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Just like the good old days

Photo by John Dong

Offering a congenial air and lower prices makes the West End General Store an attractive alternative for shoppers. The co-operative business uses all-

volunteer labor and bulk purchasing to keep prices down. An in-depth story explains the new attempt at an old idea on Page 12.

Board decision cuts University budget surplus

Spring term biology and chemistry labs may be greatly affected by a surprise Jan. 6 decision of the Oregon Emergency Board which eliminated an expected \$159,000 from the University budget.

The ASUO announced Sunday that it will begin an immediate lobby at the new Oregon legislature for emergency funds to make up for the deficit.

The \$159,000 was part of a surplus \$1,300,000 which the Oregon university system had accumulated over and above its projected 1974-1975 budget.

\$800,000 of the surplus was due to tuitions from a higher than expected fall term enrollment. The remaining \$500,000 was a surplus from chancellor's budget estimates which proved to be too high.

The Emergency board decided to allocate the \$800,000 of tuition to the nine institutions on the basis of \$507 per student above enrollment estimates.

The remaining \$500,000 was kept as a hedge against inflation and higher tuitions in the 1975 school year. The chancellor's budget office had expected this money to be allocated to the school's at the rate of \$10 per student.

"We were optimistic about getting the money," said Ralph Sunderland, budget director. "But I guess when you're sitting in Salem you see things differently."

Although surprised, Sunderland was not dismayed by the decision but immediately began to look for areas to further cut the budget.

The \$159,000 which UO had expected was to have been a part of the inflation-ridden Supplies and Services Budget. This includes fuel, which has increased six times in cost within 18 months, and lab chemicals, which have doubled in cost in one year. Since fuel consumption is fairly stable, economizing must come in other areas. "We're here because of instruction," Sunderland said.

"Support of classes should be first. Some maintenance and areas of labs and guest lectures would probably be first to go."

Robert Albrecht, dean of the college of liberal arts, saw a slightly dimmer prospect for labs. "It's too early to tell anything specific, but I think it's fair to say that we may have to cut back severely on lab classes."

"Even if we do have this problem, though, it will only be for the last part of this year. When the legislature appropriates our budget for 1975-1977 they will include an inflation clause which should eliminate this kind of problem."

The only way to get any additional money appropriated now will be through the Senate Ways and Means Committee. Darrel Murray, ASUO officer for local State and Federal affairs, will be in Salem to gauge the chances of success.

Meanwhile the ASUO will try to gauge the effect the ruling will have on all the other schools and prepare a factual argument for presentation to the legislature as soon as possible.



Straub, legislators take places at capitol

By MIKE DOLAN
Of the Emerald

The Oregon Legislature in Salem has been hibernating since June of 1973 when the 57th bi-annual session ended. But the halls of the capitol—and the rest of the city—have been active since the beginning of the year in anticipation of the formal awakening today when Governor-elect Bob Straub and 90 state legislators are sworn in.

The session has no formal terminating date but it is expected to be debating, voting and listening to citizens about bills, resolutions and memorials until about the middle of June.

The 58th Legislative Session begins with two new faces in the three most important positions. Democrat Bob Straub has replaced Republican Tom McCall and Phil Lang, Portland, and insurance salesman, replaces Dick Eymann as House Speaker.

Only Jason Boe, D-Reedsport, an optometrist, returns as Senate President. These three men will be the ones who guide bills through the Legislature with compromises, promises, appointments and strong expressions of opinion.

Another new face in Salem will be Dave Frohnmayer, R-Eugene. Frohnmayer is a University Law professor and was elected in November to represent two neighborhoods just south of the campus. He will be joined in the House of Representatives by Mary Burrows, R-Eugene,

who represents the campus, and Nancy Fadeley, D-Springfield. The West Eugene area will be represented by Grattan Kerans, D-Eugene, also a new law-maker.

Eugene returns two veterans to the State Senate, George Wingard, a Republican, and Ed Fadeley, a Democrat.

One of the most pressing problems for the local area legislators will be field burning. The deadline for the open field burning ban has passed and environmentalists and seed growers have been debating sharply on whether the ban should be extended.

The consensus among legislators this year is that the most pressing overall problem will be finances. In 1973, the Legislature established many new programs and commissions. But this year money is tighter, and new taxes would not be popular so the law makers will probably spend much of their time examining already established programs.

Here are some of the other issues the Legislature will be dealing with in 1975:

—The Land Conservation and Development Commission (LCDC) will be looking for more funds. The LCDC is designing a comprehensive, statewide land use plan which is not supported by some land developers.

—Professors from Oregon's public colleges and universities will be looking for the right to collective bargaining. Collective bargaining, extended to high school and grade school teachers two years ago, allows employees to have as much say in final pay decisions as employers.

—The Revenue Committee has suggested a new

timber tax formula which shifts some of the property tax burden from homeowners to the timber industry.

—Rep. Stephen Kafoury, D-Portland, says he will introduce a bill extending the liberalization of Oregon's marijuana law to growing and transporting as well as smoking.

—Each year the Legislature grapples with the problems of state support of local public schools. Basically is a money issue. The state pays about 30 per cent of local school costs and many legislators would like to see an increase to 50 per cent.

—The state of the State's economy will be an overriding concern to all law-makers like it never has before. Not only is the state government itself running an unexpected deficit, but the private sector is suffering from numerous mill closures which contribute to an 8 per cent-plus unemployment rate.

—The homeowner-renter property tax rebate program expires this year and law-makers will have to decide if they want to extend it.

—No-fault insurance may become an issue if the federal government continues to avoid the situation.

—Higher Education, always the final budget item, will be lobbying strongly for help in fighting inflation.

These are a few of the major issues that will take most of the Legislature's time and effort. But many more bills will reach the House and Senate chambers including bills on licensing of mechanics, extending the bottle bill to apply to wine bottles and eliminating sex discrimination public school text books.