

PUD ISSUE STORMY PETREL AT SALEM

Conflicting Proposals at Legislature Blamed for Prolonging Session.

SALEM, March 8.—(AP)—When the Oregon legislature began its session 59 days ago today, several bills, all of them designed to quiet the clamor of public power advocates who claimed districts couldn't finance themselves unless permitted to issue revenue bonds, were being carried around in the pockets of would-be sponsors.

One of the bills, senate bill 261, would have permitted the issuance of revenue bonds, while its companion measure, SB262, would have permitted districts, if they so wished, to pay six per cent of their revenues in lieu of taxes levied by private utilities leaving the tax rolls. These measures were introduced by Sen. Lyman Ross.

The next day, February 3, Sen. W. E. Burke introduced a bill to accomplish the same purpose, the measure being SB265.

The principal difference between SB261 and SB265 was that the former measure would enact an entirely new PUD law, while the latter bill would amend the present law.

At a public hearing February 16, public power proponents at last united their forces and agreed that a new measure should be introduced as a substitute for all others. This bill, sent in the next day by Burke, was SB290, and was substantially the same as SB265.

Ross Stands Pat
But the catch in the whole business was that Senator Ross changed his mind and refused to withdraw his bills, SB261 and SB262.

Proponents felt that the Burke bill, amending the present law, was safer because the present law was held constitutional a few weeks ago. They feared that if they repealed the existing law and enacted a new one, they would face a court fight that might hold up creation of districts.

After Ross' refusal to withdraw, the senate railroads and utilities committee began to draw up a new measure by amending Burke's SB 290 and striking the Ross bills.

Tax Parity Inserted
The committee, after hearing proponents say that districts should stand on their own feet and bearing opponents' ideas that it would be unfair to private utilities if districts did not pay similar taxes, wrote in a provision that districts be taxed the same as private utilities.

The committee also provided that districts may levy a total 10-mill tax for 10 years to aid in starting operations, and that they may tax at any time for payment of general obligation bonds. It was this provision that caused Senator Burke yesterday to decide to try to get unanimous senate consent to reintroduce the bill in the house. Burke feared his bill was a revenue measure, all of which must originate in the lower body.

Senate Results
The bill finally reached the senate floor last Friday, but was referred to committee for correction, the all-important tax provisions being left out.

It went back to the senate again Saturday, but was sent back to committee again at Burke's request for minor corrections.

The bill reached the senate for the third time Monday, and the committee sought to have it considered yesterday. But this time it was Senator Ross, whose own bills were killed by the committee, who objected. He had the bill delayed until today, asserting he wanted more time to read the bill.

Prolonged Session
This is the bill that is prolonging the session, longest in history. Tomorrow will be the 60th day of the session and the longest previous session, in 1937, was 59 days. However, some public power advocates don't like the bill as it now stands, their objections being to the tax features.

Charles Carey, acting Bonneville administrator, said it would prevent Oregon from getting Bonneville power for many years. Dr. J. F. Houch, former head of the People's Power League, said he would attempt to "throw the bill in the waste basket" when it gets to the house. This bill is worse than no bill at all. The trouble with it is that the third house (lobbyists) wrote the bill.

VISITOR TALKS ON GOVT. OWNERSHIP

An interesting talk on the subject of government ownership of utilities in Australia was given by Arthur M. Selby at the regular Tuesday luncheon meeting of the Roseburg Kiwanis club. The Kiwanians also were entertained by musical selections by Paul Shanklin, violin; Ralph Karlinger, accordion; and Earl Karlinger, guitar.

NOTICE

To veterans of the Civil War, Mexican War and Indian Wars, and widows receiving unwarmed thereof; veterans of the Spanish-American War and World War who are disabled to the extent of 40 per cent or more, and widows remaining unmarried thereof; notice is hereby given that all claims for tax exemption should be filed in this office by April 1, 1939.

(Adv.) BARTON HELLAWELL,
County Assessor

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CHAMBERLAIN FATE VIEWED IN BALANCE

Future of Premier Linked With Planned Visit of Royal Pair to U. S.

LONDON, March 7.—(AP)—Prime Minister Chamberlain's star will rise or fall on the success or failure of the royal visit to the United States this spring, the Daily Express declared today in a long article headed "do these United States attacks on the royal visit matter?"

The newspaper said United States Ambassador Joseph P. Kennedy "more than any other man" was responsible for the invitation to King George VI and Queen Elizabeth and Kennedy was convinced it would be a success despite the "savage onslaught" attributed by the newspaper to Senator Reynolds (Dem.) of North Carolina.

Embassy sources said Ambassador Kennedy was disappointed only because he was getting the impression the American people did not welcome the royal visit.

These sources said the ambassador had received hundreds of invitations for the king and queen from all over the United States and asserted if these invitations could be seen a different impression would be created in Britain.

(Senator Reynolds discussed the British royal visit in a senate foreign affairs debate Jan. 16.)

"Americans who oppose the visit say we are sending our king and queen to call on them as a begging expedition, an attempt to pull the American into Europe," the Daily Express said.

The paper said it hoped the royal trip was a success; otherwise Chamberlain would be "punished."

DETACHED TRAILER RULED "BUILDING"

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., March 7.—(AP)—Federal Judge R. J. McMillan held today a trailer is a building when it is detached from an auto.

The opinion was in a suit by

MINISTERS PRAISE SCRAP IRON BAN

TRAFFIC DEATHS PUT INTO 7 CATEGORIES

GRANTS PASS.—The Grants Pass Ministerial association today by letters commended the port of Astoria for placing an embargo on shipments of scrap iron to Japan, and asked the port commissioners of Coos Bay and Portland to take similar action.

The resolution, sent to Astoria, declared: "Because we believe that the sale and shipment of scrap iron from the United States to Japan, for the illegal purpose of munitions manufacture, is disgraceful to the United States, when pending to maintain a strict neutrality;

"And, because we believe that the hearts of humanity beat in sympathy with the appeal of the children of China, or any nationality under stress of war; "We, the Grants Pass Ministerial association, wish to express to you, the commissioners for the port of Astoria, our thanks and commendation for your recent humanitarian decision to the effect that no more scrap iron shall load from your port for such alleged and evident war purposes by Japan."

Similar letters to Portland and Coos Bay asked the commissioners to imitate the Astoria embargo.

Several sobering facts stood out as Oregon counted its 27 February traffic dead.

First, that no one type of accident and no one locality can be attacked as the chief offenders in causing loss of life on our highways. Seven distinct types of mistakes contributed to the total, with five of the seven types accounting for two or more lives. Fatal accidents were widely scattered, with death in eastern Oregon, in Multnomah county on the coast and lower Columbia, in southern Oregon and in the Willamette valley.

Second, that speed and carelessness are still the bugbears of all who seek safety on the highways. Three drivers were killed in three different accidents when their vehicles rained into fixed objects. Three other persons were killed in a single collision on the Lower Columbia river highway. Four were killed in non-collision accidents, which seldom occur except where excessive speed sends the automobile off the roadway.

Third, that pedestrians, and particularly elderly pedestrians, must be more alert in crossing streets and highways, and drivers must be more cautious in passing them. Eight pedestrians, six of them past the age of 55, were on the traffic death roll last month.

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SAFE DEPOSIT BOX YIELDS FOUR BOMBS

German Owner Confesses Intent to Disrupt U. S. Rallies During War.

CHICAGO, March 7.—(AP)—The discovery of four sunpowder bombs in a safe deposit box has disclosed, state prosecutors said today, the fearfully guarded secret of a man who planned to use them to disrupt patriotic meetings during the World war.

The bombs were found when the safe deposit company began to move its vaults to another building.

The ownership of the box was traced to Reinhold A. Faust, said Morris G. Meyers, assistant state's attorney. The 74-year-old man, stout and white-haired, was arrested on a charge of possessing and storing explosives in a business district.

Meyers related the strange story told by Faust as follows: "In 1917 he made the bombs with the intention of launching a campaign of terrorism. He was embittered over loss of his postal job and the nation's decision to fight his native Germany.

In 1918 he was sentenced to the Illinois penitentiary on a charge of attempted extortion. He threw away the keys to the box. On his release 14 months later he wanted to withdraw the bombs and destroy them but dared not ask the company to drill open the box.

He decided to guard his secret until death by paying \$10 a year rental for the box. Two weeks ago he received notice that the company intended to move; that box-holders would have to remove their possessions or forfeit them.

"I was wrong," Meyer quoted the man. "I am sorry now. I love this country and I am glad I didn't hurt anyone. I have paid my debt. For more than 20 years I have suffered night and day over this thing."

Faust came to America in 1880 and was soon naturalized. The charge against him is a felony, and conviction carries a penalty of five to 25 years imprisonment.

**EAGLES KILL LAMBS;
ONE OF PAIR SLAIN**

ALBANY, Ore., March 7.—(AP)—Six tiny lambs were carried off

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alive and 15 others killed by a pair of eagles, E. H. Barr, rancher, reported to state police today.

Barr killed one of the marauders and frightened the other away. He told Police Sergeant Earl B. Houston he observed the giant eagles snatch the lambs so quickly he couldn't get his rifle sighted. He

brought one down when it alighted in a tree.

Barr found the torn bodies of 15 new born lambs on his farm five miles northeast of Lebanon.

The slain bird measured six feet from wing tip to wing tip. The survivor was larger.

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