

# Ballot Measures Explained by League

The following explanations of the 13 ballot measures on which Oregonians will vote Nov. 4 are adapted from the "Voters Information" bulletin, compiled by the League of Women Voters of Oregon. They are reproduced here with the permission of the League. A few minor changes have been made in the interests of brevity, or to include information not available to the League at the time the bulletin was prepared. The number in parenthesis beside the ballot title is the ballot number.

## Fixing State Boundaries (1)

**PURPOSE:** To amend Section I, Article XVI of the Constitution of the State of Oregon. Repeals obsolete constitutional provisions describing state boundaries in the Columbia River between Oregon and Washington. Authorizes modifying of existing state boundaries by interstate agreement with the approval of Congress.

**EXPLANATION:** When Oregon and Washington were admitted as states, the boundaries between them was described in terms of the channels and islands as they then existed. Many of these early landmarks have shifted as much as a mile. The new boundary changes will be defined in terms of longitude and latitude. Clarification of boundaries would eliminate confusion in such areas as fishing rights and laws, workman's compensation and insurance, and collection of taxes. This measure is the result of two years of study and agreement by the Oregon and Washington State Commissions on Interstate Cooperation and has legislative approval of both the states.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** Our boundaries in the Columbia River should be established so they do not shift with the changing currents.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** There seems to be no organized opposition to this measure.

## Increasing Funds for War Veterans' Loans (2)

**PURPOSE:** To amend sections 1 and 3, Article XI-A of the Constitution of the State of Oregon. This would make it possible to increase from 4 per cent to 6 per cent of the assessed valuation of all the property of the state as the maximum limitation on the amount of state bonds that may be issued to raise funds to make farm and home loans to World War II and Korean War veterans.

**EXPLANATION:** The amendment would increase the bonding limit for Veterans' loans from 4 per cent to 6 per cent. It is estimated that this would make \$45,000,000 more available at 1956 assessment rates, which were in effect when the legislature was considering the bill. In the meantime, there has been a sharp increase in total assessed valuations in the state. Multnomah County's jump to 100 per cent valuation caused most of the increase. It is estimated that this increase alone will make \$54,000,000 more available for veterans' loans without increasing the debt limitation to 6 per cent.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** 1. The present limitation is insufficient to fulfill all the requests for loans. Applications average about 300 a month and as of July 7, 1958 there was a backlog of 1500 applications on file.

2. To date this program has been self-supporting. The continuing difference between the cost of borrowing money and the interest rate received on mortgage loans has enabled the Department of Veterans' Affairs to meet all financial obligations. Loan payments received by the department go into a revolving fund which provides money for more loans.

3. An increase in the limitation would be beneficial to the economy of the state by creating additional employment.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** 1. The intent of the 1957 legislative assembly was to increase funds for Veterans' loans. After August 15, 1958 assessed valuation in the state will be higher. This will provide enough extra money for loans to veterans so that the percentage need not be increased from 4 per cent to 6 per cent.

2. The extent of state activity in this field should not be increased. Such activity by the state is an unwarranted invasion of an area normally reserved for private enterprise.

## Salary Increase for Legislators (3)

**PURPOSE:** To amend Section 29, Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Oregon by increasing the salaries of state legislators from \$600 to \$1200 per year and removing the phrase "no other personal expenses."

**EXPLANATION:** This amendment would double the present salaries of our state legislators. On the basis of the last regular session and the special session they received about \$8.00 a day for their work. This is considerably less than paid by any of our neighboring states. They have had no raise since 1950.

The elimination of the phrase "no other personal expenses" would make it possible for the legislators to pass a bill allowing expenses in addition to their salaries. This is a common practice in many states.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** 1. Legislative duty entails much expense and, necessarily, neglect of the legislator's private employment or profession. Often his work does not end with the close of a session. He may be required to serve on an interim committee and often works with various civic organizations interested in public affairs. He must always be available to his individual constituents. He receives no additional salary for special sessions.

2. Six hundred dollars (\$600.00) is inadequate compensation for the amount of time required by the job today. Higher pay for legislators would make it possible for many more public spirited citizens, who do not have substantial private incomes, to serve the state. Low pay tends to limit legislative membership to the more prosperous or to the representatives of special interests.

3. Twelve hundred dollars (\$1200.00) would meet only the minimum living expenses—board and room—which are very conservatively figured at \$10.00 per day. The rise in the cost of living since 1950, when the \$600 amount was authorized, justifies an increase.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:**

1. Legislators know what salary they would receive when they file for office. Their chief motive for running should be the opportunity for public service and not financial gain.

2. Increased compensation will not necessarily attract better qualified legislators, but could attract people interested only in the higher salary.

3. Salary increases are not feasible at this time because of the rising cost of state government. \$54,000 additional would be required.

## Capital Punishment (4)

**PURPOSE:** To repeal Sections 37 and 38, Article I of the Constitution of the State of Oregon.

**EXPLANATION:** If this measure is passed, the provision for punishment of murder in the first degree will be taken out of the constitution and put into the general body of laws of the state. It will give the Legislature power to change the law without a specific vote of the people. The repeal of the death sentence will automatically put into effect House Bill 355 which provides life imprisonment for the verdict of first degree murder. Provisions for parole by an unanimous vote of the State Board of Parole and Probation, after the condemned has served at least 15 years of the sentence, is also made. The death penalty can still be imposed if a murderer, under sentence of life imprisonment, commits another murder while imprisoned.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** 1. Many prison wardens and students of penology feel that the death penalty does not deter murder.

2. No jury or witness is infallible and an innocent person may be executed. Juries are often reluctant to bring in a verdict of first degree murder because of the death penalty.

3. The proposed amendment would remove, from the governor, the burden of the final decision for life or death for an individual convicted of first degree murder.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** 1. It is believed by many that the fear of the death penalty is a decided deterrent to murder.

2. Certain criminals can never be rehabilitated and therefore are a menace to society and a burden to the taxpayer.

3. As an elected official, a governor is merely carrying out the requirements of the Oregon Constitution.

## Financing Urban Redevelopment Projects (5)

**PURPOSE:** To amend the Constitution of the State of Oregon by creating a new section to be added to and made a part of Article IX.

**EXPLANATION:** This amendment allows the amount of increase in the property tax produced to be used to pay off the costs of the redevelopment project instead of going into the general fund of the taxing district.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** 1. Substandard neighborhoods are costly to the community. Other taxpayers now pay the difference between the taxes collected from these neighborhoods and the cost in services to them (such as police, fire, sewers, etc.). Renewal or redevelopment projects would increase valuation of property.

2. Passage of HJR 36 is necessary to allow the use of the additional revenue received through the increase in valuation resulting from redevelopment for payment of the debt incurred in carrying out the project.

3. Existing tax revenues are protected during the payout period. After the bonds are retired the increase will be added to the yearly revenues of the taxing body concerned.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** 1. Properties of high valuation invariably assume a larger portion of the tax load than those of lower valuation. There is no actual assurance of increased revenue.

2. This provision for using tax monies is discriminatory because it does not allow other taxing districts to use the same method of debt payment.

3. Projects, such as redevelopment, should be financed through the taxing district's budget.

## Modifying County Debt Limitation (6)

**PURPOSE:** To amend Section 10, Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Oregon.

**EXPLANATION:** Section 10 now limits county bonded indebtedness to \$5,000 except to repel invasion, suppress insurrection or to maintain permanent roads. Passage of this amendment automatically puts into effect House Bill 530, enacted by the 1957 Legislature, which provides that the aggregate bonded indebtedness of any county shall not exceed 2 per cent of the true cash value of the taxable property in the county. At present, Section 10 sets a limitation of 6 per cent of county assessed valuation for road bonds, and makes no provision for other bonding. Passage of the amendment would require the Legislature to set forth the purposes for which counties could bond.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** 1. It is unfair to allow a county to bond only for purposes of invasion, insurrection or to maintain roads. Counties need the ability to bond for necessary capital improvements (sewers, court house, etc.). With passage of this amendment the Legislature would set forth the purposes for which bonding would be allowed. At present, capital improvement must be provided from the operating budget. Counties with small budgets are seriously hampered by this.

2. House Bill 530 provides for the use of true cash value as the basis for bonding limitation. This means that all county bonding would be treated equally in spite of assessment practices which are not uniform.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** 1. This amendment is unnecessary because the Constitution already provides adequate methods whereby counties may obtain funds over and above their budgets.

2. Two per cent of true cash value is higher than the 6 per cent of assessed valuation presently allowed in Section 10, Article XI of the Oregon Constitution as a limitation on bonds incurred by counties for permanent roads. This makes the bonding limit too high.

## Special Grand Jury Bill (7)

**PURPOSE:** To repeal Section 18, Article VII (Original) of the Constitution of the State of Oregon, and to amend Section 5, Article VII (Amended).

**EXPLANATION:** This amendment has two purposes:

1. To eliminate duplicating sections of the Constitution, created by error in 1927, and to place all references to juries in one section of the Constitution; and

2. To make it possible to have two grand juries called in one county at the same time.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** 1. It is, in part, a "housekeeping" measure to eliminate "dead wood" in the Constitution and make it more sensible.

2. During the recent vice investigations in Multnomah county the regular grand jury was so occupied with one series of events, it lacked time to process routine criminal cases, thus in effect denying accused persons their right to a speedy trial. This amendment will make it possible for two grand juries to be called under extraordinary circumstances.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** No adverse arguments have been made known.

## Authorizing Different Use of State Institutions (8)

**PURPOSE:** To amend the constitution of the State of Oregon, repealing Sections 1 and 3, Article XIV of the Constitution of Oregon and substituting sections relating to institutions outside Marion County have to be ratified by a vote of the people. The Legislature can now provide such changes for institutions inside Marion County without going to the people.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** This would allow the Legislature to determine the use or function or discontinuance of an institution located outside Marion County, so that when the needs change, proper action could be taken.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** There seems to be no organization opposition to this measure.

## Temporary Appointment and Assignment Of Judges (9)

**PURPOSE:** To amend the Constitution of the State of Oregon by adding a new section to be made a part of Article VII. This amendment authorizes the Supreme Court to appoint temporary judges to the Supreme Court and lower courts and to assign lower court judges to serve temporarily outside of the district for which they were elected.

**EXPLANATION:** If this amendment is passed, the Supreme Court may appoint retired judges or judges of the lower courts as temporary members of the Supreme Court; appoint members of the bar as temporary judges in courts inferior to the Supreme Court; and assign judges of inferior courts to serve temporarily outside the districts for which they were elected. Any judge or member of the bar so appointed or assigned would have all the judicial powers and duties of a regularly elected judge of the court to which he is assigned or appointed.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** 1. The Supreme Court docket appears to be about three years behind schedule. Additional judicial help is imperative to relieve the crowded court dockets, or "Justice delayed is justice denied."

2. Some circuit and district judges carry a light work load. Allowing them to serve temporarily outside their own district would enable the districts with a crowded docket to keep abreast of their calendars.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** 1. There is a need to increase the membership of the Oregon Supreme Court. The solution of the problem should be permanent, not temporary. In the long run permanent judges would be a better solution than a shifting bench of temporary members.

2. Some states require opinions only when a lower court is reversed. This is not permissible in Oregon. The number of opinions required of the Oregon Supreme Court should be limited so less work would be required. Temporary appointments are not the solution.

**State Power Development (10)**

**PURPOSE:** To amend Section 2, Article XI-D of the Constitution of the State of Oregon. Empowers the state to acquire and develop water, thermal and nuclear power generating facilities. State may develop electrical energy for transmission and sale on wholesale basis or directly to industries using 10,000 kilowatts or more.

**EXPLANATION:** Article XI-D now enables the state of control and develop its hydroelectric power resources. This amendment authorizes the Legislature to do all things necessary to carry out the provisions of Article XI-D. It is a bipartisan sponsored attempt to reach agreement on how the state is to get into the power business. It would allow the state to buy electric energy from the Federal Government but avoid competition, in retail sales, with private power companies and Public Utilities Districts.

The preference clause in the Bonneville Power Act specifies that federally-generated hydro power be sold first to "public bodies," such as cooperatives and government-owned agencies. Because the state of Washington has many systems which have such priority, and Oregon depends chiefly upon private distribution, the bulk of federally-produced power is not now available to Oregon.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** 1. Oregon could obtain more Federal power or could generate power through its own state agency.

2. Direct sales of electricity to large users would make cheaper power available to industry.

3. Since the state would be prohibited from retail selling, competition with private power would be avoided.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** 1. The state should not enter the power field.

2. Sizable users would be made favored customers at the expense of the ordinary consumer.

3. Limitation of power sales to the wholesale level unduly restricts the state in the field of electrical energy.

## County Home Rule Amendment (11)

**PURPOSE:** To repeal section 9a, Article VI of the Constitution of the State of Oregon and to amend the Constitution of the State of Oregon by creating a new section to be added to and made part of Article VI.

**EXPLANATION:** Passage of this amendment would authorize the legislature to set up a method whereby the voters in any county may adopt a charter to provide for the exercise of authority over matters of county concern. Initiative and referendum powers also are reserved to the legal voters of counties adopting charters. Section 9a, which would be repealed, now provides for the county manager form of government.

Charter adoption is not obligatory, but any charter adopted must prescribe the organization of the county government, and provide for the number, election or appointment, qualifications, tenure, compensation, powers and duties of such officers as are deemed necessary. The charter may not affect judges in their judicial capacity, justices of the peace nor district attorneys.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** 1. Oregon's county government was developed 100 years ago for a rural economy and is not flexible enough to meet the demands of today. All counties should not be forced to operate under the same form, for counties of small population do not need the same kind of government as large counties which are both rural and urban.

2. County government is largely a matter of administration and the present form lacks any clear focal point of responsibility. County commissioners have little control over other elected officials. The increased duties required of counties by the state and federal governments point up the weakness of the present form. Oregon cities under home rule charters can determine their form of government and municipal functions. Counties should have the same privilege. Adoption of a charter would give a county freedom to handle its own affairs and thus remove a heavy burden from the legislature.

3. Local governments should be competent to determine their own needs. Voters should have the right to select locally what structure their county needs, what powers it should have and what officials it requires.

4. Many county officials feel that the rigidity of the present form of county government prevents conscientious officials from handling county problems and forces them to go to the state or federal government for solutions. Such centralization is undesirable. Reorganization of county government would enable counties to concentrate responsibility, operate more efficiently, and give services at lower cost.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** 1. Counties exist only as creatures of the state and have no need of powers such as cities utilize.

2. County functions are not sufficiently interrelated to benefit by change of structure. The present form works satisfactorily. It is up to the voters to see that qualified people are elected.

3. Many people believe that voters do not know enough about county government needs to make a wise choice in selecting a new kind of government. They look to the state for guidance.

4. The fundamental factors of county reform are not the legal barriers. County officials do not want, or are indifferent to, organizational change. They prefer to utilize legislative action in order to avoid assuming responsibility.

## Discontinuing Certain State Tuberculosis Hospitals (12)

**PURPOSE:** To permit the Board of Control (Governor, Secretary of State and State Treasurer), to discontinue using Eastern Oregon or University State Tuberculosis hospitals in whole or in part as tuberculosis hospitals. The board could designate the use of the property for any other state institution or agency.

**EXPLANATION:** Modern medicine has reduced the number of cases of tuberculosis and has changed the type of care necessary in many cases. Oregon has had 40 per cent fewer patients in its

tuberculosis hospitals in the last three years, and there are many empty beds. Experts agree that we no longer need use of one of our three tuberculosis hospitals for that purpose as long as tuberculosis continues to be controlled and cared for through out-patient service.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** Since many of the beds in our tuberculosis hospitals are empty it is only reasonable to consolidate patients and allow the extra hospital to be used for some other more urgent need.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** The Attorney General of Oregon has delivered an opinion that this bill would be unconstitutional if passed. The opinion is based on Section 3, Article XIV of the Oregon Constitution which provides that "the change of use of an institution outside of Marion County must be a legislative act ratified by the electors." The Attorney General believes that such authorization may not be delegated to the Board of Control. But note that passage of the constitutional amendment to be voted on (see below) would eliminate this objection.

## Persons Eligible to Serve in Legislature (13)

**PURPOSE:** To amend Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Oregon by adding a new section. This initiative petition amends the Oregon Constitution to permit employees or members of a school board or the Board of Higher Education to serve as members of the Legislature.

**EXPLANATION:** If this amendment is passed, employees or members of a school board or of the Board of Higher Education may serve as members of the Legislature without resigning from school employment. At present a teacher may serve in the Legislature if he takes leave of absence from his school duties. To reenter the teaching profession he must resign from the Legislature and so cannot serve on interim committees, etc. This is because a teacher as an employee of a school board, is an employee of the administrative branch of the state government. As a legislator he is an employee of the legislative branch. The constitution provides that no person can work for two branches of the state government. At present, school board members, members of the Board of Higher Education, and employees must also resign their positions if they serve in the Legislature.

**ARGUMENTS FOR:** 1. The state loses the service of teachers on interim committees since they have to resign from the Legislature in order to go back to teaching when the session is over.

2. It is unfair that teachers have to resign and thus forfeit half their legislative salary. They do the same work for half the pay of other legislators at a session.

3. It is detrimental to the welfare of the state to deny public school employees, school board members and employees of the state system of high education full citizenship rights.

**ARGUMENTS AGAINST:** 1. Traditional safeguards of separation of powers in government will be lost if the same people can serve in both legislative and administrative branches of the government.

2. School employees would be subject to much conflict of interest when voting on educational measures.

3. It is unfair to exempt school employees from this constitutional provision and not give other administrative employees the same privilege.

## Honorary President

### Named for Society

Cave Junction—Amos Vorhees, owner and publisher of the Grants Pass Courier, was made honorary president of the Josephine County Historical society at a meeting in Kerby Wednesday night at the Masonic hall.

Five directors named were Dr. A. N. Collman, chairman; Jack Sutton, John Valen, Mrs. Earl Boyd and Sherman Smith. The alternates, Harry Floyd, Don Barnes and Roy Wells were also named. The first meeting of the board will be Wednesday, Oct. 22, at Kerby.



Vote For  
**Scott Hamilton**  
DEMOCRAT  
FOR  
**COUNTY JUDGE**  
● WILL WORK  
FULL TIME FOR  
JACKSON COUNTY

Adv. paid for by Jackson County Democratic Central Committee, James Redden, Chmn., 2246 Aloha ave.

## Gale Winds Wreck Boat, Freighter

London — (UPI) — Gale winds wrecked a Russian fishing boat and a 3,041-ton Danish freighter off northern Britain early Friday, killing the Danish captain and perhaps a number of others.

At latest reports, the Soviet trawler SRT 4442 was breaking up on jagged rocks off the island of Unst in the Shetlands, north of Scotland. British rescue vessels had picked up three survivors, but 13 others were believed to be still aboard the foundering ship.

Radio reports said the captain of the trawler had ordered his men to remain aboard as long as there was a chance the boat might remain afloat. Three men, however, were found clinging to rocks on the tiny Jilm of Seaw, an islet 500 yards off the coast of Unst.

The Danish freighter Adler Svanholm went down in the North Sea about 70 miles off the English coast after springing a leak at the height of the storm.

Reports from the scene said the British trawler Trinidad had rescued the freighter's 25 crewmen and recovered the body of the captain, who apparently had been washed overboard.

**EXERCISING AUTHORITY**  
Plainville, Conn. — (UPI) — Deputy sheriff Charles O. Zettergren, the father of three girls, served a "subpoena" on his wife when she went to the hospital to have their fourth child. It warned she would be held in contempt if she didn't give birth to a boy. The subpoena was obeyed.

Learn how to make Fall bills disappear...

Get money at  
**"MONEYLAND"**  
...where it's almost fun to borrow money for Fall expenses!

Come to your nearby Pacific Industrial office—"MONEYLAND" to thousands—when YOU need money. Whether you need extra cash to meet back-to-school or other Fall expenses . . . to buy appliances, to take a trip, or to cut monthly payments . . . PF provides prompt, courteous, financial help. Make Pacific Industrial YOUR "MONEYLAND"—It's THE place to borrow money. Call today!

NEW FINANCING PLAN! In addition to our personal loan service, we can now "finance" (buy contracts on) most anything you want to buy on time—automobiles, furniture, appliances, etc. Investigate competitive rates available before buying.

**pf** A DIVISION OF PACIFIC FINANCE  
**PACIFIC INDUSTRIAL**  
Loans  
**pf** is MONEYLAND

16 South Central Phone SP 3-5308  
Jim Elbert, Manager

## New "Happy" Pills\* Released to Public

Laboratory makes available safe new invigorator to give physical and mental "lift" in minutes.

NEW YORK, N. Y. (Special)—If your work, nervous strain, depression, emotional distress, cheer up! . . . now, thanks to a dramatic development by a leading research institute, you can help feel happy and cheerful again . . . feel a wonderful physical and mental "lift." And the miracle of it all! It works in minutes, lasts for hours without letdown or after effects.

Clinical tests and actual experiences in thousands of cases have shown Tired, this exciting medical development works almost instantly to end fatigue . . . to quickly impart a marvelous happy glow of new-found exhilaration . . . and is so safe and so effective that it may be sold without doctors prescription.

If you need a physical or mental "lift" . . . if you are worn-out from temporary exhaustion . . .

if your work, nervous strain, depression, emotional distress, or other factors are temporarily draining your energy and your enthusiasm . . . obtain Tired relief today.

Your mind, your nerves, your whole body . . . will feel the healthful lift in minutes that will carry you through the activities of the day . . . or night . . . with "Happy" pleasure.

(Note: Tired is available in limited quantities, sells for \$3.49. Also available are smaller trial sizes for \$1.95 and economy sizes for \$5.95, guaranteed safe and effective.) At all drug counters.

\*Based on well-being created by relief from temporary mental and physical fatigue, and does not imply that there is any habit forming or harmful drugs in Tired.

**WESTERN THRIFT**  
30 North Central Ave. Dial SP 3-5371

Consider  
**Parking Facilities**  
Ample Off-Street Parking Available

**Conger-Morris** FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
WEST MAIN AT SIXTH

"Your TV Weatherman"  
KBES-TV Monday Through  
Thursday 6:00 p.m.  
Friday 5:45 p.m.  
Member National Selected Morticians by Invitation

**ASHLAND MORTUARY**  
4th and C Streets, Ashland