



A Right To Clean Surroundings

Montana's proposed constitution has a right written into it that is contained in few other constitutions in the nation. It is the right to a clean and healthful environment. That subject is discussed in today's final article in a four-part series on the 1972 Constitution. The

setting is Two Medicine Lake in Glacier National Park. It could be any alpine lake in Northwest Montana which has become a family's favorite spot. (Inter Lake photo by Del Lyonais)

Delegate Examines New Constitution

Editor's Note - This is the last of four articles examining Montana's proposed new constitution. Copies of that document will soon be in the hands of every registered voter in the state.

By Les Rickey
The proposed constitution has one clause which could be far-reaching in its effects on people, industry, and the room they take up.

Section 3 guarantees every Montanan the right to a clean and healthful environment. It is probably the strongest stand any state has taken on the nationally prominent issue.

Marshall Murray, rules chairman in the recent Constitutional Convention and a former legislator, said in a press conference on the 1972 Constitution this one issue alone took up much of the convention's time.

"If this constitution is ratified," he said, "people in Montana will have an inalienable right to clean air, clean water, and a healthful environment." Author of the article, in essence, was C. B. McNeil of

Polson, an attorney whom Murray describes as "the only full-time active working environmentalist in this area." McNeil maintains the article is as strong or stronger than statements in any other state constitution.

"This isn't exactly what the environmentalists wanted," Murray said. "They would like a public trust doctrine, and with it they originally wanted the right to sue for environmental reasons. But that causes some special problems."

"No one in the country has the right to sue without having suffered some personal or financial loss," he continued. "We didn't feel we should include that particular thing in the constitution because it isn't a proper right. It would apply to someone, say, from California, who could sue for something going on in Montana."

"We just didn't want to lock this into our constitution for fear of doing something bad, instead of something good," he concluded. "Some of the environmentalists in this state finally agreed with us."

The entire question of environment could well be interpreted as a legislative question, rather than a constitutional one, Murray said. In that respect, he continued, Montana has an excellent track record in recent years.

"We had one of the most progressive legislatures in the United States in the field of environment," he said. "The last legislature enacted nine measures dealing with the environment and they're strong. We now have a very active Board of Health, for instance; so active the governor has had to take a contrary stand against them."

The long-range effects of the right to a clean environment are unclear at this time, Murray said.

"The entire constitution is going to be a matter for the courts to interpret for a long time to come," he pointed out.

"The United States Constitution was written nearly 200 years ago, and the definitions of that document still are being written by the U.S. Supreme Court."

Hibbard Stumps Flathead Area

Henry S. "Hank" Hibbard, Helena, a candidate for the Republican nomination for U.S. Senate, was in Kalispell Wednesday night and Thursday on a campaign trip. Earlier Wednesday he campaigned in Lake County and from here went on to the eastern part of the state in an effort to reach all parts of the state once more before the June 6 Primary Election.

He is encouraged he will win the nomination for former Gov. Tim Babcock's decision not to run and Babcock's "gracious with no strings attached" endorsement of his candidacy. Two issues of concern seem to be paramount to voters this spring, Hibbard said. These are the economy in general with unemployment and cost of living. In this area, he added, there is concern about the future of the timber industry which is basic and a large employer.

The escalation of the war in Southeast Asia is also a major concern. The North Vietnamese invasion at a time when "we were withdrawing our ground troops at a rapid and orderly rate is very disturbing to me. And the alternatives we have are not very attractive. I would hate to see us reverse ourselves and send more ground troops back. The conduct of the North Vietnamese made the bombing resumption necessary for we could not let the invasion go

unretaliated; but how effective it will remain to be seen. At best we can hope it is helping South Vietnam's defense."

Referring to criticism of his attack on the longshoremen and teamsters unions for the prolonged dock strike, Hibbard reiterated his feeling some unions have become too big and their bosses too powerful for the common good. He said Montana suffered millions of dollars of lost income because of the dock strike and its stopping of wheat shipments into foreign markets. "We cannot tolerate this type of abuse of union power to cripple the whole economy of a region or the nation," he said.

He also criticized AFL-CIO president George Meany's resignation from the Pay Board saying price and wage control can work but only if all segments of the economy - including labor - cooperate in good faith to make it work.

Looking past the primaries, Hibbard sees an uphill fight against Sen. Lee Metcalf, who has only token opposition in the primary. "Tradition is against a Republican," he said, "in that we have only had one Republican senator from the state (Sen. Zales Ecton 1946-52) but we are confident we can win and will be working hard toward that end."

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Wholesale Food Prices Drop Sharply In April

WASHINGTON (AP) - The government reported Friday the biggest drop in wholesale food prices in eight months for April, due largely to a sharp decline in meat prices.

In another report, the Labor Department said the nation's total employment and unemployment remained virtually unchanged last month, with the jobless rate holding steady at 5.9 per cent of the work force.

The report on wholesale prices said the average cost of meats, poultry and fish declined 2.9 per cent in April. This was the major factor in an over-all decline of seven-tenths of one per cent for all farm products and processed foods.

Wholesale food prices are generally reflected fairly soon at the supermarket.

The report said a broad range of prices of wholesale raw materials and manufactured products rose three-tenths of one per cent.

All wholesale prices of food and industrial commodities average out to a rise of one-tenth of one per cent, boosting the Wholesale Price Index to 117.5 of its 1967 base of 100. This meant it cost \$117.50 on the average for wholesale goods worth \$100 five years ago. The latest index was 3.7 per cent above a year ago.

The report on jobs said the total number of employed Americans actually rose some 400,000 to 80.6 million and unemployment dropped more than half a million to 4.7 million. But these developments are expected for April and the Bureau of Labor Statistics figured no change in both employment and unemployment on a

Recover Body Of Great Falls Boy From River

GREAT FALLS (AP) - Cascade County authorities recovered Thursday the body of David Rose, 7, missing since March 6 when he was last seen playing on the ice over the Missouri River.

John Ferta, a deputy Cascade County sheriff said a truck driver spotted the body in the water as he drove his vehicle across the Warden Bridge. The body was recovered by the Great Falls Fire Department about three miles from where little David disappeared almost two months ago, the deputy said.

The search for the youth had been hampered by ice and swift currents and had been postponed after a week of unsuccessful underwater operations. The youth was last seen on the ice near the center of the river near a residential trailer court about three miles upstream from Great Falls.

seasonally adjusted basis. The report also said average earnings of nearly 50 million rank-and-file workers—more than half the nation's work force—rose two cents per hour to \$3.59 and increased \$1.10 per week to \$132.83.

The average weekly paycheck was \$8.78 or 7.1 per cent above a year ago. After deduction for the 3.5 per cent rise in

living costs over the same period the gain in purchasing power was a little over \$4 per week.

The report on wholesale prices listed declines of four-tenths of one per cent for dairy products, seven-tenths for sugar and confectionery, two per cent for animal fats and oils and one-tenth of one per cent for vegetable oils and products.

Job Jabber

By Norman S. Beyer
Manager, Kalispell Office
Montana Employment Service

Teenagers Can Be Hired

Contrary to widespread impression, state and federal child-labor laws allow teenagers to work at many kinds of jobs.

Sixteen- and seventeen-year-olds may work full time in most jobs. For example, most manufacturing jobs, most jobs in stores and restaurants, most service jobs, such as in repair shops, laundries, dry cleaners, recreation services, and hospitals. Clerical and office jobs are permitted.

Fourteen- and fifteen-year-olds may work in many jobs outside school hours and during vacations. Some examples are: Office jobs; in eating places; many jobs in stores; some jobs in gasoline service stations; packing fresh fruits and vegetables; jobs on farms (except those occupations determined to be hazardous); household work; newspaper delivery and caddying.

Eighteen years is the minimum age for some hazardous jobs. These include: Driver or helper on motor vehicles; jobs involving the operation of certain dangerous woodworking, metalworking, bakery, and paper products machines; operating elevators and other power-driven hoisting apparatus; most jobs in connection with mining; many jobs in logging or sawmill operations; some jobs in slaughter houses and meat-packing plants; many jobs involved in the manufacture of brick, tile, and kindred products; all jobs in roofing, wrecking, and demolition operations; jobs in explosive plants and jobs involving exposure to radiation.

AGRICULTURE
With the farming season upon us, farmers should know what employment is permitted under child-labor requirements.

Farmers may employ minors 16 years of age and over at anytime in any agricultural occupation. No minor under 16 may be

employed at anytime in an agricultural occupation declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor, except on the farm by his own parents and unless the minor has completed a bona fide training program.

Children under 16 may not be employed in agriculture during school hours, except by parents on the home farm.

Reference has been made to hazardous occupations, of which there are 16. Five of these occupations will be of concern during the summer and fall months. They are:

operating, driving, or riding on a tractor (track or wheel) over 20 belt horsepower, or attaching or detaching an implement or power-take-off unit to or from such tractor while the motor is running; operating or riding on a self-unloading bunk feeder wagon, a self-unloading bunk feeder trailer, a self-unloading forage box wagon, a self-unloading forage box trailer, a self-unloading auger wagon, or self-unloading auger trailer; operating or riding on a dump wagon, hoist wagon, forklift, rotary lift, rotary tiller (except walking type), or power-driven earthmoving equipment or power-driven trenching equipment; operating or unclogging a power-driven combine, filed baler, hay conditioner, corn picker, forage harvester, or vegetable harvester; operating, feeding or unclogging any of the following machines when power-driven; stationary baler, thresher, huller, feed grinder, chopper, silo filler, or crop dryer.

Information pamphlets on the subject of agriculture and non-agricultural occupations relating to child-labor are available at your Montana State Employment Service.

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EFFECT OF WILD OATS ON WHEAT YIELDS

(12 year average on fertilized and unfertilized fields)

Wild Oat Plants/Square Yard	Wheat Yields (bu/A)	Loss Due to Wild Oats (bu/A)
0	27.5	-
10	24.7	-2.8
40	20.6	-6.9
100	16.6	-10.9
160	13.1	-14.4

(Data from University of Manitoba)

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