

Dreary Formative Period of Legislature is Under Way

SENATE MEETS TWICE BRIEFLY

Seven Bills Introduced in Upper House; Criminal Syndicalism First

Two brief sessions at which seven bills were introduced marked the second legislative day for the Oregon state senate yesterday. Committee work was expected to begin in earnest today.

First of the measures introduced was one by Senator Zimmerman calling for the repeal of the existing criminal syndicalism act. Another important bill was one providing for the amortization of all loans to the state land board. Annual payment of seven per cent of the total loan is provided for. Five-sevenths of the payment would go for interest; two-sevenths would go to principal. The latter proportion increasing as the principal was diminished.

A bill to make interest on any type of loan illegal at any rate in excess of one per cent a month was introduced by Senator Carney. Senator Stelver introduced a bill which would turn over certain unexpended prohibition funds to county courts for the establishment of law libraries.

Senator Burke introduced a bill providing for a one-man state tax commission, the measure being similar to a bill to accomplish the same purpose introduced by Burke at the last session.

Two joint memorials were received by the senate. One of these, by Senator Carney, urges congress to enact legislation which would give to cities and states authority to deposit their bonds in the United States treasury and receive currency without interest. This privilege is now enjoyed by the federal government.

The other memorial was directed to President Roosevelt and urged the passage of the Frazier bill now pending before congress. Under this bill the federal government would have authority to refinance farm mortgages at a rate of interest not in excess of one and one-half per cent. This memorial was introduced by Senator Zimmerman.

Confirmation of the appointment of Mrs. Beatrice Walton Sackett as a member of the state board of higher education was deferred at the request of Senator Strayer. Strayer said his only desire in postponing action on the appointment was to give the new members of the board time to conduct an investigation. He indicated that he would not oppose the confirmation.

PLANNING BOARD TO FACE RELIEF ISSUE

The first major job Governor Martin's proposed planning board will face is the proposed relief program for the unemployed. The board is expected to make a recommendation on the federal government's plan to make beginning this spring. Estes Snedecor, legal adviser for the governor, told Salem Kiwanians here Tuesday noon.

Snedecor indicated that plans were being formed in Washington which would call for quick action by the state in setting up its plan for cooperating in a works relief program with the national government.

In his talk to the club, Snedecor outlined the proposed administrative changes the new governor seeks. While some of these are controversial, they are changes for the improvement of the state and should be supported, Snedecor opined.

Snedecor discounted reports that he was in Salem trying to dictate legislation or to distribute patronage. "I am merely serving as a law clerk," he declared.

GRAND
Today—May Robson in "Mills of the Gods."
Saturday—"Hellorado" with Richard Arlen.

ELSINORE
Today—Gable, Crawford and Montgomery in "Forsaking All Others."
Thursday—George Raft in "Limehouse Blues."

CAPITOL
Today—Double bill, "Father Brown, Detective" with Walter Connolly and Kay Francis in "British Agent."
Thursday—Zane Grey's "Home on the Range" with Randolph Scott.

STATE
Today—Double bill, Ricardo Cortez in "Hat, Coat and Glove" and Ann Southern in "The Hell Cat."
Thursday only—Clive Brook in "Let's Try Again."

HOLLYWOOD
Today—Double bill, Nils Asther in "Love Time" and Will Rogers in "Dr. Bull."
Friday—Double bill, Tom Tyler in "Mystery Ranch" and Warner Oland in "Charlie Chan in London."

Under the Dome

Occurrences of Gossip at the center of Oregon State Government

HENRY W. MEYERS of Salem is actively soliciting support for reappointment as superintendent of the Oregon state penitentiary. Meyers held the position for four years by appointment of the state board of control, being drafted by the late Governor Patterson to "clean up" the prison situation and to take charge of the state flax industry. Meyers took over his job with vigor and enjoyed the work. The Meyers administration wished him removed and out he went after a bitter statehouse "hearing." Meyers now seeks "vindication" and points to his record as evidence amply that he was the most economical and efficient administrator the prison has had. A Republican, for years, Meyers was in the 1934 campaign came to the support of General Martin and worked ardently for him.

The turmoil of inauguration day was definitely at an end yesterday, both the senate and house beginning the short sessions which characterized the opening days of a session. Committee appointments in the house hung fire for hours Tuesday morning while Speaker Cooter worked with democratic leaders trying to appease the conflicting demands of his parties. As a result the house was an hour and 15 minutes late in convening for its morning deliberations.

William L. Gosselin, private secretary to the governor, pronounced his name "Gosselin" and does so quietly for he is a soft-spoken young man, not in the least the type of "professional" politician who has frequently been affiliated with previous governors in the secretary's position. Gosselin is bright, well-educated, and level-headed. The fact that he is not married, has handsome red hair and dresses meticulously has already been duly noted by the Salem Spinners and others who met him for the first time at the reception Monday night. As a result, the state house has been practicing four years in Portland following his graduation from the Harvard law school. He has been active in democratic politics, heading the Young Democratic organization in Multnomah county.

STATE FINANCE TO BE STUDIED EARLY

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ters of state policy which the joint ways and means committee must face. These are:

1. How much increase shall the committee allow state institutions and departments to be purchased in 1935-1936?
2. Shall the state hold its present reduced salary schedule, increase it to the 1931-1932 base or permit a partial restoration of salaries?
3. How far shall the present session go in the matter of rental outlays for retarded construction in its institutions?

4. What diversion, if any, of higher educational millage funds shall the legislature seek in 1935-1936?
To these basic problems a fifth one will be added if the administration's proposal for merging all funds of self-sustaining institutions into the general fund shall pass both houses. In such an event, the ways and means committee will be determining upon fixed budgets for scores of commissions and departments which heretofore have used the state's budget solely as an advisory outline of expenditures, actually determining outlays on the basis of money received.

Senator Walker would like to see the appropriations for state supplies handled in this manner: Obtain authentic statistical data on the average increase in commodity prices in the last biennium. Apply this percentage to the actual dollar outlays of the state departments for 1933-1934. All increases for the institutions would then be determined by using this mathematical factor, relieving the ways and means committee of the job of making guesses on the basis of each department's estimate for 1935-1936.

The ways and means committee is expected to take its case on salaries from the administration. Governor Martin has not indicated, beyond the broad outline of keeping down expenses made in his inaugural address, whether he favors a partial or complete restoration of state wages and salaries. The talk about the legislature is that the state should make up the half of the wage cuts imposed in 1933, these cuts in a number of instances being as much as 30 per cent of the salaries paid state officials. Pending the working out of a state salary schedule, there is a belief at the statehouse that each department may be given a lump sum appropriation for its wage and salary items and be allowed to work out the restorations in individual cases as the department chief sees fit.

While there are increasing needs for new buildings at state institutions, the capital outlay required is so high, it is extremely doubtful if the ways and means committee will permit a budget imbalance in order to provide new construction.
Diversion of \$504,000 annually from the higher educational mil-

