

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- Three Jobs Left
- To Stress 'Control'
- Duncan in Charge

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem—With reorganization of the Liquor Control commission only three political plums remain for the picking of the Republican administration. These are the insurance commissioner, the corporation commissioner and the state purchasing agent, all lucrative positions and all held by Democratic hold-overs from the Martin regime.

Just what might be the intention of Governor Sprague toward the removal of James H. Hazlett as corporation commissioner or of Hugh H. Earle as insurance commissioner, the governor alone knows and so far he has refused to take the public into his confidence. Hazlett whose term expired just two days before the republican administration took over, was reappointed by Governor Martin as one of his last official acts and still has three and one-half years of his new term to serve. Earle, also serving under appointment by Governor Martin, has two more years remaining of his term. Both of these officials, however, are subject to removal at any time by the governor and there are a number of "deserving" Republicans who are earnestly hoping that the governor will not delay too long before he completes his political house-cleaning.

Dan J. Fry, state purchasing agent, is an appointee of the Board of Control. While Fry is a Democrat and two members of the board are Republicans it is generally admitted that he has made an outstanding record for efficiency in his particular job and there does not appear to be any disposition on the part of the board to dispense with his services.

In spite of the fact that Governor Sprague has now been in office for more than six months the bulk of his mail and a majority of his callers deal with applications for jobs. Every change in department heads is the signal for a fresh onslaught on the part of the hopeful horde. Just now interest of the job hunters centers largely in the liquor control organization and in the new parole organization where more than 200 applications have been received for the four field jobs yet to be assigned.

In spite of repeated warnings that the old operators' licenses would be void after June 30 more than 100,000 Oregon motorists are continuing to drive their cars without the requisite permit, according to Secretary of State Earl Snell. Records of the state police show that this agency alone is arresting an average of more than 50 motorists each month for failure to comply with the drivers' license law.

Property holdings of the state of Oregon are valued at an aggregate of \$31,203,719.02, according to a report prepared by Clifford Mudd, state property custodian. State buildings alone represent an investment of \$23,902,371, according to Mudd, while other property is listed at \$7,301,348.02. The state board of higher education is the biggest property owner in the state's family with the highway department second. The state owns 674 automobiles valued at \$470,249.91 and 672 trucks valued at \$1,155,701. A total of 1976 typewriters are in use in the numerous state departments. These are valued at \$175,577.

The lawn now being planted on the capitol grounds is expected to last 200 years according to George Otten, landscape artist, who is supervising the work for the state. Planting of the lawn around the new library building has been let by the board of control and work on this project will get under way immediately.

Greater emphasis on the "control" feature of the Knox liquor act office of the new liquor control is expected to follow induction into board just appointed by Governor Sprague. It is known that Governor Sprague has always regarded the

Knox act as a measure designed to promote temperance in the use of alcoholic liquors, rather than one designed to profit the state through a monopoly on liquor sales. In casting about for three new members for this board, it is to be assumed he sought men whose views on the liquor question closely harmonized with his own.

The old liquor commission had already started a campaign for more rigid regulation of night clubs and restaurants where liquors were mixed and consumed and of beer parlors and other places dispensing this beverage and it is expected that the new commission will continue this campaign with added impetus.

The Board of Control plans to ask the State Emergency Board for an appropriation to finance purchase of flag poles for the capitol and library buildings and for the landscaping of the library site. Funds made available by the legislature for construction of the capitol and library buildings were not adequate to cover these items, the board explains, and unless an appropriation can be had from the emergency board these projects must be carried over until another session of the lawmakers. One of the arguments in support of an emergency appropriation is the fact that PWA funds would be available for 45 per cent of the cost of the projects if they can be put through at this time.

A total of \$31,849.36 in liquor taxes was distributed among the cities and counties of Oregon by Secretary of State Snell this week. The amounts ranged from a low of 33 cents to the little municipality of Cornucopia in Baker county to a high of \$10,078 to the city of Portland.

Population at the Oregon state prison continues to show a steady growth with a total of 1113 prisoners in the institution Saturday, to establish a new all-time high record.

Senate President Robert M. Duncan of Burns came to Salem to pinch hit for Governor Sprague while the latter was representing Oregon at the San Francisco fair last week. He said that he did not find the job of governing a great state such a strenuous one and spent most of his time just "holding down the office."

Ralph Mitchell, veteran Portland newspaperman, has succeeded Miss Ella Bliler as secretary of the public utilities commission. Miss Bliler is being retained in the department as private secretary to Commissioner O. R. Bean.

The World War Veterans State Aid commission is now in the real estate business to the extent of a \$3,129,545 investment, according to Jerald Owen, executive secretary. Included in the commission's holdings are 460 farms and 940 city properties, all acquired through foreclosure to protect loans made by the state.

ROSE A. SANBORN BURIED

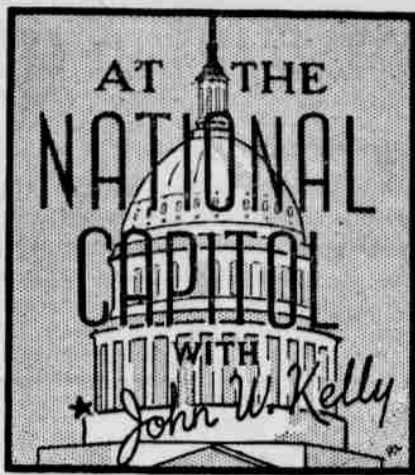
Funeral services were held from St. Patrick's Catholic church here Tuesday morning for Rose A. Sanborn, 67, native of Ireland who died the previous week end at St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton. Folsom Funeral home of Pendleton and Phelps Funeral home of this city were in charge. Father Healy, local rector, officiated. Mrs. Sanborn is survived by brothers, Johnny, Pete and Michael Curran, all known here.

Mrs. Agnes Wilcox is now at Gresham at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Currin, arriving there by train from New York. She received a broken wrist in a fall at St. Louis. She had accompanied Misses Leta Humphreys and Rose Leibbrand east by motor.

Mrs. Mary Supple (nee Mary Curran) and son John of Portland are visiting with friends and relatives in the county. They were in town yesterday from the Clyde Denny farm, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Denny.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Babb motored to Portland over the week end on business.

Merchants wise advertise in the Heppner Gazette Times.



Washington, D. C., July 13—It isn't exactly correct to charge that WPA workers are striking against the government; some, under direction of labor unions, have walked off projects and threats of political reprisal have been made against congressmen unless the requirement of 130 hours a month and the "security" wage are repealed. Few, if any WPA projects will be abandoned in Washington and Oregon on account of dissatisfaction with the new law.

President Roosevelt, in a message to congress in January, 1935, advised that WPA provide wages which would cover necessities but that the wages should not be so high that workers would remain on the roll rather than accept private employment. WPA work was to be a stop-gap until private jobs were available. Despite the suggestion of the president, congress inserted the provision that the "prevailing wage" (union scale), should be paid. Now that congress adopts Mr. Roosevelt's advice three and one-half years after he gave it there is complaint by the beneficiaries of the relief program.

No other president has done as much for the cause of labor as Mr. Roosevelt, but repeatedly the executive has said at press conferences that he believed it would be better for labor to have a comfortable yearly income, a sustaining wage, than to insist on a high hourly scale and work intermittently. He visioned steady employment the year around at wages less than the union rates rather than a smaller and uncertain annual income at the scale. When the non-federal public works program was in the making, Harold Ickes expressed the same idea and made tentative proposals to that effect but the unions strenuously objected.

It is no mere coincidence that while skilled workers on WPA are protesting, the anti-trust division of department of justice is investigating to discover why building construction is in a slump because of high prices. There is a suspicion of an understanding among manufacturers of building supplies to keep prices up. If this is a fact and the department of justice can bust up the agreement, administration believes construction will boom and skilled craftsmen need not depend on WPA.

Arguments on the best methods to keep America free from entanglements in the event of foreign wars promise to consume senate time for a month, at least. President Roosevelt believes America should sell munitions to any country that can pay cash and transport the materials. He contends such a provision would scare Hit and Muss as it would enable Great Britain and France to obtain all the supplies they require, and such policy would mean peace in Europe.

More than one-third of the senate opposes the president's theory; believes neutrality is best assured by a mandatory embargo on munitions. These senators argue prohibition of arms to belligerents will save America from becoming involved. Such is the contention threatening to result in a long and tiresome debate. In the mandatory group are Oregon's McNary and Holman, Washington's Bone, Idaho's Borah and Clark, California's Hiram Johnson. Sharing the administration view are Washington's Schwellenbach, California's Downey.

One of the reasons Archibald MacLeish was confirmed as the new librarian of congress (librarians everywhere objected to him; he was called a "red"), was because of wire-pulling by the chief of the archives. Price MacLeish will pay for the support will be the surrender of the

Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. These documents (viewed by thousands daily), are in the library of congress. For years the archives bureau has endeavored to have the relics released by the library and placed in a marble-gold shrine built especially for them. Just a little inside politics with the Constitution and Declaration as the pay-off. For a century these documents knocked around in dusty drawers and their existence was almost forgotten until they were accidentally found one day.

Secretary of the Interior Ickes is still lobbying to have control of Bonneville power. He complains that while the administrator is responsible to the secretary, still the administrator is a free agent and does what he wants. Ickes is asking congress to change the Bonneville act and make the administrator take orders from the secretary. Implying that Bonneville has been poorly administered, Ickes says that in the interest of good management there should be more closely knit administration relations between the project and the department of the interior.

Baseball is celebrating its 100th birthday and remains tops of American games. Only one foreign nation has taken to the sport and in a big way—Japan. Its a common occurrence for a college game to attract a crowd of 50,000 people. Sand lot games are popular with the kids in every town.

San Francisco fair has been such a financial flop the management will ask congress for an appropriation of \$600,000. When an emergency occurs, such as the death of Secretary of the Navy Swanson, the operator at the White House switchboard connects all press associations and news bureaus and when all are on the line Steve Early, presidential secretary, states the information. One statement reaches the entire news corps. Elliott Roosevelt, who has been boosting Jack Garner for president in 1940, invited listeners to his broadcast to write him their views on a third term. He says 70 per cent of the letters are for Papa.

Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Dix are absent this week on vacation at the coast.

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