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Next week is gonna be one of them weeks. All kinds of things happening... and there's even some over-lapping. Take Monday night as an example. The port commission meets at 8 p.m. at the city hall. At the same time, the school budget committee will meet in the Pacific high school library. Monday is also Presidents Day.

On Tuesday, the American Legion and auxiliary meet at 8 p.m. The same night, there will be a special meeting of the school board at 8 p.m. in the high school library to discuss the bond defeat and consider the future of Battle Rock school. The Historical Society will also meet in the Gold Beach high school, at 7:30 p.m.

On Wednesday, the Rotary Club is sponsoring a spaghetti feed and musical entertainment program by students, out at the high school. The dinner starts at 6 p.m. and the program at 7:30. There'll also be some door prizes for lucky winners. Proceeds of the event will go to the school music department. There is gonna be a meeting in Gold Beach, at the fairgrounds, the same night, at 8 o'clock, featuring Wilbur Terynik, head of OCC&DC.

I guess what you do is take your pick... there's bound to be something for everyone.

It's getting to be kind of tricky to keep up with things these days. The last time I received the "Business Barometer" column, declaring that Oregon was fairing better than the nation in the current economic crunch. Then Monday I received a release from the State Employment Division stating that the state's unemployment rate had jumped to 8.5 per cent... the highest level since May of 1958... from December's 7.3. What it'll be by the time this is published is anybody's guess. Only thing I can say is to hang in there, things should catch up with themselves one of these days.

How'd all you local folks like to see a power boost in your television reception off the translators maintained by North Curry Recreation? That'd mean a brighter, clearer picture on the tube. All it takes is a little "HELPE," says a member of the NCR board... and that is in the way of your \$10 annual membership dues. The translator is now operating on one watt of power, and that can be boosted if enough of you kind tv watchers kick in with your dues.

They can be paid at Western Auto, McNair Hardware, Port Orford Variety, or by mailing to NCR, care of Mabel Knight, Star Route Box 46, Port Orford.

The Headquarters for the 13th Coast Guard District is moving Feb. 24 and they'll have some new phone numbers, to wit: Telephone Information, 206 442-5295; Public Affairs Office, 206 442-5895; Recreational Boating, 206 442-7355. The emergency number will remain the same (for Seattle) 206 284-2361. The new address is: Commander, 13th Coast Guard District, Federal Building, 915 Second Ave., Seattle, Washington 98174.

To set the record straight, the gentleman preparing to draw a blood sample from the arm of Mabel Knight (News photo of Feb. 2) is not a Bay Area Hospital technician. In fact, he is Don Williams, head and associate director of McCowan's Medical Lab in Coos Bay, and a director of the medical lab at Curry General Hospital. So there.

There'll be a short course for Christmas tree growers Feb. 20-21. Registration will be on the 20th, from 10 a.m. to noon, at Salishan Lodge, south of Lincoln City. A fee of \$10 will cover both husband and wife, or other family member representing one tree farm, and special room rates are available at the lodge. More information on the program and reservation requirements may be obtained by calling 753-9166. Ask for Gary Sander.

Are you one of them newspaper clippers and savers... who have always wondered how to preserve them clippings... other than keeping them in a dark place? Well there's a way to do it, says the Arkansas Press Ass'n., and it's recommended by the New England Document Conservation Center in North Andover, Mass. And here's their method:

Put one crushed milk of magnesia emulsion into a quart bottle of carbonated water (club soda), recap the bottle tightly and let it stand overnight in the refrigerator. Pour the solution into a shallow pan big enough to hold the clippings unfolded. Add the clippings, making sure each is well saturated before adding the next one. Let them soak for two hours, then remove them one at a time and dry them on blotters of paper towels. The solution cannot be reused. If the news paper has colored ink, test it first by dipping a small piece of cotton in the solution and applying it to the ink to see if it runs. Happy preserving, ya'll.

The Coos-Curry Council of Governments will meet tonight at 6:30 p.m. at the Thunderbird Inn in Coos Bay, to hear reports, take care of some old business and act on 10 "Notices of Intent."

Bet you didn't know this; according to the Oregon State Travel Information Unit of the State Highway Division, the peak travel season of May through October saw an increase of .7 per cent over 1973... with the Brookings Information Center up 10.5.

Got a note from Pacific high that there has been two

Business Barometer

Oregon Rides Storm Better Than Nation

Oregon is riding out the economic storm a bit better than the nation as a whole and much better than neighboring states. Because of its inherent strengths, it may be one of the earliest regions to recover during 1975, according to U.S. National Bank's Business Barometer, prepared by Dr. Edward W. Reed, senior vice president and economist for the state-wide firm. The Barometer has been published quarterly by Reed since 1964.

U.S. Bank's Index of Business Activity stood at 154.3 at year end, only one per cent above the same mark last year. Activity was stable until mid-year, but then began to slide, with the wood products industry suffering the most. With interest rates continuing to turn down during the first half of 1975, and mortgage activity spurring housing starts, the wood products industry could lead the state's economic revival.

THE GENERAL OUTLOOK... The effects of a rise in the price of energy supplies will be felt before any stimulation of a tax cut can be realized, according to Reed. The turn-around should occur by mid-year. The Consumer Price Index should decline at a slower rate than preferred during the first half due to upward pressure on oil prices. Cost of many products will increase to meet pollution, health and safety standards, also slowing recovery.

The Federal spending--and borrowing--at an uncontrolled rate could be a major factor which might slow a gradual economic recovery, according to Reed. Because of this, particular concern should be shown to President Ford's latest budget plans.

EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT... Oregon's job performance has differed greatly from past recessions. Average employment for the year was up two per cent over 1973, showing the state's biggest strength: diversification of industry. In years past, recessions have always meant major losses in employment. For 1974, Oregon did more than keep pace. Key "plus" factors in employment were in primary metals, fabricated metal products, electrical equipment and supplies, transportation equipment, finance, insurance and services.

Unemployment has also increased, but at a rate lower than other western states. Oregon's unemployment increased since mid-summer to a high of 7.6 per cent, then slid slightly in December to 7.3 per cent. At year end, Washington was 8.3 per cent and California stood at 9 per cent. Our state will continue to perform a bit better as more recent figures become available. Unemployment exceeded 10 per cent in Oregon counties heavily dependent upon lumber. In Portland, where about half of the state is employed, the unemployment rate was only slightly over 6 per cent, the lowest in Oregon.

WAGES RISE; SAVINGS INCREASE... Both weekly wages and personal income of Oregon workers increased to record levels during 1974, more than 11 per cent over last year, compared to a national rise of 8.9 per cent.

Credit pressures began to ease by October and interest rates began to come down. Reflow of funds into financial institutions began. Deposits of savings in commercial banks increased as consumers adopted more conservative spending patterns. Deposits in savings and loans increased at a slower rate, but mortgage lending remained aggressive. Continuing interest rate improvement and active mortgage lending will become keys to increased housing starts and the beginning of a state-wide economic upturn.

AGRICULTURE PICTURE GOOD... Led by the grain industry, Oregon's agriculture sector income exceeded \$1 billion for the first time in history during 1974. Livestock, dairy and poultry product income were off about 20 per cent, with the beef industry in the most difficulty. Good weather and good range and feed conditions could improve prospects for the beef industry, though the outlook for crop producers will continue even greater. Unknowns in field burning and the lure of high cash grain crops, could put greater pressure on the grass seed and food processing markets, respectively.



Salem Scene

by Jack Zimmerman

Legislative Pages Predate Modern Lawmaking Process

Each time lawmakers meet in Salem to solve the many problems facing state government in Oregon, a small body of young people labor along with Senators and Representatives -- largely unseen and little noted outside innermost legislative circles.

The group is comprised of pages employed by both House and Senate. Consisting of both young men and women, legislative pages enjoy the dubious distinction of occupying the lowest rung on the Legislature's payroll ladder. But lawmakers agree the functions they perform are essential to the orderly and efficient operation of the lawmaking body.

While origin of the term is obscure, pages predate modern parliamentary procedure and at the same time owe their existence today to the system refined in Britain and later adopted in this country.

Most scholars agree pages evolved during the Middle Ages along with knighthood and chivalry. Even then pages were lowest in medieval pecking order. They were young boys, assigned with older youths called squires, to attend the needs of a knight. Pages in those days -- after suitable training -- could rise to the rank of squire and eventually attain knighthood.

Even in their lowest station they often were exposed to court procedures of the reigning monarch. And in Britain,

as Parliament evolved and the initial House of Lords was made up largely of titled knights, pages found themselves accompanying their masters and assisting them during the lawmaking process.

In these days as those, their duties remain remarkably similar. In modern jargon, they might be referred to as "gofers," theatre slang for those whose major function consists of going for one thing or another for anyone from whom they draw their pay.

Pages in Oregon's House of Representatives this session are paid \$467 monthly and those who serve in the Senate receive a \$490 monthly stipend. There are six in the House and 15 in the Senate, although some in the Upper Chamber work only part time and others enjoy administrative status with slightly higher remuneration. Nearly all are in their teens and the division between sexes is almost equal.

They work eight hours daily, five days a week and quickly learn running errands for lawmakers requires legs, feet and footwear able to withstand extensive marble pounding throughout Capitol corridors. Readily visible when both Houses are in session, they busily deliver the notes by which solons communicate amongst themselves. When sessions end, they constantly scurry between offices, hear-

changes in the freshman basketball schedule. Tonight's game has been changed from playing at Pandion to playing here, and an additional game will be played on Monday, Feb. 17, with Powers here. The remainder of the schedule is the same.

ing rooms, other agencies and wherever a lawmaker needs something delivered or returned posthaste.

In the process, these young people are exposed to the inner workings of the State Legislature and few take the job for the money. Most have some interest in government and politics. And though partisanship is strictly forbidden, it is not uncommon for a page to be honing expertise that will one day enable him to win a legislative seat and -- among other things -- be in a position to summon a page to do his bidding.

Former pages serving in Oregon's 58th Legislature include Reps. Stan Bunn (R-Dayton), Jeff Gilmour (D-Jefferson) and Harvey Akeson (D-Portland).

Bunn, now serving his second term as a lawmaker, paced in the House in 1965 and served as a mailroom clerk during the '67 session. He credits his experience as a page for sparking an interest in public service that led to election in 1972. He admits it was quite a thrilling transition from paging for the likes of a Stafford Hansell (retired, R-Hermiston), to serving with him in 1973.

Rep. Gilmour admits he applied for a position as page in 1964 after flunking a course in political science at Oregon College of Education. He served as a legislative security guard during the '71 session and won his first term as a House member for the '73 session.

Rep. Akeson paced the Senate in 1959 after working in then-Sen. Alice Corbett's election campaign the year before. The experience prompted him to seek election to the legislature successively from 1960 until he finally made the grade for his first House term during the '69 session. Now in his fourth term, Rep. Akeson has a particularly warm spot in his heart for pages as he performs the exacting duties of House Chairman of Joint Ways & Means Committee.

Other former pages in the Oregon Legislature include Sue Swearingen, '63-'65, now the wife of Congressman Les AuCoin. Bill Deiz, ABC-TV newsman in Los Angeles, paced the House in 1965. Dave Barrows, widely known savings and loan industry lobbyist, was a page in '55-'57 and Mike Bateson, now working for the Association of Oregon Counties, also paced the Oregon Legislature.

Phyllis Rand, wife of Salem city councilman Dewey Rand, paced in the Senate in '69, was a mail room clerk in '73 and is Senate receptionist this session. David Cromwell, another familiar name in the mid-Willamette Valley, paced the House in '49 and ran for legislative office unsuccessfully several times afterward. The list of notable former pages stretches back many years and would be even longer if it included former legislative doorkeepers and assistant sergeants-at-arms, who also perform errand-running functions when lower pages are otherwise occupied.

Rep. Earl Blumenauer (D-Portland) summoned a page early this session and expected a petite young lady or downy-cheeked youth to answer his call. Regular pages were busy, however, and authorities sent a hulking and rather more mature Paul Nosbisch of Eugene (technically a door-keeper-page).

Suddenly aware of Nosbisch's presence towering beside him, a surprised Rep. Blumenauer looked up and



TO THE EDITOR:

Blanco 7th grade coach Larry Johnson was quoted as saying that the Powers junior high people have "class". This reporter heartily agrees. To my knowledge, they were the first school during the basketball season to provide the Eagles with a box of towels with the visiting school's name on it. Their cheerleaders were the first to introduce themselves individually to the Blanco rally squad and try to strike up a friendly acquaintance. Youngsters within the town were unusually polite in giving me directions to the high school. One referee had enough knowledge about a Powers player to suggest that he must live there, but he wasn't guilty of "hometown" decisions. The scoreboard clock worked and didn't stop when the Wolfpack had the ball; something Blanco hasn't experienced anywhere. Rather comically, a group of Powers girls (should they be called Powers models?) cheered and whistled when one sturdily-built Eagle entered the floor for pregame practice. Evidently they regarded him as a teenage idol comparable to Donnie Osmond.

Wolfpack 7th grader Fred Smith showed courage in working off a leg injury late in the 8th grade game and returning to lead the Wolfpack to their overtime victory. As the second tallest Powers player, he may well be their most valuable.

In correction to my statement in the January 30 article, Steve Price's coach reports that he is "only a shade over six feet", not six foot three as stated.

Powers is an isolated community with perhaps limited entertainment facilities, so folks of all ages attend the basketball games. During their overtime rally, gents in their seventies rejoiced. A 9 or 10 year old lad near me stomped his feet after every Wolfpack basket with eyes gleaming. He looked so healthy and happy that one could believe he takes vitamins five times a day and cures, rather than spreads, flu germs when in contact with others.

It was impossible not to like these people. The overtime defeat, especially, was hard to take but, for me, was more tolerable against Powers than it would have been against anyone else Blanco has played.

Sincerely,
ED ORR
Port Orford

Obituaries

Fred W. Bullard

Funeral services were held

quipped: "I asked for a page and they sent me a whole chapter."

The Portland Legislator's remark was in no way intended to demean the status or stature of pages serving this Legislature. He knows as well as any other that today's page may be tomorrow's lawmaker.

WEAVER

REPORTS TO THE DISTRICT

CONGRESSMAN JIM WEAVER

JUNKETS

It was junket time in Congress this week with juicy morsels being passed around. A feast of trips was being offered. Would you like to go to London? Spend a weekend in the palace of the Duke of Sutherland? On business, of course. Meet with members of the House of Commons.

Or perhaps you would prefer the Virgin Islands? Warm winds and clear waters awaited in that tropical paradise. But be prepared to work. Beach erosion must be investigated. Possibly certain species of fish were endangered. Certainly the quality of the fruit punch would be placed under scrutiny.

The big jets to carry you to these places were waiting at the airport. The expenses to be paid by the most benevolent philanthropist of them all, the U.S. taxpayer. Irresistible? Hundreds of Representatives clamoring and fighting for a spot?

No. Almost no one accepted. There were a few wistful glances, yes. But the few days we have now to go back to the hustings to listen to our constituents must be spent doing just that. For you, dear, powerful voter, have spoken. Your anger has been heeded. In other words, you have scared the hell out of the politicians and all I can say is, don't let up. Keep 'em scared. You might even get a fair shake for yourself, and don't just stop with junkets.

If there is one universal sentiment back here, it is the desire for a pay raise. You would like one too, you'll have to admit. You're probably not going to get one, but then, neither is the Congress.

There is, of course, a difference; you have to ask the boss for your raise, and the Congress can pass itself a raise anytime it feels like it. But there is one thing a Congressman likes better than a raise in pay, and that is re-election. Say what you will about your representatives, they are quite intelligent and have strong instinct for survival. A vote for a pay raise would be like joining Daniel in the lions den. I doubt if even the Lord could save them.

On the other hand, a pay cut is not in the cards. I'm for it. I can't think of anything better the Congress could do to restore a feeling of fair leadership in this nation than to give itself a pay cut. But don't count on it. After all, your representatives are just human -- like yourself.

Chamber Names Jubilee Head

Feb. 5 at the Gold Beach Funeral Home Chapel for Fred William Bullard, 76, who died in his home Feb. 2. Rev. Leon George of the Brush Prairie Pentecostal Church of God, Port Orford, officiated. Interment followed in the Gold Beach Cemetery.

Mr. Bullard was born June 19, 1898, in Alpha, Wash. From 1951 to 1959, he and his wife, Derdia, operated the Battle Rock Cafe here.

Survivors are his widow, Derdia; two stepsons, Vincent Buck Curtis and Sheridan Shorty Curtis, all of Gold Beach.

Arrangements were by Gold Beach Funeral Home.

TRY A CLASSIFIED

the Ripper Review

An informal weekly wrap-up of the Oregon State Legislature

BY STATE SENATOR JACK RIPPER

This week I would like to talk a little bit about the tone of the Legislature. I have never seen as serious a group of legislators before. I believe that it is because they are so concerned about Oregon's economy.

This serious attitude is being reflected in the large volume of work that is being done here in Salem. There were more bills referred to committee during the first three days of this session than during the first three weeks of the 1973 session. The Ways and Means Committee, of which I am the chairman, also shows this increased activity. There were 37% more bills referred to the Ways and Means Committee during the first three weeks of this session than during the first three weeks of the last session.

But more important than that, there has been a 1,200% increase in the number of bills sent to the floor of the House or Senate by the Ways and Means Committee.

Even with all of this activity, your State Legislature is still the best bargain that you have in government. It costs the average Oregonian far less per year to have a legislature than to buy a carton of cigarettes.

Even at that, the Legislature still takes much of the blame for the high costs of government. Actually, your Legislature only costs you one-half of one percent of the entire cost of government.

During the past few columns, I have talked mostly about the Ways and Means Committee. But there are some issues before the other committees that I serve on that you need to know about.

The Senate Revenue Committee is getting ready to look at the timber tax system in Oregon. I am sure that this session will see a major reform of the timber tax system. There is a move going on now to replace the present taxing method with a yield or severance tax.

We need to reform the tax system for a number of reasons. First, the timber taxes have not brought in as much revenue as they should have. This is because of the present appraisal system.

Under the current tax system, timber does not go on the tax rolls until it is 12 inches at eye level. Timber of the future will be harvested between 12 and 20 inches. If you measure by the 1000 board feet at the trucking point, you will have a more accurate record and be able to collect all of the money due.

The second reason for changing the system is Tax Equity. By reforming the tax system so that the timber producers pay their fair share of taxes, we will be able to reduce the tax burden on the other segments of society. That should be good news for everyone in this time of inflation.

The big issue before the Senate Environment and Energy Committee concerns recycling. The committee is considering a package of bills which would extend Oregon's famous Bottle Bill to include almost all food and beverage containers.

No one doubts that such a move would be good for the environment. But there is a real question about the costs of such a move. Oregon's first Bottle Bill made all soft drink and beer containers returnable. This led to a sharp decrease in litter and a sharp increase in the amount of bottles returned to the store. But it also led to a sharp increase in the amount of work that the stores had to do to cope with the large number of bottles that were coming in.

The first Bottle Bill worked because most pop and beer distributors already had a recycling process and they were not located a great distance from the market.

Presently, many stores are using all of their storage space to store the bottles that are being returned to them. If all food containers were returned to the stores, they would probably have to build large additions and hire extra staff to count, sort and handle all of the food cans and jars that would come in.

A better way of recycling would be to establish recycling centers at all dumps. These centers could separate paper, metal, glass and garbage. We could also make money on the glass and metal.

I hope that we start a few pilot dumps of this nature very soon. A vote has not come up on the bills extending the Bottle Bill yet. Because of the reasons that I've already stated, I don't think that it will be very well received. Whatever the outcome, I'm sure that the committee will not lose its keen interest in recycling.

SPAGHETTI DINNER And ENTERTAINMENT

PACIFIC HIGH SCHOOL CAFETERIA

WEDNESDAY

FEB. 19

DINNER 6-7:30 - ENTERTAINMENT 7:30-9

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