

Mayor Miller 'Shocked,' 'Disappointed' In Outcome of Two Elections Last Week

Following is the text of a statement issued Saturday by Mayor Earl Miller, addressed to members of the city council, the people of Medford, and the residents of the South Medford area:

"I am very much disappointed in the outcome of the election to annex the east, south and west suburban districts to the city of Medford. As the canvass of this vote will show our invitation for these people to join with the city was turned down by approximately a 5 to 1 majority. Democratic Choice.

"In my opinion these people have rejected in a democratic way the very thing that many of them have requested from Medford to help them solve, namely water and sewer facilities of city standards, but by their own choice have chosen to remain in their present condition. Some of these sections from a health standpoint are a menace to themselves as well as the city of Medford.

"I do not want any one to believe that the city of Medford or any of its officials was promoting this annexation for any personal or political ambitions. But Medford is a growing city and will expand into these areas whether we like it or not. The evidence is already there, and the problems of need of water, sanitation facilities, proper planning and proper financing are very evident and will continue to grow worse and far more expensive when the problems become more acute.

Not Too Large

"There are those in our city who claim we entered into the project of annexation on too large an area, and without ample time and factual study. To this I will disagree, for in my opinion it would be a great deal cheaper for both Medford and the residents of the area to program and develop this area on a single annexation than by piecemeal sections, which will not conform with one another.

"The cost born by the city of Medford in calling this election has not been wasted, and I believe certain facts obtained by the city of Medford have been worth the expenditure.

"It is my intention to call for a meeting in the very near future of the Medford Water commission, the Medford Planning commission and the Medford city council that we might coordinate our thinking and formulate an agreeable policy for the future on the problem of water districts, sewer districts and an-

nexation that we might avoid making again the mistakes which I believe have been made in the past. It will be my recommendation to these three groups that no water districts or sanitary districts be considered for approval in any section that is contiguous to the city without first careful consideration of annexation of the section into the city.

Interested in Needs

"I would never wish it to be said that I am not interested in progress or in other people's needs. I am not here as mayor of the city of Medford for publicity or personal gain, but I am trying to fulfill these duties for the betterment of Medford and keep faith with those citizens who elected me.

"To the people of Medford: I am very much disturbed and shocked at the result of the election to exceed the 6 per cent limitation of the city of Medford general fund budget by \$66,510. This election was defeated by about 3 to 1 majority.

"The shocking part of this is not the defeat, but what it is going to mean to the citizens of

Medford. Some 636 "no" votes out of approximately 9,000 registered voters in our city are controlling the operation of our city for the next fiscal year, which is not the majority expression of the people in my opinion. The \$66,510 represents about 7.75 per cent of the total year's expenditures for general fund purposes, which means the budget is now being revised to delete services and personnel of this growing city of ours. It is a patriotic duty to vote, and this proves to me what a disastrous thing can happen when good citizens don't vote. For I believe had the people exercised their American heritage this small increase would have passed by a large majority.

Progress Retarded

"As a result the city of Medford must retard its progress. I believe this would be unnecessary had the voters exercised this voting privilege.

"I am accepting this defeat in somewhat of a personal way, and having served on the council for about seven years, I believed the people of Medford to be a progressive people. But

when you understand what this has done to your city I think you will agree with me that we have made a great mistake in allowing this election to fail.

"As an example, we had a major fire Friday night in our downtown section, a fire which was a catastrophe in itself but could have been much worse if we failed to have the equipment and trained personnel to handle the situation. A lot of praise should be given Chief Barker and his men for a job well done. However, it took very nearly the entire force to handle the situation. Also we lost considerable equipment, which must be replaced in the immediate future. This department will have to be cut, along with the other departments, to pick up the necessary revenue to balance our budget. This should be a lesson to us, that we should be building up the departments instead of tearing them down. Think it over, my fellow citizens, and I believe you will agree with me.

Police Department Cut

"Your police department will be affected and with the discontinued of passenger train service the airport becomes more valuable to the citizens.

"Your cultural life will be affected also for library funds for the purchase of new books will be curtailed.

"The street lighting program is to be brought to a standstill.

"Proposed traffic lights will have to be suspended.

"This is not the way a growing city can survive, and provide the necessary services that go to make Medford the town it is today. Let's stop and reconsider the facts and not let this happen again, and don't complain too loud of these departments can't give the services expected during the next fiscal year, for you will have the opportunity then perhaps to vote again.

Is Tax-Conscious

"I would like to remind the people of Medford that as mayor and a citizen I am just as tax-conscious as any one else and am interested in making a tax dollar go as far as possible. I believe that your city is just as well or better managed and better serviced for every tax dollar spent than any other city in the Pacific Northwest of comparable size.

"I would like to add that our tax dollars have to be divided up with different local bodies, namely schools, county and city.

Prospect Hillbilly Jamboree Plans Said Now Well Under Way

Prospect — Residents of the Prospect area have plans for their fifth annual Hillbilly Jamboree of July 23 and 24, well under way.

Opening the celebration will be the big parade, beginning at the school yard gate and proceeding south on the highway to the Jamboree grounds. There will be three divisions for children of grade school age and under, which will include children with costumes or stunts, the pet division and the vehicle group. Prizes for each division will be given. The parade chairman, Mrs. Darwin Bevens, is requesting the children to be registered by contacting her by mail or leaving their entry blank at the Prospect post office.

Welcome Entries

The Jamboree entertainment committee is welcoming floats and hillbilly entries from all persons, organizations, or businesses in Prospect to help make the Jamboree bigger and better each year. There will be a cash sweep-

stake prize for the best all-around entry. Those taking part are asked to be at the school grounds at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 23, to insure a smooth send off at noon.

Candidates for the Jamboree queen are Miss Beverly Bean, sponsored by Prospect Lions club; Miss Genevra Mathers, PTA; Miss Joanne Cooper, Shady Cove Lions; Miss Marianne Hubbard, Prospect Lady Lions; Miss Janet Bean, 4-H club, and Miss Sue Colley, sponsored by the Prospect Letterman's club. They will be seen on television July 21, at 6 p.m. Accompanying the girls will be Mrs. Willard Huffman, queen chairman, and Donald Vaughn, publicity manager.

All organizations of Prospect will be represented with booths on the Jamboree grounds and entertainment is planned for both days of the celebration, with the one big dance on Saturday evening.

The Prospect Hillbillies have invited everyone to come and have fun, July 23 and 24.



APPOINTED—Burton W. Dunn, above, Corvallis realtor, has been appointed as Oregon real estate coordinator for the Oregon real estate department. Dunn has scheduled educational conferences for Medford, Roseburg and Eugene Real Estate boards for September.

Artist Offering Art Instruction in City

Robert Miller, a University of Oregon graduate, who has studied in galleries and museums of Rome, Paris and London, is now offering art instruction to children and adults.

Classes for young children will include painting animals, flowers, personal inventions, group projects and clay modeling. Older children (12 to adult) will enter classes including figure and animal drawings, perspective, rendering, modeling, and others.

Adult courses will feature art materials, color, working with reproductions of masterpieces, and field trips. Miller's home is 514 West Jackson st., phone 3-1617. During summer months children's classes will be held mornings at Miss Pat's dancing studio on the Jacksonville highway.

In my opinion there should be an equalization board set up to determine the fair share of each in order that we might have a balanced situation. I believe if this board could be created the public would be better informed as to the needs and expenditures of each body. Therefore, they would have better control and keep a better balance without becoming competitive for the tax dollar.

Oregon's Payrolls Up \$20,000,000 in Three-Month Period

Salem — (U.P.) — Payrolls of about 18,000 employers covered by Oregon's unemployment law increased more than \$20,000,000 during the first quarter of 1955 as compared with the previous year, preliminary tabulations just completed showed Saturday.

Taxable wages in January, February and March this year were \$298,192,000, while those exempt were \$6,908,000. The total of \$305,100,000 compares with \$283,610,000 reported in the first quarter of 1954.

Although first quarter employment reports are as yet far from complete, the State Unemployment Compensation Commission said, early comparisons show a rise of almost two per cent from early 1954, as against an increase of nearly eight per cent in payrolls.

Lumber Gains

Most of the gain in jobs was due to logging and lumber operations, which were heavier than normal through the last quarter of 1954 and the first quarter of 1955, partly because of the labor dispute that cut output considerably last summer. Since last November the number of all non-farm workers has shown steady increases over the year-ago figures.

Employer returns up to June 1 show 1954 payrolls aggregating \$1,289,827,695, only \$22,300,000 less than in the record year of 1953. Taxable wages, however, showed a loss of nearly \$31,000,000, as payrolls exempted from contributions reached the record amount of \$347,543,765 last year. This was more than all exempted payrolls during the first seven years — from 1940 through 1946 — that this law was in force.

Law Changed

Under the amended law as passed in the final hours of the 1955 Legislature, individual payments up to \$3,600 a year will be subject to unemployment taxes. Current provisions tax only the first \$3,000 of individual pay each year. This amendment takes effect Jan. 1, 1956, as does another section increasing employer coverage to those with two and three employees.

Automobile Occupants Unhurt in Collision

Two vehicles were involved in a head-on collision in front of the Rogue Valley Ballroom on Highway 99 south of Medford, about midnight Friday. State police reported no one injured.

Operators of the cars were Elery Orville Moore, 39, Bend, and Charles C. Birkland, 36, of New Brighton, Minn., officers said. The Brighton vehicle, heading south, had stopped, intending to turn left, when the Moore auto, going north, crossed the center line and ran into it.

Moore was cited for being drunk on a public highway.

Albert Birch Named To VFW State Post

Oceanlake — (U.P.) — Garry Hanson of The Dalles, Friday was named state commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars at their state encampment here.

Other VFW officers elected were James C. Gilroy, Portland, senior vice-commander; Albert H. Birch, Medford, junior vice-commander; Jerry Leibel, Eugene, chaplain; John Schum, Portland, quartermaster, and Walter W. Foster, Dallas, Judge Advocate.

Patty Hopkins of Del Rogue was elected president of the VFW auxiliary.

The encampment was scheduled to adjourn Saturday following a meeting of the Military Order of Cooties, a social order. Roseburg was chosen for the group's 1956 meeting.

Detroit — Automobiles in 1925 averaged only about 22,000 miles before they were scrapped. Now the age at which motor vehicles are deemed useless has risen to an average of 85,000 miles.

Log Falls From Truck Killing Woman Autoist

Eureka, Calif. — (U.P.) — Miss Mildred L. Cook, 20, Okanogan, Wash., died in a Eureka hospital from injuries she suffered Wednesday when a log fell off a truck just as she was passing it.

Paul L. Calvert, 29, Orick, Calif., told California police that his brakes locked and that the resulting jolt snapped his bindings and allowed the log to topple onto the passing car.

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