

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- The Speakership.
- Liquor Personnel.
- Power Lines.

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem.—As the zero hour approaches when the lawmakers will again invade the state capital at the call of Governor Martin to consider the matter of a new capitol building interest turns to the House speakership. Who will get the gavel wielding job? Will it be John Cooter, the gentleman from Lincoln county, or some other ambitious democrat? For the democrats will still control the House in spite of the loss of a few members through appointment of republicans to fill vacancies.

Cooter, it should be remembered, forfeited his seat in the House and also the speakership, when he accepted a federal job. At least Attorney General Van Winkle has so held. Cooter is confident that he can secure the appointment of his county court to succeed himself and feels pretty sure of the speakership as well. However, there are those, among his own partisans, who believe that the honor should pass to some other member. Jack Caulfield of Tillamook county, democratic floor leader in the regular session, is said to be ambitious to preside over the special session and Moore Hamilton, youthful Medford newspaperman, is also looked upon as likely speakership material. Both were outstanding in their leadership abilities in the regular session, the first, incidentally, for both of them.

Then there are at least two members of the Multnomah delegation who could be persuaded to accept the gavel wielding job without much difficulty, namely William Graham and Howard Latourette.

All of which will add spice to the House organization along with the right of certain democratic members to a seat in spite of the ruling of the attorney general to the contrary.

Governor Martin expects to have the application for federal funds for the new capitol ready to send back to Washington about August 1. As soon as these funds are earmarked and the terms of the federal grant are definitely known he will be ready to call the special session. In the meantime the planning board and various state departments are rushing work on plans for the new building and schemes for financing its construction so that there will be a definite program to present to the legislators when they do meet—possibly in September.

Forty-eight thousand requisitions pass over the desk of the state purchasing agent each year, covering every conceivable item from pins and paper clips at a few cents a box to snow plows at \$10,000 each.

Reports current here indicate that a number of changes may be expected in the employed personnel of the state liquor control organization soon "in the interest of peace and harmony." Governor Martin in denying any intent on his part to replace either of the liquor commissioners also made it plain that he did not propose to interfere in the internal affairs of the liquor control organization. Rumor has it that jealousy has crept into the ranks of the liquor set-up because of the promotion of Eugene Kelly to post of assistant administrator and Berwick Wood to the post of purchasing agent. It is not believed, however, that either Kelly or Wood will be disturbed in the pending shake-up. Neither is Administrator Allen's job believed to be in jeopardy.

Considerable surprise was occasioned among members of the state land board by receipt of a claim from the special master who took the testimony in the Malheur Lake litigation for \$10,877, representing the state's portion of the master's fee and expenses in the case. The state's general fund is already out \$2500 in defending the suit brought by the federal government in asserting title to the bed of Malheur lake and the irreducible school fund has been tapped for more than \$12,500 in paying attorney's fees and other litigation expenses. There still remains \$5881 of the \$18,000 authorized by the session of 1933 for defense of the Malheur lake suit which will be applied toward the master's claims and the legislature will be asked to provide the remaining \$5246.

Press reports from the national capitol to the effect that President Roosevelt has approved a program under which the federal power commission will construct the transmission lines from Bonneville were received by Governor Martin as complete vindication of his stand against state-owned transmission lines. In his gubernatorial campaign Martin declared this to be a federal function. He reiterated this doctrine in his veto message attached to the so-called Grange power bill and has been severely criticized since by the sponsors of state owned lines who sought to saddle this expense onto the state. Senator McNary of Oregon, it is understood, will sponsor the federal power bill which will also authorize the power commission to fix rates for Bonneville power on a basis which will amortize Uncle Sam's investment on the Columbia river over a period of 50 years.

Governor Martin in granting a hearing into the fairness of the trial which resulted in the conviction of L. A. Banks, is generally conceded here to have stolen the thunder of his hecklers. The hearing will be held here on August 2.

With fewer than 50 percent of the state's automobile drivers equipped with the new license state police were expected to be

gin checking up on the delinquents today (Thursday). The state department has been digging out from under the eleventh hour deluge of applications at the rate of about 15,000 a day and has now reached the bottom of the pile.

Plenty of granite for state house purposes is to be had right here in Oregon for the mere cost of quarrying and transportation. L. Conini & Sons of The Dalles who own large deposits of excellent granite in the vicinity of The Dalles and Prairie City have written board of control members offering to donate all the state might need if Oregon will install the machinery for quarrying the material.

Traffic fatalities on Oregon highways this year show a decrease over the 1934 record. Figures compiled by Secretary of State Snell show that 114 persons lost their lives in traffic mishaps the first six months of this year compared to 146 traffic fatalities for the same period of 1934.

Miss Estella M. Carter of Canyon City was elected secretary-treasurer of the Oregon county school superintendents association at the annual meeting held here this week. Laurence C. Moffitt of Eugene was elected president and Mrs. Hazel M. Murphy of Lakeview, vice-president of the association.

A survey of farming activities at the Boys' Training school by agricultural experts at the state college recommends a number of changes at the institution, including installation of a drainage system and purchase of modern farm equipment. The report declares the cost of the improvements can be saved in reduced cost of operations and increased crop yields the first year. Similar surveys will be conducted at other state institutions.

It costs \$40,000 a year to maintain the yellow center stripes along Oregon's highways. Ten gallons of paint are required to each mile of pavement.

Sections of the stately Corinthian columns which adorned the portico of the old capitol building are very much in demand by Salemites as lawn ornaments. A number of the more pretentious lawns adjacent to the capitol grounds have been supplied with these mementos of the state house fire. These sections are from three to four feet high and will be entwined with vines in years to come. A resident of central Oregon wrote to the state department asking that a section of one of the columns be shipped to him but cancelled the order when he was informed that they weighed nearly a ton to the foot and that the freight on the shipment would amount to more than \$30.

Sixty-one Oregon motorists had their driving permits revoked or suspended during June, figures released by Secretary of State Snell reveal. Nineteen of these were residents of Multnomah county while 42 were from other sections of the state. Thirty-nine of the 61 offenders were convicted on drunken driving charges. Fifteen drove too recklessly for the safety of other motorists.

The state supreme court has set July 24 as the date for hearing arguments in the suit involving the constitutionality of the ice cream code. Because of the great interest which attaches to the outcome of this appeal and its effect upon other marketing agreements the court has promised to expedite consideration of the issue involved and an opinion is expected before the justices take their summer recess, early in August.

Fifteen state banks now undergoing liquidation have paid a total of \$391,106.55 in dividends to approximately 14,000 depositors according to A. A. Schramm, state superintendent of banks.

Certification Goes On Despite Emergency Work

Seed and grain certification, while not carried on in the volume of the previous year, reached 20 Oregon counties in 1934, according to the annual report of E. R. Jackman, extension specialist in farm crops.

The demands of agricultural adjustment work and other emergency programs served to curtail grain certification activity, making it necessary to carry on the work before or after AAA meetings in many instances, including getting the specialists out before breakfast, after supper and on Sundays.

Certification last year involved inspection of 1803 acres of wheat, oats and barley, 5883 acres of alfalfa, ladino clover, red clover, bent grass and English rye grass, and 1250 acres of potatoes. These were the areas passing certification, totaling 8,536 acres, compared with 8016 the year previous.

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DOAN'S PILLS

Food Supplies Ample; Farm Prices Steadier

With crop prospects favorable, food exports small, and the population of the country estimated to be near stationary, both the immediate and the long-time outlook is for a food supply equal to or above the average amount actually consumed in this country during the 1929-1933 five-year period, says the July summary of the agricultural situation prepared by the State College agricultural extension service.

"With normal crop conditions during the remainder of the 1935 season, on the basis of present prospects, it is expected that the total supply of food will be slightly more than the average amount consumed from 1929 to 1933, after allowing for probable exports and a normal carryover," says the report. Details in respect to the various food commodities are given including the fact that, in general, supplies of dairy products, fats and oils, cereals, fruits and vegetables will be somewhat larger in relation to actual consumption from 1929 to 1933, while supplies of meats, poultry and eggs, and possibly sugar are somewhat smaller.

Supplies of feed for farm animals will probably be sufficient to provide normal rations, it is indicated. The number of grain consuming animals to be fed next winter is estimated at 15 per cent below average and hay consuming animals 3 to 4 per cent below average.

In respect to the trend of prices for farm products and the cost of operating the farm business, the circular shows a downward trend from April to June in the general level of prices received by farmers, with the Oregon index at mid-June at 85 per cent of the 1926-1930 level, compared with 70 in April. Farm prices in general have been steadier during recent weeks, with advances in some commodities about offsetting declines in others.

Owing to a sharp decline in prices of feeds, the general advance in the index of prices paid by farmers for commodities seems to have been checked, at least temporarily, at a point between 90 and 95 per cent of the 1926-1930 period, although the index of taxes per acre is still 89 per cent above 1913, and the actual amount of interest to be paid is large in relation to prewar conditions owing to increased indebtedness.

Can't Fool Biddy About Spring, Chick Men Told

The deepest kind of inherent instinct controls the time a pullet reaches the peak of production rather than such environment as light and temperature. A. G. Lunn, head of the poultry department at OSC, told members of the Oregon Baby Chick association in annual convention at the college.

Professor Lund described elaborate tests made at a large private experimental poultry farm in the east where he spent a Sabbathical year. Chicks hatched every month in the year and kept under highly artificial conditions showed an un-failing tendency to reach their peak of production in the spring after they reached productive age, he said.

OSC Catalog Now Ready With Some New Courses

Corvallis.—The Oregon State college catalog for the school year 1935-36 is now off the press and ready for distribution. The volume containing 397 pages has been somewhat condensed, improved and standardized to conform with other catalogs in the system since last year, says Delmar M. Goode, associate editor of publications, who has been in active charge of the editing.

Few new course offerings are shown for next year, although scores of minor adjustments involving reorganizations of instructional work, consolidation of courses and alternating certain courses in different years have been accomplished to keep the instructional work up-to-date in spite of greatly limited finances.

Chief course additions have been in the schools of agriculture, education and engineering, all being made without adding to the budgets. The new agricultural instruction is designed to meet the needs of new movements that are seeking trained men from agricultural institutions. Much of the same is true in the school of engineering, where some new courses are shown in aeronautical and automotive engineering.

The college calendar contained in the catalog shows freshman week starting September 23.

Astoria—Better use of hay damaged by rain can be made by putting it in the silo than by attempting to use it for hay, says County Agent Afton Zundell.

In putting such hay in the silo it is necessary to add sufficient water to bring the moisture content up to that of fresh green grass, he says.

Spuds With Fancy Names Show Promise in Oregon

Warba, Chippewa, Katahdin, Golden and Nittany!

These may sound like Pullman car names, but instead they are new potato varieties that are showing promise in trials conducted by the Oregon State college experiment station and by cooperating growers.

Katahdin is a late variety already pretty well known in parts of Oregon since its introduction through the experiment station from the U. S. department of agriculture. It is a round, white-skinned type which has proved its ability to withstand the long, dry Oregon summers and mature a good crop after the fall rains. It is better in this respect than Burbank or Netted Gem which mature much earlier.

A more recent introduction is Chippewa, a variety similar to Katahdin but considerably earlier. In the east it has outyielded Katahdin. Both varieties are highly resistant to mild mosaic, one of the virus diseases transmitted by insects.

A new yellow-fleshed potato named Golden is another new variety said to be an exceptional yielder in Maine. It may have only a limited adoption in this country, believes D. C. Smith, assistant agronomist at the Oregon station. Yellow fleshed potatoes are popular in Germany, being higher in vitamin content, but so far Americans strongly prefer the white-fleshed sorts.

An extremely early sort from the Minnesota experiment station is the Warba which matures 10 to 14 days ahead of Irish Cobbler and a week to 10 days in advance of Early Ohio and Bliss Triumph. Tubers are round, blocky, white with rather deep pink eyes, uniform in size with few culls. It is resistant to heat damage and mild mosaic, giving it real promise as a new early type.

Two varieties being grown this year at the Corvallis station for the first time are Nittany Cobbler and

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Columbia Russett. The former is a disease resistant Cobbler type from Pennsylvania. The Columbia Russett originated in British Columbia where it is said to give high yields of attractive, good quality potatoes. All new varieties are thoroughly tested before being recommended by the OSC station.

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Hood River—Because of the successful eradication of cherry fruit fly in the Hood River district by a definite spray program worked out by the Oregon Experiment station, a similar program was undertaken in the Cascade Locks district, according to County Agent A. L. Marble. This is not a commercial district, but showed fruit fly in samples examined last year, Marble says.

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