

Hearing Set On Road Fund Bar to Cities

The senate roads and highways will hold an open hearing Thursday at 8 p.m. in room 309 on two controversial highway bills now in the senate.

One is senate bill 287, which would bar the highway commission from spending any funds for new construction inside cities until Oregon's primary highways are brought up to federal road standards.

If approved by both houses, the measure would eliminate the proposed \$7,000,000 highway improvement program in Salem, the \$22,000,000 Sullivan's gulch project in Portland and several other major highway programs in other Oregon cities.

Sen. Angus Gibson, Junction City, moved to report the bill to the senate floor with a "do not pass" recommendation in a meeting of the highway committee Friday, but other members demanded a hearing on the bill. A majority of the committee indicated they would oppose the bill.

Also slated for discussion Thursday night is the house-approved bill which would boost state gasoline taxes from 8 to 9 cents a gallon.

Liquor Board's Records Declared To Be Confidential

Minutes and transactions of the state liquor control commission, other than such information contained in its annual audit and biennial reports, are not available for inspection by the public, Attorney General George Neuner held Monday.

The opinion was requested by Sen. Austin Fiegel in connection with pending legislation. Neuner wrote that "the business of the liquor control commission is a very extraordinary one open to jealousies of competitors."

Senate Defeats Bill to Permit Longer Trucks

A bill to permit longer trucks and buses to operate on Oregon highways was killed in the senate Monday by a narrow 15 to 14 vote.

The bill would have increased the length limit from 35 to 40 feet for single chassis trucks and buses, provided the operators obtained permission from the highway department.

Critic Pauses for Full Tribute To Big Majority of Legislators

By Ralph Watson

It seems that umbrage has been taken by a few at some recent observations voiced in this column regarding certain happenings in the legislature.

And, under the soothing silence of the Sabbath the author of it gave thought to what he has done and there came back to his mind from far memory some excerpts from The Book, taught him in the long ago at his mother's knee.

He remembered that wisest of proverbs, that "A soft answer turneth away wrath, but grievous words stir up anger," and it seemed fitting to the time.

And then, again, where St. Matthew advised: "But who smiteth thee on the right cheek, turn to him the other also," which always in his youth had seemed a slightly rugged practice even for these Christian times.

And then, at last, in thumbing through the pages, hallowed by the marginal notations of a long-vanished hand, he came upon one of Solomon's sayings which read: "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. As an ear-ring of gold and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprove upon an obedient ear."

So now, full of the repentant spirit of the Sabbath day, this column bows before the forum with an humble and a contrite heart to make amends to that large majority of the assembly to whom amends may be due.

For four decades—before some of those who now are howling loudest at their hurts first were wrapped in diapers—he who heads this column has championed, often against the voice of high command, the honest endeavor, the sincere effort, the unpaid or underpaid labor of public officials expended for the public good.

During those years he could see no reason to abet the demagog, or to give aid to him who for selfish, personal or partisan reasons tore or attempted to tear down the confidence of the public in its constituted government, or in its officers or agents. He has honored honest endeavor even though not too strong or not too efficient.

During those years he could find no valid excuse for exalting the self-seeker—ever standing by with ready-made propaganda in his hand framed to ring the bell of popular discontent—above the

great majority who toiled in the night for stability in government, harmony and efficiency in its administration. It has seemed a source of sorrow to see the order in apparent change.

So, to the great majority of those in the house and in the senate who have come to this session for earnest work to strengthen and uphold, who are not blinded by narrow partisanship and political self interest, who are not galled so easily by an adverse word; to all these we extend our compliments, our best wishes—and our sympathy at what they still must endure.

And finally, again in the spirit of the Sabbath, we lean once more upon the wisdom of Solomon: "By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, but a soft tongue breaketh the bone."

Restricted Speed For Motorboats Wins House Vote

The house passed and sent to the senate Monday a bill restricting the speed of motorboats near bathing beaches.

It slows them down to 25 miles an hour within 200 feet of a dock or bathing beach, and to 10 miles an hour when they are within 100 feet. It also makes them slow down so they won't swamp canoes.

Penalties range up to \$250 fine and 30 days in jail.

Amity Boy Scouts Hold Spring Hike

AMITY—The Amity Boy Scout troop, accompanied by Scoutmaster Pat O'mally, had their first spring hike last Sunday to the High Heaven area northwest of McMinnville.

The boys' basketball team recently defeated the St. James boys 51-39.

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In the Senate

PASSED
SB 235 — (Judiciary & Rev. of Laws) — Provides for hiring an expert to revise Oregon's law codes and creation of a seven-man statute revision committee to be appointed by the governor to aid legislators in preparing bills and to advise the code revisor.

SB 236 — (Wells) — Allows certain consolidated fire insurance companies additional agents throughout the state.

SB 237 — (Food and Dairying) — Provides for grading of fluid milk and cream, repealing old act.

SB 473 — (Joint Ways and Means) — Increases state board of control revolving fund from \$10,000 to \$20,000.

SJR 25 — (Joint Ways and Means) — Allows board of higher education to receive \$7,200,000 worth of general obligation bonds for construction of self-liquidating buildings at state colleges and the university. Refinancing of the general obligation bonds to save an estimated \$2,200,000 to be used for new construction. Subject to vote of people.

INTRODUCED
SB 400 — (Assessment and Taxation) — Places oyster claims under property tax laws.

SB 401 — (Public Buildings and Institutions) — Provides a parking lot for state workers and state vehicles in a block bounded by Court and Chevalier streets on the north and south and by 13th and 15th streets on the west and east. Appropriates \$800,000 for purchase of the property.

SB 402 — (Education) — Requires petitioning instead of a district board of the district having the largest population instead of the largest district by territory.

SB 403 — (Judiciary) — To reinstate the Oregonian and Journal as papers entitled to print legal notices. Their status was lost when publication was suspended longer than 14 days during the recent strike.

SB 404 — (Hardie) — Authorizes reorganization of the Gilliam county hospital district.

SJR 20 — (Labor and Industries) — Creates a five-man legislative interim committee to study state labor relations laws.

SJR 21 — (Neuberger) — Creates a five-man legislative interim committee to study possible consolidation of Portland and Multnomah county governments to prevent duplication.

SJR 22 — (Fishing Industries) — Sets up a five-man legislative interim committee to study the effect

on fish propagation of proposed dams on tributaries of the lower Columbia river exclusive of the Willamette river; also suspends construction of the proposed dams on the Deschutes or any other river covered by the resolution pending report to the next legislature.

SJR 14 — (State Affairs) — Asking congress to extend operations of feeder airlines, including those of the Empire Air Lines, Inc., in eastern Oregon, for another three to five years. Should be suspended Sept. 28, 1949, unless extended.

DO NOT PASS REPORTS ADOPTED
SB 261 — (Roads and Highways) — Permitting single chassis trucks and buses up to 40 feet in length to operate on Oregon highways with permission of the highway commission. Present limit 35 feet.

SB 235, 262 **REFERRED**
SB 206 to 400 **INC.**
DO PASS REPORTS ADOPTED
SB 268.
SB 269.
UP FOR FINAL ACTION TODAY
SB 346, 350, 350, 390, SJR 13.
THE SENATE RESUMES AT 10 A. M. TODAY.

New Bar to Dams Sought In Senate Bill

A measure which would block construction of the proposed power-irrigation dam on the Deschutes river in central Oregon for at least two years was introduced in the senate Monday by Sen. Robert D. Holmes, Gearhart.

It is a resolution to set up a five-man legislative interim committee to study the effect of proposed dams on tributaries of the lower Columbia river (except the Willamette) and their possible effect on fish propagation.

Construction of dams in the streams would be prohibited until the committee reports its findings to the 1951 legislature.

If approved, the resolution in effect would reverse house action earlier this session which gave the go-ahead signal for building the dam. The house defeated a bill to bar a dam on the site near Madras.

Holmes said his proposal would give the senate an opportunity to act on the Deschutes bill killed in the house.

In the House

PASSED
HB 18 — (Dreyer, Morgan) — Increases state educational aid for veterans.

HB 111 — (Fishing Indus. com.) — Provides revolving fund for fish commission.

HB 121 — (Steelhammer) — Provides for cancellation of assumed business names.

HB 286 — (Marion delegation) — Closing Mill creek to fishing for anyone over 18 except adjacent property owners.

HB 310 — (Morse et al) — Regulates water carriers. (Vote 58-4).

HB 328 — (Game com.) — Increases hunting and fishing licenses. (Vote 48-11).

HB 329 — (Game com.) — Increases elk tags from \$5 to \$7.50; non-resident 25 (unchanged).

HB 330 — (Game com.) — Increases deer tags from 50c to \$1.00; non-resident \$2.50 to \$15.

HB 331 — (Game com.) — Increases from \$5 to \$8 fee for business license to sell game animals or birds.

HB 332 — (Game com.) — Increases special hunting tags from \$6 to \$7.50; non-resident \$10 to \$15.

HB 333 — (Game com.) — Releases fur trappers' license from \$3 to \$5.

HB 408 — (Mill. Aff. com.) — Provides that state veterans' administration shall aid county organizations.

HB 445 — (Labor, Indus. com.) — Ups unemployment compensation and changes experience ratings (omnibus bill agreed on by labor and industry).

ADOPTED
HCR 8 — (Dyer, Condit) — Provides for interim committee to study feasibility of state acceptance of \$2,500,000 Astoria naval hospital.

DEFEATED
SJR 6 — (State Affairs com.) — Proposes to abolish death penalty in Oregon. (Vote 22-27).

DO-PASS REPORTS ADOPTED
SB 44.
SB 401.
SB 402, 217, 238.
SB 179.

INTRODUCED
SB 341, 352, 353, 359, 340, 360.
HB 457 — (Ways, Means com.) — Appropriates \$2,500 for board of control to purchase property at southeast corner of Perry and 15th street in Salem, as site for heating plant.

UP FOR FINAL ACTION TODAY
HB 448 (SJR 19 10:25 a. m.)
HB 277, 487, 464, 478.
SB 44, 78, 86, 109, 112, 257.
HOUSE RESUMES 10 A. M. TODAY.

Additional Legislative News on page 4.

Refunding Bonds To Aid Education System Approved

The senate Monday passed a proposed constitutional amendment authorizing the state to issue \$10,500,000 worth of higher education bonds. The resolution will go to the voters in November, 1950.

Of the total bond issue, \$7,200,000 would be used to buy back existing general obligation bonds used to build self-sustaining buildings at state colleges and universities. The remainder would be

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used for additional higher education construction.

Sen. Dean Walker, Independence, said refinancing existing bonds would save the state \$1,500,000 in interest. He explained that self-sustaining buildings are present and proposed gymnasiums, dormitories and laboratories.

STUDY OF OFFER FAVORED
The house Monday adopted and sent to the senate a concurrent resolution calling for a study of the U.S. government's offer to donate \$2,600,000 Astoria Naval hospital to the state.

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