

# Hahner: Ability Comes Before Issues

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None of the candidates for state representative, position 1, in the 16th Legislative District have had experience in the legislature, so the voters will have to make decisions based on the qualifications and backgrounds of these candidates, says Jeannette Hahner, one of three Walla Walla Republicans running for that post.

Mrs. Hahner, the only woman from either party battling for a legislative position in the 16th District, says she believes qualifications are more important than the stands on issues.

Mrs. Hahner said she would try to "express the views of the people" if elected to the legislature.

"I don't want to go (to the legislature) with pre-conceived ideas," said the candidate. "I have certain principles, but I feel I should seek out people's opinions."

"I can't make promises before I go to the legislature," she added.

Mrs. Hahner, wife of local attorney H. H. Hahner, said she doesn't believe the backgrounds of the other candidates could compare with her wide range of interests and activities.

Mrs. Hahner, who has a doctor of jurisprudence degree from University of Oregon, was a school board member for seven years.

She explained that she was on the board during "a controversial time when the new high school was built." She added that Walla Walla wouldn't have obtained a community college so soon without the new high school.

As a member of the Washington Council of the National

Council on Crime and Delinquency, Mrs. Hahner said she has actively prompted improvements to the criminal justice system.

Mrs. Hahner said she has been actively interested in the areas of mental health and problems of children and families as chairman of the Mental Health Board and a member of the local Family and Child Guidance organization.

The Republican candidate also was appointed by the governor as district chairman of the White House Conference on Children and Youth.

She also served as co-director of the "Meals on Wheels" program in this community. This is a locally supported program to help feed the aged, handicapped and convalescents.

Mrs. Hahner said she thinks her legal training would be beneficial in the legislature where bills come out onto the floor and are argued and changed.

On the subject of prison reform, Mrs. Hahner said it

## Child Receives Minor Injuries

The 15-month-old son of Mrs. Patsy D. Hodge, Rt. 3, Walla Walla was treated for minor head injuries and lacerations Thursday afternoon when the pickup driven by his mother struck a guard rail at the intersection of Highway 124 and the Lower Waitsburg Road.

The child was taken to a private physician for treatment.

The State Patrol said Mrs. Hodge was driving a 1949 pickup and was traveling west on Highway 124, failed to negotiate a left turn onto the Lower Waitsburg Road and struck the guard rail. Damage to the vehicle totaled \$100.

wasn't the legislature's job to run the programs and form policy.

She said the legislature has control in that it appropriates funds for the programs, but the policies generally are "up to the criminologists and the pros in the field."

"There probably aren't many in the legislature qualified to determine that," she added.

The woman candidate indicated prison reforms are necessary to prepare the inmate for life after he was released. But she added that these reforms shouldn't conflict with the safety of the community.

Mrs. Hahner said she doesn't believe the special levy was a "satisfactory way of financing our schools."

"But until we have a better way, I don't think we should abandon our schools," she explained.

She said contrary to a statement made by one candidate, abolishing the special school levy would not cut property taxes in half.

The state income tax may be the "only way to go" for revenue if the people demand services but want cuts in property and sales taxes, said Mrs. Hahner.

About the sales tax, however, Mrs. Hahner said she has met some people against the tax on food and drugs, but others have called it the best tax the state has.

The local candidate said she wasn't sure how she would vote on a proposal to eliminate the tax on food and drugs, and, it would probably depend on the total tax package.

On the subject of equal rights for women, the candidate said women should have economic and legal considerations equal to men.

However, she said she believes persons should be hired on their qualifications for jobs and quota systems shouldn't be imposed.