

Cigarette Tax Proposed for New Buildings

\$3,500,000 Continuing Program for State Structures

By JAMES D. OLSON
A \$3,500,000 continuing building program for joint use by the board of higher education and the state board of control to be financed by a two-cent cigarette tax was proposed before the ways and means committee Friday.

Decision to use the cigarette tax as a vehicle to carry on a building program for the institutions of higher learning as well as for state institutions was reached in a conference Thursday between the two presiding officers of the legislature and the chairmen of the two tax committees and the joint ways and means committee.

Junks Bonus Plan

The proposal, which virtually means of junking of the proposed bonus plan, also expected to be financed through a cigarette tax, was placed informally before the ways and means committee by Sen. Howard Belton, senate chairman.

"The building needs of the board of higher education as well as the need for additional state institutions is so urgent that we felt it could not be ignored," said Sen. Belton.

The board of higher education had requested \$12,000,000 to be used for future building but this request was denied.

No Referendum Clause

Sen. Walker, chairman of the senate tax committee said that the bill would not carry a referendum clause nor would he favor inclusion of a fair practice section as demanded by the cigarette dealers.

This means that the tobacco people may apply the referendum to the bill just as they did to the big cigarette tax passed by the 1947 legislature as it has been stated by spokesman of the tobacco dealers that they will not favor the tax unless a fair practice, or price fixing clause, is included.

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Highway Bill Kills Program

The state highway commission told the legislature today that the state's road program would be crippled if the legislature passes a bill which would prevent spending road funds inside cities until the Pacific and Columbia river highways are brought up to federal standards.

That would mean, said Commission Chairman T. H. Banfield, Portland, that no money could be spent in cities for 10 or 15 years.

The bill, signed by 16 of the 30 senators, was introduced yesterday.

Banfield said the bill would cripple such important projects as rerouting and improving traffic facilities in Portland, Salem, Baker, Coos Bay and Klamath Falls.

Banfield wrote that the bill would result in fine highways between cities, but that each city would become a "road block" because it would be difficult to pass through them.

Measure Would Move Lincoln Judiciary

The senate passed the bill Thursday to take Lincoln county out of the second judicial district (Coos, Curry, Douglas, Lane, Lincoln) and put it into the 21st district, which now consists of Linn and Benton counties. It now goes to the house.

The bill also adds a judge to the Benton-Linn-Lincoln district. Benton and Linn counties now share a judge between them.

Prison Inmate Dead From Slashing Wrists

Oren A. Brownlee, 25, inmate of Oregon State penitentiary, committed suicide Thursday by slashing his wrists, according to Warden George Alexander. Brownlee, received just a year ago, had made similar attempts in the past, he said.

Brownlee was received at the prison March 17, 1948, under a three-year sentence for grand larceny in Lane county.

Surviving are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Brownlee, and a brother, Orville S. Brownlee, all of Riverside, Wash.

Political Change Banned

The senate approved and sent to the governor today a bill which would prevent candidates from changing their political parties just before they file for office.

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Death Penalty Abolition Wins House Round

By PAUL W. HARVEY, JR.

Sponsors of a move to abolish capital punishment in Oregon squeaked through with a 31 to 28 victory in the house today. But the issue still was not finally decided.

The senate already had voted 21 to 8 for the proposed constitutional amendment which would abolish the death penalty.

Today's vote accepted a minority report of the house state and federal affairs committee that the measure be passed. The committee had voted 6 to 3 that it be killed.

On Saturday Calendar
So the proposed amendment, will be on tomorrow's house calendar, might still be killed if the sponsors lose only one vote.

Both sides of the hour-long argument today quoted freely from the Bible to prove their points. Those who wanted the death penalty abolished quoted from the teachings of Jesus Christ, while those who want the death penalty retained quoted from the Old Testament.

The measure would be referred to the people, so some members, who said they like the death penalty, voted for the amendment just to give the people their first chance to vote on it in 30 years.

Dreyer Leads Attack
Rep. Phil Dreyer, Portland democrat, led the attack on the death penalty, asserting it doesn't prevent murders, and that it results in sometimes executing innocent persons. He also said that any murderer who has a good lawyer can get off with a life sentence.

Rep. Paul Geddes, Roseburg republican, favored putting the measure on the ballot, but he also suggested the legislature change the parole laws so that "a life sentence more nearly means a life sentence."

Harvey Asks Vote
A son of a Baptist minister, Rep. Joseph E. Harvey, Portland republican, said "some of our misguided Christian ministers in this state believe that the commandment 'Thou shalt not kill' is an argument against capital punishment."

Harvey said the people should get a chance to vote on the subject, and added that the people should rule on all questions except where moral issues are involved.

Rep. David Baum, La Grande republican, said the death penalty deters crime, and that a man sentenced to life can be paroled after seven years.

Storm Warnings Hoisted on Coast

Portland, Ore., March 18 (AP)—The weather bureau announced that storm warnings were hoisted at 10 a. m. today from Tatoosh Island, Wash., to Cape Blanco, Ore., for south to southeast winds reaching 65 miles an hour of the Oregon coast and 55 miles of the Washington coast.

The weather bureau said winds 35 to 45 miles an hour off the Oregon coast would increase to 45 to 55 miles this afternoon and occasionally reach 85 miles an hour tonight. Winds off the Washington coast 25 to 35 miles an hour would increase to 35 to 45 miles this afternoon and occasionally reach 55 miles tonight.

Children Forced to Wade Snow, Water, Mud to School

Complaints continue to pour into the county court as to conditions of the roads in the Detroit area including the North Santiam highway and Breitenbush roads and particularly the small stretch of the Breitenbush road which serves the new Detroit elementary school.

A letter signed by 28 residents of the community received Friday speaking more particularly of the road past the school says the condition must be corrected because of numerous reasons "but mainly because of two very important reasons:

"They are, in brief," says the letter, "the fact that school children of all ages and their instructors from this school are forced to wade their way along a dangerous trail through the mud, snow and water from approximately one-quarter of a mile across the terrain. In order to establish conjunction with the school bus, or reach their cars which cannot approach nearer, being unable to use the road because of its even more dangerous condition. Secondly the residents along the road at this point are completely shut off from motor vehicle contact with the outside and consequently are faced with a severe problem in obtaining fuel and other

needs. In fact, most of us have had to depend upon one grateful and more fortunate neighbor for our fuel oil as ours has been exhausted and this neighbor's supply has now been almost completely consumed without prospect of obtaining further supplies."

County Commissioner Rice who was at Detroit recently said he planned to ask the army engineers to take over maintenance of the road to the new school as they built the school to serve pupils of families from the Detroit dam work without providing any adequate road to it, he said. However, he has had no luck in that regard yet and returned to Detroit Friday for further examination of the situation to see what can be done. Outside of a short stretch, court members said, the county has no control over the Breitenbush road. It is likely however the county will order some rock on the road to the school if army engineers refuse or fail to act.

Truman Hopes To Salvage Part Of 'Fair Deal'

Key West, Fla., March 18 (AP)—President Truman turned the other cheek today to a rebellious congress, but declared that Dixiecrat opponents are not good democrats.

The chief executive, in a news conference on the shaded lawn of his winter White House, clung steadfastly to the hope of enactment of the major part of his "fair deal" program through what he termed a three-party congress.

The three parties, he said, are the democrats, the republicans and the Dixiecrats.

Not Good Democrats
"What happened to the progressive party?" he was asked.

Ask Bob LaFollette, the president came back, he buried it. "Do you mean that Dixiecrats are not good democrats," the president was pressed.

Of course they are not good democrats, he came back.

But otherwise, the president spoke like a man who wasn't mad at anybody.

Even the tabling by the senate armed services committee of his nomination of Mon C. Wallgren for chairman of the national security resources board failed to draw fire.

Silent on Wallgren
This rebuff to the former Washington governor and his warm personal friend provoked only a no comment.

He held out again the threat that he may stamp the country by train in an effort to save his legislative proposals, but at the same time, he said he had nothing to add to his February 24 speech at Washington's Jefferson-Jackson day dinner.

Mr. Truman said the North Atlantic pact has his entire approval—he had read the entire text—and that he has approved the speech on it that Secretary of State Acheson is making tonight.

Ask Junking Of Dunne Bill

A joint committee of ways and means were told to "junk" the so-called Dunne old-age bill and adopt the state welfare program set by the public welfare commission.

This advice was given by Bardi Skulason, a member of the commission, who in past session has appeared before the legislature in the role of champion for the recipients of public assistance.

"I suggest you ignore the \$50 'floor' set up in the Dunne bill, because if you do not, you will be building up a situation which will get worse," he said.

Skulason referred to the old age pension proposal approved by the voters at the last November election providing for a \$50 old-age pension. The bill is now before the ways and means committee.

He also urged that legislation be enacted so that estates of persons on public welfare do not pass to relatives until the amount contributed by the state has been repaid. He explained that two years ago he advised the late Gov. Earl Snell to veto the lien bill which has been passed by the legislature.

"I now believe I was wrong," he explained.



Sheltered Fronts Draw Largest Crowds—Rain soaked streets on spring opening night make rain sheltered store fronts most popular with the crowds downtown Thursday evening to attend Salem's first spring opening event in 10 years. This crowd, milling in front of Robert's, waited its turn to get a little closer to show windows displaying latest in fashions.

Record Crowd for Spring Opening Despite Rain

By MARGARET MAGEE
It's a very tired pair of feet that I have today—in fact they still hurt a little. I took in "Spring Opening" Thursday night.

When I arrived in the downtown section I found that many others had apparently taken the "so what" attitude about the downpour of rain in the early evening hours and were already downtown to take part in what was once an annual event in Salem.

Alaska Growth Tied to Paper

Washington, March 18 (AP)—The growth of Alaska is tied to the pulp and paper industry which is about to be launched in the southeastern section of the territory. E. L. Bartlett, Alaska's delegate to congress said today.

Interviewed on the development of the vast, sparsely settled area, Bartlett predicted a tremendous population increase as a result of projected pulpwood operations.

The pulpwood industry will far exceed the importance of fishing in Alaska, presently the largest single industry, said Bartlett. One plant, about to be built near Ketchikan, will have an annual output valued at around \$25,000,000 within six years. There are for other similar operations to open in the southeastern area.

The Ketchikan operation is that of Ketchikan Pulp & Timber Co., many of whose officers and stockholders are officials of Puget Sound Pulp & Timber Co., Bellingham, Wash. It is understood that construction of the company's mill near Ketchikan will start this spring. The mill will cost more than \$30,000,000.

Rental Control Bill Under Fire

Washington, March 18 (AP)—A senate bill allowing rent increases up to 10 percent and letting the states scrap rent controls drew both democratic and republican fire today—for different reasons.

The bill provides for continuing federal rent controls 12 to 15 months except where the states either remove them or take over the control program. It was approved late yesterday by the senate banking committee and the senate agreed last night to start debate on it Monday.

The present rent control law expires March 31. The house already has passed a 15-month extension which also provides for "home rule" decontrol.

Senator McGrath of Rhode Island, the democratic national chairman, said the senate measure "ought to be given its proper name—it's not a rent control bill, it's a decontrol bill."

On the republican side, Senator Bricker of Ohio said the bill does not go far enough toward decontrol.

THE WEATHER

(Released by United States Weather Bureau)
Forecast for Salem and Vicinity: Mostly cloudy tonight and Saturday, with rain tonight becoming showery Saturday. Continued mild temperatures. Lowest temperature expected tonight, 43 degrees; highest Saturday, 65. Maximum yesterday, 61. Minimum today 48. Mean temperature yesterday 52 which was 6 above normal. Total 24-hour precipitation to 11:30 a. m. today 21 of an inch. Total precipitation for the month 1.32 inches which is .55 of an inch below normal. Willamette river height at Salem Friday morning, 8.7 feet.

Welcome Given To Erashevski

Forrest Evashevski, en route to Corvallis where Oregon State college needs a head football coach, got the full welcoming treatment today.

Gov. Douglas McKay headed the list of state dignitaries greeting the Michigan state college backfield coach.

But Evashevski didn't say anything in public about the football job. OSC athletic director Roy S. "Spec" Keene told him not to.

It added up, observers thought, to the probability that the onetime Michigan star would get the job, vacated by Lon Stiner's resignation, if he wants it.

Keene met Mr. and Mrs. Evashevski at the Portland airport last night. OSC alumni had breakfast today in Portland with Evashevski while their wives entertained Mrs. Evashevski. The coaching prospects then called on James J. Richardson, manager of Multnomah civic stadium in Portland where Oregon State will play two games next fall.

Keene then escorted them to the state capitol here. The governor is something of a salesman and he sells enthusiasm for Oregon State college at all opportunities.

Keene declined to comment on the coaching vacancy and when reporters asked Evashevski, Keene told him to keep mum.

They planned to leave for Corvallis late in the day.

T. N. Abbott Crash Victim

T. N. Abbott 62, of 955 Center street, was killed about midnight when the automobile driven by Floyd Sharp, in which he was riding, collided with one driven by W. Gerald Curtis, 785 Gerth avenue, West Salem, on the Pacific highway south of Salem near the Colonial house, according to Coroner Lester Howell.

According to state police investigation Sharp crashed into the rear of the Curtis auto as the latter pulled out to pass another vehicle. No other vehicles were involved.

Abbott's body is at the Howell-Edwards funeral home.

License Practical Nurses

The senate voted 16 to 14 today for a house-passed bill to let the state nurses board license practical nurses.

Shooting Star Pilots Complete Long Flight

Naha, Okinawa, March 18 (AP)—Four F-80 Shooting Star pilots of the 51st fighter wing completed the longest overwater flight ever made by jet aircraft in the Far East air forces by flying from Naha air force base, Okinawa, to Yokota air force base near Tokyo Wednesday, it was disclosed today.

The flight of approximately 1000 miles was made in one hour and 45 minutes with the Shooting Stars averaging more than 600 miles an hour.

Oregon, Washington Senators Divided

Washington, March 18 (AP)—Washington and Oregon U.S. senators split, 2-2, last night in voting on a compromise change in senate rules permitting the "yes" votes of 64 of the 96 members to curb debate on all business except discussion to bring up a future rules change.

Republican Senators Cain of Washington and Cordon of Oregon voted yes, and Democratic Senator Magnuson of Washington and Republican Senator Morse of Oregon voted no.

Alliance Step To World Peace Asserts Bevin

Atlantic Pact Held Greatest Preventative Of War

London, March 18 (AP)—Foreign Secretary Bevin said today the North Atlantic defense alliance is "one of the greatest steps towards world peace and security" since the war.

He told parliament the projected treaty is "a purely defensive arrangement for the common security of the countries who join it." The accord would link the United States and Canada to the western European countries in a mutual assistance arrangement under the United Nations charter.

"It is not directed against anyone," Bevin said, "I think we can say this agreement marks the opening of a new era of co-operation and understanding."

Examine the Text
Russia and the communist countries she dominates have opposed the accord with ardor. Russia has a similar but more binding network of treaties with Poland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

"If we are accused of ganging up against any country or group of countries, I say simply: 'Examine the text,' Bevin told the house of commons.

He declared there are no secret clauses.

As the world learned details of the proposed alliance, official spokesmen of the western nations hailed it as a warning to aggressors and thus a move to maintain the peace. No official reaction was forthcoming from points east of the iron curtain, but those states have left no doubt they consider the alliance a step toward World War III.

No Conflict With Russia

Both the British and the French, however, profess to see in the pact no conflict with their previous agreements with Russia. Moreover, the pact is defended as being within the terms of the United Nations charter.

A British foreign office spokesman said the alliance—of eight nations at present—would bring together 250,000,000 people "and a large portion of the world's industrial resources." It will serve, he said, "as a stern and effective deterrent against potential aggressors."

CVA Memorial Dead in Senate

The explosive issue of whether congress should create a Columbia Valley Authority was dead today after the senate killed, 19 to 10, a memorial asking congress to pass a CVA bill.

The vote was almost along party lines. There were eight democrats and two republicans for it. And there were one democrat and 18 republicans against it. One democrat was absent.

Sens. Richard L. Neuberger and Austin F. Flegel, both Portland democrats, sponsored the measure. They argued that creating a CVA would not be giving the government more power, contending it only would be putting into one agency the powers that several federal agencies now have. They said a CVA is vital for the development of the northwest.

But the republicans contended it would be surrendering state rights, and that it would be foolish to ask congress to pass a CVA bill when the legislature doesn't know what kind of a bill congress will consider.

Voting for the memorial were Sens. Carson and Ellis, both republicans; and Bain, Bull, Flegel, Holmes, Mahoney, Musa, Neuberger and Thompson.

Italian Red Filibuster on Atlantic Pact Beaten Down

The Italian chamber of deputies beating down a dogged leftist filibuster, voted tonight to authorize the government to negotiate Italy's adherence to the North Atlantic defense alliance.

The vote on the resolution of confidence in the government's foreign policy was 342 to 170.

The pro-communist socialist leader, Pietro Nenni, said Italian adherence to the pact would be an "invitation for the invasion of our country."

The filibuster ran three days before the matter came to a vote. Sporadic Red-inspired violence occurred in Rome, Milan, Genoa and other areas. It was quickly quelled by police, however.

Elsewhere there were reversions, too.

Moscow's trade union newspaper Trud today blasted what it termed the "new aggressive policy" of Norway's labor party and called for a Norwegian-Russian non-aggression pact to reduce "tension in the north."

Norway has already turned down a Russian offer of a non-aggression treaty on the grounds that membership in the United Nations made such a treaty unnecessary.

Treaty Pledges Resistance to Armed Assaults

Text of Atlantic Pact Binds U. S. in Alliance With Europe

Washington, March 18 (AP)—The North Atlantic treaty, it was officially disclosed today, would pledge the United States and allied nations to resist automatically an "armed attack" against any one of them—possibly by "the use of armed force."

Each nation would decide for itself whether military force was "necessary." The pact thus recognizes that in this country only congress can declare war.

The unprecedented treaty, proposing for the first time in peace to bind America in an alliance with European nations, was made public at 4 a. m. (PST) by the United States and the seven other countries which intend to sign it here about April 4.

Expected to Anger Soviets
This official disclosure of the terms is expected to arouse Russia to new heights in propaganda attacks against the alliance. The Soviets already have denounced it as an aggressive move against them, despite the repeated assertions of western leaders that its aim is strictly defensive.

The treaty, 1040 words and 14 articles long, provides for creation of a council of the member nations, no of a defense committee to strengthen and coordinate the defenses of the whole huge region of North America, western Europe and the north Atlantic.

An attack against the territory, occupation forces, ships, planes or islands of any of the allies anywhere in this vast area would be the signal for all the powers to spring into action, according to the treaty's provisions.

Article V Key Provision

The key provision of the pact is article five, which says: "The parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all; and consequently they agree that, if such an armed attack occurs, each of them, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self defense recognized by article 51 of the charter of the United Nations, will assist the party or parties so attacked by taking forthwith, individually and in concert with the other parties, such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force, to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area."

Any such armed attack and all measures taken as a result thereof shall immediately be reported to the UN Security Council. Such measures shall be terminated when the Security Council has taken the measures necessary to restore and maintain international peace and security."

That is the long-debated section which, although stopping short of an automatic pledge to go to war, is designed to put Russia on notice that an attack on any of the western powers would instantly be met by all of them.

Acheson Talks On Pact Effects

Washington, March 18 (AP)—The Atlantic pact powers today made public their security treaty, officially disclosing this big point: The United States would be bound automatically to counter an attack on any ally, perhaps even by use of "armed force."

In a news conference, Secretary of State Acheson went a little further than the bare words of the proposed treaty.

Asked about the extent of the obligation to fight in event of an attack, Acheson explained it this way:

If in the judgment of the United States government, armed force would be necessary to restore the security of the north Atlantic area, then there would be an obligation to use it under the treaty.

The "parties" referred to in the pact are the nations signing it. These will definitely include the United States, Canada, Norway, Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg. In addition Iceland, Portugal, Denmark and Italy have been invited and are expected to sign.

Some senate criticism is expected by administration officials but they are confident of eventual ratification. Acheson talked at various stages of the negotiations with such senate foreign policy leaders as Senators Connally (D. Tex.), chairman of the foreign relations committee, and Senator Vandenberg (R. Mich.), former chairman.

Acheson will go on the radio (CBS, ABC and Mutual) at 7:30 p. m. (PST) tonight for a report to the nation on the treaty.