

# Medford to Vote July 14 On Municipal Swim Pool; Project Details Outlined

On July 14th next in a special election Medford citizens will vote on the proposition of constructing a municipal swimming pool. The election has been called by the City Council on the petition of a number of service clubs and other civic groups headed by the Lions Club. Representatives of these groups met with the Council June 20th and that body on June 27th authorized the election.

A copy of the petition, together with the list of petitioning groups is as follows:

"To the Honorable Mayor  
"City Council  
"Medford, Oregon.  
"We, citizens of Medford, Oregon, have long desired that our city have a first class municipal swimming pool. Besides being a wonderful civic attraction, making Medford a finer place to live, it will furnish a recreation feature of the highest order for our people, both young and old.

"We are convinced that a very large majority of our people desire this, and that they will support any reasonable movement to obtain it.

"We believe that Medford should have a thoroughly modern Class A pool, not less than 50' by 100'. It should be provided with a suitable filtration, chlorination and heating plant, under water lighting, bath house and administration building, and with all necessary sanitary features, both for pool cleaning and handling the bathing traffic.

"Our examination of available sites leads us to suggest that the pool be located in the Municipal playground, south of East Main Street and east of Bear Creek. The site is adequately large for the pool and some parking surrounding it. It is also very centrally located.

"Estimates we have had made show that such a pool as indicated above should cost about \$82,500 complete with bathhouse, piping, fencing, and parking.

"We suggest that the money to finance the project be raised not by bonds, but by a serial tax levy of about three mills levied for two successive years. This could be voted under a recent statute provided by the legislature (par. 97-401 to 97-405 Oregon Compiled Laws Annotated). Thus it would not add to the city's bonded debt and would save interest charges.

"We are now nearing the end of a fiscal year, which is June 30th. We are informed by the Assessor's Office that unless the election has been held and the tax voted before July 15th it probably cannot be certified for the tax roll this fall. This means that if we delay voting this levy beyond the end of this fiscal year we can not obtain action under this plan until another year has elapsed.

"We, therefore, respectfully ask that you take the necessary steps to submit this proposition to the people in a special election to be called before July 15, 1944, and that you cause to be set up in the city government a swimming pool commission or such other machinery or agency as you deem necessary to handle the construction and future operation of the pool.

"It is understood, of course, that modest charges shall be made after it has been constructed.

"Respectfully submitted:  
"Lions Club, Lady Lions, Business and Professional Women, Jackson Co. League of Women Voters, Zonta Club, Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, Federated Church Women, Y. M. C. A., Girls' Community Club, City Council of Parent Teachers Assn., Junior High, Washington School, Roosevelt School, Lincoln School and Jackson School Parent Teachers Associations."

(Editor's note:—The following article has been prepared by the sponsoring agencies to lay before the public as nearly as possible what is contemplated in the municipal swimming pool project for Medford.)

The calling of the election was hastened a little as a result of advice from the county assessor's office to the effect that unless the election is held on or before July 15th it is doubtful whether any levy authorized by such election could be included in this year's tax levy.

At this election the people are to vote on a serial tax levy to raise \$82,500 in two years which would mean a levy of about three mills for each of the two years. The serial tax levy as a means to finance the project was decided upon to keep away from the issuance of bonds and the interest charges they entail. It also means that the city's long period indebtedness is not increased. The whole cost of the pool is wiped out in two years.

It must be clearly understood that the city itself has not yet made or adapted any set plans for the construction of a swimming pool. The plans and estimates upon which this article is based are those used by the sponsoring groups in their petition. It should be emphasized that the city or any agency chosen to build the pool will not be obligated to follow them. They are, however, the result of long and careful study, and it is quite likely that the pool plan, when finally adopted by the city, will resemble closely the one which is herewith described.

The first half of the funds to be voted under the levy will be available in December of this year.

Before any public swimming pool may be constructed by any agency in this state plans for it must be drawn and submitted to the State Health Board for approval, especially from the standpoint of sanitation and safety. Many of the features in pool architecture and engineering are rather definitely set and can not be departed from very far.

**Site of Pool**  
The petition presented to the council suggests that the pool be located in the public playground area, now owned by the city, east of Bear Creek. The council may locate it there or upon any other suitable site which the city may own or which may be donated to the city for that purpose. No money is being voted in this levy to be used for purchase of land, however.

The proposed plans include a bath house, an administration building, a wading pool for children, the swimming pool proper, and a filtration, chlorination and heating room under the floor slab at the deep end of the pool. The whole plant, including bath house, the two pools, the filtration room, area ways around the pool and spectator space covers an area 248'x298'.

The bath house and administration building is a hollow

tile structure one story high 72' x 58'-9". Concrete foundation and floors, a central desk and storage room divides the boys' from the girls' showers and dressing rooms. From the administration point of view the bath house is planned to handle a maximum amount of pool traffic with a minimum amount of paid assistants, to keep down operating costs. Bathing traffic, boys' and girls', and the spectator traffic is separated and routed from the central desk. No spectator traffic is permitted inside the shower rooms or pool area way. All bathers must go through showers and sanitary foot baths upon entering or leaving the swimming pool enclosure. The house is not only equipped with showers but toilets, lavatories, hair drying equipment and other appointments required in a modern bath house.

Just outside the bath house and between it and the main pool is the wading pool. It is on the same level as the bath house and surrounded by concrete area way, liberal in size and enclosed by chain link fence. The wading pool is 40' x 20' and varies in depth from 8" to 16". It has the same kind of sanitary provisions as the main pool. It is designed to take care of children too small to be admitted to the main pool. A wading pool where small children can be cared for relieves to some extent the traffic in the main pool and provides a safe place for them to play. According to accepted pool standards it will take care of about 20 children at a time.

**Main Pool Large**  
The petition to the Council asked for a main pool about 110' long by 50' wide. Actually, the pool will probably be 108 or 111 feet long as the length should be in even yards to facilitate racing events. Depth ranges from 3' 6" to 11'. The top of main pool, according to proposed plans, is set at a level of 3' 6" above the level of the wading pool and the bath house, or about 3 1/2 feet above the general surface of the ground. Excavated earth is used to fill in for the area way and spectator section around the pool.

There are several reasons for setting the level of the pool a little above ground. It improves the general appearance, means less excavation, costs less to construct and gives better pool drainage. It facilitates also the construction of a service tunnel under the deck slab and entirely around the outside of the main pool. It also separates and isolates to some extent the activities of the main pool from the children's wading pool in the lower level.

The pool is surrounded by a cement floored area way 12 feet wide on the sides and shallow end, and 15 feet at the deep end. This is enclosed by a chain link fence on iron pipe posts. There is no entrance to the pool and area way immediately around it except through the sanitary shower ways of the bath house. Outside of the chain link fence around the pool enclosure is a space for spectators, fourteen feet wide, concrete floored where bleachers may be set up.

The main pool holds about 250,000 gallons of water. This is all filtered through three large pressure filters and given chlorination treatment. It is also heated when the temperature falls below the desired point. The complete water load will be passed through the filters and retreated three times in every 24 hours. Water is fed into the pool through 14 inlet points instead of one as is the case of some old pools. This distributes the intake and serves to maintain even temperature and water treatment throughout the pool. Old pools are often chlorinated so heavily in spots as to burn the eyes while other spots in the pool are practically untreated.

**Water Level Control**  
Water level controls hold the water level up to the gutter line at all times so any scum is floated away. The water level in a pool constantly changes depending upon how many people are in it. When the water level line is allowed to fall below the gutter line so there can be no run off the gutter becomes practically useless. This is what happens in old pools that do not have the water level controls.

Heating of an outdoor pool for summer usage in this climate is not a very great problem but must be provided for. Once the temperature has been brought to the desired point it is held there by thermostatic regulation.

**Under Water Lighting**  
The inside of the pool is light in color, nearly white. Recessed in the side walls about 2' 6" below the water line are 26 500-c.p. lights, 13 on a side. These add much to the attractiveness of the pool at night and provide a great safety factor. Anything on the pool bottom can be clearly seen from the deck above.

On the bottom of the pool are four inch lines from end to end, seven feet apart to provide racing lanes. On the inside walls near the top, in addition to the usual figures indicating depth, are figures showing distance from end to end. These are to facilitate competitive events.

The pool is also equipped with diving boards at the deep end, pool ladders, sanitary cleaning apparatus, guard towers and other appointments necessary to a modern pool.

**Pool Size Versus Demand**  
Just how large to make a pool to accommodate the traffic load any given community may furnish is always a problem because of a number of factors. Some cities have built pools too large and have found that from the standpoint of operative costs they have a "white elephant" on their hands. A pool too large means not only added cost of construction but increased cost of operation through all future years.

Some study of this has been made locally in an effort to plan a pool large enough to take care of the demand and at the same time small enough for economical operation. According to figures from the Iowa State College report and the report of the joint committee of bathing places of the American Public Health Association and the conference of state sanitary engineers, both accepted standards in the field, the proposed Medford pool plant will handle over 300 swimmers, divers and bathers at one time as a peak load.

The wading pool helps considerably in relieving the load of the main pool.

Rarely more than three-fourths of the bathers present are in the water at the same time. In this connection a feature that relieves crowding in the water is ample area way around the pool where bathers can walk, sit or lie. The present pool is generous in this respect.

**Open Pool Favored**  
The question of the open versus the enclosed pool was a matter which much attention has been given. There are advantages in both types. A search was made to find if anything in the country at large had been designed architecturally, convertible in nature that might offer the advantages of both the open and closed pool, but nothing very practicable or usable here was discovered.

It was found that preference among people who use pools the most, especially those in their teens and twenties, greatly favored the open pool, when operated in the summer time on the municipal basis.

The proposed plans provide for an open pool with the two sides and the deep end surrounded by a covered bleacher section. These bleacher sections besides being a revenue producer from the accommodation of spectators serve as a wind break. In the back of the bleacher sections sliding doors are provided which can be opened to let in the breeze on hot days.

As a look to the future it was realized that there might be a possibility some time that it would be desired to cover and enclose the pool. To facilitate this, should that time ever come, foundations are put in to carry

the roof truss bearing posts. These are inconspicuous and add but little to the present cost.

**Admission Charges**  
It is not possible, of course, to say just what admission charges will be set. According to estimates the operation and depreciation costs of the pool can be carried by a charge of 10c for children and 25c for adults, with towels furnished. The promise to the voters is that the pool, once built, must not only be self sustaining so far as operation is concerned, but must take care of its own repair and depreciation. The public must understand this.

A study of the operation of other pools shows clearly that there are, broadly speaking, two main factors necessary to the financial success of a good pool:

a. Good business management of the promotional type. Customers are attracted by a proper administration and handling of the pool plant, by the cleanliness, color and attractiveness of the place. Competitive events between school and town teams and the like where spectators are charged is a great booster of attendance. There are also various other features a good manager can provide that will considerably increase the financial receipts of a pool.

b. A municipal pool that is to succeed financially and at the same time fulfill its proper function in the community must charge reasonably low admissions. Studies which have been made of pool financing show clearly that a pool management must aim for volume of business rather than a high price. Volume attracts more volume as it goes along while high prices drive it away.

**96TH DIVISION  
AT CAMP BEALE**  
Camp Beale, Calif., July 8—With the precision and dispatching marking a well-trained army unit, the 96th Infantry Division under the command of Major General James L. Bradley, moved into Camp Beale this week. As the men of the division took over a substantial part of the camp, the blue and white diamond insignia became much in evidence.

The 96th moved to Beale from Camp San Luis Obispo. Much of their training was done at Camp White prior to transfer to California.

## MEDFORD GIRLS LUCKY IN CRASH

Three Medford girls and two from Klamath Falls are today congratulating Lady Luck on their good fortune in escaping from an automobile near Klamath Falls, July 4, with only minor bruises, despite the fact the car was completely demolished after leaving the highway and turning over twice on nearby rocky boulders.

The Misses Duretha Lind, Mary Lou Swape, and Corrina Stenson of Medford and Anna May Peterson and Jeanne Oppe of Klamath Falls spent the week end of the 4th at Lake O'Woods, motoring into Klamath Falls on July 4. Returning to the lake that afternoon, the accident occurred about 1:30 p. m. near Tomahawk Tavern, 17 miles from Klamath and mid-way between that city and the lake. Miss Peterson owned and was driving the 1937 Ford, declared a total wreck after the accident. No one in the car was injured seriously. The group has since returned home.

## BERRY CEILINGS LISTED BY OPA

Retail ceiling prices on berries, as set by the Office of Price Administration, were announced Saturday by the price clerk of the local war price and rationing board.

Based on crates containing twelve 12-ounce cups of berries, the prices set as ceilings are Red raspberries, \$3.98 per crate or 33c per cup; black raspberries, \$3.74 per crate or 31c per cup; blackberries and dewberries, \$2.85 per crate or 24c per cup; and strawberries, \$3.82 per crate or 32c per cup.

The clerk also stated that the ceiling price on apricots, un-

Sunday, July 9, 1944

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

graded, orchard run bought on the farm by the consumer, is 13c per pound. Apricots in retail stores carry a 17c per pound ceiling.

Matamoros, Mex., July 8—(U.P.) This Mexican border city of 20,000 persons and its adjacent rural population was on strike against the government today, protesting a cotton price freeze program.

Waste of edible food from all causes amounts to 400 pounds annually for the average family, the War Food Administration estimates.

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# One FAMILY FARM UNIT PROTECTION

One family farm units occupied by owners should be protected, increased and perpetuated, not because producing grain or fruit or meat on a one-family farm unit is the more economical way to carry on the production of these necessities but because it is a way of life we are not yet ready to abandon. The one-family farm unit must continue to be a stabilizing factor in our economic and political life.

## FARM PROTECTION PROPOSALS

1. Stabilization of the Prices of Farm Products at a parity with \$1.00 per hour minimum wage base.
2. Embargo on the importation of farm products that can be raised on our own farm units.
3. Tax on quantity production by a single farm unit.
4. One-family farm unit tax exemption.

One hundred years ago Daniel Webster said: "Land is the sanctuary of man; not a place to grow rich on, but where he has a better chance to develop courage, honor and the oldest and most becoming virtues. It is a place where a poor man and six children and not a dollar in his pocket can have a wide roof over his head, a warm fire and food three times a day in abundance without asking credit for it. His sons are less liable to grow up to be cheap sports, rowdies, gamblers and gangsters."

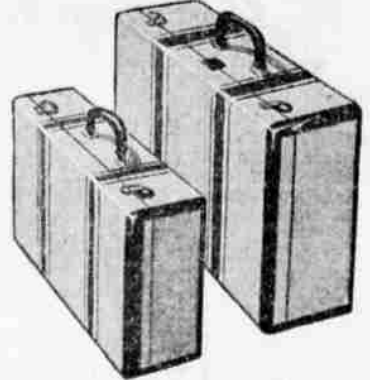
Even if it takes a little more sweat and a little more toil it is best we raise grain and meat and fruit in our own country on our own one-family farm units sufficient to fully supply all our families with these necessities. This is a way of life that must be continued in our country whatever the cost.

## FREE

want every farmer in Jackson County to read Chapter IV—"Protection of One-Family Farm Units" in my pamphlet, *Econocry - Peace Time Jobs*—by J. C. Barnes. A free copy of this pamphlet can be had by writing or phoning J. C. Barnes or calling at my Real Estate office, 31 S. Front St., Phone Office 9172, Home 4928.

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