



HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

STATE NEWS CAPITAL

Breakers Ahead. Governor's Salary. Funds Distributed.

By A. L. LINDBECK

SALEM.—Breakers loom ahead for the good ship House of Representatives of the Oregon legislature even before it sets sail on its cruise to Salem.

Word from Portland has it that the Multnomah county delegation is preparing to take over the command when the legislature meets—to guide its program, control its patronage and direct its destinies. Already, the report has it, the boys from the big town are organizing to run the show in their own way, with headquarters to be maintained in the Senator hotel, where the plots are to be hatched and the plans whipped into shape and with Warren Erwin, of the Multnomah delegation as the chief plotter and floor leader, under the able advice of such veteran lobbyists and legislators as Howard Latourette and John Beckman.

Nothing could be better calculated to stir the resentment of the up-state legislators than such a proposal. Multnomah county has always had its share of legislative honors, and naturally, because of the numerical strength of its delegation, wields a big influence in the legislative halls. The legislators from the smaller counties have always been willing to join hands with their colleagues from the metropolis in elevating a Multnomah county lawmaker to the Speakership when that county was entitled to that office. But to have the Multnomah delegation attempt to dictate to the legislature and tell it what it shall do and when, that is something else again. The report from Portland, unless promptly and successfully refuted can be expected to have about the same soothing effect on the up-state legislators as the waving of a red shirt does on the temper of a bull.

All of which does not contribute in any way toward easing the task of John Coater, Speaker-designate, in doling out committee assignments and chairmanships in a manner that will make for harmony and the smooth running of his part of the legislative machinery.

Over on the other side of the legislative hall the liberals of the senate, frustrated in their plot to defeat Harry Corbett for the presidency by joining their forces with the democratic minority, are said to be busy with plans whereby they expect to make their influence felt as the balance of power between the conservative republicans on one side and the democrats on the other. Senator Zimmerman, erst-while candidate for governor, is understood to have a pocketful of bills already to dump into the legislative hopper, including another hydro-electric power commission bill minus the bonding features, a "unicameral" legislature amendment, and a state banking amendment.

Gradually as the picture begins to unfold to the gaze of the observing outsider it begins to appear that the forthcoming session will be just a repetition of those that have gone before—hoppers overflowing with bills, lawmakers overflowing with oratory and argument and the constitutional 40 days and nights overflowing into an extra week or ten days before the job is finished and sine die written to adjournment.

There will be no inaugural ball in honor of Governor Martin when he takes over his new office next month. Instead there will be an informal reception at the capitol with everybody invited to "come as you are." The change in plans, it is said, was made at the request of the general himself who preferred the democratic simplicity of an evening of handshaking to the more exclusive atmosphere of a ball room.

For the past 30 years governors of Oregon have been drawing salaries in excess of the \$1500 fixed by the constitution makers—first \$3500 and since 1927, \$7500 per year.

Now Rodney Aiden, Woodburn publisher, proposes to take the issue into the courts for a legal determination and is raising a fund to finance the litigation.

The governor's salary is a good deal like the weather in this re-



spect that there is a great deal of talk about it but very little done about it. Four years ago at the time of Governor Meier's election the question was being debated pro and con. Governor Meier who seemed to have some doubt in his own mind as to the validity of the \$7500 salary asked Attorney General Van Winkle about the matter and was advised that the only way the issue could be definitely determined was through a supreme court decision.

"I have been unable to find a decision by any court of this country which holds that the increase by the legislature of a salary fixed by the constitution of a state is valid," the attorney general said.

But nothing further was done in the matter and the governor continued to draw his statutory salary of \$7500 minus the legislative reduction for the past two years.

Incidentally the secretary of state and state treasurer would seem to be in the same boat with the governor with respect to the validity of their salaries. The state constitution fixes the pay of the secretary of state at \$1500, the same as that of the governor, while the salary of the state treasurer is fixed at only \$800 a year. Both of these officials formerly ckd out their salaries by the collection of fees until the flat salary bill was passed in 1905 requiring that all fees collected by state departments be turned into the treasury. At the same time the pay of these two officials was increased by the lawmakers to \$4500 and in 1927 boosted still further to \$5400.

Supreme court justices, whose salaries were fixed at \$2000 in the original constitution, had this limitation removed by an amendment in 1910 which authorizes the legislature to fix their salaries. In the meantime, however, back in 1889, these officials had been the beneficiaries of a pay boost of \$1500 a year under the guise of expense for attending the Pendleton term of court. This "expense" was increased to \$2500 in 1913 and in 1917 the legislature removed the camouflage from around the pay in-

crease and fixed the judges' salaries at \$4500. This was increased to \$3250 in 1919 and to \$7500 in 1925.

Beer parlors which dot the Oregon countryside in great numbers may disappear from the landscape entirely if the Liquor Control Commission adheres to its proposal to limit beer licenses to legitimate eating places. According to Administrator Sammis 6500 licenses were issued by the commission, 3600 of which went to places devoted primarily to the sale of the amber brew.

State Treasurer Holman apportioned a total of \$870,000 among the various counties this week, \$800,000 representing the semi-annual distribution of motor vehicle funds and \$70,000, the annual distribution of federal forest funds. Morrow county's share of the first fund amounts to \$3,689.82 and of the latter \$148.85.

With trees in place in the lobbies of the capitol building, state officials and employees are ready for the coming of Christmas. The custom of carol singing, inaugurated by the late Hal Hoss, former secretary of state, will be repeated on the day before Christmas.

The emergency education program in Oregon is now providing jobs for 270 unemployed teachers, according to C. A. Howard, state superintendent of public instruction. Approximately 6000 adults are attending the 374 educational classes now embraced in this program. Morrow county has three of these teachers with an adult enrollment of 45. Oregon is receiving \$15,000 in federal emergency relief funds monthly to finance this program.

Property owners are contributing \$2,500,000 less in taxes toward the support of government, state, county, city, school, etc.—in Oregon this year than they did in 1931, according to the state tax commission. Property taxes have decreased dur-

ing the four year period from \$50,222,605 to \$14,572,394. Personal property taxes show a slump of 42.79 percent due largely to depleted merchandise stocks, and the slump in values of manufacturing and logging machinery, farm implements and livestock due to the depression. Real estate taxes show a decrease of 15.82 percent and utility taxes are down by 6.23 percent.

Secretary of State Stadelman demonstrated his faith in the work being done by the anti-tuberculosis societies by digging down into his own pockets for \$10 worth of the little Christmas seals. The first 1000 letters mailed by the state department this week each bore one of the little seals without cost to the taxpayers.

Oregon 4-H Clubbers Win In National Competition

Oregon has once more lived up to its reputation as one of the most consistent exhibitors of high quality 4-H club work in the junior division of the International Livestock exposition at Chicago and the National 4-H congress held in connection with the show each year. This is the report of H. C. Seymour, state club leader, recently returned from Chicago where the congress and exposition were held the first week in December.

Chris Starr of Amity, who received a trip to Chicago as the western 4-H meat production champion in the Thomas E. Wilson contest, placed third in the national competition, winning a \$100 agricultural college scholarship. First place in their division, with a \$100 prize, and a silver loving cup for national champion was won by the Gresham 4-H canning club, led by Helen Clark, a 4-H club girl, in the Hazel-Atlas canning contest. Second place and \$80 in this contest was won by the Portland canning club, led by Mrs. Faust.

National championship in the Hazel-Atlas contest was won last year by the Portland canning club. Altogether this honor has come to Or-

gon four times in the past 10 years Mr. Seymour says.

Oregon clubbers also made nearly a clean sweep of the honors in the junior corn exhibit in their region, which included nine western states. George Shambrook of Douglas county placed first; Carson Adams, Lane county, second; Walter Marks, Douglas county, fifth; Leonard Freeman, Lane county, seventh; Amos Bierly, Washington county, eighth, and Ralph Hone, Lane county, ninth. Oregon's state exhibit in corn placed ninth nationally.

In the Netted Gem division of the potato exhibit, Charles Seman of Klamath Falls placed first nationally. June Clark of Multnomah county won second place on a complete costume; Myrna Laird of Lane county placed fifth in the cotton school dress class, and Jay McDonald of Multnomah placed seventh on window curtains. Dorothy Wheeler of Multnomah county placed first on her exhibit of five jars of meat.

Oregon winners in the individual jar division of the Hazel-Atlas contest were as follows: Helen Clark, first on asparagus; Patsy Childer, Portland, third on carrots; Melba Andrews, Lane, fourth on tomatoes and first on loganberries; Rosa Reichle, Portland, second on pickles, second on peaches and second on fish; Marian Welbes, Multnomah county, third on apricots; Kathryn Parks, Portland, fifth on peaches; Jean Hulbert, Multnomah county, second on raspberries and first on fish; Jane McFarland, Multnomah county, second on salads; Marie Meyer, Portland, third on vegetable salad.

New Wheat Tried in Deschutes

Redmond—A new winter wheat variety, known as Hybrid No. 83, is being given a trial in Deschutes county this year by M. A. King of Redmond, cooperating with County Agent Gus Hagglund. Seed for this trial was obtained from the branch experiment station at Burns, where it has a record of 99.7 bushels per acre. A total of 400 pounds of seed was used in the trial, planted at the rate of about 75 pounds per acre.

Clackamas Plants More Vetch

Oregon City—Continuing the tendency of the past two years to plant more hairy vetch, Clackamas county farmers this year will have the largest acreage of this crop ever planted in the county, reports County Agent J. J. Inskeep. While it is difficult to estimate the acreage accurately, it will run close to 3500 acres this year, Mr. Inskeep says. The plantings have shifted from the river bottom soils to the red hill soils, which, Mr. Inskeep believes, is where the crop really belongs.

Dwight Misner, the Auctioneer who pleases both seller and buyer Address, Thornton, Wash. 40ft

Governor Meier Endorses Register Baby Campaign

Endorsement by Governor Meier of Oregon's Register-Your Baby campaign and an appeal by the state board of health for all citizens to aid in seeing that every family with a child less than a year old has a card on which to report the birth to the Census Bureau were developments this week.

"Prompt and official recording of his birth is a child's first right as an American citizen," Governor Meier declared at Salem Wednesday. "In reality a birth certificate is an infant's citizenship papers. Moreover, official birth records are becoming increasingly necessary as demands for proof of age and nationality grow. A properly recorded birth certificate proves age, inheritability and legitimacy, among other things."

"The Postoffice department has distributed cards all over Oregon in the drive we are making with the Census Bureau and the State Emergency Relief," said Dr. F. D. Strickler, secretary of the board, "but families were probably missed here and there. We request everybody to inform us of any case in which a family with a child under one year of age has no card, and we will immediately supply as many as are needed." The board's office is 316 Oregon building, Portland.

Backing the campaign, which aims to see that every one of Oregon's baby citizens gets his or her "first papers" for this Christmas, Mrs. William Kietzer, state president of the Congress of Parents and Teachers, asked 300 branch organizations to be sure that all parents in their communities with children to whom the card applies fill it out immediately and mail it to the Census Bureau. The card goes post-free.

Fungus Killing Walnut Trees

Roseburg—Mushroom root is causing the death of walnut trees from 10 to 20 years old on the Joey farm at Edenbower, according to County Agent Roland Parker, who when asked to examine the orchard sent samples of the root fungus found there to the state college for identification. The trees are seedlings on their own roots and are so seriously infected with the mushroom root rot that there is little hope of saving the orchard, Mr. Parker reports.

Livestock Shipments Largest

Enterprise—November proved to be the biggest month of the year for the Willowa Livestock Marketing association, County Agent Garnet Best reports. During that month the association shipped 15 cars of hogs, 7 cars of cattle and 2 cars of sheep, netting the producers a total of \$29,524.64.

The Greatest Gift