

# Committees Ready Legislature Bills

By PAUL W. HARVEY Jr.  
Associated Press Writer

Fourteen interim committees and commissions of the Oregon Legislature are well into their job of preparing bills for the 1955 Legislature.

These committees, by doing the spade work for the lawmakers, can do a big help. But much of the time, their work is forgotten. Quite often, interim committees are created just to avoid coming to grips with an issue. A group might want a bill passed to reduce some tax.

### 'Kiss off' Subject

The legislature, not wanting to act on the proposal, would kiss the subject off by appointing an interim committee.

The 1953 legislature's job of revamping and simplifying the whole tax system was made much easier by an interim committee that studied the subject for two years. It had the bills all ready for the legislature. But that's an exception.

The most important of the interim committees now are those to change or rewrite the constitution, make the property tax more equitable, study motor vehicle and highway laws, and to recommend whether the state's tax-collecting agencies should be combined into a new department of revenue.

### Will Have to Meet

Some of these committees will have to meet with similar committees from other states. The interstate cooperation commission will join with other north-west states in drafting a Columbia Basin compact. State officials hope this will result in the states taking over development of the Columbia and its tributaries.

The Klamath River commission is working with California to do the same thing in the Klamath Basin. And another committee will try to get Washington and California to adopt uniform regulations for offshore fishing.

The other committees now at work are those to plan a state museum, improve recreation in the Columbia River, develop a plan to educate exceptionally brilliant children, get new industries for the state, study public employees retirement laws, try to reduce the cost of doctor and hospital care of public welfare cases, and to cooperate with other states in getting uniform state laws.

### New Law

A new law will give these committees a weapon they never had before. They will be able to order witnesses to appear, and to subpoena any records.

This right, similar to the privileges of congressional committees probably won't be used much, if at all. Committees don't have much trouble getting cooperation from the public. But it's nice to have that power when it's needed.

The 1953 legislature granted that power of subpoena to all legislative committee and interim committees. It also gives the committees the right to put witnesses under oath.

Federal and state officials are worried about unemployment. State Industrial Accident Commissioner Paul Gurske, who also is an unemployment commissioner, predicts unemployment next winter will be the worst in many years in Oregon.

Unemployment in Oregon last winter soared to 9.5 per cent, which was the worst record in the country.

### Tough Winter

Federal labor officials in the

Northwest are flashing the word to Washington D. C., that it looks like a tough winter out here.

Employment this summer wasn't near as high as expected, because the canneries and farms didn't hire the usual number of workers.

Employment in non-farm jobs in the Portland area in August totaled 183,600. That was an unexpected drop of 2,300 from July, and was 4,700 fewer than in August, 1952.

The Portland area includes Clark County, Wash.; and Multnomah counties in Oregon.

## Snell Family Freed From Ellis Island

NEW YORK (AP)—The Snell family of England, released from Ellis Island after a week's detention, left by air for Portland, Ore., Thursday night to take up permanent residence in the United States.

Johnny Snell, a blind pianist who said he was signed up for a \$100 a week job by Piuso's Eugene, Ore., night club, and his partially blind wife Betty and their two children were detained Sept. 23 upon their arrival because they had been on relief in England.

Immigration officials had claimed Snell's piano playing job was not a complete guarantee of employment.

Later the Immigration Board in Washington, D. C., ruled that the Snells be admitted, pending the posting of \$2,000 in public charge bonds by their relatives in Oregon.

The bond was posted early Thursday.

Snell's two sisters have married Americans and have resided in Eugene for the past seven years. His parents immigrated here last year.

Immigration authorities said they knew nothing of Snell's family here at the time of his arrival.

Sol Marks, acting district immigration director, said he received a typewritten letter from Mrs. Snell, who thanked the officials "for the kindness and courtesy and consideration which every one has shown to us while we were on Ellis Island."

## Voice of People Throws Out Law

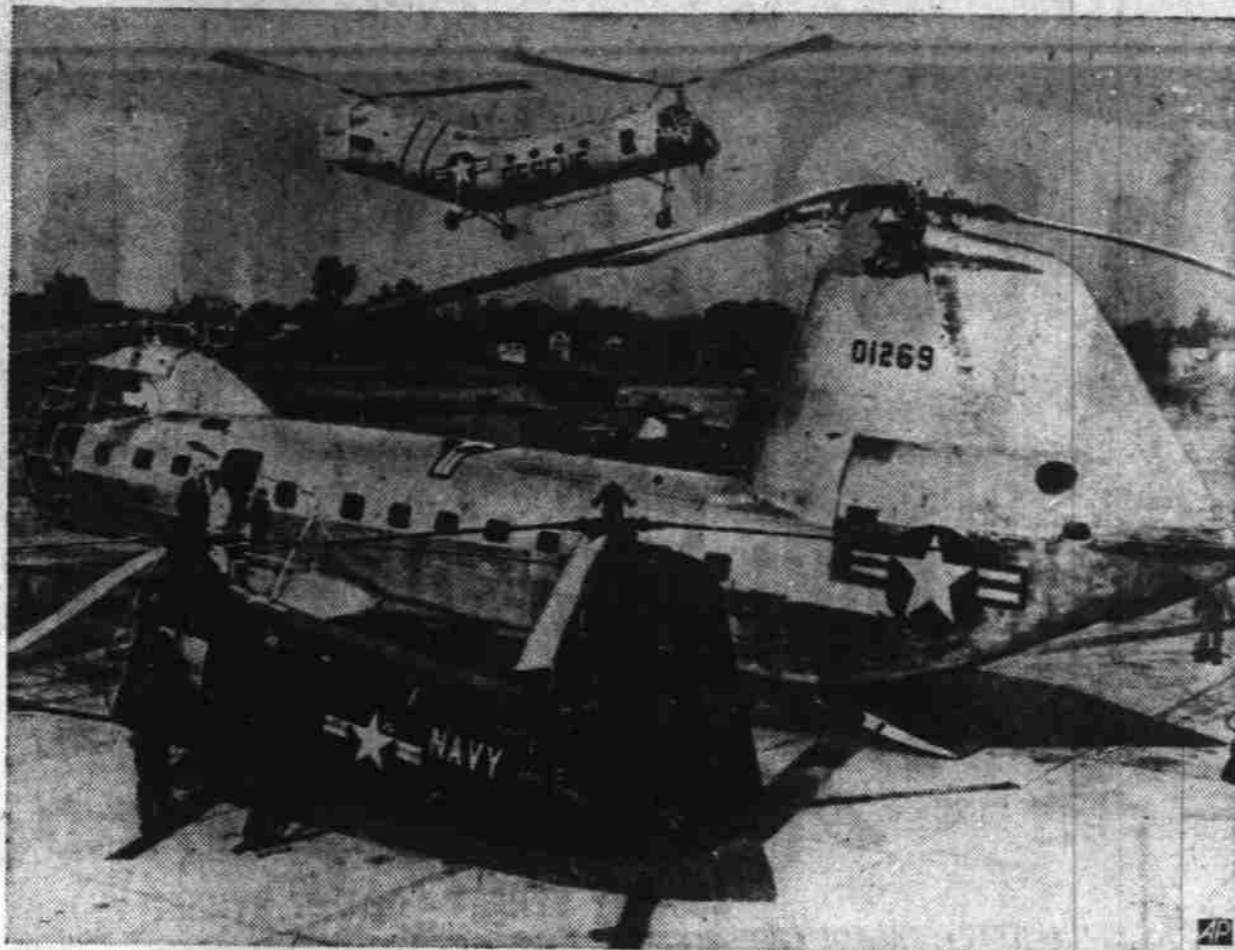
SPARTANBURG, S. C. (AP)—For years it's been against the law to park on the streets here between midnight and 6 a.m. The idea was to help street sweepers, but no one paid any attention.

Suddenly, every car approaching the radar location slowed down to a strictly legal 25 miles an hour.

The police officers finally investigated. A few blocks away, a group of children were hailing each car with:

"Radar ahead! Radar ahead!"

One of the most important discoveries of cobalt in recent years was made recently at Moa Bay on Cuba's northeast coast.



GIANT 'EGGBEATER'—YH-16, center, 134 feet long and able to carry 40 troops or 32 litter patients, dwarfs earlier model helicopter, Navy HUP, front, at Philadelphia Airport.

## Liechty Gets Meat Dealer Directory Job

Chester B. Liechty, livestock theft investigator for the state department of agriculture at Klamath Falls since April, 1946, is being transferred to Salem to take over a new post in the department's division of animal industry as meat dealer licensing supervisor. The transfer was effective Thursday.

Liechty is familiar to the valley, as he is a native of the Silverton area attending Silvertown schools and later Oregon State College. Before joining the department of agriculture, Liechty was for 10 years with the Oregon State Police with stations in Pendleton, Lebanon and Coquille.

The new position was established by the state civil service commission at the request of the ODA. In his new work, Liechty will supervise the issuance of all meat dealer licenses in the state, as well as coordinating the inspections of all meat dealer establishments. This will include the coordination of inspections in class B (retail) meat dealer establishments, and cover everything in Oregon but the city of Portland, which has its own inspection service.

## This Locale Has Radar 'Signs' Too

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP)—Brown County police were doing a rushing business in suburban Allouez, using their new radar equipment to pick up speeders.

Suddenly, every car approaching the radar location slowed down to a strictly legal 25 miles an hour.

The police officers finally investigated. A few blocks away, a group of children were hailing each car with:

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## Safety Slogans On Car Plates

RALEIGH, N. C. (AP)—North Carolina automobile license plates urge motorists to "Drive Safely." The slogan printed on the auto tags is part of a drive to reduce high way accidents.

Motor Vehicles Commissioner Edward Scheidt said North Carolina is the first state to use a safety slogan on its licenses. He originally planned to have the slogan appear on 1954 licenses.

It was put into use six months ahead of schedule when heavy automobile registration made it necessary to order a new series of 1953 plates.

Dr. T. R. Murroughs, a Chicago optometrist, says that distant pastures actually are greener to the eye because the atmosphere filters out yellow light, leaving the impression of deep green.

## Heltzel Bars Co-op Request

Public Utilities Commissioner Charles H. Heltzel Thursday signed an order refusing to grant Pendleton Grain Growers, Inc., a permit for a motor common carrier.

Heltzel said the law does not permit cooperatives to be common carriers.

Denial of the application, Heltzel said, was made also on the grounds that a common carrier must indiscriminately render service to the public which is inconsistent with the requirement that a cooperative deal with its own members to an amount greater than that with non-members.

### HERE FROM LONG ISLAND

LINCOLN—Mr. and Mrs. Ben Howell of Baldwin, Long Island, New York are visiting here as house guests of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Howell of Lincoln. They may stay until Christmas.

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