

'Oldest' Legislature Session Quits at End of 97th Day

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Debate Over Salary Appropriation Stalls Finale Until Nightfall

By Wendell Webb
Oregon's 45th legislature, leaving in its wake an apparently balanced budget and the state's financial problems patched up for another two years, called it quits at 9:07 p.m. Saturday—the 97th day of the longest session on record. And it quit in the usual legislative furor.

Several legislators already were en route to distant homes before the final gavels sounded, since nearly all major issues were settled by early afternoon. And many of those who remained were too weary to enjoy their new-found freedom. But the "Auld Lang Syne" resounded as always—albeit without benefit of the piano usually herded into the house chambers on the final night—after prolonged last-minute haggling over salary appropriations.

Sen. Thomas Mahoney moved to adjourn the senate and President William Walsh banged the rostrum to signal the end at 9:05. Speaker Frank Van Dyke, on motion of Rep. Harvey Wells, followed suit in the house two minutes later. Both houses sang their traditional song before leaving the floors.

Final Approval Given to Public Welfare Program
The last day brought final legislative approval of the \$55,000,000 public welfare program—\$10,100,000 more than for the current biennium—and it also saw go aglimmering the ways and means committee plan to raise \$3,000,000 a year through a cigarette tax for a state building program.

A noon-hour check of the senate had disclosed there was no chance of getting a two-thirds majority to permit action on the cigarette tax, so the house sent the bill back to committee to die. Meanwhile, a companion measure prohibiting sale of cigarettes below cost weathered the house 40 to 13 but was dumped by the senate late in the afternoon.

Need for \$50 Pension Recognized in Measure
The welfare program as finally approved recognizes the need for a \$50 minimum if funds permit (as many legislators believed they will), and also grants the state a prior claim to the estates of old-age assistance recipients and requires able children to support their aged parents.

The senate killed 16 to 14 a house-passed bill to double the state's \$50 tax for free-play pinball machines after opponents claimed it constituted a legalization of gambling.

The house, after first refusing, voted to approve the senate amendments to the unemployment compensation bill, leaving the law again applicable only to employers of four or more persons, instead of one or more.

Final legislative sanction also was given a referendum on the bill to make veterans loans available even if they didn't reside in Oregon before the war. Other final approvals went to bills boosting salaries of 66 state officials (excepting the governor) about 10 per cent; providing for interim committees to study legislative procedure and the state's entire tax structure, and making Portland and Eugene eligible to receive federal funds for slum reclamation.

No Printing Plant
One of the last actions of the senate was to defeat a house-approved bill providing for a new \$400,000 state printing plant at East State street and Airport road in Salem.

The final legislative hours would have passed peacefully enough—in fact, there would have been several less of them—had it not been for an argument over how much pay raise should be given to district attorneys, conference committee finally arrived at a figure \$200 more than the senate and \$200 less than the house wanted.

Concurrence by both house, the senate arguing lengthily in the process, paved the way for final passage of a bill for final appropriation for the state's legal department for the next biennium, and the session was over.

Earlier in the evening, a wrangle over how much overtime pay should be granted six members of the attorney general's staff, who worked many nights during the session, threatened to delay things. But the house committee finally consented to pay \$400 from the \$3,125 allotment, as insisted by the senate. Later the house, during its time while awaiting senate action on the other pay bill, decided the senate's action was uncalled for and passed a resolution of its own, which needed no senate concurrence, to restore the \$400.

All three issues—the district attorneys' pay, the overtime payments and the legal department appropriation, finally went through. But everyone wasn't happy about it.

The 45th assembly not only was the longest in its history, it was also the most expensive on record. And it almost set a new mark in the number of measures it considered. There were 996 bills introduced in the 97 days of its life, plus 151 resolutions and memorials. The number of bills was 23 short of the 1947 session and 66 short of the highest mark set 10 years ago.

Cost of the session has been roughly estimated at \$250,000, including around \$200,000 for the expenses of interim committees which will be active for the next two years.

The unemployment compensation bill as finally passed Saturday raises maximum benefits from \$20 a week for 20 weeks in any one year, to \$25 a week for 26 weeks. It reduces employer payroll taxes \$4,000,000 a year.

The \$55,000,000 welfare appropriation, which is \$10,000,000 more than the amount spent in the current biennium, includes \$28,500,000 for old age pensions, an increase of \$3,500,000.

The veterans loan measure, besides making more veterans eligible for the loans, increases by 25 per cent the amount of state bonds that may be issued to cover the loans.

(A complete digest of major legislative action for the entire session, as well as activities on the final day, will be found on page 8.)

Easter Egg Hunt at Dallas Attracts Throngs of Eager Youngsters --- Even 'Bunnies' Attend



DALLAS, April 16 — Dallas city park proved an ideal spot for an Easter egg hunt Saturday and most children had a gay romp. Smaller children, like those above, got first chance at eggs.

"Ladies first" doesn't apply when you're hunting Easter eggs, as David Aust and Tommy Robinson demonstrate. Barbara and Agatha Block, a step behind, got some of eggs in foreground, however.

Dick Myers (ears up) and Kay Wells (ears back) escorted Glenda Hill down a shady lane after eggs were found. Costumes brought prizes, but most youngsters skipped frills, concentrated on finding eggs.

Quake-Shaken Cliff Falls; Town Gasps

SALMON BEACH, Wash., April 16 —(AP)— An earthquake-loosened cliff gave this little colony a breath-taking brush with disaster today.

A threat of another possibly disastrous slide continued to hang six miles from downtown Tacoma, reported there was no need for evacuation.

A side of a cliff broke loose and roared past the community at 2:55 a. m. It hit Puget Sound so hard it kicked up an estimated eight-foot "tidal wave" to wreck nearby small boats and waterfront installations.

There was only a 20-yard gap between the end house of the fishing and beach settlement and the edge of the tremendous slide, which was close to a thousand feet across. The roaring cliffside spread pre-dawn panic in the community.

A narrow crack opened along the top of the 400-foot high cliff by Wednesday's earthquake was blamed for the slide. An extension of the crack runs along the precipitous bluff behind the settlement itself.

Trees protruded strangely today from Puget Sound waters that had been up to 100 feet deep. The mountain of earth and trees piled an estimated 500 yards into the water.

The slide area is west of Tacoma's well known Point Defiance park. The Salmon Beach community would be helplessly trapped if the cliff above it should break away. The cliff is so steep that the only land access to the string of homes along the water is by twisting foot trail down the cliffside.

John Bourgaize, operator of the Salmon Beach bathhouse, said the wave kicked up by the slide "cracked a 35-foot ramp leading down to the float like it was a matchstick."

"I thought the whole bank was coming down," said Mrs. Harvey Dangbert, in describing her reaction to the frightening experience. "I was just petrified. I opened my mouth to scream, but I couldn't even do that."

"We felt just like a disaster area," Mrs. Bourgaize added.

Bids Requested on Turbines for Dam
PORTLAND, April 16 —(AP)— Bids on furnishing two turbines for Detroit dam on the North Santiam river have been invited by the army engineers.

The work will amount to some \$1,500,000. Bids will be opened June 15.

Prayer, meditation are means by which religion does brace men and women against the trials of life. But surely religion is more than a (Continued on editorial page)

Animal Crackers

By WARREN GOODRICH



"Well maybe he's got different tastes than we have."

Czechs Free U.S. Woman

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia, April 16 —(AP)— The Czechoslovaks freed Miss Vlasta Vras today in a move officially described as intended "to better Czechoslovak-American relations."

Nervous after a week in prison, Miss Vras said she plans to leave the country as soon as she can close the Prague office through which she distributed more than \$4,000,000 in American relief supplies for Czechoslovakia since 1945.

The United States had demanded her release. Zdenek Fierlinger, acting foreign minister, told U. S. Ambassador Joseph E. Jacobs today that Miss Vras had been accused of complicity with persons plotting against the communist government.

Mix succeeds Fred McHenry, whom McKay appointed a few days ago to be circuit judge for the judicial district which includes Benton, Linn and Lincoln counties.

Robert Mix Appointed D.A. of Benton County

Governor Douglas McKay Saturday appointed Robert Mix, Corvallis, as district attorney of Benton county.

Mix succeeds Fred McHenry, whom McKay appointed a few days ago to be circuit judge for the judicial district which includes Benton, Linn and Lincoln counties.

He slumped to his living room floor late last night and died shortly of a heart ailment of many months' duration. He was 64. Funeral services will be conducted Tuesday at Forest Lawn Memorial park, Glendale.

Wally had the second longest career in pictures. His 36 years on the screen have been exceeded only by Lionel Barrymore's 40.

A sly, sly look, a hand across the face gesture, and a rumbling "aw shucks," were famous Beery mannerisms.

His teaming with the late Marie Dressler in "Min and Bill," and "Tugboat Annie," was one of the most successful movie combinations. He won an Academy Award for "The Champ" in 1931.

Beery had been the central figure in a paternity suit for several months before his death. Mrs. Gloria Schumm, a movie bit player, claims the actor fathered her 13-month-old son. Only last week she rejected a \$20,000 settlement.

Mrs. Schumm's lawyer, Carly Warner, said that with Beery's death "it is possible that the child can come into the estate as an heir unless Beery specifically disinherited him in his will."

At Beery's side when he died were his divorced wife, Mrs. Rita Gilman Fox, his brother, Will, and Wally's adopted daughter, Carol Ann, 18. She was the former Carol Ann Priestler of Roanoke, Va., the daughter of his former wife's cousin.

Beery adopted Carol Ann when she was nine months old. Once he said: "I ain't got no other heirs, so she'll get whatever I have." His fortune is estimated at more than \$1,000,000.

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Mrs. Lee Wins 'Outstanding Woman' Award

WASHINGTON, April 16 —(AP)— Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt and an 88-year-old grandmother are among six women selected by the Women's National Press club to receive its 1949 achievement awards. The awards will be presented by President Truman at the club's annual dinner May 14.

Mrs. Dorothy Williams, club president, in announcing the selections today, said that "Grandma Moses"—more formally known as Mrs. Anna Mary Robertson Moses, Eagle Bridge, N. Y.—is being honored "because she is widely recognized as one of the most popular and original painters of 1948."

Others who will receive awards "for outstanding contributions to contemporary thought and achievement in 1948," and the fields in which they worked are: Madeleine Carrol of New York, movie and stage actress — theater.

Mrs. Dorothy McCullough Lee, mayor of Portland, Ore. — government.

Mrs. Edward Quayle (Mary Jane Ward), Evonston, Ill., author of "The Snake Pit" — mental health.

Mrs. Marjorie Child Husted, Minneapolis, Minn., advertising consultant, General Mills, Inc. — business.

PORTLAND, April 16 —(AP)— Mayor Dorothy McCullough Lee does not expect to go to Washington, D. C., to accept an award by the Women's National Press club as the outstanding American woman in government.

"I'm as poor as a churchmouse and it would cost about \$300 to travel to Washington," she told reporters.

2 Saved After Boat Capsizes
Two persons were rescued from the Willamette river Saturday afternoon after a speed boat capsized just north of the Southern Pacific railroad bridge at Salem.

The pair was identified as Noble Dependelner, 327 N. 20th st., West Salem, rescued the pair from the water, and retrieved the capsized boat.

Towboat operators Clarence Smith, Albany, and Bill Carter, West Salem, rescued the pair from the water, and retrieved the capsized boat.

Camellia Show Proves Which Types Withstand Winter Best

By Lillie L. Madsen
Garden Editor, The Statesman
Don't expect to see as large a show as you have seen in former years, when you go to the Salem Camellia and Rhododendron society exhibit at Stan Bakers Motors, 525 Chemeketa st., today. (It's open from 10 a. m. to 8 p. m.) Instead look for the varieties which have withstood a temperamental winter and spring and have come out in good enough shape to show at all.

While there are about half the exhibits which are usually out at the Salem show, there are some excellent ones. Walter Barkus, chairman of the show committee, showed the most varieties, having 21 in the section devoted to best exhibits of camellias, not less than five varieties grown in amateur's own garden. He also topped all other blue-ribbon winners in the general camellia horticulture division. A new variety exhibited by Mr. Barkus lived up to its title "Dainty" a white with red blotches.

Salem Garden club, with a display of shell Pink Perfection and the deeper grandiflora camellias, arranged with apple blossoms, took first in the Garden club division. Friendly Neighbors was second place winner and the Men's Garden club, third.

Mrs. P. L. Brown of Silverton took a first on her early blooming azalea, Schippenbach. She also displayed a number of other azaleas of the earlier blooming varieties.

A Soule rhododendron displayed by Rudolph Henny and a group of Thomson's, also by Mr. Henny, were favorites at the show.

Mrs. A. W. Coon, with her Pink Perfection camellias and apple blossoms, took first place in the division of camellias with other flowers and Mrs. V. L. Sexton in the arrangements of camellias only. Mrs. Sexton had used unusually fine blooms of Lurie's Favorite for her exhibit.

Adding greatly to the show were exhibits, non-competitive, arranged by three commercial growers, Ferril, Lufert and Millard Henny. The show committee awarded each a blue ribbon.

Those who attend the show today should not miss the corner arrangement in the southwest corner. It is small but most attractive. (Winners listed on page 16).

Weather Man Hopeful for Sunny Easter

Sunshine and warmer temperatures have been promised by the weatherman for Salem's joint Easter-Blossom day festivities today.

Though clouds will dim sunrise services at the state capitol this morning, mildly it is assured of fair skies to brighten her Easter bonnet at regular church services later in the day. The mercury is expected to touch a warm 70 degrees this afternoon.

Cherries in uniform will act as guides for motorists along Salem area blossom routes today from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Reports point to an excellent display along the two blossom-lined routes.

While the rising humidity has taken some of the edge from forest fire dangers, Easter holiday picnickers are warned to take precautions in forested areas. Eighteen days without rain has made many areas dangerously dry, officials report.

223 'Peanuts' Really Aspirin; Victim Dies

SCRANTON, Pa., April 16 —(AP)— John Molnar, 48, died from eating 223 aspirin tablets with the belief they were salted peanuts.

Scranton state hospital authorities quoted Molnar as saying he found the bottle on a table and thought it contained peanuts. When he discovered his error, there were two left of the bottle of 225.

Dr. Paula E. Kubasko, Lackawanna county coroner, said a blood test showed Molnar had been drinking and the presence of alcohol in the man's blood speeded absorption of the aspirin.

He estimated Molnar's system absorbed about 1,200 grains of aspirin before his death yesterday.

\$17,000 Contributed to Kathy's Rescue Crew

SAN MARINO, Calif., April 16 (AP)— Heroism is beginning to pay dividends for the men who risked their lives to bring little Kathy Fiscus from an abandoned well.

Clark Bell, chairman of the rescue fund, said Friday approximately \$17,000 has been contributed so far; that 3,300 letters have been received "and they are still coming."

THE WEATHER

	Max.	Min.	Precip.
Salem	66	44	0.00
Portland	66	44	0.00
San Francisco	63	40	0.01
Chicago	46	25	0.00
New York	55	46	0.00

Willamette River 2 feet.
FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary field, Salem): Considerable cloudiness this morning, becoming fair before noon. High today near 70. Low tonight near 42. Conditions will be excellent for all farm activities. Winds will be light and variable most of day.

SALEM PRECIPITATION (Sept. 1 to April 17)
This Year Last Year 27.41 46.57 22.75