

TWO MINDS WORK AS ONE

Rep. Kerbow, 25, and His Kid Brother Form Most Unique Legislative Team

By GORMAN HOGAN
Associated Press Writer

The youngest member of the Oregon Legislature has brought his little brother here with him so they can both get a broader education. Rep. John Kerbow, 25-year-old Democrat from Klamath Falls, has his 21-year-old brother, Dick, as his secretary to form the most unusual legislative team in the memory of veteran political observers.

Dick took time off from Southern Oregon College at Ashland to serve as major domo, errand boy and letter writer for his brother after John beat the veteran campaigner, Henry Semon, in the last election.

Two Minds as One
"Things work out just fine," says John. "Sometimes Dick knows what I'm going to do before I know myself. Comes in mighty handy."

Besides, it's nice to have a member of the family around, John, a bachelor, adds. "Keeps me from getting homesick." The young representative, on leave as a Klamath Falls grocery store manager, says from what he's learned so far he thinks his service in the Legislature will be worth a year in college. And Dick, a political science major, expects the knowledge he's picking up to come in handy when he starts teaching school a couple of years from now.

This isn't to say that the Kerbows are neglecting their constituents. John is one of the hardest members of the House to buttonhole, what with committee meetings.

MEET THE LEGISLATORS



REP. CARL BACK

Rep. Carl Back (D), Sixes, is a newcomer to the Oregon legislature having been elected state representative for the 17th district which includes Coos and Curry counties.

He has been a dairyman, logger and miner and in 1950 became an independent logging operator. Rep. Back came to the United States from Denmark at the age of 20 and says he has always been a "working man." He became an American citizen in 1937.

Rep. Back married Agnes Kilgren at Seattle, where he lived for 10 years before moving to Part Orford six years ago. They have a son 13, and twin daughters, 10 years old.

He was born in Denmark, August 2, 1905 and completed grade and high school in that country. He is a member of the Lutheran church and has no other affiliations.

Although Rep. Back is now an employer, his sympathies extend to the working men.



SEN. TRUMAN CHASE

Sen. Truman A. Chase, (R), Eugene, is one of the veterans in the Oregon legislature, having served in 10 consecutive sessions, four in the House and six in the Senate.

He owns one of the best operated irrigated Willamette valley farms near Eugene, raising chiefly cannery vegetables including beans for the Blue Lake cooperative cannery.

Formerly he was a leading breeder and exhibitor of prize winning Percheron horses. He is director of Eugene Fruit Growers association, past president of Eugene Farm Loan association, and Oregon State Horticulture society.

Sen. Chase is a native of Kansas, born Mar. 1, 1891 at James-town, but family moved to Eugene shortly after his birth. A graduate of Eugene high school, he has taken short courses at Oregon State college.

He is married and his wife has also assisted him as legislative secretary. They have four children. He and Mrs. Chase have been active in Baptist church work.

conferences and huddles with visitors from his home district. He's a member of the Education, Military Affairs and Commerce and Utilities committees and is sponsoring legislation dealing with Klamath Indian affairs, the Liquor Control Commission and lowering the voting age to 18.

A Politician Since 12
Intense and thoughtful, Rep. Kerbow has been interested in politics since the age of 12. He recalls keeping a chart at that time on returns from the 1944 elections. Four years later he worked in the county Democratic Central Committee office and defended President Truman in a high school debate.

It was a no-decision contest. "Most everybody I talked to agreed I won," John says with a grin, "but, of course, they were my friends."

He saw action in the Korean campaign aboard the Navy carrier, Saipan, and on his discharge in 1955 became manager of the

second largest grocery store in Klamath Falls.

After agreeing to become a candidate for representative he conducted a strictly unorthodox campaign. He had no manager or committee and he spent only \$118.

"I'd speak at meetings whenever I could catch one, knocked on doors around the neighborhood and shook hands with people on the street," he says. "I didn't expect to win but I gave it the best try I could." He beat Semon, a Democrat turned Independent, by about 1,000 votes. The Republican candidate ran third.

Unlike a good many legislators whose regular income continues while they attend the session, Kerbow is entirely dependent on the \$800 annually he gets as a legislator.

Dips Into Savings
He doesn't expect to get by on that but he has some savings which will carry him through.

Brother Dick gets \$12 a day and they pool their living expenses by sharing an apartment. Their father, a painting con-

tractor, died in 1949. Their mother, Mrs. Alfred Kerbow, is living in Klamath Falls "taking care of the family dog" while her only two children help write Oregon history.

As the Legislature's youngest member, Rep. Kerbow wonders sometimes whether the older lawmakers "are paying any attention to what I'm saying." But he says all have been "most respectful" to him while he's expressing his views.

He thinks the state would benefit if more young people "could afford to make the sacrifice" to serve in the Legislature. They should be able to bring a fresh approach to problems, he believes.

Rep. Kerbow doesn't know whether he'll go back to the grocery business after the legislative session. He's considering entering the University of Oregon to study law or political science.

While a warning was given to public school officials where classrooms were overcrowded, Smith said textbooks were not withdrawn.

Oregon Senate To Act on Free Textbooks Bill

Parochial Schools Ask Restoration Despite Overcrowding

The Oregon Senate committee on education voted Wednesday to introduce a bill providing free textbooks to pupils of parochial schools even though some of these schools have been declared substandard because of overcrowded classrooms.

Leo Smith, Portland attorney, who presented the bill, said that in 1941 the legislature passed a law providing free textbooks to private schools.

About a year ago, Smith continued, some of the parochial schoolrooms became overcrowded, just as some public schoolrooms, and the free textbooks were withdrawn by the state department of education.

While a warning was given to public school officials where classrooms were overcrowded, Smith said textbooks were not withdrawn.

"We do not wish to change any rules," he told the committee, "but feel that the pupils of our schools should be given the same consideration, insofar as free textbooks are concerned, as that accorded pupils attending public schools."

"We cannot condemn properly for additional building space as can the public school district directors," Smith said. "We have adopted the policy of stopping admissions in classes that become so overcrowded as to interfere with proper teaching."

Attorney Smith said that while he was representing the Catholic archdiocese of Oregon, that included only half of the picture as the archdiocese of Baker in Eastern Oregon, is also supporting the bill.

Holmes to Speak at Traffic Safety Meet

PORTLAND (AP) — The Highway Lifesavers Committee of Oregon will hold a state-wide traffic safety conference here Feb. 22.

Gov. Robert D. Holmes will address a luncheon. President Robert C. Sammons said reports will be heard from many of the 33 counties which have Lifesavers committees.

Birds have a third eyelid which serves as a shade when they are flying into the sun or other strong light.

Broiler Growers in Favor of \$300,000 Fire A Poultry Commodity Group Razes Building In Pittsburgh

Expect \$75,000 Fund To Fight Imports From South

By CLAUDE STEUSLOFF
Capital Journal Farm Writer

Oregon broiler chicken growers voted 29 to 5 in favor of forming a poultry commodity commission yesterday after first clearing the voting area of feed dealers, hatcherymen, organized labor representatives and processors. The meeting at Mayflower hall was attended by 100 persons.

Maximum tax collectible from the growers by the commission will be about \$75,000 annually according to Cornelius Bateson, Pratum, president of the Oregon Broiler Growers association, who conducted the meeting. Bateson was selected as attorney-in-fact for the growers in petition proceedings for the commission which will promote "Oregon Fresh" fryers.

1 Cent Per Bird
The 200 broiler growers in Oregon will pay about 1 cent per bird each year, Bateson calculated.

Processors will cooperate with growers to collect the tax if a

commission is formed. Biol Guertz, Salem processor, said he had been authorized to make that statement by a meeting of processors last week. He said they consider a broiler commission is a grower problem.

Importation of fryers grown in Georgia and Texas is a major price problem with local growers. Several speakers blamed them for the recent price drop to 30 cents per pound for local birds. In the areas mentioned birds are grown and processed in huge volume and some testimony indicated poor quality was a big factor in the lower price at which their birds are being offered here.

Stress High Quality
Jesse Parker, head of the Oregon State college poultry department, said he felt it is wiser to stress high quality of Oregon broilers, rather than to imply that out-of-state offerings were of such quality as to reflect on the broiler industry as a whole. He stated that "the South has expanded broiler production from practically nothing in 1930 to 1 billion birds last year and no doubt all-around efficiency in the industry had much to do with it."

\$300,000 Fire Razes Building In Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Fire destroyed a four-story building in the Diamond Market section of the downtown business area last night.

Fire Chief Stephen Adley estimated damage at \$300,000. For several hours after the first alarm was sounded at about 9 p. m. the flames threatened adjoining buildings.

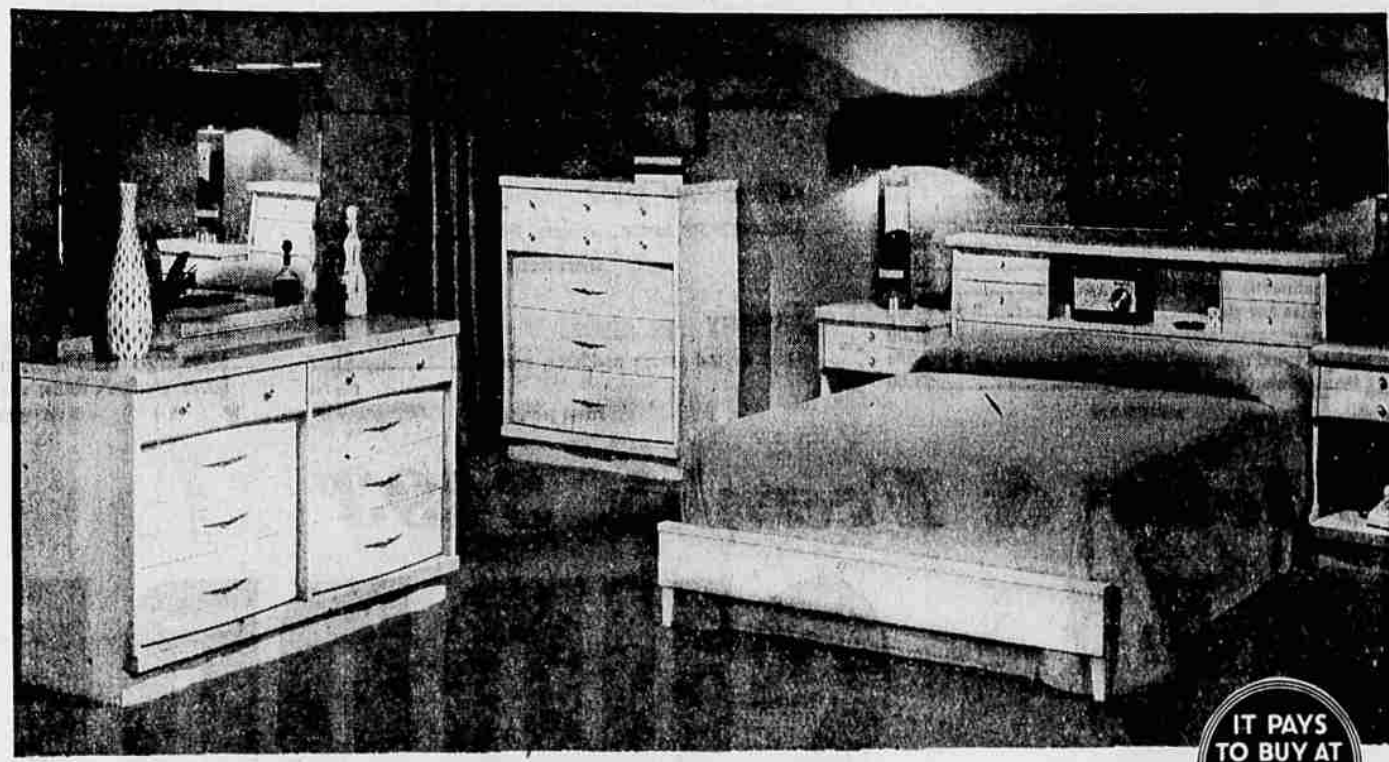
About 25 firemen were overcome by smoke. The fire was under control about 2 a. m. but firemen stayed on at the scene until dawn.

Cause of the fire was not determined. Flames broke out through the roof. The fourth floor caved in and the area at 3rd and Market streets was showered with sparks.

Bateson pointed out that both California and Washington have laws under which origin labeling of out-of-state poultry may be required. Since Oregon has no regulation on this point it tends to be a dumping ground for price breaking offerings, he stated.

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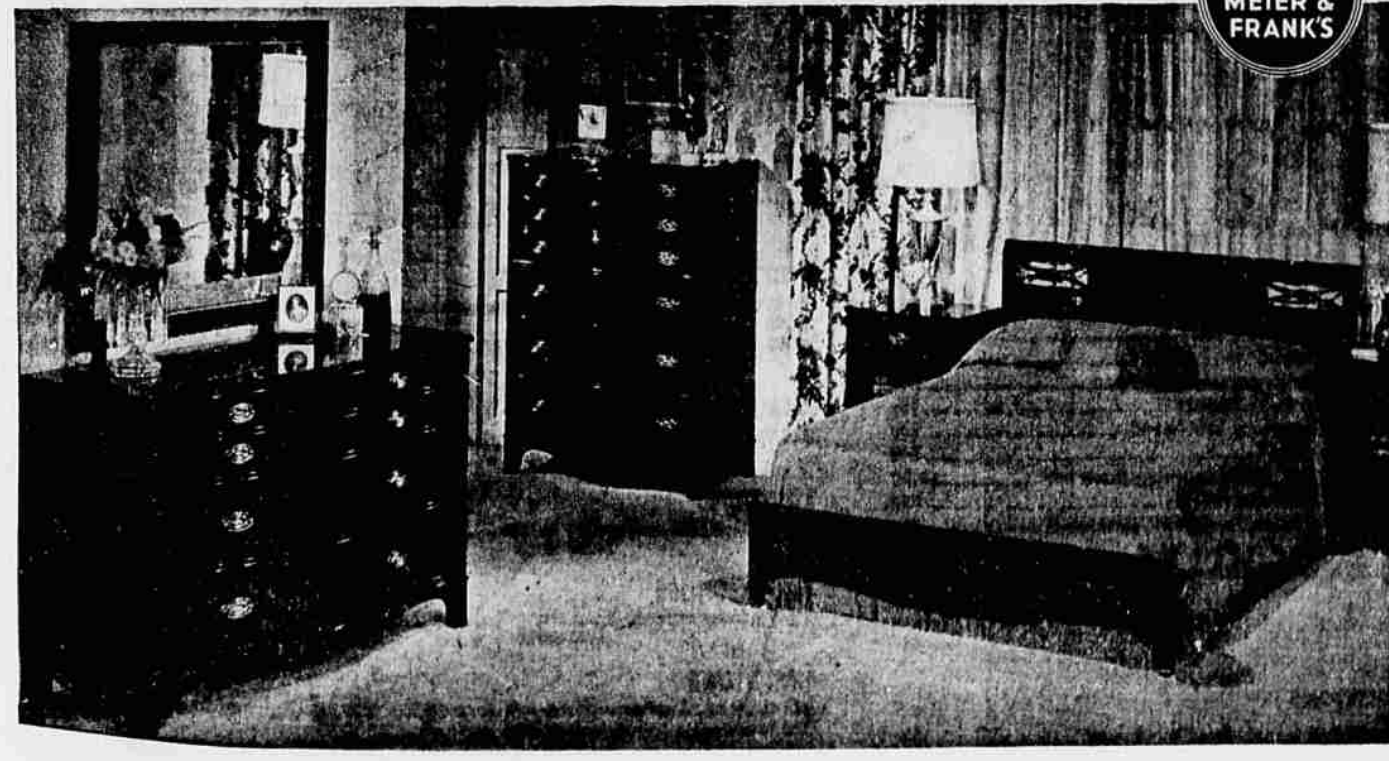
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