

Southern Oregon News Review

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"Even OPINION is of force enough to make itself to be espoused at the expense of life." —Montaigne

There Was No Choice

"Bless me! This is pleasant riding on the rail." And so many another thought like John Saxe and enjoyed riding the Siskiyou passenger train since 1887 into our Rogue river valley.

As we grew and prospered through the years, pleasant riding on the rails vanished as pleasanter, speedier and more accommodating rides could be realized in passenger cars, airplanes and busses. It wasn't that many of us didn't like to ride on a train (the fact is, many of us PREFER it); but, rather, that we will take the most pleasant form of transportation that suits our requirements regarding speed or vacation travel.

To us, there was no choice. When we lined them all up we had bright, shiny mainliners at the Medford airport; sleek, powerful Greyhounds with their versatile schedules, and tired, smoke-stained, green-glassed old trains still being pulled by steam locomotives. There was no question which we would choose, it had to be either the plane or the bus, or our own private motor cars.

We never had a chance to know if we could have supported a bright shiny, diesel-powered Budd car which would have at least a near-even chance against busses, planes and private cars.

When we stood at the Oak street crossing in Ashland or the Main street crossing in Medford we couldn't help think, "How come these big powerful diesels on the huge freight trains and not one pulling a passenger train? It sure seems to me as if this terrific freight business could somehow subsidize the passenger business enough to get it started with some new, modern equipment. They sure o'tta . . . oh, well, what can I do?"

Well, the "Is" never got together to make enough "We's" so last Tuesday saw the final passenger run over the south Siskiyou route. There will still be a few passengers, however, who will view the scenic wonders of this route. They are the "Gentlemen of the Rods." Call them "Hobos" if you like. At least they've found the only way to beat the Southern Pacific—and riding free at that. They know as Phoebe Hoffman knew, "Riding on your sliding roof-tops, that's where joy and freedom are." Railroad men on the freighters will still know that the train is "Like a giant earth-worm twisting, slowly 'round the curve they flow . . . will still think of when I rode the freighters — engines spouting steam like whales."

Like railroad men and their "free" passengers, the Hobos, many of us will think of when we rode the passengers. And with these memories we will also think of how pleasant it COULD have been still riding the rails, 20th century style, in modern diesel-powered trains. We never knew what we never tried. And neither did the SP.

WEEKLY FRUIT CROP REVIEW

Increase in Pear Market Strength

Pear markets strengthened during the past week ending February 19 and Northwest Delicious apples reached the highest price so far this marketing season, according to the weekly fruit and nut crops review prepared by the OSC extension service from USDA reports and other data.

PEAR PRICES MOSTLY HIGHER: The volume of pears moving through eastern auctions dropped off sharply during the past seven days and anjou prices have advanced. The volume sold through the eastern auctions was slightly under half as large as a week ago. Prices received for Oregon anjou averaged \$4.99 a box. This is up 46 cents from the week before.

The nation's cold storage holdings of pears are smaller than a year ago. Stocks the first of this month were down 38 per cent compared to last February.

APPLE PRICES SHOW MIXED TRENDS: Apple prices were slightly mixed in price trends during the past seven days. Delicious apples were in very strong demand and prices strengthened. This past week's average at 10 eastern auctions was the highest of the season for Washington red and regular delicious varieties. But Washington Romes sold for the lowest price of any time during the season at eastern auctions. Red delicious apples from Washington averaged \$5.91 a box at the major auctions last week, while Washington romes brought only \$3.07 a box.

Cold storage holdings of apples, nationally, at the first of February were well below last year. The total is about 40 per cent less than last February.

Court Records

William Eugene Kester, improper muffler, fine and costs, \$5.50.

Cleo Bailey Peters, failure to operate vehicle on right side of highway, cited.

Donald Charles Miller, improper muffler, fine and costs \$7.

Robert George Kramer, failure to stop at stop sign, cited.

Robert Lewis Levison, failure to display two plates, cited.

Robert Rounsaville Carter, failure to stop at stop sign, fine and costs, \$7.

Richard Paul Winter and Ronald K. Wilkerson, dumping debris upon county right-of-way, fine and costs, \$24.50 and 10 days suspended sentence.

Katherine Lynore Baalman, violation of basic rule, cited.

Ray Eugene Mays, defective lights, cited.

POLICE COURT

Ernest L. Harper, failure to heed traffic signal, bail \$5.

Arthur M. Knapp, failure to heed traffic signal, bail \$5.

Charles E. Perry, Jr., parking in crosswalk, bail \$2.50.

William Jessie James, vagrancy, sentenced to ten days in jail.

Lewis Albert Rose, failure to heed stop signal, bail \$5.



By HARRY NORDWICK

HE LIKES PEOPLE

Something unusual in the political field was found last week by Rogue valley press and radio men who heard a hitherto unknown Medford attorney quietly announce that he was filing on the GOP ticket for district attorney, opposing Incumbent Paul W. Haviland for that party's nomination.

The unusual part was that the man was seeking the job because he likes people. He admitted he was no politician. He wasn't in the job to make money. He came from poor parents and only became an attorney because of help from the GI bill.

He stated that he felt the present district attorney was running the office from a "policing" angle rather than from a "social" one. That many people were "opposed" to such policies, and that he felt that the DA should work more with the crime preventative agencies such as the juvenile court rather than start out with the premise they are "either guilty or not guilty."

This "social" approach to the office stems, the attorney told the group, from the basic fact that "I like people. I want to work with them and help them."

There you have a man. This corner thinks he is completely sincere. When he begins campaigning, listen to what he has to say. Candidates who sincerely like the PEOPLE are too far and few between. Just about forgot—his name is Walter Nunley. His office is in the Goldy building in Medford—if you would care to drop in and discuss PEOPLE, not politics.

CONTINUED STUDY

The Medford Tribune reported this week that Monroe Sweetland, Oregon democrat-national committee man, announced the decision by the secretary of the interior to give his approval to the "substitute plan" for development of the Rogue basin.

The Tribune said, "At the same time, he has reemphasized his opposition to the original 'Plan A,' but has given approval for long-range studies of the basin's needs."

The latter is the most enlightened statement of the whole announcement. This newspaper has said before that recent studies have shown that high dams on the main stem of the Rogue will improve Rogue fishing rather than hinder it. If the interior department continues studying the situation, hope remains for a solution to the main stream difficulties and for the conversion of Oscar Chapman to the view that aid dams will satisfy all and aid the development of our valley of the Rogue.

Basin Plan Okayed

Approval of the "Substitute Plan" for the development of the Rogue basin was announced this week by Interior Secretary Oscar Chapman.

The secretary also reiterated his stand opposing "Plan A" but gave approval for long-range studies of the basin's needs. The announcement was made by Monroe Sweetland, democrat-national committee man from Oregon, through the Medford Mail Tribune.

SOC CERAMICS CLASS IS SPRING OFFERING

A beginners ceramics class will be offered as a spring quarter evening class, according to Mrs. Mabel W. Winston, Southern Oregon college registrar.

Townpeople interested in this course, as well as the previously announced class in photography, are advised to apply for admission now. The spring term begins March 24.

EX-VALLEY RANCHER NOW SERVING IN KOREA

Pvt. Garland D. Winkle, Rt. 1, Eagle Point, is now serving with the 25th Infantry division on the snow-blanketed front in Korea.

Winkle is currently serving as a rifleman in the 27th Regiment and entered the army in June, 1951. Before entering the army, he was employed as a rancher.

The division is a veteran unit of the Korean war and is spending its second winter in the rugged terrain of the peninsula.

Capital Parade...

By Murray Wade

MAY BALLOT GROWS

Gen. Douglas MacArthur was the first to have his name formally entered in Oregon as a candidate for the republican nomination for president. Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Epton, Portland, filed the necessary petitions Feb. 19.

The name of Gen. Dwight Eisenhower was officially placed on the republican presidential primary ballot last Thursday by State Representative Mark Hatfield, secretary, and William L. Phillips, president of the Oregon Eisenhower-for-President committee. Hatfield made the statement that the general's record will be made clear to the people of the state.

Members of the 1951 legislative filing for reelection this week were:

Roger Loennig (Rep.) Haines, for the house; Boyd R. Overhulse (Dem.), Madras, for the house and Senate President Paul L. Patterson (Rep.) Hillsboro, for the senate.

OREGON MOTHER NAMED

Mrs. A. C. McIntyre, Pendleton, was selected this week as Oregon Mother of 1952. The announcement was made by Gov. Douglas McKay following a meeting of the Oregon Mother Committee of the Golden Rule Foundation.

Her selection was based on exemplifying the finest attributes as a mother, homemaker and citizen as well as her varied interests on the local and state level.

DOES CRIME PAY?

The old aphorism that crime doesn't pay was debunked by Captain Walter Lansing, head of the traffic safety division of the Oregon State Police in addressing a service club in Salem this week.

"It certainly doesn't pay in that the criminal is almost always apprehended, but when you realize that about seven billion dollars is annually extracted from legitimate channels by criminals, I don't see how you can say it isn't a paying proposition."

"One of the biggest businesses of this country today is the crime business. The only deterrent is the certainty of punishment."

"There is no enforcing of laws that are promulgated by 56 per cent of the registered voters," Lansing said.

SALES TAX UP AGAIN

A minimum \$75 a month old age pension is provided in a preliminary petition for an initiative measure filed with the secretary of state this week.

It is a self financing measure with a two per cent sales tax. If the sponsors, E. E. Rowton, Otis and Verna Schorn, Toledo obtain 26,286 signatures to complete their petitions before July 4 the provision will appear on the November election ballot.

CUSTODY OF CHILDREN

In a decision handed down this week the Oregon supreme court for the first time recognized an order of a probate judge of another state. The high court reversed an order by Circuit Court Judge Arlie G. Walker of Polk county who had awarded custody of two boys, 9 and 11, to their father residing in Oregon.

The mother obtained a divorce and an order for the children from a probate judge in Indiana. The supreme court order was written by Justice Walter L. Tooe. The boys did not recognize their mother when she came for them.

CAPITOL RAIDED

Oregon's Capitol was "sacked" this week by Coos Bay Pirates. In brilliant buccaneer costumes they cannonaded the state house, put state officials in irons and ran the Jolly Roger colors up the Capitol flagpole.

They had their own candidate for president and are leading a crusade to rub out petty grafters in office and establish good old-time pirates.

Their brevilogous platform would state employees:

(1) Relieve mental shortage by removing all name plates from official's desks and the lead out of politician's pants.

(2) Require office-holders to pass eighth-grade examinations and ring in and out at time-clocks.

(3) Increase morality among politicians — or increase mortality.

BRIEFLY —

First state capitol policeman in uniform goes to work this week—more to follow. . . . Motor vehicle traffic in Oregon required 541,034,753 gallons of gasoline last year. Up 5.9 per cent over 1950. . . . Delinquent income taxes (personal and corporate) increased 53 per cent during past three years—now \$4,225,000. . . . Salem Hi's soph Jack Eyerly has won more awards in scholastic art competition than anyone else in Oregon—nine first places and five second places.

Letter from Washington . . .

By HON. HARRIS ELLSWORTH
Member of Congress, 4th District

The term of a representative in congress is two years—two years of service, that is. It is just 16 months, however, after an Oregon congressman is elected until he must file for re-election if he desires to continue in office. The last general election was Nov. 7, 1950. The closing date for filing for the next primary election is March 7, 1952.

Last December I decided to seek re-election and announced that fact while I was in Oregon. Now it is necessary for me to complete the necessary formalities in connection with running for public office. A congressional candidate's name may be placed on the Oregon primary ballot in either one of two ways—by a petition signed by one thousand voters, or by simply filling out and filing a blank and paying a fee. The filing fees for the various offices vary with the office. In the case of the office of representative in congress the fee is \$100. Since I am some 3,000 miles away from Oregon at filing time, I shall file my candidacy by paying the fee.

It is customary for candidates to buy a page in the Oregon "Voter's Pamphlet" which is mailed to all voters prior to an election. This calls for another \$100 and some preparation of the material to be printed.

I have just about completed the necessary details mentioned above and will shortly make my filing. In other words, I am about to become a candidate for re-election!

The Universal Military Training bill is the next big order of business on the floor of the House. It will have 12 hours of what we call general debate and will then be read for amendment under the five minute rule. What that rule means is that any member may offer an amendment to the bill and is then automatically allowed five minutes in which to discuss it. Consideration of the UMT bill will probably take all of two weeks.

It has always seemed to me that if we needed more people in the armed forces than available on a volunteer basis, a compulsory military training program is better than a draft. In other words, I think it much better for all young men to be

ed for the same service to their treated the same and be obligated country. I think it much better also for every boy to know what he will be required to do and be able to plan his future accordingly than to wait in discouraging uncertainty for his name to be drawn in a selective service program.

Last year the House voted approval of the principle of Universal Military Training. I voted for that bill for the reasons stated. But the pending bill which now will put UMT into operation is not satisfactory according to my thinking. Under that bill some young men will be drafted and some will take training. It has no termination date. It leaves too much in the way of fateful decision to the President and the armed forces. I shall vote to send it back to the committee for further study in the hope they will come up with a better plan, unless this bill is very drastically amended on the floor.

Funny stories (not so funny at that) keep coming out of the committees regarding military purchasing. Now it is learned that the armed services specifications for fly swatters weigh two and one-half pounds and the book is 4 inches thick.

Brotherhood is religion saying: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. All things therefore whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do ye also unto them.

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