

Organization Of Legislature Mere Formality

Harmony Prevails in Both Houses—House Streamlined

Organization of the 44th Oregon legislature was effected speedily this morning with the election of Marshall E. Cornett, Klamath Falls, as president of the senate and installation of John H. Hall, Portland, in the speakership of the house of representatives.

Work in both houses this morning was a mere formality, with the usual fulsome nominating speeches, as the selection of officers and adoption of rules was effected Sunday afternoon at the Marion hotel at caucus of members of both houses.

House members adopted the recommendation of the special committee on legislative procedure in streamlining its organization by reducing the number of committees from 37 to 24. Senate members declined to reduce the number of committees and will continue to have 30 as has been the practice in the past.

Secretaries Barred

Both houses accepted the committee recommendation on clearing the chamber floors during sessions. Neither house agreed to the recommendation to bar personal secretaries of members and provision was made in both side aisles for seating members of the legislators' families. In the house a bell will be sounded 10 minutes before convening of each session when the sergeant-at-arms will clear the floors.

The house caucus Sunday was brief but senate members consumed three hours in going over the recommended changes in rules and selecting officers. Suggested plan of holding committee meetings in the morning and legislative sessions in the afternoon was passed by the house caucus and laid on the table by the senate. Rep. Hill of Cushman, chairman of the house rules committee indicated possibility that the proposal might be considered later in the session.

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Marion County Assignments

Marion county senators, Douglas McKay and Allan Carson, drew important committee assignments, the former as chairman of roads and highways and Senator Carson as head of state affairs committee.

In the lower house, W. W. Chadwick, veteran solon in the Marion county delegation was given the chairmanship of local government committee. Rep. Chadwick served as mayor of Salem for a number of terms, familiar with the operations of municipal affairs and considered an excellent choice for chairman of this committee. He also will be a member of the import and ways and means committee and the labor and industries committee.

Representative Paul Hendricks, who for years has been active in veterans' circles, will be vice chairman of the military and veterans' affairs and serve on revision of laws and state and federal affairs committees.

Representatives Frank Doerflinger was named a member of agriculture, food and livestock and social welfare, while Marion county's other new member, Representative Douglas R. Yeater, will serve on three committees, financial institutions, utilities and medicine, pharmacy and dentistry.

Lyle Thomas of Polk county is chairman of the committee on education and will be a member of the committee on assessment and taxation.

Court Upholds Sale Puget Sound Power

Olympia, Jan. 13 (AP)—By a deadlocked four-to-four decision, the state supreme court refused today to reverse the lower court ruling that the Skagit county public utility district may legally issue \$135,000,000 in revenue bonds for the proposed purchase of the Puget Sound Power and Light company.

In effect, the decision affirmed the Skagit county superior court ruling. The high court, in its surprise ruling, left the way open, however, for a rehearing by the full court if such a rehearing is asked.

The appellant, John Wylie, secretary of the Skagit PUD, the intervenor, Weyerhaeuser Timber company, or the respondent, the public utility district, could petition for a rehearing.

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LAWMAKING 50 YEARS AGO

As Compiled and Told by
Former Governor
Oswald West
"The 1897
Legislative Holdup"

The true story of the "Deadlock Session" House that "sat" for 40 days without organizing, and of U. S. Senators who were not elected; of intrigue, deceit and corruption.

The year 1893, with its never-to-be-forgotten financial panic, brought great distress to the people of this state and nation. Banks fell like stacked cards, money had itself and interest rates mounted; factories by the thousands closed or curtailed production—forcing millions of unemployed to walk the streets; farmers and stockmen were obliged to dispose of their products at great loss; bankruptcies and mortgage foreclosures were the order of the day.

In the general election of 1894, Judge Wm. F. Lord, republican, was chosen governor by the people of Oregon—but by a plurality only. Combined, the democrats and populists cast a majority of the votes.

The republicans of the state had become hopelessly divided into factions—Mitchell and Simon. This split was a factor in preventing the reelection (1) of Joseph N. Dolph and (2) John H. Mitchell to the United States senate. Let us take a look at some of the leading characters in this republican political drama.

John Hipple Mitchell was born in Washington county, Pennsylvania on June 22, 1835, and reached Oregon in 1860. His political enemies were to charge that he was born "Hippie" but, having left his native state under a cloud, added "Mitchell"—as a cover-up—before coming to Portland.

Regardless of his background, Mitchell, a young attorney of pleasing personality and splendid ability, was not long in being adopted firmly established in his adopted city and state. In 1862 he formed a law partnership with Joseph N. Dolph, another young attorney, of like age, who had just reached the city. Dolph was born in Schuyler county, New York, October 19, 1835. Soon after his arrival in Portland he was named city attorney and, in 1865, appointed U. S. attorney. Both became active in republican politics—Mitchell serving as a member of the Oregon state senate in 1862-65 and Dolph in 1866-74. The law firm as founded, and regardless of succeeding changes, was to become a political institution. It sent four members—Mitchell, Dolph, Simon and Gearin to the U. S. senate to serve, in the aggregate, 41 years; Mallory previously had served a term as representative in congress, and Strahan as a justice of our state supreme court; it saw Bellenger appointed to the U. S. district court.

Mitchell, in 1873, was chosen to serve Oregon in the U. S. senate; was reelected in 1885, 1891 and 1901—serving a total of 22 years. Dolph was elected to the senate in 1883 and reelected in 1889—serving 12 years. The two men differed on the money question—Dolph being an advocate of a gold standard, which led to his defeat for reelection in 1895. Mitchell was for free coinage of silver and preached that doctrine from the floor of the U. S. senate. In attempting to straddle the money question in the approaching presidential election, he rode for a fall.

The Republican national convention (1896) had nominated Wm. McKinley for the presidency. (Concluded on Page 11, Column 6)

The death of three comrades dimmed the joy of the Pine Island crew at the rescue. Still, the sailors pressed forward eagerly to grip the third, hungry but grinning survivors by the hand. In memory of those left behind, all aboard the Pine Island stood bareheaded to the sound of taps—the navy's call to rest for the three young men who perished on icy slopes near the bottom of the world. From their bunks on the plane tender, the survivors told the grim story of the burial of their three buddies, the first Americans ever killed on the Antarctic continent. Crude graves were fashioned under one wing of the damaged plane.

6 Survivors of Antarctic Plane Crash Plucked From Icy Slopes

Aboard U.S.S. Mt. Olympus with Byrd Antarctic Expedition, Jan. 13 (AP)—The skill of their Boston pilot, plus plenty of luck and courage, was credited today for the survival of six navy airmen whose plane exploded over the desolate Antarctic wastes two weeks ago.

The six, only one of them seriously injured, were plucked from the icy polar slopes yesterday and flown back to their ship—the seaplane tender Pine Island. But left behind in frozen graves were the bodies of three crew members who died in the crash.

Aboard the Pine Island, the six survivors told a dramatic story of how they battled the eternal wind and cold fog of the Antarctic to come through alive. "God was with us," said Lt. (j.g.) William H. Kearns, Jr., the pilot of the ill-fated plane. His five fellow survivors agreed with him.

British Labor Crisis Critical

London, Jan. 13 (AP)—British troops began to load meat for hungry Londoners at the Smithfield market today and market porters immediately quit work in sympathy with 20,000 striking transport workers. Use of troops may cause other unions to begin sympathy strikes and broaden the worst labor crisis yet faced by the labor government of Prime Minister Clement Attlee.

A cabinet meeting was called today to discuss the situation.

Three thousand soldiers of the Scots Guards and the guards training battalion were billeted in a deep air raid shelter in Clapham Common to move the trucks, Navy and RAF men also were to be used, the government announced. Marine commands were moved into London during the night.

There was no sign of violence at the Smithfield Market, London's central meat distribution center, when 400 troops in 40 trucks entered the market shortly before 9 a. m. The atmosphere was almost cordial as the porters jeered the soldiers good naturedly.

After a two-hour interval the soldiers began to load the meat, which has been in danger of spoiling while London housewives were unable to buy any in their butcher shops.

New Clothing Store to Open

Gus Hewitt, former manager of Jayson's Men's store, and Loyall Warner, well known Salem business man, Monday announced the purchase of the Senator Drug company, located in the Senator hotel building at Court and High streets. As soon as the stock of drugs can be liquidated, the room and additional space adjacent on the north will be remodeled and the concern will operate a men's clothing store. The new store will be known as "Hewitts" with Hewitt acting as the manager. Warner will continue to operate other business interests.

Hewitt is well known in business and civic circles, both in Salem and Portland. He has gained a wide knowledge of the men's furnishing business through his associations in Portland, which included a number of years with Ben Selling. Locally he has been prominent in the chamber of commerce, the Kiwanis club and the Cherrians. The new store will stock nationally known brands of clothing, hats, shoes and furnishings.

An inventory of the drug stock was under way Monday.



Pacific Northwest in Grip of Snowstorm

(By the Associated Press)
Snow was falling throughout the Pacific northwest today. Vancouver, B.C., reported the worst snow storm in 12 years, with seven inches on the ground and more falling. The Washington state patrol said all highways from Vancouver, B.C., to Vancouver, Wash., were dangerously slippery. Many Oregon points reported the first snow of the season.

Continued cold weather and snow flurries were forecast for tonight and tomorrow. A low of 23 degrees above zero was expected in Seattle.

Meteorologists blamed the storm on a deep low-pressure area moving down the coast from Alaska, and a slowly moving "cold front" between Seattle and Bellingham, Wash.

The Portland weather bureau said snow fell at virtually every station in Oregon. Alternate rain and snow flurries hit Portland. Walla Walla, in southeastern Washington, received an inch of snow last night and the storm resumed this morning.

A freezing fog last night made traffic hazardous in the Everett area, north of here, following a four inch snow fall. Another inch fell there this forenoon.

Portland hills were blanketed in white today as the first general snow.

(Concluded on Page 11, Column 3)

Marshall to Take Oath Soon

Washington, Jan. 13 (AP)—Gen. George C. Marshall becomes secretary of state this week with assurances from Senator Vandenberg of republican support on major diplomatic issues expected to arise during the months ahead.

Final plans for Marshall to take the oath as successor to James F. Byrnes are yet to be announced, but officials said privately that the ceremony probably will be held at the White House the latter part of the week.

Marshall, resting after 13 months of arduous diplomatic work in China, remained in Honolulu over the week-end.

Meanwhile, the pattern of his future tasks and something of the extent of the republican support for their accomplishment were made clear in speeches by Byrnes and Vandenberg, the chairman of the senate foreign relations committee.

Vandenberg, addressing the Cleveland council in world affairs Saturday night, spoke out for:

1. Congressional appropriations to carry on an American relief program in war-wrecked countries.
2. Rehabilitation loans for countries which need them.
3. Continuance of tariff-reducing reciprocal trade agreements in some form.

The Weather
(Released by United States Weather Bureau)
Forecast for Salem and Vicinity: Cloudy tonight and Tuesday with occasional snow showers tonight becoming intermittent light rain Tuesday. Coldest tonight 27. Maximum yesterday 40. Minimum 33. Mean temperature yesterday 36 which was 4 below normal. Total 24-hour precipitation to 11:30 a.m. today 20. Total precipitation for the month 33 which is 1.34 inches below normal. Willamette river height 6.

At Marion Hotel as Legislators Meet for Caucus.—You may recognize faces in the group at top, Representatives W. W. Chadwick, Frank Doerflinger and Paul Hendricks of Marion county, for instance. Leaning in the doorway door where for 20 years he has stationed himself on each caucus day and watched with cynical but kindly eye as lawmakers and lobbyists gather, is Floyd Cook. Top at right Senator Douglas McKay calling caucus to order, and Senator Marie Chesman, secretary. Center at left, Representative Harvey Wells presiding at house caucus and Don Hiler of Wasco, secretary. The legislature's two chief clerks are women, Charibel Bluff of Salem, left, for the house and Zylpha Zell Burns for the senate. Below, the big fellow is Marshall E. Cornett of Klamath Falls, president of the senate, and the other is John H. Hall of Portland, speaker of the house.

29 Killed in Plane Crashes

(By the Associated Press)
Twenty-nine persons died when seven airplanes crashed in the United States yesterday, and today Rep. Rivers (D., S.C.) proposed a congressional investigation of what he termed the "inexcusable killing of American people."

Only two of the 31 persons in the seven planes survived.

In New York City, meanwhile, major airlines reported that plane reservations, almost impossible to obtain last summer, have been going begging for the last few days, with a number of planes leaving with empty seats.

Rep. Rivers declared in Washington that "the American people are horrified and scared to death. If there is something wrong with the doggone setup, then something should be done."

He noted specifically the crash of an Eastern Airlines Detroit-Miami passenger plane during a rainstorm near Galax, Va., yesterday in which 18 persons—15 passengers and three crew members—died.

Luzon Volcano In Eruption

Manila, Jan. 13 (AP)—Southern Luzon's towering Mayon volcano, boiling for five days, erupted this morning with a furious shower of boulders and lava.

Lt. (j.g.) Robert Case of Nevada, Ohio, a navy weather officer, circled the volcano at 10,000 feet during the display in an army plane piloted by Capt. Robert A. Harris of Dayton, O.

"It (the peak) day redder and swelled like a bubble, then broke," Case related. "A lava stream went straight up to a height we estimated at 8000 to 10,000 feet above the peak (itself 7903 feet)."

"We saw huge rocks blown straight up. They looked like small houses to us even at a distance of a mile and a half or two miles. The eruption lasted about a half hour."

Two towns near the base were ordered evacuated earlier as lava boiled over down the eastern and southern slopes and black smoke mushroomed three miles into the sky.

Airport Advisory Board Submits Recommendation to City Manager

As the Salem airport advisory committee is dissolved with advent of the new form of city government it has submitted to Mayor Robert L. Elfstrom, the city council and City Manager J. L. Franzen a list of recommendations for the administration of McNary field. The recommendations, over the signature of Lee U. Eyerly, chairman, are:

That no new construction be erected on the east side of the field, and that the present hangar there be abandoned as soon as possible, and either moved to the west side or used for purposes other than aviation. That the zoning law be put into effect prohibiting the erection of hazards around the airport. That immediate steps be taken with the county to improve South 25th street. This road will be the principle ingress to the airport and some work should be done immediately.

Snell Tells Legislature New Taxes Must Be Levied, But No Specific Recommendation Made

Governor, In Second Inaugural Message, Stresses Finances; Forestry Program Outlined; Caution Advised on Labor and Definite Proposals Withheld

Governor Earl Snell, urging use of corporation excise tax surpluses to balance Oregon's 1947-49 budget, warned today that new taxes must be levied to provide for future needs.

Delivering his second inaugural address at the opening of the 44th Oregon legislature, the governor also outlined a 10-year forestry program to cost \$12,000,000, asked for increased veterans and unemployment benefits and urged the lawmakers to wait for congress before passing labor legislation.

The \$41,404,716 budget for departments dependent upon legislative appropriations would have had, he said, a deficit of almost \$6,000,000, but use of \$6,000,000 in corporation excise tax surpluses would wipe this out. He said there wouldn't be any such surpluses available in two years, so new tax revenues must be found now so they will be available at that time.

"If in the future," the governor declared, "the state is to meet the increased demands, the urgency of expanded facilities, the necessity for adequate salaries for its employees, state school support, and the higher costs for merchandise, equipment and supplies, some additional revenues for budget balancing in the future must be provided."

Special Election Advised

"I recommend that this honorable body adopt the procedure suggested for balancing the budget for the next biennium and that it then proceed to give careful and deliberate consideration to the question of needed revenues for meeting obvious future requirements."

He urged that any major tax proposals be referred to the people at a special election.

Governor Snell, however, failed to recommend any specific new tax. He said he didn't like all of the recommendations of the state tax study commission, which wants stiffer personal income taxes, a business tax, higher levies on liquor and racing bets, and taxes on soft drinks, tobacco, slot machines and amusements. But he didn't give his position on any of these ideas.

He called for "substantial" increases in the amount which the state may loan to a veteran for a farm or home loan. The ceiling now is \$3,000.

The governor asked adoption of a far-reaching 10-year forestry program to prevent and suppress fires, promote research, and rehabilitate the 300,000-acre Tillamook burn. The state owns slightly more than half of the burn, and the governor asked that the state take over the rest of it.

Cautions About Labor

The forestry program would be financed by a severance tax of 20 cents per thousand feet of all timber cut, and would raise \$12,000,000 during the 10 years.

On labor, Governor Snell said he opposes "jurisdictional disputes and certain secondary boycotts." He had no specific labor proposals, but urged the legislature to go slowly until it sees what congress does about it.

Governor Snell asked for more liberal unemployment benefits and for larger widows' benefits under the workmen's compensation law.

He told the legislators they must find a formula to distribute to school districts the \$10,000,000 state school support fund which was voted by the people last November. He suggested a combination of per capita membership and teacher allocation.

The governor said the housing problem "does present certain opportunities for local assistance." He urged the legislature to do what it could about housing, but he didn't suggest what it might do.

He repeated the request for establishment of camps for delinquent boys, with cities and counties participating; and renewed his recommendation that the state build a reformatory for youthful first offenders. He also asked that the state handicapped children's law be incorporated into the basic school support fund.

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GOP Divided On Labor Bill

Washington, Jan. 13 (AP)—Divided GOP opinion points today to rocky going in the 13-man senate labor committee for Senator Ball's proposals to break up closed shop and industry-wide wage bargaining.

Two of the eight republicans on the committee, Senators Morse (Ore.), and Aiken (Vt.), have been outspoken against steps as far reaching as those suggested by their Minnesota colleague.

A third republican member, Senator Ives (N. Y.), has never favored an outright ban on the closed shop, and his friends said today he has not changed his view. Ives, a newcomer to Capitol Hill, is dean of the New York state school of industrial and labor relations at Cornell University.

Most of the other republicans on the committee have not declared themselves on the two Ball proposals. Harold E. Stassen, former Minnesota governor and an announced candidate for the 1948 GOP presidential nomination, told a news conference Saturday that both bills "go too far." Stassen is not a member of congress.

At the same time, a group of democrats in the senate named their strategy more and more toward carrying out the labor law recommendations of President Truman.

Vets Organize In Congress

Washington, June 13 (AP)—War veterans in the house organized today an informal association to-day and named as chairman Rep. Francis E. Walters (D., Pa.).

One of Walters' first acts was to tell reporters he wanted to "make it plain this isn't going to be a pressure bloc."

But he said a committee is going to make recommendations on whether any specific legislation will be sponsored.

Out of 193 representatives eligible to attend a meeting of veterans in the house chamber, Walters said 125 showed up.

Actually, he said, what the meeting did was to revive an organization that existed for more than 20 years after the first World War. It is called "War Veterans in Congress." Senators can come in, too, if they ever were uniform.

Five representatives were named to study the objectives of the original organization and determine whether the question of backing veterans legislation should be taken up.

Walters said no legislation was discussed today. Another meeting will be held soon to receive the report of the committee. Its members are Reps. Gwynne (R., Iowa), O'Hara (R., Minn.), Springer (R., Ind.), Blatnick (D., Minn.), and Rankin (D., Miss.).

Negro Youth Faces Execution Again

Washington, Jan. 13 (AP)—By a one vote margin, the supreme court ruled today that Louisiana may try again to execute Willie Francis, 17-year-old Negro who lived through one trip to the electric chair.

The 5-4 decision split the court on an interpretation of what is the "cruel and unusual punishment" forbidden by the constitution.

The majority held that it did not bar a second attempt at execution where the first failed due to mechanical difficulties.

The minority agreed with Francis' attorneys that it would be "cruel and unusual" if Francis were again put in the chair. Justice Frankfurter, voting with the majority, explained he felt the high tribunal "must abstain from interference with state action no matter how strong one's personal feeling of revulsion against a state's insistence on its pound of flesh."