

Central Point AMERICAN

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editorially speaking

HOW DO YOU RATE CENTRAL POINT

The questionnaire below appeared recently in a California newspaper. Try it out and see where you rate Central Point.

We did . . . and our score was a sorry 15. If you circle 30 or more of the virtues below, the chances are you live in a town of which you can be proud.

After you've filled out the questionnaire, return it to the American office. We'll total up the yes and no votes to give you a list of things you feel are right or wrong with your community.

1. Most high school graduates stay in town. Yes No
2. Getting a loan on a sound business venture is easy. Yes No
3. The local paper constantly pushes civic improvements. Yes No
4. There's a chamber of commerce with a live-wire manager. Yes No
5. Local speeders pay the same fine as out-of-towners. Yes No
6. There's places to swim within easy reach. Yes No
7. Young couples have little trouble finding a place to live. Yes No
8. The head of your government is a "get-things-done" man. Yes No
9. Town entrances are free from junk, shacks and billboards. Yes No
10. Teachers' salaries are better than the state average. Yes No
11. There's at least one doctor per 800 people in your county. Yes No
12. There's a library with good collection of recent books. Yes No
13. Newcomers quickly feel they're part of the town. Yes No
14. Schools have plenty of room for students. Yes No
15. Fire insurance rates are low for your type of town. Yes No
16. Service, veterans' and women's clubs team up on projects. Yes No
17. There is an active, well-organized Boy Scout troop. Yes No
18. A modern hospital is within your trading area. Yes No
19. All streets are paved and sidewalks are in good shape. Yes No
20. Well-stocked stores keep shoppers in the town. Yes No
21. There's a hotel or motel you'd enjoy if you were a visitor. Yes No
22. It's easy to find parking space in the business section. Yes No
23. At least one restaurant serves outstanding meals. Yes No
24. The sewer extension program keeps pace with new housing. Yes No
25. It's easy to get volunteers for any worthwhile project. Yes No
26. Public Toilets are provided for farm folks shopping in town. Yes No
27. Prompt, reasonably priced ambulance service is available. Yes No
28. Good zoning keeps factories away from residential areas. Yes No
29. There's an annual Clean-Up, Paint-Up, Fix-Up week. Yes No
30. Streets throughout the community are well lighted. Yes No
31. More than half the church congregations are under 40. Yes No
32. Shade trees line nearly all the streets. Yes No
33. There's an ample supply of good drinking water. Yes No
34. There's a recreation center where young people dance. Yes No
35. The business section has a modern, prosperous, look. Yes No
36. There's much interest in local and national elections. Yes No
37. The tax rate is attractive to new industry. Yes No
38. There's a community council to guide town progress. Yes No
39. There's an active P.T.A. Yes No
40. Firemen must take regular training courses. Yes No

Dinner Plans Set At Monday Meeting

An executive committee meeting of Central Point Parent-Teacher Association was held Monday, November 28, in the small gym at the elementary school.

Plans for the spaghetti dinner on December 1 were completed.

Approximately 30 members were present and all expressed their desire to help with the project.

BELLINGER GIRL

Mr. and Mrs. James Bellinger of Route 2, Central Point, are parents of a daughter born Saturday, November 26, at Community hospital. Birth weight was 6 1/4 pounds.

TANK GAS SERVICE

Cooking - Water Heating - Refrigeration - Heating propane tanks for rent—No need to buy.

UTILITY SERVICE

TELEPHONE 2-5284
228 West Main - Medford

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

JUST WONDERING!

I am just wondering what is wrong with our town (Central Point). Oh, I don't mean the people—they are the finest in the land.

I am wondering why our business district does not grow—why empty store buildings—why vacant city lots.

I am wondering! if any encouragement is ever given any prospective businesses or new industries by our city officials—have discouraging advice and remarks been given to prospective business and professional men, who want to locate in our city.

I am wondering! if our cost of city administration is not too high—are we, as tax payers, getting our money's worth in city administration.

I am wondering why! our city streets are not graded (we have several thousand dollars invested in a grader)—why are there chuck-holes in the paving on Pine Street, deep enough to wreck a car—why, after three years, have they not been fixed—why have some been fixed, and others not—where is the new \$800.00 street sweeper—was it bought for just a toy to play with.

I am wondering why! some real good city employees have quit their jobs in recent months—it might be well to ask them.

I am wondering! if a city manager form of government might be good for us—it could not possibly cost more than at present time. Medford likes it, and no doubt it is much more effective and economical.

I am wondering! if it is not too much of a burden for any citizen to take the time, that should be given as mayor or councilman, from their job or business to give a good efficient administration.

I am wondering! if a city manager form of government would not be much more efficient, save lots of time in finding out who is boss, and what there is to do, stop excessive coffee time, and get work planned ahead.

I am wondering! if some of our city officials and employees do not have too many jobs, to do justice to them all.

I am wondering! why city water mains have been denied to some locations, and quickly put into other locations.

I am wondering! why the talk of boycotting a new business has been suggested.

I am wondering! if a complacent attitude has not been taken that Central Point is big enough, and why want it to grow any larger.

I am wondering! if a new approach can ever be taken again to efficient, courteous, conservative cost of administration. I believe it can. But only with a city manager form of government.

I am wondering if a boost or drive to 'make Central Point'

grow movement can get started again, like it did a few years ago, when through constructive planning and individual effort among several of our citizens and officials, we acquired a new bank (and a fine one), two fine medical doctors, a new system of street lights, a city disposal plant, and many other improvements.

I am wondering! what his Honor, the Mayor, and city dads are going to use for the title of the newly created city job, where the city recorder job, city judge, city tax collector, city meter reader, street superintendent, collector of garbage fees for a Medford firm, which incidentally is for a fee and on city time, superintendent of city disposal plant, building inspector and numerous other duties. Quite a lot of titles for one individual to carry.

I am wondering! if that is not just a few too many jobs for one individual to hold and do an efficient job. It just doesn't seem like there would be time left for coffee.

I am wondering! just how much salary is attached to each of above jobs. It seems like a 'share the job' movement would be in order.

I am wondering! with all the talk of annexations, mergers, and consolidations these days, and as we are dependent on Medford for our existence (in water and sewer disposal), if it would not be the time now to approach Medford, and ask to be annexed to them. We could consolidate our city administration costs, police protection costs, street repair costs, and numerous other expenses—all for the benefit of each individual citizen; and possibly benefit from the new industries and businesses coming to Medford—and none to us.

I am wondering! if the City of Central Point can afford, what seems to be more or less luxuries, for instance, janitor service for the city hall. I wonder how many business firms in Central Point can afford janitor service. It seems that, with the money being spent for city salaries, that janitor service is more or less of a luxury.

Any statement in this communication is in no way meant by the writer as a criticism against any one individual. If construed as criticism, it is purely against a method or system of city administration. This communication is written with one sole purpose, that is as a query to some things about city administration that I just do not understand, and am hoping to get a logical answer to.

I am just wondering!
More 'just wondering' soon
Signed
John Cupp
A Citizen Taxpayer

Book Briefs

From Central Point Public Library

Avis Van Hoy

By Sun and Candlelight
Patricia Campbell

Amory Cummings was a person with a powerful and dominating personality and tried to



From where I sit ... by Joe Marsh

Easy Coins A Quick Profit

Hear about Easy Roberts last Friday? I helped him count his money—both before and after—so believe me, the story's true.

Easy was on the way to the bank to deposit his "cookie jar" savings—exactly \$24.95 in nickels, dimes and quarters. He had them in a paper bag and as we crossed Main Street the bottom fell out.

Money went flying. Passers-by pitched in to help recover the coins. Later on when Easy counted up, he had \$25.05. The "search party" had turned up all of

Easy's money plus ten cents someone else had lost!

From where I sit, I wouldn't want to try this "Easy" way to make money. Usually, it takes time for a bank roll to grow . . . just as it takes time for a friendship to grow. But by respecting a neighbor's rights—including his right to drink coffee, tea, beer or buttermilk, whichever and whenever he chooses—it's wonderful the solid friendship you can build. You can "bank" on that.

Joe Marsh

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CAR OF THE WEEK

1955 Chevrolet
1/2-Ton Pickup

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