my communication is beyond me.

The theme of my article was the impotence of individuals as well as municipalities as to both protection and optimism, endeavoring to point out that it is not the pessimism of any of the several bond issues before us that is the radical optimist we should lead, but that level-headed conservatism should guide.

I openly stated that I attempted an analysis of the merits or demerits of any of the several bond issues before the people, but since many taxpayers who support almost every bond issue coming up and others who habitually remain at home and take no interest in such elections are so conspicuous in coming to the assessment tax paying time to learn why their taxes are higher, I stressed the fact that bond issues are tax increases and I here reiterate the statement without reservation.

It is a misused and probably a misapplied term, Mr. Svarverud, that is made by the statement that the proposed water bonds will increase the tax rate. The tax rate is the amount of tax with present conditions, whereas we are annually paying a direct tax for the water and light department to meet the difference between the "total estimated expenditure from the total income" and the "total estimated receipts"—a tax that has increased 33.7 per cent in four years. Now we increase the debt by a half million and show us how the present deficiency tax is to be eliminated. Probably it can be done.

I am not contending for fair taxing any bond issue proposed—I am simply trying to remind the taxpayer that if we are to have everything that we need or want publicly, sooner or later, directly or indirectly, we must pay for it by taxation and that principle should be exercised lest an evil be developed incurable by bond issues—an exorbitant tax rate.

I am in a position to hear the murmurs of discontent from the man who is now paying \$150 to \$200 taxes on his home and you may mistake his word of warning for the wall of the pessimist, Mr. Svarverud, but guess you well that our good town does not find itself as does the private individual who builds his castle on borrowed capital and optimism—actually optimistically mystified as to any way to lift itself by its bootstraps from the bog—the mire from its flood gates of extravagance.

Optimism is a good stimulant which used with moderation, but Skeet Taylor is accepting nothing but cash or its equivalent at the tax collector's counter.

BEN F. KEENEY

\$15.50 to SAN FRANCISCO Stage Terminal Phone 4860

LIKE TWO PEAS IN A POD

To the casual observer two violins look as much alike as two peas in a pod. In color, shape and stringing they appear to be twins. But in the hands of a master one may be worth a king's ransom, the other a beggar's purse.

To the casual observer all banks, too, appear alike. Their buildings are much the same, their services tally one with the other. But ask our customers and they will tell you their answers will be something like this:

The U.S. NATIONAL BANK EUGENE LOAN & SAVINGS BANK The Bank for Savings

Fruit Trees Special Sale Starting Saturday, April 11th

and continuing all next week. First Class Stock at good reductions. Prices on Quantity sales. 16th and Ferry Come early and get your pick.

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