

THE CENTRAL POINT AMERICAN

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Office—North Second Street  
ARTHUR EDWARD POWELL  
Editor and Proprietor

EDITORIALS

THE FIRST STONE  
Mirror of World Opinion

On my desk lies a beautiful little flat white stone, as round and as thick as a doughnut. It has been polished till it gleams, for it is of a smooth, flawless texture that geologists call gypsum but you and I call alabaster. . . It was given to me one night in Miami by good friends . . . I use it as a paperweight, and as a memento of an enduring friendship. But it is something more than that for me.

I call it The First Stone. That title goes back to a Bible story about the woman who was taken in adultery and haled before the Wayshower to be condemned. Jesus was something of an editor himself, but instead of paper and ink, he stooped down and with his finger wrote on the ground. When the woman's accusers continued asking him, he stood up and said unto them: "He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her."

That's why I call this chip of alabaster The First Stone. It is still on my desk, ready to fling. And when in the turmoil of daily living and trying to run a newspaper that with clarity of thought and honesty of purpose

seeks to lead the thinking people of the community we serve, there are plenty of times when we would like to criticize. The other day I started a paragraph about Fuller Warren and his campaign promise of keeping the door of the governor's office open so any humble citizen might enter, and about the six Hebring men who drove 600 miles to see the governor and found the door locked. I picked up The First Stone and got ready to aim.

And then I got to thinking that maybe Fuller has found the job of being governor more overwhelming than just being porter for the open door policy. Maybe he has some problems that cause him to ponder many weary hours behind that closed door. And then I happened to recall that three people drove to Stuart from Miami last Sunday to see me when I had said I would be at home, and I was not, so they missed me. And carefully I reach over and laid The First Stone back on the desk.

There have been times when I have wanted to heave that missile at our city commissioners, but about the time I started the windup something came along to remind me that even the horseplay last December was not worth the salary of \$50 a month and the commissioners were probably spending some hours we knew nothing about trying to organize a constructive thought. I have been willing to give them the benefit of that doubt.

I laughed, along with everybody else, when some baseball promoter stuck a sign shaped like a jack up there in Haney Circle, and a passerby remarked that Cynthia S. B. Haney would rise in her grave if she knew that monuments to the city commissioners were being erected in her circle. But several times I have been glad that The First Stone has remained quietly on the editor's desk.

And I have watched from the sidelines as a controversy has raged

over an artistic statue that one public-spirited woman wants to erect as a fountain in Stuart for all to admire. I am chagrined at some of the attacks made on her plans, not because the rabble had any better idea, but they would rather tear apart the efforts of another than do something constructive themselves. Maybe I ought to lend The First Stone to some of these who are anxious to hurl it.

Or, on second thought, perhaps I should let The First Stone lie on my desk and engrave on it the words: "Faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity."—E. A. M. in the Stuart News (Stuart, Florida).

BIRTHS

HANSEN—To Rev. and Mrs. Rolf, Central Point, June 15, 1949, a boy, Douglas Randal, 10 lbs., at Community hospital.

PINKHAM—To Mr. and Mrs. Lee, 378 Stewart avenue, June 18, 1949, a boy, Gary Boyd, 7 pounds, at Community hospital.

LEES—To Mr. and Mrs. James, Rt. 1, Box 529, Central Point, June 18, 1949, a girl, Connie May, 7½ pounds at Sacred Heart hospital.

KEIZUR—To Mr. and Mrs. Wm. B. Jr., Central Point, June 20, 1949, a boy, 6½ lbs., at Sacred Heart hospital.

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PROCLAMATION  
WHEREAS, by Resolution of the Common Council of The City of Central Point, Oregon, there was duly submitted to the legal voters of said City, for their adoption or rejection, at the special City election held in and for said City on the 21st day of June, 1949, the following proposition:

"For the fiscal and tax year commencing July 1, 1949, the Council of The City of Central Point, Oregon, is authorized to levy a tax in the amount of \$15,023.67 for the purpose of providing for said City equipment for its Fire Department, supplies and equipment for street and general City purposes, payment of salaries and wages of employees, which tax is to be outside the limitation of taxation set forth in Article XI, Section 11 of the Constitution of Oregon."  
AND, WHEREAS, the Common

Council has in my presence on the 22nd day of June, 1949, duly canvassed the results of said election and it has been determined thereby that the total votes cast for and against said proposition was 125; that the total votes cast in favor of said proposition was 66, and the total number of votes cast against the same was 59.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the power and authority in me vested as Mayor of The City of Central Point, I, A. M. Setness, Mayor, do hereby issue this proclamation to the people of said City, and do hereby declare that the votes cast in favor of and against said proposition, respectively, were as above set

forth; that said proposition received an affirmative majority of all votes cast at said election, and I do hereby declare that said proposition carried and that same was duly and legally adopted by the people of The City of Central Point, Oregon.  
Dated at Central Point, Oregon, this 22nd day of June, 1949.  
A. M. Setness, MAYOR.

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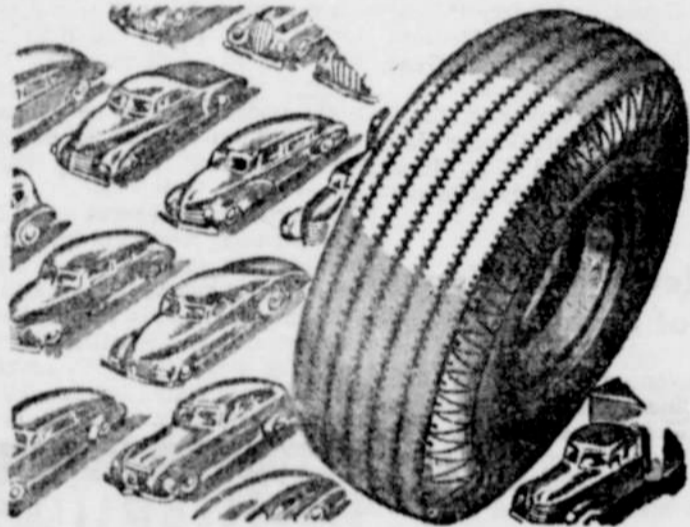


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