

House Approves Removal Power

Governor Gets Authority to Oust Commissioner Under New Bill

Authority which Governor Sprague has lacked to remove Robert Cronin, Wheeler democrat, from the state fish commission was approved by the house Thursday with only one democrat dissenting.

The bill, which now goes to the senate, would give the governor the same power to remove members of the fish commission he now enjoys over most boards and commissions appointed by him.

No names were mentioned in debate on the bill, but it has been reported that Governor Sprague asked Cronin's resignation several months ago and that Cronin has not complied.

Cronin, appointed by ex-Governor Martin, is chairman of the Tillamook county democratic central committee and ex-state president of the young democrats.

Rep. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Multnomah) is the only dissenter.

Extension of power of the state industrial accident commission by giving it the right to reject applications of employers for insurance on themselves as workmen was refused by the house Thursday by a 30 to 24 vote, but it later reconsidered the vote and referred the bill to the judiciary committee.

Rep. Allan G. Carson (R-Marion) spoke in opposition to a trend to widen authority of boards and commissions.

"This bill appears to be just another effort of the industrial accident commission to cover up its own incompetence," Rep. William M. McAllister (R-Jackson) said.

Rep. Orval Thompson (D-Linn) said the amendment would hurt small employers by barring them from protection because unavoidable accidents caused them to receive more in compensation than paid in benefits.

Proponents of the measure said it would enable the commission to protect its funds by rejecting employers considered "bad risks."

"This bill is aimed at racketeering," Rep. John Steelhammer (R-Marion) said. Steelhammer, who change his vote, later made the motion to reconsider.

The house passed 46 to 9 a measure by Rep. Earl T. Newberry (R-Jackson) to define agricultural labor in conformity with the federal unemployment compensation act. The bill now goes to the senate.

Newberry said the bill, which principally affects Rogue and Hood River valley pear and apple packers, would aid small fruit growers and relieve a "discriminatory effect" in the present law.

The house passed and sent to the senate a bill to provide for selection of the chief justice of the supreme court by the members following the expiration of Chief Justice Percy Kelly's term, January 1, 1942. The bill also provides for selection of an acting chief justice to serve in the absence of the chief justice.

Under the present system the supreme court judge having the longest service and the shortest remaining period to serve is automatically chief just for the two-year period.

Two senate fishing bills, one changing the area in which fishing is restricted below fish racks from two miles to one-quarter mile and the other changing poundage fees on smelt from one-tenth to one-fifth of a cent, were passed and sent to the governor.

Portland Group Wants Sand Bill

Delegation Urges Ports Be Exempt From Royalty as Defense Aid

A delegation from Portland headed by Henry Corbett appeared before the senate commerce and navigation committee Thursday in behalf of a bill which would exempt ports from paying royalty on sand and gravel taken from navigable streams.

The sand and gravel could not be sold under the provisions of the bill but would have to be used for filling purposes. Corbett said the delegation had in mind taking sand and gravel from the Willamette river for the improvement of lands to be occupied by national defense industries. He referred particularly to the new \$5,000,000 shipyard development below the terminal at St. Johns.

Among others in the delegation were Ross McIntyre, representing the Portland chamber of commerce, and ex-Mayor Joseph Carson. A number of women educators opposed passage of the bill on the ground that the sand and gravel royalty was needed for the irreducible school fund.

Senator Walter E. Pearson also spoke in favor of the bill. Corbett represented the Port of Portland. All other ports in Oregon would benefit under the bill.

Hearings Continued On Compensation Law

Hearings continued before the senate industries committee Thursday on a series of bills involving the workmen's compensation law. These hearings started Wednesday and probably will not be completed before the middle of next week.

Research Laboratory Proposed for Forest Products in Senate Measure

Creation of a forest products research laboratory is proposed in a bill introduced in the Oregon senate Thursday by Sen. Charles Childs (R-Linn). The bill would appropriate \$50,000 of which \$35,000 would be for capital outlay. The personnel would include a director and part-time technical workers.

The senate approved three salary increase bills, including one increasing the compensation of several Benton county officials, one boosting the salary of the Lincoln county treasurer and one increasing the pay of the Deschutes county judge. All house bills, they now go to the governor.

The senate also approved a bill by the joint ways and means committee appropriating \$488,140.66 to pay interest on Oregon district interest bonds. Senator Walter E. Pearson, Multnomah county, said there was nothing the legislature could do but pass this measure.

Under another bill passed by the senate, administration of the state brand inspection law would be placed under the state agricultural department.

Consideration of a bill by Senator Rex Ellis, Umatilla county, making criminal the advocacy of overthrow of the United States government by force or violence was continued until Friday due to the illness of the author. A spirited debate was expected on this measure.

The school district fund equalization bill which was completed last week probably will be dropped into the senate hopper not later than Saturday. The measure was drafted by a group of Oregon educators and was said to be quite different than the one defeated at the 1939 legislative session.

A bill by Senator W. E. Burke, Yamhill county, relating to the practice of chiropractic, was referred to the medicine, pharmacy and dentistry committee for further consideration. This bill increases the educational requirements of the chiropractic profession.

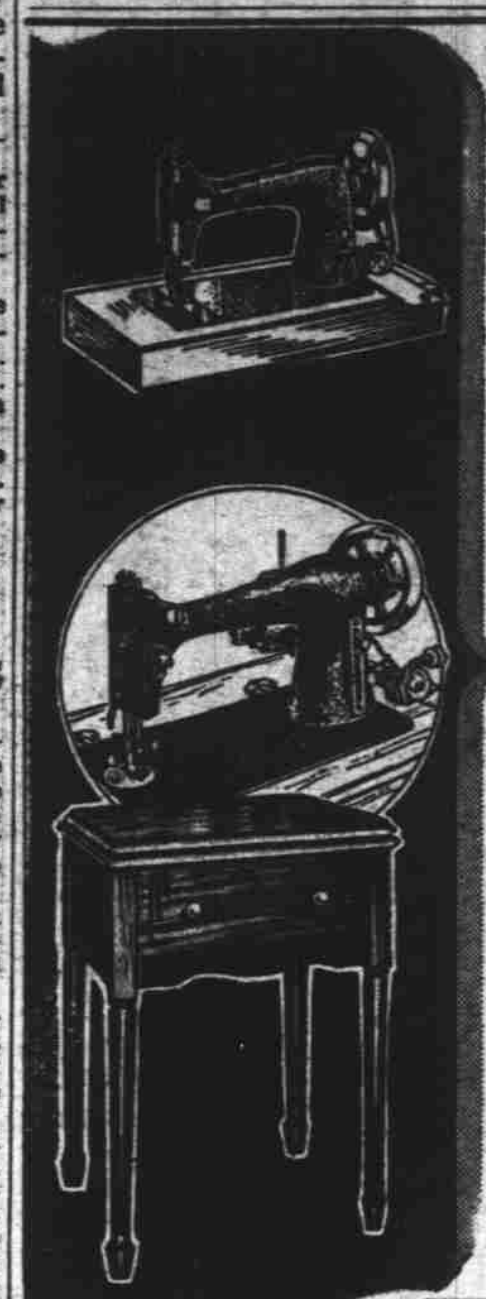
Four members of the senate were absent Thursday. These included Ellis and McAllister, Cornett, who are ill, and W. H. Strayer and F. M. Franciscovich who are in Baker.

Franciscovich represented the legislature at the funeral of Mrs. Strayer which was held in Baker Thursday afternoon.

approved, would require additional facilities.

A few counties reported that they had no hospital facilities. The committee was expected to take definite action on these bills at its next meeting.

Additional Legislature News on Page 15



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