

Mayor Wilson Announces Policy and Appointments In Inauguration Address

In his inaugural address on taking over the office of mayor last night E. M. Wilson outlined the policies of his administration, named his council committees, announced appointments to vacancies on the various city commissions, and asked the united support of the local public for that administration in civic affairs, for the good and development of the city. He spoke in part as follows:

"The general public does not realize the valuable service given to the city of Medford by those identified with the city in an official capacity since 1917. About this time a charter provision was



E. M. Wilson

enacted by the people eliminating salaries and compensation to the mayor and council, and their services have been given without cost to the city. This is true also of the water commission and the planning commission.

"The budget committee of eight business men will also give free service this year in the way of investigating administrative and financial problems for the benefit of the city. At the present time the mayor, council, water and planning commissions and the budget committee—a body of twenty-nine business men—are greatly sacrificing their private business in giving Medford the best administration possible. The intricate affairs of the city require mature deliberation with a definite and positive execution of the plans and policies outlined from time to time to bring the city to a perfection demanded by the people and at a minimum cost in taxation.

"In the organization of council committees I have chosen as chairmen those members of the council deemed most acceptable from the point of knowledge of the department assigned to them, the time to be devoted to committee work with least inconvenience to the councilman, and the availability of the chairman to assemble his associate members.

"To avoid possibility of any lack of harmony or cooperation in committees I have asked all chairmen to choose their committee associates.

"The committees as thus organized, the first named being chairmen, are as follows:

Finance—C. A. Meeker, D. R. Terrett, W. W. Allen.
Public Safety—P. M. Kershaw, C. C. Furnas, G. W. Porter.

Street and Roads—J. O. Grey, D. R. Terrett, C. C. Furnas.

Parks and Playgrounds—P. M. Kershaw, C. A. Meeker, G. W. Porter.

Land Appraisals—G. W. Porter, W. W. Allen, J. O. Grey.

Building and Light—D. R. Terrett, P. M. Kershaw, C. C. Darby.

License—C. C. Darby, C. C. Furnas, G. W. Porter.

Health—W. W. Allen, J. O. Grey, C. C. Darby.

Airport—C. C. Furnas, J. O. Grey, D. R. Terrett.

From your body you have chosen as council chairman—C. A. Meeker, who becomes acting mayor.

"Council committees and the chairmen particularly, must be held responsible for the efficiency and results obtained in the several departments. Because a budget allowance is set up by no means authority for the spending of the allotment. Conservation in disbursements must be the primary aim of department heads and a means of conservation is in the chairman of committees, giving more attention to overseeing and authorizing disbursements.

"Councilmen, through committees, have been assigned particular duties and it is expected that they will thoroughly investigate and report to their findings. The action of the council must depend upon committee reports and the committee and its chairman particularly, must recognize the responsibility resting with them.

"The necessity for particular regulation should be presented and discussed and the writing of the ordinance directed by the council if such regulation is a real necessity for public protection or benefit. My suggestion is that a demand for regulation by ordinance should come through the committee of the department affected.

"The matter of nuisance regulation has heretofore been presented. If the demand continues the public safety committee should investigate and report. Another important matter bearing on the activity of a councilman to which it is my duty to call attention, is the possibility

of members of the administration being interested in claims and contracts of the city. While this may be looked upon as a technical feature it is nevertheless a law prescribed for state county and municipal government. Let me quote Section 18 of Chapter IV of our city charter.

"Neither the Mayor, nor any Councilman of the City of Medford, Oregon, nor the President of the Council shall receive any salary or compensation for any services performed by them or any of them, nor shall such Mayor, Councilman, or President of the Council be a party to, or interested directly or indirectly in any contract to which said City is a party, or in which it has an interest, or over which it has supervision or control. If any such Mayor, Councilman or president of the Council shall draw any salary or receive any compensation for his services as such, or be directly or indirectly interested in, or a party to any such contract, they shall be guilty of malfeasance in office and shall forfeit such office."

Good Record Aim
"When this council retires may it be said that our duty has been fulfilled to the utmost, our acts beyond any suspicion, and our consciences clear in the belief that our duties have been performed for the city as we and our associates have believed for the greatest good to the people and future benefit to Medford.

"Efficiency is required in all departments and means the employment of men of knowledge and ability. The principle of civil service is correct and a training school should not be replaced except for cause. We solicit reports of negligence, inefficiency and discourtesy but we must require such complaints to be well founded and supported by evidence of value to investigating authorities.

"In our council of eight members we now have three who have previously served the city in this capacity and five who are for the first time assuming responsibilities in the affairs of municipal government. New members being somewhat unfamiliar with the condition, requirements, and general details of the various departments, the council at this time will make no change in department organization.

Vacancies Occur
"Vacancies appear in the city water commission by virtue of the expiration of the terms of E. C. Gaddis and A. L. Hill who have served the city faithfully and without compensation for many years and during a vital period of water construction management. These officials have signified their desire to retire and in retiring they deserve an expression of appreciation for the service rendered. I assure them that this council for the citizens of Medford recognizes the expert first of time they have devoted to that department, the value of their service to the city, and that their acts have been through an inspiration to bring the water department to the very highest standard and efficiency.

"In the selection of their successors this council has consented with the remaining members of the commission in an endeavor to secure persons for the position whose ability and temperament would fit the ideals of the commission as well as of this council. For the full term, succeeding Mr. Hill, we have chosen Paul E. Lynning and for the short term succeeding Mr. Gaddis we will choose a man later on.

"By virtue of two members of the planning commission, Mr. Porter and Mr. Allen, assuming councilmanic duties at this time it becomes necessary to declare these positions on the commission vacant. Mr. Thieroff, whose term of appointment expires January 1, 1931, has resigned, and the appointments of Mr. Thomas and Mr. Roberts have expired. It is therefore necessary to appoint five members of the Commission and such appointments agreeable to the council and to the commission are as follows: W. B. Roberts for four years; J. D. Bell to serve three years, and C. S. Butterfield and A. B. Cunningham to serve two years.

Public Safety
"Safety in our municipality depends upon the proficiency of our fire and police departments. Our fire department is considered of the very best, and at the present time seems amply provided for. In the police department there is a demand for an increased patrol. The demand last fall did not sufficiently impress the budget committee to provide increased funds for a larger police force. Some portions of the city insist on increased police service now and means to provide the service, which must also include the cost of another police car, will have to be met soon. This matter will be met with the public safety committee for solution.

Oak Grove Water District
"The sale of a limited amount of water to districts adjacent to the city was approved by the people at the late election. An agreement submitted for the sale of water, accessible to the council, has been rejected by the Oak Grove water district. Since every source of revenue is vital in the redemption of Medford's water bonds, with 40 to 60 per cent available water now going to waste, it is essential that all means of revenue be encouraged. "The budget committee will give attention to all financial matters and will endeavor to report an agreement for the use of water in a cent districts that may be generally applied.

"The condition in the Midway district is different to that in other localities and the terms to be adopted for new districts be such as will be equitable and just to the city and to the outside users—giving the city a revenue that will fully compensate for the great water line expenditure without imposing a burden upon the people of the district served.

"The people of these water districts are an integral part of the city of Medford, contributing their patronage and business support and, in time, will be within the city through annexation.

"Pending annexation water service is essential to the city and to the district for vital sanitary reasons—and to the city particularly for increased revenue.

New Budget Committee
"The law provides for the appointment of a budget committee of eight members to act with the council in preparing a schedule of city requirements and for the levy of taxes. Heretofore this committee has been appointed in October, or just prior to the time for filing the annual budget. Leaving this committee can be of untold benefit to the council throughout the year, I am making the appointment at this time as follows: Eugene Thornlyke, chairman; H. H. Jamney, Emil Mohr, Fred Wahl, John S. Orth, Scott V. Davis, Ted Gebauer.

"In making this appointment now it is with the expectation that the committee will become active as an advisory board, and through study of our financial problems be fully qualified to assist the council during the year bankers, merchants, automobile dealers, creamery, lumber, abstracting, doctors, real estate, engineering, jeweler, fruit distributors, and men retired. This makes a good strong 'gang' to use a past expression applied to councils, whose absorbing interest is to see that Medford continues to progress on a sound business foundation with its finances, credit, and vital objective fully protected.

"In our council meetings we must insist that committee work be completed prior to the council session; that strict attention be given a council proceedings without annoying conversations; that the injection of discussion foreign to the subject being considered be avoided, and that each councilman exercise his own mind in mature deliberation on all civic matters coming before the council for solution. In this way our sessions become brief and interesting rather than wearisome to those present.

Public Improvements
"Medford is progressing rapidly. In this respect there is a compelling demand for improvements commensurate with the progress of the times and the demands of a modern public. Among the demands for immediate and early consideration are the improvements outlined by Mr. Crane in his civic survey. For instance, the Bear Creek park program and the opening of through and dead-end streets to relieve congested traffic problems. Street repairs and sewage disposal, must have consideration without delay.

"Street opening should be taken care of only partially through assessments for increased value of abutting property. Such improvements benefit the city as a whole and the burden of the improvement should be borne by the city. The opening of through streets, with railroad crossings and dead-ends cared for, will do more to relieve congested traffic than anything else within the power of the council to do.

"Constant and insistent demands are being made for repair and resurfacing of streets. Twenty years traffic has brought destruction to pavement in some parts of the city. This is a city problem and not an abutting property problem, as I view it. The increased property value was charged in the original assessments. The street damage has been caused by city traffic, not by the property owner. The annual tax levy for street maintenance is too meagre to avail much in the way of repairing and resurfacing of broken pavement. The only way to adequately take care of the vast amount of needed repairs and reconstruction is through a general bond issue. A proposed bond issue for street repair was defeated by the people not long ago. This improvement must be made soon.

"Sewage disposal is another serious problem for the immediate future. Our present plant is inadequate and during the summer's low-water season the condition of Bear Creek below the plant is a menace to health. If the surplus water from the city reservoir were permitted to flow down Bear Creek below the plant the condition would be greatly relieved. The surplus water, being picked up above the sewage plant for irrigation purposes, and thus kept out of the creek channel, leaves the holes of the channel to become stagnant pools and a health menace. Investigation of sewage disposal plant has been made and a proposed bond issue for this purpose must in time be submitted to the people.

Labor and the Unemployed
"No city is free from the problem of caring for the unemployed. The resident laborer is invariably industrious, a home owner, and usually prepared to carry himself through a period of depression. The condition of the unemployed may be alleviated, to some extent, by employers, including the city, carrying construction projects when possible into seasons when relief for unemployed is most necessary. Labor organizations should be a means for improving general labor conditions as well as to relieve the unemployed.

In the Medford survey of unemployed the present situation seems to be as well cared for as it is possible to be and every effort is being made for relief. This council will cooperate in every way with the active authorities.

Ward Organization
"Organization for the accomplishment of definite and specific purposes is the only way for united action. In matters of city or ward importance there should be a means of determining a

"Moby Dick" at Holly Thursday



JOHN BARRYMORE in "MOBY DICK"

Filming a storm at sea offers obstacles enough but when it comes to recording one on the Vitaphone, aboard a pitching sailing vessel, such as was necessary in the making of "Moby Dick," the Warner Brothers picture starring John Barrymore and coming to the Holly theatre tomorrow, it tests the courage of cameraman and crew.

"The good ship "Mary Ann," converted into an 1840 whaler for the occasion, cruised about the Pacific for some days before the storm which the weather man had promised appeared over the calm Pacific. In the story the typhoon, behind which the fabled white whale was said to travel, occurs in the China Sea, but as that is a part of the Pacific and all of the Pacific looks

like a storm, the scene was filmed off the California coast. The authenticity of this recording is worth the trouble of getting it. It adds a realism so effective in the final scenes that "Moby Dick" has become the most dramatically thrilling sea picture ever made. The story of the madman's apparently hopeless chase of "Moby Dick" about the world, told so effectively in Herman Melville's novel by the same name, has been brought to the Vitaphone screen with all the adventure and romance intact.

Mr. Barrymore chose Joan Bennett for the leading role opposite him in this picture and Lloyd Hughes, Noble Johnson, Jack Curtis, Walter Long and William Whiting are characters in the cast.

At the head of a penal institution. A boy is sent to prison for murder, a killing done in the heat of passion and in self-defense. He is young and sensitive. The life makes a wreck of him and brings him finally to kill one of the guards, a particularly brutal fellow. Phillips Holmes plays the boy and Constance Cummings, a newcomer, makes her debut as the warden's daughter, with whom he is in love.

Klamath Falls.—City opened employment office recently at 702 Klamath avenue.

Pauline Starke Now at Rialto



PAULINE STARKE and ROBERT ELLIS in "WHAT MEN WANT" A UNIVERSAL PICTURE

Pauline Starke and Robert Ellis in "What Men Want," a story of love in a modern sophisticated setting, which opens at the Fox Rialto theater today.

"Inside the Lines" at State Tomorrow

From the first foot to the last fade-out, "Inside the Lines" Radio Pictures' astounding drama featuring Betty Compson, which opens at the State theatre Thursday, is interesting, thrilling and entertaining, according to advance reports.

It is not a war picture, but a story of espionage at Gibraltar during the World War.

"The Song of Love" will close a successful two-day run at the State this evening.

RESIGNS TO BECOME KLAMATH FIRE CHIEF

SALEM, Ore., Jan. 7.—(AP)—The resignation of E. A. Taylor, inspector for the state fire marshal's office, was announced today by Clarence A. Lee, state fire marshal. Taylor tendered his resignation to become fire chief for the city of Klamath Falls, which has recently improved its fire department headquarters.

Roseburg.—Plans underway for construction of new branch of National Soldiers' Home.

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