

School Bond Election Will Be November 5

Patrons of Medford school district 549C will vote Tuesday, Nov. 5, on a \$1,786,000 bond issue to finance a two-year building program in the district.

The proposed building program is part of a long range pattern of planning, which has been carried out by the school board for several years. Board members and school officials have been collecting data on the district's building needs for the past year and a half. Their findings were supplemented by a study made by school buildings and finance authorities from the University of Oregon and from lay persons familiar with financing and constructing school buildings.

In a pamphlet prepared by school board members and administrators, the two-year program includes seven projects. They are:

Addition of Classrooms
1. Addition of eight classrooms at Medford High school, and construction of up to 10 new classrooms on land owned by the district south of the present shop and music wing. Renovation and relocation of rooms would result in new and additional science, commercial, vocational shop and homemaking departments. This would bring the maximum capacity of the high school to an enrollment of 1,600. Estimated cost is \$899,000.

2. One new elementary school, grades one through six, at Grand ave. and Corona st. in the northeast area. The building would be planned for 500 students. Classrooms to handle an estimated 360 students to begin with would be provided. Classrooms may then be added from current budgets. Total estimated cost is \$324,500.

3. One new elementary school, grades one through six, would be constructed on a comparable basis to the school on Grand ave. between Siskiyou blvd. and Dellwood ave. in the southeast area. Only that portion of the building would be constructed in 1957-58 that would be needed for the next school year. The following year, additional rooms would be constructed as required. Estimated cost is \$324,500.

Multipurpose Room
4. Renovate the multipurpose room at the West Side elementary school. A stage with rest-room and dressing room facilities would be added to the existing building. All other Medford schools have these facilities now, the board noted. Estimated cost is \$24,000.

5. A classroom and dressing room addition to Roosevelt school. The school's multipurpose room has neither dressing room nor adequate facilities. The board considered it advisable to construct an additional classroom to care for special and music classes. This would be done by an addition on the existing building. Estimated cost is \$22,000.

6. A shop and storage facility for the school buses owned and operated by the district. The

district does not have a garage to house and service its buses and other motor vehicles. Estimated cost is \$52,000.

McLoughlin Woodshop
Renovate the existing McLoughlin woodshop and district shop to be used for regular classroom instruction. The board proposed that the present woodshop building be renovated for music classes and that rooms now used for music be assigned to regular district shop, which is inadequate to serve district purposes, would be renovated for a junior high woodshop. This is the most economical way to care for needed classroom space and services, members noted. Estimated cost is \$14,000.

In addition to the seven projects, equipment is estimated to cost \$112,000, and legal fees will require another \$5,000. The total is \$1,786,000.

Planned for next school year are science, shop, homemaking and five or six classrooms at Medford High school; basic unit of probably 10 classrooms on the Grand ave. elementary school site, one unit of eight classrooms on the Siskiyou blvd. elementary school site, and West Side and Roosevelt renovation and addition; and construction of a district shop, warehouse and school bus shop.

Board members pointed out that if enrollments did not warrant additional space in 1959-60, construction would be postponed until it was needed. Taxpayers, he noted, would be paying only for those buildings renovated or constructed.

No work is planned immediately at the junior high schools unless increased enrollment would require additional rooms at McLoughlin Junior High.

Relieve Classroom Needs
The board anticipated that the proposed program will relieve new classroom needs in all schools for a number of years with the exception of a few classroom additions.

Architects have been instructed by board members to design, select and use economical construction materials that will result in a low cost building with all non-essentials eliminated. Lo-disrupt family vacations, which usually are scheduled to coincide with the school calendar. It also would create a loss of income to

Quake Rocks Tokyo
Early Saturday Morning
Tokyo — A rolling earthquake rocked Tokyo at 12:57 Saturday morning (7:47 PST). The Tokyo Central Meteorological Observatory said the epicenter of the quake was beneath Tokyo Bay.

The tremor was listed at 3 on the Richter scale of magnitude. With the earthquake coming in the early morning hours, Tokyo citizens were roused from their sleep. However there were no immediate reports of any casualties or damages.

students who work during the summer and fall, and it would be difficult for students transferring to and from Medford schools. The plan has not proved successful where it has been tried, the board noted.

3. Increased class loads in all

schools are impossible under present conditions in view of the small size of most classrooms. If it were possible, the board said it would be "educationally disastrous" to overload teachers. The cost of operating a double-shift would be high since it

Matter of Fact By Joseph Alsop

ZHUKOV'S NEW LEVER

Warsaw—If Marshall Tito of Yugoslavia is correct, both the most vital levers of power in Soviet Union are already in the hands of Marshal Zhukov. Always assuming Tito is right, therefore, Nikita S. Khrushchev must now be regarded as probably holding his high post almost on sufferance.

Such is the necessary meaning of a remarkable piece of information confidentially passed on by the Yugoslavs to the Poles, as can now be revealed, at the recent Belgrade meeting between Tito and Wladyslaw Gomulka.

The Yugoslavs stated that substantive control of the K.G.B., or Soviet Commission of State Security, had been acquired at the beginning of August by the Soviet Ministry of Defense—for which read Marshall Zhukov. This new development may not sound enormously significant to the Western reader unfamiliar with the strange Soviet power structure.

But in fact the K.G.B. is none other than the somewhat diminished inheritor of the ruthless Czarist Okhrana, of Lenin's grim Cheka, and of the successive blood-stained police organizations of Joseph Stalin, the G.T.U., the N.K.V.D., and last but not least, the M.G.B. of the unlamented Lavrenti Beria.

WHEN Beria was liquidated, the terrible powers of the Soviet police were somewhat pruned; at the same time, Beria's ministry, the M.G.B., was downgraded to a commission, the K.G.B. Share in the new organization were also parcelled out, as you might say, among the various leading personalities and factions in the Kremlin.

The famous Gen. Serov, widely regarded as close to Khrushchev, was named to head the K.G.B., but the key posts in his organization were so divided that everyone of importance in the Kremlin was safeguarded against everyone else of importance. If the Yugoslavs are correctly informed, this "collective" control of the police has now broken down in favor of Marshal Zhukov.

Gen. Serov still heads the K.G.B., as Nikita S. Khrushchev still serves as the effective Soviet chief of state. But behind Serov, always assuming the Yugoslavs are correct, there is now a police organization ac-

tually dominated by Zhukov and the Ministry of Defense. In this case, the real power in the Soviet state structure is now very largely concentrated in the hands of Marshal Zhukov.

KHRUSHCHEV has the authority for public purposes. He no doubt also retains effective control of the Communist party apparatus. But in any showdown, the Party apparatus, sacred, anointed but unarmed, cannot hope to outweigh the combination of the police and the armed forces.

Much is the inward meaning of this really astonishing piece of information. There is circumstantial evidence that the real source was Nikita S. Khrushchev himself, who met Marshall Tito at Bucharest at the end of the first week in August. But even if one assumes that Khrushchev told Tito that Marshall Zhukov now had substantive control of the K.G.B., as well as the armed forces, one must still wait for the statement to be tested by events.

One must also note, however, that this intensely significant report is a quite logical sequel of past developments. For the earlier threads of the story, one must go to Vienna, as this reporter has done. What is to be discovered there is both fascinating and meaningful.

In brief, after Stalin sent Marshall Zhukov into postwar exile in Odessa, most of the members of Zhukov's wartime staff who had been personally closest to the fallen Marshall were picked up and imprisoned by Beria's police. Among them were two Majors, low in rank but very close to Zhukov, Vassiliev, who had been Zhukov's personal aide de camp in Berlin, and Nekhrassov, who had occupied another confidential post. After Zhukov's fall, Vassiliev was actually sent to mine number 8 at Vorkuta.

BUT after Stalin's death, both Vassiliev and Nekhrassov were released. And after Beria's fall, Nekhrassov was given the M.V.D. Troop Command which is the most important operational agency attached to the K.G.B. And Vassiliev in turn was given command of the Department of Special Political Investigation of Important Cases—that is really its title—which is the key organization within the M.V.D. Troop Command.

These facts are vouched for by two reliable Austrian veterans of the Soviet prison camps. One of them, a Vienna publisher, Hans Baumert, pretended conversion to Communism in order to escape the rigors of Stalin's police. He was fully trained thereafter, for a work as a Soviet secret police agent in Europe. As a member of the Soviet secret police organization, Baumert actually saw Vassiliev in his new office in Moscow's Lubyanka Prison. He also heard officially of Nekhrassov's appointment to head the M.V.D. Troop Command.

The other Austrian, Dr. Rafael Spann, the son of the respected Viennese professor, spent two long days with Vassiliev on a train taking them both from the Vorkuta mines to new prisons in western Russia. This was before Stalin's death. To Spann, Marshal Zhukov's ex-aide de camp spoke bitterly and frankly, saying in effect that Stalin must die one day; that Zhukov would then become the strongest man in the Soviet Union; and that all those close to Marshal Zhukov believed he meant to take political power and to use political power when his chance came.

THE evidence of Vassiliev and Spann casts an interesting light on the familiar theory that Marshal Zhukov is just a simple military man with no interest in any political position. The same sort of light is cast on the same theory by practical examination of the results of the successive political convulsions in the Soviet Union since Stalin died.

Marshal Zhukov played a decisive role in at least two of these convulsions, the Beria crisis and the attempt to displace Khrushchev last June. After all these convulsions, Zhukov has always emerged with his standing and power considerably increased. After the June crisis, he could justly claim that he and he alone had saved Khrushchev from his enemies. Thereafter, Zhukov publicly became the first man ever to be elected to the ruling Soviet Presidium who had not risen through the sacred ranks of the Party apparatus.

But was it not logical that there should also be a private sequel? Prior to the June crisis, the defeated faction in the Soviet Presidium might certainly have

cal products, materials, and labor are to be given primary consideration, the board said.

Because of increased enrollments, the school district has more children than it has classrooms to care properly for them on the basis of state standards. There are 206 students more than the standard rated capacity of 920 of Medford High school. The 1,126 students this year are the largest high school enrollment in the school's history. By school year 1962-63 the enrollment is anticipated at 1,438, or 341 students more than the rated capacity.

Junior High Increase

There will be a large increase in junior high school grades starting in 1958-59, when the largest sixth grade class in the school's history graduates to the seventh grade.

However, the board said the two junior high schools will be able to handle the increase, if the fifth and sixth grade classes now using 10 rooms and other facilities at Hedrick can be moved to another school. Minor renovations and changes at McLoughlin also will add classroom space.

Anticipated enrollment in junior highs next year will be 1,364. The present student capacity of both schools is 1,703, based on state standards.

The elementary enrollment exceeds classroom space by 439 students this year, if the fifth and sixth grade pupils were removed from Hedrick to make room for junior high students. The shortage will increase to 616 students by 1962-63 school year, the board noted.

Enrollments and classroom

shortages are based on students now residing in the school district. If more students continue to move into the district than move out, as they have in the past, the problem will become more acute, the board pointed out.

The growth of the district is reflected in enrollments. In 1947, it was 3,314, and in 1957 it is 5,554, a gain of 2,240 in 10 years. Based on children now residing in the district, enrollment will increase in five years to 6,394.

For the first time in the history of Medford schools, there are more than 500 students enrolled in every grade one through six. There are 278 high school seniors who will be graduated this year, compared to the 544 first grade students enrolled this year.

Three Alternatives

The board listed three alternatives which might be used instead of constructing new buildings and additions. But all three were felt to be unsatisfactory, it said. The alternatives are:

(1.) To operate schools on a double-shift program, (2.) to operate the schools on a 12-month year and thus increase their use by 25 per cent, or (3.) to increase class loads.

Disadvantages to the three alternatives are:
1. Operating on a double-shift basis deprives the pupil of half his schooling; six hours of school work cannot be crowded into a half a day; it would tend to increase the delinquency problem since half the students would be out of school half the day; and it would deprive pupils of almost all special activities which are accepted as a significant part of the school program.

Disrupt Vacations

2. The 12-month year would deprive their own men in the "collective" K.G.B. After the June crisis, there could be no place any longer for Molotov or Kaganovich or Malenkov men in the Commission of State Security.

What could have been more natural than for Zhukov to request that the vacated places should go to Defense Ministry nominees, thus acquiring substantive control of the K.G.B.? And in the circumstances, what request could have been more difficult for Khrushchev to refuse?

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would be necessary to put two shifts of teachers, additional custodial and maintenance service crews at work instead of one.

Prescribed Standards
The school district must maintain the minimum prescribed standards or present a plan for achieving the standards in order to qualify for state financial assistance for operational purposes. State funds cannot be taken away from a school district, but they can be withheld until qualifications are met.

Since state funds will pay for about 28 to 30 per cent of the operating costs of the Medford schools, it would mean a corresponding increase in taxes of about 15 mills if state aid were withdrawn or withheld.

There is no evidence to indicate that either the federal or state government will grant funds for school house construction. The board noted that the state does have limited funds available for certain distressed districts, but Medford does not qualify for the assistance. In comparison to other districts, Medford is ranked as one of the most able of the larger districts in the state to support its school program.

Assessed Valuation
The assessed valuation of school district 549C is \$34,555,728.22, an increase of more than \$5 million since 1955-56. The increase was largely due to annexation and consolidation with Oak Grove, West Side, Kenwood and Dewey.

The net bonded debt of the district June 30, 1957, was \$1,819,488.46. The total maximum limit for bonding the district is \$7,103,121.91. The present bonding margin left is \$5,283,633.45. Thus the district is bonded to 25 per cent of its limit.

The existing bond principal and interest payment for the school year 1958-59 will be \$158,966.88, a reduction of \$41,360, or 1.2 mills, less than this year.

Medford has the lowest total school levy in the county. The special levy is 42.5 mills, and the school bond levy is 1.8 mills, for a total of 44.3. The school bond levy was reduced 4 mills this year by use of O and C funds granted districts for bond payments.

Annexations and consolidations did not cause additional building needs in Medford, the board pointed out.

Admitted Students
Medford has admitted junior high and high school students from all the districts now a part of the district for more than 30 years. Elementary students from Dewey and Kenwood have attended Medford schools for the same length of time. Oak Grove

a home would decrease. This, however, does not include costs of operation, salaries, supplies, equipment and other essentials in the district. If the latter increase, the total tax load will increase accordingly, the board noted.

Depend on Assessed Value
If bonds are approved, the amount of increase in taxes will depend upon the assessed value of the property. The estimated bond payments, including principal and interest, would average about \$136,000 per school year, the board noted. This would be a gross increase of 3.9 mills on the present evaluation of \$34,555,728.22.

Present bond payments will decrease next year an estimated \$41,000 below the average payments the past several years. The net increase of taxes for bonds, interest and principal, would be about 2.7 mills on assessed value. As the value of the district increases, the amount assessed for bond principal and interest on

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