

Jealousies, Problems Revive; 'Bulging Millions' Discounted

(Editor's note: Ralph Watson, former political editor of The Oregon Journal and one of the best-known political writers in Oregon, will contribute periodically to The Oregon Statesman during the present legislative session. His writings—as well as all legislative bills—entirely un-censored, whether or not in conformity with the editorial policy of this newspaper, and should provide a valuable adjunct toward understanding.)

By Ralph Watson

For the 45th time since Oregon became a state, its legislature has convened with the usual ceremonies, the usual speeches, the usual lurking jealousies and the usual unsolved problems stretching ahead of the 90 members of the senate and the house. And, running along with the procession was the always optimistic suggestion, or hope, that this is to be a "short session," a hope cherished but seldom fulfilled.

To those for whom legislative openings have become more or less a matter of routine—an oft-repeated spectacle—there were two spots in the program which rang the bell in the initial organization. The one, the somewhat optimistic statement of Sen. William Walsh in assuming the presidency of the senate; the other the more vinegar-tinged observations of retiring Governor Hall in regard to the "half-truth" of "high officials" regarding the "bulging millions" in the state treasury.

President Walsh told the 29 senators who had just voted him into the chair for the duration of the session that each of them were entitled to sit in the senate because of their having been selected by "a sizeable segment" of the voting public.

That, the senator intimated, was democracy at work, but he went on from there to say that once the segments had voiced their sentiments it was up to those selected to give their earnest and utmost service to the entire state, its problems and its welfare.

The legislature should be a workshop where partisanship and politics were parked outside the door. That rule was to be his guide, he stated, and he hoped for cooperation in making it work smoothly and harmoniously. The senator painted a fairly optimistic picture but at any rate he has set the legislative idols of the upper house high enough so that all their 60 feet will be visible to the public gaze and those, if any, made of clay will be readily seen.

Governor Hall's valedictory was far above the messages left by outgoing governors in years past in the force and clarity of the observations made upon the "state of the union." Too, it was interesting to note that Governor McKay, whose inaugural followed upon the heels of Hall's recession, followed along in the major suggestions of his predecessor.

But the outgoing governor dipped his pen in the vinegar crust when he came to talk of the "bulging millions" of the state treasury. Those who sit in the governmental bleachers will agree with his statement that "but a small segment of our population is familiar with the financial condition of the state" and they will agree with the charge that statements made by "high officials" that the treasury is "bulging" with funds waiting to be tapped are in fact half truths and misleading to the public.

Some tender-hearted listeners contended that Hall was a little bit rugged in bringing ex-State Treasurer Scott into his message by name. Be that as it may, he did just that and went on to demonstrate why he thought it was not good financial food to feed to the people. He pointed out that some \$87 million of the treasury's bulge consists of the unemployment compensation commission's accumulated surplus, the most of it privately contributed, not tax money but a "trust fund" set up by law for a special use.

The industrial accident fund creates another \$41 million bulge; the liquor control commission bulges the wallet another \$60 million; the highway commission bulges it \$67 million more, the game commission swells it another \$4 million, while the corporate excise accumulated bulge boosts the swelling by another \$68 million.

That is all money, in the treasury during the biennium, and it is all earmarked for specific use and Governor Hall was right on the beam when he insisted that it has been bad business and misinformation to make the uninformed voter believe he has a lot of money in the bank when in actual fact he is mighty close to an overdraft.

Anyway, the preliminaries are over, the ring is cleared for the main bout, 60 or 80 days to a decision—or a draw.

Restaurant Films Shown at Chemawa

Francis Rierson, new health educator with Marion county health department, showed films on restaurant food handling and dish washing at Chemawa Indian school Monday night. Over 200 attended the showing.

William Quinn, member of the department, aided in the presentation.

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Bill Proposes Repeal of Milk Control Law

By Lester Cour
Staff Writer, The Statesman
(Story also on page 1)

Repeal of the state milk control act and election of a lieutenant governor, to replace the president of the senate as Oregon's number two executive, are sought in measures introduced in the state senate today.

A bill submitted by Sen. Thomas Mahoney, of Portland, would throw out the existing milk control act currently being administered by Agriculture Director E. L. Peterson. The act has been strongly attacked during the past year by certain Portland dairymen.

The senate joint resolution calling for election of a lieutenant governor was introduced by Sens. Mahoney and Jack Bain. It provides for election of the new officer for a four year term. He would also serve as president of the senate during sessions, as executive secretary to the governor, and as budget director.

A bill introduced by Sen. Richard Neuberger of Portland would enact a fair employment practices act similar to a measure now in effect in New York state.

It would forbid racial and religious discrimination in employment and would set up a five-man fair employment practices commission to be appointed by the governor to administer the law.

Another senate joint resolution introduced by Sen. Allan Carson of Salem would permit the American Legion to use the house chambers for its convention on August 4, 5 and 6 of 1949.

Two bills introduced by Carson seek to lift the \$10,000 damage ceiling in case of wrongful death injury by a wrongdoer. Sen. Orville Thompson of Albany submitted a bill to improve the law governing service of summons.

In the Senate

INTRODUCED

SB 2—(Thompson)—Providing that court records may be used by appointed representatives of corporations.

SB 3—(Revision of Laws)—To lift the \$10,000 limit in case of wrongful death and allow both compensatory and punitive damages against wrongdoer.

SB 4—(Mahoney)—To repeal state milk control act.

SB 5—(Revision of Laws)—To lift the \$10,000 limit in case of wrongful death and allow compensatory damages against wrongdoer.

SB 6—(Neuberger and others)—To enact fair employment practices act.

SJR 1—(Carson)—To permit the American Legion to hold convention in house chambers on August 4, 5 and 6 of 1949.

SJR 2—(Mahoney and Bain)—An act providing for a lieutenant governor, his elections and duties.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEES

SB 1—(Hilton)—To permit employees under the state retirement act to continue working after reaching 65 if capable. (State affairs.)

SCR 1—(Well and Lynch)—Providing for appointment of a five-man joint committee to investigate the current housing shortage.

In the House

INTRODUCED

HB 4—(Thomas, Francis)—Placing personal income tax revenues in general fund.

HB 5—(Thomas, Francis)—Placing corporate excise tax revenues in general fund.

HB 6—(Thomas, Francis)—Repealing state community property law.

HB 7—(Hounsell)—Upping salaries of Hood River county officials: judge \$2750 to \$3000, treasurer \$1350 to \$1500, clerk \$2750 to \$3000, sheriff \$2750 to \$3000.

HB 8—(Henderson, Steelhammer, Chindgren)—Clarifying relationship between circuit and county courts.

ADOPTED

SCR 2—Providing for standard forms for bills.

SCR 3—Providing for house supplies.

SCR 4—(Wells, Sen. Lynch)—Providing for a committee to investigate the housing shortage.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEES (All from 1947 session, vetoed)

HB 23—(Licensing of racing rooms for betting on outstate races.)

HB 468—Exempting corporations from paying tax on dividends of subsidiary corporations if more than 30 per cent owned by them.

HB 468—Allowing state to compile and publish state laws for other states.

HB 505—Transferring marble board and music box tax revenues from old-age assistance fund to general fund.

(Vetoed bills of 1949 session)

HB 506—Giving state prior claim to property of deceased aid recipients.

HB 554—Transferring marble board and music box tax revenues from old-age assistance fund to general fund (similar to HB 505).

As many as 15,000 tiny young oysters or spat can cement themselves onto half a bushel of shells planted under water in oyster cultivation.

Sweet Home Invitation to Governor on Plywood



Members of Sweet Home Chamber of Commerce are about the first to extend an invitation to Gov. Douglas McKay on a piece of plywood. The invitation is to a venison feed being given by the Sweet Home chamber Jan. 18. Reading the greeting and invitation is Dr. J. J. McCarthy, president, while standing are, left to right, Raleigh Middleton, past president; John D. Galey, secretary; M. M. Landon, Linn county representative from Sweet Home; Governor McKay, State Treasurer Walter Pearson and Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry. (Statesman photo.)

Fair Practice Job Act Up To Legislature

A fair employment practices act introduced in the senate Tuesday by Sen. Richard Neuberger of Portland looms as one of the hottest issues to be considered by the 45th Oregon legislature.

Signed by more than half the upper house and written by the Portland author, the resolution would forbid the practice of racial or religious discrimination in hiring by employers or unions. It is modeled after the New York state act which has received national publicity in newspapers and magazines.

"The purpose of the measure," Neuberger said Tuesday, "is to prevent any resident of Oregon from being denied a job because of his or her race, color, creed, national origin or ancestry."

The bill would eliminate employment forms which ask the religion or color of an applicant for a job. Religious or racial specifications could not be advertised seeking either personnel or employment.

The act would be supervised by a fair employment practices commission of five members to be appointed by the governor. They would serve for per diem pay and would employ a secretary and clerical help.

Any person who felt he had been denied employment because of race or religion could complain to the commission. The commission would then seek to eliminate the difficulty through conciliation.

If the discrimination persisted, the commission would hold a hearing. If the evidence supported the charges, the commission could order the unfair practice to cease. The employer or union would have the right of court appeal.

The act provides for fines up to \$1,000 or one year's imprisonment and a fine for violations.

Pictures of Trip Shown Junior Club

SILVERTON—In addition to installation of officers at the Junior Chamber of Commerce Friday night, R. A. Fish showed pictures of his recent trip through the south.

Reports of completed projects by the junior members were made which included the city maps available to tourists at business houses and service stations, reminders to voters posted prior to election, the nearly completed tennis courts with only fence and nets to be installed. Final tennis court improvements will be the first consideration as soon as weather permits.

Silverton Christian Church Holds Election

SILVERTON—A no-host dinner of deacons and elders and their wives of the Christian church was held at the close of services Sunday. Following the dinner, the elders visited shut-ins and served communion. The newly organized Junior Christian Endeavor at the Christian church held a no-host 5 o'clock dinner preceding the first meeting Sunday. Mrs. L. R. Neal is advisor.

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Car Testing on Expanded Basis To Be Considered

A possible move to establish car-testing on a statewide basis was foreseen as a result of action taken by the senate roads and highway committee Tuesday.

The committee, on motion of Sen. Frank Hilton of Portland, voted to ask that Portland City Commissioner Kenneth Cooper provide information on the workings of the Portland car-testing station which recently was abandoned.

The committee also voted to meet jointly with the house roads and highway committee, the joint meeting to be chaired by Rep. Ralph Moore of Coos Bay who was on the highway interim committee, to discuss the full report which the interim committee handed down last year.

Water Shortage Hits Silverton After Cold

SILVERTON, Jan. 11—Certain sections of Silverton were suffering from a water shortage Tuesday. Ice at the pumping system on the Abiqua prevented the natural flow, and people letting their faucets drip to prevent frozen water pipes were drawing an extra heavy supply from a shortage in such a manner that along Steelhammer road, one of the hill sections reported "almost no water at all." Water department men, including the superintendent, Lewis Yates, were working overtime Monday night and Tuesday in an endeavor to alleviate the trouble. A change in weather would be the greatest help, they added.

Lyons WSCS Meets with Mrs. George Huffman

LYONS—Women's Society of Christian Service met with Mrs. George Huffman Tuesday. Mrs. Alex Bodeker was in charge of the business meeting and Mrs. George Clippell led the devotions. Plans were discussed for the coming year. Ten dollars was voted the Suttle Lake project and Mrs. Wallace Power was appointed chairman of the Spiritual Life. Present for the meeting were Mesdames, Albert Ring, Laurence Walworth, Lorn Chamberlain, George Clippell, Wallace Power, Roy Huber, Floyd Bassett, Alex Bodeker, Daisy Johnston, Anna Johnson.

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Mysterious New Chemical Times Growth

By Howard W. Blakeslee
Associated Press Science Editor

NEW YORK, Jan. 11—(AP)—Discovery of a mysterious chemical called X, which seems to time how fast you grow old, was described to the Terontological society here.

X is something that parents transmit to their offspring. It is set, like a clock, either for a long or short life.

The report was by Dr. A. I. Lansing, of the Washington University school of medicine, St. Louis. The Gerontological society is an organization of scientists and doctors who study old age. Their annual meeting was held today.

The age clock was found in rotifers, but a little human evidence was cited. Rotifers are microscopic water bugs, swimming with long lashes that make them look like whirling dervishes.

The setting of the X-clock in rotifers depended on how early they mated. Young rotifers lived long if they were born from parents still young. They aged and died more rapidly when parents were older.

By selecting the mating time, Dr. Lansing got rotifers to live four times longer than normal. He continued these long-living animals through 54 generations, which would be nearly three thousand years in human generations. Rotifers live usually only a few days. Those with the X-clock set right lived 100 days and more.

Hubbard Rifle Club, Elects New Officers

HUBBARD—The Hubbard Rifle and Pistol club has elected Ed Erickson president; Jack Evans,

vice-president; Floyd Dominick, secretary-treasurer; C. R. Duncan, executive officer; Zane Yoder, range officer.

As a member of the Oregon Northwest League of eight teams, the Hubbard club went to Hillsboro Friday night for a match which Hubbard won.

Friday, January 14, the local team will go to McMinnville for a match with the McMinnville first team.

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