

Voters face 12 ballot measures

Oregon voters will face 12 ballot measures this general election. Some are non-controversial and others are arguable.

"Many people put the ballots off till the last minute," Herman Winter, Heppner attorney, told the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce Monday. "You go into the polls, read the little they have on the ballot, then ask yourself what they're talking about."

Winter explained some of the measures in a brief presentation Monday.

Here with, are brief explanations of the 12 ballot measures. **MEASURE NO. 1—Validates Inadvertently Superseded Statutory Amendments:** The courts have interpreted the Constitution to say that when more than one Act amends the same section of existing law, only the last Act signed by the Governor takes effect. Ballot Measure 1 will correct this problem by allowing each Act to take effect unless its purpose conflicts.

Winter called it a "housekeeping measure to validate certain laws" that have been amended by more than one Act. The measure has no opposition.

MEASURE NO. 2—Allows Changing City, County Election Days: The Constitution presently requires that incorporated

cities and towns hold their nominating and regular elections for their elective officers, and that counties hold their regular election for county clerk, treasurer and sheriff, on the state-wide primary and general election dates. Incorporated cities and towns and counties may NOT use any other dates for these elections.

The measure, if passed, would permit the legislature to provide by statute for different uniform dates than the state-wide primary and general election dates for these elections.

Winter said it may be convenient and less costly to continue to hold the elections on the same day. One argument in favor states that too much information is forced at voters on national importance and often time, city or county votes are overlooked.

MEASURE NO. 3—Lowers Minimum Age for Legislative Service: The Constitution established the minimum age of 21 years for legislative membership. The proposed would amend the Constitution reducing eligibility for membership in the Legislative Assembly to 18 years of age.

The requirement makes the membership requirement the same as the voting age.

MEASURE NO. 4—Repeals Emergency Succession

Provision: If adopted, it would repeal section 6, Article X that requires the Legislative Assembly to provide by law for temporary succession to state and local public office and for temporary seats of state and local government in case of disaster resulting from enemy attack.

This section was adopted in reaction to the Cold War, and is intended to insure the continuation of state and local governments in the event of disaster.

Winter said that No. 4 was outmoded and "surplus" and should be adopted.

MEASURE NO. 5—Permits Legislature to Call Special Session: Every two years, the legislature must meet for a "regular session." The Governor can also convene the legislature on "extraordinary occasions" by his proclamation. These meetings are called special sessions.

Measure 5 would add a new method which would require a majority of the members of each house of the legislature to state in writing that an emergency exists necessitating the meeting of the lawmaking branch of Oregon government.

The legislature has been in special session only 16 times in the past 117 years. However, five of those have occurred since 1963.

Winter said that the measure, which has "a lot of

opposition," would enable legislators to "call themselves in at the slightest drop of a hat." He said voters should weigh the cost and the "improduct of what is completed" before voting.

MEASURE NO. 6—Allows Charitable, Fraternal, Religious Organizations Bingo: This proposed Constitutional change is not self-executing, and if it is approved by the people, the Legislative Assembly would have to enact enabling legislation before games of bingo or lotto could be established and operated.

California voters overwhelmingly approved an initiated amendment to their constitution, which provides for the legalization of bingo for charitable purposes. Washington also allows charitable, non-profit organizations to conduct bingo.

In no manner would other forms of chance or any commercial operation be legalized. State lotteries would not be authorized under this amendment.

MEASURE NO. 7—Partial Public Funding of Election Campaigns: This allows each Oregon taxpayer to "check off" \$1.50 of taxes owed on a separate return or \$3 on a joint return. This will not add to an individual's taxes or reduce a refund.

The measure covers contested general election races for Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, Attorney General, Labor Commissioner, Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Legislative Assembly.

The measure does not call for funding to county officials or local judiciary, Winter pointed out.

It reduces public funding available to a candidate when expenditures from private sources exceed the maximum specified for public funding.

This measure has been endorsed by Oregon AFL-CIO, Common Cause, American Civil Liberties Union, Democratic Party of Oregon and is supported by Legislators and community leaders in both major parties.

MEASURE NO. 8—Increase Motor Fuel, Ton-Mile Tax: While the tax will weigh heavily on truck owners (26 per cent increase in the weight-mile tax), the gas tax increase to motorists will be only one cent.

This measure was explained in last week's Gazette-Times.

MEASURE NO. 9—Regulates Nuclear Power Plant Construction Approval: Approval of 9 would regulate construction of additional nuclear power plants by prohibiting further construction unless certain requirements are met. Each house of the State Legislature would be required to find, by a two-thirds vote, that requirements have been met.

The effectiveness of all plant safety systems must have been demonstrated to the satisfaction of the legislature by comprehensive testing of such systems. Radioactivity, radioactive wastes and chemically toxic wastes must be stored or disposed of without reasonable chance of escape or diversion thereof due to imperfect storage, earthquakes or other acts of God, theft, sabotage, war, governmental or social instability, or other causes deemed possible.

The measure would require the Governor to publish, annually, the entire evacuation plan for any affected area and it directs the legislature to appropriate funds for the operation of the Energy Facility Siting Council to carry out the duties prescribed.

In opposition, it runs contrary to the principle of majority rule. It provides that no nuclear power plant can be built unless two-thirds of both houses of the legislature find conditions of the measure met. This means that just 11 State Senators out of a total legislative body of 90 could frustrate the will of the majority by voting no.

MEASURE NO. 10—Repeals Land Use Planning Coordination Statutes: This ballot was submitted to the electorate of Oregon by initiative petition by citizens.

This measure would repeal the Senate Bill 10 and 100, which created the Land Conservation and Development Commission, a seven-member commission appointed by the governor.

The LCDC created laws that provide procedures and goals for comprehensive, coordinated land use planning by all state agencies and local governments. If a local government does not adopt plans consistent with state law and land use planning goals, LCDC has power to amend or adopt plans for it to meet state goals.

A yes vote repeals these laws. A no vote leaves them in effect.

Passage of the measure would not repeal any land use plan already adopted by a city or county or zoning ordinances of any city, county, or special district, or prevent them from adopting new plans.

Winter said prominent people are coming out both ways. He said it was a measure that should be "studied and resolved with your own conscience."

The Oregon State Grange endorses the measure, asking for a yes vote. The League of Women Voters of Oregon says no.

MEASURE NO. 11—Prohibits Adding Fluorides to Water Systems: A community water supply system is a domestic water supply source or distribution system which serves more than three single residences or other users for the purpose of supplying water for household uses. A community water system does not include a municipal water supply system (owned and operated by a city or county). The measure would make unlawful the adding of fluoride to any community water supply.

MEASURE NO. 12—Repeals Intergovernmental Cooperation, Planning District Statutes: This measure would repeal laws authorizing intergovernmental cooperation agreements and regional land use planning district in the Portland metropolitan area.

Publicity appreciated

Editor:

Thank you for helping us publicize our adult volunteer programs at Heppner Primary building.

We also are appreciative of Randall and Marlene Peterson's patience in helping us collect our registration forms. It is cheaper than mail and much handier to most people than a trip to the school.

To our delight, most of the "Reading Ladies," as the children named our gracious volunteers last year, are with us again. We have increased our men volunteers 200 per cent—from 1 to 2—and are hopeful we'll have one or two more.

All of the children, even otherwise reluctant readers, eagerly await their turn with a LAPP volunteer. Because so many first and second graders do sit in the adult's lap, we selected LAPP for our program. It means Listen—Appreciate—Praise—Progress.

Because LAPP improved the reading, we're expanding it into math, and more help with spelling. We also have some youngsters who really need an adult who will talk with them. When a child feels accepted, he feels better about himself, and his schoolwork improves.

We are also hoping to establish a Talent Bank for use throughout the school. Any adult who has an interesting hobby, travel experiences, collections—something he'd be willing to share with a group of children for half an hour or so—is asked to inform the school.

We can also use adults who would like to give us an occasional two hours, to substitute on those days that a LAPP volunteer is unable to come. We particularly like older people, because children are drawn to them—and older people often have more free time. It was not our intention

to compete for people with other organizations that need volunteers, but we certainly are happy and grateful for all who help us.

Every child needs and should have individual attention. Not only do the volunteers give this attention, but they make it possible for the teachers to spend more time with children who need extra help.

We strongly believe that we must use every method possible to build reading interest and skill in the early grades. We believe in phonics and drill. Each volunteer gives the teacher she is helping an extra set of hands, eyes, and ears.

Even if you are too busy to volunteer for LAPP or share your talent through the Talent Bank, we'd like to have you visit our school. We're proud of it, and hope you will be, too.

Pauline Miller and Rachel Dick



Mike Sweeney

Sweeney joins law firm

Mike Sweeney, a 27-year-old Heppner man, has passed his bar exams and has begun practicing law with the firm of Herman Winter. The new pair on Main Street in Heppner will be known as Winter and Sweeney.

Sweeney passed his exam on September 9 and was sworn in at Salem on September 17.

He graduated from Heppner High School in 1967. Sweeney graduated from the University of Oregon in 1970 and from Gonzaga School of Law in 1974. He studied comparative governments in London, Berlin and Moscow.

Sweeney is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Lions, the Heppner planning commission, and is co-chairman of the Bicentennial committee.

Comfortable prisoners?

Editor:

After reading the article in last week's G.T. about our county and city inadequate jail facilities, a few thoughts have entered my mind.

Why should we make these people, who have committed a crime against us, comfortable?

Who is to say our jail is inadequate? At least for lock up facilities?

You have to wonder how this present facility served our

needs for as many years as it has and now, all at once, it is unsafe? It isn't good enough for our criminals?

If these people spend some time in our jail, as it is, do you think they will be back? I wouldn't.

As a member of the group who have to support this county and city services, I wonder why we have to raise our taxes some more to make these criminals comfortable. Also, we can run the present

jail on what money we are spending transporting prisoners.

The time is here, now, when the citizens are taxed as heavy as they are going to be, and the school, county, and city budget failures throughout the state are a very good indication of this.

So I say lock them up, make do with what we have, and these prisoners won't be repeaters.

Monte Stookey

Personal past script

Editor:

A few weeks ago you had an article in the paper about the passing of Lucy E. Rogers and how she had been a business woman in Morrow County. I would like to add a post script to that article. My whole success in the business world I owe to her.

Lucy E. Rogers was superintendent of schools when I was going to grade school in Gooseberry. She visited our school and gave tests from time to time, so I got acquainted with her. Upon completion of the eighth grade, my folks did not think I needed further education. It would have cost too much and being a girl, they didn't think girls needed an education to get married and raise children.

Mrs. Rogers thought differently and she went to the ranch a number of times to try to talk my folks into sending me on to school. I know they were tired of seeing her coupe coming down the hill because they were in for another session.

Finally, after almost two years, she said she thought she had found a solution. We lived in a non-high school district, and maybe we could get money through them. The folks felt

that they couldn't say no, or at least try, so we went to see Mr. Cleve Van Schoiack, who was the chairman of the board. Between he and Mrs. Rogers, I got to go to high school.

My mother wouldn't attend functions with me like the mother-daughter banquet, etc., but Mrs. Rogers always found the time to go as my mother. I know she was very proud of me when I graduated and received the Jane Mitchell Cup and had a high grade point average.

Mrs. Rogers had two sons. Her youngest son passed away in 1947 or 1948, and I was not acquainted with him. Her oldest son, Eugene Buchanan, I had the privilege of having as my supervisor when I worked in Alaska.

He was a kind, intelligent and talented man. He passed away in 1950, leaving two daughters, so I imagine Mrs. Rogers was a great grandmother.

Mrs. Rogers was a true and dear friend that is gone, but will never be forgotten. Surely, she must have touched other people's lives as she did mine.

Sincerely,
Laura (Warfield) Lorenzen

West of Willow

(Continued from Page 1)

ing it over to the same decor as the restaurant are in the making.

Rogers started this idea last Christmas and bought the property in January.

Highlighted exteriorly by stained glass windows, made by Greg Sweek, Tony and Martha Doherty of Heppner, the twin shop will feature raised letters across the building that say West of Willow and in smaller letters, Tavern and Restaurant. Large lamps will illuminate the letters.

Rogers has owned the tavern, once called Hamlin's, for the last seven years. The area next door used to be the Turf and a barber shop.

While Rogers' rustic dark brown appeals to the viewer, his seven waitresses, all dressed in floor length, brown and white dresses, will add a bright spot to the atmosphere.

Rogers said he will continue to serve Elks Club functions. A tentative opening date has been set for Saturday, October 16, but a few orders that haven't come in leave the date

CBEC behind rate average

The fiscal year purchases for Columbia Basin Electric from BPA for the year ending June 30, 1976 reached just over 120 million kilowatt hours.

The increase of 13.75 per cent was up from 105,504,000 kwhs the previous fiscal year. The approximately 14.5 million kwhs increase was the largest fiscal year increase in the history of the Coop.

Even the substantial increase recorded for Columbia

Basin Electric was far behind the 19.3 per cent average rate of increase of all Cooperatives in the BPA service area.

While electric heat conversions, irrigation expansion and other electric utilization continues at a record pace, the Oregon Department of Energy has been attempting to establish formulas showing state electrical consumption forecast at a growth rate of 1.5 per cent.

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