

## Planning Commissioner Tells Views on Freeway Site Vote

Editor's note: The following letter, though longer than the usual limit on letters to the editor, is published in full because of the universal interest in the subject, and because it is written by a member of the Medford planning commission, which last week took action in regard to the proposed route of a new freeway in this area. Since it was written, the highway commission has announced that further information on a west side route will be compiled and presented at a public hearing to be held in about six weeks.)

To the Editor: I note your editorial of May 16 on the planning commission action taken Monday night, which you have inferred to be a recommendation of the commission for the Genesee st. route for the proposed new highway.

As a member of the commission, but speaking entirely as an individual and not for the commission, I should like to make known my own feelings in this matter. They coincide with those expressed at the meeting by Mrs. Eden when she said that it was apparent that "we are to be executed and that all we have to do is decide whether we want to be hung or shot." Some of us decided to be hung and others to be shot.

My personal opinion is that it is an outrage to inflict this highway on the community in either

## In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS  
This is written on election day in Oregon—and election day is no time to talk politics. On other days, we TALK politics. On election day we DO politics. That is to say, on election day we get out and vote. Voting is a DEED—and everybody knows that deeds count more than words.

So let's talk about business today.  
**AT HOT SPRINGS, Virginia**—a pleasant little resort town in the green and lovely Shenandoah mountains—industrialists are gathering for a meeting of the commerce department's business advisory council. Some of them are predicting that American business concerns may cancel some of the record expansion in plants and equipment that is presently scheduled.

They say that rising interest rates could discourage them from borrowing heavily for expansion.

**WHY are interest rates rising?**  
The answer is simple. Money is a commodity. It responds to the law of supply and demand. When money seeking investment is plentiful, interest rates fall. When money is scarcer, interest rates rise.

As of now, money is scarcer because of the demand for it for the construction of new buildings and the purchase of new equipment.

**WHY is money scarcer?**  
Again the answer is simple. People are using more of it—for new buildings and new plants, among other things—and at the same time people are SAVING less of it.

**AT A recent meeting of the National Association of Mutual Savings Banks, W. Randolph Burgess, under secretary of the treasury, told his hearers:**

"Personal savings are accounting now for only about 6 1/2 per cent of our income after taxes as against an average of about 8 per cent in other recent years. This is DISTURBING because it is an indication that we are not saving today quite enough to finance the rapid rate of growth of which we are otherwise capable.

"We need to develop THRIFT and encourage it by attractive rewards."

**WHAT is an attractive reward for thrift?**

Once more the answer is simple. Higher wages for money are the reward for thrift. Higher wages for money cause people to save up more money. The wage for money is called interest.

So—  
You see—  
Higher interest rates are not always a calamity. If they produce the money needed for expansion of industry they are beneficial to all of us in the way of more jobs.

**NOW for the \$64 question:**  
If we need more money for investment in new plants and new equipment to provide more jobs for all of us, why doesn't the government start its printing presses and provide us with the money we need instead of requiring us to SAVE IT UP?

**WELL, it doesn't work.**  
Why doesn't it work?  
I don't know. I doubt if anybody knows. But the fact remains that it doesn't.  
It always results in bad trouble sooner or later. Maybe when the Supreme Architect laid out the world and made the laws to govern it He laid down the rule that MEN MUST WORK FOR WHAT THEY GET.

location. However, it seems apparent that we will have to accept one or the other of the routes and that probably the route to be taken has already been selected by the Highway Commission, and that action on our part is going to be ineffective.

Regarding the 300 foot right-of-way which was recommended to be acquired through the Genesee route if that route is finally chosen, I think a little explanation will clarify this situation. According to the maps which we have seen, the Commission has provided for a 300 foot right-of-way on the Hillcrest route. They have not provided for that type of right-of-way on the Genesee route. It seems entirely inconsistent that they would require a 300 foot right-of-way, on one route for traffic density reasons, and a much lesser right-of-way on the other route with the same traffic. Hence, it seems logical that in a few years, say from five to ten years from now, they will be back asking for more right-of-way to widen the route through the city, and at that time cause more disruption to the community. For that reason, I felt that if they are going to go on that route they had better take the right-of-way now rather than come back and ask for more later. Moreover, it seemed to us that the wider right-of-way will provide a buffer zone to minimize the noise and other obnoxious characteristics of a trunk highway passing through a residential or business area. This, it would seem, would to a minor extent, help the property owners in the neighborhood whose property was not taken for the right-of-way.

By looking at an aerial map of the situation, you will find that aside from the four or five city blocks which are really destroyed by the installation of such a highway, the balance of the route through the valley is essentially in the Bear Creek bottom and probably does less harm to the community on this account. The Hillcrest route, would, of course, cut through some orchards, but it would also cut through what, in my opinion, is one of the last remaining outstanding residential areas left to the community for future development. Moreover, the Hillcrest route would provide for a major interchange at Barnett rd. which would throw a substantial amount of heavy traffic past our new hospital which is being provided by the community at considerable expense. In order to take care of this Barnett rd. route we are told that it would cost the city of Medford on the order of \$250,000 to improve it. Certainly I believe we were entitled to take these factors into account in making up our mind as to which was the lesser of two evils.

Although I firmly believe that the route should be located far to the westward somewhere between Jacksonville and Medford, I am afraid this cannot be done. It is to be presumed that the Highway Commission, being well versed in such matters, and having made a decision that the westside highway is "not feasible," knows more about it than we do. It would, however, seem to be desirable that the Commission publish some reason better than those two words as to why something which is apparently recommended and desired by almost everyone in the valley, is not being considered.

I trust that these few comments may assist in clarifying your mind as to my own reasons from making the hard decision which was forced upon me when I voted on this subject at last Monday night's meeting.

A. D. Harvey,  
Member Medford Planning Commission

**Peace Officers Plan Grants Pass Meeting**  
Three members of the Southern Oregon Peace Officers association will report on the Western States Crime conference, held last week in Great Falls, Mont., Wednesday at 8 p.m. at a meeting of the association in the Grants Pass Elks club.

Attending the Montana conference were Dean DeBerry, Jackson county deputy sheriff; Lyle Perkins, Medford police detective sergeant; and George Eckstein, Josephine county deputy sheriff.

Invitations to the meeting have also been sent to peace officers associations in Del Norte and Siskiyou counties in California and Klamath and Douglas counties in Oregon.

**Bill Frake Wins Speaking Contest**  
Bill Frake, son of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Franke, of 22 Richmond ave., won the district Pythias public speaking contest in Grants Pass last week.

He will go to Portland next to participate in the sectional contest before June 15. The final national contest will be held in New Orleans in August.

Teachers in 35 states benefit from state-controlled retirement pension funds.

## Fire-Ama to Show New Techniques

New techniques involved in combating forest fires will be demonstrated by combined state, federal and industry crews during the Fire-Ama Saturday, May 26, in Medford.

Sam Taylor, chairman of the group planning the event, said the use of mobile pumps equipped with high-pressure and fog nozzles will be shown as well as hand tools needed for efficient forest fire suppression.

The fire control display is one of the several features planned, Taylor said, with other displays and demonstrations scheduled to demonstrate coordinated action in fighting fires.

Members of the Medford Active club will man a booth serving refreshments. Pony rides will be available for the youngsters.

Taylor emphasized that the public was invited and no charge would be made. The show will be held at Elk Lumber company north of Medford.

The highest elevation in Minnesota is 2,230 feet above sea level; the lowest 602 feet above sea level.

## HORN BROOK Music Club Holds Meeting

By MRS. H. H. CHAPMAN  
Hornbrook—The Music club held its regular meeting Saturday, May 19. Members of the club are the piano and accordion pupils of Mrs. Paul Greene, and they meet at the studio at her home on Henley rd. every second Saturday from 10:30 a.m. until noon.

All activities of the club center around music, and consist of such things as musical games, listening to records, discussing the meanings of words used in music, and a program presented by some of the students. Those taking part in this week's program were accordion pupils Penny Barnum and Linda Blankenship and Robert Laustalot and Billy Greene of Hilt, and at the piano Linda Greene, a granddaughter of Mrs. Greene's and Barbara De Clerck and Marsha Simmons of Hilt. Mrs. Greene also has several adult pupils.

Hornbrook Grange will hold a ham dinner at the Grange hall on Memorial day. Mrs. Margaret Phillips is chairman of the dinner committee, and assisting her will be Mrs. Bertha Bradley, Mrs. Dave Holland, Mrs. Ardon Burns, Mrs. Agnes Silva and Mrs. John Shinar. Volunteer

helpers will be members of the Boy Scout troop. Dinner will be served from 1 a.m. to 3 p.m., (DST).

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Brown became parents of their first son May 17 at the Siskiyou County hospital in Yreka. Waiting to welcome him at home are three small sisters.

Mrs. Grace Quigley was hostess for the Auction Bridge club May 16 at her home on Henley rd. Following a dessert luncheon, members playing were Mrs. Bertha Bradley who won high score, Mrs. Will Rogers of Klamath river who won second, Mrs. Frank Graves of Hilt, Mrs. Lester Nye, Mrs. Henley Clawson, Mrs. Emory Parshall, and Mrs. Frank Ohlund. At the close of the playing, a farewell gift was presented to Mrs. Graves, who is retiring from the club after having been a member since it was organized in 1934.

Mr. and Mrs. Archie Winders of Stockton, Calif., arrived May 17 to spend a month visiting relatives and friends in this area. Mrs. Winders is a sister of Mrs. Bertha Bradley, and Mrs. Will Rogers of Klamath river.

The entertainment committee of the Grange has announced

Sunday, May 20, 1958

MEDFORD (OREGON) MAIL TRIBUNE—FIVE

that 12 dance students from the Jackie Locke school of the dance in Medford will present a dance program on Friday, May 25, at the Grange hall. Some of these youngsters have appeared on KBES-TV in Medford. The program will be at 10 p.m. (DST), following the regular meeting of the Grange. Grange meetings are held at 8:30 p.m. (DST) during

the summer months. Mrs. Minnie Bloomingcamp and son Charles drove to Medford on Mothers day where they attended services at the First Presbyterian church. They were joined by Mrs. Marge Snyder and children Karen and Victor, and all had Mothers day dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Wyatt and two sons at Cen-

tral Point. Mrs. Snyder and Mrs. Wyatt are sisters. It has been brought to our attention that the name of the recent book by Lauran Payne was misquoted in this column. The correct title of the book is "Arrowhead Rider."

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