

# Oregon's Growing Pains Topic of Decisions

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Oregon, Sunday, February 1, 1959

## Job Opportunities Not Increasing as Fast as Workers

Oregon, like the rest of the world, can expect growing pains in years to come.

If the state's population continues its present rate of growth (20 per cent in the last 10 years), will jobs, markets, schools and community services develop accordingly?

These are questions scheduled for study by Oregon Great Decisions discussion groups this week. Study materials are presented in a "fact sheet" - "What Frontiers in Oregon's Future?" - prepared by Oregon State college extension service.

Informal discussion groups will continue to meet throughout Oregon, once a week, for the next eight weeks to discuss critical issues of local and national concern. Information on obtaining study materials and joining groups may be obtained from county extension agents.

**Oregon's Job Opportunities**  
Job opportunities in recent years have not increased as fast as workers. Oregon's labor force grew 10 per cent between 1948-57 while the number of jobs increased only 7.2 per cent. In fact, job opportunities decreased in Oregon's two major industries, farming and forestry.

How good a living do Oregon workers make compared to workers in other states? Between 1940-53 the average Oregonian made from 1.2 per cent to 11.9 per cent more money than the average American. Since then the Oregonian's personal income has risen, but not as fast as the national average. And the gap is growing wider.

Here are some sample per capita personal income figures for 1957: Oregon, \$1,914; Washington, \$2,128; California, \$2,523; Illinois, \$2,447; Pennsylvania, \$2,112; New Jersey, \$2,504; national average, \$2,027.

Personal income is usually higher in areas more heavily industrialized than Oregon.

Oregon's share in total United States production (on a per capita basis) also is less than the national average. This is largely because the average value of Oregon's major products, from farm and forest, is less than the average value of manufactured goods.

**More Industry Needed?**  
Looking to the future, Oregonians will need to decide if more industrialization is the best way to provide jobs for the state's growing population.

If Oregon citizens are to maintain or improve their present standard of living, what plans must be made for coming years? If Oregon's economy is changing, how might this affect individual families? If some jobs are dwindling and others are growing, what opportunities does the head of an Oregon family have to take on additional part time work (as many farm people are now doing)? Or to improve his skills and therefore his income? Or to encourage the women in the family to work full or part time?

Youth counseling and vocational training are part of this picture. If the job pattern is changing and new skills are needed, how can young people choose wisely and prepare effectively for careers in Oregon?

Some of these are personal questions each family must resolve for itself. But whether job and educational opportunities exist is something that only citizens, as a group, can

decide. The answer lies in the institutions and services the people provide, and the kind of economic base they nourish.

Here's another question disturbing many Oregonians: Will the expansion of industry, agriculture and trade provide a better life for the people of the state; or will it mean only congestion, chaos and discomfort?

**Our "Mushrooming" Cities**  
Industrialization usually means rapid growth of cities and of fringe areas around the cities. Here are some examples of the percentage of population increase in selected Oregon communities from 1940 to 1950, showing the community, city growth, and suburban growth in percentages:

Salem, 33 per cent, 123 per cent; Eugene-Springfield, 89, 147; Roseburg, 70, 188; Medford, 56, 87; Klamath Falls, 4, 38; Prineville, 37, 248.

Growing suburbs frequently create transportation and other problems for families. Industrial developments raise problems of air and water pollution as well as unsightliness.

**Community Planning**  
Oregon's constitution provides for "home rule" for communities. In the past, growth of Oregon cities was orderly and easily managed. Now, the problem is to provide sanitation and drainage, water supply, fire and police protection, roads, streets, sidewalks, recreational facilities, transportation and schools for the suburban areas.

In some instances city services, especially fire protection and water, have been extended to the suburbs on an informal basis. City taxpayers frequently object, however, that this is unfair. In other cases residential areas have been organized into special districts to contract and pay for services from the city, or to develop basic community

services of their own. Often suburbs are annexed outright by the city, although suburban residents regularly resist the burdens of city taxes and control.

City planners complain about the haphazard way many of these communities have sprung up. Inadequate provision is often made for streets, utilities, parking, recreation, etc. Five counties have voted on the question of organizing county planning commissions to help deal with these types of problems; only two have approved.

Last November the voters approved a constitutional amendment enabling the legislature to extend "home rule"

to the counties. This may relieve future growth problems. But if present trends continue, or if industrialization speeds up the process, more citizens action may be needed.

**Education Costs Rise**  
And what of the schools? A growing population means more students, and more students mean more money will be needed to operate the schools.

Oregon now spends about \$150 million a year on elementary and secondary education. This figure is increasing at about \$10 million a year.

About 30 per cent of this budget is state money, 68 per cent is local, and the other 2

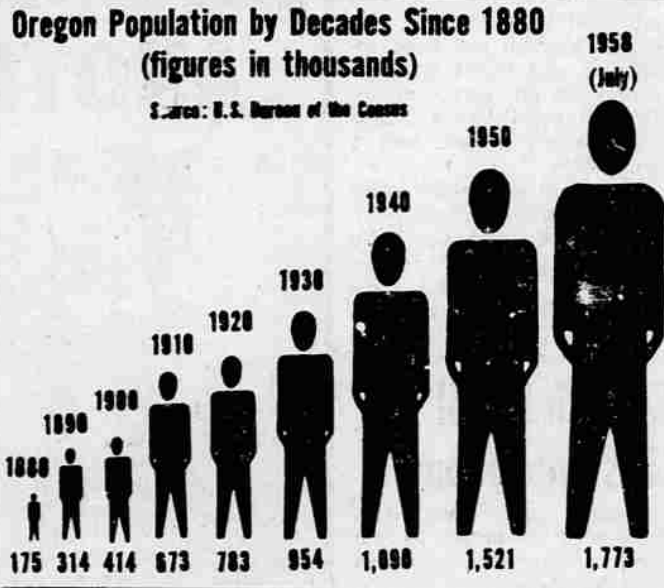
per cent comes from the Federal government. Some educational administrators would like to see the state's share rise to 50 per cent.

Education has never in the past taken more than 10 to 15 per cent of total tax dollars collected. Various proposals have been made for raising Oregon's educational budget. These include an earmarked sales tax, increased income taxes, various types of county-wide tax levies, unification of school districts to reduce costs, and others.

More money is needed to improve and expand present facilities, to attract and keep quality teachers, and to provide additional attention to gifted and retarded children.

**School For All?**  
A problem of special concern is that 30 out of every 100 Oregon youth do not finish high school. State labor laws, work hazards and work permit restrictions make it difficult for these drop-outs to find jobs.

Perhaps more guidance counseling, expanded technical training curricula and vocational schools would reduce this number of drop-outs.



## In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

**Foreign affairs:**  
In Moscow, the communist party is holding what in this country we would call a political love feast. It is patting itself on the back and telling the people (who carry the burden) how WONDERFUL communism is for them. It is painting for them such pie in the sky as cradle-to-the-grave security WITH NO TAXES TO PAY.

**A THOUGHT** to keep in mind:  
In communist countries, the communist party is the whole works. It can throw out its chest and brag to its heart's content - for there is no OPPOSITION PARTY to prick the rosy bubbles it blows.

**ANOTHER thought:**  
In our own country, as of now, the Democratic party sits in the seat of power. At this moment, it seems not improbable that for some time to come the Democratic party will continue to sit in the seat of power.

**But-**  
Let us hope that our country the Republican party stays ALIVE AND VIGOROUS. That it continues to challenge the policies of the Democratic party when it thinks they ought to be challenged. That, in a word, it continues to provide the U.S.A. with an OPPOSITION party.

Too much power, residing UNCHALLENGED in too few hands too long, is dangerous. Even Russia will find that out sooner or later.

**NOW** back home.  
In California, Governor Brown (in his budget) asks the legislature for \$2,188,377,635 (about 2.2 BILLIONS) to run the state. That's an up of 133 millions over this year's spending.

He proposes 256 million dollars in new or higher taxes, including tobacco taxes and increased income taxes.

Without NEW taxes, at the rate of spending proposed, California will be 68 million dollars in the red by June of this year and 268 million dollars in the hole by midsummer of 1960.

**LET'S** put it this way:  
If California is to go on spending at a rising rate, it must go on TAXING at a higher rate. If one is to dance, one must pay the fiddler. If we are to have more and more state services, we must have more and more taxes.

Governor Brown is at least to be commended for his willingness to face that unpleasant fact.

**THE** California department of finance estimates that if Governor Brown's revenue program is approved by the legislature, the California per capita burden in new and old state taxes this year will be \$128.85. It makes this estimate on the basis of an anticipated population of 15,275,000 on July 1. Per capita taxes were figured at \$116.48 last year.

That is to say:  
Even in swiftly growing California, taxes are growing faster than population.

**A THOUGHT** for this side of the line:

If Oregon goes on taxing more but doesn't go on GROWING more what will happen? Will taxes become so high as to discourage new population?  
Or, worse yet, will they become so high as to drive away people who are already here?

## Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

**SOME SAYINGS OF THE FAMOUS:**  
Maurice Chevalier really is glad "he's not young any more."

"When you hit seventy," he chuckles, "you eat better, you sleep sounder, you feel more alive than when you were thirty. Obviously it's healthier to have women on your mind instead of on your knee!"

Lin Yutang: "All women's dresses are merely variations on the eternal struggle between the admitted desire to dress and the unadmitted desire to undress."

William Lyon Phelps: "A man can always borrow trouble. It's the only thing for which he needs no collateral."

Anatole France: "If fifty million people say a foolish thing, it is still a foolish thing."  
Benjamin Franklin: "The first mistake in politics is the going into it."

© 1958, by Bennett Cerf. Distributed by King Features Syndicate.



The best years are ahead... when you save with us

Even if you can look forward to a pension, you'll never regret putting aside some of your present earnings... there are always so many enjoyable things to do with savings. And your savings are not subject to market fluctuations.

What's more, they are insured up to \$10,000 by the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation.

Start to save now at our Insured Savings and Loan Association where this FSLIC symbol of safety is displayed.



**FIRST FEDERAL**  
Savings & Loan Assn. of Medford

29 North Ivy Street - Robert F. Kyle, Manager

Whatever action is taken along this line, citizens should bear in mind the kind of society they are trying to build and the educational needs of future citizens.

Out of every 100 Oregon youth 72 do not enter a four-year college, and 89 do not graduate from a four-year college. Perhaps the establishment of community or junior colleges would encourage more high school graduates to continue their studies.

Retarded and gifted children are other educational areas with problems. They make up about five per cent of Oregon's school population, or 17,500 students.

Oregon now spends \$750,000 a year for retarded students. This is about twice the per pupil cost for normal students. Many educators believe still further work should be done with these students.

**Similar Problem**  
A similar problem exists in

providing the best schooling for the gifted youth. Few school districts have special facilities for the purpose.

Proper facilities for both retarded and gifted students probably would require additional expenditures of about \$5 million a year.

Adult education is another field that could be expanded,

especially through advanced vocational training, citizen education in current affairs, cultural and recreational education.

Residents of Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana and northern Maine are able to witness about 25 displays of the northern lights in varying degrees in an average year.

**— FOR SALE OR LEASE —**  
Adding Machines - Calculators  
TYPEWRITERS - DICTAPHONES  
"Standard-Portable-Electric" "Timemaster"  
Ask about our Rental Purchase Options  
**VOIGHT'S** Medford Office Equipment Co.  
"Voight will give you a better deal"  
41 South Grape • Phone SP 2-4100 • EASY PARKING

## Be a Sweetheart!



Give her freedom from the Drudgery of Dishwashing with a **WESTINGHOUSE**

## "Roll About" DISHWASHER



The deluxe model Westinghouse "Roll-about" needs no plumbing or installation... keeps your dishes sparkling. Rolls anywhere, even over rugs and door sills so there is no need to carry - or rinse, wash, dry or polish. Includes exclusive hot water booster that guarantees 140° hot water - always! Holds service for 10.

**\$219<sup>95</sup>**  
Model PDW-103

Terms to Suit You

Standard Model PDW-102 Available for **\$189<sup>95</sup>**

YOU CAN BE SURE... IF IT'S Westinghouse

**TROWBRIDGE & FLYNN**  
ELECTRIC COMPANY

214 West Main St.

Phone SP 3-6241

# Newberrys

ALL DAY MONDAY, 9:30 A.M. TO 9:00 P.M.

## Monday Doorbusters CORDUROY PRINTS

Finest Quality Wash-Fast

Printed Corduroy at a Special

REDUCED PRICE!

Regular \$1.00 yd. - 38" to 40" width

SALE PRICE

**67<sup>c</sup>**  
yd

BEAUTIFULL PRINTS WASH FAST

### Candy Specials

Finest Quality Fresh  
Schrafft's Chocolates

Regular \$1.19 lb.

Special **67<sup>c</sup>** lb. Box

Buy Several -  
Treat the Whole Family.

### HERE'S A SPECIAL BUY Ladies' Plastic RAIN COAT

Pure soft Vinyl Plastic complete with hood, belt and carrying case. Color: Pink, blue and crystal. A \$1.98 Value SALE PRICE

Sizes—Small, Med., Large, Extra Large **\$1.00**

Here's A Real Buy!

### Plastic Bushel-Size BASKETS

Ideal for laundry, gardening and dozens of other uses—Soft Vinyl Plastic—Won't Rust, Won't Chip. Beautiful Color.

Reg. \$1.98 Value **SPECIAL \$1.33**

**WATCH MONDAY'S PAPER**  
For a Real Surprise Special  
for Monday Night 6 to 9

J.J. Newberry Co.

Medford's Bargain Center  
Sixth and Central