

Legislation Enacted During 1953 Session

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR.
(Associated Press Correspondent)

The Oregon Legislature, second longest in history, passed about 700 bills to set a new record, and among that number are some measures with far-reaching effects.

State officials, judges and district attorneys got pay increases, but the state employees didn't. An interim committee was created to study property taxation.

Oregon joined Washington in permitting tolls on the Vancouver-Portland highway bridge, the money to be used to build a second bridge.

The amount of insurance required under the state financial responsibility law was doubled, and motorists were prohibited from installing television in their cars where drivers could see them. An interim committee was ordered to study all highway problems, and motorists were banned from throwing lighted material from their cars at any time.

Government Reorganization
The Legislature voted to have a legislative counsel to draft bills and revise the laws, and it let the governor take over the Board of Control's duty to appoint the Tax Commission. An interim committee was created to begin work on a new Constitution.

The proposed State Department of Revenue will be studied two more years, as will the proposed State Department of Motor Vehicles. Legislation for a full-time Parole Board, with the right to fix prison sentences, died in committee. The Ways and Means Committee rejected the idea of having a legislative analyst check on operations of state departments, and the bill to have a lieutenant governor was defeated.

Power and Water Resources
A two-year study of water resources was ordered to try to find a way to end the constant bickering over use of water. Oregon's Interstate Co-operation Commission was directed to begin helping other Northwest states in writing a Columbia River Compact, and a Klamath River Basin Commission was created to work with California in writing a similar compact. A bill was passed to require public hearings after electric companies add surcharges.

Initiative Petitions
Measures passed would require more signatures on initiatives to amend the Constitution, amended the Constitution to permit dividing legislative districts, require that an appointee to any vacancy be of the same party as his predecessor, let counties use voting machines, require elections before construction of housing projects, and put "price tags" on ballot measures that reduce revenue.

Flinn Guilty In Indian Fraud

Portland, O.P.—Clyde W. Flinn, one of the three men indicted by a grand jury in February in connection with an Indian land fraud, was free on \$3000 bail today pending sentence after pleading guilty to all three indictments in which he was named.

Flinn yesterday entered his plea of guilty before U. S. District Judge Claude McCulloch here just as court opened. He had pleaded innocent to all three charges when arraigned earlier this month.

Flinn, along with Fred Farah, Lebanon logging operator, and John C. Blanford, was named in two indictments charging conspiracy and giving false information to the government.

The former land officer for the Indian bureau here was named alone in a third indictment for giving false information to the government.

Labor failed in its efforts to get higher unemployment and industrial accident benefits. Its bill to extend unemployment insurance to firms with fewer than four employees also failed. On the final day the Legislature banned picketing by a union that is not the workers' recognized bargaining agent.

Education Measures
Attempts to get school reorganization by simple majority vote in a proposed consolidated district failed.

Legislation was approved to continue operation of Oregon Technical Institute at Klamath Falls, settle the dispute between the Board of Higher Education and Civil Service Commission, officially change the name of Oregon Agricultural College to Oregon State College, and begin Oregon's participation in the Western States Compact to pool higher education facilities.

Fish and Game
The governor was allowed to postpone hunting seasons during periods of great forest fire hazard.

The bills passed would regulate aerial sprayers of farm crops, create commodity commissions, increase the butterfat content of milk from 3.2 to 3.5 per cent, ban sale of horse meat in markets where other kinds of meat are sold, provide stronger Bang's Disease controls, reimburse for loss of hogs which are slaughtered because of vesicular exanthema, and ban feeding of uncooked garbage to hogs.

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