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STATE BUDGET INCREASES

By CHARLES V. STANTON

F. H. Young, of Oregon Business and Tax Research, Inc., speaking Monday at the Chamber of Commerce forum luncheon program, appeared quite concerned with the proposed state budget, which is tentatively estimated at 50 percent more than for the last biennium. Although Mr. Young didn't put himself out on a limb, he left the inference that he feels this proposed budget to be entirely too high.

While we haven't made careful study of estimates of proposed expenditures for the coming two years, we cannot see that a 50 percent increase in the state's budget could be considered excessive. The state has increased approximately 50 percent in population, while the dollar has depreciated in purchasing power. New population imposes extraordinary demands on public finances, particularly with relation to the educational program. Considering, too, that our salary structure in schools has been too low, that buildings and equipment have become obsolete, and that birth records presage a continuing increase in demand for more school facilities for years to come, it would be downright criminal, in our opinion, to neglect immediate requirements and prospective future needs.

Mr. Young also seemed quite concerned with the fact that the Legislature has passed few bills to date. The Legislature caught everyone unawares with the speed and efficiency with which it organized and started its grind. Customarily much time is spent on organization. Consequently few bills were ready for presentation. Committees have been pounding sponsors of major legislation on the back trying to get controversial matters in the hopper. The fault doesn't rest entirely upon members of the Legislature, but rather upon sponsors of legislation for not having their bills ready.

Mr. Young spoke of one proposed change in legislative practice which we believe is worthy of consideration. He suggests that the Ways and Means Committee, Committee on Taxation and other committees having assigned work on taxes and expenditures meet in advance of the Legislature, complete budget studies and prepare tax legislation and thus have these problems in hand by the time the session opens.

Such plan would necessitate a change in pay structure as legislators now are paid only for days actually spent in session.

An arrangement, as suggested, could be worked out if legislators were paid an annual salary, or if authority were to be given for per diem and expenses while serving at committee work.

There is a grave danger that if the salary for legislators is made too high we would suffer in quality of our lawmakers, while opening the door for a political machine. On the other hand, men and women willing to serve the State in a legislative capacity should not be expected to make financial sacrifices amounting to several hundred dollars for each session.

A compromise plan between the present system and a salary set-up might be worked out by allowing each legislator actual living expenses for the period of the session plus a per diem salary for a limited number of days, or while engaged in approved committee work outside the regular session. Thus we would preserve incentive to limit legislative days, at the same time saving lawmakers from personal financial loss.

At present we provide compensation for 50 days only. The 1947 session went 84 days and there are prospects that the present session may last even longer. It is rather unfair to ask senators and representatives to work for the state's welfare while paying their expenses out of their own pockets and with no compensation, while the public at large, pressure groups, organizations of all kinds, professions and trades pour in an accumulation of hundreds of bills. We refuse to pay for more than a 50-day session, and then make it impossible to complete the work in that time.

Record Plywood Production During 1949 is Predicted

TACOMA, Feb. 10.—(AP)—An all-time record production of plywood from Pacific Northwest factories was predicted for 1949 by Charles E. Devlin, managing director of the Douglas Fir Plywood Association, in a report here.

His optimistic analysis was made to some 75 Northwest lumbermen and retail dealers in the first of a series of reports on forest products industries.

"Supply and demand of Douglas fir plywood should be about in balance for the remainder of the year," he said. He estimated the 1949 output to be over two billion square feet, 5 percent over last year's record.

He disclosed, however, that production was substantially off for the first five weeks of this year due to severe freezing conditions, and that plywood manufacturers had experienced a lack of orders throughout the month of January.

He tagged the recent slowdown as "partly seasonal" and partly post war "readjustment," which plywood makers generally feel is now concluded.

Alleged Spy Exonerated, Reinstated in U. S. Job

WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—(AP)—William W. Remington, Commerce Department official whose name was brought into congressional hearings, has been cleared of disloyalty charges and ordered reinstated in his job. A higher ranking department official said the government's top loyalty review board reversed a lower court ruling that there were reasonable grounds for be-



OUT OUR WAY



Do I speak for you, too, when I say THANK YOU to the road crews, the power line crews, the men who drive the huge trucks with supplies, the mail carriers—ah, yes, the mail carriers! What they mean to those of us who have no phone and can't seem to get one—yet! All the people who have been out in this "unusual weather" making things easier for the rest of us!

Let's not forget the wreckers, too. EJ was in the line behind a wreck on 99 that icy Tuesday morning (Feb. 1) and there he stayed for two hours and twenty minutes, until wreckers from as far away as Roseburg and Eugene could SLIDE their way to disentangle the truck-trailer that had included a passenger car, too, in its road-blocking.

It's only three-fourths of a mile to 99 from here, but it's 20 miles if we turn left at our driveway! The other day a tree blocked us off from going down to 99 and as the snow plow had given up about four miles the other way, not able to make the grade there, cars were obliged to either wait or try to buck through the snow and ice "over the hump." But the tree was soon removed.

The only way the trees could

Editorial Comment

From The Oregon Press

THE ENTERING WEDGE?

(The Oregonian)
Relinquishing, for the time being, its proposal to outlaw the use of salmon eggs as bait in lake fishing, the state game commission at its recent session ventured no farther than to apply this ban to Diamond Lake. The action, as summarized at headquarters, would seem to take on additional significance when directly quoted: "The ban on use of salmon eggs, single or cluster, will apply this year only to Diamond Lake."

Is this tacit admission that the commission considers the Diamond Lake problem to be merely an entering wedge?

For the sake of sound democracy—yes, that's the word—the newspaper hopes that salmon egg anglers will protest, and continue to protest, such discriminatory consideration of themselves as something less than honest fishermen, and, of course, not socially fit to associate with the brahmins of fly fishing. We have nothing against fly fishing—it is the best of all possible ways to fish trout, if you believe it to be such, but may we suggest a deal of satisfaction from using salmon eggs. When the barb sinks into the trout's jawbone, do you suppose the poor fish knows the difference? If he does, do you suppose he is aware of his blessed privilege, so to be taken on a dry fly? We think it pertinent to quote from Governor Charles Sprague's statement on vetoing, in his tenure, a measure prohibiting salmon eggs in the McKenzie and Blue Rivers. He said:

"If it is necessary to restrict fishing to keep a stream from being fished out, why not, for once, give the humble bait fisherman a break and raise the barrier on the fly fisherman? If bills like this continue, soon fishing will become not a sport, but a science. No one will be allowed to fish unless he holds a diploma from a fly-casting school, has served a year's internship at Portland's WPA casting pond and carries a certificate attesting his veracity."

At least one member of the present game commission expressed himself as opposed to the proposed salmon egg ban in lake fishing when the regulation later was offered for adoption. Whether his fellow commissioners subsequently voted him down,

or induced him to compromise in the Diamond Lake instance, we have no means of knowing—for adoption or rejection of regulations is performed in the starkest of star chambers. But what he said was, "Gentlemen, this is class legislation." And he was, we are sure, right; rather than fish, fishing is applied democracy. If it isn't this then it isn't fishing—at least not as the Walton understood it. The deadliest lure of them all, the device more deadly than any bait, is the artificial fly.

The Oregon Statesman

Central Oregon residents meeting in Redmond went on record favoring a power dam on the Deschutes, and to heck with the fish. They can use the power and figure there still will be enough river left for their sports fishing. As for salmon, they have little interest in them, except as they get them in cans. It's down at the mouth of the Columbia where concern is felt over the salmon.

Rep. Ben Day is introducing a bill to move downstream on the Rogue a few miles the present ban on dams. In Jackson and Josephine Counties farming and business interests want more water for irrigation. The reclamation bureau's plan "A" will give them water for more land presently dry and more water for lands now under irrigation. This proposal is vigorously opposed by the sports fishing people all over the state.

So we come to head-on collision between keeping part of our country in its present state and the pressures for industrialization. Nature lovers want areas to remain primitive, and those whose business comes from serving recreation seekers support the same idea. The incessant demands for power and water state and federal for irrigation conflict with this primitive area conception.

Somewhat, a settlement will have to be made, probably with concessions on both sides. The Interior Department has ordered a resurvey on the Rogue to see if a compromise plan can be worked out. Meantime, it might be well for the public and for legislators to try to get all the facts and come to conclusions after studying the facts rather than jumping to conclusions on the basis of prejudices.

The slow-growing yew tree is found so often in England because it was once the prized wood in making bows.

Two of Gandhi's Assassins Given Death Sentence

NEW DELHI, Feb. 10.—(AP)—Narayan Godse and Narayan Apte, editor and publisher of a small Poona newspaper, today were sentenced to die on the gallows for the assassination of Mohandas K. Gandhi.

Five of the eight defendants were given life sentences. The aged politician, V. D. Savarkar, who had been described by the prosecution as the brains of the plot against Gandhi's life, was acquitted.

D. R. Badge, a ninth man arrested in the plot, turned state's evidence and was released at the end of the proceedings. The defendants came into the crowded courtroom laughing and joking. When led from the room after the sentences were pronounced they began shouting, with Godse's voice sounding above the others, "we will conquer Pakistan. Long live Hindustan." Then they broke into loud laughter.

Godse, who was seized on the prayer grounds of Birla mansion here the moment of the assassination with a smoking pistol in his hands, was found guilty of five subsidiary charges besides the actual killing of Gandhi. Before reaching the pronouncement of the sentence on the main charge, the judge sentenced him to a total of 19 years imprisonment.

Yellowstone National Park is the oldest and largest national park in the United States, two and one-half times as large as Rhode Island.

Roger L. Bales Given Higher Post as Boy Scout Executive

Roger L. Bales, scout executive of the Oregon Trail Council Boy Scouts, has been named regional scout executive of Region XI, covering Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and Alaska with offices in Portland, effective March 1, announces J. R. Bruckart, council president.

In accepting Bales' resignation Bruckart, speaking in behalf of the council board, expressed regrets, but indicated pleasure in the promotion of Bales in his chosen profession. Since May, 1945, a period just short of four years that Bales has been council executive, membership has increased from 3,323 to 5,142 registered members.

This increase was on top of absorbing a record two years preceding gain for 1943 and 1944 of an even 90 percent increase. Scouts units have increased from 100 to 155, or a gain of 55 percent.

Legislators' Pay of \$600 a Year Recommended to Session at Salem

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR., SALEM, Ore., Feb. 10.—(AP)—The House State and Federal Affairs committee voted 7 to 2 yesterday for a proposed constitutional amendment to pay legislators \$600 a year.

They now get \$8 a day for the first 50 days of each session. The proposal would give them three times as much as they get now.

The senate already has turned down a \$1,200-a-year proposal, but it is considering whether to vote for a smaller amount than that.

Rep. Lloyd Crosby, Milwaukie, author of the measure, told the committee it would result in better legislators because "many able men cannot run for the legislature because they can't afford it."

Organizations which want the death penalty abolished and which want to be heard at the hearing are: Oregon Prison Association, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Oregon Council of Churches, Oregon Council of Church Women, Progressive Party of Oregon, Portland Council of Church Women, Oregon Conference of

Roseburg High Band Pleases Big Audience

Balanced Program Of Ensemble, Solo Numbers Wins Hearty Applause

By DAN MINDOLOVICH
A well-pleased capacity crowd heard the Roseburg High School band in its annual mid-winter concert at the High School auditorium Thursday night.

As white-suited Director C. A. Ricketts indicated the end of each of 14 selections with a bow, spontaneous bursts of applause showered the 72 orange and black uniformed members of the band. Although all selections were well executed, considering the amount of musical training enjoyed by the youthful musicians, the solo numbers were especially well received by the appreciative audience.

"The Three Jacks" number, as performed by Doc Davis, Jim Poirot and Roland Shanklin in a trumpet trio combination, was voted the most popular piece on the program, according to the volume and length of applause. The trio took many bows before the audience was satisfied it had sufficiently voiced its collective approval.

Clarinet solos by Janet Foster and Don Parr proved popular with band patrons, as did Jim Ylvisaker's trumpet rendition of "Pavanne." It appeared that Ylvisaker was struggling with his conscience to keep from "swing-ing" the number, but the stabilizing effect of Ricketts' flashing baton helped in this respect.

Versatile Chuck Plummer made himself heard on both the snare drums and cymbals, as did Michael Coen, with whom he traded quite frequently during the program.

Few "fluffs" were noted during the course of the musical show and after the band was permitted to loosen up during the "Three Jacks" number, the music appeared to take on a more confident air.

At the termination of the program, Director Ricketts allowed the band to "take off" "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean," "Tiger Rag," and "China Boy." The band "took off" with dispatch.

At this point, the musicians became increasingly "red hot" and there was no stopping them. Director Ricketts left the stand to parley with a photographer, after which someone in the clarinet section picked up the melody on "Darktown Strutters Ball." The balance of the band took it from there and a good portion of the departing crowd suddenly reappeared, as if drawn by a magnet.

Three or four more ad-lib selections followed, before the photographer had his equipment set up. Most comments by those who attended the performance were to the effect the band should not wait so long between concerts. Other comments were that Roseburg will be well represented at the Portland Rose Festival this summer.

VA Will Limit Tuition Fees for War Veterans

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The Veterans Administration plans to limit the tuition fees that may be charged war veterans at public schools below the college level. The agency said that after March 1 certain schools will be required to negotiate tuition contracts with the government "to cover payment on a fair and reasonable basis."

The VA statement said that "in the past, VA learned that some non-profit schools were claiming

tuition for veterans in excess of instructional costs.

"Rates charged by some of the non-profit public schools, in fact, were higher than rates charged by profit schools offering similar courses."

The new regulations will apply to schools established since passage of the G. I. bill in June, 1944, or to those which have raised their charges since that date by more than 25 percent or have added new and unrelated courses.

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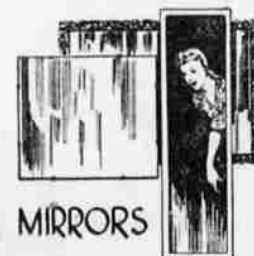
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