

U. of O. Library

Letter From Washington

By Hon. Harris Ellsworth,
Congressman, 4th District

As this rather futile session of Congress grinds on toward the half-way mark it is becoming more and more apparent that nothing much will be done this year. In one way that is a good thing. The Administration's demands for socialistic legislation are being flatly ignored. On the other hand, Congress most certainly should act on several fairly important matters this year. It should make substantial progress toward adopting recommendations made by the Hoover Commission. It should get rid of most of the war excise taxes. The Administration should quit playing politics with the Taft-Hartley law and cease blocking the passage of several improving amendments.

There is considerable other important and desirable legislation pending, but there does not seem much likelihood now that the strife-torn "majority" in this Congress will be able to agree on very much of it.

The failure of this 81st Congress — both last year and this year thus far — to do much of anything of a constructive nature seems to illustrate an important point. Ostensibly overwhelmingly controlled by the Administration — certainly controlled by the Administration's party — the majority members of the 81st Congress have declined to follow the President's leadership. The point is that Congress is in fact responsive to the wishes of the people with the result that a majority of the members of this Congress clearly do not believe that the plurality of popular vote received by President Truman in 1948 meant that the people of the country want the enactment of his socialistic program.

What this situation really means is that the people must again in a few months indicate by their ballots the kind of a Federal government they want. One third of the Senators and all of the 435 members of the House of Representatives will be up for election. Most Democratic party candidates — particularly those opposing incumbent Republicans — will campaign as supporters of the President's program. Without the fanfare of a Presidential campaign to confuse the real issue, the voters will calmly make their choice. This is the way our system of Representative government works.

At the end of the seventh month of fiscal 1950, the Federal government deficit was \$3,256,146,000. Treasury reports show that expenditures ran that much higher than revenues in the period from July 1 to January 31. The financial plight of the government on January 31 was almost three times as bad as a year ago when the government was \$1,448,867,000 in the hole on current operations. The public debt is rapidly approaching the staggering all-time high of \$257,000,000,000 — or more than one-quarter of a trillion dollars.

Committee Finds Building Fund Adequate

The Citizens Committee to work with the Board of Directors of School District 5 met Monday night and drew up a budget which will soon be published in detail. It was observed that the building fund was sufficient to completely pay for the three new buildings. The bonds are serial and a definite retirement program has been set up to pay off the entire indebtedness by 1961. It was decided Monday night to start a sinking fund to meet future needs in the way of building and a reasonable amount will be set aside each year for this purpose. It was estimated that the millage for next year will be approximately the same as at present. Basic School money from the State next year will amount to \$132,000 dollars as compared with \$124,000 this year. A vote on the budget will be taken in approximately a month. The definite date will be announced in the detailed published budget. The Citizens Committee consisting of C. R. Ramsey, A. W. Thomas, Jean Eberhart, Jim Busch, Eugene Bowman and the Board Members, Paul R. Finnell, Mrs. Mern Provost, Ben Lombard, Marshall Wodell and G. Edwin Dunn made up the budget committee.

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Council Revamps Schedule For City Water Consumers

The Ashland City Council revamped its original water rate schedule for residence use Tuesday night when it adopted another proposal to increase water rates here.

The new proposal would lower slightly the rate as proposed at last week's meeting.

Under the new schedule to following proposed rates would be in effect should an ordinance providing for such be approved when it is drafted:

Present Rate	Proposed Rate
1000 Min. 2.00	500 Min. 2.00
3000 @ 8c per 100 2.40	3500 @ 10c per 100 3.50
20000 @ 6c 4.80	6000 @ 8c per 100 4.80
Excess @ 4c	10000 @ 6c per 100 6.00
	20000 @ 4c per 100 8.00
	40000 @ 2c per 100 8.00
	Excess @ 1 1/4c

Voting for the new rates were Councilmen Stansbury, Homes, Neill and Kroeger. Against the rates were Councilmen Bailey and Sheldon.

The new schedule would not effect the previous rate increase of from \$10 to \$12 per acre as set up for irrigation use at last week's meeting.

Light Rates Discussed

Councilman Fred Homes recommended that a light rate be adopted to conform with those rates now in force by California Oregon Power company to customers it serves within the city limits. Homes moved that present city rates be lowered to conform with Copeco rates and the motion was seconded by Stansbury. After much discussion the Council vote on the matter was deadlocked with Homes, Stansbury and Kroeger voting for the measure and Bailey, Neill and Sheldon opposing any reduction in rates. Mayor Tom Williams cast the deciding vote when he opposed the measure stating that he believed the change would effect the budget.

Names Planning Commission

A seven-man planning commission was named by Mayor Williams to assist and make recommendations on the city's zoning problems. Named on the commission were Morton Newton, Jack Reed, G. A. Sullivan, Owen Gragg, Jack Patt, Bernard Patterson and Rev. Robert McIlvanna.

Talk Building Sale

Councilman Elmer Sheldon withdrew his motion for sale of the building on Third street, formerly purchased for a fire station site, when Councilman Dick Neill suggested that in his opinion the building should be retained until a more suitable spot has been established.

Refuse Mail Delivery

A letter from Perry A. Smith, 1228 East Main, stated that he had been refused mail delivery at his home due to street conditions caused by parking of cars and trucks near the Magnolia Lumber mill. It was moved by Neill and accepted unanimously by the council that the matter be referred to the Chief of Police to have the situation corrected.

Talk Golf Course

City attorney Skerry reported that negotiations were continuing on the planned lease of the golf course to a California pair. It was estimated the city's share in putting the course in operation would amount to approximately \$4000 in cost of pipe for the water system. The water consumed from city lines is to be paid for at the regular city water rate.

At least two men spoke to the council against the proposed spending of city money on the course, stating that in their opinion the operation is that of setting up private enterprise with city monies. The airport was also attacked in the discussion. It was called to the attention of the complainers by Abe Neslin that the tourist trade, which plays an important part in the city's income, will be attracted by the golf course.

THIEVES ENTER UNION STATION TUESDAY NIGHT

Recovery of a cash drawer, stolen from the O'Hara Union service station on North Main Tuesday night, was found by a telephone line crew at the end of Oak street and turned over to city police early Wednesday afternoon.

Officers discovered the theft at 12:05 Tuesday night and said that entrance to the station was made through the main door after a glass had been broken out.

The cash drawer contained only 12 cents when taken but damage was done in breaking open the drawer.

Sawdust Problem Aired By Council

The Ashland City Council was again faced with the sawdust problem at their Tuesday night meeting when Owen Gragg, operator of Twin Plunges, appeared before the council and requested they take action in controlling the controversy.

Gragg said that he plans to open the Twin Plunges in the near future and asked that the council take action on the matter of ordering installation of some sort of cyclone burner at the Taylor Brothers mill, which he says is the main source of his trouble. Gragg said that in his own case, other mills were no bother although other complaints listed the U & S lumber company burner as in need of such an installation.

Mayor Williams and Councilman Sheldon cited the success of installation of a cyclone burner at the Elk Lumber company mill in Medford and said that the operators claim it has controlled the flying sawdust by 85 percent and at the same time eliminated much of the fire hazard.

Drew Lamb, operator of the Magnolia Lumber corporation here said that a burner similar to the Holt cyclone burner and that it has proven effective in the sawdust control.

City attorney Harry A. Skerry stated that, if an ordinance is to be drawn to control the sawdust, it should be drawn to effect installation of proper burners rather than a nuisance ordinance since it is difficult to determine what constitutes a nuisance. He said that he would draft a plan to be presented at the next meeting of the council.

Tour of Valley Jersey Cattle Herds Announced

A two day tour of the Jersey cattle herds in Jackson and Josephine counties May 16 and 17 is announced by the Rogue River Jersey Cattle club. The tour will be held in lieu of the annual spring show which had originally been set for the third week in June.

The regular meeting of the Club was held at the home of Frank Schutzwol in Grants Pass on March 12th.



STUDENTS STUDY RADIOACTIVITY — A "Student-Type Geiger-Mueller Counter," which can be built by high school science classes for an approximate cost of \$45, is demonstrated by Arthur Lazarus, left, teacher of physics at the Forest Hills High School in New York. Listening to the explanation are Sanin Fink, one of his students, and Lawrence Rosler, right, a student at Brooklyn Technical High School.

Progressive Pioneer Spirit Builds New Crescent City Citizens Dock

The culmination of a community project undertaken in the spirit of the early days of the pioneer west was celebrated last Saturday when the new famous Citizens' Dock of Crescent City, California, was officially dedicated with all the color and fanfare of a festival.

Among the guests who were entertained by Crescent City were three Ashland men, Phil Stansbury, representing the City Council, Lyndell Newbry, president of the Ashland Chamber of Commerce and Bill McGee, secretary of the local Chamber. With true western hospitality, the host city provided complete entertainment for their official visitors from Grants Pass, Medford and Ashland, from the round trip by Southwest Airways to hotel accommodations, meals and "all the crabs and beer they could consume." In spite of intermittent fog and rain on Saturday the gala events took place with little change except for finding cover from the downpour.

Of particular interest to many people in Ashland was the announcement that the Queen of the City Dock Dedication was a former high school student here, Gail Barnum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. O. Barnum. It was a gala occasion for the entire Del Norte county as well as the

scores of invited guests. Greetings and congratulations poured in from far distant points. The best wishes from Ashland were expressed by Councilman Phil Stansbury together with those of the local Chamber of Commerce represented by the new president, Lyndell Newbry. Medford and Grants Pass well wishers included the mayors and various civic organizations.

The Crescent City Dock is the realization of a dream by local citizens who had vision and determination, and who refused to be discouraged in the face of obstacles. In spite of lack of Federal backing they proceeded to construct with volunteer labor and donated material, a dock which will accommodate fishing and lumber vessels. The work was accomplished during the past unseasonable winter under great difficulties. Its completion marks the beginning of a new business era for the Del Norte seaport, for lumber mills can now operate at lowered transportation costs, the fishing fleet will increase and new industry is already making tentative investigation of the area.

Those who attended the dedication were impressed with the spirit of determination and progress shown by the alert California community which refused to be daunted by disappointments and did not sit back waiting for government handouts. The ultimate effect of the Crescent City Dock will spread inland in that much of southern Oregon's produce can be shipped by water rather than overland.

The Ashland Legion Kiltie Band added much to the celebration and was a feature attraction during their stay. Their appearance was sponsored by the Elks Lodge of Ashland.

Girl Scout Area Meeting In Ashland

The second annual conference of the 11th area Girl Scouts met in all day session on Wednesday at the Elks with 200 adult leaders in attendance. Representatives of the organization came from as far as northern California and Klamath Falls. The morning business period was taken up in reports from area troop leaders which was followed by a luncheon in the downstairs dining room.

The luncheon speaker was Miss Jackie Wilkes, now attending the University at Eugene, who told of her experiences last summer as a "Juliet Low" girl. She was chosen as one of four American Girl Scouts to visit Switzerland for the international world convention. Her account of the countries and their customs, the friendships made with girls of other nationalities and the results of her trip made Miss Wilkes talk an out-standing feature of the conference.

Spring Style Show Sponsored by Local Church Women

Officially Spring arrived last Tuesday but most of Ashland has been aware of its approach for several weeks due to the brilliant posters appearing in the downtown windows. The professional touch in lettering done by V. D. Miller, plus the colorful feminine figures have aroused keen local interest in the forthcoming Spring Style Show scheduled for Tuesday evening, March 28th at the Women's Civic Clubhouse.

Eighteen Ashland merchants are joining in the annual event which is promoted by the Congregational Women under the direction of a committee composed of Mrs. E. N. Terrill, chairman, Mrs. E. A. Haris, Mrs. J. F. Jeter, Mrs. W. P. Peake, Mrs. E. P. Borden and Mrs. June Swanson. The tickets are on sale by the merchants who are participating, as well as by the Women of the Congregational church, but the capacity of the clubhouse limits the audience to 350, so the committee warns that late purchasers may be disappointed.

In addition to the fashion revue a musical program will be given by Mrs. Oscar Bjorlie, cellist, Lois Miller Windsor, vocalist and Miss Margaret Ramsey, piano accompanist.

The firms cooperating in the Spring Style Show are — Weitzels, Fortmiller, Parkers House of Fashion, Pentzers, Federated, J. C. Penney & Co., Dodge Furniture Co., Drs. Blanche and Carlton Rice, Ashland Florists, Alfred's Florists, Rose Mary Flower Shop, Ashland Florist Beauty Shop, Hillside Salon, Georgia Bowman's Beauty Shop, Lithia Beauty Shoppe, Uptown Beauty Salon and Whittle's Transfer.

Local Republican Women Meet; Reorganize

A large number of women braved the inclement weather last Saturday afternoon when they met at the Plaza Cafe to reorganize the local Republican club. Following a full discussion of the best organizational methods, it was voted unanimously to act as a "grass-roots" unit on the basis of local political activity beginning with the precincts and carrying through to the state and national work. Officers elected to serve for the ensuing year, chairman, Mrs. Faith McCullough, vice-chairman, Mrs. Nelle Dunn, and secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Lolita Perrine.

Following the business session an open forum was conducted on the subject of pending legislation and current events. A report was made by the chairman of two recent events of importance, the local appearance of Senator Wayne Morse and the talk given by Col. William Browne on the methods of communist infiltration.

The next meeting of the Ashland Unit of Republican Women will be held on Saturday, April 15th at the Lithia Hotel.

Traffic Safety Trophy to be Given

Ashland senior high school students have an opportunity to win for themselves and their school the "Traffic Safety Award" now being offered for the first time by the Chief of Police, Vern Smith. The new contest is open to any registered student and consists of an essay of not more than 1000 words on the subject "How to Promote More Traffic Safety in Ashland." The essays must be submitted to a board of judges before May 1st, and the personal safety record of the entrant will be viewed before the final decision of the judges.

Chief Smith announced that this is to be an annual event and that the trophy upon which the winner's name will be engraved will become the property of the school. The judges for the 1950 contest will be in addition to the sponsor, Chief Vern Smith, the principal of the senior high school, Roland Parks, the Ashland City Judge, L. P. Wilmeth, George Green, editor of the Ashland Daily Tidings, Logan White, editor of the News Review, Doyle Seeley, of KWIN and Harry Skerry, City Attorney.