

FLETCHER'S CORRAL

BY ROGER FLETCHER
Malheur County Agent



Our Extension Advisory Council not long ago identified a need for an in-depth, 'grass roots' study of county concerns, needs and areas of opportunity. This identified need has taken shape and many residents are now involved in the county's Long Range Planning Conference. A representative cross-section of our population has been (and is being) sought in order to obtain a fair sampling of thoughts, insights and studious looks at our kaleidoscopic county.

The Long Range Planning Conference, through approximately 20 committee groups, is investigating three broad areas: (1) Industry (agriculture), (2) Human Resources, (3) Natural Resources.

One of these committees, under human resources, is the Family Stability Committee. Their primary task is to determine if and how certain factors affect stability in the family. This is not an easy task. And it is complicated by the fact that there seems to be some question regarding the definition of family stability.

Certainly, family stability as it is understood today is not the same as we understood it, say, 50 years ago. A stable family of the past was a family without divorce, without scandal, where marriage was measured by established norms. Other members of the family, if they didn't live within the group, at least lived near by. The family usually lived in the same place, often for a lifetime. As long as each member of the family fulfilled their responsibility, stability within the

family was usually assured. Happiness was incidental, usually a by-product of the family farm.

The family today takes many forms, as explained to the committee by Extension's family life specialist at Oregon State University, Mrs. Roberta Frasier. There are one parent families as well as two parent families; a family may be on the move; the marriage may be one of short or long duration. The family today has to be defined by the internal relationship existing within the family, and not by any external form.

Mrs. Frasier indicated that today, family stability is dependent to a large extent, upon the amount of creativity in a marriage. In addition, the inner family situation should provide security and ego support. Too, creative relationships should exist between parent and child which will lead to a member's ability to fit into society and cope with the stresses and strains of his societal environment.

The concept that if a marriage does not work, then the partners should remain together 'for the children's sake,' is today most suspect. Many studies indicate that family stability can be achieved in a one partner situation, even though the process of separation may be measured by established norms.

Taxes help provide the revenue needed to pay the costs of public facilities and services we all use. These include our schools, police, roads, welfare, international aid, space program, 4-H programs and a wide variety of other services as provided by local, state and

federal laws and regulations. Under this tax system, most owners of property and receivers of income share in the cost. It is the responsibility of every citizen to pay his share for the services provided, and his responsibility as members of this nation. Income earned on 4-H projects and 4-H animals are not exempt; it is taxable income.

The following points are of special significance to 4-H leaders and members:

To comply with present laws, all persons who receive an annual income of more than \$600, regardless of the source, must file state and federal income tax reports. Income received from the sale of animals including those sold through 4-H auction sales and fair premiums is taxable. 4-H Scholarships and trips are generally not taxable and need not be reported. If income received from the sale of animals, animal products, crops and articles made, fair premiums and all other income earned exceeds \$600, state and federal income reports must be filed by April 15 of the following year. If a parent claims wages paid to a dependent as an expense, the dependent must report the wages received as income. A parent may claim an eligible dependent with an income of over \$600. The dependent, however, must meet the support tests as outlined in your Federal Income Tax, publication No. 17. Persons who receive less than \$600 need not report. If, however, 4-Hers received wages from which taxes were withheld, that person must file a report and submit their W-4 form to get their refund.

Not all persons who receive income in excess of \$600 will have to pay income taxes. If income includes money received from the sale of livestock, crops, articles made, COSTS should be deducted in figuring the amount that is taxable. 4-H records will provide most of the information needed and will substantiate expenses.

4-H leaders who itemize their deductions may include among contributions, the cost of gasoline or mileage and other out-of-pocket expenses connected with their 4-H leadership, including attendance at 4-H training meetings. Leaders may not, however, claim deductions for time or work contributed.

4-H members have financial responsibilities beyond their projects. If any member or leader has questions, consult your tax officials, accountants or others. It's good business. They can often reveal opportunities for tax savings while you fulfill your responsibilities and obligations as a citizen.

Work Smarter - Not Harder

WHEN THE SPRING CLEANING bug bites you, keep an eye out for specials on cleaning products and accessories to improve storage. Your cleaned-out kitchen cabinets will hold more if you use spice racks on the inside of the doors, step shelves for dishes and file racks for pan lids. Portable lazy susans placed on a shelf spin around to help you find small food packages.

Take a tour through a hardware or variety store to get ideas for convenient cabinet space-makers. Ask your county Extension agent for our free bulletin, "Better Kitchen Storage," for other ideas to stretch space.

A BULLETIN BOARD IS A great helper in every home. Mrs. Dorothy Brown, Oregon State University Extension home furnishings specialist, has an eye for beauty as well as the practical. She told us about a new material, a vinyl-covered insulation board that doesn't show holes from thumb tacks and pins. The vinyl has a memory and is self-healing. The regular 4 by 8 panels available from building supply firms can turn a whole wall into a bulletin board. You can also get small sizes already framed.

SO MUCH TO DO -- SO little time! Here are ways homemakers say they cope with this "too busy" feeling.

(1) Make a list of what you want to accomplish. (2) Have an interesting use for the time you save. (3) Learn to say "no". (4) Never use leg work when phone work will do. (5) Do hardest jobs first, use pleasant ones for a reward. (6) Set the minute timer when the phone rings--the dong may startle long-winded friends. (7) Laugh at work, don't growl at it!

NOW'S THE TIME TO GIVE electric blankets a vacation. But first they need sudsing. Never dry clean an electric blanket.

Shake the blanket gently to remove lint. Pretreat spots and soiled edges with dissolved granular or liquid laundry detergent. Don't use dry cleaning spot removers as these can harm the wiring.

Wash only one blanket at a time in the automatic washer. Start the washer on warm or cool water, then add about 3/4 the usual amount of detergent. Wash for one minute on gentle speed. Then stop the machine and let the blanket soak 5 to

10 minutes. Restart the machine and continue through two-to-three minutes wash, rinse and spin. For extra fluff, add fabric softener to the last rinse.

To dry, hang blanket lengthwise over two parallel lines. Do not use clothes pins. Some electric blankets may be dried in a dryer, but check the instructions which came with it to be sure.

WHAT KIND OF WAX OR polish should be used on wood furniture and cabinets? This depends on the way the wood has been finished. If you have any doubts, ask your county Extension office for a free fact sheet, "Care of Wood Finishes," written by Dorothy Brown, Oregon State University Extension home furnishings specialist.

SOON, WE'LL HAVE TO find a new excuse for dust behind the refrigerator. More and more refrigerators are built with rollers so they are easy to wheel out from the wall for cleaning.

You can also get rollers to install on many older model refrigerators and freezers. Dust and lint behind these appliances are fire hazards because sparks from the motor may ignite the lint.

MANY A YOUNG MOTHER tells us that she never gets caught up with her work. If this gloom grips you, think for a minute of all the types of jobs you do--family finance manager, child psychologist, guardian for family nutrition, interior decorator, laundress, comforter of all the brood, and many more.

The mere fact you can count such a long list of accomplishments should be encouraging. Homemaking is an important career. It's spiced with more variety than any other profession. Remember, "Years wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul."

FOR PRE-SCHOOL YOUNGSTERS, one of the most creative pieces of play equipment is a wooden box about 30 inches square. In fact, any size or shape box will do.

Mrs. Roberta Frasier, Oregon State University Extension family life specialist, says its uses are limited only by the child's imagination. It can be a boat, train, plane, a cage, garage or house. Cardboard boxes, although not durable, can also provide creative play.

It's Your Law!

Dear Editor,

Tom Brown wrote a letter to the editor, which was published in the local newspaper: "Dear Sir: The high school physical education program is a waste of the taxpayer's money. The people who run it are not keeping their promises to the taxpayers."

He pointed out waste, took those in charge to task and opposed a bond measure to build a new gym, saying the school board should raise teachers salaries before building gymnasiums.

Since Tom was a teacher at the high school, his letter caused quite a stir. As it turned out, Tom made mistakes about the waste. Still, the bond issue failed.

The superintendent fired Tom "in the school's best interest," as the state law empowered him to do.

Tom claimed the dismissal infringed his right to free speech. Nobody should have to give up his right to criticize the public schools just because he's a teacher, he said. Besides any taxpayer who lives in the community ought to be free to criticize.

The Supreme Court agreed with Tom. No public employee can be subjected to unreasonable conditions. He still has his constitutional right to freedom of speech.

The fact that Tom's statements were false was not enough to justify his dismissal. True, if he made intentional "defamatory" statements he might be fired. But everyone can comment on public matters, especially his own government. Such comments are "defamatory" statements only if the speaker knows they are false or if he makes them with reckless disregard for truth. Tom had acted in good faith.

Anyone can comment on public figures and those in the public eye--government officials, actors, football coaches, policemen, etc. These figures cannot claim defamation when someone makes false statements about them unless they prove the statements were knowingly or recklessly false.

The basic right to criticize government officers and those in the public eye, the courts have held, is so important to good government that mistakes and harsh comment will not be penalized unless it can be proved that the false statements were made on purpose or in disregard for the most elementary common practices of fact gathering.

(Oregon lawyers offer this column as a public service. No person should apply or interpret any law without the aid of an attorney who is completely advised of the facts involved. Even a slight variance in fact may change the application of the law).

Some say that even in the Stone Age when a woman wrote down her ate, she chiseled a little.



ROSIE MONTGOMERY, ROBERT FRETWELL and PRINCIPAL INSTRUCTOR MRS. RITA STITZEL. Rosie and Robert spent a recent week preparing their speeches for their eighth-grade graduation rites on Friday evening, May 16, 1969. The W. W. Jones school graduation exercises were held at the Arock grange hall. Main speaker was Floyd Acarregui of Jordan Valley. The 'prophecy' was read by Mike Henry; the 'will' by Frances Eiguren; and the 'class history' by Penny Lequerica. Cecilia Yturriondobetta walked with Robert and Steve Easterday escorted Rosie to the stage. Robert gave the valedictorian speech, with Rosie giving the salutatorian address. Mrs. Calvin Stitzel, chairman of the school board, presented diplomas. Class colors were white and yellow. - Charlotte Elwood, Arock reporter.

LEGISLATURE SEEKS TVCC BOARD SAYS

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to recognize legitimate student grievances before they boil over to the point of crisis.

After the state of emergency had been declared, all non-students could be barred from the campus until the danger had passed. This is in recognition of the fact that non-students are often the leaders of campus uprisings and revolts.

The measure was expanded in the Senate to allow the same action to be taken if any publicly-owned building was faced with the threat of violence of destruction.

This bill, which has been labeled the "outside agitator bill," was followed-up in the Legislature by a measure which would prohibit the possession of loaded firearms, ammunition or any explosive devices in any public building. Private colleges were also included under the protective wing of this bill.

Violation of this law would be punishable by a fine of \$500 and imprisonment for a year.

This should certainly discourage any individual who might be prone to attempt to enforce a "non-negotiable" demand by use of weapons.

It is another clear warning that the Oregon Legislature--and through it, the people of Oregon--will not tolerate the lawlessness which has infected and destroyed colleges in other states.

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Approximately 24 local and state organizations contribute scholarships to eligible TVCC students (i. e., Elks, Sears (Police Science), Nordling (Paris, PTA, etc.). Most of these are specifically earmarked for elementary education, motor parts curriculum, police science, etc.

During the past two years, very little has been spent toward campus site improvement. A continuous complaint from the student body, as well as district patrons visiting the campus, relates to the poor condition of the parking lots. The traffic of several hundred cars per day in and out of the parking lots has created an impossible maintenance problem. The proposed budget provides \$30,000 for parking lot improvement and other site developments.

HAS NO TAX BASE

Another gross misconception commonly heard is that the college can operate without passing a local levy. To the contrary, not one dollar is available to the college until a levy is approved by the voters. The college has no tax base, consequently the total amount of the local operating levy must be submitted for voter consideration.

Finally, the amount of the local contribution in taxes to support the college is relatively small compared to most other tax supported institutions. Of the total proposed expenditure of \$3,077,906 for 69-70, local taxes provide 14% or \$431,011 including bond retirement. Students provide 29%, or \$895,478, and the remaining 57% or \$1,751,417 is derived from state and federal sources.

Journal Classifieds Bring Results!

PERSONALS

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. McCrady were May 17 visitors of their son, Mr. and Mrs. Myron McCrady in Boise. The two couples attended the races at the Meridian Speedway that evening.

Betsy Stunz, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Stunz, is home for the summer months from college.

"We don't know why we didn't change to electric heat long ago."

MR. AND MRS. NOBLE DAVIS, MERIDIAN

"We don't know when we've gone through a hard winter and enjoyed the heat so much," say Mr. and Mrs. Noble Davis of Meridian. "The house was always nice and warm, always the same, not hot and cold. The heat is clean so we don't have to paint every year or two as we used to. The extra insulation makes it so quiet we can't hear the wind when it's blowing. And it's the cheapest heat we ever had. We don't know why we didn't change to electric heat a long time ago."

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VOTE YES!

NYSSA SCHOOL BUDGET

May 23, 1969 - Nyssa High School

Your taxes are determined by the amount of local taxes levied and not by the amount outside the 6% limitation. The ballot calls for approval of \$77,972,00 outside the 6% limitation. This will not increase the local levy for Nyssa schools. The following is a comparison of the local taxes levied and to be levied under the proposed budget.

Local taxes levied for this current year (1968 - 1969)	\$584,167.75
Local taxes to be levied under 1969 - 1970 proposed budget	\$582,861.16
Local Taxes Down	\$ 1,306.59

Cost of educating a student in the Nyssa School System is one of the lowest three in the State of Oregon. Let's continue to support good schools at lowest cost.

Support Your Schools - Vote Yes This Friday!

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