

Illinois Valley News

An independent newspaper devoted to the development of the Illinois Valley and its surrounding districts.

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Editor

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Voting Is Your Privilege—And Duty

Everyone knows it is his duty to register and vote. Why sure, I'm going to register in a few days; meant to do it last time, but election day kind of sneaked up on me—you know how it is.

Yes, we know how it is; but that isn't as it should be. There is no excuse for a person who can qualify not to register and vote. You're an invalid? You are going to be out of town? Make application to the County Clerk, Court House, Grants Pass, Oregon for an absentee ballot.

There are four important elections on the slate for Illinois Valley voters this year, the first being the school budget election on April 29. Since the dead-line for registration is 30 days before an election, it is too late to register for this now. If you let this one slip away from you, you can still come up with a 75% score by registering now, and voting in the rest of the elections.

One thing that complicates registration in the Illinois Valley is the fact that a lot of people don't know where they live. If you don't live in a town or near enough to a recognized geographical location to establish your precinct, it may be necessary to find out what township you live in before going to the registrar. This is found in the legal description of your property, or can possibly be ascertained from a neighbor. But the registrars do not at present have maps to aid you in picking off your location, and you cannot register until you establish your precinct.

Once you know your precinct, however, you can register with any

registrar or with the county clerk's office—it is not necessary to go to the registrar in your precinct. The registration deadline for the May 19 primary election is April 18; that doesn't leave you much more time.

One often hears the complaint, more often justified than not, that the Illinois Valley gets the dirty end of the stick in many government programs; roads, for instance. This is probably due largely to the increase in population of the Illinois Valley in recent years (as in all Oregon), and many politicians are unaware of the large number of potential voters in this area. A heavy registration and equally heavy vote would open a few eyes, regardless of the outcome of the election.

It should hardly be necessary to add that it does no good to register if you don't vote, but some people do just that. Registering is the preliminary step, but you have to follow through by putting in an appearance at the polls.

Free elections are the trademark of the only truly democratic nations. Many despots and oppressive regimes throughout the world prate loudly of the "democracy" in their countries, but you have only to look at their elections to get the truth. Millions of men have died—many are dying today—to gain or regain the priceless privilege we so often spurn through carelessness. Let's VOTE—and to vote you must REGISTER. Your dead-line to register for the primaries is APRIL 18.

Illinois Valley News, Printers

Oregon Farmers Queried By Census Bureau

The 1950 census of agriculture questionnaires are now being distributed by mail to the farmers of Lane, Linn, Curry, Coos, Douglas, Jackson and Josephine counties who will participate with others all over the United States in a nation-wide inventory of farms and farm production.

By March 27, the rural carrier will have delivered to all rural route boxholders a copy of the agriculture questionnaire to be used in the 1950 census of agriculture. With it will come a request from the United States bureau of the census asking the farmer to fill in the questionnaire and have it ready for the census enumerator who will call at the farm in April during the seventeenth decennial census of the United States.

The average farmer can complete the agriculture questionnaire easily. Many of the inquiries may be answered merely by checking a "Yes" or a "No" and most of the other inquiries can be answered without reference to records. However, some questions will require a little more time, namely inquiries on crop yields and receipts from crop sales, on the production of livestock and livestock products and income from their sale, on farm expenditures for selected items, and on other inquiries about the farm business which cover the 1949 calendar year.

The results of the 1950 census of agriculture, when compiled by the census bureau, will bring up to date the statistical information about the nation's farms and farm people.

The questionnaire to be used in the 1950 census of agriculture has been designed so as to be filled out as easily as possible. The average farmer will answer less than 100 inquiries, most of which can be completed without reference to any records.

About one-half of the inquiries on the agriculture questionnaire apply to all farmers in all sections of the country. Of the inquiries regarding approximately fifty kinds of field crops, vegetables and fruits, the average farmer will answer less than a dozen since, generally, he will have produced only four or five different crops. For crops harvested in 1949, the farm operator will be asked to report the acreage, yield and value of the crops sold or to be sold. Livestock inventories will be reported as of April 1, 1950, while inquiries for the production of livestock products refer to the 1949 calendar year.

To further simplify the questionnaire, a different version will be used for nearly every state, and the state questionnaire will list only the crops principally grown by the farmers in that state.

TIMBER SALE

Seven tracts of timber in Jackson county, 2 in Josephine county and 2 in southern Douglas county were among the 40 parcels of timber from O. and C. and public domain lands in western Oregon which the land management will offer for sale from April 17 to 20, according to E. K. Peterson, Medford district forester.

Two of the tracts in Jackson county will be sold by oral auction at the district office in the City Hall, Medford, on April 17. One of these, which is located at the end of Cobleigh Road north and west of Butte Falls, includes 7 million board feet, mostly Douglas fir, appraised at \$64,500. The other tract, which includes 3 million board feet of sugar pine and yellow pine, 2 million board feet of Douglas fir and 1½ million board feet of white fir, is located in the Jenny Creek area north of Lincoln, and is appraised at \$70,000.

On April 18 sealed bids will be accepted in the regional office on 5 additional tracts in Jackson county. Two of these, mostly ponderosa pine, are located along Jenny Creek south of the Greensprings highway; one tract is appraised at \$13,500 and the other at \$12,400. A tract of 100 M pine and 90 M Douglas fir, which is offered for \$1,500, is located a few miles north of Rogue River. Another, consisting of 665 M incense cedar only, appraised at \$2,000, is located on a section of land in the Butte Falls area. The other tract, consisting of 110 M, half pine and half fir, is on the Upper Big Applegate.

The 2 tracts in Josephine county which will be open for sealed bids include approximately 650 M pine and fir on Swede Basin Road north of Hayes Hill, and 275 M fire-killed pine and fir in the Blue Creek area along the Redwood highway adjacent to the California-Oregon line.

Redwood Empire Ass'n Urges U. S. Highway Aid

The Redwood Empire association announced today that it is urging Congress to appropriate \$2,000,000,000 for highway construction throughout the nation, including the Redwood Empire.

The appeal was made through Congressman Hubert B. Scudder to the Public Works committee of House of Representatives which is holding hearings on continuation of federal-aid highway appropriations. The committee was asked to approve legislation authorizing and appropriating not less than one billion dollars a year for two years, to be matched by the states in accordance with the present formula.

The association pointed out that the national highway system is now carrying a large and increasing volume of inter-state traffic and that "many sectors of this system (and many bridges thereon) are critically deficient."

Arguments laid before the house committee by the R.E.A. in behalf of the two billion dollar appropriation were:

1. The fundamental economy of the nation is more or less based on the transportation system, especially on highway transport facilities, and more than ever the country moves on wheels for transport of personnel, food, supplies and material.
2. Safety of life and limb is not only a responsibility of state, city and county governments but of the federal government as well and a major need is elimination of traffic hazards and death traps.
3. Expenditure of highway construction funds provides employment for a large number of people in many fields of work.
4. Long range planning by respective state highway departments will be made possible by federal appropriations for a minimum two-year period and more efficient and resultful financing and construction schedules may be set up by the states.

Lions Vaudeville Show

Members of the Illinois Valley Lions club are up to their ears in details of the big vaudeville show to be sponsored at the Ivy Theatre on May 2 and 3. Booking of the various acts is still in progress, with the Lions attempting to strike a balance between professional and amateur, local and outside talent.

One of the several laudable civic projects which the Lions have taken up recently is the landscaping of the new high school grounds, and the proceeds from the vaudeville show will be applied there.

— Register To Vote! —

THE AMERICAN WAY



There Just Can't Be a Jackpot

Cancer Society Campaign Begins April First

The 1950 American Cancer society campaign will get under way Saturday, April 1, in Josephine county and the rest of Oregon. The campaign will continue through April, which has been designated cancer control month by the U.S. congress.

George W. Schoeffel of Portland, state campaign chairman, announced the campaign will be "the most intensive in the history of the nation" and that Oregon will exert every effort to raise its share of the \$14,565,000 national goal.

"This is the smallest amount needed to carry on the work of research, education and service to the cancer patient," Schoeffel said.

"The attack on cancer has made definite progress in the last few years," he stated, adding that "progress has been made in three directions:

- (1) The building of a nationwide machine for cancer control.
- (2) The greatest peacetime research effort in history.
- (3) The beginning of a program to alert people to cancer while it is still curable.

Schoeffel pointed out that the nation's No. 2 killer claimed the lives of many valuable citizens in Josephine county and the rest of Oregon last year and undoubtedly will claim many more until an answer to the disease is found.

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From where I sit ... by Joe Marsh



"Curfew Shall Not Ring Tonight"

Our ten o'clock curfew lasted for 50 years, but the town council voted it out. I dropped in at the meeting in Town Hall last week just in time to hear Smiley Roberts.

"The curfew is old-fashioned," says Smiley. "We ought to be grown-up enough by now to behave like grownups. Seeing to it that our kids get to bed is the responsibility of each family." Then Judge Cunningham adds, "Most of us are in bed when the curfew horn blows anyway. It wakes me up just when I'm getting to sleep!"

What the Judge said was good

for a laugh, but Smiley just about summed up how folks think in this town. We believe that the democratic tradition of "live and let live" is the only way to live.

From where I sit, it's not the American way to regulate your life by a horn—any more than it's right to criticize my caring for a temperate glass of beer now and then. Think what you wish, say what you wish, but don't ask your neighbor to do exactly as you do!

Joe Marsh

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