

House to Reconsider Bill Giving Governor Control of Electricity

McKay Said to Doubt Constitutionality

By Lester Cour
Staff Writer, The Statesman

The Oregon legislature slowed to a walk Tuesday. The house voted to reconsider its action in passing a bill to authorize the governor to regulate electric power consumption and the senate referred the only bill on the day's calendar.

The power bill, introduced by Sen. Thomas Mahoney, Portland, had been approved in both houses.



By Charles F. Sprague

I have just been reading the biennial report of the state system of higher education. It is largely money talk — a report of receipts and expenditures for the last biennium, a plea for more money for buildings and faculty salaries in the coming biennium.

President Edgar W. Smith says, "Through the medical school, the agricultural experiment station, the agricultural extension service, the state system renders a tremendous amount of public service to the people of the state."

Chancellor Paul W. Packer gives three paragraphs to the public service (extension and research) elements of the state system. Other than that and tables showing enrollment, nothing is reported on the EDUCATIONAL achievements and goals of the higher institutions of learning.

Text and statistics illustrated with charts and sketches go to prove the case for larger appropriations. Keeping a full faculty is said to be difficult because salaries in Oregon are below average (with no reference to loss through turning members out to grass at age 65). Oregon is said to rank 15th among 16 comparable colleges and universities in salaries paid professors. Some progress is being made in this respect, however, since the deficiency of \$1700 of two years ago has been reduced to \$1200 in comparison with salaries paid at competing institutions.

As for buildings, though the desirable space per student is 175 square feet and the essential minimum is 155 square feet, actual space available is only 112 square feet in permanent-type (Continued on editorial page)

Salem-Newport Bus Proposed

An application to establish a short-cut bus service between Salem and Newport via the Salmon river cut-off has been filed with the public utilities commission by John Ratzliff, Albany.

The proposed schedule would route buses from Salem to Dallas, Wallace Bridge and Valley Junction. It would provide additional schedules from Salem to Dallas; Valley Junction to Otis and Otis to Newport.

Ratzliff has also filed an assumed business name certificate for Pacific Coast lines with the Linn county clerk. He is the proprietor of the Santiam Stages.

Groundhog May See Rain, Snow

Salem's weatherman hung out another order for rain and snow today, and promised a cloudy day to prevent the groundhog from gazing at his shadow.

Ever if the groundhog doesn't see his shadow, Salem is promised at least two more days of wintry weather. Temperatures are expected to slip to the 25 degree level Thursday morning.

The mercury stood at 31 degrees early Wednesday morning, running Salem consecutive days of freezing temperature to 33. Minimum Tuesday morning was 28. The maximum reached 42 in the afternoon.

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"This is Ground Hog Day so let me have some pork sausage."

The Oregon Statesman

FOUNDED 1851

98th Year

12 PAGES

The Oregon Statesman, Salem, Oregon, Wednesday, February 2, 1949

Price 5c

No. 278

Portland Mayor Urges Solons to Keep Slots Illegal

PORTLAND, Feb. 1 (AP)— Mayor Dorothy McCullough Lee, who has been waging a war on slot machines, said tonight she hoped the state legislature would not legalize them. In a radio broadcast, Mrs. Lee asserted that night club interests here "are spending a great deal of times in Salem in the hope of having legislation passed that will legalize slot machines in some manner."

She expressed hope that "our law makers will not see fit to pass any bill which would have this effect."

Mrs. Lee again outlined her contention that slot machines, since they produce great revenue, attract gambling operators into a city and are closely allied to major crime.

Reduced air in the braking system causing a heavy strain on the draw bar and center sill of the preceding car, was reported responsible for the accident. The draw bar and sill dropped to the track in front of the tank derailling it just south of the Fairgrounds road crossing at 5:40 p.m.

The southbound freight was traveling at about 25 miles per hour when the car left the rails and the derailed car was dragged for 240 feet before the train was halted.

The accident, happening just at the peak of Southern Pacific's evening passenger traffic through Salem, delayed trains for several hours. The Cascade and the Beaver, both southbound passenger trains, were delayed for nearly two hours and the northbound passenger was 50 minutes late leaving the Salem station. The Rogue River, southbound local, was delayed about 20 minutes.

City firemen stood by the derailed car with hoses and extinguishers to prevent any blaze from the spilling gasoline. Firemen kept watch until 11 p.m. Tuesday night when the car was returned to the rails. About 50 section men worked to clear broken ties along the line.

Tractors pulled the wreckage from the mainline about two hours after the accident occurred and traffic through Salem was restored about 6 p.m. A wrecker was sent from Portland to right the upset car and return it to its trucks. The gasoline—10,250 gallons of it—was destined for West Stayton. Because of the damage to trucks and a crack in the car itself, the consignment was routed to the Standard Oil siding in Salem.

Vet Bonus Bill Opposed by Administration

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1 (AP)— The administration today indicated its opposition to a proposed veterans pension bill which it estimated would cost almost \$2,000,000 the first year, with later outlays reaching multi-billion dollar levels.

Veterans Administrator Carl R. Gray, Jr., told the house veterans committee that a plan to give servicemen of the last two wars a \$60 monthly pension when they reach age 60, plus disability payments "could not be considered in accord with the program of the president."

Under the benefit measure sponsored by Chairman Rankin (D-Miss.), a veteran need only to have served 90 days in either of the two world wars to qualify for the pension. At age 65 the monthly payment would be \$90. The extra disability pay would range from \$20 to \$120 a month with no proviso that the disability must have been incurred in service.

Gray estimated that during the first year of operations the bill would cover 2,661,800 veterans at a cost of \$1,839,008,000. But by 1985, he said, "over 8,000,000 World War II veterans will be age 60 or over."

Baby Born, Lands in Street

ASTORIA, Feb. 1 (AP)— This business of getting born has special hazards.

Yesterday it was reported from Portland that a baby arrived too swiftly and landed in four inches of snow beside the family garage.

And today it became known here that Marvin Gene Duncan had to have the sand dusted off him when he was born in the street beside a car that was having hurried his mother, Mrs. Gene Duncan, 21, to a hospital.

But just like the Portland babe, the Astorian is getting along fine and so is his mother.

Klamath Falls Water Supply Threatened

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., Feb. 1 (AP)— An air valve broke in Klamath Falls' main pumping plant and threatened to exhaust the city's main water supply tonight.

The California - Oregon Power company, which operates the water system, said houses might be out of water by morning.

Norway to 'Consider Lining Up with West', Tells Russians of Plan in Reply to Queries

SP Mainline Traffic Tied Up As Car Derails

Rail traffic on the Southern Pacific mainline was tied up for several hours Tuesday night when a tank-car of gasoline was derailed opposite the state Fairgrounds near the north Salem city limits.

Reduced air in the braking system causing a heavy strain on the draw bar and center sill of the preceding car, was reported responsible for the accident. The draw bar and sill dropped to the track in front of the tank derailling it just south of the Fairgrounds road crossing at 5:40 p.m.

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Jobless Benefits Break Record in Marion-Polk

Unemployed workers in the Marion-Polk county area received more jobless compensation benefits last month than in any month since the state unemployment commission started paying benefits more than 11 years ago.

The same is true over the state as a whole, the commission reported Tuesday.

A total of \$163,376 to civilians and \$93,230 to veterans was paid out of the Salem office during January. This represents an increase of 49 per cent for civilians and 20 per cent for veterans over January of 1948.

Only \$57,000 was paid out to Marion and Polk county jobless in 1940 and \$22,000 during January 10 years ago.

Meanwhile what was described as a "seasonal slack and cold weather" resulted in the laying off of about 44 Southern Pacific railroad employees.

Because of the slow-down in log and other industrial shipments by rail now the temporary discharges were scattered throughout the system, said H. M. King, yardmaster in Salem. Those laid off included train and yard crewmen, car inspectors and employees in the passenger station, roundhouse and section workers.

At the Marion county welfare commission it was reported Tuesday that the applications for relief from destitute persons and families are "still very high and are above the beginning of last month."

Marion Bowen, administrator of the commission, said that over 15 new applications for direct assistance were handled Tuesday.

ACTRESS SEEKS DIVORCE

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 1 (AP)— Marie Wilson, shapely blonde actress used today to divorce Actor Allan Hobbs Nixon. Miss Wilson said they were married in Las Vegas, Nev., April 27, 1942, and separated last Friday.

Three Silverton brothers began serving terms ranging from 15 to 40 years at the state penitentiary Tuesday night after they had pleaded guilty in Linn county circuit court to the torture - rape of a Brownsville girl January 15, and the rape of an Albany woman last June 30.

William John Perkins, Jr., 24, ex-convict; Cletus Perkins, 19, and Merle Clayton Perkins, 16, were sentenced Tuesday. William was sentenced on two counts for 20 years each to run consecutively. Cletus and Merle were each sentenced to 15 year terms.

The trio also faces trials for rape in Clackamas and Polk counties. William and Cletus admitted attacking two Clackamas women last fall, and William and Merle admitted raping a Monmouth girl last May.

The brothers were arrested January 26 by state police and admitted participation in the four rape cases. They were identified by their Brownsville victim as the men who followed her for four miles toward Sweet Home and forced her into their car after stopping her car by locking bumpers. She was also burned by cigaret butts.

Last June 30 William and Cletus forced an Albany woman into their car and after driving to Scrawell Hill, tied her hands, raped her and put her out of the car.

First of the admitted crimes was the rape of the 15-year-old Monmouth girls after they had stalled the car in which she was riding by putting water in the gasoline.

William and Merle used the same method on a woman at Mulino, raping her after offering to take her to a tow car when her own car stalled with water in the gasoline. William admitted raping another woman at Molalla November 11.

6 Missing in Ripon, Wisconsin Hotel Fire



RIPON, Wis., Feb. 1—Flames shoot from the roof and windows of the historic Grand View Hotel which was destroyed early today. More than 40 guests escaped but authorities listed six persons as missing and presumed dead. The cause of the fire was undetermined. (AP Wirephoto to The Statesman). (Story on page 2).

Jewelry Store Owner Held In Arson Case

William Henry Hedrick, 45, was arrested Tuesday night when city and state police reported he confessed to setting the fire which destroyed the interior of his jewelry store at 1345 State st. Tuesday morning.

City police said that Hedrick told investigating officers, City Detective David Hauser, Fire Chief W. P. Roble and Lt. Thomas J. Sheridan, state police arson squad, he set the fire to collect insurance when he feared he would be unable to meet a payment on the shop.

He reported that he purchased the shop from L. G. Prescott and still owed \$1,472. Tools and stock at the store were insured for \$4,000.

Police said he told them that he lit a 10-inch candle in a cabinet containing six gallons of cleaning solvent and a gallon of kerosene and soaked the bottom of the cabinet with kerosene. That was about 8 p.m. Monday. Then he left for Portland, returning Tuesday about noon.

Hedrick confessed after several hours of questioning by the investigating officers. Lt. Sheridan had been called from the Portland office of state police to aid in the investigation.

City firemen were called to the jewelry store early Tuesday when the blaze occurred. Plastic watch and jewelry cases were curled by the intense heat and watches left for repair were gummed or burned beyond repair. No complete estimate of damage was made.

Hedrick will be arraigned on the arson charge today. No bail has been set and he is confined in the county jail.

Silverton Brothers Draw Long Prison Terms in Rape Cases

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Move Favored By U.S. State Department

OSLO, Norway, Wednesday, Feb. 2 (AP)— Norway announced today she has advised Soviet Russia she is studying the possibilities for joining a defense alliance with the Atlantic powers.

"Norway will make further studies to establish under which forms and conditions Norway possibly could participate in a regional security system," she said.

Unofficial sources described the statement as "firm."

The Norwegian government made public its reply to a Russian note Saturday asking whether Norway would join the proposed North Atlantic alliance and whether she would grant the western powers military bases on Norwegian soil.

Foreign Minister Halvard Lange delivered the reply late yesterday to the Russian ambassador to Norway, S. Afanasjev.

The Norwegian government, the reply said, will not join any agreement with other states involving obligations on the part of Norway to grant bases for armed forces of foreign powers as long as Norway is not attacked or exposed to threats of aggression.

The reply said Norway had hoped the United Nations would provide the necessary strength to maintain peace and security for all nations, but that this hope has not yet materialized.

Must Seek Security Caring for her own security, it said, Norway is convinced of the necessity to seek increased security through regional defense cooperation. In the opinion of the Norwegian government, it said, such a pact would be within the frame of the U. N. charter and would be aimed at preventing aggression.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1 (AP)— The state department was obviously pleased tonight by Norway's apparent determination to line up with the Atlantic powers, despite Russian pressure.

Norway and several other states will soon be invited to join negotiations for a North Atlantic security treaty, the department disclosed.

The American government's position was made known officially about the same time that the Norwegian government politely but firmly turned aside a Russian note objecting to the pact. This note was evidently designed to discourage Norway from joining in the agreement.

DUBLIN, Feb. 1 (AP)— Reliable diplomatic informants said tonight Eire had received an informal invitation to join the North Atlantic defense pact but has let it be known it could not entertain such a proposal.

Eire holds the view that such a question could be considered only by an all-Ireland parliament, these informants said.

Homes Drop as Mine Collapses

CARBONDALE, Pa., Feb. 1 (AP)— The earth cracked wide open over an idle anthracite mine early today, dropping one house eight feet into the ground and damaging 13 others in a three-block area.

Sixty persons fled in night clothing, fearing an earthquake. Three were injured.

Loud underground rumblings warned of the coming cave-in. A 1,200 square foot area crumbled, the earth sagging as much as 40 feet in some spots.

One house slid into a 25-foot hole. Others tilted precariously, their foundations and walls cracked by the sliding earth.

Police estimated damage to the homes and surface areas at \$100,000.

Gas Arrives At Medford

MEDFORD, Feb. 1 (AP)— Commercial gas users had a slight break today — they were allowed to draw on enough gas to get their furnaces warm.

Commercial users have been cut off during the current fuel shortage, but arrival of a tank car of liquid gas, from which California Pacific Utilities corporation manufactures the heating gas, eased the situation slightly.

Weather

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	42	28	.00
Portland	38	27	.02
San Francisco	47	.00	
Chicago	25	37	.00
New York	37	29	.00
Willamette River	37	29	.00

FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Cloudy with occasional rain or snow beginning in the afternoon. Clearing somewhat late tonight and becoming partly cloudy tomorrow. High today near 40. Low tonight near 25.

SALEM PRECIPITATION (Sept. 1 to Feb. 2)	This Year	Last Year	Average
	22.13	28.65	22.94