

Southern Oregon News Review

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IT CAN BE DONE

There were those who said it couldn't be done. A few said it shouldn't be done, but members of the Ashland Lions club, Elks lodge and city PTA council went ahead with their plans and in one civic project raised approximately half the funds necessary to purchase traffic lights for two city school crossings.

These three groups, organized for widely different purposes, found a common tie in the need for safety for the children of Ashland. They devised a plan and, with the approval of the school board and city officials, put the plan to work.

To those who doubted, we admit the job is only half done, but with such an impressive start, can there really be any doubt now as to its eventual success?

Some of those who said it shouldn't be done, still contend that such responsibilities lie solely with the city council.

Sour grapes!

Basically, the problem is this: Ashland, like most cities today, has financial problems. Money has to be spread over all functions of the city government and when the necessary budgeting is completed most departments haven't as much as they need. The money just isn't available for many important and necessary things—including traffic signals.

The council long ago agreed to have the lights installed if they were secured. This represents a cost approximately equal to the cost of materials.

Under the circumstances it would seem the purchase would need to be financed in one of two ways. Either the people of Ashland could raise the money voluntarily or the people of Ashland could raise the money through some sort of tax levy.

We like this voluntary way. It's democratic and it's an indication of true civic pride. More power to the organizations behind it!

THE BEST ADVERTISEMENT

It can be fairly said that the principal aim of the typical retailer in this country is to give you the most possible for your money—in goods, services, or other values.

The retailer doesn't do this as a matter of charity. He isn't running an eleemosynary institution. He, like everyone else, is working to make a profit. But he knows that he must give the customer full value—and that if he doesn't the customer will soon make tracks past his store and take his trade down the street. In other words, competition forces him to give the customer the right kind of a break.

Retailing, as anyone can see, is one of the most competitive of all businesses. The biggest chain system on earth, for instance, hasn't got a monopoly on anything. It must compete every working day with thousands of other stores, of all kinds and sizes. And the biggest store in the world, if it fails in the job of pleasing and satisfying the consumer, will go to the wall eventually.

Here is one of the biggest reasons for our American standard of living. Competition holds prices to the lowest possible level—and so our dollars go farther than they would otherwise. Competition forces all producers and distributors to work harder to please us—and so we have the widest possible selection of goods to choose from when we go shopping. In the free market, the consumer is always the dominant factor. His desires and fancies can make or break any business.

Retailing is the best advertisement the free enterprise system has.

THE AMERICAN WAY



Throw Out The Back-Seat Driver

YOUR COUNTY AGENT

Describes Control of Field Mice

BY C. B. CORDY
County Agent, Horticulturist

Control of mice is a problem which has been facing home owners and farmers for years. In most cases mice can be held pretty well under control by hiring the services of a good cat and the judicious use of a little poison. In orchards we have a somewhat different problem. The field mice that work in orchards seem to build up to epidemic numbers, and then they are apparently controlled by natural forces.

We had an epidemic of mouse injury in 1938 and we reached another peak two years ago. This time we have not had the sudden disappearance of the mice. Their numbers were reduced sharply, but there are still enough mice present to cause considerable commercial injury.

Trees Killed

Damage by mice in an orchard is different than it is around a barn where they steal small amounts of grain. In an orchard the injury is done to the tree and unless checked, a few mice can completely girdle a tree and in a few years it will die. The mice thrive best in orchards where grass and cover crops have made a good growth and are not completely worked in by cultivation. The accumulation of trash, especially near the trees, is not only very favorable but somewhat necessary for the mice.

Partial control can be obtained by going into an orchard and clearing out all of the grass and trash from around the tree trunk. After the mice have become established this control method is not reliable, as the mice will frequently tunnel back into the tree and again attack it. The surest means of control is to kill the mice, and the simplest way of doing this is by the use of poison.

Bait Available

Regular mouse poisons and squirrel poisons are not very effective on field mice, as they do not readily accept these baits. In most cases it is necessary to use an especially prepared bait with zinc phosphide as the poison. Each year the Fish and Wildlife service mixes some of this special bait and makes it available to growers at cost. We have a small amount of this bait on hand now, and any grower who has mice can obtain the poison here at the office. We have only a small amount, but as soon as it is gone the Fish and Wildlife service has promised to mix another batch so that local needs can be filled.

Trees which have been damaged by mice can be somewhat repaired by bridge grafting. In order to be successful this grafting must be done the same winter that the injury occurs. February and March are the best months for grafting, but by that time most of the good grafting wood has been pruned off. If you need to do any grafting it would be well to leave unpruned a few trees with lots of water sprouts.

A meeting of interest to all horticulturists in the valley is the Oregon Horticultural society meeting in Corvallis on November 30 and December 1. This meeting will be divided into tree fruit and vegetable sections, with the small fruit problems being taken up along with the tree fruits. Programs for the meeting are not yet available, but some advance information indicates a very interesting and worthwhile meeting.

Growers attending these meetings will find that they really get more out of personal conversation with the staff members of the college than out of the actual meetings. These contacts of the growers with the college personnel work both ways. The grower obtains good information from the experiences of these workers, and the college men also find out from the growers what problems are bothering them and they are able to adjust their research programs to suit these needs. With this in mind, we really should have a good attendance of growers at these meetings which will be held on the college campus in Corvallis.

The recent winds and rains have knocked the leaves off of most of our trees, and they now appear quite different from what they did a few weeks ago. During the summer and fall we admire the deciduous trees for their shade and the beauty of their foliage. Now we are glad that the leaves are gone so that the sun can come through and we can admire the delicate tracery of the twigs and buds in silhouette.

It is at this season of year, too, that we appreciate those trees which shed their leaves quickly and all at once. Some trees seem to be rather trashy and are shedding leaves or seed pods of some kind almost all year. One of the worst of these is the black locust. This is a hardy tree and can withstand more abuse than most others, but it does have the drawback of shedding seed pods over a long period of time and keeping a lawn in a constant untidy condition.

Elks Open Square Dancing Program

The Elks winter square dancing season will begin Monday, December 4, at 8 p.m. All Elks are urged to get out their gingham and calico meetin' clothes and come dance a square, by Chairman Jim Briggs.

Lessons for beginners will be given each evening, Briggs said. Other committee members helping with the fun are Parker Hess, Eddie Joanis, Cliff McLean, and Ted Schopf.

Furnace Fire Backfire Causes Minor Blaze

The furnace flue of the Faith Temple church in Ashland backfired yesterday morning and ignited a curtain in the basement. According to Fire Chief H. D. McNair, no damage resulted and the blaze was put out before it could spread to other parts of the building.



STUDENT OFFICERS . . . Members of the 1950-51 Talent high school student council who have the responsibility of guiding student activities this year. From left to right are Ronald Ties and Ileen Oliver, business managers; Kenny Reynolds, junior class president; Jerry Montgomery, senior class president; Mary Rice, student body secretary; Bill Smith, student body president; Pat Henry, student body vice-president; Kay Carter, freshman class president; and Larry Quackenbush, sophomore class president.

Magazine Features Story On Former SOC Student

William Cottrell, originally from Phoenix, and a member of the first Shakespearean festival cast in 1934, is featured in a story with the actor Charles Laughton in the November issue of Theatre Arts magazine.

The article concerns the unique theatrical group which Cottrell originated. Hoping only to get 10 persons interested in reading Shakespeare, he was flooded with 1,500 interested replies to his plea.

From this original action, and with the help of actor Laughton, the group meets four nights a week for verse and story reading, and the Charles Laughton Players company tours California.

Cottrell studied for two years at SOC and later at the University of Oregon. He has had roles in the movies, "Naked City," and "The Man in the Eiffel Tower." The latter was made with Laughton.

Prof. Lawrence Butler of the Southern Oregon college science department, will attend the Oregon Educational Association's council meeting in Portland tomorrow and Saturday, as SOC's representative.

ENLISTMENTS NOW OPEN IN ARMY AIRBORNE UNITS

Army airborne enlistments are open for volunteers with or without prior service between the ages of 17 and 34, said the recruiting officer in Medford.

Airborne includes any unit which is transposed suddenly into the air. It calls for highly trained men along technical and specialized lines.

Enlistments are also open for men between the ages of 19 to 26 for a 21-month period. Details can be obtained in the recruiting office in the post office building, Medford.

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Uniform Fund Now at \$501 Mark

As of yesterday, \$501 has been received towards the \$800 goal of the current junior-senior PTA school band uniform drive, according to Bob Hutchinson, chairman of the PTA committee.

Contributors to the fund so far have been the Ashland Rotary club, Ashland Elks lodge No. 944, Ashland Junior Chamber of Commerce, benefit concert, J. C. Penney company, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Yates, a Friend of the band, Ashland school district No. 5, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. McGee, and a band parent.

In addition to Hutchinson, the PTA committee is composed of Mrs. Bob Hutchinson, Mrs. Drew Lamb, and Roland Parks, high school principal. Committee members expressed the hope that the goal can be reached in the near future.

The committee noted several projects among service clubs for the raising of funds. Also, the Willamette university band is being brought here for a concert in February for the benefit.

Donations may be mailed to the Ashland School Band fund in care of the high school or superintendent's office.