

Southern Oregon News Review

Ashland, Oregon

38 East Main Street

Entered as second-class mail matter in the post office at Ashland, Oregon, February 15, 1935, under the act of Congress of March 3, 1879

William C. Lawrence and Wallace G. Iverson, Publishers
Harry Nordwick, Editor

Subscription Rate — \$2.50 year



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

Parsimony and Progress

Ashland's city council and budget committee have taken a negative approach to the budget question in our town. Instead of shooting for much-needed improvements via a special election for all over the 6 per cent increase limitation on general fund accounts, the group is hacking everything down to sneak in under the wire.

Instead of taking some positive action to add needed requirements for our city government, the group is leaving any such moves up to the general disinterested host of citizens without any leadership.

The only explanation that could possibly be is that the budget boys have figured that they weren't going to get their hands slapped again this year like the \$21,000 refusal at 1951's special election. The fact that only a mere piddling minority of organized citizens turned the request down doesn't seem to make any difference, either. The stand-pat attitude of "If they want anything extra this time, they will have to come and ask for it" should be condemned by every progressive citizen in our town.

If Ashland's city council will put on its thinking cap and recall last year's unsuccessful attempt, they will find, and certainly not to their surprise, that when no opposition was publicly voiced to the request, there was no incentive to even try to push the reasons for the increase over. With no opposition, it was natural not to expect defeat at the polls. But did this teach anybody anything? Evidently, and DECIDEDLY not.

For, with the alternatives of staying within the legal limitations, or taking on the task of "selling" the public on the need for improvements, the council has taken the line of least resistance and chosen the former.

To be honest, we never expected the previously progressive administration to take this stand. And we still can't entirely believe that such men as Art Kreisman, Fred Homes, Walter Weller, Richard Neil and Mayor Phil Stansbury have changed to going along with the minority that is looking only at Ashland's past and not at its present or future. And if this group is not going to fight to get some additions over the puny budget limitations other than wage increases, then our faith was pegged on the wrong leaders.

It's time that these members do some independent thinking on the matter of money and get out from under the rule of Budget Director Fred Taylor and look at the facts with their own eyes and not somebody else's. Parsimoniousness is a worthy trait but loses all merit when untempered with progress.

City government is prone to let somebody who is willing shoulder certain responsibilities and hence be relegated to the position of infallibility. This is the case of the budget director. He has one of the toughest jobs in the city and consequently nobody dares touch him—at least, this seems to be what has happened in our town.

At the budget meeting of March 11 there was not one voice from either a committee or council member to investigate the fire chief's or police chief's request for additional manpower in their departments. What good is any group which won't get at the truth for itself rather than take one man's or a small group's opinion? The answer is nothing more than a rubber stamp.

It's high time that the council and its budget committee slow down the expenditure cutting until it at least weighs the merits from all corners. As for one defeat — "If at first you don't succeed, try, try again." And AGAIN.

Court Records

POLICE COURT

Ruth C. Daily, illegal left turn and wrong way on one way street, \$10 bail forfeited.

Howard T. Funk, illegal double parking, bail \$5.

Walter Zibbe, public intoxication, held in jail, ordered to leave city, a vagrant.

Richard H. Thornton, failure to heed stop sign, bail \$6.

Julian R. Morgan, permitting person to ride on outside of automobile, bail \$2.50.

Robert H. Patton, failure to heed stop sign, bail \$5.

Lodie L. Lollis, reckless driving, held in jail overnight, bail \$50.

Clay J. Landry, no operator's license, bail \$5, failure to heed traffic signal, bail \$5, total bail \$10.

Loren O. Long, violation of basic rule, bail \$15.

Wanita Daley, failure to heed stop sign, bail \$5.

Benjamin A. Dehaven, motor

running while vehicle unattended, bail \$5.

Joseph B. Nolan, inadequate muffler, bail \$5, no operator's license, bail \$5, total bail \$10.

Delbert Tobiasson, illegal parking, bail \$2.50.

Earl A. Hamilton, violation of basic rule, bail \$15.

JUSTICE COURT

Baker Jones Cannaday, over-width load, fine and costs \$14.50.

Dennis Madison Espy, no wrecker's license, fine and costs \$14.50.

Fred Wallace Kester, no red flag, extended load, fine and costs \$7.

Melvin Clifton Hall, no operator's license, fine and costs \$7.

Frank Junior Simpson, no motor vehicle license, fine and costs \$5.50.

Eatons Open Stock at the News Review.

See the wide range of wedding announcements available at the News Review.

Our Town



By HARRY NORDWICK

VANDALISM

Park Commissioner A. Bert Freeman told the council last Tuesday of recent vandalism in our beautiful Lithia park. He described such "planned operations" as the tipping over of Lincoln's statue and "squirreling" on the park roads.

Freeman's proposal for stopping such doings was for increased parents' education and discovery of such plots before they take place.

The problem is surely one of juvenile delinquency. Park damage is just a bigger instance than the stolen and vandalized signs put up by the city for traffic control. In this column on March 6, the following proposals were made:

"... But it seems to this writer that some program should be instigated on the juvenile level with a definite penalizing setup. The only persons that can control such a situation (city sign destruction) are the youth of high school age, themselves. This control would be for violators in school—those out of school are not within such a jurisdiction."

"If all school violators could be cornered by a student safety council and penalized by the students through some method, at least the source of such crimes to city property would be uncovered."

"... It thus falls that some means of control must be instigated. Why not some method of self-control from the ranks of the teen-agers themselves? The non-violators would be more than willing to remove the stigma from their age group."

Such a program on the level of the violators would seem to this corner to have the merit of self-discipline over parent discipline and thus build personal integrity within the violating group. It's going to be next to impossible to convince parents that their "Johnny" is doing anything wrong and as Freeman told the council, a parent "loudly" objected when control measures were being pressed on their offspring's wayward tendencies.

The blocks to parental control are so strong without a general sociological re-awakening, that it would seem that the line of least resistance with the greatest chance for success should be followed. Many high schools now have student courts that actually punish all school violators and the judicious decisions of such youthful groups are often as astute and full of wisdom as those of our learned members of the benches. And the problem of enforcement — the toughest bit of the whole matter — is from the students and violators answer to them and are more likely to heed "court" decisions when pressure is exerted from their own social group.

Youth Training...

Continued from Page One

No Reason for Waste

There is no sane reason why the resources of our land should be wasted, with millions of tons of good topsoil washed to the sea every month, or for this terrible drift to crime of our youth. Democracy can be made to work and to win out over the forces that are now seeking to destroy us and our way of life.

Juvenile delinquency need not be. Wholesale venereal disease need not be. Youngsters in jails, or running around the streets aimlessly, or in dives with nothing better to do.

World War III need not be fought. The matter is in our hands. We, and only we, can make democracy live.

Eventual ruin — failure — marks the path of the individual who long continues to be weak, sickly, wasteful, and foolish. So with a nation.

We Face a Crisis

We Americans face a crisis, make no mistake about that.

The day of passing the buck has gone. We must act now. We have a job to do—a big job. We have been avoiding this job a long time now. The job gets bigger daily.

Our biggest job is to adequately train our youth for citizenship in the United States of America.

Let's face up to it and get at it.

Capital Parade...

By Murray Wade

WARNS VETS SELLING LOANS

Veterans who sell their homes and let purchasers assume the 4 per cent G.I. loans remain personally responsible for the payment of the loan, the veterans administration warned this week.

Property with the favorable 4 per cent G.I. mortgage in effect should influence the selling price. However, the veteran runs the risk of later having to pay all or part of any debt resulting from a default on the loan by the new owner.

HIGHER GAS RATES

An increase in gas rates to provide the Portland Gas and Coke Co. new revenue of about \$366,300 a year was granted last week by Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Hetzel. The increase, effective immediately, would partly offset recent payroll increases, Hetzel explained.

Company officials said the average increase for gas used in cooking and automatic water heating would be only 18 cents a month, for industrial users 3 cents a thousand cubic feet.

RETAIL TRADE WAGES

Minimum pay as it applies to women and experienced minors in retail trade will rise from 65 to 70 cents an hour on May 6.

This ruling was made by the State Wage and Hour Commission after several hearings and is the first pay boost in this class in four years.

The new minimum pay for inexperienced minors in retail trade, those with less than 400 hours' experience, is 60 cents.

NO OPPOSITION

There are fourteen legislative candidates on the primary election ticket who have no opposition in their party or in any other party. This practically means their election. Their honorable records in the legislature and in civic work have been worthily won.

Unopposed for the senate are Phillip S. Hitchcock, Klamath Falls; Stewart Harde, Condon and Elmo E. Smith, John Day.

Our Council...

Continued from Page One

accepted by the council. The bid was for \$4,271.36 and included \$50,000-\$100,000 bodily injury and public liability coverage, and \$10,000-\$50,000 property damage. The covering company is Pacific Indemnity for \$10,000 and \$20,000 with the excess covered by Lloyds of London.

The only other bidder was S. C. Jones and sons with two offers: one for \$4448.33 and another at \$4035 with exclusion provisions. The latter bid was not considered by the council because of the exclusion provision.

Koch Fund Discussed

The legal matter as to limitation for use of the fund given to the city for hospital use by Julius Koch was discussed by City Attorney Harry Skerry. He told the council in an "off-the cuff" legal interpretation that there was nothing in the ordinance regarding the \$9000 fund that expressly gave specific terms. However, he said that he felt that such specific intentions were given by the donor as former City Attorney William Briggs had attempted at one time to seek use of the fund for matters other than the hospital. Skerry told the council that he would give a written account of the fund at the next meeting after meeting with Briggs who is out of town at present.

The council passed a resolution authorizing the issuance of a warranty deed for the sale of certain property at First and C streets to Jim H. Busch and Dorothy E. Busch for \$10,100.

Richard Neil gave a report on the League of Oregon Cities meeting last week in Medford at which 114 city officials from southern Oregon were present. Neil, in outlining the discussion, said that the main issues of the conference were discussions on social security for municipalities and sick leave for employees. He noted that "A substantial saving to the city and larger benefits for the younger men could be effected under federal social security."

Fred Taylor, who also attended the meeting, added that the "budget problems of all towns were pretty much the same — our problem is no different from Portland's in this inflationary period."

Lauds Budget Group

Taylor also made a progress report on the citizen's budget committee. He said, "It's the best committee I've ever worked with and that they have taken more interest in details than any other that I have been associated with."

Letter from Washington...

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

A committee of the senate has been looking into a series of transactions involving the sale of some surplus oil tankers. The committee is a permanent investigating body—not a witch-hunt group. Some angles of the tanker deal appeared to be strange so the senators began seeking facts. Those men do not just brush around a bit and issue white-wash reports. They dig, and they sometimes dig tough and hard. In my opinion that is the only way to unearth facts which clever men attempt to bury.

But who should turn up as an important figure in the tanker deals but a New York lawyer by the name of Newbold Morris. A few months ago that name would have had no importance. It has now. Not long ago Morris was named by President Truman as the man to investigate, root out, and clean up the graft and corruption in the executive department (the administration) of our government.

Surely in accepting such an assignment, Newbold Morris must have been convinced that there was a job to do. But his appearances before the senate investigating committee have revealed that his idea of his job is not what we thought it was. He blames Congress and sees nothing wrong in the departments!

Here is one statement of Newbold Morris to the senators: "In Washington in the past three years, you (meaning the senators) have created an atmosphere so vile that the people have lost confidence in their government. The government is not what you tell people it is. It's a good, decent government."

How about that? That statement was made by the man who was appointed by the President to clean up the graft, corruption and influence peddling in our bureaucracy, the existence of

which is admitted by everyone, including the President—except Mr. Newbold Morris. If he cannot or will not see the problem, how on earth can he help solve it?

My office has been notified that the deadline for filing claims under the provisions of the War Claims act has been extended to March 31. Those prisoners of war entitled to compensation according to the terms of this act are urged to file their claims as soon as possible. The commission processes claims in the numerical order in which they are received. Eligible under the act are American ex-prisoners of war, American civilians interned by the Japanese in certain areas, survivors of deceased prisoners of war and certain religious organizations.

My good friend Congressman Albert Cole of Kansas, a thoughtful and statesmanlike member of the house, makes the following observation with which I am compelled to agree:

"Recent congressional investigations have uncovered unbelievable waste in defense purchasing. From light bulb purchasing to Arctic airbase building, the armed forces are spending taxpayers' money irresponsibly. And yet, when the security branches of the government say they want more next year, the President parrots their demands to Congress. We cannot afford a \$2 billion dollar security budget, and congress must battle that out this year. There are those who maintain that the defense department must have all that it requests, or the defense effort will fail. I believe that we must take that risk in trimming military security costs. True, the defense agencies have never, in times of stress, been forced to tighten their belts. But that does not prove that they can't begin in 1953."



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

It Isn't the Heat—It's the Hide!

Big discussion after the Grange meeting Friday night. T. K. Anderson was arguing that hogs were lots more affected by the hot weather than cattle. Sketer Morgan declared that it wasn't so—that he never saw any hogs bothered by the hot sun like his cows were.

I was glad when Rusty Robinson stepped in.

"Boys," he says, "don't get so riled up. It all depends on what color the livestock are. Hogs or cattle, the ones with light-colored coats absorb less heat from the

sun's rays than animals with dark coats. So you're both right!"

From where I sit, so many useless arguments could be avoided if a person would remember he doesn't have all the right on his side. Reminds me of folks who insist that coffee, for instance, is the only drink, forgetting that other people have a right to a glass of beer now and then. If we wouldn't get so "het up" about our prejudices—we'd all be better off!

Joe Marsh

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Business Directory

Diamonds - Watches - Jewelry - Silver
Watch and Jewelry Repair and Engraving

Sheldon Jewelry

HENRY CARR, Owner

Phone 7131

272 E. Main

Walter Redford, Realtor

Ranches — Farms — Homes
Business Property

Jess Kidwell

Telephone 2-6587

38 East Main
Business Phone 7866Ashland, Oregon
Res. Phone 3176

Dr. Herman Wexler

Chiropractic Physician

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