

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- Ellis Said in Error
- History in Art Work
- Commission Named

By A. L. LINDBECK

SALEM.—The demand of Senator Rex Ellis of Umatilla county for a special legislative session to provide a more adequate pension for Oregon's needy aged does not meet with the approval of Governor Martin.

The governor calls attention to the fact that Ellis' proposal to provide a pension of \$30 a month was considered by the recent session and rejected. The proposal, according to the governor, is in conflict with the federal program which requires that pension payments be made only on a basis of need.

Ellis' warning that the state will find itself with a deficit of \$12,000,000 at the end of the biennium unless his advice is heeded is not well founded according to Budget Director Wharton who points out that the entire pension program for Oregon calls for an expenditure of less than that amount during the biennium with the federal government carrying one-half the burden and the state and counties sharing the other half. Furthermore the state's share of pension costs is being adequately financed through use of liquor profits, Wharton explains.

Laying of the cornerstone for the new capitol building in Salem last week attracted the largest gathering of notables ever gathered in Oregon's capital city in many years. Among the estimated 10,000 people who witnessed the ceremony were state officials, dignitaries of the church and high ranking officers of the Masonic Grand lodge. Scores of legislators, including many former members, were on hand for the ceremony. The list of distinguished guests included two former governors, Oswald West and Ben W. Olcott, both of Portland; two former supreme court justices, Lawrence T. Harris of Eugene and O. P. Coshov of Roseburg, and one former secretary of state, Frank I. Dunbar of Astoria, who served from 1899 to 1907.

The move to run W. L. Gosslin as the democratic candidate for Congress from the first district is more than idle gossip. Prominent Salem democrats have confirmed the rumor and Gosslin admits having been approached on the subject.

With the cornerstone ceremonies out of the way work is now proceeding with the placing of the marble exterior for the new capitol. At the same time workmen are placing the steel and pouring the concrete for the huge tower that will top the new state house. Work on the building is well ahead of schedule according to Ross B. Hammond, contractor.

That the State Emergency Board has no intention of usurping the functions of the legislature was indicated at its meeting here last week. Of four requests presented for appropriations totalling \$55,000 only one was approved, that for a total of only \$1500. The other three were held not to represent emergencies as contemplated by the legislative act authorizing the board to provide funds to cover extraordinary situations arising between sessions. One of the rejected requests called for an appropriation of \$15,000 to finance the employment of seven additional guards at the state prison so that these employees could be placed on a six-day basis. The board held that such a program was a matter of policy to be determined by the board of control and not the emergency board. Furthermore, it was pointed out that there had been no change in the situation at the prison since the legislature was in session. Another

CIRCUS COMING



The blare of bands, tooting of callopes, roaring of wild animals, lumbering of elephants, cumbersome camels, antics of funny clowns, pretty girls, riding, dancing high school horses, Ponco Bill and his troupe of cowboys and cowgirls direct from Hollywood, presenting dainty Miss Brownie Atkinson, Hollywood's sweetheart and queen of the white ney Bros. Wild Animal Circus will tops, Tuesday June 29 is circus day for on that day Barney Bros. Wild Animal Circus will give two performances, afternoon and evening.

This circus comes here highly recommended as being a high class show in every respect. Their performance is being given in three rings and a steel arena. Among the feature acts to be seen with the Barney Bros. Circus are: dainty Miss Tteberry, the riding Nelson troupe, the Gomez troupe from Old Mexico. Then there is Bounding Silver, Capt. Robert Barney and the famous string of wild and domestic animals, acts of all descriptions, and these are but a few of a myriad of marvels.

request for \$3000 to provide for an assistant parole officer failed for lack of support. Governor Martin who presented the request did not press it. Three of the emergency board members voted to restore an appropriation of \$35,000 in the higher education budget which had been lost through slip-shod legislation but the four other members voted against the request.

Outstanding events in the history of Oregon will be portrayed in the art work on the new capitol building it was announced here this week by Francis Keally, New York architect who designed the state house. Keally made the trip across the con-

tinued by airplane to attend the cornerstone laying ceremonies.

In the rotunda of the capitol, Keally explained, will be four great paintings, one depicting Captain Gray landing at the Columbia river, another showing Lewis and Clark at Celilo Falls, a third portraying the first white woman to cross the continent arriving at Fort Vancouver and the fourth showing a typical wagon train of the 1843 period.

Flanking either side of the main entrance and 40 feet in front of it will be two heroic groups carved in marble. At the left the composition will portray the great Lewis and Clark expedition crossing the continent. Balancing this on the right the great wagon train of 1843 will take form.

Above the main entrance will be carved a composition in which the eagle, sun, the water and earth will form the component parts. On the flanking buttresses of the main entrance doorway are to be carved, on one side the sea otter, on the other the beaver.

Over the west entrance will be a composition of three salmon. On the east entrance, wheat has been selected as the theme. Other sculptural subjects to be placed in various parts of the building include domesticated animals, such as the cow, the horse and the sheep, the mule, deer and buffalo. The stage coach, the locomotive, and the pony express will also form part of the decorative composition.

On the floor in the center of the rotunda is to be Captain Gray's ship, "The Columbia," cast in bronze, and topping the cylindrical tower will be a 22-foot bronze statue typifying a symbolic pioneer.

Leo Freedlander and Uldic Ellerhusen will be the sculptors on the capitol job and Barry Faulkner and Frank Schwarz will paint the murals. All four are New York artists of nation-wide repute according to Keally.

Insured fire losses in Oregon during 1936 totalled \$3,224,343 according to the annual report of Hugh H. Earl, state fire marshal. This figure

is 26.8 percent below the average yearly loss for the previous ten year period. The Bandon fire with an insured loss of \$1,256,669 accounted for 39 percent of the state total.

Appointment of a commission of ten lawyers and judges to revise Oregon's probation, parole and sentencing system was announced by Governor Martin this week. The ten include Justices J. O. Bailey and George Rossman of the state supreme court; Judge Hall S. Lusk of Portland; Judge Arthur D. Hay of Lakeview; Judge James T. Brand of Marshfield; Oscar Hayter of Dallas; Earl A. Nott of McMinnville; Lotus T. Langley of Portland; Senator Robert M. Duncan of Burns, and Representative N. Ray Alber of Portland. The commission is expected to present its recommendations to the next legislative session.

The board of control has set July 1 as the time for considering proposals from Portland property owners with buildings or building sites for sale to the state. To date four buildings and seven sites have been offered the state. The last legislature authorized the board to acquire an office building in Portland to be financed through the sale of certificates of indebtedness to be retired from rentals paid by departments occupying space in the state-owned building.

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