

# Cities League Meets Here; Many Problems Get Wide Discussion

Last night's regional meeting of the League of Oregon Cities was the best attended so far in the series of 23 now being held throughout the state, according to league officers who are conducting them.

Representatives of Medford, Cave Junction, Grants Pass, Rogue River, Central Point, Gold Hill, Phoenix, Talent, Ashland, Jacksonville, Eagle Point and Jackson county attended, and discussed mutual problems of city administration.

**Bowes Speaker**  
William Bowes, Portland city commissioner and president of the league, was principal speaker. He discussed the function of the league, which was founded in 1925, and pointed out that recent committees appointed to serve cities better include those on legal education, municipal law and statute revision, legislative planning, legislative, and preparation of a model utility franchise.

Zoning, particularly in fringe areas, is one of the most pressing problems now facing cities, he said, and urged a program of education to convince farmers of the fact that the present zoning laws would not apply to them if placed in effect.

The tremendous growth of Oregon's population, and the accompanying movement of population from the cities to the

fringe areas, has made the problem particularly pressing, he said. Six counties now have planning commissions, he added.

## Revenues Problem

The problem of how to maintain adequate municipal revenues in the face of the constitutional six per cent limitation upon budget increases is another one which must be solved, he said, and he urged that cities support a proposed constitutional amendment which will be voted on at the November election which would permit voters of cities to place a new tax base in effect.

Bowes said that tax coordination and equalization is another pressing matter, and pointed out that steps are being taken to put it into effect.

Regional police schools and continued emphasis on traffic safety are doing much to guard the health and welfare of Oregon residents, he said, but even more must be done.

## Praises "Home Rule"

He also discussed some basic concepts of local government—or "home rule"—and said that "Our democracy has grown strong because people in communities have done much for themselves; have depended on themselves and have financed the things they want most. The further we get away from that policy and that principle, to

# The Grange

## Eagle Point Grange

Eagle Point Grange is sponsoring a square dance and pie social Saturday, March 15, at 8:30 p. m., in the Grange hall. Each lady is asked to bring a pie, which will be sold to the highest bidder. All Grangers and their friends are cordially invited.

that degree are we wrecking the principle of home rule."

Discussion following Bowes talk was moderated by Herman Kehrl, executive secretary of the league and director of the Bureau of Municipal Research at the University of Oregon.

## Discussion Woe

Matters which interested the municipal representatives attending included such diverse subjects as regulation of contractors and sub-contractors, Social Security protection for local government employees, sickness and accident insurance, and sick leave, county planning, gasoline storage and delivery problems of regulation, and others.

Central Point Mayor Don E. Burelson suggested that smaller communities of the valley might save money and increase efficiency in employing a consulting engineer on a cooperative basis, to work for all of them and provide services which they cannot afford on an individual basis.

Mayor Diamond Flynn of Medford, host mayor for the meeting, welcomed the delegates.

Two-thirds of all families in the United States own an automobile.



**SHERIDAN STRANDED**—Actress Ann Sheridan sits on her luggage in the New York Central Chicago station. She is stranded with eight other film people by the railroad strike. They'll finish their trip to a Detroit film premiere by plane.

# Nationalization Provides No Changes for Iran People

Tehran, Iran—(U.P.)—Despite predictions of an early crackup of Iran's economy after the withdrawal of the British and their oil royalties, nine months of nationalization has brought almost no change in the standard of living of the average Iranian.

The man in the street has been affected little by the loss of Anglo-Iranian oil company revenues. Prices of such basic commodities as tea, sugar, bread and cotton goods either have remained stationary or have risen not more than five per cent over the last year.

With the upper and middle classes, however, its a different matter. Prices of luxury goods have skyrocketed because of heavy taxes and reduced imports.

Some 90 per cent of the population, however, has not been affected by the government's austerity policies. The government has made efforts to find other jobs for labor thrown out of work by curtailment of the oil industry's operations.

International trade on a cash basis is almost at a standstill because of the lack of foreign exchange, although foreign manufactured goods are still plentiful. The government is making every effort to avoid economic collapse. The first step was to cut imports from \$40,000,000 to \$25,000,000 annually. It has concluded barter deals to help close the gap.

Thursday, March 13, 1952

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—THREE

A new record average corn yield of 121.3 bushels an acre was set on one of the experimental plots at the University of Illinois.

The battleship USS Iowa displaces enough water to flood 46 acres of land one foot deep.

Iran used to buy some 28 per cent of its imports in the sterling area but after restrictions imposed by the British treasury, the amount was cut in half.

## Barter Deals Made

So far, barter deals have been completed with Russia, Germany and France, among others. Negotiations are under way with Italy, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Japan.

Sugar deficits have been made up fairly successfully by barter with Russia and other countries. To help out the government's program, a national six per cent two-year loan has been floated. The total subscribed to date is 250,000,000 rials.

Premier Mohammed Mossadegh's supporters say the government has written off the possibility of any income from oil, except for internal sales.

The chief victim of the loss of oil revenues is the seven-year development plan, which has been suspended. The two principal projects which were abandoned are railways from Tehran to Azerbaijan and from Tehran to Khorasan.

## U. S. Aid Planned

Another factor in halting the work was the British government's requisitioning of steel rails before delivery. The projects may be revived with American aid.

The Iranians will devote some \$10 million of the \$23 million total point-four aid to raising health and education standards. The remainder will go to improving agriculture.

This latter allocation may help revive other seven-year plan projects.

Business circles in Tehran, however, are unimpressed with the government's efforts. "Trade is dead," one of them said.

He added that because of uncertain conditions no one would risk capital in trade, "and anyway, there's no money around."

**LOOK ON Page 3 SECTION TWO**

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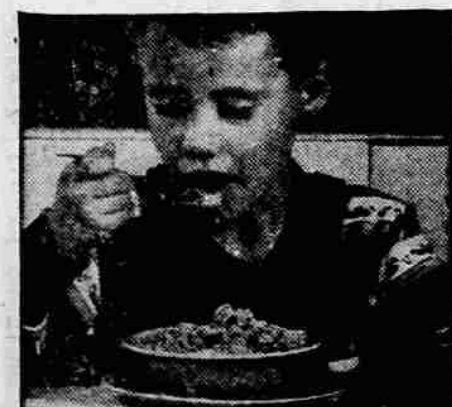
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