



Governor Sprague left Salem Wednesday for San Francisco where, on Saturday, he will participate in an Oregon Day program at the Golden Gate exposition. It will be the governor's first absence from the state since taking over the reins of government last January and, incidentally, the first opportunity Senate President Robert M. Duncan has had to officiate as the state's chief executive. Governor Sprague plans to return to the Oregon capital next Wednesday.

The past week has been an unusually busy one in the life of Oregon's governor, what with opening the Wolf creek highway on Friday, addressing the national editorial convention at Timberline lodge on Saturday and making the principal address at the "Happy Days" celebration at Hillsboro on Monday.

A protest by the Portland Building Trades Council against the use of convict labor on the new improvements at the penitentiary failed to move the Board of Control. As Governor Sprague pointed out to the protesting delegation the legislative appropriation for the new penitentiary buildings was based upon the use of prison labor. Furthermore work on the building projects will provide much needed employment for prisoners. Construction work at the penitentiary has always been done by convict labor under the supervision of a "free" superintendent, with possibly one or two assistants, specialists in their line, also from the "outside."

Appointment of Irl S. McSherry, Salem printer, to be assistant parole director was announced this week by Fred S. Finsley, parole director. The appointment will become effective July 10. McSherry was at one time engaged in newspaper work in Oregon, being connected at various times with the Tillamook Headlight, the McMinnville Telephone-Register and the Salem Statesman. He served as private secretary to Governor A. W. Norblad in 1930.

Petitions are now being placed in circulation in support of the proposed initiative amendment providing for repeal of the milk control act. The measure is being sponsored by State Senator Thomas R. Mahoney of Portland, who made strenuous efforts during the recent legislative session to have this law repealed.

Observe the humble oyster. Now he is to be rehabilitated. The great state of Oregon is taking an active interest in his (or her) welfare. Governor Sprague announced this week that he had been instrumental in persuading the state fish commission and the State College, co-operatively, in a research project which will delve into the life and habits of the lowly

bivalves in the Yaquina Bay region. Cost of the project is estimated at \$3000 for the year to be shared by the two participating agencies.

Whales also featured in the news of the week around the capitol. Former Governor Charles H. Martin sent a letter to Governor Charles A. Sprague suggesting that the state waive its right, title and interest in the carcass of the famous "Lessard" whale, now reposing on the Lessard ranch in Multnomah county. Killing of the stray whale in Columbia slough near Portland by Edward Lessard in 1931, it is recalled, raised a state-wide "stink" closely rivaling that raised by the whale itself a few weeks after its demise. Lessard was made the target of two criminal actions as a result of the killing, both of which he won. Governor Martin said he refused to accept the carcass for the state and thinks Oregon should "wipe its hands" of the whole messy affair and let Lessard have it.

The long predicted reorganization of the State Liquor Control commission is at last an accomplished fact. Governor Sprague last week asked for and received the resignations of Stanley Jewett (republican) of Portland and James D. Burns (democrat) of Condon. He was already in possession of the resignation of Arthur K. McMahan (democrat) of Albany, chairman of the commission, who asked to be relieved of his duties several weeks ago. Saturday the governor appointed an entirely new commission composed of Lloyd J. Wentworth (republican) Portland lumberman; J. N. Chambers (democrat) Salem, and Lowell Stockman (republican) Umatilla county rancher.

Organization of the new commission is expected to be followed by the resignation of Otto J. Runte as liquor administrator and possibly a few minor shifts in the personnel of the organization but Governor Sprague insists that there will be no wholesale housecleaning of the commission's employees.

Four hundred choice leghorn pullets destined for the laying pens at the Cottage Farm of the Oregon State Hospital, will grace the festive board instead. A patient of the institution employed on the farm, having nothing more important to occupy his time, wrung the necks of the entire flock one day last week.

Another important change in the state's official family is scheduled for July 15 when Silas Gaiser, former Salem school head, will succeed D. A. Bulmore as administrator of the unemployment compensation act. The post carries a salary of \$4500 a year.

In spite of the fact that the legislature frowns upon professional lobbyists the state, itself, through its numerous boards, commissions and departments, is probably the worst offender in this respect. This situation is brought sharply into the foreground just now through an opinion by Attorney General Van Winkle holding that claims presented by two Salem attorneys for "legal services" rendered the now defunct bakery

board are legitimate and must be paid. The attorneys in question were employed by the bakery board to oppose the repeal of the bakery board during the last legislative session. Approval of the claim was withheld by the budget director on the ground that the board exceed its authority in employing the additional legal talent.

Last of the mural paintings for the new capitol were placed last week. One of these, portraying the famous Champcoog meeting adorns the walls of the Hall of Representatives. The other recording the arrival in Salem of a courier bringing the news of

statehood, occupies a place in the Senate chamber. Work on the huge granite groups that will guard the entrance to the capitol is expected to be completed late this month.

A total of 275 extra workers were employed by Secretary of State Earl Snell last week to handle the eleventh hour rush of renewal of operators' licenses. The extra crew was divided into three shifts in order to expedite handling of the huge flood of applications that poured in on the department as the dead-line for renewal of the driver's permits approached.

Calling cards, 50 for \$1.00.

Mayor Favors Park For Tennis Courts

Mayor R. F. Milne stated in the Sentinel office this morning that the city park around the Community Building is to be cleaned up and all the trash and debris removed.

The mayor also favors putting the tennis courts, a Junior Chamber of Commerce project, and which has been finally approved by the WPA office in Washington, D. C., in the park. The ball park is so far out that it is not really the best location for the courts.

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