

# Many New State Officials Assume Positions During Year

## MEIER MAKES MANY CHANGES

Friends who Aided in Last Political Campaign are Given Jobs

By CLAYTON V. BERNHARD  
The influx of new faces and the fading out of familiar ones in the official family as the new administration operated during the past year have been numerous, but perhaps not any more so than is usual every four years in Salem. The seat of state government is becoming accustomed to these periodic changes in its citizenry, yet with each change there comes a certain amount of uneasiness among those who are still on the payroll. But this again is customary in political assignments.

With the ascendancy of Julius L. Meier, merchant prince of Oregon, to the governorship, came also the new appointees to various departments. However, these appointments did not come at once, and it was several months before any noticeable changes became effective. The alteration has been gradual and has continued throughout the entire year.

Succeeds Norblad  
Governor Meier took office on January 12, succeeding Governor A. L. Norblad who served a few weeks over one year. Norblad, became governor upon the death of Governor I. L. Patterson in December 1929. Upon the arrival of Meier, the atmosphere in the executive offices was completely changed, to one of more dignity and formality, but nevertheless with a welcoming attitude toward all visitors. The offices became one of a business man rather than of a politician, and the difference was sensed immediately.

The new governor admitted upon taking over the reins of government, that he was not a politician, but it was not long before it was realized that if he had no knowledge of politics, his shrewdness as a business man was an excellent substitute, or that he had some keen political advisers. His activities, whether intentional or not, brought public acclaim and support of the administration over the state appeared to increase.

When Meier came to Salem at the beginning of the legislative session, he brought with him his campaign manager, Henry Hansen, to act as his political advisor. Hansen occupied a desk in the executive offices during the legislative session. After the session the governor made room for Hansen by accepting the resignation of Sam Koser, state budget director, and placing Hansen in that office, which adjoins the executive's. Since that time Hansen has played the dual role of budget director and advisor to the governor.

T. B. Kay Dies  
The state board of control, consisting of the governor, secretary of state and state treasurer, all elective, was virtually controlled by Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state and Thomas B. Kay, treasurer, when Meier took office, and the executive soon found he was in the minority in most instances which he attempted to further. But fate intervened the last week in April and death removed Thomas B. Kay, leaving a vacancy to be filled by appointment by the governor.

Rufus C. Holman, who had been active in the campaign to nominate George W. Joseph for governor, came into the state picture at this point, and was named treasurer. From then on Meier and Holman assumed control of the state board, leaving Hal E. Hoss in the minority role. Changes made by the control board dated from this time, and they were numerous.

William Einzig, who was brought from Washington state by the governor to conduct an investigation into various institutions of the state, was retained by Meier as secretary of the board and as state purchasing agent. He replaced Carl Abrams, with his salary increased to \$7,000 a year. Einzig, since his appointment, has demonstrated his buying ability and already has effected considerable saving in his department.

Departmental heads changed by the new board and by other boards of which the governor is chairman, included heads of the state penitentiary, blind school, boys training school, bonus com-

## Economies Effected by Meier When Departments, Boards Are Combined

Legislature Passes Practically all of Measures Advocated by Governor; Local Tax Reduction Planned

THE year 1931 opened for the executive department with a strenuous legislative session to which Governor Julius L. Meier presided vigorously and constructively. Most of the major recommendations contained in the governor's inaugural message were adopted by the legislature, and enactments were passed effecting reorganization along progressive lines in various branches of state government. To the changes occasioned thereby the governor turned his attention immediately following the close of the session.

The triple headed public service commission was reorganized by a single utility commissioner appointed by the governor and required to represent the public in all utility rate and service matters. This department was the first to be reorganized under the new administration, and immediately launched on investigations of utility values and rates through which reductions in street car fares and other charges have already been achieved and data are being assembled looking to further reductions.

Ag. Boards Merged  
Numerous boards and commissions with more or less overlapping duties were merged under the state department of agriculture and an agricultural advisory board, both appointed by and responsible to the governor. Six months' experience under the new arrangement has shown efficiency and economy of this arrangement.

Governor Meier recommended and gave his enthusiastic support to the enactment of legislation placing the enforcement of the central law enforcement agency and prohibition laws under the jurisdiction of a state police department, charged also with the enforcement of the general criminal laws of the state. The success of the new force has been notable and has demonstrated the efficacy of a central law enforcement agency with a staff of thoroughly qualified officers, skilled in modern methods and trained in crime prevention.

mission and printing department, resigned. The governor also announced changes in many minor commissions and boards. The act of the governor, even before he assumed office, was to secure Miss Beatrice Walton as private secretary to the governor. Miss Walton had served in that capacity during the administration of Governor Norblad and the Norblad administration. Prior to becoming executive secretary, Miss Walton had been a secretary in the office of state superintendent of schools.

The state legislature provided means for the appointment of Charles M. Thomas as head of the public utilities commission, succeeding the three former members of the public service commission, H. H. Corey, Hal D. Patton, and O. C. Bortzmeyer. The legislature abolished the three-man group and established a one-man commission. Thomas was formerly circuit judge of Jackson county and presided in the trial of the three D'Autremont brothers, convicted of the murder in the Siskiyou train holdup in 1923. The three brothers are serving life sentences in the state penitentiary.

The legislature, through the activity of Governor Meier, likewise created the state department of police and the new agricultural department. To head the former Meier selected Charles Pray, formerly with the federal police agency. Pray, through his thorough organization and executive ability, has already popularized the new police system.

Gehlhar Named  
Max Gehlhar, a "dirt farmer" of Polston county, was named to head the new department of agriculture. He has retained two of the officials formerly in charge of various departments, and has built up a complete department. W. H. Lytle, former state veterinarian, was retained in charge of the animal industry, while John D. Mickle, former state dairy and food commissioner, was placed in charge of the dairy industry.

Other changes made by the governor included wiping out of the entire industrial accident com-

mission, consisting of Sam Laughlin, E. E. Bragg and W. H. Fitzgerald. In their places he named Charles T. Early of Portland, Arthur W. Lawrence and Albert Hunter. Lawrence of Corvallis and Hunter of La Grande are former members of the state legislature and active in a campaign during 1931 to reduce real property taxes, was appointed corporation commissioner succeeding Mark McCallister. Mott has been active since he has taken office, and has instituted several investigations of corporation as well as taking charge of several large organizations. A. H. Averill, Portland, was appointed insurance commissioner, succeeding Clara E. Lee.

There are several departments and state institutions in which there were no major changes during 1931, either by appointment, election or by filling of vacancies caused by death or retirement. There have been no changes in the Oregon Supreme court, members of which are elective; in the attorney-general's office, secretary of state, department of education, and state labor department, also elective officers.

Remained Intact during the year include the Oregon National Guard, state engineer's office, state library, tax commission, state land board, state banking department, and state forestry department. Although there has been one appointment on the state board of higher education, no department changes have resulted.

Institutions in which no changes have been made include the state hospital for insane, state tuberculosis hospital, soldiers' home, feeble-minded institution, deaf school, and the Eastern Oregon state hospital.

The final month of 1931 saw a new and yet familiar face in the executive office during the absence of Governor Meier from Oregon. William Marks, president of the senate, came from Albany to preside as governor, and during that month he carried out the policies of the absent governor in every respect.

Early in his term the governor, acting in his capacity as budget officer for the state, addressed each state department and institution requesting a ten per cent reduction in administrative expenses for the biennium. A recent survey indicates that practically every department will comply with the request, and a number of institutions and commissions will exceed the estimate. Departmental savings for the biennium in the sum of more than a million dollars were reported, and it is anticipated that this sum will be exceeded by the end of 1932.

Savings Are Made  
The move for administrative savings constituted one approach to the governor's program for tax relief, which is one of the major undertakings of his administration. In his inaugural message he called attention to the urgent necessity for property tax relief to avert confiscation and ruin for certain classes of property. As a specific step to this end, he recommended the repeal of the one mill market road tax, and cooperated whole heartedly in the framing and passage of the personal income tax, the intangibles tax and the corporation excise tax laws. On his recommendation, also, the World War Veteran's state aid commission suspended its one-half mill tax for the coming year, as an emergency measure.

As a result of these tax eliminations, reductions in administrative expenditures, and the liberal exercise of the executive veto power on appropriation measures, together with the revenue from the intangibles, excise and income taxes, the tax levy on real property for state purposes will next year be entirely eliminated for the first time in the history of Oregon.

In addition to his drive for the reduction of state taxes, Governor Meier has constantly kept before the people of Oregon the fact that taxes for exclusively state purposes constitute a comparatively small part of the total tax burden, amounting to less than \$7,000,000 dollars as against the more than \$43,000,000 collected by local tax levying bodies. To promote local tax reductions, the governor called a meeting of representative citizens from every county of the state to convene at the capitol during the month of July, and out of this meeting grew the Oregon Taxpayers Equalization and Conservation league, with branches in each of the counties. The executive department and the state tax commission have worked shoulder to shoulder with county tax leagues to secure economy in local administration, with the result that budgets have been reduced in many of the tax levying subdivisions of Oregon.

Local Tax Control Aim  
Governor Meier is at present working on a plan for the control and reduction of local taxes which he plans to lay before the next session of the legislature. To cope with the unemployment problem which Oregon shares with the rest of the nation, a committee was named in each county of the state to perfect an organization for the registration of the unemployed, to provide as much work as possible, and to afford relief to those in distress because of the unemployment. On the governor's recommendation, the highway commission set aside a fund of \$1,000,000 for emergency construction work to afford unemployment relief and also allocated a considerable part of the market road fund of \$1,125,000 for this purpose. The executive department has kept in close touch with the activities of the local unemployment committees through a member of the staff of the state highway commission who has been assigned to act as liaison officer between the state and the county organizations in order to secure the fullest cooperation and the most efficient procedure.

Responding to the governor's plea, heads of various state departments pledged members of their staffs to the voluntary contribution of one day's pay per month to the relief of the unem-

ployed. Funds so raised are being distributed monthly by a committee appointed by the governor working with the county unemployment relief committees.

Mrs. Meier Does Part  
Mrs. Meier has joined with the governor in an active movement to promote the wider use of Oregon products and to bring the people of the state to a recognition of the fact that increase in the purchase and distribution of Oregon manufactured and Oregon grown commodities means stimulation of industry and agriculture and the expansion of Oregon payrolls. The rates of the grange and various clubs and organizations have aided in this enterprise.

Recommendation was made in the inaugural message for the creation of a hydroelectric commission of three members to have jurisdiction over the use and development of the water power resources of the state for the generation of electricity. In accordance with the authority conferred by the legislature, the governor named such a committee which has been functioning since the effective date of the law. With the clarifying of the power development situation by the recent action of the federal authorities in rejecting the super power project along the Columbia river, Governor Meier expects to give attention to a power program within the state along practical lines.

Departments Supervised  
Over the various departments under the jurisdiction of the executive department the governor has maintained active supervision. Substantial savings have been achieved in the Industrial Accident commission without impairing the efficiency of the department. A policy designed to afford increased protection to the investors of the state has been put into effect by the corporation commissioner. In the World War Veterans state aid commission, the insurance commission and other appointive offices, reorganizations in the interest of economy and more efficient service to the people of the state have been effected.

Although Governor Meier was for several months kept away from his desk because of illness, he has maintained close touch with state business, and the year just concluded shows a record of great activity and achievement in the executive department.

OREGON AREA TOLD  
If you wish to remember the number of square miles in Oregon, take a handful of 9s and 6s, toss them up and if they come down 96,699, the answer is correct.

LARK STATE BIRD  
The western meadowlark is the state bird of Oregon. However the average individual thinks more of the common turkey.

## PAPER PLANT'S GAIN IS LARGE

25 per Cent Increase in '31 For Western Converting, Other Gains, Plan

A 25 per cent increase in production was made in 1931 by the Western Paper Converting company, located at Front and D streets over the total output of 1930. H. B. Tronson, secretary of the company reported. The plant has a monthly capacity of 500,000 pounds.

The company, one of the fastest growing industries in Salem, has ordered two cellophane bag machines which will be installed some time this month. Each machine is equipped to turn out thousands of bags a day. They have been purchased at a great cost, and when installed, will be the first of their kind on the coast.

New Machinery  
Considerable machinery was installed during the past year. It included the addition of new folding, sewing and bending machines, as well as additional equipment for the manufacture of school tablets.

The company has a wide range of products. At the present it is completing a large order for more than 1,000,000 "blue books" for the associated student store at the University of California at Los Angeles. The "blue books", known to most college students as an examination paper, has a campus building pictured on its cover. Ruled paper makes up the contents of the book.

School Supplies Made  
All kinds of tablets are manufactured by the Salem company. They include pencil and finer writing tablets. Glassine bags, both large and small, are turned out daily by the thousands. Many varieties of wrappers, from candy wrappers to large meat wrappers, are manufactured. In fact, most of the meat wrappers used on the Pacific coast are manufactured in Salem.

Candy Cups Interesting  
Interesting among the many machines is the equipment to turn out small individual cups for chocolate candies. With many dies, the plant is capable of making many sizes.

Products of the local firm go to many parts of the world. Much is used on the coast, but a considerable portion goes east. Recently two different shipments of typewriting paper were sent to

## Flax Production Will be Reduced For 1932 Season

Due to a surplus of flax on hand, the state flax plant operated in connection with the state penitentiary will cut down its production during 1932. L. L. Laws, office manager announced. During the past year about 3,000 tons of flax was handled, a considerable decrease under an 8,000 total for 1930.

The past year was declared to be a poor one for flax. Coupled with a surplus from 1930, plans for the new year are none too optimistic for the flax fiber processing plant.

About 250 convicts have been employed each month at the plant under the direction of Leo Demmyl, plant manager.

TO THE WORLD!  
HAPPY NEW YEAR  
To the Used Car Buyer — The Douglas McKay Chevrolet Company is still the "Home of Bargains." Our 10 Day, Used Car Sale went over with a Bang! In fact we are so well pleased with this bargain idea that we are offering—"A - Bargain - A - Day" for the month of January. Watch our classified ads each morning for that day's bargain.

DOUGLAS MCKAY CHEVROLET CO.  
333 CENTER STREET

# Oregon Pulp & Paper Company

## Salem .. Oregon

Manufacturers of  
Watermarked and Unwatermarked Bond  
Bleached and Unbleached Sulphite  
Glassine, Greaseproof, White and Colored  
Posting Ledger, and Lightweight Specialties

Daily Capacity  
180,000 lbs. Bleached Sulphite  
24,000 lbs. Unbleached Sulphite  
220,000 lbs. Paper

# Happy New Year

## Linen--Salem's Growing Industry

<b>Miles Linen Company</b> Converting Linen Fiber Produced in Oregon From Oregon Grown Flax, Into GILL NETTING GRAIN SACK TWINE LINEN TWINES SHOE THREAD Plant and Office, 2150 Fairgrounds Road Telephone 9573	<b>Salem Linen Mills</b> Converting Linen Fiber Produced in Oregon From Oregon Grown Flax, Into YARNS CRASHES TOWELING LINEN PIECE GOODS DRAPERY CLOTHS Plant and Office, 1485 Madison Street Telephone 9421
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