

# House Group's 5-3 Vote Keeps Surtax Repeal Bills Bottled Up

By JAMES D. OLSON  
Capital Journal Writer

Rep. Wayne Giesey (R-Monroe) for the second time failed in an attempt Monday to have the Oregon house tax committee consider two bills designed to repeal the 45 per cent surtax.

Giesey, at a meeting of the committee, asked the committee to set a time for hearings on House Bill No. 1, introduced at the request of Gov. Robert D. Holmes, and House Bill No. 361, presented by the Republicans.

The vote on his motion was five against and three in favor with Rep. Ben Ewick, (D-Medford) joining Giesey and Rep. Fayette L. Bristol, (R-Grants Pass) for considering the two bills.

**Vote Against**

Voting against Giesey's motion were Democratic Reps. Vernon Cook and William A. Greenleaf, Jr., both of Portland, Richard Eymann, Eugene, Guy Jonas, Salem, and Clarence Barton, chairman, of Coquille.

Giesey, after the vote, asked Chairman Barton if he had plans for considering the two bills.

The chairman answered with an emphatic "No," whereupon Giesey said, "that seems to be all on this matter today."

After the meeting Giesey said he would make another attempt Wednesday to have the committee set a date for hearings on the bills.

"If that attempt also fails," he said, "Rep. Allen Tom (R-Rufus) will request the house in vote to recall the bills from the tax committee."

**Pledged Repeal**

"Democrats and Republicans

alike pledged during the recent campaign that the surtax would be repealed outright as soon as the legislature convened," Giesey said. "Now, I can't even get the tax committee to set a time to consider the two bills."

House Bill No. 1, ties the repeal of the surtax in with changes in the tax rates and restoring the exemptions on personal income taxpayers from \$500 to \$600 a year. H.B. 361, introduced by Republican members of the legislature, calls for outright repeal of the surtax without any strings.

Members of the tax committee asked the state tax commission staff members to bring in data concerning the earnings of taxpayers in lower income tax brackets.

This request was made while the committee was considering H.B. 135, which would double the ex-

emptions for persons over 65 years of age.

**Estimate Loss**

After tax commission staff members estimated a loss of \$1,400,000, if the double exemption was allowed, Rep. Giesey suggested that the exemption be limited to taxpayers with incomes of \$3,500 a year or less. Action on the bill was delayed until more information is available as to the effects of the proposed exemptions.

Action was also delayed on H.B. 225, which would repeal the hardship exemptions allowed by the 1955 legislature in connection with the surtax adoption.

H.B. 136 and 146, allowing farmers to include as expense, exempt from taxation, money expended in improvements made to prevent flood damage on farms, were reported out with "do pass" recommendations.

## 'DODGED PROPERTY TAX'

# Assessor Accuses Senator Wilhelm

A meeting called to hear any protests taxpayers might have concerning the property tax assessment program in Oregon last night burst into flames here last night when an assessor accused a taxpayer—and state senator—of forgetting to report personal property of his company for assessment purposes in 1951.

Wiley W. Smith, Democratic Multnomah county assessor, told the Senate Taxation Committee in a jam-packed session that the Ruder Wilhelm Warehouse Co. of Portland, operated by Sen. Ruder Wilhelm Jr., Portland Republican, had failed to report some personal property for assessment purposes.

Sen. Wilhelm, a member of the Senate Taxation Committee, retorted: "That was a matter of gasoline in storage for use by the company. Nobody considered it personal property for tax purposes and nobody paid taxes on it before."

Sen. Monroe Sweetland of Milwaukie, himself a Democrat, objected to Smith's assertion regarding the Wilhelm company, but Sen. Wilhelm, the color mounting in his cheeks, said:

"Let him go on. The farther along he gets, the more he gets his foot into it. I'm beginning to think he doesn't know a damn thing he's talking about."

He told Smith: "You're coming down here without any facts."

At the conclusion of the meeting, Sen. Wilhelm, returning to his usual calm, smiled "I'm sorry I used the naughty word."

Smith, also concluding the evening in calmer tone, said, "Sen. Wilhelm, we assess you the same as everybody else."

The exchange between Smith and Wilhelm occurred after the Multnomah county assessor accused the State Tax Commission, which has been carrying on a statewide property assessment reappraisal program at direction of the Legislature, of being dictatorial.

# Home Owners Blast Tax Value Increase

The Senate Tax Commission heard grievances from Multnomah County home owners Monday night, but said it had no power to do anything about their plight.

The home owners bitterly assailed the Multnomah County Board of Equalization order increasing the assessed valuation of homes 35 per cent.

Bernard Shevach, attorney for the Portland Apartment House Owners Assn., testified that the order, designed to bring home assessments in line with those of business properties, was illegal.

He said the order was discriminatory, but agreed the Legislature has no power to change it without also changing the law.

Shevach agreed with committee members that the home owners' remedy lies in appealing from the board's order to the courts or to the Tax Commission.

Wayne Woodmance, leader of a group of protesting home owners, also said that the board had no figures for business properties when it issued its order.

Earl Gregg, representing the Progressive Business Men's Club of Portland, told the committee and the 400 spectators that if the Legislature imposes new taxes, he will help in a referendum movement to kill them.

"Your defiance is unwise and will be rebuffed," Gregg said, in

# Israel Silent On U.S. Plan For Pullback

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israeli Foreign Ministry officials had no comment on the new U. S. proposal to get Israel's troops out of the Gaza Strip and Egyptian Territory along the Gulf of Aqaba.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the proposal, made Monday by Secretary of State Dulles to Israeli Ambassador Abba Eban, had not yet been received officially by his government.

The spokesman added no official reaction would be available until Eban's report of the American offer had been received and studied.

AMMAN, Jordan (AP)—Prime Minister Suleiman Nabulsi said in an interview Tuesday the Arab states will "use military force" to drive Israel out of the Gaza Strip and Sharm el Sheikh if the United Nations fails.

The premier said Jordan, Lebanon, Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia and Iraq have already agreed "to take military measures" against Israel if she refused to budge. The Arab states, he added, agreed to do this last November at their summit conference in Beirut.

# French Test 'Fastest' Jet

PARIS (AP)—French plane builder Marcel Dassault said Tuesday his company's new delta-wing jet fighter has already traveled more than 1½ times the speed of sound, and may turn out to be the world's fastest military plane.

In tests during the past few days, the Dassault Works said, the needle-nosed "Mirage 03" has reached a ground speed of more than 1,000 miles an hour in level flight with a full military load.

The plane has not been stripped down and pushed wide open for a speed run.

The present international speed record is 1,132 m.p.h., established by a British Fairey Delta last spring. The U. S. Air Force X2 has flown more than 1,900 m.p.h., but that plane is a research, rocket-powered aircraft, not intended for combat.

**GRAIN HEARING SET**

The State Department of Agriculture has scheduled a meeting in Klamath Falls Wednesday with Klamath County grain growers seeking a local grain inspection office.

# MEET THE LEGISLATORS



SEN. ANTHONY YTURRI



REP. CLARENCE BARTON

Senator Anthony Yturri (R), Ontario, known far and wide as Tony, represents the wide-open spaces in Grant, Harney and Malheur counties, succeeding former Governor Elmo Smith who for many years was senator from this district.

He is the first senator of Basque descent to be elected to the upper house, and came to Salem with an impressive record of public service on a local level.

He was born in the Jordan Valley, October 19, 1914, attended schools there and graduated from University of Oregon law school, receiving a Doctor of Jurisprudence degree.

Following graduation, he went to Ontario in practice with Judge M. A. Briggs. On Feb. 14, 1943, he married Rene Jayo of Boise. He served as city attorney of Ontario without interruption since 1938 except for time served in army. Sen. Yturri has been member of Bar Association Board of Examiners. In army he served in counter intelligence corps and in Judge Advocate General's department and held the rank of captain.

Sen. Yturri is a member of the Elks, Kiwanis, Chamber of Commerce and Catholic church. He was first exalted ruler of Ontario Elks lodge, and is past district exalted ruler for Oregon, northeast.

Rep. Clarence Barton (D), Coquille, is another newcomer to the 1955 Oregon house. He has been named chairman of the house tax committee, where all revenue measures must originate.

He is an attorney but on being mustered out of military service in 1946, joined his brother in acquiring and operating a title insurance business. Rep. Barton served on Coquille city council for four years, one year as president of the council. He also was city attorney for a time and prior to entry into the army in 1942 was justice of the peace. He served chiefly in security intelligence service and was staff sergeant when mustered out.

Rep. Barton is past commander of American Legion and past president of Eagles lodge and Lions club in Coquille. Currently he is deputy district governor of Lions, a member of Elks, Oregon State bar and Episcopal church.

He was born in Coquille, October 20, 1910, attended Coquille grade and high schools. He spent three years at University of Oregon, the same number at Willamette university law school and graduated with LL.B. degree. He was in practice of law until entering army.

He married Mae Groshens, native of Heppner, in 1937. They have no children. He has long record for work on public and civic bodies in his home town.

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# Ike Sharpens Up Golf Game

THOMASVILLE, Ga. (AP)—President Eisenhower switched from quail shooting to golf Tuesday and banged a crowd-pleasing 225-yard drive off the first tee.

The vacationing President, in a jovial mood, teamed up at the Glen Arven Country Club course with the club pro, John Waller. They were matched against James C. Hagerly, White House press secretary, and George E. Allen, long-time friend of Eisenhower and his neighbor at Gettysburg, Pa.

The President came to Thomasville last Friday for about a 10-day stay.

# DIDN'T WANT CHAIR BLOODED

# Spinster Orders Bandit Out Of House, He Gives Up Battle

KINGMAN, Ariz. (AP)—An escaped convict surrendered to sheriff's officers Monday night after a 73-year-old spinster ordered him out of a parsonage where he had fled during a blazing gunbattle.

"I didn't want to see him shot," Miss Louise Freeland said. "He probably would have bloodied up my favorite chair."

Sheriff's officers identified the man as Charles E. Turner, 34, an escapee from Ft. Leavenworth federal prison last June 4. He told officers he had been sent to Leavenworth on an "Army rap from Japan."

With Turner was Joyce Hitchcock, 17, of Helena, Mont., who told officers she was forced to accompany him on a four-state trip after he abducted her at gunpoint last Thursday.

Mohave County Sheriff Frank L. Porter said Turner admitted in a signed statement that he kidnapped the girl, Miss Hitchcock, an attractive brunette, told police that Turner raped her on the second night of his four-state flight. She also said Turner committed

several burglaries en route to Arizona. She said he used the money to buy gasoline.

Police patrolman Stephen Smith, who had been alerted Monday night to watch for Turner's car, said he tried to stop Turner as he drove into Kingman. After he curbed the car, Smith said Turner suddenly flashed a .38 pistol and began firing at him.

The girl dropped to the floor of the car, slipped out the door and ran to a nearby house.

Smith chased the gunman on foot. Turner ran into the Trinity Episcopal Rectory, occupied by Miss Freeland, a sister of the resident minister who died about a year ago.

"The only thing that worried me," Miss Freeland said, "was that he was sitting in my favorite chair. That really made me mad."

Outside, police and sheriff's officers were shouting to Turner to give himself up.

"He was dirty and incoherent and he waved a pistol in the air," Miss Freeland said.

Miss Freeland said she scolded him for barging into the rectory and ordered him to give himself up. She said Turner meekly agreed, walked to the door of the rectory, threw out his still-cocked pistol and surrendered.

# Pilgrimage Made to Abe Lincoln's Grave

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. (UP)—Abraham Lincoln's 148th birthday anniversary was observed here today with wreath laying ceremonies at his tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery and a joint memorial session of the Legislature in which he once served.

Col. Richard D. Boerem, senior Army adviser to the Illinois National Guard, placed a wreath at the tomb on behalf of President Eisenhower.

American Legion units headed by National Commander W.D. Daniel and Gov. William G. Stratton made the Legion's 23rd annual pilgrimage to the tomb of the Great Emancipator.

Mrs. Carl W. Zeller, national legion auxiliary president, and Harold A. Cummins, Illinois legion commander, also took part in the pilgrimage and wreath laying ceremonies, along with state commanders from Indiana, Missouri, Connecticut and Virginia.

Lincoln's home was in Springfield, his children were born here, and he practiced law and served in the Legislature here.

The President, his wife and three of his children are buried here.

# Court Blocks S. F. Cable Car Track Pull-out

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A court order halted wrecking crews four hours after they had started tearing up abandoned sections of the Washington and Jackson streets cable car line Monday.

Judge William T. Swegert issued a temporary restraining order stopping the \$190,000 project on a complaint filed by attorney Morris Lowenthal on behalf of six Pacific Heights residents.

They charged that abandonment of the line west of Hyde Street was illegal, that approval of a 1954 cable car renovation program was won by an election campaign based on "fraud," and that rents dropped and business suffered because people don't like buses that have replaced the cable cars along the Pacific Heights loop.

"This suit is entirely without merit," said Dep. City Atty. Thomas O'Connor.

Only a few of San Francisco's cable cars still operate.

# Hatch Draws 12-Year Term

THE DALLES, Ore. (AP)—Eugene Calvin Hatch, convicted of manslaughter in the death of Walter Freeborn last October, was sentenced to 12 years in the Oregon state prison Monday.

Hatch, 21, had been charged with second degree murder in the fatal stabbing of his 75-year-old employer after a fight in a house trailer.

The jury found him guilty of the lesser crime.

# \$185 a Week Pay by '77?

DETROIT, (UP)—American factory workers will be earning an average of \$185 a week in 1977, according to Washington economic analyst Austin Kiplinger.

Kiplinger, who spoke at a Detroit Town Hall meeting Monday, said "in 1977 this nation will have a population of 225 million and the real standard of living of these citizens will be double what it is today."

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# Board Favors State TV Net For Education

The State Board of Higher Education recommended Monday that a state educational television network be constructed at a cost of \$1,122,000.

The board's report, submitted to Gov. Holmes, recommends television transmitter at Portland on Channel 10, and at Corvallis on Channel 7. There would be studios at Oregon State College, the University of Oregon, and Portland.

About two million persons would be within range of the two transmitters. The network would cost \$249,000 a year to operate.

The network would not reach eastern and southern Oregon, but the system would make films available to commercial stations in those regions.

The report was prepared at the request of the late Gov. Paul Peterson.

The report says the proposed network "can add another dimension to the educational and cultural resources" of the communities of the state.

Programs would be designed for every age group.

The system would operate four hours a day, five days a week.

# Forrester Gets Senate's Okay

The Oregon Senate Monday unanimously confirmed the appointment of J. W. Forrester Jr., Pendleton publisher, to the state Board of Higher Education.

Gov. Holmes appointed Forrester on Jan. 30 to fill the unexpired term of the late Bernard Mainwaring, Salem publisher. This term ends March 2, but Holmes said he would reappoint Forrester to a six-year term.

In asking the Senate to confirm the appointment, Sen. Leander Quiring (R), Hermiston, said: "The governor has made an excellent choice, because Mr. Forrester is very well qualified."

"For years, he has taken an active part in education at the local level and in higher echelons. He knows education problems from top to bottom."

"His character and integrity are beyond reproach."

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