

Voter's Legislative Report

(This is the seventh and last in a series of articles regarding legislative procedure and organization taken from The Oregon Voter.)

MINOR SUGGESTIONS FOR TIME SAVING

Require early introduction and printing of all bills referred to the budget, with text in proposed final form. Under present practice, the budget bills usually are introduced during the final days of the session. If full text were available earlier, the members of both houses and the public would be better equipped for their appearances before subcommittees of joint ways and means committees. Lack of final form before subcommittees often has occasioned long delays as a result of misunderstanding.

Require early introduction and printing of all bills recommended by the administrative offices of the state. Different strategies are not resorted to by different administrative agencies according to their concept of how committee members will react to their proposals. Some committees for years have followed the practice of considering administration bills before introduction, so they may be introduced as committee bills after the committee has come into agreement as to substance and text. The result is that the general membership of both houses and the public have no clear idea of the content of such proposed legislation until late in the session, when it may be introduced as committee bills with all the prestige of committee approval. Often it is difficult to upset such committee action, taken after long deliberation in committee, or to procure amendments of a text that in such manner has been carefully revised and pre-determined. Late in a session, members of both houses are at an extreme disadvantage due to lack of early knowledge of text, content and substance of bills; the public also is at a disadvantage; usually it is too late to procure revision such as could have been obtained if text had been exposed early in the session.

Another strategic approach of bill sponsors, both of state officers and of shrewd legislators, is to hold up introduction of controversial proposals until late enough in the session to escape the criticism that could arise early in the session when there was ample time to voice objections and to organize opposition for appearances before committees. It is almost a maxim among shrewd legislative politicians that the surest way to get a questionable bill enacted in full as prepared is to submit it late in the session, under the guise of emergency, so it can be rushed through committees and both houses before the general membership or the general public has had opportunity to study it deliberately. Only the keenest of alert leadership is likely to discern faults in legislation which comes in late in the session, sponsored by the executive branch, or by an administrative commission or a legislative committee, as an "emergency" requiring suspension of the rules and the rushing through of its enactment. While too rigid a rule on time limit for bill introduction could prevent the meeting of real emergencies by a legislature, the general rules should be in form to deter the practice of late introduction and printing except in what the most capable leadership would recognize at once as emergencies so genuine in nature that suspension of the rules would be imperative in the public interest.

Another device is employed by shrewd sponsors in anonymity. Real identity of sponsors could be established by rules requiring that each bill, when introduced, set forth the identity of a sponsor or sponsors, and their private relationship with the introducing member, if any. Thus, introduced by Representative Doe, at the request of: John Jones, a client.

William Smith, engaged in the same occupation, industry or

profession as the introducer. Oregon Federation of Labor, of which its affiliates the introducer is not a member.

Oregon State Grange, of which the introducer is a member.

Portland Chamber of Commerce, of which the introducer is a member.

Association of Tavern Owners, members of which are clients of the introducer.

WCTU, of which the introducer is not a member.

State department of education.

State public welfare commission.

The governor of Oregon.

The secretary of state.

The labor commissioner.

Requirement that such identification be made, plus the additional requirement that no bill may be considered by a committee until it had been introduced and printed, for the information of the legislature and the public, would relieve many situations. Attorney members would be relieved of embarrassment, either by frank admission of relationship with a client interested in a bill, or by clear denial of relationship with members of an association sponsoring the measure. Non-attorney members

and committee members, likewise would be relieved of embarrassment, either by open revelation of interest or by categorical denial of private relationship. Each bill, so identified, would have all the prestige to which it was entitled by the standing of its private sponsor. A legislator introducing a bill which was entirely his own idea would be able to identify it as such, free from misunderstanding as to possible private connections.

Some members who try to create an impression of faithful industry insist on keeping houses in session on Saturdays. This is a mistake, except near final adjournment. Time should be afforded members to visit their homes week-ends, not only to try to keep their private affairs in shape, but to confer with constituents. In no week prior to the closing weeks should an adjournment be taken later than after a short morning session on Friday. The heavy duty days in session are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and perhaps Thursday. They also are the principal opportunities for committee meetings and hearings. Committee meetings called for Friday morning sessions are poorly attended even when many members feel obligated to remain for a short Saturday morning session. As it is, business transacted in Saturday

morning sessions often has to be reviewed later in considerable loss of time, due to absences of members who apply to be excused from Saturday attendance so they may respond to urgent demands to attend to affairs at home on that day. A rule could specify that unless otherwise voted, a Friday morning adjournment would be until Monday morning.

Pay for members and legislative employees could be disbursed under rules permitting compensation for only five days a week, or for six if sessions are held on the sixth day. The pay of employees should be higher if this rule is adopted. The idea of paying for non-session days, including Sunday, is too discriminatory in favor of employees who serve through all the earlier part of the session, with little to do, and then complain and demand overtime pay for hard work later in the session, or as some do, quit for other employment after having enjoyed an easy time at 7-days-a-week pay all through the easy part of the session.

Difficulties of transacting legislative business, with due regard to the rights of minorities among members, as well as the rights of members of the public to be heard, are many indeed. To a regrettable extent, legislatures and legislators are dis-

Pick 100,000 Violets And Keep Grower Busy

Woburn, Mass.—(U.P.)—Picking 100,000 violet blooms on their hands and knees is the annual Valentine Day task of James and Robert Shannon, operators of New England's only violet farm. "But," they said, "the lovely small makes up for the hard work we put in each year to make the nation's women happy over their menfolk."

Portland, Ore., Mar. 17—(U.P.)—Funeral services were held for Mary Price Slater, 96, pioneer Oregon resident and widow of W. T. Slater, one-time state supreme court justice.

credited, sometimes with cruel injustice. Yet no civilization has perfected a better method of lawmaking for as great an area as a state than to have a legislature elected from its various districts with their varying social and economic interests. Upon the rules, practices and traditions under which a legislature transacts its business depends much in its efficiency in fulfilling the great function of law-making, and also upon its attractiveness as an outlet for the energies of citizens who feel enough interest in the affairs of government to be willing to devote time to legislative service. So long as our American civilization can produce men and women who have understanding of the need of good government and willingness to exert themselves to bring it about, they should have every encouragement that rules and practices can afford to induce them to serve as members of our state legislature.

... AROUND HOLLYWOOD

By VIRGINIA MacPHERSON
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood, Mar. 17—(U.P.)—Take it from the girls who have to do it—it isn't easy to turn on the tears the minute the director yells "action."



Virginia MacPherson on her lips.

But today they have to cry real tears. And they do it with psychology. They "think" tears. Jeanne Crain said she does it by remembering the things that happened to her when she was young. For "Pinky" she brooded over nasty things people said to her in her childhood. She cried then, she said, and she still can do it.

Maureen O'Hara thinks about Ireland and her parents there. That makes her so homesick she brims right over. Claudette Colbert remembers how much it hurt the time she got hit by a car. Anne Baxter clips a tragic story out of a newspaper and reads it before she goes into crying scene.

Demands Mood Music

Joan Crawford demands mood music—and, funeral pieces, and Irene Dunne hypnotizes herself into the weeps. "I just tell myself: I'm going

to cry, I'm going to cry," she said. "It takes about five minutes, but I cry."

Linda Darnell wants her director to talk to her about sad things, and Gene Tierney postpones all her sobbing scenes till the end of the picture. By then, she says, she is so worn out she could cry over anything.

Betty Grable does it by remembering the time she tore her panties—at the age of nine—and everybody laughed. Shirley Temple thinks of a pet kitten that died when she was a little girl.

Mule Becomes 'Mulish' Over Calf In Georgia

Rebecca, Ga., (U.P.)—Joe Laminack has just about broken his mule of the notion that she is the mother of a young calf. Laminack said the mule took over the calf soon after it was born. Laminack had to pull the mule away from the calf by force.

Then he locked the cow and calf in a barn. The mule peeped through cracks and tried to coax out the calf.

A mule is a cross between a horse and a donkey. Mules rarely have offspring.

Washington, Mar. 17—(U.P.)—The public housing administration today allocated 200, low-rent public housing units to Lane county, Ore., which requested a \$70,000 preliminary planning loan.

**HEY!
LOOK
!!!!
BARGAINS
YET!!**

20" Shelby BICYCLE

Regular \$43.95
We didn't sell enough of these last week at \$38.95 S-o-o-o

SATURDAY ONLY

\$37.95

Complete with Headlight, Chain Guard, Kickstand and Reflector.

Chain Drive TRICYCLE

Regular \$23.95
Our Price \$19.95

SATURDAY

\$12.95

Ride a Bike For Fun and Health

PAL Fire Chief TRICYCLE

Regular \$17.95
Our Price \$15.95

SATURDAY

Only \$11.95

Ten Inch Model
13" and 16" Available
At \$12.95 and \$13.95

Ride a Bike For Fun and Health

Fire Chief PEDAL CAR

Regular \$14.95
Our Price \$12.75

SATURDAY

Only \$9.95

Ride a Bike For Fun and Health

Chain Drive TRICYCLES

DeLuxe Models
MERCURY 16"
Regular \$37.95
Our Price \$29.95
SATURDAY \$27.95
COLSON 20"
Regular \$42.95
Our Price \$34.95
SATURDAY

Only \$32.95

Ride a Bike For Fun and Health

LAWN MOWERS

\$17.95 & up
TRADE IN YOUR OLD ONE ON A NEW ONE

SIMS BROS.

Next to Mail Tribune




Announcing...

The New "BEL AIR"

Chevrolet's Thrilling - Thrifty - Luxury - Hard Top Coupe

ON DISPLAY TOMORROW

Saturday, March 18th at

BARNES CHEVROLET

STANDS ALONE
IN THE LOW-PRICE FIELD

Yes, it's HERE... that modish Chevrolet BEL AIR with the low, swank lines of a smart convertible

FIRST... and Finest... at Lowest Cost!

POWERglide automatic transmission

SEE IT TOMORROW!

BARNES CHEVROLET

227 EAST NINTH STREET PHONE 2-6115

*America's
Best Seller
America's Best Buy*

Showrooms
Open
Saturday
8 a.m. to
7:30 p.m.

ONE OF
AMERICA'S
FIRST WHISKEY
BRANDS



\$3.35
4.50 L.
\$2.10 PINT

Blended Whiskey - 86 Proof
65% Grain Neutral Spirits
Mr. Boston Distillery Inc., Boston, Mass.