

Vernonia Eagle

MEMBER
OREGON STATE EDITORIAL ASSOCIATION

Member of National Editorial Association and Oregon State Editorial Association.

Issued Every Friday \$2.00 Per Year in Advance

Entered as second class matter August 4, 1922, at the post office at Vernonia, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879.

Advertising rates—Foreign, 30c per inch; local, 28c per inch; legal notices, 10c per line first insertion, 5c per line succeeding insertions; classified 1c per word, minimum 25c first insertion, 15c succeeding insertions; readers, 10c a line.

RAY D. FISHER, Editor and Publisher

TWO GROUPS BEHIND THE ZORN BILL

The Zorn-Macpherson bill is backed by two groups. The one is secret, closely guarding the identity of its members, and seeking to conceal its motive by advancing extravagant claims in behalf of the measure—a motive which nevertheless is obviously that of self interest. In order to sell the scheme to the voters, some disinterested sponsorship was necessary from the start, and for this purpose the Marion County Taxpayers' league was picked. The political strategy was good, for if the measure were presented to the people as a genuine demand of farmers and other overburdened taxpayers for tax relief, it would have excellent chances of passing.

All was not clear sailing, however, at this stage of the proceedings. Gov. Meier denounced the plan as a device for increasing, not reducing taxes, the board of higher education turned thumbs down on the bill, the president of the state taxpayers' league and hence an ardent tax conservationist openly campaigned against it. The final collapse came when Henry Zorn and John Ramage, president and secretary respectively, of the Marion County league admitted on the witness stand at the Brownell hearing that their organization had never met to consider the proposal, and that they and one or two other officers of the group had merely accepted it upon the say-so of parties unknown who hired all workers, issued all propaganda, and paid all bills. Clearly it was not a measure originating with or actively sponsored by the league, and Zorn and his fellow officers either discreetly withdrew from the game or were ordered to the bench by the coach.

Soon another organization was formed to head the campaign for the bill, the Tax Reduction Association of Multnomah county. Its president, Dr. Herbert C. Miller, is a man of high repute, and the workers, of whom Mrs. Bilyeu, the speaker here Monday night, is a type are much more temperate in their assertions than were those who used the Marion county league as a mouthpiece. There is no reason for questioning their motives, even though one suspects that they have been misled by a few whose pocket-book is their guide to public policy. It is this other group of disinterested backers (the Marion league being out of the picture) who command public attention. Yet purity of motive and honesty of purpose do not necessarily mean soundness of reasoning, and the fact that they think they are acting for the best interests of the state in remoulding the higher educational system in accord with their theories is no guarantee against irreparable damage from unwise action.

These proponents fall into several errors. They tell us that bigness of the educational unit means quality of instruction—that one large teachers' college is better for the students than three small ones, that a university-college is better than a university and a college, that Oregon's educational rating would be greatly increased if it would only combine, combine, combine.

The writer has been associated, either as student or teacher, with seven universities, big and little. He may be said to have merely sampled them, yet that sampling was sufficient to convince him that the size of the institution has nothing to do with the kind of instruction imparted or the educational benefit to the students. His best and his poorest was in the same university. In one class, the instructor, craving an after-dinner pipe, and taking advantage of the California sunshine habitually took his group of five to some campus steps and held informal recitation there. In the other, a class of one hundred or so answered roll call, scribbled notes on the lecture of the instructor (an authority in his field) and periodically took an examination, passing of which called either for cramming or cribbing, according to the integrity or lack of it on the part of the individual. The rule held in each of the other six—where there was direct contact between student and teacher, provided, of course the student was qualified and the teacher competent, there was education in the truest sense. Where the instructor was forced by size of his group or the heavy load of his schedule to be aloof from his students, there was waste of time and educational inefficiency. Mass production has worked wonders as applied to the manufacture of automobiles, lowering the cost and improving the quality, but as applied to the education of human beings it is tragically out of place. It, more than anything else, is responsible for the hordes of college students who acquire little except the rah-rah spirit and a social poise that comes from association with one's fellows.

One other error, perhaps, is sufficient for present discussion. The proponents of the bill assume that as consolidation in general saves operating costs and reduces administrative expense, consolidation of the university, agricultural college and normal schools, and establishment of junior colleges and a new law school would save money for the taxpayers. They would have us believe for one thing, that not a single new building would be necessary in Corvallis to accommodate the combined enrollment of both institutions. There are on the Eugene campus between twenty and thirty major buildings, all practically used to

capacity except in this off-year of depression. If there is that much extra space already in buildings on the Corvallis campus — almost twice the amount normally needed for years and years to come, the taxpayers of the state have been sorely robbed. On top of that, President, now Chancellor, Kerr, requested the 1931 legislature to provide \$4,000,000 for new buildings, equipment and land then regarded as needed at O. S. C.! Needless to say, the promise of no expense for new buildings on the campus of the proposed state university is merely hollow argument for campaign purposes.

Just a glimpse of the difficulties in the way of the merger was given forcefully Monday night at the debate in the Washington school. Mrs. Miller brought out the uncontroverted fact that the greater part of the registration at the state college consists of men, and of women at the university. The limited dormitory facilities for women at the state college are already used up in normal years. What then would be done with the 1500 women in the university, for the great majority of whom there would be no accommodations in sorority houses or private residences? What would be done, of course, would be to duplicate the two fine new large dormitories for women now on the Eugene campus and replace, probably, a third and older one—all at waste of the taxpayers' money under the guise of saving it for him.

One cannot save money by junking what is costly to replace and is performing adequate service. Scrap the university and the normal schools, try a new and obviously risky experiment of state-owned junior colleges, maintain the same number of campuses as at present after readjusting all of them to purposes for which they were never originally intended—and save money! Hardly. Students and the public would both be the losers.

What Other Editors . . . Think . . .

Romance on the Farm

The days of real romance on the farm have not ended.

One of the finest examples of it we have ever seen was the award given Wednesday to Melvin Schwab of Deer Island in the form of first prize at the Pacific International Livestock exposition for Guernsey bulls.

The story is that a short time after moving from Birkenfeld to Deer Island, Melvin saw a Guernsey bull in the herd of a neighbor which he wanted. The neighbor had traded a team of horses for the bull and now he wanted to sell it.

Melvin offered him \$200 for the bull and got it. The bull is now worth over \$2000 and is rated as one of the four or five best Guernsey bulls in the country.

Was it just luck? Far from it. For years Melvin Schwab has been a member of 4-H clubs. He has studied animals, through the instruction of County Agents Smith of Clatsop county and Nelson of Columbia county and tells whether an animal is poor, mediocre or good.

For the past several years he has been on stock judging teams and winning honors.

Opportunity knocked for this farm lad and he opened the door. The training he had received as a 4-H club member has prepared him so that he could recognize the opportunity.

Romance is not dead on the farm. In Columbia county today it is very much alive. Other op-

portunities are awaiting those who have the patience and the ability to work.

No finer tribute could be paid to the value of 4-H club work than the award which has been made to Melvin Schwab's bull, an animal that has risen from obscurity to the top rank of all Guernsey bulls of the nation.

Every boy and girl who possibly can should enroll in 4-H club work of some kind. All may not discover first award bulls in their own or neighbor's herds, but they will get training that will be worth a great deal to them in future years.

Congratulations, Melvin, and to all those who train to be able to grasp opportunities when they present themselves. —Clatskanie Chief.

We Want to Be Hanged

"We, the undersigned, would all like to be hanged on next Thursday afternoon." This was the wording of a petition which 270 people signed in the course of an hour in Chicago.

The petition was circulated by an instructor at Northwestern, who wanted to test the value of petitions in general. Armed with the imposing looking petition, worded with all the neezy of a law decision, and addressed to the mayor of the city, the instructor found little difficulty in getting his signers.

That people are willing to sign almost anything, has been repeatedly proved by petition canvassers, who have on occasion worked in the interests of special groups.

The seeming ease with which proponents of the Zorn-Macpherson school grab proposal got the necessary number of signatures does not mean that even those who signed it were necessarily in favor of the vicious bill.

When buttonholed on the street it is easier to sign and go on,

Among Our Neighbors . .

The St. Helens city council has accepted the report of the citizens' committee favoring installation of a municipal light plant, and delegated the finance committee to look into the report more thoroughly to see what could be done about getting an unbiased authority to judge the proposition.

Estimated expenditures for St. Helens city schools will be almost \$4,000 less than they were last year.

Arrangements have been made for St. Helens grade school children who desire milk to purchase one-half pint of milk, a graham cracker and a straw to drink the milk with each school day for 12 cents a week.

The St. Helens Lions defeated Seaside 24 to 0 a week ago Saturday.

The total expenditures for the city of Rainier were estimated at \$15,864 by the budget committee last week. The estimated receipts are \$1,300, leaving \$14,564 to be raised by taxation.

The consolidation of the Willamette Valley Lumbermen's association with headquarters at Eugene with the West Coast Lumbermen's association of Seattle has been effected.

The Clatskanie city budget calls for \$4600 to be raised by taxation for the coming year, \$333 less than the amount asked for

than stop and argue with the importunist. Many signatures for the measure were obtained right here in Eugene, proving, only, that the signers had no idea of what they were advocating.

—Oregon Emerald.

For Congress



James W. Mott
REPUBLICAN NOMINEE
Courageous, Capable and Aggressive, Mr. Mott has established a record of constructive leadership and actual accomplishments that richly deserves your vote in promoting him to the National Congress.
VOTE 25 X JAMES W. MOTT
—Pd. Adv.

HELP WANTED

Oregon citizens are on the brink of ruin, facing the bitter prospect of losing properties by tax confiscation.

With a high-powered taxing machine, designed for more than the traffic will stand, the tax boosters have speeded along, without effective control. They are now on the edge of the ditch.

Talk of tax strikes is heard, but far more serious is the utter inability of property owners to pay their taxes.

Many governmental units, by reason of tax delinquencies, are on the verge of bankruptcy.

Fortunately, the opportunity is at hand for clear thinking citizens to take control and direct a safer course.

Two constructive measures now on the ballot will insure efficient driving of the tax machine and a slower gait.

These measure embody the improved OREGON PLAN of tax and debt supervision and control—the best plan ever presented in any state.

They will secure very substantial reductions in the property tax load and thereby promote better government.

They will definitely separate tax levying from tax spending powers.

They will provide effective limitations and control of taxes and indebtedness, but positively will not disturb the existing 6% limitation nor lift the lid of any debt restriction now fixed by constitutional provision.

They will preserve the true substance of home rule in taxation, distinguished from the empty form of that great principle as it has been perverted by tax boosters to their own selfish purposes.

Voters, the appeal is to you to help yourselves and your fellow citizens, to save Oregon property owners from impending ruin and your governments from fiscal chaos by voting:

TAX AND DEBT CONTROL CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
318 X YES

TAX SUPERVISING AND CONSERVATION BILL
320 X YES

Oregon Taxpayers Equalization and Conservation League
James E. Burdett, President R. C. Flanders, Secretary
604 Woodlark Bldg., Portland, Oregon (Paid Ad.)

this year. If the budget is approved it will be the first in several years to call for a decrease of the tax over the preceding year.

Joe Magoff of Vernonia was scheduled to meet Al Washburn of Clatskanie in a bout at Clatskanie yesterday evening.

Mrs. Willard Everson of Clatskanie was elected president of the County Republican Women's organization at the meeting held October 14 in St. Helens. Mrs. Marie Poff is secretary.

Ten Years Ago . . .

Vernonia Eagle, Oct. 27, 1922.

Cleve Mellinger has just received a shipment of goods for his new hardware store.

The Bank of Vernonia celebrated its second anniversary on Wednesday.

The new undertaking establishment and furniture store will be ready for business next week.

in the Brown building. It brings a new family from Echo, Oregon.

A half dozen new homes were started on Vernonia heights the past week.

Vote YES on the city measures or bathe in the creek.

More improvements around Thomas Bros. garage is a new 30 foot addition to their large building.

The Tapp residence just being completed is one of the handsome homes in that part of the city.

Vernonia Eagle classifieds are a paying proposition. Try them.

VOTE NO. 48 X

James P. Ryan

Independent Candidate for

SHERIFF

OF COLUMBIA COUNTY

NOTICE OF SCHOOL MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the legal voters of School District No. 47, of Columbia County, State of Oregon, that a SCHOOL MEETING of said district will be held at Washington School, on the 14th day November, 1932, at 8:00 o'clock in the afternoon for the purpose of discussing the budget hereinafter set out with the levying board, and to vote on the proposition of levying a special district tax.

The total amount of money needed by the said school district during the fiscal year beginning on June 19, 1933, and ending June 18, 1934, is estimated in the following budget and includes the amounts to be received from the county school fund, state school fund, elementary school fund, special district tax, and all other moneys of the district.

ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	
1. Balance on hand at beginning of school year (third Monday in June) for which this budget is made	\$ None
2. From county school fund	6,000.00
3. From state school fund	800.00
4. From elementary school fund	4,300.00
5. Receipts from all other sources:	
1. O. and C. fund	600.00
2. Other sources, delinquent tax	16,500.00
10. Total Estimated Receipts (items 1 to 9, inc.)	\$28,200.00

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	
I. GENERAL CONTROL	
1. Personal service:	
(1) Clerk	\$ 216.00
* (4) Compulsory education and census	25.00
2. Supplies	30.00
* 3. Elections and publicity	50.00
* 4. Legal service (clerk's bond, audit, etc.)	25.00
5. Other expenses of general control:	
(1) Phone	100.00
6. Total Expense of General Control	\$ 446.00
II. INSTRUCTION—Supervision	
1. Personal service:	
(2) Principals	1,800.00
2. Supplies, principals and supervisors	60.00
5. Total Expense, Supervision	\$ 1,860.00
III. INSTRUCTION—Teaching	
1. Personal service:	
* (1) Teachers	15,000.00
* 2. Supplies (chalk, paper, etc.)	200.00
* 3. Textbooks (desk copies and indigents)	150.00
6. Total Expense of Teaching	\$15,350.00
IV. OPERATION OF PLANT	
1. Personal service:	
* (1) Janitors and other employes	1,500.00
* 2. Janitors' supplies	250.00
* 3. Fuel	450.00
4. Light and power	250.00
5. Water	220.00
7. Other expense of operation	30.00
8. Total Expense of Operation	\$ 2,700.00
V. MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS	
1. Repair and replacement of furniture and equipment	50.00
2. Repair and maintenance of building and grounds	400.00
4. Total Expense of Maintenance and Repairs	\$ 450.00
VI. AUXILIARY AGENCIES	
1. Library	
* (2) Library books	150.00
2. Health Service:	
(2) Supplies and other expenses	10.00
3. Transportation of pupils:	
* (1) Personal service	4,300.00
4. Other auxiliary agencies:	
(3) Board and Tuition	180.00
5. Total Expense of Auxiliary Agencies	\$ 4,640.00
VII. FIXED CHARGES	
* 1. Insurance	\$1000.00
5. Total Fixed Charges	\$ 1,000.00
VIII. CAPITAL OUTLAYS	
* 4. New furniture and equipment	250.00
7. Total Capital Outlays	\$ 250.00
IX. DEBT SERVICE	
1. Principal on bonds	\$18,500.00
2. Principal on warrants	16,500.00
4. Interest on bonds	3,376.90
5. Interest on warrants	500.00
9. Total Debt Service	\$38,876.90
X. EMERGENCY	
1.	2,000.00
3. Total Emergency	\$ 2,000.00

RECAPITULATION	
Total estimated expenses for the year (sum of items I-6, II-5, III-3, IV-8, V-4, VI-5, VII-5, VIII-7, IX-9, X-3)	\$67,572.90
Total estimated receipts, not including proposed tax	28,200.00
Balance, amount to be raised by district tax	\$39,372.90

Items marked with an asterisk () are those most commonly used by school districts of the third class.

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES	
For school year from June 19, 1933, to June 18, 1934.	
Personal service sum of I-1-(1), (4); II-1-(2); III-1-(1); IV-1-(1); VI-3-(1)	\$22,816.00
Supplies I-2; II-2; III-2; IV-2; VI-2-(2)	550.00
Maintenance and repairs V-1-2	450.00
Debt service IX-1-2-4-5	38,876.90
Miscellaneous sum of I-3, 4, 5; III-3; IV-3, 4, 5; VI-1-(2), 4-(3); VII-1; VIII-4	2,630.00
Construction VIII-1, 2, 3	250.00
Emergency X-1	2,000.00
Total	\$67,572.90

INDEBTEDNESS	
1. Amount of bonded indebtedness (include all warrants issued by vote of electors)	\$63,000.00
2. Amount of warrant indebtedness on warrants issued and endorsed "not paid for lack of funds"	5,897.85
4. Total indebtedness (sum of items 1, 2)	\$68,897.85

Dated this 18th day of October, 1932.
Attest: LOEL ROBERTS, District Clerk. BEN S. OWENS, Chairman, Board of Directors.