

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- Lawmaking Costs
- Anti-Gambling
- Mining Board

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem.—Day by day in every way the cost of law making mounts higher and higher. A comparison of the expense of the recent legislative session with that of 30 years ago shows that the costs have more than doubled in that period.

Whereas the session just closed will have cost the taxpayers of Oregon between \$140,000 and \$150,000 by the time all the bills are paid the session of 1909 cost only \$65,360. High peak in the legislative expense scale was reached in the session of 1927 which cost a total of \$160,103.18. This figure, however, includes \$20,120 in expense money which the lawmakers voted to themselves at the rate of \$5 a day and which was later held to have been in violation of the constitution and repaid in part.

Increase in the expense of clerk hire accounts in large measure for the mounting costs of legislative sessions. Whereas the session of 1909 spent only \$23,215.55 for clerks, stenographers, door keepers, sergeants-at-arms and other employees, the recent session spent \$63,834 for the same service, not including the cost of revising the House and Senate journals which work is still in progress.

Incidentally the records also reveal that no session in the past 30 years has adjourned within the 40 days for which the constitution allows the members to draw their \$3 per diem. Three sessions have adjourned within one day of the 40 day limit, but the others have run longer, that of 1933 setting a record at 60 days. This session, however, in spite of its length spent only \$46,990 for clerical help and cost a total of only \$102,172.05, establishing a record as

Herman, the Emu



SAN DIEGO . . . The world's first incubator-hatched emu is snapped right after emerging from his shell at the local zoo. Herman belongs to a race of wingless giants from Australia who are second cousins to the ostrich.

the least expensive session since 1919.

The following table shows the duration of each session for the past 30 years together with the total cost and cost of clerk hire:

Ses.	Days	Total Cost	Clerk Hire
1909	41	\$ 65,360.88	\$23,215.55
1911	41	67,764.46	25,766.57
1913	51	79,862.85	33,219.95
1915	41	68,416.03	31,569.50
1917	43	80,226.99	36,152.50
1919	46	97,780.38	42,118.00
1921	45	110,641.07	46,132.00
1923	46	106,773.93	44,385.00
1925	46	122,371.74	50,041.00
1927	46	160,103.18*	58,322.50
1929	50	140,103.18	61,617.50
1931	54	134,811.30	66,157.75
1933	60	102,172.05	46,990.00
1935	59	116,572.80	59,992.50
1937	57	150,000.00**	63,834.00

* Includes \$20,210 voted as legislative expense but later held unconstitutional and repaid in part.
** Estimated.

Two members of the state parole board—W. H. Treece of Portland and

Floyd L. Utter of Salem—resigned this week in protest against the action of the state senate in killing the new parole program. Governor Martin does not expect to appoint their successors before July 1. W. L. Gosslin, secretary to the governor, is ex officio a member of the board. All members serve without pay. The proposed parole board measures would have created a full time chairmanship at \$3600 a year and allowed the other members of the board \$10 a day for the time actually served in performing their duties.

The Martin anti-gambling bill which was left on the table in the House when the legislature adjourned sine die took its place on the statute books along with all of the other legislative acts which Governor Martin did not veto, Attorney General Van Winkle held. This is the measure against which the governor exercised his right to veto the emergency clause. When he sent the bill back with his veto message it was laid on the table and left there. In his opinion the attorney general points out that the House had before it for consideration only the governor's veto of the emergency clause. The bill had already passed both House and Senate and was in the hands of the governor for his attention prior to being passed on to the secretary of state and a place on the Oregon statute books. Since the legislature did not override the governor's veto of the emergency clause the veto stands but the rest of the bill remains intact and will become law after the lapse of the 90-day waiting period unless the referendum is invoked in the meantime.

Opponents of the Carney bill outlawing slot machines who seek to smother the measure under a "cloud" of irregularity, appear to be due for still further disillusionment. These opponents were quoted as viewing the bill as invalid because it failed to contain certain amendments alleged to have been written into the

Across the Plate



PASADENA, Calif. . . . Here we have a worm's eye view from between the catcher's legs as Gale Wolfe, rookie pitcher for the Chicago White Sox, winds up for a practice throw across the plate.

measure by the House. Legal lights around the state house make light of this contention and point to a supreme court opinion written 40 years ago in support of their position. In that opinion in the case of McKinnon vs. Cotner, Mr. Justice Bean held that an enrolled act, signed by the proper officers and filed in the office of the secretary of state will be held to have been enacted as enrolled though the legislative journals show that in its progress thru the legislature an amendment was adopted which is not in the enrolled act. Which would appear to settle any dispute on this point.

Either the Portland city police are not so vigilant in their pursuit of drunken drivers as are members of the state police or the police judges of the metropolis are more lenient with offenders than are the magistrates of the rest of the state. At least records of convictions for drunken driving would so indicate. During February only one motorist had his driving permit revoked by

a Portland court whereas in the rest of the state there were 34 revocations for drunken driving. And approximately one-third of the motorists of the state are to be found in the city of Portland.

The legal, mining and banking interests are all represented on the newly appointed state mining board. W. H. Strayer of Baker is an attorney and as a member of the state senate helped to draft the measure creating the new board. Albert Burch of Medford is a nationally known mining engineer and E. B. MacNaughton of Portland is president of the First National bank of Portland as well as a civil engineer with a considerable knowledge of mining.

B. F. Irvine of Portland who has declined reappointment as a member of the state board of higher education will continue to serve until his successor has been named probably next month, according to Governor Martin. Irvine has been identified with higher education in Oregon for the past 39 years, first as a member of the board of regents of Oregon State college, and for the past eight years as a member of the unified board of higher education.

Employers in 27 different classifications will enjoy reduced rates of contribution to the workmen's compensation fund as a result of an order issued by the Industrial Accident commission this week. The reduction in rates was based upon the accident experience of the industries in the 27 classifications.

Mrs. Bonnie Cochran entertained Mr. and Mrs. Louis Marquardt and son George, Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Williams and Tom Craig of near Lexington, Mrs. Conrad McNamer, Mrs. Ruth Stevens and Mrs. Lucy Rodgers at a birthday party one day this week.

The New York world's fair will open April 30, 1939, the 150th anniversary of the inauguration in New York City of George Washington as president of the United States.

BAND BENEFIT

❖ DANCE

Benefit Heppner School Band

Elks Hall ❖ Heppner

Saturday, April 3

Elmer Steele and his Swing Band

75c the couple