

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

By A. L. LINDBECK

- Expected Purge
- Jobless Complaints
- Many Changes

Salem—If the proverbial political shadows can be relied upon as reflections of impending events indications are that the long speculated upon purge of Dan Fry as state purchasing agent is about to materialize.

Fry himself denies that he has had any intimation as to his fate and neither Governor Sprague nor Secretary of State Snell will discuss the situation but several developments of a minor nature which might be regarded as political straws definitely point to a change.

With the governor and his republican colleague on the Board of Control still deadlocked over choice of Fry's successor and both putting forward a favorable candidate for the job it would not be at all surprising if a solution should be reached which would find both candidates on the state payroll with Simeon Nickerson, Portland produce broker, whose cause is espoused by Snell, holding down the purchasing agent's job and Roy Mills, supported by Governor Sprague, designated as secretary to the Board of Control.

The long delayed audit of the State Forestry department "broke" this week but from a news standpoint it was a great disappointment. The audit was confined entirely to an analysis of the department's finances and did not touch upon the several controversial issues which have made this department the focal point of sensational rumors for several months. These matters, the audit explains, are being made the subject of a special investigation and will be covered in a later report.

Earl Hill, Cushman merchant, who announced himself as a candidate for state treasurer last week, made his candidacy certain this week when he plunked down \$100 to cover his filing fee in the race for the Republican nomination. So far no other candidate has appeared although Floyd Cook, in Salem this week, let it be known that he was still thinking it over and friends of Lee Patterson, son of the late governor I. L. Patterson, are understood to be doing their best to get him into the race.

Yielding to pressure from Washington and threaten with withdrawal of federal aid as the only alternative to non-compliance the State Public Welfare commission this week announced that it would put into effect a merit plan, approved by the federal Social Security Board, covering all of its employees.

Complaints arising over delay of jobless insurance checks reaching unemployed workers were aired at a hearing this week attended by union leaders and members of the Oregon Unemployment Compensation commission. The complaints, it appears, were traceable to a compliance with the unemployment compensation act, rather than to any failure of the commission's organization. It is expected that the conference will result in an attempt to amend the act at the next legislative session to eliminate or at least shorten the waiting periods and speed up delivery of benefit checks.

The State Land Board, acting on advice from Attorney General Van Winkle will insist upon the payment of royalty on sand and gravel taken from the bed of the Willamette river by the Port of Portland for use in constructing a fill on property of the Portland Gas & Coke company. The royalty payment will go into the irreducible school fund.

The past week has seen a number of changes in the personnel of state boards, commissions and department heads. Merrill Rose, Portland mortician, was appointed by Governor Sprague to succeed Charles Leach, also of Portland, as a member of

the State Game Commission. Mac Hoke, Pendleton rancher, was selected to succeed Edward C. Pease of The Dalles as a member of the State Board of Higher Education. Seth B. Thompson, Portland insurance man, took over his new duties as State Insurance Commissioner on March 1, succeeding Hugh H. Earle, Democrat.

Appointment of Hoke to a place on the Higher Education board leaves a vacancy on the State Board of Agriculture of which he was chairman. Governor Sprague is expected to announce his choice for the agriculture board seat this week.

As his first official act after taking over the insurance post Commissioner Thompson announced the appointment of William F. Leary as his chief deputy. Leary succeeded James Schon who has served as chief deputy insurance commissioner for the past ten years. Leary, formerly a resident of Portland, has been with the department for four years.

Governor Sprague was expected to announce his choice of a successor for Herman Oliver on the State Board of Higher Education this week but explained that he had not yet made up his mind on this appointment. Oliver will leave the Board of Higher Education later this month to take the place on the State Highway Commission to be vacated by Ed Aldrich of Pendleton whose term expires on March 31.

Budget Director Eccles announced this week that employees of his department have completed a job analysis of 2000 state employees in a program of salary standardization which will apply to all but two or three of the larger departments. Minimum and maximum salary scales are being fixed for the various job classifications and will apply with equal force in all state departments, Eccles said. The reform is expected to give the budget department absolute control over the state payroll with a minimum of supervision over salary increases involving only promotions within a department.

Oregon has won new honors in the field of education. Donald A. Emerson, supervisor of secondary education in the state department of education, returned this week from St. Louis, Mo., with the title of president of the national association of state high school supervisors to which office he was elected at the annual convention of the National Education Association.

More than 20,000 men and women were placed in agricultural jobs, including forestry and logging, during 1939 compared to 7783 placements in these same lines of endeavor in 1938, according to Lee C. Stoll, director of the state employment service. Job placements in industry increased from 41,875 in 1938, to 70,167 in 1939.

A suggestion by Governor Sprague at a recent meeting of the Board of Control that the state employ a full time architect brought a protest from the Portland chapter of the American Institute of Architects. No action was taken by the board on the proposal.

IRRIGON NEWS

Mrs. Graybeal is Party Honoree

By MRS. W. C. ISOM

Mrs. J. A. Graybeal celebrated her 81st birthday Tuesday. A group of relatives and friends held a surprise on her in the afternoon. A delicious lunch was served.

Relatives from Portland visited at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Kenny Sunday.

Several people from here motored to Arlington Saturday night for the tournament finals.

Rev. and Mrs. Brown of Texas are holding a meeting this week at the Pentecostal church.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Browning and children motored to Pendleton Saturday evening.

Cecil Gooman of Grants Pass is visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Russell McCoy. Cecil is a brother of Mrs. McCoy.

Read G. T. Want Ads. You may find a bargain in something needed.

HARDMAN NEWS

Hardman Man Hit By Falling Stone

By HARDMAN HIGH SCHOOL

Roy Robinson was hit on the head Thursday by a rock falling off a bluff while he and Creston were smoking out porcupines. He went to a physician and had three stitches taken.

Lon Merrill of Monument visited at Guy Chapin's last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lovgren and children visited in town Sunday. Mrs. Duff McKittrick and son returned with them to stay a week.

Miss Frances Inskip spent Sunday at the home of Mrs. Florence Dalzell.

Mr. and Mrs. Kinard McDaniel visited in town for a short time Sunday.

The Odd Fellows opened the hall for a community party Saturday night. Music was by Oren McDaniel, Ed McDaniel and Irl Clary. Everyone had a good time.

Miss Alta Stevens returned home on Sunday from the McMurdo ranch on Rhea creek. She had been cooking there.

Mr. and Mrs. William Lee left on Wednesday for Washington. They were called there by the illness of his father.

The McFerrin children and Lee McRoberts were unable to attend school Thursday and Friday as the road was washed out. In places where it had been changed six years ago the creek had returned to its old channel.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Wright entertained at dinner on Saturday evening for Miss Lurline Sparks, Miss Oleta Raimy and Darrel Farrens.

Various jobs called people from town last week. Max Buschke went to work for Ball and Mahoney, in lambing at the O. C. Stephens ranch and Jim Stevens is night watching for Ray Wright in lambing. Carey Hastings is at Harlan McCurdy's, and Guy Chapin went to work for Ralph Thompson.

Dick Steers reported to Heppner Monday to accept a job with the government trappers.

Fred Reed and Slim Underwood returned from Spokane and they will get the mill ready for operation.

Mrs. Max Buschke was confined to her home last week with an attack of appendicitis. Mrs. Earl Redding dislocated a vertebrae in her neck, and went to a doctor in Heppner. Mrs. J. B. Adams was also ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Steers were visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tyndal Robison in the mountains Sunday.

Marvin Brannon, who is working at the Terrel Benga ranch, was home over the week end.

Miss Maxine McDaniel visited her parents at the Clyde Wright ranch Sunday.

Rev. Mr. Lee L. Hall of Bend plans to hold services in the high school auditorium for an indefinite time.

On Sunday Mrs. Celatha Ramsey was home from the Art Stefani ranch where she is working.

Spring must be just around the corner as a squirrel was seen by John Stevens. Bluebirds, robins and meadowlarks are also here.

Mrs. McIntyre and Miss Mary McIntyre were in town to get men for tagging sheep. Owen and Carl Leathers went out on Tuesday.

The church in Hardman: Services March 10, 1940, morning, 11 a. m., theme, "Our Inheritance;" evening, 7:30 p. m., theme, "The Beast;" Rev. 13. The church with the open door. E. L. Ely, pastor.

PINE CITY NEWS

By BERNICE WATTENBURGER

The Misses Lucille and Darlyne Wattenburger were guests at the birthday anniversary party at the Harry Andrews home, honoring Miss Florence Andrews on her eighth birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Eb Hughes and son, Mr. and Mrs. Art Hughes and Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Ayers spent Sunday afternoon and evening at the Marion Finch home.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Wattenburger and son of Pasco, Wash., and Mr. and Mrs. Reid Buseick of Long Creek spent the week end with

their parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Wattenburger.

Fred Rauch, Jr., is working at the Chas. Bartholomew ranch. Mabel Rauch who attends high school at Hermiston spent the week end with her sister, Miss Lilly Rauch who is employed at the John Harrison home.

C. H. Bartholomew was kicked by a horse Sunday afternoon. He is nursing a very badly injured hand.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Smith and John Smith spent Sunday evening at the Russell Moore home.

A number from Butter creek attended the dance at Lena Saturday night.

R. E. McGreer and nephew made a business trip to Redmond Friday.

Mrs. Dale Draper, whose husband is employed at the Boylen ranch, was taken to St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton Wednesday night. She is very ill suffering from a blood clot.

The Big Butter creek road is being graded after the rain. It is much improved.

Jim Ayers of Hermiston called at his ranch here Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Reid Buseick were dinner guests at the home of her brother, E. B. Wattenburger.

Local Students Rate High at Pacific U

Maxine McCurdy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. D. McCurdy, and Elwayne Lieuallen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lieuallen, from Heppner were selected as Pacific university's most popular girl and boy. Miss Gertrude Crane was voted the most popular professor.

Miss McCurdy, a sophomore and member of Theta Nu sorority, ruled as queen of the Badger Knight prom this year. She succeeds Pauline Heisler, 1939's most popular girl.

Elwayne Lieuallen, the "most popular" man, is a senior. He is a member of Alpha Zeta fraternity and president of Blue Key honorary fraternity. He succeeds Morris Schmidt, Hillsboro, last year's most popular man.

For Trade, gasoline powered Maytag washer, A-1 condition. Would take good milk cow in exchange. Mrs. F. E. Everson, Ione. 1-2p.

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