

Statesman Leads

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The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

Weather: Occasional rain today and Saturday with little change in temperature. Max. temp. Thursday 55, min. 45. River -3 ft. Rain .17 in. North wind.

NINETEETH YEAR

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Bulgaria Declares for Partnership in Axis

Oregon House Stages Dramatic Session On Compensation Issue

Decisions Tentative but Believed Will Pass on Unchanged Items and Raising of Benefits

By RALPH C. CURTIS

Momentous decisions affecting unemployment compensation, the outstanding controversial issue of Oregon's 41st legislative session, were reached by the house of representatives in a dramatic session Friday afternoon. Chief among these decisions were: 1. Experience rating remains unchanged, except for amendments making it conform to the federal law. 2. Seasonality remains unchanged except that hearings on seasonality questions are required. 3. Minimum benefits are increased from \$7 to \$10 a week. 4. The waiting period is reduced from three weeks to two weeks.

The decisions were tentative in that they amounted merely to acceptance of the judiciary committee's recommendations and the bills are yet to come up on final reading, probably Monday. Furthermore there was a close vote -31 to 23-against a motion to make 2.7 per cent the top limit on experience rating when the fund is in good condition. However there is little doubt that this bill will be approved, as it contains provisions essential to continuing experience rating. The outcome is a victory, neither for labor nor for employers but essentially for the house judiciary committee which was sustained on every point, and a personal victory for Rep. Frank Loneragan, chairman of that committee.

Governor Raps Ickes' Alcoa Refusal

No Brief for Company Says; US Power Body Scolds Utilities

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 28-(AP)—Gov. Charles A. Sprague of Oregon crossed verbal broadswords with Secretary of the Interior Ickes today over the sale of federal electricity to the Mellon aluminum interests. Ickes Thursday refused the Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) additional \$1 million from the US power dam at Bonneville on the Columbia river to energize a third unit at its big Vancouver, Wash., factory. He said the dam had already over-sold to private companies despite a law which reserves half its output for public power agencies.

New Citizens Here Today

Five hundred new citizens and citizen students will be greeted this morning at 11 o'clock by Governor Charles A. Sprague in the rotunda of the statehouse building following their march from 12th and Court streets where the new citizens' pilgrimage train from Portland will arrive at 10:45. Patriotic orders of Salem headed by the Cherrians and Salem high school band will escort the entourage to the capitol. Veterans are advised by E. E. "Kelly" Owens, chairman of the Federation of Patriotic Orders in Salem, to wear their caps for the occasion which will see newsworld cameramen grinding out records of the presentation of a fasciella of the Oregon state seal to each "pilgrim" by Secretary of State Earl Swoell. Luncheon for the honored guests is planned at the statehouse, with Senator Douglas McKay as toastmaster. Myer C. Rubin, former president of the Portland Americanization Council, is chairman of the pilgrimage committee.

Accepts Lieutenantship

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28-(AP)—The war department announced Friday that Del Keyworth Neiderhiser, Salem, had accepted appointment as a second lieutenant in the field artillery reserve.

Highway Board Refuses Independence Span Offer

The Oregon state highway commission at its meeting Friday in Portland indicated that it could not now accept an offer of the Marion and Polk county courts to build a new bridge across the Willamette river at Independence, and that it could not for the present make a counter-proposal to the counties' original offer to accept half the cost of the span over a 25-year period. The commission stated its position to members of the Marion and Polk county courts, and to officers and members of the Salem-Independence-Kings Valley highway association, active sponsors of the bridge and road improvement between Salem and Kings Valley. The commission also told the

Marion county court that it had not made a final decision on the court's offer to give it title to 31 miles of the North Santiam highway above Detroit. Marion and Linn counties recently asked the state to take over the Santiam route because of the counties' difficulties in maintaining and repairing it far from their highway shops in Salem and Albany. With reference to the Independence bridge, the commission told the highway association and court delegates that its initial surveys had shown that cost of the new span would amount to about \$350,000. This sum is \$40,000 more than the \$250,000 originally estimated by the county courts in confer-

How Hitler Plans To Strangle Britain



From reliable sources and from recent utterances by Adolf Hitler, the above was drawn to indicate how the Nazi Führer plans to bring the British to their knees in the near future. The plan is to strangle England by severing vital shipping lanes with a ring of hundreds of U-boat craft. Following the intensive sea attack Hitler would follow with long-range artillery and air attacks.

Date Selected On City Sewer

Election Set May 20 Should Legislature Add \$75,000

The sewer committee of the Salem city council decided Friday to recommend May 20 as the date for a special election on a \$200,000 sewerage disposal plant bond issue. The election will be called provided the state legislature approves its ways and means committee recommendation that \$75,000 be appropriated to care for the state's part in the project. A considerable portion of the \$75,000 would be expended on sewer lines connecting state institutions. Alderman Glenn H. Gregg, chairman of the sewer committee, said an ordinance would be drawn by City Attorney Lawrence N. Brown for introduction at the March 10 council meeting to start election-calling procedure on its way. The city's share in the \$458,765 project is not expected to exceed \$190,000. The WPA has already approved a \$233,642 grant.

King Alfonso Dies in Rome

ROME, Feb. 28-(AP)—Former King Alfonso XIII of Spain died Friday after 15 days of the agony of angina pectoris. His body lay in the hotel bedroom which for a decade had been his place of exile. His weakened heart stopped at 11:50 a. m. (1:50 a. m. PST). Fifteen minutes before the end all that remains of his family had gathered about him. Alfonso was lucid but spent and weary and could only look at them—at the estranged former Queen Victoria; at his son and designated heir to the throne of Spain, Don Juan; at his son Jaime and his daughter Beatrice. The final expression of his life, made with the last of his strength, was to thank with grave courtesy the three physicians who had worked over him so long.

Has Your Dog His License? Time's Up!

Is Rover, or Old Dog Tray wearing that new 1941 license plate on his collar yet? If he isn't, he'd better be by Monday. County Clerk U. G. Boyer said Friday that reduced rates for buying city and county dog licenses for 1941 would be passed when his office closes at 1 p. m. today, and that thereafter licenses will be on sale only at a penalty rate, as provided by law. The county clerk said also that license business up to now has been good, and that nearly \$700 was paid in on Friday alone for the shiny brass tags which identify dogs as well as their owners. There are still plenty to be had, however, he indicated.

Power Chiefs Discuss Bill

Public and private power systems' representatives discussed the Jones-Gilson 12 per cent tax on electric energy bill at a hearing before the house taxation and revenue committee of the legislature Friday night. Officials of the Mountain States Power company charged the bill would raise their tax rate by 50 per cent. The measure would substitute the 12 per cent tax on retail sales of electric energy, to be paid by the seller, for ad-valorem taxes now levied on power utility property. Other witnesses told the committee the Portland General and Northwestern Electric companies would be able to reduce their rates to be in a better position to compete with public ownership advocates' claims of cheap power. Several school district and other municipal group representatives said their units would lose tax revenues by the shift in the utility tax.

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Skill Devices Suit Drawn

Injunction Request Is Due Today Against Law's Enforcement

A complaint asking injunction against the enforcement of laws against "amusement appliances" used for exercises of skill alone, and not for profit or reward, will be filed, probably today, in the circuit court here, it was authoritatively reported Friday night. The complaint will be filed by Guy O. Smith, local attorney, and will name a plaintiff whose identity has not yet been disclosed, it was indicated. Persons acquainted with the matter stated that the sheriff, district attorney, chief of police, constables and city attorney, would be named as defendants in an effort to restrain them from enforcing laws or ordinances prohibiting the use of amusement devices not played for gain. If the complaint is filed today, Circuit Judge L. G. Lewelling will be asked to sign a temporary injunction pending final determination of the case at a later date.

Curb on Night Clubs Sought

Amendments designed to tighten the night club licensing bill introduced Thursday were being drafted by legislators Friday night. A proposed house amendment would require night clubs to close on Sundays and between 1 a. m. and 9 a. m. daily. Talk of another amendment, to bar all gambling in clubs, was heard. Senators were discussing an amendment closing clubs at midnight. The club bill, prepared by Rep. Harry D. Bovin (D-Klamath), would give the Oregon liquor control commission to license all night clubs.

Nazi March and British Break Is Expected Soon

Charges Hurlled Of Filibuster In Aid Debate

Furious Arguments in Senate Brings Ickes in Picture Again

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28-(AP)—An angry charge that the opposition to the lease-end bill was resorting to a filibuster was flung into the senate debate Friday by Senator George (D-Georgia), chairman of the foreign relations committee, and was quickly denied by Senator Wheeler (D-Montana). The two had fallen into a furious argument as to whether President Roosevelt could arbitrarily undervalue existing military equipment to keep transfers to England within a \$1,300,000,000 limitation prescribed by the bill. Standing a few feet apart, both talking at once, Wheeler maintained that the president could; George that he could not. Struggle Over Measure Reaches Another Climax. The struggle over the bill had reached another climax a short time before when Wheeler told the senate that the measure covers an immense program, to strip the United States of its defenses for the benefit of foreign nations, and then plunge it into war "at the whim of the chief executive."

Communications Cut At Sofia; Vichy Silent In Indo-China Crisis

British Legation Prepares to Flee When Decision to Sign Is Told; Turkey Reported to Fight

Bulgaria officially informed Yugoslavia today Saturday that she was joining the Rome-Berlin-Tokyo axis lineup within a few hours—a step which Belgrade diplomatic quarters saw as resulting in immediate entry of German troops from Rumania and a prompt break with Great Britain. In another troubled zone—the Far East—France had thus far met with silence beyond the deadline a Japanese ultimatum that she give up a heavy slice of her Indo-Chinese territory to Thailand. The Bulgarian charge d'affaires in Belgrade notified Yugoslavia that his country would sign the axis tripartite pact today. Diplomatic sources said Bulgarian Premier Bogdan Philoff and Foreign Minister Ivan Popoff would fly to Vienna to meet Nazi Foreign Minister Ribbentrop and the Japanese ambassador to Berlin for the formal ceremony. Sofia's regular communications were cut off after brief service yesterday and it was impossible to ascertain whether the Nazi army already had crossed the Danube in force, possibly for a thrust against Greece, the little ally of Great Britain. What Turkey would do now was the next big question in the Balkans. The Turks, who have just reached "complete agreement with their British allies during a visit

Nazi-British Show-Down Is Seen

Editor's Note: Kirke L. Simpson, writer of the following article on the tense war situation in the Balkans, has "called the turn" many times during the past month on the future moves of the belligerents.

By KIRKE L. SIMPSON Associated Press War Commentator A Nazi-British show-down in the Balkans seemed at hand as this was written. Rumor ran riot through southeastern Europe. War-storm warnings flattered from every post of observation. Every fresh report of German military activity pointed toward a Nazi march, perhaps already in progress, into Bulgaria. There seems small doubt that the British, due to Foreign (Turn to Page 2, Col. 4)

Wine Tax Bill Filed With House Committee

Rep. Warren Erwin (D-Mult.) filed a wine tax bill in a house committee late Friday for introduction, which he estimated would yield \$1,000,000 a year in revenue to the state. The bill would tax sales of wine exceeding 17 per cent of alcohol by volume at the rate of ten cents a gallon.

Trouble Spot in Far East



This map shows the trouble zone in the Far East today. The dispute between French Indo-China and Siam, the latter backed by the Japanese, has caused not only the governments mentioned but also the United States and Great Britain to move quickly to protect their interests. Press time reports indicate the Vichy government may give in to Japan-Siam demands.

In One Ear..

Paul Hauser's Column To the uninitiated the capitol building (see statehouse) is a labyrinth in which it is no trouble at all to get lost. This bothers those casual lobbyists unfamiliar with the ground who in their search for a committee room may find themselves shaking hands with the gilded pioneer stop the dome. It does not bother the school children, who do not care where they are as long as they are on the move and, brother, they move. The eighth grade from the Popcorn school can be in the building three hours and at the end of that time have personally explored nooks and crannies that the building superintendent never dreamed existed and the architects never intended anybody to find. To the credit of our education (Turn to Page 2, Col. 2)