

Solons Get Demands for Relative Aid Law Repeal

By PAUL W. HARVEY, JR.
Associated Press Writer

Outright repeal of an eight-year-old law requiring relatives to contribute to the support of the needy was demanded Thursday night at a hearing before the Senate Public Welfare Committee.

The witnesses, mostly spokesmen for groups of old age pension recipients, called for repeal of the law, as recommended by Democratic Gov. Robert D. Holmes.

They said that a bill to make the law much more lenient would not be enough. This bill was recommended by the Legislative Interim Committee on Public Welfare.

Backed by Only 2
Only two persons supported the present system.

William D. George, Eugene, said he favors the interim committee bill, arguing that "if a person is making a fair income, he should be required to contribute."

J. D. M. Crookwell, Portland, said there have been a few hardships under the law, but that the welfare commission has been fair in requiring contributions.

However, Floyd K. Dover, Portland, president of the Oregon Institute of Social Welfare, a group which helps persons get welfare aid, condemned the law.

"We can't hold relatives responsible," Dover said, "for care of the aged. It is cruel. It violates the federal Constitution, and comes out of the Middle Ages. The Welfare Commission says it collects \$20,000 a month under this law, but it costs more than that to collect it."

"Vicious, Tragic"
"This law is vicious, far reaching and tragic in its effect. A pension should be given as a matter of right, not as charity. An aged person should not have to beg from children who are unable to pay."

Mrs. Irene Waldo, Portland, said "as long as we support the world, it is time we should respect our citizens."

That statement drew applause from the 125 persons in the audience. Sen. Francis W. Ziegler (R), Corvallis, chairman of the committee, banged his gavel, and threatened to close the hearing if there were any more applause.

Mrs. Waldo said that the interim committee bill wouldn't relieve hardship cases, and that repeal of the law is necessary.

"I know of divorces because of this law," she declared. "Some parents are living in dire privation rather than require their children to help support them."

Under the present law, a single person is exempt from contrib-

ing if his gross income is less than \$2,700 a year. The interim committee would boost this exemption to \$4,000.

A married childless couple would have their exemption increased from \$4,000 to \$5,500, and a couple with one child would get an increase in exemption from \$4,500 to \$6,500.

The exemption for a couple with three children would be boosted from \$5,500 to \$8,500.

As a result, this little-known law does not serve its original purpose, the commission says.

The list, it explains, contains the names of persons prohibited by court order from purchasing liquor. It now contains names of men and women who were placed on the list back in 1934. Their original names, ages and descriptions also remain even though changes have been made.

Youngest on the "interdicted" list is 21; oldest is 82. Out of a list of some 1500 names about 80 are persons 60 years or older.

The master list is printed each November with supplements for the new names sent out to all liquor dispensers monthly. It is illegal to sell persons on the list any liquor.

To bring the list within workable bounds, the liquor commission suggests it contain only the names of persons interdicted in the previous three years. A bill to accomplish this has been introduced in the house.

Members of at least three legis-

lative committees will leave here Feb. 23, by train to inspect facilities at Oregon Technical Institute at Klamath Falls.

The legislators will return to Salem the next day. The visit had been tentatively scheduled for Feb. 22, but it conflicted with the invitation to the Legislature by the Eugene Chamber of Commerce for a dinner and attendance at the Oregon-UCLA basketball game.

The OTI trip was arranged for the House and Senate Education, and the Joint Ways and Means committees.

A minimum wage of \$1 an hour would be provided in a bill introduced in the Senate Thursday at the request of the Oregon State Labor Council.

MEET THE LEGISLATORS



SEN. S. W. SCHLESINGER



SEN. PHILIP LOWRY

Another newcomer in the Senate is Marion county's Senator Sidney W. Schlesinger (R), Salem, who was appointed by the Marion county court to succeed Secretary of State Mark Hatfield.

Among the younger members of the Senate, he is 38, a past chairman of the Marion County Republican central committee and a member of its executive committee for 10 years. He was recommended to the court by the Republican central committee.

Sen. Schlesinger served four years in the U.S. Air Force in World War II, attaining the rank of captain. Has been active in the Community Chest, Red Cross, Crusade for Freedom.

He is a member of the Salem Chamber of Commerce, Masonic bodies, Y.M.C.A., B'nai B'rith, Salem Executives association, and Marion-Polk Young Republican Federation.

Sen. Schlesinger was born in Portland September 8, 1918, attended Salem public and high schools and was graduated from Willamette university.

He is married and with his wife Alys and two children, Miles, 11, and Lynn, 8, lives at 393 Leslie St. His business is the San Shop restaurant, 3400 North Portland Rd.

Senator Philip B. Lowry (R), Medford, is one of Republican holdover senators, representing Jackson county where he won in 1954 with both Republican and Democratic nominations.

As a member of legislative interim tax committee he devoted much time to this committee's work. A serious legislator, he has been an active member of the Oregon state bar since 1942, following completion of his law course at University of Oregon where he received LL.B. and B.S. degree in political science.

Sen. Lowry was admitted to the bar in absentia, taking his examination while in the U. S. army, where he served for five years, a portion of the time with 3rd Infantry in New Guinea, Philippine campaigns and Korean occupation.

He worked on farms as a youth and is familiar with dairy and lumber. Now lives in a country home. He was born in Medford, January 8, 1918, and aside from his army service and short stays in Eugene and Portland, has lived in Jackson county all his life. He is married and has two sons and a baby daughter. He is affiliated with Order of Conf., Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Delta Phi.

27 Killed in Accidents
Oregon's traffic death toll in January was 27, or one less than in January, 1956, the state Traffic Safety Division reported Thursday.

The state now has no general minimum wage, although there is one for women and minors in some activities.

House Rebuffs Move to Shift Buses Control

Tables Bills Providing For Inspection by School Bureau

Two bills providing for transfer of school bus inspection from the state department of motor vehicles to the state department of education were tabled Thursday by the Oregon house committee on highways.

Members of the education department staff urged passage of the bills on the grounds that the department now finances some of the school bus programs out of school support funds. Further, they said, that a program of education of the drivers could be set up if the entire program was under the education department.

How to Control Them
Argument in favor of the transfer was also urged on the grounds that drivers should be trained to handle the children and keep them under control.

Rep. Ole Grubb (D), Bend, father of seven children, said his district had solved the child behavior problem on buses through a most simple expedient.

"We raised our kids to behave themselves," he said, "but when some of them started riding on school buses we noticed they were inclined to cut up some. So my wife cut off a willow branch, took it down to the school bus driver and told him to use it on our offspring if they misbehaved, just as he would use it on his kids. And there has been no trouble since that time, either from our kids or any of the others riding the bus."

Uniformity Goal
J. E. Turnbull of the department of education said his department had no complaint over the manner in which school bus inspection has been carried on by the motor vehicle department, but it was felt that a more uniform program could be worked out if the transfer was made.

Members of the committee in executive session held that the department of education could set up a suitable school bus driver education program without taking over inspection of school buses.

Rep. Verne N. Cady (D) Burns, held that the education department might well establish a program for physical examination of bus drivers, also.

The vote of the committee in tabling the bill was unanimous.

Holmes to Speak At Coos Bay Meet Of Demo Leaders

COOS BAY (AP) — The Democratic State Central Committee will hold its midwinter meeting in Coos Bay Saturday and Sunday.

Gov. Robert D. Holmes will be the main speaker. Other speakers will include Senate President Boyd Overhulse, House Speaker Pat Dooley, national committeeman C. Girard Davidson and national committeewoman Virginia Grant.

2 Bills Seek To Bar State Property Tax

By WILLIAM WARREN
United Press Staff Correspondent

The Oregon Legislature moved on two fronts today to bar a property tax at the state level, leaving that source of revenue exclusively to the county and local levels of government.

Up for second reading in the Senate today was a bill by Sens. Harry D. Bovin of Klamath Falls, Warren Gill of Lebanon and G. D. Gleason of Portland that would amend the present law concerning a state property tax by limiting it to payment of bonded indebtedness or the interest thereon.

Bovin explained that the reason for this provision was to protect the credit of the state in the future when bonds may be up for bid for such purposes as highway improvement or veterans' loans.

Earlier, Reps. Robert L. Elstrom of Salem and Eddie Ahrens of Turner introduced a bill in the House to prevent collection of a state property tax unless authorized by the legislature.

The measure by Bovin, Gill and Gleason, came after some fear had been expressed around the Capitol that action of the house in killing a proposal for a retail sales tax might result in imposition of a state property tax if the budget enacted by the 1957 legislature should soar too high.

Higher Bus Fares Recommended by Portland Officials

PORTLAND (AP) — An increase in fares for Portland bus transportation was recommended Thursday by Nathan A. Boody, the city's utilities commissioner.

He proposed in a report to the city auditor that Rose City Transit Co. be authorized to charge 75 cents for four tokens, instead of 50 cents for three as at present, and to raise the price of a weekly pass from \$2.75 to \$3. Student fares would not be increased.

The recommendations will go before the City Council, which has asked that the company answer some questions about its future plans before an increase is considered.

TERROR IN DETROIT Police Nab Phantom Sniper; 2 Girls Shot

DETROIT (AP) — A phantom gunman, whose nighttime sniping had terrorized women in suburban north Detroit since Christmas, broke out in a wild shooting spree last night, blazing a trail through four communities.

Prowling the area in a car, the trigger-happy sniper wounded two girls, fired on women standing in bus stops and peppered cars and homes with .22-caliber rifle shots.

Two hours after the first shot was fired, police nabbed Gary Addison Taylor, 20, of suburban Southfield Township. He was cornered after a wild hide-and-seek police car chase that led down city streets and alleys.

Oakland County Asst. Prosecutor William Lang said Taylor told him he was the phantom sniper. Lang quoted Taylor as saying, "I just had an urge to shoot at women."

Lang said Taylor, a factory worker, appeared to be a mild-mannered, shy youth.

He was held without charge. Last night's outbreak began when Shirley Eland, 19, was shot in the shoulder as she stepped on to the porch of her home in Bloomfield Hills about 20 miles north of Detroit. She was not seriously hurt.

Boy Wants More Vacation; 'Nope,' Says Governor

Lee Padberg, who is in the fifth grade in school at Lexington, got little sympathy from Gov. Robert D. Holmes, Thursday.

Lee wrote the Governor a suggestion that the annual three months' summer vacation be extended to six months.

"If you went 5 or 6 years you would get tired of it, too," Lee wrote.

The Governor replied that he couldn't do anything about it, but suggested that Lee add up the summer vacations, weekends and holidays to see if he didn't go to school only half of the year.

Oregon schools average 185 days a year, or only two days more than half a year.

Then the gunman headed through southern Oakland County toward Detroit.

A bullet was fired from a passing car at two women standing in a Royal Oak bus stop. The shot went between them, piercing the cloth of both their coats.

Five minutes later a shot zinged through the rear of a station wagon about three blocks south of the bus stop.

In the next 30 minutes shots were reported by an 18-year-old girl who was fired on but not hit, by four home owners whose windows were shattered, and by Vincent McCarthy, whose 11-year-old daughter Carol Ann was hit. The bullet grazed her cheek as she sat on a sofa in the living room of her home.

The sniper first struck the night of Dec. 22 when he shot a girl in the back. She was not seriously injured.

The sniping was sporadic after that. Most of the targets were women.

Tank Explodes At Kennewick

KENNEWICK, Wash. (AP) — Officials of the Phillips Pacific Chemical Co. Friday were investigating the cause of a giant ammonia tank explosion which injured four men Thursday.

The blast buckled the top of the tank upon which the men were working but caused no other damage to the 15 million dollar plant.

Most seriously injured was Harold Hanks of Yakima. Others hurt in the explosion were Idus Benson, Pasco; D. G. Scholes, Spokane, and Jack Broughton, Kirkland (King County).

Company officials said they did not know the cause of the blast. The area was cleared of all-but emergency crews.

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OLCC Asks to Revise Banned Drinkers' List

A list of Oregon's "interdicted persons" — problem drinkers prohibited from purchasing liquor — is out of date, the Oregon Liquor Control commission has informed the legislature.

The list, it explains, contains the names of persons prohibited by court order from purchasing liquor. It now contains names of men and women who were placed on the list back in 1934. Their original names, ages and descriptions also remain even though changes have been made.

Youngest on the "interdicted" list is 21; oldest is 82. Out of a list of some 1500 names about 80 are persons 60 years or older.

The master list is printed each November with supplements for the new names sent out to all liquor dispensers monthly. It is illegal to sell persons on the list any liquor.

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Labor Bills Advance

The House Labor and Industries Committee Thursday approved for passage bills calling for repeal of the controversial anti-picketing law and creation of a state conciliation service within the Labor Bureau.

The committee's recommendation on the conciliation bill was unanimous, but it split 6-3 on the anti-picketing repeal proposal.

Rep. Emil Stutz (D), Nyssa, joined Republican Reps. Wayne Glesy, Monroe, and Edwin E. Cone, Eugene, in opposing the recommendation, while Rep. Shirley Field (R), Portland, supported the Democrats for repeal.

The anti-picketing law was enacted by the 1955 Legislature. However, the state Supreme Court declared unconstitutional the section banning picketing. The rest of the law creates the office of Labor Examiner to conduct bargaining agency elections.

Members of at least three legis-

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