

CIRCUIT RIDER

By LEON ROWLAND

THE CANDIDATES EVERYBODY FORGETS

The average voter on May 4 will probably not even waste a thrill of surprise at three names on the ballot.

They are the candidates no one pays any attention to. They are the faithfuls who, every two years, make the race for the places on the city auditing committee.

Members for the last two years have been Ed Daubenbiss, Dr. W. L. Stanley and Drum Baikie. Candidates for the posts three weeks from next Tuesday will be Messrs. Daubenbiss, Stanley and Baikie.

In addition to hiring the expert to audit the city books once a year the auditing committee has one function.

In case of a vacancy in the mayor's chair and inability or failure of the council to pick a new mayor, the auditing committee acts.

10,000 ACRES MORE FOR BIG BASIN

The Ocean Shore railroad case, which has been boring court attendants in Oakland for more than two months, brought out as a bit of evidence last Thursday a statement that the state is negotiating for 10,000 acres to expand the state redwood park in the Big Basin, in this county.

The action is an effort of receivers of the defunct-for-23-years railroad to get \$6,000,000 for small portions of its right of way on the San Mateo county coast which are being condemned for use by the Ocean Shore highway.

The railroad receivers seek to justify at least part of the six million they ask by pointing out a stand of timber which the railroad might carry out (if the railroad were still running) in the form of lumber.

The statement of the intended state purchase of 10,000 more acres for the park was by W. P. Thomsen, an evaluation engineer for the state.

NO LOGGING, BUT NO RAILROAD, EITHER

The engineer's testimony was to show that the railroad company could realize no profit from prospective logging operations in the area because of the park project.

He said that the state has available \$550,000 to buy 8,020 acres of timber land from Stanford University, and declared an additional 2000 acres would be acquired from other interests.

He asserted on the stand that the park which will result by adding 10,000 acres to the 13,000 already owned by the state will be one of the most "spectacular natural recreation areas" in California.

The Ocean Shore condemnation case, started in San Mateo eight years ago, went to Alameda county on a change of venue.

INFLATION BATTLE MAY HIT AT HOME

Franklin Delano Roosevelt's positive restrictions of last Thursday on increases in pay will wreck—if they haven't already realized it—the hopes of county and city employes for a general increase in pay envelopes.

In past years both city and county budget makers have been amenable to reason. Pay of the hired help has frequently gone up while that of the heads of departments has stood still for two decades.

Now the War Man Power Commission and the Labor Board have orders to grant permission for no more boosts (except for readjustments inside the little steel 15 per cent formula) and the orders apply to workers paid out of tax money just as much as they do to employes in private industry.

Messrs. Morgan, Pinkham, Lewis and Maddock and Mrs. Rostron will, if the situation does not change in the next three months, find themselves putting salaries at the same level for the 1943-44 bud-

get that they are for 1942-43, no matter how good an argument is put up on the basis of increased price of pork and beans.

THE FLICKERS CAME 47 YEARS AGO

Barney Gurnette, some day when he wants to celebrate the advent of the cinema to Santa Cruz, should walk down the avenue to Laurel street and erect a plaque.

There, south of Laurel street and east of Pacific avenue, stood the rough wooden Palm theater in which, on the evening of December 28, 1896, was shown the "Veriscope," which threw on a screen flickers of a street scene in New York with a fire engine careening past; the New York City parade to celebrate McKinley's election; a railroad train and a bullfight in Spain.

The Veriscope was not calculated to satisfy an audience without an added attraction so it was accompanied by the Veriscope Comedy Company, which presented "Too Much Tomkins." The interest of the audience, however, was for the miraculous invention.

The Palm theater had started life several years before as the pavilion and ballroom of the Santa Cruz carnival. The carnival invariably went in the hole financially, so J. P. Smith, the millionaire, who lived in what is now the McCray Hotel on Beach Hill, bought the structure and launched it as a rival to Knight's opera house upon Park street.

HALF-CENTURY OLD BUSINESS HOUSES

The Sentinel-News is one of 711 concerns of California which have been in continuous existence more than half a century which are mentioned in a new book, "California Business Roll of Honor" which has been printed by the "Ghost Town News."

The "Ghost Town News" is a bi-monthly magazine published at Knott's Berry Place at Buena Vista, which is near Santa Ana.

Editor of both the magazine and the book is Nichols Field Wilson, who is doing a splendid job in his effort to keep alive the spirit and feel of the old west.

Knott's Berry Place, which started out as a berry-growing farm owned by Walter Knott, has expanded from selling pies and jams into a restaurant so notable that patrons wait for tables. The "Ghost Town" magazine is an outgrowth of a museum of California relics established as part of the establishment.

JOHN McELROY WAS FIRE-EATER EDITOR

Concerning the Sentinel-News the publication says:

"When John D. McElroy, of the fire-eating school of journalism, quit his job on the Los Angeles' first newspaper—the Estrella—and went north by schooner to Monterey, he found public sentiment ready to back a weekly paper. Monterey had had the "Californian" several years before, printed on the old Zamorano press of 1835, but it had gone to San Francisco.

"Delos R. Ashley, who later became secretary of state, was looked on as a silent partner, although thirty years later McElroy insisted that Ashley had only loaned the money.

"Type was secured from the Illustrated Sacramento Union. The press was secured by Dr. Randall, the postmaster; no record of its origin exists today other than this.

"Monterey welcomed its newspaper, but in 1856 the thriving lime company of Santa Cruz, across the bay, offered inducements, principally in the form of 88 paid-in-advance subscribers, and free transportation across the bay for the plant. Albion P. Jordan, of Davis & Jordan, 'kidnapped' the old capital's weekly, moving it to Santa Cruz on the company's

schooner "Queen of the West."

"The first issue in Santa Cruz was on June 14, 1856. McElroy, a Democrat with pro-slavery leanings, carried on until 1862. In 1864 Duncan McPherson bought an interest and a few years later became majority owner. The present majority owner is his grandson."

NEWSPAPERS NOTED FOR LONGEVITY

It speaks well for the longevity of newspapers in California that in the list of 711 concerns which have survived half a century of existence, newspapers number 194.

Next is a list of banks (including the County First Savings Bank and the Peoples Savings Bank, both of Santa Cruz) which totals 39.

Department stores (including Samuel Leask and Sons) number 20.

The Cowell Lime and Cement company is listed, as a lineal descendant of the Davis and Jordan company of 1852 in Santa Cruz.

Evergreen cemetery of Santa Cruz is one of two burying places listed as more than 50 years old.

HER SUGAR DIDN'T MEET THE TEST

Story of the week was that of Ronnie Hayes, S.C.H.S. '18 (he's Ronald B. Hayes, general manager of the Spreckles Sugar company now) to the Rotary club Friday noon.

Hayes, as a good sugar man, insisted that chemically and otherwise cane and beet sugar are identical. "But try and make some of the old timers think that!"

A grocer in the sugar beet district of the Sacramento valley delivered 100 pounds of beet sugar to one of his old customers who had ordered the cane variety. She'd used 10 or 11 pounds for her canning before she noticed the legend on the sack and sent it back with upbraids.

The grocer emptied the sugar into a cane sugar sack and returned it to her.

She was perfectly satisfied and her canning was an absolute success until she found her own cup in the bottom of the sack!

HIROHITO AND TOJO TAKE NOTICE

There was the Santa Cruz resident who blew her top when she found the four hoots Thursday were signal for a surprise civilian defense test.

"The idea! It woke me up and I wasn't able to go back to sleep."

THERE'S PRINTERS INK EVEN IN THE ARMY

He's Frederick Douglas Baldwin to the army, but he's still Doug to the Sentinel-News.

Doug, who has been doing a little empee-ing, hurling unauthorized riders off trains, up around Colfax, is back in the old home county and practically in the old job.

Doug left the sports editor's desk at the Sentinel-News. Now he's editing on "Overs and Shorts," the weekly paper at Camp McQuaide. He's with the headquarters company, so he probably won't be shipped out with one of the coast artillery replacement contingents. Which suits Mrs. Doug down to the ground.

STATE CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE PLANNED

While the world is making history the Historical Society of Southern California is planning a post-war celebration of the anniversary of a high spot in California's history.

The H. S. of S. C. proposes statewide observance in 1949-50 of the hundredth anniversary of the state's admission to the union. Its report outlines the plan:

"The plan calls for a Centennial committee composed of members from every one of the fifty-eight counties. In addition there will be