

"No Favor Sways Us, No Fear Shall Awe"

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Southern Filibuster Wins Round

The issue was a parliamentary technicality but it spelled defeat for the civil rights program at this session of congress...

The parliamentary tangle was something like this:

In the past, bills like anti-lynching and anti-poll tax measures designed to secure negroes in their civil rights have failed in the senate...

To end this, Lucas moved to invoke cloture on the debate on his motion (a senate rule already permits invoking cloture in debate on a bill by a two-thirds vote)...

So the filibuster can go on and on; but with other matters pressing for action the administration leaders probably will throw in the towel...

We are unable to justify the action of the 23 republicans (Senator Cordon was one) who voted with the southern democrats...

The senate ought to be able to run its affairs without submitting to the tyranny of a minority. The rule change proposed certainly preserves ample freedom of discussion...

In this episode neither party emerges with any claim to credit for its course of conduct.

Revise the DP Law

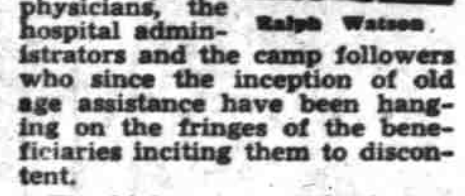
A man called the other day to inquire about the admission of displaced persons. We referred him to Frank L. Ballard of Oregon State college, chairman of a governor's committee on the subject...

The law was purposely drawn to exclude rather than admit. The chairman of the commission administering it in testimony before a house subcommittee showed how the law was discriminatory and unworkable...

Revercomb is now a displaced person, politically speaking.

Lines Drawn for State Welfare Battle

The lines in the battle of, for and against the aged have at last been fairly drawn in the house into which the long awaited "Joe Dunne" or "Eagles" bill finally has been introduced...



The high points of the bill as introduced in the house, provides for a minimum monthly pension allowance of \$50 to all those in the state who have reached the age of 65 years...

March 8 as an amendment, runs head-on into House Bill 499, by the ways and means committee, which provides specifically that the amount of money paid for assistance shall constitute "a prior claim against the property or any interest therein belonging to the estate of any person who at the time of his death was a recipient of old age assistance."

How much that bill is going to be nobody around the state capitol seems to know, nor does Miss Howard or the welfare commission. According to the estimates of the federal security board, based on receiving assistance, as of March the total has increased to 23,000. It is estimated that this total will jump to 33,000, which at a \$50 minimum pension rate would call for approximately \$40 million during the next biennium.

grants of \$20,053,642 and county allocations of \$10,302,970 make an aggregate of \$61,584,033 for the biennium.

Around that latter figure the battle is scheduled to rage. The welfare commission, in line with the law and the supreme court, has been compelled to adjust the budget estimates of a majority of the county welfare commissions upwards; which is meeting the massed objection of the organized association of county judges before the ways and means committee.

On the opposite side, the doctors have served notice on the commission that they can't abide by the scale of fees set by the state commission. The hospital managements have served notice that they must have materially increased schedules for hospital service, and they are descending upon the ways and means committee to press their claims.

Just how the state is going to finance its share of the burgeoning load is a major puzzle for the ways and means committee. The attorney general has ruled it can appropriate money without funds in sight to pay the bills. Just how the counties are going to meet their share of the load without voting special levies has the judges and commissioners back on their heels.

IT SEEMS TO ME

(Continued from page 1)

ized to pay more if needed in individual cases. Also, the bill makes specific mention of medical, nursing and hospital care to be provided where necessary; also provision for furnishing medicines, glasses, crutches, dentures, hearing aid, etc. At present the welfare commission furnishes medical care and hospitalization and special devices where needed. However, itemizing the list probably will stimulate demand for these supplementary aids to health and comfort.

Administration of the law is left with the public welfare commissions instead of being turned over to a single administrator, as in the Dunne bill. The retention is wise, because the commissions administer other welfare programs and this will avoid duplication of departments.

The social welfare committee had quite a battle over the issue of giving the state a prior claim on estates of old age beneficiaries. The opposition was so strong the committee omitted the provision, but a amendments committee bill (HB449) sets up such a claim. It was strongly urged by retiring Governor Hall. One amendment would exempt property of value of \$5000 or less.

This claim is often referred to as a lien, perhaps because in the early days those getting assistance were required to mortgage or deed their property to the county. But it is not a lien at all. The idea is that when the state and county have provided assistance they should be reimbursed out of estate assets, if there are any. Why, it is asked, should property go to heirs who may have neglected their relatives?

Out of it all legislation will emerge which will be much more liberal in its treatment of elderly persons who are in need. The people have no objection that the legislature is disposed to follow the popular direction.

In my opinion it is a mistake to spell out in law all the details of old age assistance. Conditions may change; cost of living may decline; public revenues may not stretch to cover all the costs. I favor leaving the law more flexible, giving the welfare commission broad latitude in fixing standards and apportioning funds.

Society has assumed the obligation of taking care of its needy aged. Oregon has not been a laggard among the states in this respect; and this legislation will put it well up among the leaders, though still behind its coast neighbors — as it is in many things.

The Safety Valve

To the Editor: Supports State Claim

Concerning the bill under legislative consideration, under which the state may require lien of our older citizens who are to receive state assistance, it seems that some would argue without the basic facts. It must be known that the people constitute the state, and pay the tax, either directly or indirectly. There is no magic fund from which this money can be drawn, as our legislative body now realizes. We must credit most of these taxpayers with attempting to so provide such safe-guards that they, in their non-producing years, will not be in the position of some of our older citizens of today. Their tax not necessarily direct is very real.

We would not be thought devoid of sympathy to any now in need. Many of them are our dearest friends, and we certainly wish them all happiness as they approach the great Unknown. But we cannot see how the lien requirement can detract either from their happiness or their comfort. The state would require nothing of them as they lived. True those of them who own substantial property would not leave the title to such property unimpaired. Perhaps, it may be argued, that the stigma of such an arrangement would be more than we should require of our older people. This surely would be no greater than the receiving of the pension in itself; they would have the satisfaction of knowing that as far as possible and to the last they were trying to pay their own way. And in the finality, who would derive the benefit from an unimpaired title? By what course of reasoning must the state hand down to heirs a clear title? How should it be held responsible for doing so?

It would seem, in all logic and fairness, that the inheritance with its lien, should be borne by those who inherit. Give the state and the taxpayer a break. Robert E. Brown 1374 W. Plaza St. West Salem

To the Editor: Mr. Fred Thompson of 1575 South Commercial street seems to have been confused again. In our article to which he refers, signed by Ten Gentlemen from South Commercial street. We were as the article stated, giving our preference, for the widening of South Commercial street and we did not mention the Baldock plan. After all we do have a right to prefer, though we may never get our preference.

(Signed) The Same Ten Gentlemen By Clayton W. Jones 1145 South Commercial

Trades Printing for Gardening



Now that spring is peering around the corner, Chet Baker will have more time to spend with his chrysanthemums and other flowers at home. For he retired today after 44 years as a printer with The Statesman. (Statesman photo).

Chester Baker Retires After 44 Years on Statesman Crew

When Chet Baker washed the printer's ink off his hands at the end of the shift early this morning, he concluded 44 years of service for The Statesman Publishing company. Baker, a fixture in The Statesman's composing room, is retiring to "just take life easy for a while and spend a little more time growing chrysanthemums" which has long been a hobby.

Forty-four years doesn't account for all of Chet's experience around newspapers. From 1924 to 1928 he was employed elsewhere in the printing business.

Started at 15 Chet was 15 years old when he went to work for The Statesman back in July, 1901. He started in as an apprentice, or printer's devil as they were universally called at that time. His pay for a 10-hour day, 6-day week was \$3. He recalled that he did such jobs as mending lead, sweeping out and dragging the mail bags to the post-office. At that time The Statesman was publishing a daily and a twice-weekly newspaper. After Chet had been around for awhile he made up the twice-weekly paper.

Four publishers have owned the paper in the nearly half a century Chet has been working for it. The late R. J. Hendricks was the publisher when Chet started his apprenticeship. He stayed on through the tenures of Sheldon Sackett, Earl Brownlee and Charles A. Sprague.

Ran Gamut of Jobs Chet has run the gamut of jobs in the newspaper composing room. He has worked them all from apprentice to foreman during his long service. Recently he has been making up the classified pages of The Statesman. But now he says he will spend his time reading the paper rather than putting it together.

And there is a lot of gardening to do around his home at 1515 Saginaw st. He is glad he'll have more time to spend growing flowers, which has long been a hobby for him.

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