

Legislators Get Housewife Check On House, Senate

By Ben R. Anderson
(United Press Staff Correspondent)
Salem, Jan. 21 (AP) — Oregon legislators are a little more careful about dropping cigar ashes on the floor now that there is a housewife in each of the house and senate.

Sen. (Mrs. Guy H.) Marie Wilcox said today that her fellow senators do not need to be any more careful on her account, because although she is a scrupulous housekeeper at her home in Grants Pass, she wants to be treated just like anyone else while sitting in the senate.

"I don't want any preference as a woman," she said. "There's no reason why a woman in politics should not be treated just like anyone else."

She said while in the senate surrounded by cigar and cigarette smokers that she set aside temptation to rush around emptying ashtrays and she hasn't yet raced the janitor to the dust mop to tidy up any desks.

"Politics is not a glamour road," Sen. Wilcox said. "It calls for some good, hard thinking and sex has nothing to do with it."

"Sex should be taken out of politics," she said. "People should vote for a statesman, and not vote for a person just because the candidate is a man or woman."

The dapper dressed senator, who helps her husband run a large feed store at home, is serving her first session as senator from Josephine county's 7th district. She served in the house of representatives in 1947.

Rep. Grace Oliver Peck, meanwhile, holds down the job as the one woman in the 60 "man" house in the other wing of the capitol. She has given this wing of the statehouse a woman's heart, according to her fellow representatives who find Rep. (Mrs.) Peck especially interested in social welfare and old-age benefits. Rep. (GOP) Peck is a democrat elected by Multnomah county voters to serve her first session.

She was born in Portland and says that she is proud that she spent her girlhood in the "slabtown" district down by the Willamette river where the girls used to challenge the boys to rock fights. She acquired an education as a legal stenographer and has been working in law and real estate offices ever since.

Rep. Peck, who also does her own housekeeping at home, was of the opinion that there are a few things going on in the state institutions "which ought to be swept someplace other than under the rug."

She completed a tour of the Fairview home with the social welfare committee this week and found it "pretty good."

"They knew we were coming, though," Rep. Peck said. "I'm going back there, and to other places, on my own when I get a chance."

Rent Control Bill Ready for House

Salem, Jan. 21 (AP) — A state rent control bill was being prepared Thursday for introduction in the house.

The measure, which would set up a state rent control authority, was being written by Portland democrats, including Rep. Phil Dreyer and Sen. Richard L. Neuberger.

A measure was introduced in the senate by Sen. Frank Hilton, R., Portland, to relieve income taxpayers who have large medical expenses.

Hilton's proposal would permit deduction of medical expenses from income tax payments when they exceed five per cent of a taxpayer's gross income.

The taxpayer would be permitted to deduct \$1,250 for himself and each dependent who has medical expenses.

Both the senate and the house plan to convene today for both morning and afternoon sessions. Then they will adjourn for the weekend.

Bills are piling up in committees and the legislative leaders hope that Friday sessions may speed up committee work.

Powell Butte

Powell Butte, Jan. 21 (Special) Mr. and Mrs. Luke Reif and Mrs. Leland Reif were Thursday evening dinner guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Stover in Prineville.

Margaret Ann Mekels, of Redmond, spent Saturday afternoon at the home of Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Haynes and family.

Mrs. E. W. Gentry entertained Wednesday evening at a bridge party. Present were Thelma Freedman, Mrs. Merton Baisey, Mrs. Larry Timmerman, Mrs. T. C. Haynes, Mrs. Tim Adams, Mrs. Porter Sprague and Mrs. Dick Steelhammer and Berniece Radcliffe. Honors went to Berniece Radcliffe, Mrs. Timmerman and Mrs. Freedman.

Fr. and Mrs. Luke Reif attended the joint installation of the Pythian Sisters and Knights of Pythias in Prineville Saturday evening at the Odd Fellows hall.

Mrs. Leslie Huston, of Prineville, spent the week end at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Bozarth and family.

Science at Work

By Paul F. Ellis
(United Press Science Writer)
New York, Jan. 21 (AP) — Man, if necessary, can put microbes to work and ease the world's food shortage.

Such a proposal comes from Dr. Carl S. Miner, Chicago chemist, who believes that the microbes can convert wood waste and other inedible materials into animal feed—and thus free large quantities of grain for human consumption.

And if human beings still face starvation, Miner said there will be many other ways to obtain food.

One is, according to Miner, the use of water instead of soil as a medium for plant production. He recalled the investigations already under way to determine the food potentialities of the minute sea organisms known as plankton. They are microscopic in size.

Another possibility, he points out, is the use of marine vegetation, ranging from slime to seaweed. Research on such a project is now under way at the University of California.

Miner believes also that development of new strains of food plants will be made. Hybrid corn, for example, has added 20 per cent to the nation's corn crop, or almost 700,000,000 bushels during 1948—enough to provide the caloric requirement, at 3,000 calories a day, of some 60,000,000 persons, he said.

He foresees even greater strides in the development of insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides and other weapons against parasitical insects and animals who steal from human beings. He predicted that the combined efforts of chemists synthesizing compounds tailored to destroy specific pests and of entomologists studying the life processes of insects "will eventually result in the almost complete elimination of this serious source of food loss."

It has been estimated that less than one-eighth of the total agricultural acreage of the United States receives any kind of chemical treatment against fungi, weeds, insects or other pests.

In addition to new ways to protect crops, Miner believes there will be better ways for safeguarding food in storage, and also a more efficient use of fertilizers to increase production. In other words, Dr. Miner believes that if man starves to death it'll be his own fault.

Pioneers Select Leaders for Year

Prineville, Jan. 21—At the annual election here, the Crook County Pioneers' association named Mrs. Effa Calbreath, member of the pioneer Powell family, to succeed Mrs. Dolly Hodges Fessler as president. Other officers for the current year are: Mrs. Ada Robinson, of the pioneer family, vice president; Mrs. Winifred Jordan, wife of Sheriff Ralph Jordan of Crook county and a daughter of a pioneer dentist, Dr. Cline, secretary; and Mrs. Mabel Graffenberger, member of the pioneer Slayton family, treasurer.

The association, which has announced that it will make definite plans for the annual reunion at its June meeting, voted to replace on the bandstand at the city park, a bronze plaque, which was removed by vandals. The grandstand was presented to the city for the use of all organizations by the pioneer association.

The retiring president announced that the association in the past two years has added 107 new members, including Senator and Mrs. Guy Cordon, Mrs. Cordon was born in Prineville.

Prineville Lions Plan for Benefit

Prineville, Jan. 21—All roads for the male population of Crook county will lead Saturday night to the assembly building of the Crooked River Roundup association here for the annual Prineville Lions club stag party. Any revenue, deriving reverly and entertainment will pass into the night at the roundup grounds Saturday. A feature of the entertainment will be the tossing of custard pies at the head of H. C. Hulet, supervisor of the Ochoco national forest and a Crook county civic leader. Any one desiring may purchase a pie, which, it is said, will be available in unlimited supply, and toss it at Hulet. The Prineville Lions have pledged \$1,000 toward the construction of the Pioneer Memorial hospital here. Funds raised at the Saturday night stag party will go toward this cause.

Boys in Secret Group Quit School

Salem, Jan. 21 (AP) — Twelve boys have withdrawn from Salem high school because of their affiliations with outlawed secret societies, Principal E. A. Carleton said today.

The students were members of the Julius Ceasars and the Friars. They were told they would be expelled unless they quit the organization. The boys withdrew instead and are believed to have plans for continuing their studies elsewhere, Carleton said.

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Mexican Laborer Confesses Deaths

Sacramento, Calif., Jan. 21 (AP) — A Mexican laborer who confessed that he killed two women and dumped their dismembered bodies into the American river, faced questioning Thursday about the disappearance of his wife.

Sheriff Con Cox said Victoriano Corrales, 48, confessed that he murdered two Mexican women whose mutilated bodies were found in the river during the past six months.

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