

Senate Passes Probe of Board

Lowered Ice Cream Standard Returned Into Committee

Investigation of the state board of health's activities and expenditures was approved almost unanimously by the Oregon senate Thursday, when a resolution introduced by Sen. Coe A. McKenna, Multnomah, was adopted. Sen. Joel C. Booth, chairman of the medicine, pharmacy and dentistry committee, said that group favored the investigation and that officials of the board of health had indicated they would welcome it.

Sen. McKenna pointed out that criticism of the board's operations had been widespread and that the agency, which was given an appropriation of \$50,000 when it was created in 1905, had received approximately \$720,000, counting federal funds, in the biennium now ending.

Most extended debate Thursday in the senate centered on a bill by the house food and dairy products committee, reducing the amount of butterfat in ice cream in compliance with a federal regulation. The measure would remain operative until six months after the close of the war.

Sen. McKenna and Thomas R. Mahoney opposed the bill on the ground that ice cream is a food and not a luxury, and that its butterfat standards should not be lowered.

Question was raised by Sen. Rex Ellis, Umatilla, as to whether the legislation was required in view of the government regulations. Sen. W. H. Strayer, Baker, branded the bill as "screwed" and asked that it be returned to the senate agricultural committee for further investigation. This motion carried.

Others attacking the measure include Sen. Dorothy Lee and Irving Rand, both of Multnomah county.

Sen. Lee said the bill, in its present form, would leave the state with no ice cream law after the close of the war. Sen. Rand's criticism of the bill was based on constitutional grounds.

Twelve bills were passed by the senate.

Consideration of a measure by Sen. J. J. Lynch, Multnomah, providing for repeal of the state titling law, was made a special order of business for 2 p. m. next Monday.

Under this law most of the self supporting state boards and commissions contribute 10 per cent of their receipts to the general fund of the state. During the last biennium the titling collections aggregated approximately \$258,000. The Lynch measure was reported out by the joint ways and means committee with the recommendation that it "do not pass."

A number of state officials, including at least two members of the state board of control, were said to be opposed to repeal of the titling law.

Chaos Predicted If Job Accident Insuring Changed

"Administrative chaos" might follow enactment of bills making industrial accident insurance compulsory but permitting employers to insure with the state or private insurers or to be self-insured. T. Morris Dunne, chairman of the accident commission, testified before the senate industries committee Thursday.

He explained that if the workmen's compensation board which one of the bills would create were to take over rate-making, the commission would not know, until the new board could complete a survey and establish rates, what rates to charge the 21,000 insured firms.

John T. Casey, Burns attorney representing sponsors of the measures, said a compulsory plan is made necessary to halt possible ruin of the state industrial accident fund by "drastic withdrawals" on the part of employers rejecting coverage. Admitting the accident commission funds are presently in good condition due to large wartime industry, Casey said that under normal conditions the present legislature would have had to rescue the industrial accident fund "from a sad plight."

B. A. Green, Portland attorney, speaking for both the AFL and the CIO charged that the bills were designed not to carry out the original objectives of the state workmen's compensation law but for "employer protection and the profit of private insurance companies."

LUBBOCK, Texas.—(P)—Several Texans seeking to impress easterners at the South Plains army flying school with the size of southwestern rabbits cornered one and brought it into the barracks.

It turned out to be a hare-raising experience. The Texans went to lunch and came back to find—sexuplets.

The six were named Yvonne, Cecile, Annette, Emilie, Marie and Joe.

House Approves Lowered Tax On Gifts, End of Court Fee

Reduction of gift tax rates, first major item in the legislature's tax program, was approved unanimously by the Oregon house of representatives on Thursday. Rep. Giles French explained that the bill provide for a 50 per cent reduction on gifts within the donor's immediate family, 25 per cent reduction on gifts to other close relatives, no reduction on gifts to non-relatives.

Action on Bills

PASSED IN HOUSE
HB 69, by Brady et al.—To require employers to give employees periodic statement of deductions from wages, also annual statement of compensation.

HB 100, by French et al.—Relating to salaries of Wheeler county officers.
HB 194, by Hill et al.—To provide for establishment of roadways and gateways of public easement across state-owned lands.

HB 196, by Perry et al.—Relating to Columbia county officers' salaries.
HB 223, by English et al.—To provide for acquiring rights of way and construction of state and/or county boundary line roads.

HB 224, by Wells et al.—Relating to partial payments on highway contracts.
HB 261, by Steelhammer—Providing for absentee voting by men in armed services.

HB 276, by Bennett—Relating to fees in divorce cases.
HB 301, by Bull et al.—Relating to salaries of Union county officers.

HB 302, by judiciary—Governing right of corporation to purchase its own stock.
HB 331, by taxation and revenue (sub for HB 289)—Reducing gift tax rates.

SB 8, by Strayer et al.—Providing for birth certificates' issuance by circuit judges.
SB 40, by Lee et al.—Relating to exemption from jury duty.

SB 56, by agriculture—Defining unit of seedling.
SB 78, by Jones et al.—Relating to expenditure of funds received by state by operation of Taylor grazing act.

SB 87, by medicine—Providing standards for veterinary colleges and veterinary departments of college or university.
SB 91, by medicine—Relating to chiropractors.

SB 101, by Lee—To authorize Portland school district to make expenditures in excess of budget estimates, of funds received from United States agency.
SB 121, by agriculture—Relating to labeling of onions sold for dehydration.

PASSED IN SENATE
SB 136, by agriculture—Relating to potatoes.
SB 90, by Chessman—Relating to livestock running at large in Clatsop county.

HB 89, by Niskanen—To create Deschutes county livestock district.
HB 145, by administration and reorganization—Creating agency to coordinate plans for post-war readjustment; appropriation therefor.

HB 174, by food and dairy products—Relating to seizure of unlawful food products.
HB 191, by Chindgren et al.—Relating to use of county fair funds.

HB 235, by food and dairy products—Relating to standard glassware used in making Babcock tests of milk and cream.
HB 250, by Steelhammer—To provide method for nomination of candidates for municipal office in certain cities.

HB 255, by Chindgren—Relating to nursery stock.
HB 266, by Chindgren—Relating to nurseries and nurserymen.

HB 269, by Steelhammer—Relating to returns and abstracts of primary elections.
HB 232, by ways and means—Relating to verifying claims against the state.

SIGNED BY GOVERNOR
HB 27—Relating to construction of primary election law.
HB 33—Relating to annual reports by corporations owning railroads.

HB 47—Relating to collection and disposition of escheated personal property left by inmates of state institutions.
HB 48—Relating to escheat of money or other personal property belonging to inmates of state institutions.

HB 57—Relating to salaries of Jackson county officials.
HB 64—Relating to escheat of dormant accounts in banks and other institutions.
HB 104—Relating to salary of justice of the peace of South Lakeview district.

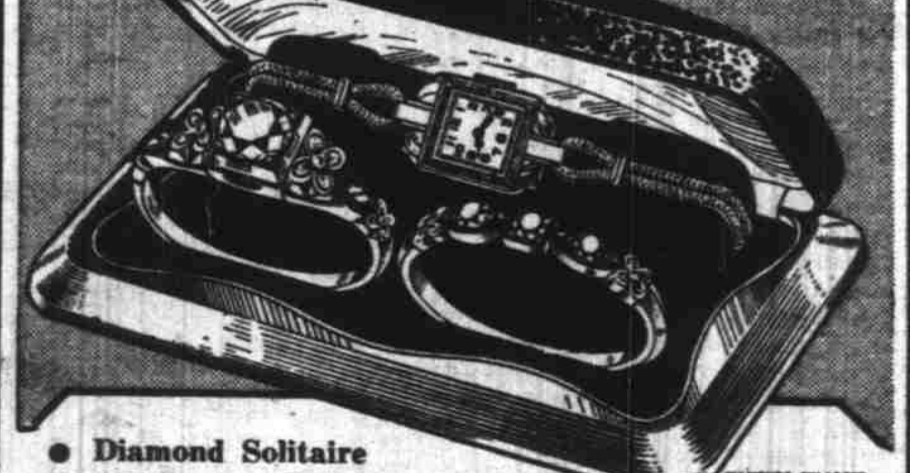
HB 105—Increasing salaries of Lake county officials.
HB 236—Relating to publication of names of state officials and employees in annual reports.

HB 233—To provide for reimbursement of hospitals, etc., for services to indigent persons injured in motor vehicle accidents.
SB 45—Providing compensation for Lucy Agnes Yeary.

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Committee to Study Possible Liquor Shortage and Revenues

Revenues for Oregon's old age assistance and public welfare program will be curtailed if a shortage of liquor develops, the legislature's joint ways and means committee was warned by Sen. Dean Walker, Polk, at its Thursday afternoon session.

Though the liquor control commission has placed orders for ample supplies of liquor, no assurance has been received, Sen. Walker said, that all orders will be filled. A committee composed of C. C. Chapman, Portland; Carl Abrams, secretary of the joint ways and means committee, and S. W. Starr, in charge of the state department auditing division, will conduct an investigation of the liquor situation and report early next week.

Definite action on a bill providing that part of the state liquor revenues shall go to municipalities for law enforcement purposes was deferred until Monday when several persons interested in the proposal will appear before the ways and means committee. Members of the committee indicated that the measure would be reported out with a "do not pass" recommendation.

Three social security bills were approved by the committee. One of these increases state aid for wayward girls in child-caring institutions from \$16 to \$20 a month, while another increases in a similar amount state aid for homeless and neglected children in these institutions.

The third measure proposes that county courts shall pay \$5 a month for the support of children committed to the child-caring centers. This bill applies to all counties outside of Multnomah. The committee voted favorably to a bill that would compel parents of children committed to child-caring institutions to pay a nominal sum for their support. The ways and means committee went on record favoring immediate investigation of the state blind trades school in

Portland. At a previous meeting it was decided to conduct the probe later and report prior to the 1945 legislature. The committee to investigate the school is composed of Sen. W. H. Strayer and Rep. Henry Benson and F. H. Dammasch. The investigation probably will be completed next week, members of the committee said.

Largest non-budgetary appropriation approved by the ways and means committee Thursday was \$19,466,000 for the state highway department. For the current biennium receipts of the department were estimated at \$32,947.23.

Direct appropriations approved by the committee: Battleship Oregon commission \$10,800, to care for museum exhibits. State agricultural department, deficiency appropriation of \$10,036.50. Oregon geographic board \$300. School, district No. 30, Multnomah county, \$8280. Eastern Oregon tuberculosis hospital, \$326,871. Eastern Oregon state hospital, deficiency appropriation, \$20,000. Fairview Home, deficiency appropriation, \$20,000. Blind commission, for use in placing blind workers, \$7200.

Sen. W. H. Strayer's bill—to which Sen. Lew Wallace may have prior claim since he advocated such a change while campaigning for the governorship last year—providing a method whereby delayed birth certificates may be obtained in the absence of documentary evidence, was passed by the house. Rep. Eugene Marsh said the objection was that of making birth certificates easier to obtain yet not so easy as to enable dangerous enemy aliens to masquerade as citizens.

As a further safeguard, the house judiciary committee amended the bill to provide that only a circuit judge, or the state board of health, may issue such certificates. The senate had approved their issuance also by county judges. The circuit judge may require the attendance of the district attorney. Rep. Frank Van Dyke suggested that this be made compulsory. Intent of the bill is that persons applying for birth certificates in the absence of any documentary evidence, be questioned to overcome any suspicion of fraud.

Bills proposing changes in the public welfare administration, scheduled for third reading Thursday, were re-referred to the public welfare and unemployment committee by their author, Rep. J. D. Perry; but another of his bills, making public welfare commission records available for inspection by members of the legislature, is on Friday's calendar.

Scheduled as a special order of business next Tuesday is the Oregon Pension federation's bill proposing a statewide retirement insurance system.

States Reciprocate On Realty Brokers

Real estate brokers and salesmen in good standing in Oregon can now be licensed in the state of Washington without examination, Claude H. Murphy, state real estate commissioner, announced here Thursday.

Washington real estate brokers and salesmen are entitled to similar consideration in Oregon.

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MEMPHIS, Tenn.—(P)—In establishing its own blood plasma bank, the naval aid station here made certain there would be no "beefing" by volunteer donors.

Sailor donors get a reward: a dinner featuring a pound and a quarter of T-bone steak.