

Straub bills could generate crucial state energy policy

Editor's note: Mike McLain, state politics editor, will cover this year's legislative session full-time with the help of Emerald reporter Mary Beth Bowen. In the following article, McLain looks at the issue of energy and what the '77 Legislature can be expected to do with problems facing Oregon's energy needs.

By MIKE McLAIN
Of the Emerald

One of the most crucial and controversial issues facing the 1977

houses sold with veterans' loans to meet new state insulation standards.

• Minimum lighting standards for public buildings, including nearly all commercial and business establishments and portions of factories open to the public.

His fourth bill, calling for formation of a Domestic and Rural Power Authority, is aimed at reducing costs to subscribers of private utilities to the same level enjoyed by public utilities customers.

Currently, a preference clause of the Bonneville Power Adminis-

tration (BPA) gives public utilities preferred access to inexpensive federally generated hydroelectric power. Private companies must buy their power from other sources or generate their own, driving prices up.

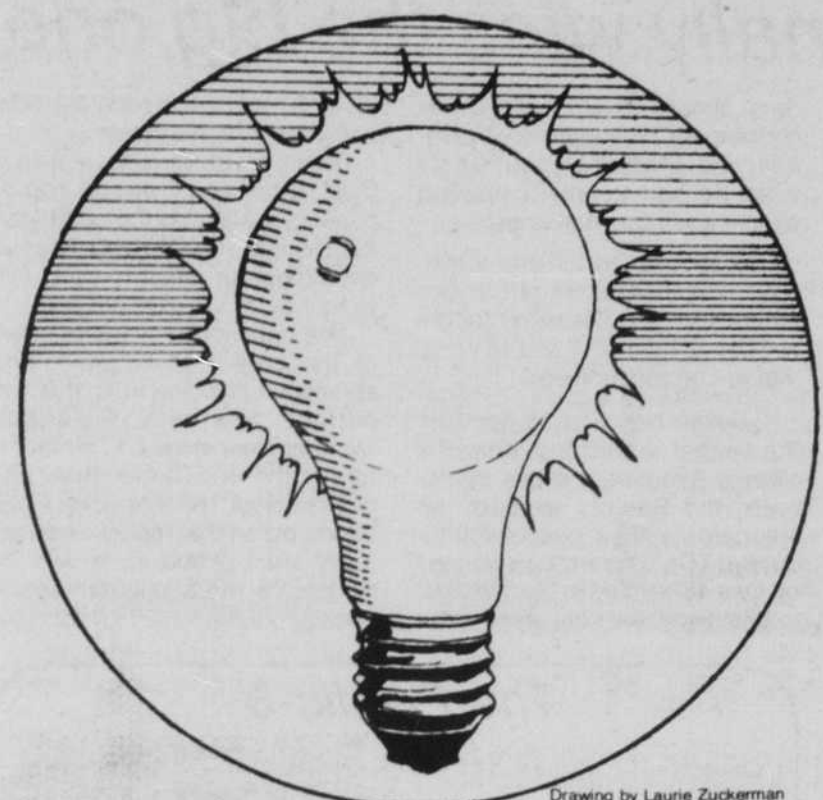
Both houses, she says, can be expected to introduce bills providing funds for research and development of non-nuclear alternate energy sources such as geo-thermal.

While the battle lines on specific legislation have yet to be drawn, the fight appears inevitable, and the energy policy issue should generate a lot of heat.

Two groups who led the fight for passage of the Nuclear Safeguards Act in the November elections, The Oregon Environmental Council and Oregonians for Nuclear Safeguards, are expected to continue the battle for further regulation during the session.

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Drawing by Laurie Zuckerman

Oregon Legislature will be the formation of a state energy policy.

Gov. Bob Straub has listed formation of a policy as a top priority, and as the Legislature convenes today, his four major energy bills are the only firm energy proposals facing the body.

Rep. Nancie Fadeley, D-Springfield, who was reappointed chair of the House Environment and Energy Committee Friday, calls the Straub bills "modest but meaningful" and predicts their passage. But she also expects a number of energy bills to come out of the Legislature.

The Straub bills are aimed at reducing both energy consumption and cost.

The three conservation bills, which Straub says will reduce state energy usage by five per cent over the next ten years, call for:

- A public and private utility-supported house insulation program.
- A program requiring all

Daisie wilts robbers' valor

GALVESTON, IND. (AP) — Nobody tangles with Daisie Goldsberry and gets away with it. Two teenagers from this tiny northern Indiana community learned that lesson Friday night.

State police said the youths broke into the home of the 92-year-old Mrs. Goldsberry, grabbed her butcher knife and demanded all her money.

Not one to scare easily, Mrs. Goldsberry picked up a coal stove poker and held off the would-be robbers for almost an hour, police said.

One of the youths left and was picked up by police later. The other was arrested at the scene. No money was taken.

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