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REORGANIZATION

The governor's reorganization plan seems sure of approval in some aspects although no one—the governor included—expects it all to pass through the legislature.

For 100 years Oregon has gotten along with a method of state government that was diffusive, a government by committee. Constitution writers of 1860 were afraid of power, distrustful, so they divided it up so no one had much authority and no citizen could lay the blame for anything on anybody. Contention is that it is impossible to run a big think like Oregon by the same tactics and methods used when the government of Oregon was a little thing.

Purpose of the reorganization plan, long considered, long studied, bi-partisanly introduced, is to give authority to designated officials and make them responsible.

We think that would be better. The board of control that handles so much of state government is a sort of committee and most of its powers could well go to a governor. The numerous (89) boards could be consolidated and re-grouped and men appointed to head them by the governor so that state government could be pointed in one direction and not be riding off in all directions at once.

The details of the plan will have to be worked out by the various committees of the legislature that have been given the job. Some changes will be necessary and perhaps advantageous. But the overall plan has long been needed and we hope much of it is adopted. When it is citizens can have a better chance to tell who is responsible for what.

WILL TO LIVE

Our daffodils are up. On second thought it may not be proper to claim possession; these powerful and popular little plants we put in our curb line some years ago have so attracted the interest of the townsmen and women who go by to get their mail that they may well have become the communities daffodils.

It was like this if you came in late. In an effort to produce something other than cheat grass in the strip of land between the sidewalk and the curb we planted, hastily and carelessly as is our wont, some discarded daffodil bulbs from the wife's home garden.

While they prospered well enough in the rather hard soil and bloomed that rich yellow of their kind there was nothing remarkable about it until the city decided to improve the looks of things on its own and covered the resting bulbs with gravel and hot asphalt.

Last year and again this most of the bulbs have pushed up shoots through the thick coating and bloomed as pretty as can be, even brighter in appearance compared with the black asphalt. Everyone notices them and many drop in to insist that a few of the best editorial words be used in praise of this expression of daffodil indomibility. This we are glad to do for courage in the face of difficulty is one of our favorite themes. Where, we ask, would us poor humans be without that?

PRIVATE OWNERSHIP

Private ownership came in for some hard knocks by the president in his much heralded statement about national resources. It seems, according to the script, that individuals may not be entirely in agreement with government agents about the management and use of property. Private timber owners, for instance, may want to cut—perhaps to pay taxes—or to let grow when the governments wants to do otherwise.

The assumption by the new administration is that papa knows best and that any private owner with other notions is impeding the brave march of the New

Frontier, and, of course, progress.

The assumption is that all private holdings are held for selfish reasons and for the despicable motive of profit while the government desires only to manage for the benefit of the public. Also, that government can manage much better.

With both assumptions, we disagree. The government can't manage anything—nothing in the hands of government is done as efficiently as if in the hands of private persons, firms, corporations. And neither is the government unselfish. It desires to make political profit which is no more honorable than monetary profit and is much harder to control.

We have said many times that most of the politicians who prate on the poor social concept of those same statements to make political profit. We consider it the more deplorable. We have learned to control monetary profit pretty well and that which we do not control we tax—and at an unconscionable rate—so that politicians can obtain political profit with the proceeds.

REAPPORTIONMENT

We were happy and somewhat surprised to note in a recent issue of the Portland Reporter that a Portland editor is receptive to a new idea about reapportionment of legislators in Oregon. This one asks why the federal plan (not mentioned by name) is good for states and so bad for counties. Good question, says we.

This legislature should pass two bills for reapportionment, one to satisfy the demands of a miserable constitutional provision and another to refer to the people as a correction for the crime of 1952 when mathematics was substituted for statesmanship in apportioning legislators in Oregon.

Boys in the legislature from Multnomah county are demanding up to 18 members of the house and nine in the senate which would give them enough power to control the state if any among them had the requisite leadership.

The doctrine of major fractions is a nice sounding term but it still takes some judgment to determine whose major fraction is to be taken. The term sounds good to those who make low bows of obeisance to everything mathematical and scientific. Human conduct, human desires, human ambition operate by very unscientific rules which successful legislators have to know.

We note that city legislators are grasping for more highway money while reducing it by excluding big trucks from a full fee. To that we say "Go ahead". Put the highway money on the streets of Portland, pave them with silver and some smarter city will spend its money for roads leading to its portals and Oregonians will go there. Every road in Oregon leads to Portland now and many a small town merchant wishes they would sink into the sea or the rivers.

It is said to be the law of the jungle that the big ones eat the small ones and big cities may be expected to eat the little ones. But nature has provided many small animals and plants with some very fine defensive armor, thorns, smells, tastes, etc., that permits survival. The antidote for big cities is to leave them alone.

ABOUT HIGHWAYS

Someone has excited Wasco County and The Dalles and it appears to be an inside job. It was like this. Some time ago the road committee down there took delegations to the highway commission meetings to try to get a fine, wide, straight, level highway built from The Dalles to Criterion Junction where the main north-south highway meets The Dalles-Criterion road.

Recently at a meeting in The Dalles a highway engineer and and Commissioner Kenneth Fridley explained that it might be some time before the road could be built because, in truth, the terrain was not the best for building of a good road.

This week the state representative from Wasco County has introduced a bill to use ten million dollars of state highway money to build the road. It is admittedly poor practice to direct the highway commission by legislative action, but what is poor practice when you want a road?

Plea is made to the commission, and now certainly the legislators, to make The Dalles-Criterion road the equal of Highway 97 which would be an engineering feat much more difficult than cleaning the Augean stables, slaying the Minotaur or any of the famed works of Hercules.

The threat of loss of traffic because of the Biggs Rapids bridge is back of it all, of course. And the threat will become a real-

ity in June 1962 when the bridge is completed.

Really it makes little difference. Sherman countians will continue to take their pokes of hard earned money down to The Dalles and spend them just as if they lived along The Dalles-Criterion road. And we will keep it up unless they make us awful mad by some petty little selfish trick—a project that some of them keep trying.

SPRING GARDEN

This is the season of the year, and the kind of weather, that makes a gardener nervous. The frost has long gone from the ground, the rains have settled the earth and a spade works easily—for a spade—and the soil turns over with an inviting mellowness.

The question is: should a gardener put his seeds into the ground and tempt the vagaries of nature which may yet send snow and frost to make the radishes hot and the peas spindly?

On the other hand if one waits until the sun shines so brightly that one just has to make a garden or bust it may be too late, the moisture may not last and the garden stuff may come along so slow that there is no opportunity to boast about it for what gardener does not get pleasure in stating proudly that he has picked a mess of peas before anyone else?

The winter was a feeble sort Administrator with Will Annexed

of season with a little frost here and there, a little snow and a goodly bit of rain so that the ground is wet enough for a garden of early vegetables. It is not so early either except that many gardeners are waiting for the second session of winter.

Why, it is only two weeks until St. Patrick's day when some say the potatoes should be planted and potatoes are not a hardy plant to put in. It is an annual problem this time to plant the garden and we suspect we'd better be at it so we can begin to anticipate the first plump radish to dilute the thickness of winter's blood and stimulate the jaded winter appetite.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Sherman County, his Account as Administrator with Will Annexed of the Estate of Eliza J. Dingle, deceased, and that one just has to make a garden or bust it may be too late, the moisture may not last and the garden stuff may come along so slow that there is no opportunity to boast about it for what gardener does not get pleasure in stating proudly that he has picked a mess of peas before anyone else?

The winter was a feeble sort Administrator with Will Annexed

T. Lester Johnson
Attorney for Administrator
March 3, 10, 17, & 24, 1961

WANT ADS

SPINET PIANO: Want responsible party to assume small monthly payments. Also elec. organ. Write Credit Mgr., Tallman Piano Stores, Inc., Salem, Ore. 15-17c

BOATS — MOTORS — TRAILERS AT COST: Evenrude Electric 40 & 75 HP; Bellboy & Dot Boats. You can't beat my prices, must sell by January 1. Come in or call — terms available. OSCAR'S SPORTING GOODS, downtown MADRAS. Also Chinook Camp Coach. 10 ft. 8-9c

80 BED OREGON state approved nursing home located in beautiful Hood River Valley, with lovely fenced grounds. We accept all types of elderly cases, as well as room and board care. 31-tfn

WINK - GOLDENDALE SALES Yard, Goldendale, Wash., has an auction every Friday at one o'clock. We have the market if you have the livestock. Guaranteed top prices. Frank Wink 33c-tfn

FOR SALE: Case LA 1948, new motor block, piston sleeves, at Joe's Motor Service, Grass Valley, Mrs. J. E. Norton, Kent, Ore. 18-19c

WANTED: Custom farming service throughout county to include plowing, spring tooting, roding, combining and seeding. Donald von Borstel, Grass Valley, Ore. 18c tfn

CUSTOM SLAUGHTERING by appointment only. Custom curing. Meat cutting, wrapping, sharp freeze. Kenny's Market, Grass Valley. Call ED 3-2345 for appointment. 23-tfn

STATE WIDE PAINT CO. complete painting and decorating service, spray or brush. Phone CY 6-3977 or CY 6-5293, 1205 E. 12th St. Vern Campbell and Jack Null, The Dalles, Or. 38tfn

LIVESTOCK Men - Do it yourself - "Anchor Brand" Animal Health Products, penicillin, and instruments are available at your Co-op Oil and Supply at The Dalles. 20c tfn

BOATS — MOTORS — TRAILERS AT COST: Evenrude Electric 40 & 75 HP; Bellboy & Dot Boats. You can't beat my prices, must sell by January 1. Come in or call — terms available. OSCAR'S SPORTING GOODS, downtown MADRAS. Also Chinook Camp Coach. 10 ft. 8-9c

There's some thing you would like to buy and there's something you ought to sell and this is the place to do both.

FOR Agricultural loans see FLBA of The Dalles and the Mid-Columbia PCA, 4th & Court Sts. CPpress 6-2468. tfn

WANTED: Livestock for Commission, The Dalles Livestock Commission, Inc. Sale every Saturday, 12:00 Noon. For information, Ed Coles CY 6-4672, or CY 6-4513. P. O. Box 631, The Dalles, Oregon. 13tfn

Moro LODGE No. 113 I.O.O.F. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited. Floyd Haines, A. G. Leo Watkins, Secretary

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A.F.A.M. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us. Max Belshe, W. M. Irving Hart, Secretary

HARLANDVIEW GRANGE Meets First and Third Saturdays each month at 8:00 p. m. Earl Gentry, Master Florence Bruckert, Sec'y.

Bethlehem Chapter No. 78 O.E.S. Meets every second Thursday each month. Visiting members invited. Moro, Ore Erma Johnson, W.M. Dorothy Heater, Secretary

Taylor LODGE A. F. & A. M. Wasco Meets First and Third Tuesdays. Visiting brethren welcome. Harland McDonald, W. M. Vernon Root, Secretary

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 114 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome. Florence Thompson, N. G. Helen Martin, Secretary



Here's what PP&L customer Mrs. Henry Ross says about electric living:
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"The way our children love freshly baked cookies, it's little wonder they think the electric range is the best of our 32 appliances. As for my choice, it would probably be the automatic washer and dryer. I use them constantly because we have a new home and the lawn isn't in yet, so you can imagine the amount of dirty clothes this means for the youngsters."

Mrs. Ross is one of thousands of PP&L customers who are using lots of electricity these days—more and more all the time!

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 - Lighting
 - Movie Projector
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