

# Happy New Year 1949

## DOING THE TOWN

The News Review has sadly missed the galloping of Dr. Geo. Gallup's able assistant, Ed McLain, who conducted a series of polls prior to election concerning public matters.

The poll which should be taken concerns the attitude of the people toward the suggested changes in appointed city officials which Mayor-Elect Tom Williams states he is bound by pre-election promises to the people to make.

City councilmen feel the opposite way about the matter as does Tom Williams, as they feel as though the election promises concerning the status quo, not changing it.

One city council member stated that there was a lot of pressure brought to bear on other councilmen to retain the present appointees.

Tom Williams has stated that there is a lot of pressure being brought to bear on him to replace the present appointees.

This brings us back to the poll. What do the people really think?

From those people we have talked to, without running a special cross-section we'd be willing to say that the opinion of the voters was very close to 50/50. Half of the people with whom we have discussed the problem feel that Tom Williams is right. The other half of the people feel as though the council members have taken the proper stand.

Council meeting January 4th should be an interesting meeting. It will be in Ashland which will be full. We understand that John von Kuhlman, commander of the American Legion has requested the members of the Legion to attend this particular meeting in the interests of good government.

We also understand that most of the remaining citizens of Ashland, including the lame, the halt and the blind will be there.

One enterprising citizen has gone so far as to attempt to get the seating concession for this first meeting of the 1949 council. Says that it will be the first full house seen around here for many a moon.

We'll see you there.

Apple juice from Ashland will be among the products which will be displayed in the Maona Hotel, Honolulu, Hawaii, during the time that the Oregon State college Beaver football squad is present in the Island to play in the Pineapple Bowl, January 1.

Lots of children's records for that Christmas radio-phonograph.

- For Instance . . .
- Spike Jones Nonsense Music
  - Sparky's Magic Piano
  - Sparky and The Talking Train
  - Fairy Tales as Told by The Great Gildersleeve
  - Tubby the Tuba
  - Pan the Piper
  - Goldilocks
  - Bugs Bunny
  - Bozo the Clown
  - and many many more at

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ASHLAND, JACKSON COUNTY,

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## City Council Clips Mayor's Wings And Explains 1948 Overdraft

Meeting Wednesday evening in a special meeting the members of the city council passed two ordinances, one to amend Ordinance 617 and the other an ordinance to authorize certain adjustments and transfers of funds to balance and clarify the 1947-48 budget which technically was overdrawn \$173,333.19.

The teeth of the ordinance to amend ordinance No. 617 lie in the addition of Rule 16-A which has to do with the suspension of city officials. The new rule reads that in the event of the suspension of any officer by the mayor the suspended officer shall be furnished with a written statement of the reasons for said suspension and that within five days a meeting of the council shall be held at which time the officer will be given a chance to present his side of the case. The council will then decide whether or not to support the suspension or to reinstate the officer.

Passing of this ordinance was brought about by Mayor Tom Williams' expected appointments at the January 4th council meeting. Members of the council are not expected to confirm Williams' appointments of city attorney, police chief, and water superintendent.

Under the previous rules of suspension the Mayor could suspend any city official without consulting the council, although he could make no appointment without the confirmation of the council.

### Clarify Overdraft

The second ordinance passed was, according to Dr. Walter Redford, who acted as chairman of the council, to straighten out the city budget for 1948. Redford pointed out that technically the budget appeared to be overdrawn but that the city had had the money available in separate funds and that the ordinance was passed in order to transfer this money to the funds which were overdrawn.

### GETS FACE LIFTED

W. D. and Virgil Jackson, owners and operators of the Palace cafe, are having the cafe interior remodeled and redecorated this week. C. E. Taylor is repainting and refinishing the walls and furniture and Carleton Abbott is laying a new tile floor.

The cafe will be open for business again next week.

## Creager to Take Hammond's Place

Appointment of J. H. Creager, Jr. as manager for The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company at Ashland, succeeding R. B. Hammond who retires January 1 has been announced by R. B. Bacon, district manager for the Company in Southern Oregon.

Creager, who transferred here from Grants Pass, where he served as manager from July, 1946, until October, last year, began his telephone career at Eugene in 1928. He first was employed in the Company's plant department, where he held various craft jobs in Eugene, Albany and Portland. In 1932 he transferred to the commercial department as a salesman in the Portland office.

Coming to the Medford office in 1936, Creager advanced to the position of assistant manager in 1942, the post he occupied until his Grants Pass assignment in 1946.

Redford continued by saying that there had been so much fuss about the overdraft during election that it was only fair to the incoming administration to straighten out the books.

Flood conditions and the shipment of water meters to the city in 1948, both of which were unexpected events, were given as two reasons why the budget appeared to be overdrawn.

## Shasta Distributors Now Operating In New Location on Highway 99

Shasta Distributors, owned and operated by Ralph W. Reed and Robert Hutchison, has been open in its new location on Highway 99 for the past two weeks.

The sales and service organization moved into the new 60x40 pumpice block building December 18 and have been following up their moving with a merchandising survey plan which makes an inventory of every customer's electrical, heating, and plumbing needs.

They offer a free consultation and layout service for people who are planning to build and remodel. The organization has men who hold master plumbers and master electricians licenses and will contract for any job in their line.

Reed bought the Williamson hardware in Talent in 1946. Hutchison joined the firm in August 1947, and Shasta Distributors, which was originally organized to sell Shasta pumps, was organized. Since that time the firm has branched out and now handles model kitchens, Gheen irrigation equipment; gas, oil, and electric heating equipment, refrigerators, electric ranges, washers and ironers, freezers, and all types of plumbing and electrical supplies.

Reed, who is president of the corporation, came here after serving as an electrical engineer with the Navy. He worked prior to the war as a designer and an engineer on power plants and various construction jobs.

Hutchison, who is the mechanical engineer, went to school at Oregon state college. He has been specializing in irrigation system installation.

Mrs. Reed acts as office manager and bookkeeper for the firm. Ralph Mobley is in charge of the service department and

Ted Bohencamp is in charge of the plumbing department.

## Miss Alma Jessel Engaged to Ensign

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jessel announce the engagement of their daughter, Alma, to Ensign James E. Jefferson of the United States Navy.

Miss Jessel, who attended local schools, is now a junior at San Jose State College, majoring in dietetics. She is spending the Christmas vacation at the home of her parents and expects to return to San Jose Friday.

Mr. Jefferson is a graduate of the University of Minnesota. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Jefferson of San Jose, California.

No date has been set for the wedding.

Mrs. C. A. Heath, Terrace St., is spending some time in Los Angeles, Calif. She can be reached at 1329 West Fourth street, Los Angeles. Before leaving for Los Angeles Mrs. Heath had as a visitor at her home Mrs. Bertha Nolen, Escondido, California. J. J. Williams, 417 Guthrie St., is recuperating from a cold.

## MARIE'S COFFEE SHOP OPENED BY RANDAHL'S

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Randahl, Yank Gulch, have taken over the operation of what was the Hill Billy cafe. They will operate it under the name, "Marie's Coffee Shop." They bought the restaurant from Bill Hill this week.

The Randahls formerly lived in Los Angeles. They arrived here in June and have two boys, age five and eight.

## NO THANKS

## Homes Declines Rent Control Job

Fred Homes, who has been requested by Secretary of State Earl Newby to take a position on the Rent Control board for this area, stated today that he would not be able to accept.

Homes said that he felt as though he would not have time to devote to the proper handling of rent control problems. He is presently a member of the city council of Ashland, and holds offices in the Bellview Telephone company and the Keene Creek cattle association.

## March of Dimes Begins January 4

The annual March of Dimes swings into action in Ashland and the rest of Oregon and the nation, as well, January 14, and continues through January 31 with an unprecedented overall goal of \$30,000,000.

The dates were announced today by Vern Smith, 1949 March of Dimes chairman for Jackson county, who urged that "everyone give at least 50 per cent more this time."

Oregon volunteers in the forthcoming March of Dimes will gather at radio stations throughout the state at 1:45 January 6, to receive 15 minutes of instructions during a closed-circuit broadcast by President Basil O'Connor of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Stations participating will be KWOL Albany; KBND, Bend; KOOS, Coos Bay; KORE, Eugene; KUIN, Grants Pass; KFJL, Klamath Falls; KAST, Astoria; KRNR, Roseburg; KSLM, Salem, and KPOJ, Portland.

Smith revealed that he had received a night letter from O'Connor in which the Foundation head asserted, "Make no mistake about it—this is an emergency situation." The wire went on to state that if we are to continue to help polio victims, and be prepared for epidemics next year, and continue our educational and research programs, the next March of Dimes must be the greatest ever and net at least \$30,000,000. Without this we cannot fulfill our pledges to patients and the public."

O'Connor's communication revealed that in 1948 alone it had cost \$17,000,000 to care for polio patients, that the Foundation's epidemic aid fund had been exhausted and that many chapter treasuries had been depleted. The Jackson county chairman pointed out that polio in Oregon in 1948 was up 200 per cent over last year's figures.

## Postal Rates To Be Upped Jan. 1

Effective January 1, 1949, the post office announces new rates on air mail, parcel post, insurance fees, registry and money order fees. Air mail will be six cents per ounce or fraction to all points in the United States and possessions. Special delivery fees will be 15 cents for letters or first class mail up to two pounds,

## Mayor-Elect Tom Williams Explains His Position in Statement This Week

In a prepared statement, released to the press this week, Mayor-Elect Tom Williams explained his position concerning the appointments which he has stated he will make.

Williams, who will be installed as mayor, January 4, has indicated that he plans to appoint a new police chief, a new city attorney, and a new city superintendent. Members of the council have indicated that they will probably not confirm the new mayor's appointments on the basis the present men holding those jobs, Clarence Williams, William Briggs, and Elmer Biegel are doing satisfactory work. None of the councilmen have as yet made any official statement concerning their probably decision on January 4.

## Council Answers Williams' Letter

Members of the city council of Ashland, in an open letter to Mayor-elect Tom Williams, stated this week that they would support the mayor in the best interests of the city.

The complete letter follows: Mayor Thomas S. Williams, Ashland, Oregon, Dear Tom:

It appears that perhaps the relationship between the mayor and councilmen for the ensuing term is somewhat distorted, and a situation is being created which is not to the best interests of the city at large. Your attitude, and the position of the councilmen, we are afraid, is not being fully understood by Ashland citizens.

We want you to know that we are going to support your administration as mayor in every plan or policy which you care to present for the betterment of the city. We believe that as we get better acquainted with you we are going to like you, and we believe that when you get to know us better as councilmen and individuals you will come to the conclusion that we are reasonable, earnest and friendly.

You, in common with the councilmen, want to do what is right and just, and what is best for the development and betterment of the city, and the most economical and efficient administration of its government and services.

We have noted your determination, your energy, and your ability to speak out plainly. These qualities, when placed to the use and benefit of the city, will work results.

We have felt, and still feel, that the appointive officers of the city have done a good job, that they have carried out the will of the council, which term, of course, includes the mayor. We have felt that it is bad for efficient city government to place these officers at the whim of political changes, unless they have failed in their work. Furthermore, in the past few years the city has come under the state retirement plan, and to discharge an officer whereby he loses his retirement benefits is a serious proposition and one which we believe should not be done without good reason.

We state now, and pledge to you, that if at any time any city officer fails to perform his duties, that we will back you to the limit in eliminating him from office.

We want to work harmoniously with you, and we will. Any group of men have honest differences of opinion. We wish for you, and the councilmen, and for the city, a successful and progressive administration, and to that end we dedicate ourselves.

With friendship and sincerity,

and 25 cents for parcels weighing up to two pounds, parcels over two pounds to 10 pounds, 35 cents and over 10 pounds 45 cents.

Money order fees will be 10 cents for orders, .01 to \$5, 15 cents for \$5.01 to \$10.00, 25 cents \$10.01 to \$20.00, 35 cents for \$20.01 to \$100.00. Postal notes fees will be cents per note instead of 5 cents.

Williams' complete statement is as follows: I read with considerable interest the Tidings account of an informal meeting with the council, at my home, on Tuesday night last.

Inasmuch as these talks were exploratory in nature, it may be premature to state with such emphasis that the council "blocks proposal to replace key officials."

The further statement that I proposed these changes to fulfill campaign pledges and obligations contracted before the election is probably intended to convey the thought that my proposal for changes is purely political in nature and not based on a belief that better civil servants are available.

I did make this campaign pledge and I repeat it. I said it then and I say it now. That where changes in administrative methods and personnel were indicated in the interest of economy and efficiency, they would be made.

Nothing has transpired since the election to alter my views in this connection. It was my opinion before election, it is my opinion still that the city government should be put back into the city hall where it belongs.

I acknowledge only one boss, the people—and until such a time as the people—and when I say the people I do not mean that little willful group of reactionary who insist the Wiley administration still lives. I mean the grass roots folks, the solid yeomanry who have the last word and I assure you it will not be in the Daily Tidings.

If certain members of the council believe they owe a greater allegiance to some of the present incumbents in public office than they do to the voters who elected them; if certain members of the council dare to say to the people, I shall ignore your views and implement my own; if certain members of the council still prefer to anesthize themselves into the belief that the mayor is not the general manager of the municipal corporation and the general direction of the city is not vested in him and that as general manager he does not have the right to hire and fire in the interests of efficiency and economy, they will have to learn the hard way.

The people said it with ballots on November the second. The people voted 2,373 to 556 for a change. Some wanted a "REFRESHING CHANGE," others wanted just a change but all wanted new blood in the city administration.

The people told me before election, they have told me since, that changes must be made in the police department, office of the city attorney, and the city superintendent's department.

Therefore, until such a time as the voter and the taxpayer definitely states he is agreeable to leaving on the public payroll certain persons in whom he, the voter and taxpayer, has lost confidence and trust, I have no alternative but to use every resource at my command to see that the people's wishes are carried out.

and best wishes for a Happy New Year. Harold Merrill, John P. Daugherty, John A. Nosler, Herb Fischborn, Fred C. Homes, P. H. Stansbury.