

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"
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School Election Monday

Two previous special elections this year have disposed of serious questions respecting the financing of the Salem school district. It may be that the regular election on Monday will attract few voters, yet there are issues of importance for the people to vote on.

For school director to succeed Roy Harland only one candidate, Gardner Knapp, has filed, so his election is virtually certain. He should prove a valuable member of the board.

Mountain View school district, which adjoins the former West Salem district in Polk county, seems disposed to enter this consolidated district. Last year the vote was negative but sentiment seems to have changed. The Salem district will vote on its consolidation, and a favorable vote is recommended. Mountain View is a suburb which is rapidly increasing in population and should be included in the area-wide school district.

For some years parents of young children have been pressing the school board for a kindergarten. They regard it as highly desirable for youngsters of pre-school age. A few private kindergartens are operated here but they reach comparatively few of the children in the 4-5 age group.

The board has held off starting kindergartens because of the cost to the district; but has submitted the question to the voters. An affirmative vote would empower (but not compel) the board to maintain kindergartens. A negative vote would be a rejection of the idea.

In view of the tight financial situation the district is in and the shortage of housing for regular schools, it hardly seems wise to authorize kindergartens at this time. They are a highly desirable part of a school system, but until we can build schoolhouses to take care of the six-year-olds and over we can't prudently set up kindergartens. Also, our regular operations call for raising substantial sums in excess of what can be secured within the 6 per cent limitation. To add to that excess, as would be necessary for kindergartens, might result in a rejection of the whole extra levy at some date.

But don't forget the school election Monday. Get out and vote your own sentiments.

State Federation of Labor Meets Here

Salem welcomes the Oregon Federation of Labor which starts its annual convention here tomorrow. It will draw the leaders of AFL unions from all parts of the state. Convention sessions are closed meetings as a rule and are conducted with formality and decorum, though at times the arguments wax warm.

Leadership in the Oregon Federation of Labor has been quite stable for many years past. Its members are responsible citizens. They view problems through the eyes of working men and women and are, of course, grounded in the philosophy of trades unionism. They credit unions with bringing them better working conditions and higher pay which permits a higher standard of living. Naturally, they seek to hold their gains and extend them.

You'll find no "reds" among the AFL. Many are democrats, some are republicans, probably some are for the "new" party and some are Norman Thomas socialists. They belong to various local organizations, churches, lodges, clubs and identify themselves actively with community life.

The state federation convention is not just a party with speech-making and banquets. It takes plenty of time to deliberate over reports of committees and questions relating to the status of labor and of unions, laws dealing with labor such as unemployment compensation, workmen's compensation, etc. The annual meeting has its social side, to be sure, but this does not obscure the business of the convention.

As Salem folk see men and women wearing the usual badges of conventioners they should greet them and make them know they are welcome guests in the capital city. For these people represent the folk who do much of the work of the world, who produce the goods and services which distinguish the American standard of living as the highest in the world.

Extra Legislative Session?

In Washington, where he went following the governor's conference in New Hampshire, Gov. John Hall has stated that a special session of the legislature may be called to consider measures for flood relief. In Olympia, however, Gov. Mon Wallgren indicates that a special session of the Washington legislature is improbable and is quoted as saying "at the present moment I haven't seen anything a special session could do in the emergency."

First, we need to get our bearings, to see what public help is required and what agencies of government are assuming responsibility. The Red Cross is ministering to the immediate needs of families and individuals who have been flooded out. It will also assist in rehabilitation of many flood sufferers.

Private charity has been extended quite generously—more clothing has been sent than can be used.

The federal government's part is still obscure. So many bills have been introduced in congress it is hard to keep track of them. Provision for temporary housing has been made; and a bill to enable the RFC to lend for permanent housing is under consideration.

It may be that state aid will be needed to supplement the resources of county welfare commissions in the affected counties, but no report to that effect has been made to date.

When Governor Hall returns it may be that the situation as to state participation will be clearer. The state does not want to shirk its responsibilities, but unless a definite program is worked out which is likely to meet with legislative approval no special session should be called. It must be remembered that a complete new organization would have to be effected because of the death of President Marshall Cornett of the senate and the succession of Speaker Hall to the governorship. It would be better not to have this political footrace projected into the summer vacation season.

Capitol Open on Sundays

Secretary of State Earl T. Newby announces that the state capitol will be kept open on Sundays through the summer tourist season. This is good news. The capitol is the state's most imposing and beautiful structure, both outside and inside. People like to visit it, and when they come, want to see the interior. It will cost the state a little extra money to keep the capitol open; but the money will be well expended.

Probably the great majority of those who would visit the capitol on Sundays would be Oregonians rather than out-of-state tourists. Our own citizens have a claim for consideration that deserves to be recognized, for it is their state capitol and they should get to see what it looks like.

In the winter months there is less motor travel and fewer people driving around just to see the sights, so there is not the public demand for keeping the capitol open. We are quite sure Secretary Newby will be well pleased with the response to his order for summer opening, which follows precedents of former years.

Salem Men on AFL Conclave Speakers List

(Story also on page 1)
A large group of Salem labor leaders and state department heads will be included on the roster of speakers at the Oregon State Federation of Labor's five-day convention which starts in Salem Monday.

W. E. Kimsey, state labor commissioner, Ronald Jones, president of the Oregon State Farmers union and Paul E. Gurske of the state unemployment commission, are expected to make appearances.

The Salem delegation will be led by F. M. Keith, president of the Salem Trades and Labor Council; Herbert Barker, executive secretary of the council; E. S. Benjamin, executive secretary of the Cannery Workers Union; F. D. VanSwearingen, executive secretary of the Salem Building Trades Council; and Ward Graham, secretary-treasurer of the Salem Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers Union.

Others scheduled to address the convention include Morton Tompkins, state grange master; Hillman Lueddeman, Portland chamber of commerce president; Lee C. Stoll, chairman of the Portland labor-management committee; and E. M. Weston, president of the Washington State Federation of Labor.

A public address system is installed at the armory and the public is invited to view all sessions from the balcony.

Meeting at the Labor temple here late the past week were the state organizations of painters, building trades and construction workers, regional conferences of telegraphers, retail clerks and culinary alliance workers.

Delegates and their wives will visit Silver Creek Falls Tuesday afternoon and that night a dance will be held in the Labor temple for the visitors.

Coal Dispute Board Formed

WASHINGTON, June 19—(AP)—President Truman set up a Taft-Hartley board of inquiry today in an effort to wipe out the threat of another nationwide soft coal strike next month.

Impressed with the need for swift action, the president asked the three-man board to report by Wednesday. The coal contract expires June 30. The miners begin a 10-day vacation June 26.

Appointed to the board were David E. Cole, Paterson, N.J., lawyer and labor arbitrator, chairman; E. Wight Bakke, professor of economics at Yale University; and Waldo Amanuel Fisher, professor of industrial relations at the University of Pennsylvania.

Tax Test Suit In Final Round

The attorney general's office Saturday was preparing a reply brief in the case of former governor Charles A. Sprague to restrain transfer of state income and corporate excise tax funds to the state general fund.

The state supreme court will hear the case next Thursday. A brief by Sprague's attorneys was filed Thursday. The case was appealed from the Marion county circuit court of Judge George R. Duncan who ruled the approximately \$50,000,000 in funds were miscellaneous receipts and subject to transfer to the general fund.

If the supreme court should uphold the circuit court ruling, Gov. John Hall has indicated he will ask a special session of the Oregon legislature to appropriate the funds for flood relief.

GOP May Boost Delegates' Bonus For '52 Conclave

PHILADELPHIA, June 19—(AP)—The republican rules committee decided today to boost the number of delegates who will nominate the party's presidential candidate in 1952.

Clarence B. Kelland, Arizona national committeeman and chairman of the rules group, said that the bonus to states for election of republican officials will be increased four years from now if this year's convention approves the rules change.

Under present rules each state is given a bonus of three delegates when it elects a senator or votes a majority for the party's presidential candidate. Under the proposed new rule, each state which elected a republican governor or senator, or voted a majority for the presidential candidate would get a bonus of six votes.

OTTAWA—(AP)—Nearly four out of 10 Canadians are directly or indirectly dependent upon export trades for their existence.

Births
KELSO—To Mr. and Mrs. Billy Kelso, 2030 John st., a daughter, Saturday, June 19, at Salem General Hospital.

If You Can Ride a Bike
You Can Win a Prize!
See Page 13 for Full Details

GRIN AND BEAR IT By Lichty



"There are so many candidates around who don't seek the nomination, but will accept if called that the delegates are afraid to talk above a whisper..."

Change Asked in Law Involving Filing of State Election Costs

Elimination of confusion and duplication by revision of the Oregon corrupt practices act, relating to election candidates, probably will be undertaken at the 1949 legislative session, according to reports current at the capitol.

David O'Hara, in charge of the state elections bureau, said he would cooperate in any plan that would improve and clarify the existing law.

Probably one of the most confusing situations resulting from the present corrupt practices act involves the reporting of campaign expenditures by candidates, their campaign committees, and individual contributors. O'Hara declared that under the existing law it is almost impossible to determine the accurate expenditures of a candidate for the reason they frequently are reported by both his campaign committee and individual contributors. This duplication, O'Hara said, is unfair to the candidates and often shows their total expenditures far in excess of what they actually are.

O'Hara said the law should be amended so campaign expenditures would be reported through one central source, preferably the committees.

Under the existing setup campaign expenses of candidates are restricted to 15 per cent of one year's salary but there are no restrictions on how much can be spent by a committee or contributor.

Low Salaries Noted

All candidates are permitted to spend up to \$100. This provision was inserted in the law because of the low salaries received by some officials such as members of the state legislature.

Candidates for governor, who receives \$10,000 a year, are restricted to campaign expenditures of \$1,500.

Suggestion was made that the corrupt practices law be amended so as to provide for a definite maximum expenditure by the candidate and in his behalf. Such a plan, it was argued, would tend to halt large campaign contributions and place the same restrictions on candidates' committees and individual contributors as are now imposed on candidates.

It was pointed out that in the recent primary election campaign Gov. John Hall's committee expended approximately \$24,000, while the Douglas McKay committee spent more than \$26,000. Records in the state department show that both Hall's and McKay's personal campaign expenditures were well within the corrupt practice law restrictions.

Another suggestion has been offered that the expenditures of all candidates, or certain top candidates, and their contributors (with names of contributors included), be filed with the secretary of state a week prior to primary, general and special elections.

The argument was advanced that this proposal, if approved, would acquaint the voters with the amount of money spent by candidates prior to the election along with the amounts of contributions and the source from which such contributions were received.

Dewey-Stassen
A proposal to compel national candidates on the Oregon ballot

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IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

are destined to be commensurate with the growth, rise and prosperity of our infant and rapidly increasing settlement."

Judge Carey notes, in his history of Oregon: "His prophecy has been abundantly fulfilled, as the subsequent history of the church will show."

Most of the mission colony remained in Oregon after the Indian mission was closed and they labored to advance the interests of their church and of the educational institution the missionaries had founded (now Willamette University.) Such names as Father Waller, J. L. Parrish and David Leslie are well known in Methodist history and survive as place names in Salem (Junior high schools and Waller hall and streets). But Roberts and Wilbur were the real team who propagated the cause of Methodism in Oregon. Of them Joseph Gaston wrote:

While these two men were both much above the ordinary as preachers of the gospel, their chief claim to historical eminence was that of hard workers. They were always at work for their church. It had no rivals in their affections or ambitions. Roberts had the credit of building more church buildings in Oregon than any other man ever living in the state."

The Methodist church is no longer as dominant in the affairs of Oregon as it was a century ago; but it is still the most numerous religious body in the state. It has changed, too. The "class meetings" with their seasons of testimony are things of the past, and rarely do loud "Amen's" come from the pews when the preacher eloquently twists the devil's tail. But it is still an aggressive, militant body, deeply concerned with the kind of lives people live even if it has moderated some of its old rules of discipline. In a changing world it seeks to uphold the ancient faith and to apply its ethical teaching to the relations of men.

Citrus groves along the Palestine coast produce fruit six months out of the year.

Boeing Strike Held Illegal

SEATTLE, June 19—(AP)—Federal Judge John C. Bowen told the striking Aeronautical Mechanics union today that in his opinion it has lost its collective bargaining rights with the Boeing Airplane Company. The judge termed the strike at

the bomber-producing Seattle plant illegal. He offered the opinion in refusing a national labor relations board request which asked that the company be required to bargain collectively with the union.

CARD OF THANKS
I wish to thank the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Ladies of Auxiliary No. 4, and friends for kind assistance and lovely flowers during illness and death of my wife.
Bert J. Williams

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