

# Correcting Air Pollution in Valley Discussed at Meeting

The Portland Oregonian has opened up an interesting line of inquiry as to Oregon's somewhat unique weight-mile tax plan for charging heavy trucks for the privilege of using Oregon's tax-financed highways. It cites the growth of rail-trailer "piggyback" service as a transportation development that may rob Oregon of a lot of truck tax money unless the state's weight-mile system of truck taxation is revised.

**THE Oregonian says:**  
"Each time a 40-car 'piggyback' train leaves Portland for California with the equivalent of 60 loaded truck-trailer rigs on board, the Oregon state highway department loses about \$3,000 in weight-mile fees."

"Other Western states have less immediate concern about 'piggyback' trend because their truck tax methods are based on combination of vehicle weights, registration fees, estimated earnings and ad valorem. They collect from the truckers, whether the trucks roll on their highways or not. Oregon, it is obvious, does not."

**IT adds:**  
"No matter how much one admires the weight-mile plan, and the Oregonian has been among its supporters, it cannot be denied that relating truck taxation to truck mileage is going to be progressively more impractical as the popularity of 'piggyback' increases."

"Existing high weight-mile rates on large commercial vehicles actually serve as a stimulus to the growth of trailer-on-flatcar traffic. If the law stands as it is, and the trend continues, truckers most certainly over the years will pay an increasingly smaller share into the highway fund."

**THIS thought occurs:**  
"How much will the state of Oregon SAVE as a result of taking large numbers of heavy trucks off the roads if 'piggyback' transportation grows and grows?"

As I recall it, the weight-mile truck-tax—which is based on ton-mile haulage—was devised to reimburse the state of Oregon for additional wear and tear on its highways by heavy trucks, which at the time the tax was adopted were getting heavier and heavier. The thinking was that the heavier and more numerous the trucks the greater the damage to the highways. The idea was to compensate the state for the added expense of building and maintaining highways adequate to stand up under this type of heavy traffic.

The economics of transportation, it seems to me, enter into the situation. If it turns out to be cheaper for the heavy truck-trailers to go by "piggyback," they will go by "piggyback." Comparative costs have to be watched closely by business of all kinds in these days.

It might easily be that if the "piggyback" service offered by the railroads turns out to be cheaper than moving the trucks over the highways, the state of Oregon may save more in highway construction and maintenance than it loses in truck taxes under the

What has been done and what can be expected of the valley industries in combating the air pollution problem in the county were elaborated on at a public hearing Thursday morning.

The hearing was called by the county court which sent invitations to representatives of the lumber and fruit industries and the City Sanitary Service, as well as representatives from Jacksonville and Medford and other interested valley residents.

In opening the meeting, County Judge Earl Miller explained that the meeting was called to hear reports by area representatives on the problem.

Progress in the inventory of orchard heaters as to their type and number was mentioned by Dunbar Carpenter, speaker for the Fruit Growers League.

**Partial Return**  
He mentioned that a partial return of the requested information from orchardists, covered 54,000 heaters of which approximately one half were open pots.

He added that the best time for orchardists to compile this information is when the heaters are removed from the orchards. This will be completed this month, he stated.

Carpenter mentioned that several years ago a survey would have showed that the majority of the heaters were of the open type. Eliminating this type heater would make a substantial change in the amount of smoke, Carpenter stated.

He added that the majority of the orchardists are generally in accord with a five-year progression plan.

**Questioned by Miller**  
When questioned by Miller as to the completion date of the inventory, Carpenter stated that it was "hoped" it could be completed within 30 to 60 days, although it would coincide with the harvest season. He stressed that the League would keep the county court informed as to the report progress.

An organization, formed by the lumbermen in the immediate vicinity, has studied the air pollution situation from the lumber industry standpoint, according to George Flanagan, chairman of the group.

He explained that recent meetings had been held to determine what could be done about the problem.

**Additional Steps**  
The lumberman explained that the industry agreed that additional steps could be taken by each company to eliminate part of the air pollution problem. But, he added, it would cost money.

"Biggest problem faced by the lumber industry in the valley is the distance from the market, Flanagan explained. Local producers of chips

weight-mile system of taxing trucks.

At least, we need some pretty careful figures before making up our minds to change the present system.

and lumber waste products have no local market. The Rogue valley is not large enough to use the quantity of such items as logs pressed from lumber waste.

He cited as an example one mill which offered to give away the lumber wastes if the freight costs were paid. The offer was refused.

**Sees No Need**  
Flanagan stressed that there was no need for additional mills to spend a quarter of a million dollars each to install chippers or barkers when mills that currently have them can't give the products away.

The solution to the problem will take considerable study and time, Flanagan explained, since no two mills are alike. He stated that the group had asked each mill to outline a plan as to steps it has taken and what could be done in the foreseeable future to eliminate the problem.

Some of the ways in which lumber waste could be utilized would be through the sale of fuel wood, sawdust, hog fuel, chips, and power, the giving away of trims, the use of more kilns, gang saws so that less sawdust is produced, and more utilization of edging and trims.

**Some Steps Made**  
During the past five years each mill has made some steps, Flanagan said. He also mentioned some problems encountered by local mills. One, for example, installed a bark-chipper which mixes the bark with water and then washes it. The resulting mixture burned with a hotter fire and made more smoke, Flanagan stated.

Another mill, he explained, never dreamed that chips couldn't be given away. He added there is some hope in this field when pulp and paper mills increase in the Northwest.

Two other mills have installed cinder collectors in the smoke stacks, it was stated. These collectors remove the cinder particles from the smoke and return them to a boiler. Approximately 90 per cent in smoke reduction was gained by this process, Flanagan explained, but added that it was quite expensive as a new boiler had to be installed.

**Power Plant Units**  
Two other mills have constructed power plants to use the waste surplus to generate electricity while two others have installed gang saws. One mill has torn out a sawdust burner, he added.

All of the mills in the valley with the exception of one, which also plans to in the immediate future, have installed cyclonic vents which whirls the smoke causing the heavy particles to fall back into the burner.

Flanagan said it will take time and money to solve all of the air pollution problems caused by the mills. He mentioned that the group was willing to help, but did not plan to immediately make unreasonable requests for smokeless incinerators. These incinerators would eventually be obliterated as soon as uses for

the waste products were introduced.

Stuart McQueen, Kogap lumber company, stressed that utilization of lumber wastes is the key to the smoke production problem, but he added that the industry was dependent upon federal forests for the timber.

The matter of the industry's existence is keyed to the finding of new markets for the waste products, he explained. With the high cost of stumpage, the industry is not in a position to pay these prices while burning waste.

Flanagan added that smoke production is at its worst in open burning and decreases in amount when a burner without cyclonic action is used followed by a burner with cyclonic action, Dutch ovens, cinder extractors, and utilization of wastes so no burning is required.

**Speaks for Medford**  
Speaking for Medford, Bob Van Sickle, city councilman, told of plans to hold public hearings this fall on a proposed air pollution ordinance. He explained that the ordinance would be mainly to control new industry in the valley and give credit to voluntary programs underway.

T. M. Gerow, Grants Pass, state board of health, told of the air pollution tests conducted in the valley during the last three months. He explained that tests so far show little or no smog condition in the valley.

He added that data collected so far in Medford shows that the area is at the edge of the situation where air pollution is becoming a nuisance condition.

He said that the tests are conducted by open jar, filters, and gas supplying methods.

**Suspended Particles**  
He cited the average amount of suspended particles in the air is 150 milligrams per cubic meter. Highest recorded was 480 milligrams on April 15 followed by April 7 with 443 milligrams recorded. But, he added, the lowest recorded was 22 milligrams on May 26.

Gerow explained that the survey will show what industries should not be installed in the valley. He commented that the tests taken in June were not indicative of the area as people weren't using furnaces. He said that tests in the fall would correct, or average, the results.

**Should Not Worsen**  
The health board official stated that the air pollution problem in the valley should not be allowed to get worse. He believed that local agency should monitor the program to establish some objectives to be reached. The speaker added that he thought state ordinances at the present were sufficient but enforcement was lacking.

Population growth is also a contributing factor to pollution he added.

Gerow, in speaking of the Jacksonville problem regarding smoke from the dump, explained that the air currents are such at the site to carry the smoke into downtown Jacksonville.

Charles Bottjer and Anthony Boitano, City Sanitary Service, explained that the company had checked into various methods of garbage disposal. Bottjer explained that they are currently checking into the use of incinerators.

**Reviews History**  
E. W. Hogan, city attorney for Jacksonville, gave a history of the dump, explaining that although the residents had been opposed to the dumping site from the beginning, it had been their understanding that a sanitary landfill method rather than burning would be used.

Company officials explained that the sanitary landfill method had been originally planned, but was later found to be not suitable due to moisture content in the area.

John Niedermeyer, Jacksonville area farmer and speaker for area residents, complained not only of the smoke in the town and surrounding areas, but also of the odor and fruit flies. He commented that an incinerator would not be the answer to the problem as the air currents would still bring the smoke into Jacksonville, although it may eliminate the flies.

He added that the smoke from the dump was "not seasonal as is orchard heating."

**Requests Official Check**  
Robert Duff, Medford city manager, mentioned that Medford had requested through the U.S. Public Health Service for an official to check the area regarding the use of sanitary landfills.

Deputy District Attorney Jerry Scannell, in speaking on the dump situation, stressed that the county court does not have control over garbage disposal but they do have the authority to set up rules and regulations as to how sanitary

the system used is.

He stated that the city Sanitary Service does not create the garbage and mentioned that any improvements in the disposal process would most likely cause higher rates. When this happens, he continued, some subscribers drop the service and then more dumping occurs along county roads.

Several persons of the nearly 40 residents who attended the meeting questioned several of the speakers.

Mrs. H. P. Bosworth Jr., Medford, suggested that a legally constituted committee be set up to control the air pollution problem. She questioned the lumber industry's method of bark removal at the mills rather than having the process done in the woods where it could be used as a ground cover.

She also suggested low interest federal loans to local industries to speed up conversion programs to reduce the air pollution problem.

Mrs. Bosworth also presented the county court a petition which requested that residents near orchards be notified in advance when toxic sprays are going to be spread by airplane. The petition called the current practice an "invasion of personal rights."

**Miller Asks Patience**  
Judge Miller asked patience of the residents in summarizing the hearing. He stated that the economy of the valley was a major factor in deciding the solution to the air polluting problem and stressed the need for a systematic and voluntary approach, before the enactment of any ordinances.

In concluding, Miller explained that since both Boitano and Bottjer had actively supported him in his campaign he had been accused of "playing politics" regarding the dump situation in the Jacksonville area. He stressed that he had checked into the situation and was amazed at the 35 tons of garbage collected by the service in an average day.

He said that he personally would hesitate to try to tell the firm what way would be best to dispose of the garbage.

**REVENUERS CAUSED IT**  
Tel Aviv, Israel—UPI—A man accused of beating his wife while she slept told police Thursday it was unintentional. Police kept the husband in jail although he contended that he had been dreaming of "revenue men sequestering our property. I waved my hands excitedly and apparently my wife's face got in the way."

**BERLINERS SHOW FAITH**  
Berlin—UPI—West Germany has demonstrated again its confidence in the future of West Berlin by giving the nation's president an official residence in the beleaguered city. West German President Theodore Heuss took possession Thursday of the 18th Century Bellevue Castle which overlooks Communist East Berlin.

**MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. Sunday, June 21, 1959**

**Far Eastern Forces To Continue Patrols**  
Washington—UPI—Defense Secretary Neil H. McElroy has ordered Far Eastern forces to continue unescorted patrol flights despite last week's attack by Communist jets on an American Navy plane off Korea.

## ROGUE VALLEY STATE BANK MEDFORD . . . OREGON

CONDENSED STATEMENT JUNE 10, 1959

RESOURCES		
LOANS AND DISCOUNTS	\$1,778,252.95	
Less Reserve for Losses	18,639.49	1,759,613.46
United States Bonds		1,793,576.09
Municipal Bonds and Warrants		277,012.48
Banking House, Fixtures and Equipment		67,326.51
Cash and Due From Banks		920,565.76
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank		7,800.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,825,894.30</b>
LIABILITIES		
Capital Stock		\$ 150,000.00
Surplus		110,000.00
Undivided Profits		38,001.92
DEPOSITS		4,483,000.69
Interest Collected, Not Earned		44,891.69
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,825,894.30</b>

- | OFFICERS             |                   | DIRECTORS         |          |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Clarence H. Young    | President         | W. H. Young       | Chairman |
| Ralph E. Pierce      | Vice-President    | Clarence H. Young |          |
| Neal A. Curry        | Cashier           | Leonard Bradshaw  |          |
| Gertrude F. McCorkle | Assistant Cashier | Ralph E. Pierce   |          |
| Ron E. Cordon        | Assistant Cashier | J. H. Stanley     |          |
|                      |                   | Frank P. Farrell  |          |

3% Interest paid on Savings Accounts  
effective July 1, 1959

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation • Member Federal Reserve System

Serving Jackson County Since 1911 — Local Ownership and Control

## PENNEY'S SHOP and SAVE Monday Night Till 9



**New Lug-Lite Luggage in Towncraft® plaid!**

**AND WHO'D EVER GUESS THE TINY PRICE?**

**54-inch DRESS CARRIER . . . 8<sup>00</sup>**  
**40-inch SUIT CARRIER . . . 7<sup>00</sup>**

Handsome travelers! Hardy rayon plaid covers both sides of Penney's carriers (most have one). Rubberized backing helps keep out dust, mildew, moisture. Happy landings all the way—strong from steel reinforced stand-up frames to new snap locks. Easy access zippered opening has padlock, key. \*Plus 10% Federal tax.

**Feather-Light Plaid ZIPPERED LUGGAGE 5<sup>50</sup>**

As far as we know this is the first time anywhere a set of this high caliber luggage has been offered at such a low price! Penney's beautifully matched pack-away foursome is quality made. Get 3-ply wood frames, reinforced sides, sturdivon rayon plaid covers with rubberized backing. Handsome tailoring from black vinyl turned-edge trim to inside tie tapes. All zippered bags with lock, key. Light to carry. Nest one inside the other for storing.

You Can Buy the Complete set of 4 Bags only \$27 LUGGAGE . . . Penney's Street Floor

## Men's Leather-Grained VINYL LUGGAGE

Man-Styled! Easy Packing!

**24-inch TWO-SUITER . . . \$16.**  
**21-inch COMPANION . . . \$12.**

Here's real he-man luggage! Flex-sided for plenty of packing space . . . with partitions, pockets, tie-bars, straps, etc., for maximum packing efficiency! Scuff, stain resistant . . . it wipes clean! Has metal frames, corner guards, steel-core handles, brass-plated steel locks, cotton twill lining. Suntan. Ginger.

LUGGAGE . . . Penney's Street Floor



## there's no place like home FOR A SWIMMING PARTY



Say "YES" Monday — Enjoy Swimming Saturday!

NOW IS THE TIME to buy that wonderful surprise you owe your family! A surprise which means more and better family togetherness, enjoyment, relaxation and wonderful health benefits. Of course, that means A LANCER LIFETIME SWIMMING POOL for your own back yard! With a LANCER pool, you get pleasure from a year-round playground, RIGHT IN YOUR OWN BACK YARD!

Yes, the year-round health and relaxation that you and yours will receive from a LANCER pool cannot be measured in dollars and cents . . . but the fact remains that LANCER pools are the LEAST EXPENSIVE and MOST ENJOYABLE entertainment in the nation!

Prices Start at **\$2395**

**NOTHING DOWN 5 YEARS TO PAY**

THE ONLY POOL WITH A 10 YEAR GUARANTEE

See the Sample Pool at 1411 Crown Avenue

**GILKISON COMPANY**  
P. O. Box 422  
SP 2-2679 or SP 2-4358

**FUN GALORE**

**BACK DOOR**

**LANCER LIFETIME POOLS**