

The Herald and News

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Ballot Measures

By FLOYD L. WYNNE
Let's take a look at measures No. 3 and 4 that will be facing voters on November 4.

Both are very important measures. No. 3 would amend the constitution to increase the salaries of state legislators from \$600 to \$1,200 per year. However, the measure does one other thing also, it eliminates the phrase "and no other personal expenses" from the constitution so that the Legislature could conceivably provide personal expenses without limit to its members.

The increase from \$600 to \$1,200 a year would increase the cost of the Legislature about \$54,800 per year, and could be considerably more if the personal expenses allowances are expanded as they could be under this measure if passed.

Those who argue for it point out that Oregon legislators are paid less than the majority of the states in the nation. Washington pays its legislators \$1,200 per year plus \$15 per day expenses. California pays \$6,000 per year plus \$14 a day allowance.

It is true that those who serve in the Legislature do so at a financial loss to themselves. Sessions that last 100 days or more would eat up the biggest share of the \$1,200, and in some cases exceed it, leaving the legislator not only not compensated, but not even repaid for the time he has lost away from his profession or business.

Increasing the pay, while it will up the cost of the legislative sessions, will make the field more attractive to other well qualified people who cannot or will not make the sacrifice.

While it is true that deletion of a phrase makes it possible under this measure for the Legislature to compensate its members for personal expenses, that too does not seem unreasonable, if it is held carefully in check.

The increase does seem warranted, the only question against it is whether or not the state as such can afford another increase in its budget. This one measure alone would cost a minimum of \$109,000 for each bi-annual session.

Measure No. 4 proposes to eliminate from the constitution the present provision for death penalty for first degree murder. It would allow the Legislature to fix the penalty.

Under the present constitution, the penalty for murder in the first degree shall be death, except when the trial jury shall in its verdict recommend life imprisonment. Passage of this measure would not abolish the death penalty, it would leave it up to the Legislature to decide in first degree murder cases.

The Legislature has already passed a law which will go into effect if this measure is approved which provides the penalty for first degree murder will be life imprisonment with no possibility of parole for 15 years. These laws impose the death penalty for the crime of treason against the state and for murder committed by persons serving life terms in the Oregon State Penitentiary.

Under present laws, the penalty for second degree murder is life imprisonment, but also at present in Oregon, either first or second degree murder convicts serving life sentences are eligible for parole in seven and one-half years.

In reviewing the capital punishment measure, Oregon voters in 1912 rejected abolishing the death penalty. In 1915, voters narrowly abolished the death penalty. In 1920, Oregon voters reinstated the death penalty, and it has remained to date.

Forty two states in the nation have the death penalty. This measure leaves one big loophole, and it is a loophole that has confronted Klamath County in the Billy Junior Nunn case where he killed a 12-year-old boy. Nunn was a sex pervert with a record of perversion, a record that had already landed him in the penitentiary. Yet, even with this record of sex deviation, he was released and the brutal murder of a young boy occurred.

Under this provision, Nunn would be eligible for parole. Admittedly it would be 15 years, but what assurance would people have that his sex deviations had been cured. This is just one example.

The present law expressly says that the death penalty for first degree murder shall be used only when the trial jury does not recommend life imprisonment.

The end result of the law is twofold, to exact punishment for the crime committed, and to protect society from the repetition of such criminal acts.

The law has worked well since its re-enactment in 1920, 33 years ago.

There are those who argue against the death penalty on both religious as well as moral grounds.

They point out that abolishing the death penalty does not increase murders. Also, that there is the possibility of an innocent person being executed.

One other important point is brought out by those who favor abolishing the death penalty. They say that those who are executed are in most instances persons who are poor or friendless.

This point becomes particularly acute when one views the case of Caryl Chessman in California who has financed his many appeals with proceeds of a best selling novel.

Both sides have good points.

Business Scene

By SAM DAWSON
AP Business News Analyst
NEW YORK (AP)—The highest grade corporate bonds are yielding their owners more income if bought at today's prices than most of the prominent common stocks. But the bonds, especially governments, are finding few takers even at the present greatly reduced prices.

And the latest action of the Federal Reserve banks that raised their interest changes when lending to member banks isn't aimed at disturbing this arrangement.

The Federal Reserve says it's merely acting to bring its discount rate closer in line to the interest rates commanded by other forms of short term lending.

But the general rise in interest charges was set off by the Federal Reserve in the first place when it raised its rate last summer and when it took other measures to show it thought tighter money was needed to hold off another turn of the inflation screw.

Bonds are considered a safer form of investment, but investors seem to prefer the more risky common stocks even when yielding less.

The accent isn't on income just now. It's on the expectation of capital gains if stock prices rise further.

A similar situation arose in 1928 and 1929. Speculators preferred the chance of increases in prices of common stocks to the safety of bonds. The yield on top bonds went to around 5 per cent and the average return on leading stocks dropped to 3 per cent.

Now the best bonds yield a little better than 4 per cent and stocks average out at around 3 1/2 per cent.

This sort of psychology thrives when the economy is expanding, or when people think it is going to, or believe that continuing inflation will raise the prices of stocks along with everything else.

It is into this sort of atmosphere that the U.S. Treasury is stepping out again next month to raise another 3 1/2 billion dollars of new or borrowed money.

Because of the temper of the bond market, most Wall Street observers expect the treasury to stay close to the pattern of its last borrowing a few weeks back, when it tapped only the short term market, which to a large extent meant the banks.

The Federal Reserve is tidying up its house to be set to help the banks find the money the treasury needs. All hands seem to have their fingers crossed, hoping that the new borrowing won't fan any inflationary fires.

The treasury is coming back in to the market sooner than it had expected to, because in this period of slow tax collections it's

running out of cash again as government spending goes on and on.

The U.S. Treasury isn't the only one to be asking investors to lend a hand. Six states and 400 local subdivisions have bond issues totaling more than two billion dollars to be voted on at the Nov. 4 election. This is more than twice the amount voted at last year's general elections, but about a quarter of a billion less than the record set in 1956.

Voting on such issues isn't confined to general elections by any means. The Investment Bankers Assn. says that so far this year about six billion dollars of such issue have been sold.

Corporations are going to float some big debt issues, too. Even at the new high rates many prefer bonds to stock issues. This is because the interest paid out on bonds is charged off before taxes, while common stock raises the hope at least of dividend payments, which must be made after taxes.

Alcohol

Klamath Falls: (To the Editor)—Since you gave prominent space to a recent church report on "Alcoholism and Social Drinking," I am sure you will be glad to share with your reading public an opposite view as expressed by a regular Herald and News reader.

In the current issue of "U.S. News and World Report" there is a more complete summary of this report which was issued at Miami, October 14. The authors give a very good analysis of the problem of social drinking of alcoholic beverages, but come to an unfortunate, and, as I see it, illogical, conclusion, namely that "A Christian who drinks moderately with due regard for the feelings and needs of his brothers and with a conscientious care for the claims of God can drink with thanksgiving to Him for these blessings," and, "we would submit that our grace and thanks at meals should always include those beverages which may precede or accompany the meals."

Since, as I take it, the authors are not writing as Bible expositors, I offer objection to the report only from their area of coverage. It seems to assume that if social drinking is done with thanks giving to God, and under regulations, that the problem of alcohol will be solved most effectively. But where is the limit of its influence? Dr. Robert S. Carroll, M.D. (What Price Alcohol?, New York: Macmillan, 1941) says, "a single cocktail effectively does something to self-determination, to discretion, to the finer restraints of judgment." And Dr. William McDougall, (Outline of Abnormal Psychology, New York: Scribners, 1926), writes, "that self-knowledge which is essential to the supreme activity we call volition or deliberate will. It is the blunting of this critical side of self-awareness by alcohol, and the consequent setting free of the emotions and their instinctive impulses from its habitual control, that give to the convivial (social) drinker the aspect and the reality of a general excitement. The argument of the doctors whom I quote is that alcohol, even in small amounts, will influence the entire person, and in every realm of activity with which he is concerned, and in the manner that is most far reaching, namely, his "self-determination," his "emotions," his "supreme activity." Does the influence of alcohol let a man go to his work next day completely normal? Will he be normal with his family, when his emotions and judgment are disturbed? And what of the broken homes, the children, illegitimate and other, and the former

mates who are ultimate victims of social drinking?

The report seems to assume that people can relax, and make their play times more pleasant by using alcoholic drinks. But Dr. Milton J. Rosenau, (Preventive Medicine and Hygiene, New York, Appleton-Century-Croft, 1935) writes, "alcohol does not relieve fatigue, but makes one unconscious of fatigue." Did you ever hear the quotation from the revered Abraham Lincoln, when he got seasick on a boat and a staff officer offered to send for a bottle of champagne to relax him from his difficulty? He replied, "No, no, young friend, I've seen many a man in my time seasick ashore from drinking that very article."

Since the Christian ideal sets forth that a person is to be at his best, emotionally, mentally, physically and morally all the time and in every area of life, and since the use of alcohol in any amount militates against this, and since, furthermore, the use of alcohol in social drinking does not truly relax the user of it, I am in disagreement with the report. The leaders and the great mass of Christian people with whom I am affiliated likewise hold to this view.

E. M. Causey

Hives

By EDWIN P. JORDAN, M.D.
Among the allergic diseases hives, or urticaria, occupies an important place.

Unlike seasonal hay fever (whether the result of pollens from ragweed, trees, grasses or something else) hives may appear at odd times of the year. Consequently, the cause of this condition is usually more difficult to identify than ordinary hay fever.

An outbreak of hives usually comes suddenly and expectedly. It shows on the skin as reddish swollen spots of various sizes with intense itching. The itching generally involves not only the raised spots but the entire skin.

These signs often disappear as fast as they come and sometimes last only a few hours. One of my children had an attack of this sort and I never did know what caused it.

Too often, however, hives goes on for days or weeks and even sometimes turns into a chronic condition which does not disappear for months or years. Chronic hives is, of course, the most troublesome variety.

Hives may follow the eating of some food to which a person is sensitive. It can also develop after a drug or serum has been given, after infection, exposure to heat, furs, insect bites and many other things. It is not a single disease, therefore.

Urticaria differs from many other kinds of allergy in that a sensitive person does not always show a skin reaction when the offending substance is placed in contact with the skin by scratching or patch tests (a type of testing used in many allergies).

Often this failure of the skin to respond makes diagnosis of the cause of hives particularly difficult. Furthermore, no one knows why red spots should appear on the skin as a sign of sensitiveness. They do not seem to serve any useful purpose.

In spite of the common difficulty in picking out the cause, treatment is most satisfactory when an accurate identification of the offending substance can be made.

If strawberries, shrimp, or some particular drug are found to bring on an attack of hives it is usually easy to avoid the offending substance and so avoid future difficulty.

In chronic urticaria, when the cause cannot be discovered, the situation is particularly unpleasant. The skin is unsightly, and itching is often intolerable.

In many instances, however, drugs which are known as antihistamines—and these should not be taken unless advised by a physician—bring great relief. These drugs do not cure the underlying cause, but may relieve the itching and cause the disappearance of the skin lesions for fairly long periods.

Many features of urticaria are still unsolved. The completely unexpected appearance of hives in a person who has never had the condition before is one of the many problems which has yet to be explained.

Quotes
United Press International
MINNEAPOLIS—Vice President Nixon, on Democrats who point to polls showing a decisive Democratic lead in the congressional election.
"I only hope they make the same mistake we (Republicans) made in 1948 of believing that polls settle the result of an election."

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo

PESTERTON HAS BEEN LIVING AT THE CLUB FOR MONTHS SINCE BATTLING WITH HIS FRAU... IN FACT, HE'S PRACTICALLY UNDERFOOT THERE....



CHEDDAR REALLY NEEDS HIM TONIGHT... SO WILL HE BE AROUND AS USUAL? WELL... NOT SO'S YOU'LL NOTICE HIM....



THANK AND A TIP OF THE HAT TO SAM AND JESSIE, PITTSBURGH, PENNA.

Colombo Nations Probing Lagging Economy Problem

SEATTLE (AP)—The second phase of the Colombo Plan Economic Conference opens today with officials of 18 nations and three colonial governments searching for means to expand the rate of economic growth in Communist-threatened South and Southeast Asia.

Preliminary studies by technical experts indicated greater assistance will be needed from the United States, Britain, Canada and Japan.

Charles W. Adair Jr., head of the 11-man U.S. delegation and host to the officials was expected to be named conference chairman at an opening plenary session.

Gov. Albert D. Rosellini of Washington and Mayor Gordon S. Clinton of Seattle arranged to welcome the delegates at a midday flag-raising ceremony.

In the first round of talks last week, technical experts from all of the Colombo countries prepared working papers on lagging economies in an area subject to mounting Communist pressures.

Political differences are parked outside the conference room. There is too great a split between such neutral nations as India, Indonesia, Ceylon and Burma on one hand and the Philippines, Thailand, Pakistan and South Vietnam on the other for any discussion of a political nature.

Instead, the delegates concentrate on common economic problems and how they best can be met.

The Colombo Plan was organized in Ceylon in 1950 as a consultative group in which the advanced industrial nations cooperate in assistance to the less developed nations.

Outside help to the needy new countries of free Asia has taken a variety of forms.

Australia has trained more than 2,000 Colombo Plan students in engineering, nursing, science, education, teacher training and agriculture. Technical training will be stepped up by Japan, the United States, Britain and Canada.

Canada has given more than 200 million dollars in assistance and expects to expand this with larger supplies of wheat to India and Pakistan.

Cary Grant, the film star, once operated men's haberdashery shops in New York and Hollywood.

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ALARMS AND DIVERSIONS

PARIS (UPI)—Paris firemen said that of 30,000 alarms to which they responded in the last year, 89 were to get cats out of trees and off roof-tops; 69 were to get people out of stalled elevators, and 5 required rescues of persons from sewers.



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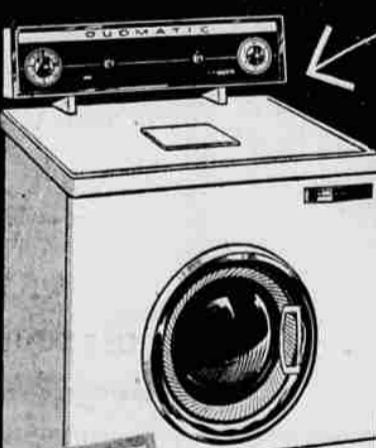
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