

French Reviews The Legislature

By GILES FRENCH
Rep. 22nd District

Well, here we are, not again, but yet.

Probably by the time these lines are read, if at all, this session of the legislature will be ended sine die, which means without setting a day. Ordinarily we adjourn until a day certain, seventy-seven times already, longer by a full week than any other session.

Some results have come from all this legislative labor. The method of distribution for the \$15,000,000 school bill, grown since November to near \$16,000,000 has been passed. It proved to be a fine financial grab for the Willamette valley counties who lifted some \$1,700,000 from eastern Oregon. The state's pauper belt also will take over \$2,000,000 from Multnomah county.

Unless the senate amends the sales tax bill now before it, more money will be removed from eastern Oregon pockets to feed the aged in the fertile but

financially futile valley for that tax as now written distributes funds on a population basis to offset taxes raised on an assessed valuation basis. Clever these poor whites.

House Bill 80 of 1945 legislature fame has been amended by all who have touched it. Yet it is much the same even though it bears the scars of friend and foe alike. For instance the senate's amendments started off thus, "Delete all house amendments," giving proper cause for belief in disagreement. Now there is a conference committee working on it, but probably little more will happen to it. Not much more can.

Some labor legislation has been passed, not enough to suit employers and entirely too much to suit labor. Both probably feel better than they let on and as long as both sides are howling the legislature is not doing so bad. The legislation tends to tighten unemployment compensation laws so as to pay only to those actually out of work. It is likely that some will chisel on it anyway, but that is what legislative effort has tried to do. Women's compensation has been increased to meet present time costs and an effort has been made to prevent some strikes and other labor troubles in shops doing only intra-state business. Nothing so drastic as an anti-closed shop bill, which



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should please labor.

Other legislation is mostly junk that could have been left for another two years or entirely forgotten. The state will have a department of justice which will give the attorney general more power over district attorneys and attorneys for the many departments; some assessment laws will be tightened and it is high time; and yes, salaries have been raised for everyone. There is even a resolution in to raise the legislator's pay. It would limit the session to sixty days, which is very, very foolish. Those who have worked through a special session and observed the always jumbled last night with the people's representatives fighting over starting and stopping the clock did not vote for it. No one should if it gets on the ballot.

As for taxes the session has been an abject failure. There was a complete set of tax laws that would have raised all the money necessary, even with some juggling and some defeat of certain measures. It was introduced early and is still lying, dust covered, in the strong box of the house taxation committee.

There have been sales tax minded legislatures before, but never has there been one that bent every other tax measure so far toward a sales tax. This one is so loaded with bait that there is no revenue left in it. One sixth goes to counties for welfare, one sixth to school districts and one sixth to cities, all on a population basis and to be used to offset ad valorem taxes which are raised on an assessed valuation basis. That's three sixths. Then the other half goes to the state and may be used for real property relief, if needed. There is almost no new money in it at all.

Furthermore, if it passes the income tax exemptions will be raised to \$1000 and \$2000 which costs the state, \$3,750,000 of the \$10,000,000 half it will get. If it passes there will be no cigarette tax, may be a 40 mill real property tax limitation (although no one has yet figured out how to cut a 100 mill levy now down to 40 mills) and if it does not pass there may be a reduction of the income tax exemptions.

Bait is thus thrown out to counties, cities, school districts, to income tax payers, real property owners and cigarette smokers. If that is not enough there is still a bill to bluejean state employees into voting for it by reducing their salaries by five percent unless the sales tax passes.

Even some of the usual sponsors of sales taxes don't want to have to defend this one. It may be improved in the senate. It comes to be charged to November which will give a longer time for a campaign. That means it will cost more money for friend and foe alike. It may be advantageous or not. Some think that the longer people think about a sales tax the less they think of it.

Homemakers' Fete Slated for Ione

A program is shaping into form for the annual Homemakers day, Tuesday, April 15, at the Willows grange hall at Ione from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Miss Jean A. Williams, extension specialist for community and social organizations, will be in Morrow county on that day to appear on the festival program. Miss Williams will conduct the group singing and has planned a half hour of "Fun for All" in which all members attending the festival should enjoy participating.

This special half hour will provide some laughs and moments of relaxation for the homemakers and will give them an idea or two to use in their respective groups. Included in this time will be some novelty skits and stunts and some special socializers.

Miss Williams has been giving recreation demonstrations throughout the state and the groups have responded enthusiastically and have invariably asked for more. Mrs. Emma Little and Miss Frances Clinton from the home economics extension department will also be on the program.

The program will start at 10 a.m. with registration and viewing of exhibits by the Morrow county home extension units and 4-H clubs. At noon the women of Willows grange home economics club will serve a luncheon for a dollar per plate. Several high school girls will care

for a limited number of pre-school children who need to attend. Mrs. W. E. Hughes of Heppner and Mrs. Walter Wright of Hardman will conduct the style show in the forenoon.

Mrs. L. A. McCabe will be the chairman in charge of 4-H club exhibits. Every club leader in the county has been asked to prepare an exhibit for Homemakers day.

MANY VETERANS IN TRAINING

Twenty per cent of the World War II ex-servicemen and women in Oregon have applied for some form of education or training under federal benefits.

Applications up to April 1 totaled 56,230 and included 24,355 veterans applying for vocational rehabilitation as disabled veterans under both state and federal laws.

FIRE DAMAGES CAR

The fire department was called out at an early hour this morning to extinguish a blaze in a parked car on Main street. Apparently starting from a short circuit, the blaze destroyed the cushions in the front seat and was on its way to consume the entire car when the department arrived.

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Upholstery Clinic To Show Work

Seven chairs were re-upholstered by Morrow county women at an upholstery clinic held at the Christian church from Monday through Friday last week under the direction of Mrs. Myrtle Carter, acting extension specialist in clothing and house furnishings, from the Oregon State college extension service. Mrs. Carter, a former home demonstration agent in Umatilla county, was assisted by Miss Katherine Monahan, Morrow county home demonstration agent.

Cost of re-upholstering the chairs, which were also completely renovated by repair of webbing, re-tying of springs and renovating of innerspring cushions, ranged from \$11.75, \$16.00, \$28.75 and up to \$57.84. The range in price was due to the cost of materials and supplies.

Chairs re-upholstered were owned by Mrs. Harley Anderson, Mrs. Norman Nelson, Mrs. Thomas I. Wilson, Mrs. Roy Neill, Mrs. Elmer Palmer and Mrs. Barton E. Clark. Mrs. V. L. Carlson and Mrs. Henry Baker covered a chair owned by the Valby Lutheran church from the Gooseberry district at Ione. Women assisting in the work were Mrs. Claud Huston, Mrs. Neva Wells, Mrs. C. C. Carmichael, Mrs. E. E. Rugg, Mrs. Ray Wright, Mrs. Omar Rietmann, Mrs. Pat McIntyre, Mrs. Vernon Munkers, Mrs. William Smethurst and Mrs. Clive Huston.

Each clinic in each county is limited to 16 women working on

59,000 on Payrolls Of Oregon Lumber Plants in February

Employment in Oregon's lumber and logging plants has broken all off-season records with 59,000 reported on pay rolls in the mid-February, according to a special analysis just issued by the State Unemployment Compensation commission.

The new figure compares with a former high of 57,700 in February, 1942, and a ten-year average for the month of 46,000. Although present employment is about 6,000 less than the post-war high of August, 1946, the seasonal decline is much lower than usual, mainly because of the unprecedented demand for wood products and moderate winter weather.

Eight chairs, the home demonstration agent pointed out. An eighth chair was to have been upholstered at the Heppner clinic, but due to illness of the owner, the chair was withdrawn. A preliminary meeting was held on February 21 under the direction of Mrs. Carter who gave suggestions on selection of materials and directions for measuring the quantity needed. The work of renovating the cushions was started the first meeting.

"The women turned out a nice, finished product," Miss Monahan stated. "The chairs will be on display at Homemakers day, April 15, at Ione."

The study, based on quarterly records of the unemployment commission and special reports from firms representing 57 per cent of the industry's workers, indicates a further increase in employment in March and an anticipated seasonal rise that may set new records for the summer months. Low employment marks during the ten years were established in January, 1938, with 28,471, and in November, 1945, with 32,786.

With many more local and transient workers applying for jobs at the mills and camps, employee turnover has been reduced from 16.6 per cent last September to 11.2 per cent in February.

Distribution of the industry's covered workers last fall showed 72.5 per cent in Western Oregon and the remainder east of the Cascades. Approximately half of the wooden container factory employment was in Eastern Oregon, which however, had only 2.5 per cent of the plywood workers.

August's covered employment of 62,516 was divided as follows: 38,851 in sawmills, planing mills and combined mill and logging operations; 14,269 in logging; 2,320 in mill work; 2,882 making wooden containers; 2,839 in plywood mills and 1,355 in other classifications.

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HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

The Heppner Gazette, established March 30, 1893. The Heppner Times, established November 18, 1897. Consolidated Feb. 15, 1912.

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O. G. CRAWFORD
Publisher and Editor

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NEVER SAY GOODBYE

Errol Flynn, Eleanor Parker, Lucile Watson, E. E. Siskell, Forrest Tucker, Donald Woods, Peggy Knudsen, and heart-stopping little Paul Brady. A bright and shiny comedy cleverly presented.

Easter Sunday and Army Day come together this year, so it is our Easter Wish that the peace won by the courage and gallantry of our armed forces may be everlasting!

TUESDAY, APRIL 8:

VACATION DAYS

Freddie Stewart, June Preisser, Frankie Darro, Belle Mitchell
The "Tom-Agery" provide the music for this outdoor action film.

WED.-THURS., APRIL 9-10:

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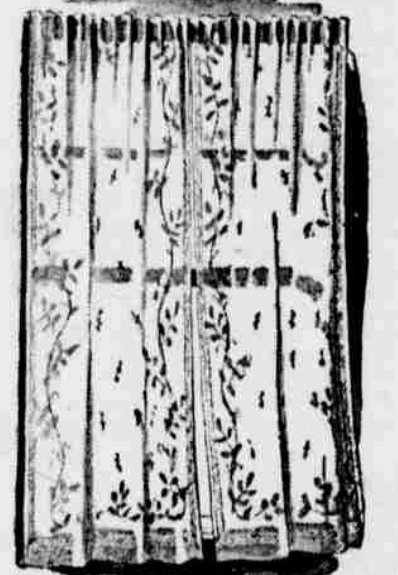
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