

## LAWS 'WITH HEART' GOAL

## Rep. Grace Peck Displays Interest in Less Fortunate

By GORMAN HOGAN  
Associated Press Writer

Laws "with a heart" in them are the goal of a sweet faced, gray haired woman starting her second term in the Oregon Legislature. That's why Rep. Grace Peck, Portland Democrat whose initials are G.O.P., devotes her major attention to such things as legislation for a new women's prison, assistance for the blind and tighter laws on divorce and marriage.

Mrs. Peck, who "never was blessed with children and not talented enough to write great music or prose," thinks maybe her "reason for being here" is to try to help those less fortunate than she is.

**Has Practiced Side**  
Yet Mrs. Peck, a Portland real estate saleswoman and legal secretary, has her practical side. She knows that help for the unfortunate costs money, and she thinks the state should make the most of the dollars it spends.

She has introduced a bill asking one million dollars to build a new women's prison. While she knows that the pressing financial affairs of the state may make an immediate appropriation of this amount impossible, she does hope this Legislature will at least appropriate funds to plan such an institution.

"Anyone who visits the women's division of the prison knows how crowded and outdated it is," says Mrs. Peck, who is inspecting the institution from top to bottom.

**Little Rehabilitation Chance**  
"The cells may be decorated with perky curtains and smell good, but there is no chance for recreation and less for rehabilitation. We provide these things for the men in prison why slight the women? The state owes as much to them as it does to the men behind bars."

Mrs. Peck concedes there is an average of only about 35 women in the prison at one time. But to make a new women's section economically sound she would make it available under a fee system for county prisoners as well as those under state jurisdiction.

**Housewives in South Fight Move to Ban Trading Stamps**

NASHVILLE (UP)—Stamp-savvy housewives, prodded by local merchants and inspired by "gift" catalogues, worked today to beat down a south-wide drive to outlaw controversial trading stamps.

Legislative moves to do away with the so-called bonus or discount stamps have been reported in three southern states but so far, none has passed.

A bill that would place a tax of from \$300 to \$600 a year on the stamp companies and a two percent levy on gross receipts of merchants using the stamps has won senate approval in the Tennessee legislature.

However, the bill is presently stalled in a house committee and a recent motion to bring the measure to the house floor was tabled.

She points out that as many as 800 women go through the county and state courts annually.

**Many Sentences Suspended**  
But many of the women, she contends, receive suspended sentences because the counties have no place to keep them.

"So they return to the same old environment, finally become hardened and the chance for their rehabilitation is gone forever," she says.

Rep. Peck is encouraged, though, by developments in the men's division of the prison since 1949, the last time she served in the Oregon House.

She's "amazed" at the elementary school where the prisoners "seem to be studying and learning." And rehabilitation projects such as the tailoring, furniture and craft shops seem to Mrs. Peck to be making headway.

On a recent visit, Rep. Peck says she met "one of the boys" she had talked to in isolation while inspecting the prison in 1949.

**Attitude Changes**  
Eight years ago he was sullen, unhappy and despondent. This time she found him happily at work in the craft shop making jewelry. "He looked good, was interested and told me he had given up his old ways," she says, smiling at the recollection. This she sees as an encouraging sign.

But Mrs. Peck says segregation and isolation practices of the prison are still bad, though possibly somewhat better than eight years ago. She feels, too, that "the boys" in prison should be provided glasses and dental care at state expense as an aid to rehabilitation. These things now are financed by the prisoners themselves and she says many can't afford it.

**Visits Prison**  
Mrs. Peck, once secretary to a member of the California Parole Board, has visited the prison about three times a year since serving her first legislative term.

Her political career has been a disappointing one for her. Until last November she failed to win re-election after serving the 1949

session. She feels she could have accomplished much in the Legislature in the interim.

She wonders why Oregon, where "the people are so fussy about gambling laws and regulation of pinball machines, are so careless about the divorce and marriage laws."

None of those serving in the last Legislature when the three-day waiting period marriage law was repealed "can remember why they voted for the change," Mrs. Peck says.

She believes those really serious about getting married don't mind the three-day waiting period. And she sees it as a deterrent to those who might elope and regret it later, or to elderly people, for example, who might be hoodwinked into marriage by the unscrupulous interested in getting hold of their property.

As for divorce, she wants a law providing for an interlocutory decree with a final decree six months later. Oregon's present law provides for a final decree immediately but with a ban on remarriage for six months.

This leads, she says, to many illegal marriages which "must be straightened out in hatches" by blanket legislation passed at intervals to protect property rights.

She feels, too, that many marriages are salvaged as a result of interlocutory decree regulations.

The daughter of a Portland and Alaska riverboat captain, Mrs. Peck calls herself a child of divorce. She knows from experience, she says, what a mark a broken home can leave on children.

As chairman of the Public Health and Welfare Committee, she believes that despite the need to calculate problems in cold dollars and cents, "We can put a heart into the bills which come before us."

**Probers Study Union's Books**

SEATTLE (UP)—Agents of the Senate subcommittee investigating union activities are in Seattle going over the books of the Western Conference of Teamsters, an attorney for the conference reported Sunday.

Samuel B. Bassett said the records are the same ones the union refused to show in January to the permanent Senate Subcommittee on Investigations.

They do not, however, include the personal records of Dave Beck, international president of the Teamsters.

Sen. McClellan (D-Ark.), chairman of the Senate subcommittee conducting the union investigation, also has asked to see Beck's personal records, Bassett said.

**R. FERGUSON ILL.**  
FALLS CITY (Special)—Rufus Ferguson of Falls City, who has recently been a patient at the Bartell Hospital, has been transferred to the Veteran's hospital in Portland for treatment of arthritis.

## Norblad Greets WU Girls



Rep. Walter Norblad, Joyce Hill of Portland and Dixie Rood of Molalla (left to right) are pictured here in front of the John McLoughlin statue in the Capitol in Washington, D.C. Both girls are students at Willamette university and are in Washington for a one-term seminar at American university. Miss Rood is a graduate of Woodburn high school. (Capital Journal Photo)

## Charge Egypt With Training More Raiders

JERUSALEM (UP)—The Tel Aviv newspaper Davar today charged that Egypt is forming new bands of fedayeen commandos to be smuggled into the Gaza Strip for raids across the border into Israel.

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Israel has had some reports confirming Egyptian attempts to "reorganize fedayeen gangs." Citing several recent reports of mine explosions along the Gaza frontier, he said new fedayeen groups obviously had sneaked through the buffer zone guarded by the U.N. Emergency Force.

**Extension Meets At Middle Grove**

MIDDLE GROVE (Special)—Mrs. Paul Schlag was hostess for the February meeting of the Middle Grove Home Extension club. Assisting hostesses for the luncheon hour were Mrs. William Massey and Mrs. Le Roy Austin. Mrs. Harry Phillips and Mrs. Paul Schlag discussed the project of the day "Keeping up With New Methods of Freezing." Mrs. Wilbur Wilson assisted by Mrs. Gerald Jaffe and Mrs. John Anglin discussed the industries and agriculture of Holland. Mrs. Jaffe as program planning chairman, listed

## Death Claims Famed Pianist Hofmann, 81

LOS ANGELES (UP)—Death has ended the long and varied career of famed pianist Josef Hofmann.

The Polish-born musician—celebrated first, at 5, as a piano prodigy—died Saturday at 81 in a Los Angeles nursing home. Physicians blamed a heart attack for his death. He had been hospitalized only four days.

Hofmann's genius included such achievements as: A finished concert pianist; a composer; a teacher of gifted pupils; a director of a great conservatory; and, amazingly, as an inventor of mechanical devices and auto accessories, for which he held more than 60 patents.

As a boy he took time from concert tours in Europe, Scandinavia and the United States to invent extension pedals and heel rests so his short legs could manipulate piano pedals.

In 1924, Hofmann became the director of the newly founded Curtis Institute, endowed by Mrs. Mary Louise Curtis Bok with 12½ million dollars. He was a United States resident since 1900 and a resident of Los Angeles and near Long Beach since 1930.

Surviving are his widow Betty; three sons, Anton, 32, and Peter, 20, of Cambridge, Mass., and Edward, 26, an Air Force man stationed at Lake Charles, La.; and a daughter, Josefa, of Aiken, S.C. Hofmann first came to the United States in 1887 at the age of 11. He began a series of 80 U.S. con-

certs—playing as many as four a week. The tour ended after 52 concerts when the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children intervened.

Alfred Corning Clark, a New York philanthropist, gave the boy's father \$50,000 so the young genius could resume his musical education in Poland. His identity as Hofmann's benefactor was kept secret for 38 years.

At 16 Hofmann became the first and only pupil of the celebrated Anton Rubinstein.

## Knowland to Fight Aid to Polish State

CHICAGO (UP)—Sen. William F. Knowland (R-Calif.), the Senate minority leader, says he'll attempt to block any administration move to offer U.S. assistance to Poland or other Communist-dominated countries.

In a Lithuanian Independence day speech yesterday, Knowland described Poland's Communist government as untrustworthy and asserted:

"I shall oppose the taking of a single dollar from the overburdened American taxpayer to build the economic strength of any Communist country behind the Soviet Iron Curtain or to give military aid to any Communist state anywhere in the world."

Knowland's stand apparently placed him in opposition to the Eisenhower administration's offer to Poland to negotiate 100 million dollars in credit to buy American cotton, farm and mining machinery, fats, oils and other products.

## Small Egyptian Ship Squeezes Through Canal

First to Complete Full 103-Mile Trip Since Fighting Started

SUEZ, Egypt (UP)—Squeezing past obstructions, the little Egyptian ship Ramses has traveled the entire length of the Suez Canal—the first commercial vessel to complete the 103-mile trip since last November's fighting.

The voyage of the 322-ton Ramses, little bigger than a tug, did not mean the waterway is cleared for ordinary shipping. There are still three major obstructions blocking the channel the U.N. salvage fleet hopes to open by March 10 for medium-sized vessels.

Some circles in Cairo believe that Egyptian President Nasser may now or later clear the waterway to pressure the West into forcing Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and Aqaba.

The Ramses carried a cargo of medicines from Port Said to Suez, at the southern end of the canal. Egyptian authorities still have not given the U.N. salvage fleet permission to start work on the sunken tug Edgar Bonnet, near the middle of the waterway, nor the sunken Frigate Abukir, four miles north of Suez.

The Egyptians say their divers must remove explosives from the Edgar Bonnet before the salvagers can go to work.

The U.N. ships began work yesterday on the third major obstruction, a sunken bucket dredger six miles north of Suez.

A diesel locomotive contains more than 70,000 individual parts.

**PROLIFIC POP**  
DETROIT (UP)—Harold Emery believes his German short-haired pointer, the Duchess of Heidelberg, set some sort of a record Sunday when she gave birth to 15 pups. The pups were sired by Prince Von Schoenherr who is the father of 45.



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