

The Herald and News

FRANK JENKINS
Editor
BILL JENKINS
Managing Editor
FLOYD WYNE
City Editor
MAURICE MILLER
Circulation Mgr.
Ph. TU 4-752

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Fractions

By BILL JENKINS

Recently these columns have been full of sound and fury over the situation of to-shoot-or-not-to-shoot a duck. A case of the bird watchers lining up against the scattershotters.

Being bloody-minded by nature I guess I'll have to line up with the scattershotters. I have always prided myself on being at least a part-time conservationist. But I am not a string saver. A string saver is a fellow who saves bits of string because he can't bear to see them thrown away. They are mostly little bits that are of no use and they eventually fill all the drawers in his house. But he saves them nonetheless.

I'm afraid that some of our government people in the various game services are becoming string savers.

It seems pretty futile to me to spend millions of dollars and tax the sportsmen to the breaking point merely to cause enormous duck hotels to be constructed in order that pretty pictures can be taken and, if we are to believe the dedicated speakers for the cause, farm crops saved from the vicious depredations of these migratory waterfowl.

Sure, I believe we have to have refuges. We either provide nesting and resting places or we, eventually, do without the birds. But I doubt if we have to provide board as well as room.

And it really does seem a little ridiculous when you take a look at it. We grow a little more grain every year so the government can pay support prices on it and then cast about for a storage place to put the grain because it can't be sold or given away. And, for some strange reason, it can't even be destroyed.

As long as this situation is extant wouldn't it be simpler and a lot more fun to just pay the farmer for his grain and leave it in the field for the birds? That way the birds would have plenty to eat, the hunters would have a crack at them and the nearby reserve areas would provide ample protection for the birds. You can't tell me that a duck or a goose is dumb enough to stay in an area that is heavily shot over when he can jump over the ditch and be in a sanctuary.

Nor can you tell me that the hunting fraternity is going to be dumb enough to fall for some of these ridiculous "conservation" practices forever.

I'm broad minded enough (some say thick-headed) to admit that there is something to say on both sides of the fence. But I just can't see as many birds over the area as we had when I was a boy. And yet I see more hunters.

If the birds are going to be saved for the bird watchers why doesn't Uncle Sam say so and the rest of us will hang the old scattershot on the wall and find other avocations.

It is rapidly reaching the point where about the only thing that is saving us are state operated public shooting areas. And it strikes me as ridiculous, again, to have the federal government doing everything in its power to preserve, not conserve, the birds and the state government trying to see to it that the hunters, who spend a whole lot of money, and cast a lot of votes, get a little sport.

The way it looks now duck and goose hunting is becoming a rich man's sport.

Anyway, the issue is squarely before us and I'd like to see a public expression of opinion. Send in those letters, we'll print 'em in this paper and I'll keep a scrapbook of all of them. If the response is large enough and produces enough good material I'll pledge myself to have the whole shooting match printed and copies sent where they'll do the most good.

It's up to us, hunters.

Let's not waste any time.

Ballot Measures

By FLOYD L. WYNE

Let's discuss briefly the last three state measures that will face voters on November 4.

Measure No. 11 is known as the county home rule amendment.

It would authorize the voters of any county to adopt a charter to provide for the exercise of authority over matters of county concern.

If the amendment is approved, the voters of each county will be enabled to adopt, amend, revise or reject charters for their county governments.

This measure would put counties on a basis similar to that of cities and they could issue legal orders, adopt ordinances and in effect legislate on county affairs.

At present, the county may legislate only on specific matters that are expressly permitted by the constitution and by the Legislature.

This would change the procedure somewhat and permit the county to legislate on matters concerning it except those forbidden by the constitution or the Legislature.

On the negative side, the claim has been made that while this would make the county more independent, it would open the way for the federal government to extend domination into the county sphere, because counties would then deal directly with the federal government on a number of matters.

Measure No. 12 would permit the State Board of Control to discontinue using the Eastern Oregon and University State Tuberculosis hospitals in whole or in part. The board could also designate the use for any other state institution or agency.

Present restrictive provisions of the Constitution do not now permit modification of the use of any state institution located outside Marion County unless such action is approved by the voters of the state.

It has been pointed out that the continued decline in patient population of our TB hospitals, resulting from rapid developments in diagnosis, therapy and surgery, would permit the closure of one or more of these institutions.

Therefore the measure is now up to the people to permit the Board of Control to discontinue their use in whole or part as needed.

Measure No. 13 is the much discussed amendment to permit employees or members of a school board, or employees of the Board of Higher Education to serve as members of the Legislature.

At present the Constitution prohibits any person from holding more than one lucrative public office and forbids persons charged with official duties in one department of the state from exercising functions in another except as provided in the Constitution.

Obvious intent of this constitutional provision was to prevent members of the Legislature from passing on matters in which they may directly benefit.

The practical application has been that such persons take a leave of absence in order to serve in the Legislature, and then resign their seats before returning to their former duties.

It would permit employees of public education and school officials to enjoy the special privilege of serving in the Legislature and then returning to their positions while still retaining their legislative seat.

No teacher or public employee is now prohibited from seeking a seat in the Legislature if otherwise qualified, or serving.

The Constitution provision stems from the intent of the drafters of our state Constitution to separate the affairs of the legislative and the administrative.

Teachers serving in the Legislature would more and more have to deal with problems of education since a large share of the state budget is devoted to education.

Those against the measure also point out that 100 days away from a school year would certainly be disruptive for any teacher or any group of students.

Others oppose the measure, also, on the grounds that it favors the teaching profession over all other public employee groups since it does not extend the same privilege to all public employees.

Those in favor of the measure point out that a teacher is well informed and could do justice to the job as legislator.

They also point to this clause and charge discrimination, declaring that any fear of domination by the State Board of Education would be completely unfounded.

They also point out that in the final analysis, the people hold the power since they are the ones who must elect any person to the Legislature.

Those are the 13 state measures that will be on the ballot for voters on November 4.

Certainly it will be difficult for most voters to go to the polls with

a clear cut idea of what these measures will or will not do.

That is to be regretted.

But, it is to be deplored also that the necessity arose to face voters with so many confusing issues. It would seem that since a number of these issues deal with constitutional changes that the time is near when action should be taken to study our constitution and revamp it as necessary to meet modern day conditions.

In Answer

By NELSON REED

I am pleased that Ken McLeod has the same high opinion of me that I have of him.

After reading his letter in the Herald and News the other evening, I had a nightmare. I dreamed that the happy horse and buggy hunting days were long past, and now there was a closed season on everything and all shooting was forbidden, although the game had increased unbelievably.

We had all become birdwatchers, even that old depredeationist hunting partner of mine, and me.

We had been out in the field all day watching, Deb and I. And you'll never believe what we saw. We wrote it all down in our little notebooks so you can be sure it was so.

Deb saw two chicken hearted starvelings, one buff tinted due bill, three landed gentry, one vested interest and 22 bleary eyed hangovers.

I saw three nitwits, two tufted dowagers, one almighty thrasher, one great stench, one lesser stench, three double breasted seersuckers, and just as it was getting dusk, I thought I saw flit across the rising full moon one three legged fustian, but then I'll never be sure, for I don't know what one of the darn things looks like. Somebody tore that page out of my little pocket dictionary.

Death Penalty

Medford (To the Editor) — The people of the state are being asked to abolish the death penalty for the crime of murder in the first degree. Those who urge a Yes vote on Ballot Measure No. 4 are well organized, and their position has been well publicized. Those of us who feel that the death penalty is a very necessary element of moral and legal justice in our society are not organized, nor well financed. Consequently, little has been said in the press or elsewhere publicly in support of our views, or in favor of retention.

Those engaged in law enforcement know that it is not only the extent of the punishment for crime which acts as a deterrent, but that punishment is a deterrent in direct proportion to the certainty thereof. If the law is not enforced, it cannot be said that the law is a failure, but only that those charged with enforcement have failed in their duty. There has been a growing reluctance on the part of those in government to perform the more disagreeable tasks of government. It is pure sophistry to condemn the death penalty as ineffective, where persons in authority have failed consistently to invoke the penalty or have extended executive clemency when it has been imposed.

The abolitionists argue that fear of death is not a deterrent. According to the American Bar Association's Committee on the Administration of Criminal Justice, this inference cannot be drawn from the present statistics. According to the Report of the Royal Commission on Capital Punishment (Great Britain), evidence presented tended to show that fear of death is a deterrent to premeditated murder committed by mentally normal persons, and a deterrent to professional criminals, who accept imprisonment as a normal risk of their business. It deters these people from using lethal means to resist arrest, and from using lethal violence in the commission of their crimes.

Ellen Ulrich of Portland would probably be alive today if capital punishment had not been abolished in November, 1914. George Tronson confessed that he had planned to kill her from July, 1914, but waited for the outcome of the vote to abolish

the death penalty. The election was held November 3. The outcome was not announced for several days because the vote was close. Tronson murdered the girl only after it was reported that the bill was passed. He was given a life sentence in December, 1914, by the Multnomah Circuit Court. The 1914 voters of Oregon must share the responsibility for Ellen Ulrich's murder.

Death is still the king of terrors. It is the only terror which holds some men in check. The common experience of mankind demonstrates the truth of this statement more effectively than any proof or argument can do. Ingenious argument may be made to the contrary, but that is all!

Murder should be abolished by the murderers of our society before we undertake the dangerous step of abolishing the death penalty for that crime. A cold blooded murderer, having cunning intelligence and without moral restraint, is infinitely more dangerous than any other animal on earth. Yet it is urged that we should slay the man-eating tiger and carefully preserve the human beast.

The term "punishment" has become a nasty word to the optimistic idealists of our society. They urge a pleasant approach to dealing with criminals. They insist that we must have pleasant penitentiaries, and we must never speak of punishment, because it is not a pleasant term. Police officers who stood in the doorway of a Medford mother's bedroom choking her small children wipe the blood from her face and plead with her to talk with them; any person who stood and looked down on the small, naked form of a 14-year-old Klamath Falls boy who was forcibly sexually assaulted and strangled to keep him quiet, can testify that murder is not a pleasant crime!

Under our so-called "enlightened approach," there is entirely too much loose talk about the sacredness of human life. A life is sacred only when it makes itself sacred; when it respects the lives and rights of others. Are we no longer capable of righteous wrath, of honest indignation toward the renegades of our kind whose conduct is subject to no moral or ethical restraint? Are these emotions more to be despised than the sentimental and unrealistic rationalizations indulged in on behalf of these murderers?

The truly democratic voter expects that his government will do what is right; that his government will consider the well being of its people; that his government will govern according to justice. As voters, it is our obligation to determine what is right and what is just, and to vote accordingly. No ordered legal system can continue to exist, unless there is a close connection between our law and the requirements of fundamental justice. Justice, in the case of murder in the first degree, requires that the punishment be death, as presently provided for in our Constitution. I therefore recommend that you vote No on Ballot Measure No. 4.

Walter D. Nunley

Quotes

United Press International
SAN FRANCISCO — Chief Justice Earl Warren, on states rights:

"As long as we look upon the institution of government as the servant of all the people we need have no fear of a conflict between the states and the federal government."

LITTLE ROCK, Ark.—Gov. Orval E. Faubus, after receiving \$11,100 from Louisiana segregationists for his private segregated school setup:

"With such support we cannot lose."

WICHITA, Kan. — Vice President Richard M. Nixon, in a campaign speech:

"The voters are realizing in increasing numbers that our opponents have run out of gas . . ."

CHICAGO—Adlai E. Stevenson, in a campaign speech:

"For six years now, in the face of mounting crises at home and abroad, the White House has been reassuring America that all was well at home and abroad."

WASHINGTON — Attorney Mathias F. Correa, in asking the Supreme Court to overturn the 10-day jail sentence imposed on Marie Torre, New York Herald Tribune TV columnist, for refusing to reveal a source of information:

"Unless reversed 'it (the conviction) will lend aid to any forces seeking to choke off the flow of news to news media.'"

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



Yankee Stops In Oregon

PENDLETON (AP)—A young New Englander, who walks, works and hitchhikes alternately, stopped here Thursday on his 14th trip across the United States.

"No income taxes, no family problems," Willard Parker Mc-

Allister, 24, said when he described his wandering, a life he indicated he likes. He said he works only when he needs some money.

McAllister, who hopes to walk in Europe soon, said his journey will end where it started — in Maine—when he walks his millionth mile. He said he hopes to write a book then, but finds writing difficult because he has only a fifth grade education.

"And that's not enough when

you're writing a book," he said.

McAllister, 5-foot-4 and 123 pounds, started his journey in 1946 from his foster home.

POPE CABLES RAINIER

MONTE CARLO, Monaco (UPI)—Pope John XXIII cabled Prince Rainier of Monaco Thursday night thanking him for his message of greeting.

The Pope said, "We are aware of your message of greeting and send with all our heart to your Serene Highness, to the Princess Grace, to your children and to the inhabitants of the principality our first apostolic blessing."

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WALTER HEITKEMPER

Manager of our Hearing Aid Department will be in Klamath Falls for personal demonstration October 30 and 31. Open 9:00-5:00. Evening by Appointment.

Portland Woman Finds Bobcat

PORTLAND (AP)—Mrs. Thomas Cogan found a dead bobcat, a mousetrap caught on one paw, in a lawn swing in the back yard.

"I was nearly frightened out of my wits," she said. "I could see the eyes, and those paws."

Mrs. Cogan, who called the Humane Society to remove the dead animal, said she believed it ate poison grain put out for mice in a nearby warehouse.

LAD DROWNS

PORTLAND (AP) — William Baldwin, 3, drowned in four inches of water in the bathtub when his mother stepped momentarily from the room, police said.

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