

Personally Speaking

By JOHN STAFFORD

Living in Oregon is refreshing. The people are friendly, the country is beautiful with bountiful natural resources and the climate is mild (compared to the icy blasts back where we came from).

In addition, politics are as frantic as a frog on a freeway. Just look at a story in Sunday's Mail Tribune. According to the story, most of Gov. Mark Hatfield's government reorganization proposals have been killed. However, one proposal calling for local mental health clinics, was still alive, having passed the House. When the story was written, the bill was being considered by the Senate State and Federal Affairs committee.

Here is where things be-

came interesting for a newcomer. Rep. Clarence Barton, Coquille Democrat, declared there would be "bloodletting" in the legislature if the Senate stalled on the bill. Thus, Barton favored the Hatfield proposal.

Then the story went on to say that Secretary of State Howell Appling Jr. "is actively working against the bill." Republican Appling was apparently opposing Republican Hatfield.

Ideally, there is nothing wrong with this. Politicians are elected to stand on their own two feet and oppose a measure if they don't think it's right. It's the democratic principle. However, back in Michigan where I come from, such a practice is frowned upon.

Also frowned upon in Michigan (alias, the "problem state") is the idea of Democrat Barton favoring Republican Hatfield's proposal. If he were in the Michigan legislature, Barton would be ordered to stand in a corner for five hours. And Appling wouldn't be able to enter a smoke filled room full of Republicans for five months.

It will take many more incidents of this nature to brand both men as "mavericks," the current political nickname. However, it does illustrate a refreshing point for an outsider.

Some politicians aren't controlled by strings stretching from party headquarters.

A couple of years ago Michigan was financially strapped. In a marathon session the legislature accomplished nothing more than passing a sales tax hike later ruled unconstitutional. Chief stumbling block was a 55 to 55 split in the House. Whenever a major proposal came to a vote, party loyalty was rallied and a tie vote resulted. Some legislators even rose from sick beds to insure the deadlock. Most noble! But most frustrating for Michigan citizens who were shelling out money for expenses incurred in the prolonged session.

Party squabbles in Michigan are heated, as they are in Oregon. The difference is that Oregon politicians aren't afraid to buck the party on occasion, as the Barton-Appling-Hatfield affair illustrates.

We're rapidly learning that Oregonians, and Jackson county residents in particular, are about as strong-willed as Missouri mules. Not long ago we attended a meeting in Eagle Point between people concerned about the proposed Medford Corporation logging road and Medco officials.

The discussion got around to whether Medco could legally convert the road from use by a railroad to use by logging trucks. A Medco official recalled an experience in Coos county where a logging company proposed a similar project. He said the incident reached a court which ruled in favor of the company.

Later he again referred to the incident by saying that all he knew was "what happened in Coos county." To which a local citizen arose and said, "That may have happened in Coos county, but this is Jackson county."

The support rallied so far against the logging road gives an insight to native spirit. And the organized opposition to establishing a wrecking yard in the Talent area is further evidence.

Last Friday night the wife and I attended a musical play presented by McLaughlin Junior High school students entitled "Good News." Apparently the quality of the annual McLaughlin production is well known, for there were over 1,000 people present.

The participants were 225 eighth and ninth graders who had been rehearsing for seven weeks.

Following the play, Jack Henry, dramatic director, said he was generally pleased with the performance. Henry went on to tell us the purpose of the event is to teach teamwork and cooperation. The presentation was carried out without a hitch, so apparently the purpose was realized.

Yreka Senior Wins Rotary Scholarship

Yreka—The Montague Rotary club has chosen Gaye Messner to receive the annual \$100 scholarship award, to be presented when she graduates from Yreka High school in June.

Miss Messner is the 18-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Messner, of Montague, and will use the award in furthering her career as a nurse. She plans to enter the Samuel Merritt School of Nursing in Oakland.

She was named homecoming queen this year.

Regional News

John Stafford, Regional Editor
Correspondents: Upper Applegate Valley—Maude Ziegler Lower Applegate Valley—Jeanette Head; Butte Falls—Mary Jo Harris; Central Point—Dolores Armstrong and Flo Vincent; Eagle Point—Doris Robinson; Gold Hill—Sara Valley—Mary Kell; Grandview—Lore Pine—Dot Simmons; Happy Camp—Hazel Davis; Betty Reed; Hornbrook—Katherine Chapman; Illinois Valley—Katherine Scott; Jacksonville—Betty Hoskins; Medford—Carolyn Harding; Murphy—Mrs. R. J. Millemann; Phoenix—Mrs. Leo Pury; Prospect—Valda Barr; Shady Cove—Evelyn Watson; Table Rock—R. E. Nealon; Tillamook—Viola Rogers; Yreka—Doris Robinson and Betty Calkins.

Josephine Voters Approve Budget

Grants Pass — Josephine county voters favored exceeding the six per cent school budget limitation 800 to 321 in Monday's election. The limitation will be exceeded by \$804,424.68.

Murphy was the only area not favoring the proposal.

Albert C. Esterbrook and Paul Converse were elected to county school board posts. Easterbrook will represent Zone 1 (Illinois Valley). Converse will represent Zone 5, consisting of Merlin, Oak Grove, Hugo, Sunny Valley and Wolf Creek.

Incumbents William Shoenleber and Tom Cudd were re-elected as Grants Pass District 7 board members.

Bids Submitted for Eagle Point Sewage Disposal System

Eagle Point — Low bidder for construction of the Eagle Point sewage disposal plant was F. L. Somers of Medford with a bid of \$180,366.10 including 180 calendar working days for completion of the project.

Bids were submitted at the monthly meeting of the Eagle Point City council Tuesday night. Other bidders were: W. H. Conrad corporation, Medford, \$203,282.52; Riverside Construction company, Portland, \$182,015.20, less the lagoon, 300 working days; George W. Phoenix, Portland, \$216,466.80, 180 working days.

Trio Company Inc., Creswell, \$171,498.30, less lagoon and pump, 180 working days; Jeske Brothers Construction company, Eugene, \$153,795.05, less lagoon and pump. The bid of John Kovtynovitch, Eugene, was not tabulated.

To Study Bids

Clark and Groff, engineers who designed the system, asked to have 10 days to study the bids prior to making a recommendation to the city. The contract will be awarded following the recommendation.

City Attorney Gregg Hornacker said there were no bids for sale of sewage system bonds. He said there were several groups interested, however, they were waiting until an exact determination of the amount needed was available.

The council, attorney and engineers said the new estimated cost of the disposal system would possibly be about \$20,000 less than preliminary estimates.

M. C. Lininger's bid of \$591.80 for pipe was accepted. Moore Steel bid \$830.13.

A resolution was passed authorizing Dave Hannaford and Oran Chastain to obtain the transfer of surplus property from the surplus property section.

Councilman granted a request by Marian Vannice, city recorder, for a two month vacation this summer. Ellen Callaghan will handle the recorder's duties in Mrs. Vannice's absence.

The next council meeting will be Friday, May 5 at 8 p.m.

Applegate Valley Ranches Purchased

Applegate Valley — Sale of 212 acres of ranch property in Upper Applegate has been announced by Clinton D. Kendall, owner of Kirtland farm at Central Point.

In a transaction just completed, Kendall sold a 50-acre farm, the former Culy ranch, to Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Merickel of Palo Alto, Calif. Fifty head of Hereford cattle and range rights were included in the sale. The family will arrive in June to take possession.

Merickel was a stock broker in Palo Alto, and the couple have two sons and a daughter of school age.

Earlier in the year Kendall sold a 162-acre plot of the former Barr ranch to Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Malone of San Diego. Steve Reeves, a son of Mrs. Malone, is associated with the ranch.

Kendall reserved 240 acres of the Barr place which he expects to sell for homesites when the proposed flood control dam is constructed in the area.

Improvement of Water System Discussed by Central Point Council

Central Point — Plans for a special municipal election on a city charter amendment and bond issue for improvement of the city water system were discussed at the Central Point city council meeting last night.

A survey by Clark and Groff, Salem engineers, recommended construction of a one million gallon water reservoir, laying of additional water mains and installation of a pumping station to maintain a constant pressure. A special meeting will be held May 16 for selection of an engineering firm to draw up specifications.

A hearing for property owners interested in an ordinance calling for improvement of Eighth st. will also be held at the May 16 meeting.

R and M Construction company's bid for construction of curbs on East Pine st. of \$2,968 was formally accepted.

Petitions Approved

Petitions were approved for paving of five additional streets. They include: Fifth st., from Hazel to Cedar; Alder, from Fourth to Seventh; Sixth, from Hazel to Ash; Alder, from Front to Fourth; and Grand Ave. Engineering for the streets will be carried out during the next few months.

In other action, the council instructed City Recorder Lyle Paul to advise the proprietor of Faber's market that the practice of his patrons driving across the sidewalk into the store's parking lot would have to be discontinued. Approval for construction of a driveway will be granted if requested, according to the council.

The possibility of selling two or three lots adjoining the city baseball park, with the money to be used for improvement of the park, was tabled until further information could be obtained.

A misunderstanding concerning the activities of children playing in the city park was discussed and it was decided the police department should advise those concerned that use of the park for children's games and recreation was included in the park's utilization. However, malicious mischief and destruction of facilities would not be tolerated, the council said.

KVTV-TV (Channel 7)

Wednesday
5:00—Death Valley Days
5:30—Lone Ranger
6:00—Newsbeat Northstate
6:15—NBC News
6:30—Bugs Bunny
7:00—Dennis Reed
7:30—Wagon Train
8:30—Price Is Right
9:00—Hawaii Eye
10:00—Naked City
11:00—11th Hour News
11:15—Jack Paar
12:30—Late News and Sign Off

Wednesday
5:00—Secret Storm
5:30—Edge of Night
6:00—Search for Tomorrow
6:15—Guiding Light
6:30—Cal-Ore Panorama
6:50—Uncle Bill Show
7:00—Ruckelsherry Hound
7:00—News
7:15—Douglas Edwards News
7:30—Two Faces West
7:00—Sea Hunt
7:30—Rawhide
8:30—Route 66
9:30—Way Out
10:30—Twilight Zone
10:30—Big Three Movie
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Jacksonville Council Considers Radar System

Jacksonville—The Jacksonville City council discussed feasibility of installing a traffic radar system at its meeting last night.

A representative from a traffic radar system company was present and said the cost of the system could be paid from violations detected.

Mayor E. O. Graham said if the proposed system was installed, it should be for the purpose of controlling traffic rather than for producing revenue.

Mrs. Ruth Walker said she was in favor of controlling traffic, however, not at the expense of having Jacksonville branded as a speed trap. She pointed out that if the radar system was to be effective, it possibly would be necessary to hire a part time policeman for night hours, to assist Police Chief Frank Carter. Councilman George Brewer asked if arrests made by using the radar would hold up in court. It was pointed out that radar is accepted as evidence by courts in most states.

In other action, the council heard a first and second reading of an ordinance prescribing methods of making public improvements and collection of assessments for improvements. The ordinance also prescribes methods for determining amounts of special assessments for improvements.

Councilman Don Wendt, asked council members to check the intersection of G and Academy sts. Property owners near the intersection have been complaining that a hazardous traffic condition exists there, he said. The matter was referred to the street committee. They will give a report at the next meeting.

Brewer made a motion that the city not sell the old city fire truck for an indefinite period. Brewer said the truck

couldn't be sold for much money, and added that it had value as an antique. The truck is over 30 years old. Brewer said he felt the truck would increase in value with passage of time.

Mrs. Walker suggested that

the truck could be used in spraying weed and mosquito killer in the summer months. Brewer's motion for retaining the truck was approved.

In other action, the council voted to call for bids on improving city buildings, including

re-roofing the city hall. The resignation of Jack Eaton as consultant to the planning commission was accepted. A business license application by Harry R. Bostwick for the Jacksonville Dental Lab was approved.

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Regional Calendar

Central Point — Central Point Junior High school band and chorus will present a spring concert Thursday, May 4 at 8 p.m. in the school gymnasium.

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brand names. You know the company stands back of them. You know they protect you.

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Rev. Tom Balch, Singer

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