

Fisher Given Several Gifts

Going-away gifts that "came out of the hearts of the employees" were presented Thursday to Earl Fisher, State Tax Commissioner who is leaving June 4.

Moody Benner, presenting the table lighter set, billfold with a dime for good luck in it, and two pieces of cowhide luggage, said the gifts came "out of the hearts of the employees," who have found Fisher always courteous, considerate and efficient. He added that funds for the gifts had come unsolicited from commission employees in both Portland and Salem.

Fisher, visibly moved, smiled: "I didn't know you were so glad to get rid of me." Then seriously he told the employees: "I wish you all success and happiness."

On the committee in charge of arrangements were E. D. Lindburg, chairman; E. B. Dagget, Violet Mooney and Muriel Eshleman.

Over the vigorous objections of Gov. Douglas McKay, the other two members of the state Board of Control, State Treasurer Walter J. Pearson and Secretary of State Earl T. Newbry, voted not to renew Fisher's term, expiring June 4, and to replace him with Ray Smith, Portland republican. The switch was widely criticized throughout the state, as was the appointment of Robert MacLean, Waldport democrat, to succeed Wallace S. Wharton as tax commissioner.

Akutan Volcano Belches Lava

Washington, May 27 (AP)—The U.S. geological survey announced today that Akutan volcano, a 4,200-foot cone in the Aleutian Islands, has been acting up again after two years of quiet.

The volcano, 27 miles north-east of Dutch Harbor and eight miles west of the village of Akutan, dropped one-eighth of an inch of ash on Akutan during the night of April 29.

Quoting Akutan postmaster Hugh McGlashan, the geological survey added that both ash and sleet fell on the village the following day, and that the eruption continued full-scale until May 10, when it decreased in intensity.

On May 17, the postmaster reported, villagers approached the volcano and found that lava was flowing down the northwest slope. Considerable steam was generated when the hot flow encountered the snow.

Straus and Boke Kept Off Payroll

Washington, May 27 (AP)—California's senators joined today in a new effort to keep Reclamation Commissioner Michael W. Straus and his California regional director, Richard L. Boke off the federal payroll after July 1.

The amendment would require that no money be paid to the reclamation commissioner, assistant commissioners and regional directors until they have been appointed by the President and confirmed by the senate.

Straus and Boke have been unpaid since January 31 under a limitation on the interior department appropriation bill for the current fiscal year. It requires that no money be paid to men in their positions unless they are engineers of at least five years experience. Neither Boke nor Straus is an engineer.



State Tax Employees Honor Commissioner Earl L. Fisher—Earl L. Fisher, veteran state tax commissioner whose reappointment was rejected by two members of the board of control, was presented with these gifts and other gifts by Moody Brenner in behalf of his employees at a presentation ceremony held Thursday morning.

Senate Soon to Move Into Old Hall Replete With Memories

By HARMAN W. NICHOLS
(United Press Staff Correspondent)

Washington (AP)—Tuesday, Jan. 4, 1859, was a bitter cold day in Washington.

The wood in the fireplaces of the old, gas-lit senate chamber crackled and the 62 senators—all there were in those days—rubbed the numbness out of their hands.

The honorable John Cabell Breckinridge, the vice-president of the United States, removed the glove from his gavel hand and demanded order. This he announced solemnly, was to be the last day the senate would hold sessions at the old stand. That noble body was about to move to new quarters, equipped with brass spittoons, fancy snuff boxes and plush surroundings.

The senate is getting ready to move again—back to the old place. The roof is about to crash on the dignified heads below. Workmen will jack up the roof supports and do the kind of a re-make job they are planning on the White House.

This isn't the first time the senate has moved back into the old room which once echoed to the golden oratory of Clay and Webster and Calhoun. It's gone back several times before for similar reasons—repairs to the present quarters.

The old chamber, to the left of the capitol rotunda, probably is Washington's most useful spare room. After the 35th senate moved out, the supreme court moved in and stayed for 75 years until the tribunal moved across the street to its magnificent, white marble home in 1935. It has been a museum since.

On that January day in 1859, the senators interrupted business long enough to pay respect to a friend—the old room.

Sen. John J. Crittenden of Kentucky arose to say that the 35th congress could spare a moment, surely, so he could indulge "in a few words of parting from this chamber."

The gentleman from the blue

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fall in the performance of his duty, sit where it may, even though it were a desert."

There was a moment of silence.

Then Vice-president Breckinridge spoke up:

"Let us devoutly trust that another senate, in another age, shall bear to a new and larger chamber, this constitution vigorous and inviolate, and that the last general of posterity shall witness the deliberations of the representatives of American states still united, prosperous and free. . . . The body will now proceed to the new chamber."

Those were the last words uttered in the old room by the 35th senate.

Soon, the ghosts of the great of bygone years will have company again. The senate is going back.

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Tired Railroad Is all Through

Reno, May 27 (AP)—More than 350 nostalgic railroad fans will gather this weekend to attend "final rites" for the tired old Virginia and Truckee Railroad.

The 50-mile line, part and parcel of the state of Nevada's rip-snorting mining boom days, is in its 84th year of operation.

It has petitioned the interstate commerce commission and the Nevada public service commission for permission to store its two remaining rickety locomotives and tear up its tracks. Officials of the historic line, which hauled more than \$600,000,000 worth of gold and silver from the Comstock Lode at Virginia City, claim the railroad has been losing money steadily for the past several years.

The line has sold most of its historic engines and coaches to Hollywood movie companies. It manages to operate a single train daily making a round trip between Reno and Minden and

usually hauls a few nostalgic passengers who can relate the bonanza road's once glamorous past.

Warnings Sounded on Use of Ocean Food

Coastal residents and beach vacationists are being warned by Dr. Harold M. Erickson, state health officer, not to eat mussels and uncleaned clams which at this time of the year may contain a strong alkaloid poison similar to strychnine.

He urges persons consuming clams dug on Oregon or Washington beaches to make sure the clams are cleaned before eating, with the black portion, or digestive tract, being completely removed. The portions removed, he states, should be completely destroyed because they can be fatal to chickens or pets.

Fatal illness may result from eating mussels or the digestive glands in which the poison is harbored, Dr. Erickson points out. The poison is a tiny organism occasionally washed in by the ocean at this time of year and eaten by the clams.

Newport Plans Monday Event

Newport, May 28—Nine veterans organizations are joining forces here Memorial day to honor those who died in far with emphasis placed upon a flower boat ceremony.

The 12-foot craft will carry on its decked flower wreaths for those who lost their lives at sea and will be launched from the coast guard dock at three o'clock.

The flower-bedecked vessel will be guided in the channel stream by a coast guard vessel and from there will be allowed

to drift with the tide outside the harbor, across the bar and thus to the open sea.

Memorial services will be held by the American Legion at the Eureka cemetery at 10 o'clock.

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