

Southern Oregon News Review

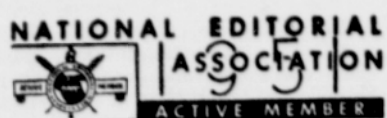
Ashland, Oregon

38 East Main Street

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Hop Aboard The Special

The action is near on the SP stoppage with the announcement today that the California hearing will be held in Dunsmuir on September 12.

At the same time, George Flagg, Oregon commissioner, has stated that no hearing will be held in Oregon because Oregon law "does not require approval of the commission prior to discontinuance of such service."

BUT, he adds, that "any action we take would have to be on the basis of adequate service to the public." Here, is what the News Review has been broadcasting for the past two months.

No matter what happens at the Dunsmuir hearing, Oregon's hands are tied UNLESS the Chambers of Commerce hit at the heart of the matter — ADEQUATE SERVICE.

Thus, the time is now to go ahead of the drive to block discontinuance and concern ourselves with the more important matter of service.

The Medford Mail Tribune and the Siskiyou Daily News of Yreka have joined with the News Review in this crusade for better service. The Chamber of Commerce groups of Ashland, Cottage Grove and we HOPE, Medford tomorrow, are leading the cause.

The special diesel-powered train labeled "adequate, modern service for the Siskiyou line" is getting up steam. How about the rest of the communities along the line hopping aboard?—H.N.

Thank Harry McNair

Ashland's city council accepted the resuscitator from the trustees of the Butler Memorial Trust fund at last Tuesday's meeting.

Acceptance was based largely on the facts produced, and responsibility accepted, by Fire Chief Harry McNair. He will be in personal charge of the two-unit machine and will assume the burden of placing its nominal expense within his already cramped department budget.

The expense will amount to, at the most, \$10 to \$15 a year. The chief has weighed this small expense against the lives that could be saved from its operation and thought that the gift in return for maintenance and operation, was worth the annual upkeep.

Ashland should be thankful that its fire chief will fight for equipment that will protect the lives of the citizens of Ashland's area. He knew the worth of the machine and was willing to take on the burden of operation to make his department better equipped to save lives... EVEN, at the risk of having to ask the victims that were revived by the machine to pay him for the oxygen used, or else foot the bill himself.

Luckily, the council, after an investigation, was persuaded by the chief's logic and unanimously approved acceptance of the gift as offered.

Some day, in the future, when you are revived from the dead from a heart attack, gas or smoke asphyxiation, or drowning, thank the deceased benefactor, Mr. Butler, the trustees of his fund... and the man who talked until WE got it, Harry McNair.

Respectable Soliciting: A Livelihood

With the decision by the Oregon supreme court last July 6 in Phillips v. Bend to uphold the right of Bend, Ore., to prevent solicitors, peddlers, transient vendors, etc., from going into private property unless with prior invitation or request, the way is clear for all Oregon towns to copy Bend's ordinance and stop house to house solicitors.

The court's decision followed upon the federal decision of June 4 in Breard v. Alexandria which declared a similar Louisiana town ordinance valid barring an uninvited house-to-house canvassing by salesmen.

All attempts by the plaintiffs under the court-worn clauses of the federal and state constitutions protecting personal rights were overruled on grounds recognizing the city's power to enact such legislation.

The Oregon supreme court stressed the fact that the Bend ordinance was non-discriminatory in that local solicitors received the same treatment as out-of-town ones. The court also said that it was not arbitrary to classify solicitors with peddlers and that such an ordinance was clearly within a corporate city's powers.

The Bend ordinance defines the illegal purpose as "... soliciting orders for the sale of goods, wares, and merchandise and/or for the purpose of disposing of and/or peddling or hawking the same, or soliciting orders for photographs, is hereby prohibited and declared to be a nuisance and punishable as such nuisance as a misdemeanor."

Thus, Bend still allows solicitation for charitable causes but, unless invited, all solicitation of merchandise is over.

What, then, is to become of the welcomed house-to-house salesman that brings brushes, cooking products, food demonstrations, women's clothing, etc., and is reputable and usually a resident of the locality?

Our Town



By HARRY NORDWICK

This Saturday will end the 11th season of the Shakespearean festival with more national publicity awarded the plays and OUR TOWN than in any other year in the festival's history.

With such successes as the AP wire feature story and the CBS and NBC radio programs under their belt, the festival association told of the festival's presence to many parts of the nation that never knew that it existed before.

As the future unfolds, the hotels, motels, restaurants and other businesses that cater to the tourists will be as packed as the seating capacity at the theatre.

The question arises, can the association keep pace with this growth?

So far, the productions have merit better than professional productions on New York's Broadway — quoting people that have seen them — because the acting is strong from the lead to walk-on parts as opposed to the professional show with two or three outstanding performers and the rest only mediocre.

Thus, the productions are neither amateur, for they are too skilled, nor professional, because they are stronger and have more sparkle. They are, then, necessarily in a category of their own. A good name would be academic nonprofessional. The word academic should be included because of the technical achievement and background of the collegiate performers that take part in the plays centered around Southern Oregon college.

Non-professional, because the actors do the work without pay, other than scholarships, like a football player giving his best for "old Eli" and full of the sparkle that isn't tinged by the almighty dollar.

The fact that the productions are acted by non-professionals (with no paid performance salary) doesn't necessarily mean that there shouldn't be professional direction on the stage and in the box office.

Several visitors to the festival last week warned that unless the box office becomes professionalized, the festival will topple from being top heavy in production and light in box office and business management.

How far it would topple is hard to say because it has gotten along quite well as it has been run. The question is, can, and will the association pay the salaries needed to acquire this talent, that will continue the growth of the festival on an equal basis?

Actors, and competent ones, will act for next to nothing. Publicity men and business managers don't look at their work that way. They want to get something for their efforts — or, there will be no effort.

The answer is, he can no longer operate unless he devises some means to get invited. This, in most cases, results in actual prohibition of his business, leaving many hopeful housewives without a handy source of household items.

Luckily, Ashland has a more sober view of such solicitors and screens out the undesirables and licenses the desirable ones at rates of \$2.50 a day, \$3.50 a week, \$5 a month and \$10 a year. With a well-defined procedure, the city, through the office of City Recorder John Austin, requires formal applications of all such house-to-house salesmen and a sanction by the chief of police after an investigation.

Even such a clear and public spirited policy as Ashland's has been questioned by some of the solicitors on grounds that the ordinance requiring licenses violates interstate commerce. With the federal decision, such a contention is invalid now, and doing away with all such solicitation is PERFECTLY valid for any city.

The latter course is not advised, however, for it deprives many respectable citizens of a livelihood and many housewives of house delivered items.

And, further, the city receives a small but much-needed revenue and such solicitors as the kind that stick their foot in Dagwood Bumstead's comic-strip door are effectively screened out.

The city of Bend and any other Oregon city with a similar ordinance can re-democratize their laws with a new licensing procedure similar to Ashland's.

This paper would like to know just what kind of citizen it is that would take away a respectable man's livelihood that is doing nobody more harm than a walk from the kitchen to the front door and in all likelihood saving a longer walk downtown and possibly some gasoline expense. —H.N.

Capital Parade...

By Murray Wade

POLITICAL POTPOURRI

Both republican and democratic political mustard pots this week contributed dabs of hot stuff to the preamble of the 1952 primary campaign — now less than nine months away.

Governor Douglas McKay said he hasn't made up his mind whether he would retire from public life at the end of his term. Some weeks ago he told a political group that he wouldn't run again for governor. Now he is not sure the law has not already made up his mind.

The constitution permits a man to hold this office only eight years out of any 12. That means that if he were elected again, he would have to resign half way through his term.

Secretary of State Earl T. Newberry announced that he will be a candidate for reelection at republican primary election in May. At the 1948 general election Newberry led both partisan and nonpartisan tickets with 323,719 votes. He defeated his rival almost two to one. In the same election Governor McKay polled 271,295 votes to his rival's 226,958.

Howard Morgan, Monmouth, who was a member of the 1949 legislature and the democratic candidate for labor commissioner in 1950 is being mentioned for the democratic nomination for secretary of state.

State Treasurer, Walter Pearson, the only democrat who has been elected state treasurer in Oregon in more than 65 years, announced he would not be a candidate to succeed himself.

He is bitter over what a republican controlled legislature did to the office of state treasurer. Many of the functions of the board of control, consisting of the governor, the secretary of state and the state treasurer, were transferred to the state department of finance, which the law makers created, then authorized the governor to appoint a director of finance to rule over the new department.

Pearson probably feels that the creation of the state department of finance hijacked him out of party-fence-building patronage and columns of publicity — always easy to knock off by starting a controversy.

Looks like Walter Pearson is disgusted with Oregon politics and will devote his time to his profitable insurance business in Portland. But who will straddle the democratic donkey, take up Walter's blunted lance to joust with anyone who climbs on the GOP elephant?

HOW MUCH REPUBLICAN?

Will Oregon ever go democratic again?

Will Multnomah county democrats who are outregistering republicans arouse a hope for success at the polls that will bring out well known and efficient republican men as democratic candidates?

Republicans are apprehensive.

Since Oregon statehood 92 years ago, eight democrats and 11 republicans have been elected governor; two democrats and 11 republicans have been elected secretary of state and five democrats and ten republicans have been elected state treasurer.

Aside from federal broadways of political patronage Oregon democrats have had little to hand out to party workers.

MOSTWHILE REPUBLICAN

With the exception of two short intervals republicans have continued to rule over the state board of control since its creation in 1913. The exceptions were brief. In 1924 Governor Walter M. Pierce (Dem.) appointed Jefferson Myers (Dem.) to fill the vacancy caused by the death of State Treasurer O. P. Hoff. Pierce and Myers then ruled the board for nine and one-half months until Thomas B. Kay, (Rep.) who had won in the 1924 election, took Meyer's seat.

The other exception was in 1938, when thirteen days before the expiration of his term, Governor Charles E. Martin (Dem.) appointed Walter E. Pearson, (Dem.), (father of the present treasurer), as state treasurer following State Treasurer Rufus Holman's resignation. Martin and Pearson had their way on the board until Governor-elect Charles A. Sprague (Rep) was sworn into office.

If the festival is to continue to grow, it must have PROFESSIONAL administration with academic non-professional acting. Such is the opinion of this writer and several others in the field of promotion.

OLD TIMERS

Jacksonville's Old Brunner Store

By R. M. DeMILLE

On the 4th and 5th of August 1951, Jacksonville commemorated its annual Gold rush days of 1856 from whence came the rich color of the gold nuggets and rare specimens of gold bearing ore, taken from the mother lode mines in the mountain hills close to Jacksonville.

As time passed into the future and the pep of the old gold diggers faded away, under the pressure of the failure of mines, it was understood that its valuation was too deep for miner's manual labor.

It was very seldom that any of these mines ever retrieved any of the metal, to the miner in paying quantities. Things were quite different in those old days, in regards to the scarcity of men, and when the development of modern machinery was placed on the ground, things then turned for the better again.

'50 Times Greater'

But the big corporations that were doing this mining on a big scale were handling and digging fifty times more earth to that of one miner, and were cutting down the man power. Awkwardly speaking, three out of five of those miners had families or dependents. But the wheel of fortune didn't turn up on their number, and the miner was forced to replace his main abilities with awkwardness in working for the company mines or else work at a paying job of some other nature that would furnish support to feed his family.

Then, as the cream of the shallow placer bars were cleaned out and the lands were turned into farms and ranches fenced in, then the miner was deprived of mining inside or on ownership of deeded land. Then Jacksonville was left to modify some neutral way to commercialize in some other form of business.

Other Livelihoods

Then came the fruit, vegetables, grain, lumbering, and stock raising which brought the city to its feet and stood there, and today it equally stands in proportion with any town of its size in the state of Oregon.

It is greatly advertised as a symbol of rarity to the people of Oregon and into the minds of young and old everywhere throughout the states of the union. When all the old tunes that were sung and played here in yesteryear are played today, it brings back the old nugget of friendship.

There were some very valuable and interesting memories

During the 38 years the state board of control retained its original functions there were less than 10 months when democrats constituted a majority of the board.

Some of the functions of the unpurged board of control were just dandy avenues for routing political patronage.

to see in the old town; for instance how the reaction of time on some of the old hand-moulded brick that is deteriorating, has chipped its passages. The bricks must have been well moulded and fired in the old kilns that took days and sometimes weeks with proper skill and workmanship.

Old Brunner Store

The old bricks that were laid by the ring of the trowel are still intact in the famous old brick building built by J. A. Brunner Brothers back in 1855.

This old store served as a supply base for the mines and miners throughout the Siskiyou range and the mining fields of California.

There were other distinctive landmarks connected with Jacksonville's pioneer days. The old hitchen' posts that stood attention for so many years have disappeared and faded away, and the old plank walks that carried the sound like an old base drum to the tune of a clickity-click of the spur rows and the clumpy-clump of saddle boots.

Boy, did it look good to see the dozens of saddle horses tied to those hitchen' racks, and the smoke rollin' out through the front door from a pair of six-shooters — maybe caused by a dispute over a penny-ante game and a pair of ducers, or an ace in the hole.

Streamlined 6-Shooters

A good many of those old timers generally filed the notches from the trigger and by good accuracy thumbed the hammer and shot from the hip, at the wink of an eye. That kind of shootin' was more dangerous than a rattlesnake bite. It was not good medicine to ask any questions about a gunman's personal affairs. Those kinda' fellers change their minds for the worst very often.

The old Brunner store took the place of a fort as a protection for the women and children while the battle was raging at Table Rock and Tolo. Chief John stormed General Lane's forces at Table Rock and Tolo, and by a miracle the Rogue Indians were kept at bay while a dispatch message was sent to Grants Pass for a troop of soldiers which arrived in the nick of time, and saved the day for General Lane.

(To be Continued)

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