

PHOENIX, TALENT WOULD VOTE ON SCHOOL MERGER

Boards of Two Fast-Growing Communities See Need For Expanded Facilities.

Petitions asking the Jackson county school district boundary board to call and set the date for an election on consolidation of districts four, Phoenix, and 22, Talent have been prepared following a joint proposal of the two school boards, at their meeting in Talent Tuesday afternoon, to inaugurate the movement at once.

In Phoenix circulation of the petitions is already under way and circulators who may be contacted are G. G. Skinner, Mrs. Bert Stancliffe, Mrs. E. W. Inman and M. Dale Newton according to Lyle Lindley, school superintendent. Talent School Board Chairman Frank Dunkin said copies of the petition will be passed among residents there shortly. Signatures of at least 50 legal voters from each district must be obtained, Lindley declares. He explains that a legal voter is anyone who can vote for a school director and that U. S. citizenship, residence in the district for 30 days and age of 21 years or over are the requirements.

Expansion Needed

Marked increase in the enrollment of the two schools and indications of further growth which mean eventual expansion of the schools' facilities brought joint discussion of the problem by the boards last November. Decision to submit the consolidation question to the people was reached after three subsequent meetings.

Ultimate outcome of consolidation would be construction of a new high school and maintenance of the districts' present structures as grade schools.

Recognizing that future decisions rested in the hands of the people and in the board that would be chosen for the larger district, the joint boards Tuesday, however, went on record as recommending that if consolidation is voted "a suitable location be selected as near halfway between the present schools in Talent and Phoenix as is feasible and possible; and that actual building operations on such a new site be postponed until building conditions become more nearly normal unless the school enrollment of such consolidated

district increase to the extent as to make building operations imperative in order to provide adequate educational facilities for our youth."

Petitions Circulate

Lindley said the petitions will be in the hands of Phoenix circulators until Monday or Tuesday of next week.

The school district boundary board is composed of county officials including the school superintendent, the judge and the two commissioners.

County School Superintendent C. R. Bowman met with the combined boards Tuesday to explain points of law.

Talent Man Beats Phone Shortage By Building Own Line

Talent, Feb. 1.—Unable to purchase telephone equipment a year ago to connect his home south of here with that of his mother a quarter-mile away, Frank Dunkin acquired and installed an office inter-phone system and now claims he wouldn't part with the arrangement "for anything."

Dunkin, chairman of the local school board here, says that he and his family are able to converse with his mother, Mrs. Mabel Dunkin, from any place in their spacious home and that it seems, almost, that she is in the house with them.

Because the wire extending between the two homes is not insulated, calls from airplanes to the Medford airport are often overheard and music of some military band is picked up in the morning.

Daily Weather Report

FORECASTS

Medford and vicinity: Mostly cloudy with showers tonight and Saturday. Little change in temperature.

Oregon: Mostly cloudy with showers or snow flurries north and west portions throughout state tonight and Saturday. Little change in temperature. Gentle to moderate south to southwest wind.

LOCAL DATA

Temperature a year ago today: Highest 60. Lowest 39.

Total monthly precipitation 3 inches.

Excess (or deficit) since September 1, 1945: 14.01 inches.

Excess for the season: 4.42 inches.

Relative humidity at 4:30 p.m. yesterday 65%; 4:30 a.m. today 95%.

Tomorrow

Sunrise 7:23 a.m. Sunset 5:27 p.m.

Observations Taken At 4:30 A. M. 120 Meridian Time

	High	Low	Prec.
Boise	38	29	.05
Boston	25	23	.04
Chicago	22	12	.01
Denver	40	29	.01
Eureka	50	35	.01
Havre	18	11	.01
Klamath Falls	34	14	.01
Los Angeles	68	41	.01
Medford	43	27	.01
New York	53	30	.01
Omaha	31	23	.01
Phoenix	62	26	.01
Portland	31	14	.01
Reno	50	37	.01
Roseburg	33	24	.01
Salt Lake	33	24	.01
San Francisco	57	34	.01
Seattle	46	40	.03
Spokane	39	30	.01
Washington, D. C.	53	30	.14
Yakima	48	24	.01

VALLEY GROWERS MEET SATURDAY

Valley growers of tomatoes and peaches are invited to attend a public meeting at the Jackson county Courthouse at 1:30 p. m. Saturday at which time Ralph Koozer, manager of the Bagley Canning Co. of Ashland will discuss a profit sharing plan.

Although full details of the plan were not revealed, it was indicated that peach growers will be asked to reserve a certain percentage of their crops for the cannery, diverting it from the fresh fruit market. It was understood that the cannery would require only a small per cent of profit and the balance would go to the grower.

An effort to increase the tomato acreage to 300 acres will be made, Koozer said.

COMMUNICATIONS

Letters to the Editor must bear the name and address of the writer although the use of a pen-name or initials for publication is permissible. The staff reserves the right to edit all letters with a view to clarity and condensation.

Why They Hide

To the editor: Many times I have noticed the publication of objections to "Name on File" signatures, the latest in yesterday's paper signed by Ray Offenbacher.

I can think of many legitimate reasons why such a practice may be preferable to one's own name besides my own reason to wit:

My family is very sensitive to any kind of publicity and would be embarrassed to death if I were to sign my name and they had to admit to any relationship to the writer.

However, you have no idea how much wit and humor and yea, even sage comment you and your subscribers miss because of this particular family's aversion to seeing their name in print. I and many other "Name on File" are between two fires, our own particular problems on one hand and ridicule by Mr. Offenbacher and followers on the other. Many communications are written and never sent. Alas, what a loss to humanity.

Well, again here goes nothing. (Name on File)

Dr. Durant In Error

To the editor: In Dr. Durant's lecture in the high school auditorium he made two statements that are quite erroneous.

He said, as per Mail Tribune report: "Religion is the greatest force for civilization of all." How a man of Dr. Durant's mental calibre, who poses as an historian (and a "great" one according to the report) can make such a false assertion is surprising.

The greatest force for civilization is science. Religion has always lagged behind science and history shows that times without number it has persecuted and gaged science in its blind intolerant zeal. This has been the case not only in Christianity, but also among the ancient Greeks and Romans. Religion always tried to block the way to science and truth-seeking philosophy until forced to concede.

Galileo's career is an example. Owing to the church he barely escaped with his life. All through the dark ages for centuries the churches would allow no free speech that tended to doubt their religious doctrines. Where would our modern developments be without science! All our great industries and modern comforts are based on scientific discoveries.

One might argue that this is all material welfare, not civilization in the highest sense. This is because religion has failed to attain a universal high moral standard. It is not the fault of science that materialism is so prevalent.

Dr. Durant said that the fear of starvation is the urge for a high civilization and makes men rich. Thanks to science there is practically little or no fear of starvation in the United States. The same may be said of New Zealand. Yet these nations are the most advanced in civilization. India and China are examples of where for centuries starvation and the fear of it, is the great curse, and their civilization is the lowest. It is because civilization has almost eliminated starvation and the fear of it that progress is made. Fear of starvation never helped civilization, although it may have been an urge in some individual cases.

Youth and young manhood is not obsessed with the fear of starvation. He looks much higher than that. He dreams of great

Wants Her Mama



Six-year-old Margaret Miller struggles in arms of woman deputy in Chicago court, reaching for mother, at right, after court gave custody of the girl to father as he filed divorce suit.

Ashes Of Trainer Scattered On Turf Of Harness Track

Goshen, N. Y. (U.P.)—The beat of the hooves and the sharp "hi-yi" of the silk coated drivers gets into the blood of a harness man. He wouldn't rest real well if he couldn't hear the Morgans pounding down the stretch.

That's why the death-bed request of Jack Matthews, veteran groom and trainer, didn't seem strange to those who know and love the standard-breds.

A score of old friends stood recently at the finish line of famous Good-Time track here—scene of the great Hambletonian race—as the ashes of Jack Matthews were scattered on the turf in front of the grandstand; on the turf where Greyhound and Rosalind and Billy Direct and all the Hanover horses trotted and paced their way to glory.

AMBER CHOSEN

Hollywood, Feb. 1.—(U.P.)—British Actress Peggy Cummins, 20, was chosen from 215 contestants today to make her American screen debut in the title role of a \$3,000,000 movie production of "Forever Amber." Opposite her in the male lead role of Bruce Carlton will be screen hero Cornel Wilde, removed from suspension to take the part.

This nation's imports of black pepper reached about two million pounds last summer. Before the war the total imports usually ran 60 million pounds per year.

Friday, Feb. 1, 1948

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE—SEVEN

OREGON INFANT DEATHS SHOW HEAVY DECREASE

Portland, Feb. 1.—(U.P.)—Oregon's infant mortality rate declined 24 per cent between 1933 and 1943, the state health commission reports.

The commission said Oregon's infant death rate has been long among the lowest and often the lowest in the nation.

left handed pitcher before he won fame as a home-run king.

WICE...MANY...TWICE...GOOD

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To Landowners of the TALENT Irrigation District

The Talent Irrigation District Board of Directors, in response to a growing sentiment throughout the District, and with the object of making more economical and efficient distribution of its never-too-plentiful water supply, has decided to take over maintenance of farm laterals in the District.

Unlike most other Oregon irrigation districts, the Talent District has always maintained only its main canals leaving up to the water users themselves all maintenance of ditches leading from these canals to the individual farms.

This system, while resulting in lower water assessments, has never been satisfactory. Leaky flumes, ditches cleaned poorly or not at all, and diversion structures consisting of piles of rocks or mud cause a serious loss of water. Laterals on too steep ground wash deep gullies, undermining fences and buildings, and in many cases the water users served by such laterals have neither the time, equipment, experience or finances necessary to put and keep them in proper shape.

It is felt by the Board that the increased efficiency in water distribution, and the water saved by proper improvement and maintenance of the farm lateral system will be well worth the added cost of this service.

These costs run, in other Districts where such maintenance has always been carried on by District crews, to approximately \$1.00 per acre per year. They may be somewhat higher in this District, during the time the badly run down farm lateral system is being rehabilitated, but will be about the same thereafter.

It must be noted that, since no assessment has been made for farm lateral maintenance during the present tax year of 1945-1946, no cleaning of such laterals can be done by District crews this Spring. This must be done, as in the past, by the water users themselves. However, there are sufficient funds in the District treasury to keep a small crew busy throughout this season installing diversion structures, replacing flumes, installing tile where necessary and, in general, improving the physical condition of the farm lateral system. This it is expected will affect at least some saving of water during the coming year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TALENT IRRIGATION DISTRICT.

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