

Citizens Voice Opinions On General Election Ballot Issues

To The Editor:
The election controversy over the repeal of our reorganization laws would be amusing if it concerned something other than education. Would repeal be a step backward? Continuing on our present merry way of consolidation might make us a spoke in the Umatilla system. I suppose you could call this progress?

We Americans pride ourselves on doing things in the democratic manner and have found ourselves in almost every field of endeavor to be in the number one position. The public schools deserve the credit but our present reorganized schools can hardly share in this. I doubt if it is wise to have so much power in the hands of such a few people.

Facts bear out that we have passed our local control out of our hands. We have retained the right to vote on the budget and our tax money is still acceptable. Oh yes, we can elect our board of directors. How many directors have resigned because the pressure on their business made it impossible to continue? How many good men have refused to be a candidate because of the time, expense and the unpopularity which goes with a board membership? Are our present board members retaining a good relationship with their friends and neighbors?

Morrow County has been hounded by law suits since its inception. For instance Schools Vs. Lexington patrons, budget election failure (Note lone election results), communities are up in arms (present Boardman-Irrigon site squabble) and of course communities are divided among themselves (Heppner school site). Also I recall a parent-student strike over on the river getting that group reorganized.

The laymen and the pro's have spouted enough legal opinions and law since 1957 to do for the whole 50 states. Of course, these usually are uttered to fit a given situation or prove the orators point. Reorganization has awakened a lot of people to the degree that they are expensive.

As a native of Morrow County it distresses me to see things continue in the present vein at a time we should stand united. I hope the voters will remember that civil law can and does err and that moral law should always reign supreme. May the majority continue to rule with wisdom.

Very truly yours,
Charles O'Connor

Dear Editor:

We feel that repeal of the school reorganization act, proposed in Initiative Measure No. 10, would be an expensive, confusing and discordant step backward for education in Oregon. While a great deal has been said as to this measure in returning local control to the schools, a close examination of the measure would lead to chaos in our schools. The supporters of this measure have made numerous statements as to what will happen to Morrow county in the event this measure passes; however, they have never produced

any authoritative decision or statement to support their position.

While the supporters maintain this measure would be more democratic, they fail to consider the fact that the passage of the measure would change the administrative structure of Hood River county School District No. 1 and Morrow County School District No. 1, regardless of the wishes of the voters in these counties.

Our reorganized school district has fostered the development of various improvements in education in Morrow county, such as more economical operation; greater variety of courses, remedial reading program, retarded children's program, expanded counselling program, district-wide testing program, more efficient financing system, and many other improvements.

Let's give our children the best education we can and think of them rather than our local pride.

Very truly yours,
Clarence Rosewall,
Dr. Wallace Wolff,
Homer Hughes,
Kenneth Peck,
Dr. L. D. Tibbles,
Fr. C. Bruce Spencer.

To the Editor:

I read your editorial a couple weeks ago and your comment on one of the letters to the editor of this past week. You believe we turn the clock back on education if we vote for measure No. 10.

You mention confused uncertainty and inability to make educational advancements if we revert to a county unit system.

I do not agree with you in any way, shape, or form.

It is against my better judgment to support any law that would allow 10 people and the State (appointed) Board of Education to move school units around like dominoes to suit their convenience.

Mrs. Hintz gave you a good example in her letter. I would like to make it a little plainer if her explanation wasn't enough. Suppose 10 voters in lower Butter Creek of Morrow county decide it would be advantageous to merge with the Hermiston unit and they succeeded in convincing the Board of Education that they should merge, for a various logical reasons. They would be merged. Then we would wake up some morning and find we had no voice, recourse, control, or opinion whatsoever. We could be attached to Pendleton or the whole of Umatilla county, where the city of Pendleton alone has three times our whole county's voting power. Your representation would be nil. Adjustment for our facilities against theirs, buses, supplies, etc. would break the property owners of Morrow county. The recent adjustment here at Lexington, shook us up a bit.

I would like to know if you realized where the original reorganization plans originated from? Why the NEA, the OEA, and School Administrators tried to snow ball this bill and succeeded in getting it into law? That all of Oregon has been resisting reorganization—as of December 31, 1961 after four years of the law, out of 137 plans approved by the state, that only 32 plans have been approved by the voters, (several under the 60-40 provision required no vote as they did not get their petitions in on time.) 57 were rejected by the voters, and 46 were formed without a vote. The districts daily attendance varied from 92.8 to 5,902.8 yes we could stop further reorganization but we would have to petition—and petition—and petition. I would like to bring to your attention that Measure No. 10 was sponsored by four Senators and six representatives, plus several prominent and intelligent people, and the pet-

ition was filed with the approval of some odd 43,000 voters. Wouldn't this make you think something might be wrong with the reorganization law as it now stands. Ten members of the legislature think so. The voters pamphlet is misleading in their statements and the basic issue is carefully ignored. I also was not surprised to note that one of Morrow county's local school board members is on the other side of the fence and signed as a sponsor of the argument in opposition.

I do not wish to exchange my right to a ballot and a vote for a right to petition.

Under the present law there is no restriction on how many times a new plan can be proposed, nor any restriction to size. Don't say it can't happen here because Eastern Oregon could be tacked onto Portland and no representation would result. I believe we are seeking some representation in Measure No. 9.

As for confusion and uncertainty if we adopt Measure No. 10, how can there be more than we now have? I might remind you that our School Board recently finished selling the need for a building program for a stipulated sum, the money to do and complete the proposed plan, and then we learn the new that this, that and a whale of a lot of something else is to be excluded and not be there. They intend to pick up the loose ends on the next go around. Just a few more mills, is this uncertainty? Is it confusion at the north end of Morrow county when we pit Boardman against Irrigon? Is it confusion if we should put Lone High into the new school building at Heppner? I believe it is.

Repeal could bring better education benefits. Certainly the money and efforts now spent in fighting this measure and the yearly appropriation of \$70,000 to enforce the reorganization law would go a long way towards betterment. Problems of schools and units could be considered on their merits without hovering under a shadow of continued forced centralization.

I have one son in the service, one daughter in high school, a daughter, and a son in grade school. I expect them to obtain the best education possible, cost be high but not excessive, but I intend to reserve the right to vote, criticize and require a definite dollar value for a dollar spent.

Ellwynne Peck,
Lexington

To the Editor:

Many persons have asked us for an example showing the need for the degree of local representation which will be assured by the passage of ballot measure number 9 for legislative apportionment. Through your newspaper I'd like to give such an example.

First, do officers of labor organizations, headquartered as they are in Portland, truly represent their members in upstate communities? Their recommendations are often contrary to the best interest of their members in small communities.

But does this mean that all union members will be best served?

As one of 350 growers operating a cannery in Hood River that processes 25% of Oregon's Bartlett pears each year, I am interested in marketing our fruit profitably and in doing so providing hundreds of jobs for local people. But here's what is happening. Returns from Bartlett pears for four consecutive years have been less than that paid by California based canners.

We cannot meet their kind of competition because we don't have the diversity of pack. When they lose on Bartlett's, and they do, they are able to absorb that loss by making it up on some other line outside of pears. We only pack a few apples and by-products, so our loss is direct.

Impatient with a continuing loss operation, can we continue indefinitely? The answer is obvious. Should we cease operating, a local payroll of \$600,000 annually will be lost!

Will the "labor bosses" think of a situation like this when asking the Legislature to increase unemployment compensation benefits? They've never done so and it is highly unlikely in the future. That's why working men and women in

Hood River need a local representative in the Legislature.

Our people are no different than people anywhere else. They are interested in employment, not unemployment compensation. A further increase might well be the straw that breaks this camel's back.

This example undoubtedly exists in many communities throughout the state.

Ballot Measure No. 9 will establish a degree of local representation that will consider fac-

tors, including the diverse interests that exist between "big labor" and local labor.

Working men and women, union or non-union, will best be served by voting "Yes" for Measure No. 9.

Sincerely,
George Annala,
Secretary

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Lewis, Madras, were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. Cal Sumner. The men enjoyed an elk hunting trip.

Scotty Applegate and son, Steve, Hood River, were Saturday night houseguests of Scotty's uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln Nash.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Jensen, Bend, visited his sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Palmer, Ione, Sunday and spent Monday with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln Nash.

VOTE FOR "9"

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

PAID ADV. BY CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT
Len Slinn, Treas., 104 S.W. 6th Ave., Portland

GUARANTEES Fair Representation in Oregon's Legislature

Gives Representation to Citizens NOT NOW Represented

Provides FAIR Representation as Directed by Federal Courts

Responsible Citizens are Voting YES "9" Legislative Apportionment

Vote Right - Be Right VOTE REPUBLICAN

MARK HATFIELD for Governor

Your Governor has made an excellent record during his first term in office and deserves re-election.

SIG UNANDER for Senator

"Oregonians who want effective representation of their interests in Washington, who want a senator who will have the confidence and respect of his colleagues, who want a senator who will be tough on the issue of world peace, should cast their votes for Sig Unander." (The Oregonian, October 28, 1962)

BOB CHANDLER for Congress

"If the voters of Eastern Oregon will take a moment to consider the two candidates for our Congressional seat on any basis, they will end up with Bob Chandler as the best long range investment in good representation and good government." (C. Allen Tom, The Dalles, President Oregon Wheat Growers League)

"I am a registered Democrat and don't like Socialism. I am voting for Bob Chandler." (Pat Cecil, Burns, Oregon, Retired Appraiser, Northwest Production Credit Association.)

PAT BLAIR For Labor Commissioner

Fair and impartial arbitration of all labor matters, regardless of political party.

GAYLORD MADISON For State Representative

Will work for the interests of our district, make every tax dollar count, and will not be taking orders from the Portland Labor Temple.

HERMAN WINTER For District Attorney

Herman's name will not be on the ballot. Please write in the name of this fine young Republican, then mark "X" before it.

ROD THOMSON FOR COUNTY ASSESSOR

Always on the job to serve all the people of Morrow county.

GENE FERGUSON FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER

In the best interest of the taxpayer.

GAR SWANSON FOR PORT COMMISSIONER

Who will protect the interests of Morrow county.

E. F. HIIGEL OF BOARDMAN FOR PORT COMMISSIONER

Write in the name of this candidate for the Port Commission and be sure to mark "X" in front of his name. Conservative, wants to protect interests of sports fishing.

J. O. HAGER FOR JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Absolutely fair and impartial justice to all, regardless of party.

This advertisement paid for by the Morrow County Republican Central Comm. Don Turner, Chairman

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To Our Friends In Morrow County ...

Bob Chandler, our good friend and next door neighbor here in Bend, is a candidate for U.S. Representative from the Second District. We urge you to vote for him on November 6.

We know Bob and his family very well. He is an exceptionally well-informed, courageous newspaperman, and he is the kind of forthright, honest congressman Eastern Oregon needs in Washington, D. C.

He is a hard fighter who doesn't pull any punches. Congress will know there is an Eastern Oregon if Bob is "our man in Washington."

(Pd. Adv., by Brad and Dagmar Fancher, Bend.)

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