

# Holmes 'Stands, Falls' on Ability of Appointees

By GORMAN HOGAN  
Associated Press Writer  
Gov. Robert D. Holmes believes his Democratic state administration will stand or fall to a large extent on the "ability of the people it can attract to government service."

But these capable public servants must be guided by a "realistic appraisal of conditions," the dapper chief executive adds. "We must have a fair tax program, which will level out the load; we must economize without crippling our service to the people of the state; we must increase the efficiency of our departments."

Gov. Holmes feels that so far this has been accomplished in the three months since his inauguration and the start of the legislative session.

"We have had almost no criticism of the quality of men appointed to office," he says, and he believes the tax program just reported out by the House Taxation Committee, where the Democrats have a majority, will work out "in the fairest way for business, industry and the wage earner."

**Not Without Criticism**  
This is not to say there has been no criticism of appointments. But the governor says it has been based on politics and not on the qualifications of those named.

For example, Holmes declares that Avery Thompson, Democrat recently appointed Douglas County district attorney, was the ablest man available to hold the post. Republicans argue that Holmes violated the law which says a Democrat can't be appointed to succeed a Republican in office. But the governor says that while the former district attorney, Robert M. Suls, was a Republican, he also had the Democratic nomination in the last election. Atty. Gen. Robert Thornton ruled the governor could thus appoint either a Democrat or a Republican.

"I'm sure the people of Douglas County will be happy with the appointment," Holmes says.

**15 Republicans Chosen**  
In reply to some contentions that he is trying to "throw the Republicans out" the governor says that of 41 appointments he has made to boards and commissions, 15 are of Republicans.

"In fact," he says, "some Democrats complain that I'm appointing too many Republicans."  
Holmes believes the Republicans, after 20 years of control of the governor's office and the Legislature, "have not yet learned to act as a minority," and have demonstrated "far more obstinacy than the Democrats ever did as a minority."

"I have never seen such party discipline as the 15 solid Republican votes in the Senate," he says. "I hope this will change when the more important legislation comes to a vote."

**Parties Learn New Roles**  
While Republicans are learning to discipline the minority party the Democrats are learning to be the majority party, "and I think we're learning faster than they are," the chief executive says.

So far the governor's program has made little headway in the Legislature, where Democrats hold a majority in the House and are split evenly with Republicans in the Senate.  
But Holmes isn't particularly discouraged. He doesn't expect to get from the Legislature all the things he asked for.

"We'll now have to see how close the legislators come to it," he says.  
Holmes thinks that as chief executive, the Legislature should know how he feels about things "but in the end it's their judgment finally to determine the need."  
When the Legislature has completed its work and is seen from the viewpoint of overall accomplishment on taxation, schools, labor and the like, "all will agree that it has done a creditable job," he predicts.

He attributes the Legislature's slowness in acting on major legislation to a "careful, studious, methodical approach."  
"Members are aware of the economy wave evident in the country today and want to make sure they are not wasting money," he says.

# Morocco to Close Up U.S. Cable Offices

RABAT, Morocco, April 20 (AP)—The Moroccan government Friday ordered all American cable and telegraph offices in this newly independent country to close down by June 30.

The government charged that Mackay Radio Telegraph Co. and the Radio Corp. of America had opened offices in Morocco without government permission, violating the government communications monopoly.

Both firms have established multimillion-dollar transmission facilities in Tangier. These, however, did not seem to be under attack.

It was understood that they would be allowed to continue operations in Tangier if they pay a percentage of profits to the Moroccan government, which is taking over the former international territory.

The offices affected are in Casablanca. Telegrams to be transmitted by Mackay and RCA must be handed in and paid for at Moroccan post offices.

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