

Capital Journal

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Legislative Sessions

By a vote of 37 to 22 Oregon's House of Representatives has passed HJR No. 4 calling for annual sessions of the legislature. The bill was introduced January 27, by Representatives Eyeman, Skelton and Stadler of Lane county, and Senators Gleason and Lewis of Multnomah, all Democrats. The resolution, as amended, reads as follows:

That section 10, Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Oregon, be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 10. The regular sessions of the Legislative Assembly shall be held annually at the capital of the state for a period not to exceed 60 days, commencing on the second Monday in January of each year, unless a different day is appointed by law. Be It Further Resolved, That the proposed amendment be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at the next regular general election held throughout the state.

These legislators are all elected on economy pledges, which calls for speed in action as well as to save taxpayers money. It took 100 days for action on this bill by the House and it is estimated it will take three or four weeks more to finish the session, the most complacent, leisurely as well as costly, and the longest in Oregon history. The legislators seem more interested in playing petty politics than in legislation, most of it unnecessary.

For many years members of the legislature were paid only \$3 a day for a session limited to 40 days as provided in the original state constitution.

There was no difficulty in obtaining legislative candidates and many of the state's ablest men served for the honor it then implied. Session work, until salaries were hiked, was speeded up by night and Saturday sessions. Now the pay of legislators is \$600 per annum, plus mileage and more pay wanted.

The 1951 session cost \$585,385.77 for 116 days.

The 1953 session cost \$633,117.71 for 100 days.

The 1955 session cost \$746,210.556 for 115 days.

There has been appropriated the sum of \$800,000 for the expenses of the 1957 legislature and it is possible that an additional appropriation will be required. It has been the custom of each legislature to set up \$25,000 for the next legislature to get started on. This sum is included in the \$800,000 appropriation.—G. P.

Victory for Salem

Passage by the House of Senate Bill 30 by a vote of 38 to 19, a measure which authorizes the State Fair Board to negotiate with the City of Salem for extension of an arterial street through the grove portion of the fairgrounds, is a victory for the city.

The House amended the bill, making necessary Board of Control consent before an exchange of property between the city and the Fair Board is made. Without doubt the Senate will concur, and the bill is not damaged by the amendment.

No reason appears why Governor Holmes should not approve the bill. While Rep. Robert Stewart, who has the appointment by the Governor as director of the State Department of Agriculture, opposed the measure, it had the support of Guy Jones, also a Democrat, whose residence in Salem should have weight for a Salem bill.

Anyway, it isn't a political matter. No party lines were drawn in the Senate, or in the House where it had harder going. It is in the interest both of the city and the State Fair administration, which will acquire more valuable property in exchange for right of way through the fairgrounds that will cause removal of only one tree.

RAY TUCKER

U. S. Control of Baseball, TV Hit

WASHINGTON—Two of the American people's most popular sources of entertainment—baseball and television—will remain free of Federal encroachment and regulation through the efforts of a stubborn individualist Brooklynite and Dodger fan—Representative Emanuel Celler.



EMANUEL CELLER

As chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, the veteran legislator fiercely opposes current proposals for tolls on TV programs, and for making the great American game subject to the anti-trust laws, as professional football was so placed by a recent Supreme Court decision.

Although not generally advertised by their sponsors for fear of a popular uprising, there is a strong demand on and off Capitol Hill for these spectacular and far-reaching changes in these home and outdoor sports. In Celler's opinion, however, the proposed revisions would anger and harass millions of baseball and TV fans.

Talks on TV Programs
 George C. McConaughy, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, has indicated that he favors a test of subscription TV, which would mean that listeners would have to drop payments for each program in a slot attached to the set.

But he seems afraid to try it out without Congressional authorization or what he calls "guidance." He apparently shrinks from even a trial of such a startling innovation.

The Senate Interstate and Commerce Committee, which is headed by Warron G. Magnuson of Washington, recently considered a staff report on the subject. Although not yet made public, it recommended that Congress authorize FCC to conduct tests.

Fear to Take Initiative
 A committee majority refused to act on or approve the report. The situation is that neither Congress nor the FCC dares to assume the initiative or accept the responsibility for even a limited experiment. They are certain that millions of TV viewers, especially housewives and youngsters addicted to daytime programs, would turn the house—and Congress—upside down.

In view of these simmering threats to now free TV, chairman Celler has introduced a bill expressly forbidding the FCC or Congress to charge customers for programs, whether they be Ding Dong School for kindergartners, fashion shows for Mom or championship prizefights for Pop.

Mystery on Baseball's Immunity
 Giving baseball an antitrust status has gained some support from the Supreme Court's finding that pro-football is a monopoly. Since the latter's contracts are far more flexible than baseball's, and more fair to the individual performer, many members cannot understand why organized baseball, especially the allegedly monopolistic major leagues, should enjoy immunity.

In fact, the high tribunal indicated that, if it were to consider baseball's status in the light of present conditions, it might hold that it is clothed with sufficient public, economic and interstate interest for it to be brought under stricter Federal regulation.

The Congressional trend and mood, however, have turned sharply against Federal controls and interference with private business. And the honorable gentlemen on Capitol Hill, who always adjourn for the opening game at Washington, and who may yet install TV sets at Congressional vantage points, figure that baseball and television are "every American's business."

A Smile or Two

The juror was trying to get himself excused from service. "I owe a man \$25 I borrowed," he told the judge, "and he's leaving town for good today. I want to catch him before he gets to the train and pay him the money."

JAMES MARLOW

Hussein Has To Satisfy All Factions

WASHINGTON—King Hussein of Jordan, a young man in a hurry to keep from being thrown out on his head, has some dizzy problems. That explains why some of the things he says look dizzy.

He needs Western help but he can't afford to look too pro-Western, at least right now. He's

JAMES MARLOW An Arab nationalist, all for a strong Arab world, but he has to watch out lest some of his supposed Arab friends cut him throat.

Above all else he rules a land where foreign Arabs far outnumber his own native Arabs. Jordan has about 1 1/2 million people. About 900,000 are Palestinian Arabs who became Jordanians in 1948 during the Arab-Israeli war when Hussein's grandfather King Abdullah grabbed part of Palestine or because they fled to Jordan from Israel.

The remaining Jordanians—the natives—are mostly Bedouins, among them some nomads, some educated and some trained. They are the backbone of Hussein's army.

It's on this army he must depend to keep his throne. At the same time, in order to avoid civil war and perhaps his own ruin, he must try to pacify the Palestinians in Jordan.

What Hussein and his Bedouins share with the Palestinians is a hatred of Israel and a desire for a strong Arab world. It's because of their hatred for Israel that so many Arab anti-Westerners since the Western powers created Israel.

Anti-West Feeling Varies
 But this feeling of anti-Westernism varies among Arabs. It's strong among the Palestinians. That is why many of them, like the non-Communist, want links with Russia. They need help. They don't want it from the West. They can get it from Russia, or they think they can.

For many of the Palestinians, Egyptian President Nasser has become a symbol of anti-Westernism and has led the way in turning to Russia—less in spirit of a rallying point, a more spirited kind of leader who promises action, than their newly acquired King, Hussein, who until recently acted like Nasser's yes-man.

Jordan Can't Support Self
 But Jordan can't support itself. It needs outside money. Particularly, Hussein needs money to pay his army. Nasser promised Hussein money but double-crossed him by giving him nothing. There was no place else to get it except from the United States.

And Hussein knew that the closer Jordan moved toward Russia, and Communist domination of the government, the shorter his life would be. He had no choice except to turn to the United States.

Meanwhile, and for months leftists and pro-Nasserites had been infiltrating the army, the government and the public. So when Hussein's Prime Minister Suleiman Nablusi—a pro-Nasserite all for closer ties with Russia—spurred American help, the King threw him out. That startled the crisis.

As far as the Palestinians were concerned, the King was a traitor. Hussein in his new Cabinet made Nablusi foreign minister. At the same time he appointed Hussein Khalidi, a man inclined toward the West, as prime minister. This Cabinet fell under pressure from Jordan's political parties, particularly the Palestinians.

King Warned Nasser
 The King, knowing the West was watching and that he might have to call on it for military help to save himself, warned Nasser with-out mentioning his name to keep out of his affairs. No doubt he made the rebuke mild to keep from angering the pro-Nasser Palestinians too much.

At the same time he blamed his troubles on "international communism" whose Middle Eastern headquarters, he said, was Israel. He must have tried to try a lot of fish with that twist.

It could make anti-Communist Palestinians suspicious of pro-Russian Palestinians but it sought to show all anti-Israel Palestinians that he was still anti-Israel himself. The statements out of Jordan have been full of double-talk but that's no wonder.

ONE UNCROWDED SCHOOL

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—The bumper crop of post-war babies is crowding schools everywhere—except murtuary schools. There could be a shortage of undertakers.

Dr. Otto S. Margolis, dean of the American Academy of Funeral Service, New York, said here that 1,200 will graduate this year from 20 murtuary schools. Prior to World War II the average was 1,800.

COULD BE ELIMINATED

Meat inspection and other fold-over has eliminated most country slaughter houses without noticeable improvement of quality. Spending state money for it could be eliminated.—Sherman County Journal.

THRIFTY RAT

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP)—Detective Jim Frost, called to investigate a \$70 theft from a laundromat, thought he smelled a rat.

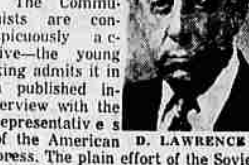
Desert Wind Veers West



DAVID LAWRENCE

Intensified Cold War in Middle East Calls For More Energetic Activity on Our Part

WASHINGTON—The struggle inside Jordan vividly illustrates the dilemma in the Middle East that confronts the United States and the other Western powers.



DAVID LAWRENCE

The Communist conspiracy is to overthrow the existing regime in Jordan and line it up with Nasser of Egypt and the pro-Communist clique that has taken possession of Syria.

Shall the United States look on indifferently? Leaflets condemning the United States are being distributed in the streets by the Communists. Student groups which have been infiltrated by Communist agents are being incited to make riotous demonstrations. Shall there be nothing done to counteract this, will we let the young king admit it in a published interview with the representative of the American D. Lawrence Press. The plain effort of the Soviet Union is to overthrow the existing regime in Jordan and line it up with Nasser of Egypt and the pro-Communist clique that has taken possession of Syria.

Then, states a medical professor in a newspaper article, "there is degenerative joint disease (osteoarthritis) which comes from general wear and tear—if we live long enough."

The medical authorities who tell us these things are over-pressed by their own pomposity. They do not say "I believe wear and tear or cold and damp causes chronic joint disability." They state it dictatorially and somehow it becomes a principal of practice.

Takes Nerve to Doubt
 It takes some nerve to doubt any such established medical principle, in practice, I mean. It's different in print. You can doubt an established medical principle in print and incur no greater punishment than being put out of print. I have incurred such punishment in numerous places, but I have

Albany Demo-Herald
 Two Arabs are walking their camels across an unbroken desert. One Arab says to the other, "Who'll win this oil, anyway?" "It's a remote cartoon in that remote of magazines, the New Yorker, but we started thinking: Does an Arab use oil? No, he uses camels. Does a Jordanian use oil? No, he uses mules and, more often, shanks' mares. Jordan is poor, and camels cost a couple of bucks. And how about Kuwait? That's the country about the size of western Lincoln county. It has been described as 3,000 feet of sand on top of 20,000 feet of oil, because it is the richest oil depositary in the world. Do Kuwaitians use oil? Nope. They use yakjakkas, goats and boats.

Yet these unburned people see Yanks and Britons, business-suited Egyptians and an occasional Ukrainian splattering across the sand in jeeps, stopping here and there to poke holes in a dune, and thinking on. They see fat pipelines filled with goopy ooze that kills their sparse crops, and they see fleets of giant ships sucking themselves full of the black water that can't be eaten, worn or ridden. They even hear that people make war over the stuff.

It's a strange situation, but it has never been so.

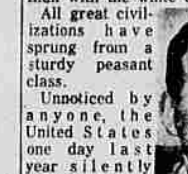
Did South Africans use diamonds? Did Malaya use rubber? Do the French drink champagne or the Scots Scotch? Not much.

Following this line of thought to its hyper-cold, over-indulgent conclusion, we'll allow that we're as crazy as the Arab camel drivers think we are.

HAL BOYLE

Man With White Collar Has Replaced Man With a Hoe

NEW YORK (AP)—The man with the hoe has given way to the man with the white collar.



HAL BOYLE

All great civilizations have sprung from sturdy peasant class. Unnoticed by anyone, the United States one day last year I think I've reached one of those turning points from which there is no going back.

It became a land of indoor peasants, probably the first major power in history in which the white collar worker makes up the largest element in its labor force. What are the implications behind this startling fact? What does it mean for the future? Supply Still Short? In pointing out that white collar workers are now the most numerous type of wage earner in America, a U. S. Department of Labor expert warned that some are in still short supply.

The shortage of skilled, technical and professional manpower is now general throughout the nation, Brunswick A. Bardon told a conference at Louisville, "and will get worse unless we move swiftly to improve our training and employment policies and strengthen our educational system."

This is only one aspect of the quiet revolution over the last half century during which the machine age has gone to the farm and the hired hand has gone to the city.

Won't Stay on Farm
 The old question of "how you gonna keep 'em down on the farm?" has received a final answer. You ain't gonna. In 1910 America's farm population totaled 13,550,000. In 1955 it was down to 6,341,000.

In the next 10 years the family farm seem to be slowly going the way of the horse—if not the dodo—as agriculture becomes more and more a big business, and the small operator becomes less and less important.

BEN MAXWELL

News From an Earlier Day

April 26, 1952
 Two new men's organizations had been formed at Dallas: the Rotary Club with Rev. Orville F. Mick as president and the Junior Chamber of Commerce to receive its charter April 29.



BEN MAXWELL

Salem's new sewage disposal plant had its opening date set for May 10, 1952.

On this day five years ago ceiling prices were posted in Salem restaurants and taverns naming a maximum charge for food and drinks. Prices were to remain fixed until the federal agency authorized changes.

Marion county court had said that sentimental persons seeking relief from the old courthouse should be razed must look to the wreckers for food and drinks. The court had requested the statute of justice atop the clock tower and it was considered likely that the town clock in the tower would be installed in city hall. Iron railing around the mansard roof was most in demand by private purchasers. Installation of courthouse clock in city hall tower, at cost of about \$3000. The clock, now motivated by electricity rather than by weights as formerly, became operative in its new location during early November in 1953. The hollow copper statue of justice received from atop the court house clock tower now reposes in the foyer of Williamette Law School. The image replaced an ear-piercing wooden goddess and cost Marion county \$315 when it was ordered as item 5762 from the W. H. Mullins catalogue, Sept. 16, 1905. Installation was by contract with Theo. Barr and John Nathan, 811 Union, now a resident of Salem, assisted with the job more than 50 years ago. A first statue, raised in 1873, was made of cedar blocks and Oregon's rambunctious Senator James W. Nesmith considered it such an atrocity that he threatened to blow it and its creators to pieces with his Indian gun.

Tax Hokum

Eugene Register-Guard
 We are on record as having observed that Oregon tax payers are getting off pretty easy. The tax for the ordinary wage earner in the next few years will be little if any larger than it was in the last two years. And the state will be spending a lot more money. Part of the difference will be made up by larger corporation taxes of one kind and another which in itself is not going to improve the business climate in the state.

Another part of the difference will be made up by the decision of the Legislature to treat last biennium's surplus as "income." And so it may be, in a book-keeping sense. We got the surplus of some 30 million dollars because income tax collections were better than the 1955 Legislature had dared to think would be. We collected that much more than we spent. So now we kick the 30 million into the general fund for next time. Thus for a 265 million dollar budget, we need to raise only 235 million. Taxes don't have to go up much.

Not this time. But what about next time?

Translate this practice to your own financial situation. Suppose a rich uncle dies and leaves you \$1,000. You earn \$5,000 a year. So the first year you put the legacy with your income and live on a \$6,000 scale. Your standard of living has gone up 20 per cent, but you haven't had to work any harder, longer or better than you did the year before. You're in clover for one year. But the next year the clover runs out. You must either pull back your standard of living to the \$5,000 level or you must find a new way of getting the additional \$1,000. Few of us can count on a rich uncle's death every year. And Oregon cannot count on a fat budget surplus every year.

It still looks to this newspaper as if a sales tax is the logical answer. We expect to hear, before election, of the November 1958 election year. The November 1958 needed funds this time without the sales tax and without greatly increasing income tax rates for the wage earner. That will be hokum because the Legislature put Oregon in the position of living partially off its bank account, a financial practice that can lead only to bankruptcy and disillusionment.

LONG MEMORIES
 BALTIMORE (AP)—It had been many years but the two women employees of the self-service laundry thought they recognized the holdup man.

Mrs. Edith Dedmond and Miss Cora Nickens turned out to be right. Benjamin J. Plater Jr., 29, charged with the robbery, was the fellow they had gone to Booker T. Washington Junior High School with about 15 years ago.

THIEF SHOULD READ THEM
 KILLEEN, Tex. (AP)—Lawrence Sattell, a book salesman, told police somebody stole 32 bibles worth \$34.95 each from his auto.

CONFIDENCE, HARRY!

Harry Truman says his grandchild shouldn't be a namesake because it would handicap him. Losing confidence, Harry? — Sherman County Journal.

March 27, 1950

Mrs. M. E. K. wrote . . . "I just feel as though our acknowledgements for Father's funeral would not be complete without a few lines to you for the very satisfactory arrangements and most gracious services extended to us."

HOWEL EDWARDS FUNERAL HOME