

FREED FLIERS, WIVES REUNITED

Rogue Valley Edition

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Cigarette Tax Proposal Might Survive Crisis

O&C Allocations Result in Reduced Equalization Fund

Court, School People Discuss Remedies

Jackson county's substantial allocations of O&C funds to schools in the county, started 4 1/2 years ago as a property tax reduction measure, actually have caused considerable amounts of state school equalization money to be lost to the county.

As a result, the county has used O&C money for schools, which could have gone for other county purposes, while at the same time it has lost hundreds of thousands of dollars from state sources, which otherwise would go to many of the county's school districts.

The reason is an obscure provision in Oregon school law.

It provides that an amount equal to \$10 per census child in the county be levied and distributed to districts on a per census child basis. This \$10 has no effect on state equalization funds, if it is levied.

But, if this \$10, or additional amounts (and Jackson county last year allocated \$20 per census child to school districts), come from other sources, it acts to decrease the amount of school equalization funds from the state.

During the 1960-61 school year, the county lost \$211,378.18 in state equalization funds for this reason. The total of equalization monies received this year was \$107,357.16. Had the O&C funds not gone to schools, the equalization total would have been \$318,735.34.

The amount received was distributed to only three districts, Ashland, \$31,757.16; Central Point (6C), \$80,427.72; and Rogue River, \$15,172.28.

Unless a "way out" can be found, the county stands to lose even more next year. The allocation for the 1960-61 school year was reduced on the basis of last year's allocation of \$20 per census child from O&C funds; for next year it will be reduced on the basis of the \$35 per child allocated from O&C funds this year.

School officials have been meeting with the Jackson county court this week to see if some way can be worked out whereby the school districts of the county will not continue to lose money because of what started out to be a generous gesture of support from the county.

The formula under which state equalization money is distributed to school districts is an extremely complicated one, and takes many factors into consideration. The O&C fund distribution is only one of them.

Before the decision was first made to allocate O&C funds to schools by Jackson county 4 1/2 years ago, a check was made with state authorities to determine whether there would be any effect such as the reduction of state equalization of state equalization money.

Local school officials and the county court were assured there would be no substantial reduction, but in the application of the formula, the reduction turned out to be far greater than anticipated.

Durno Asks Immediate Action on Labor Problem

Washington—(UPI)—Rep. Edwin R. Durno (R-Ore.), today urged Agriculture Secretary Orville Freeman to move immediately to solve what he called one of the major economic problems of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest.

Howard Morgan Picked by Kennedy For Post With FPC

Washington—(UPI)—Former Oregon Public Utility Commissioner Howard Morgan Thursday was appointed by President Kennedy to the Federal Power commission.

Morgan was named along with John Swidler, Nashville, Tenn., attorney, to the FPC. Morgan, 46, who served as public utility commissioner in Oregon from 1957 to 1959 during Democratic Gov. Robert Holmes' administration, will fill the remainder of a term that expires June 22, 1963.

Paul A. Sweeney has been serving in the post on a recess appointment.

Morgan, who owns a ranch at Sisters, was state Democratic party chairman for 4 1/2 years. He did not seek reelection in 1956.

Morgan, a graduate of Reed college, said in Salem that he would go to the nation's capital Saturday with his family. He said he would continue to operate his Sisters ranch.

He declined to comment on the proposed Nez Perce and high Mountain Sheep dams, proposed as rival projects on the Snake river.

He said he did not know when he was to appear before the Senate Confirmation committee or when he would actually go to work.

The FPC job pays \$20,000 annually.

Staub Likes Choice

In Salem, Oregon Democratic Chairman Robert Staub said the appointment of Morgan is one of the "outstanding appointments" the new Democratic president will make.

Staub said Morgan's appointment "not only will advance the public welfare in affairs regulated by the FPC but brings considerable credit to the state of Oregon."

Democratic Chairman Robert Staub: "The appointment will prove to be one of the outstanding appointments by President Kennedy. Morgan will perform with dynamic force, keen ability and complete honor."

J. D. McDonald, Oregon AFL-CIO president: "It is a good appointment."

Sen. Maurice Neuberger: "Although I was not consulted about the appointment, I was pleased to learn..."

County Engineer Robert J. Carstensen said work on the widening of Stewart ave. is ahead of schedule due to favorable weather. The work, which started Jan. 3, is due for completion early in May, according to the tentative schedule. County road crews spent the first two weeks on the project building forms.

BILL INTRODUCED

Salem—(UPI)—A bill introduced in the Senate today would provide for a penalty of one year imprisonment or a \$1,000 fine for making a long distance call on another person's telephone without intending to pay.

Salem—(UPI)—A 15-mile per hour speed limit will be set and strictly enforced at Cannon Beach, the State Highway Commission decided today.

Opposition by Hatfield Brings Scuttle Threat

Governor Denies Any Doublecross

Salem—(UPI)—There were signs today the three-cent-a-pack cigarette tax proposal might survive its first crisis in spite of the warfare it has prompted between the governor's office and the House Tax committee.

Tax Chairman Richard Eymann (D-Mohawk) reiterated his threat to scuttle the measure unless Gov. Mark Hatfield retracted his announced opposition to the tobacco levy.

Waste of Time

Eymann said he considered it "a waste of time" to continue consideration of the bill in the face of Hatfield's opposition.

In a letter earlier to Hatfield, Eymann said the governor's "liberal use of the veto in the past" seemed to make futile any further discussion of the cigarette tax measure.

But Hatfield told United Press International his dislike of the measure did not imply an automatic veto if a cigarette tax bill passed.

The governor, who has ardently urged a net receipts tax and other tax reforms, added:

"There is no way of knowing what form it might take, or how it might be incorporated in the overall tax package."

Hatfield denied any doublecross in revealing his opposition to the cigarette tax, and said his support of other tax changes never had extended to the tobacco tax.

Senate President Harry Bolin, Klamath Falls, and House Speaker Robert Duncan, Medford, warned that death for the cigarette tax likely would put an end to hopes for an income tax cut.

Rep. Victor Atiyeh (R-Portland) said after a talk with the governor he hoped the measure would receive further consideration. Atiyeh suggested the measure might be referred to the voters, a decision that might prevent a veto, but opponents of the tax have predicted it would meet certain defeat at the polls.

Hatfield indicated he would be unwilling to see the other tax reforms he advocates go down along with the cigarette tax.

On the other side, in spite of Eymann's powerful position, several Democrats indicated it was unlikely they would concede Hatfield such a quick victory by dropping the measure.

New Deputy DA Is Named by Holmes

A new deputy district attorney, Thomas J. Owens, will start work here Feb. 1. District Attorney Alan B. Holmes said today.

Owens has been chief deputy district attorney of Coos county under District Attorney John Eaton for the past three years. He was admitted to the Oregon state bar in 1957. He is a member of the state bar association, American Bar association and the Coos-Curry Bar association.

He is 33 years old, single, and was graduated from Whitman college in 1949 and from Willamette university law school in 1957.

During his law school years Owens was active in law school work and was a member of the Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity. He spent three years as an enlisted man in the U. S. Air Force. While living in the Coos county area he has been active in Elks and Jaycees.

Cuban Executioner Arrested in U. S.

Washington—(UPI)—Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy announced today the arrest of Herman F. Marks, a native of Milwaukee, who reportedly was responsible for the execution of more than 200 anti-Castro Cubans in Havana.



HAPPY REUNION—President Kennedy stands aside as the freed RB47 fliers are reunited with their wives at Andrews Air Force Base, Md., today. At left, Capt. Freeman Olmstead embraces his wife, Gail. At right, Capt. John R. McKone kisses his wife, Connie. Watching, in background right, is Mrs. James Olmstead, the flier's mother. (UPI Telephoto)

Kennedy Greet Released Airmen At Andrews Base

Families Taken To Guest Apartments

Washington—(UPI)—Two American airmen flew home today to a welcome from President Kennedy and a joyous reunion with their wives after seven months in a Russian prison.

An Air Force Constellation carrying the RB47 fliers, Capt. John R. McKone and Freeman Bruce Olmstead, landed at nearby Andrews Air Base, where Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev first set foot on American soil in 1959.

McKone and Olmstead, who were shot down by Red jets over the Barents Sea last July 1, stepped from the white-painted plane into the arms of their wives.

President Backs Away

They shook hands with the President, who had dramatically announced to a radio-televized news conference Wednesday night that the fliers had been released by the Russians.

The President's word as he greeted each of the fliers were:

"How do you do, captain; glad to see you."

Kennedy, smiling shyly, immediately backed away to make way for the officers' wives.

After the two fliers had had some moments with their wives, the President approached them again.

Talks Several Minutes

The fliers, their wives at their sides, stood talking with Kennedy for several minutes in the 22-degree weather.

A procession of Air Force cars was drawn up to take the released airmen and their families to guest apartments at snow-covered Andrews Air Force Base.

In the welcoming group with Kennedy were Air Force Secretary Eugene Zuckert and Gen. Thomas D. White, Air Force chief of staff.

The President flew to Andrews by helicopter.

He then joined Mrs. McKone and Mrs. Olmstead to walk to the side of the plane and welcome the returning heroes.

Returns to White House

After seven minutes of the happy homecoming ceremony, Kennedy strode across the field about 50 yards to his Marine helicopter for the journey back to the White House.

Meanwhile, the fliers and their wives happily obliged photographers who wanted pictures, repeating the embraces and kisses that had marked their arrival.

There was a ban on interviews with the men about their experience in Russia and their present condition.

Public Hearing on Pollution Bills Set

A public hearing on two water pollution control bills of interest to many Jackson county people will be held at 8 a. m. Thursday, Feb. 2, State Sen. Lyndel Newbry told the Mail Tribune today.

The hearing will be held by the Senate local government committee in Room 114 of the Capitol.

One bill is proposed by the state sanitary authority, the other by the city of Portland, and the two are similar in intent, Senator Newbry said.

Suspect in Bank Robbery at Drain Nabbed by Police

Drain—(UPI)—Donald Gene Kelso, 35, suspect in Wednesday's robbery of approximately \$2,000 from the Drain branch of the U. S. National Bank, was taken into custody just north of here Thursday night.

Kelso was apprehended by state police officer Ken Thorne as he was apparently trying to flee police in a Eugene taxicab. The cab driver, who said he picked the man up at a cafe here, told police he did not know the man's identity.

Kelso was taken to the Douglas county jail in Roseburg. Earlier Thursday the Federal Bureau of Investigation announced that a complaint had been filed against Kelso with U. S. Commissioner Claire Mundorff in Portland after witnesses had picked out Kelso's photograph. Didn't Resist

The getaway car was later found on a logging road a few miles west of here and police had been searching the area.

The state policeman said Kelso did not resist arrest. Authorities said it was first believed two men may have been involved in the bank robbery, with one driving the car, but that it may have been a solo operation.

Kelso listed his last address as Coos Bay.

Temperature Equals All-Time High for Date

When the mercury in the weather bureau thermometer at the Medford airport climbed to 62 degrees yesterday, the temperature equaled the all-time high on record for Jan. 26 for Medford and vicinity. Previous 62-degree reading for Jan. 26 was in 1924.

The weather station anticipated a maximum temperature of near 60 this afternoon with cold air aloft keeping the mercury from rising to the 64-degree all-time high for Jan. 27.

Seven-Year-Old Hit By Car in Medford

A 7-year-old girl sustained apparently minor injuries on Thursday afternoon when she was struck by a car while crossing Holly st. between Main and Eighth sts., according to Medford police.

The girl, Vickie Dale Jefferson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Ellis Jefferson, 2448 Edgemont dr., suffered bruises and abrasions of the left ankle, knee and left hand, police said.

Witnesses told police the girl stepped from behind a line of cars into the path of a car operated by Bill Bobb Hobbs, 18, of 303 Ross lane. Police said the Hobbs vehicle skidded 13 feet before striking the girl. No citations were issued.

Riverside Widening Project Approved

Salem—(UPI)—The Oregon Highway commission today approved a request by the city of Medford for a joint project to widen South Riverside ave. from 9th st. to the intersection of South Central ave.

The project will cost \$132,000. The city will pay \$34,500 and the state the rest.

Evaluation of Area Mosquito Control Program Received

An evaluation of and recommendations for a mosquito control program in Jackson county have been received from the Oregon state board of health.

The study is the result of a meeting in Medford last month with members of the county court, county health department, and the vector control program of the state board of health.

In addition to recommendations reviewed at the meeting, field investigations were also made. Thirteen general recommendations were included in the report.

The mosquito problem in the county should be defined by determining mosquito species present, their relative abundance and seasonal distribution, the report states. It calls for the locating and recording onto maps all breeding sources and determining when they can best be controlled to save both money and time.

Education Suggested

An evaluation of the cost-benefit ratio of the mosquito control program should be made to ascertain whether or not the control presently carried out in small localized areas away from populated centers is justifiable from a cost standpoint. It also calls for a realistic budget to allow for full-time personnel to carry on mosquito control during the mosquito breeding season.

Other points brought out in the report include an educational program to acquaint the people with mosquito control and how they can help in the program, source reduction measures to be undertaken, the purchase of necessary equipment to identify mosquito adults and larvae and a study made of all log ponds to ascertain species of mosquitoes present.

It was pointed out that some ponds produce non-biter mosquitoes, which need not be controlled. The use of a

Medford Planners Reject Request For Zone Variance

Medford's city planning commission last night turned down a request for a zoning variance to operate a kindergarten at the Congregational church, 300 Oakwood ave., after several residents of the area expressed their opposition to the request.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Miller have been seeking the request and the commission called last night's special meeting to consider it. Following the vote to recommend denial of the request, Commission President Jack Edson told the Millers they had the right to appeal the commission's recommendation to the city council. Miller indicated that he would do this.

Pickell said he would not be opposed if the kindergarten were to be run by the church on a non-profit basis, but said "this is definitely not a church operation."

Mrs. Miller told the commission that the kindergarten would have a maximum of 25 pre-school children. She said the fee to be charged would be less than that charged by the average kindergarten, and the profits would be shared with the church.

Miller elaborated on his wife's comments and said there is a "definite need" for a kindergarten in Medford. He contended that the existing kindergartens in the city are not aimed at preparing the child for school, whereas this one would be.

It was pointed out that there are two other kindergartens in the area of the church. But, it was also noted that one of them is a non-profit school for handicapped children, and the other was in the area prior to adoption of the existing zoning laws some years ago.

Commission Member Larry Horton moved to recommend denial of the request on the basis of the opposition that had been expressed by residents of the area. He was joined by Commission Member Harold Snodgrass.

Members Donald Walters and Walter Higgins abstained from voting because of a "conflict of interest" on their part, they said. Edson, as commission president, did not vote.

Charge Against Picard Dismissed

A charge of failure to file a registration against Roy R. Picard, owner of Picard's of Medford Jewels, was dismissed in municipal court this morning when one of the city's key witnesses was unable to appear.

O. R. McNeel, city building inspector, is recuperating at his home from a back ailment. He was one of the city's chief witnesses in its case against Picard who they accuse of selling electrical products without a city permit.

At first it was suggested that the trial, originally scheduled for today, be postponed until McNeel had recuperated. Robert Dames, defense attorney, objected to this, however, as one of his witnesses was leaving town tomorrow for six months.

Municipal Judge Ronald L. Ricketts then ordered the case to be dismissed, but noted that the city could bring new charges against Picard at a later date.

Pirate 'Accepts' Navy Protection

San Juan, Puerto Rico—(UPI)—Rebel leader Henrique Galvao radioed today from the hijacked liner Santa Maria that he would "accept" U. S. Navy protection against Portuguese warships while taking his 620 captive passengers to an undisclosed port.

Galvao, in a message intercepted here by the Navy, said he would "land passengers near the South American or west African port, giving preference to Africa" if he were guaranteed that the ship and his followers would not be captured.

Living Costs Climb To Record High in December

Washington—(UPI)—Living costs edged up to a record high in December for the fourth consecutive month, the government reported today.

WEATHER FORECAST: Fair with mild daytime temperatures through Saturday. Low tonight 33-41. High Saturday near 60.

Our Skies Tonight Sunset today 5:10 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow 7:10 a.m. Moonset tomorrow 5:07 a.m. Full moon Jan. 31. The star Betelgeuse is high in the south tonight at 9:38 a.m. Above it is the Moon and above the Moon is the planet Mars.

