

Opposing Representation Theories Advocated At Interim Committee Hearing on Saturday

Two opposing theories of legislative representation were advocated at a committee hearing here Saturday afternoon.

The first, generally favored by labor groups, would apportion legislative representation strictly on a population basis; the second, which has drawn approval from farm groups and "downstate" residents generally, places emphasis on representation based on geographical areas.

The hearing was conducted by the state's interim committee on reapportionment, of which State Sen. Philip Hitchcock, Klamath

Falls, is chairman. Some 25 interested persons, including local governmental officials, attended the hearing, held in the courthouse auditorium.

Compromise Seen

A middle-of-the-road compromise between the conflicting viewpoints was advocated by the first speaker, Ralph Moore, Grants Pass, a former legislator from Coos county, who represented the state and national affairs committee of the Grants Pass and Josephine County Chamber of Commerce.

Moore said that effective state government is predicated upon an association of sovereign, distinct counties, each having a full and effective voice in the state government, which in turn should provide an atmosphere conducive to well-being and equity among counties, and their protection from overriding minority interests.

There should be a minimum of restraints on local autonomy and economic control, he said.

"American Plan" His group's proposal on representation embodies the "American plan," of blending area and population representation through two houses of the legislature, as opposed to the "European plan" of pure population representation in one dominant house.

Another main point Moore made was a strong suggestion that counties—particularly heavily populated ones such as Multnomah—be districted, or have their representatives run for specified positions, rather than having an election scramble among 50 or 60 men for 13 house seats as at present. This would eliminate some of the danger of domination by special interests through block voting and other practices, he said, and violates no basic rights.

Moore stated he sees no urgency in the matter or reapportionment at present, a position supported by State Rep. Robert Root, Medford, who said 1955 is

the earliest possible time it could go into effect in any event, and that 1960 should be the "target date" because that will be the date of the next census, and large population changes will have taken place by then.

Charles Cray, of the Electrical Workers' union here speaking for the Medford Central Labor council, questioned the constitutionality of the present system, and pointed out briefly that labor supports the position that sparsely populated districts should not hold the balance of power.

He granted, however, that some compromise would prob-

ably be necessary, for practical reasons.

Richard Westerberg, of the Jackson County Farm Bureau federation, and also a member of the Milk Producers' league, said the bureau supports a balance between the two extreme viewpoints, and thinks that tax support should also be taken into consideration. He said that rural areas furnish a considerable proportion of the state's money, and added that he feels rural residents have a better understanding of the problems of city residents than vice versa. He also supported positioning or districting in large cities, and stated that each county needs at least one senator to protect its own interests adequately.

Moore Hamilton, Medford postmaster and former legislator who spoke only as an "interested individual," gave the committee a warning: "Advocates of representation are those who favor representation on a strict population basis."

He added that Jackson county's representation would remain as it now is under any plan so far proposed, but said residents here see a great danger in permitting too much power to be concentrated in the hands of representatives of densely populated areas.

Explains Purpose

Senator Hitchcock explained the committee's present purpose is to listen to viewpoints and collect data. Later, with their findings before them, they will attempt to reach a recommendation to the legislature in which each can join, he said, and pointed out that widely diverse viewpoints are represented on the committee.

Among the spectators and participants in the hour-long hearing were County Judge J. B. Coleman, Grants Pass Mayor Morris Millbank, and Jackson county's three candidates for the house of representatives, Dr. G. A. Bierdorff and incumbents Robert Root and Ed Mann.

Committee members attending included Senator Hitchcock, State Rep. Ivan C. Laird, Situm; Mrs. Will Davis, Portland, representing the public; Elmer McClure, Portland, of the state Grange; James T. Marr, Portland, representing labor; Ward B. Spatz, Medford, representing the public; Marshall Swearingen, Salem, of the State Farm Bureau Federation, and Ralph W. Staley, Portland, executive secretary of the committee.

Alaska Steamship Docks Picketed By Marine Union

Seattle—(U.P.)—Members of the Marine Firemen, Oilers, Water-tenders and Wipers association Ind., picketed the Alaska Steamship company docks Saturday in an effort to enforce demands for increased overtime wages.

The pickets, representing 250 members of the union working Alaska ships, appeared at 8 a.m. (PST.)

Ships Not Effectuated

The two company ships in port were not affected however. One, the SS Susitna, was in drydock and the other, the SS Sailor's Splice, was under charter to the Navy.

Union business agent Fred Bruette said overtime scale on Alaska Steamship company vessels was \$2.24 an hour, compared with \$2.35 paid on trans-ocean and other offshore vessels.

Met for Four Days

The business agent said the union met with the company for four days in San Francisco and two days in Seattle in attempts to reach an agreement.

An Alaska Steamship spokesman said the company has offered the union wage increases similar to those granted unlicensed deck personnel under an agreement reached in October, 1951. This agreement recognized a definite differential in wage rates between offshore and the Alaska trade, he said.

Carolina Woman Has 'Unusual' Record

Williamston, N. C.—(U.P.)—A Negro woman who has given birth to quintuplets and twins since 1946 now has a set of triplets.

Doctors said the multiple birth record of Viola Brown, 23, wife of a soldier in Korea is one of the most unusual in medical history. She gave birth to quadruplets in 1946 when she was 17 but they lived only a few hours. Quintuplets were born prematurely in August, 1950, and lived only a few minutes.

A son born in 1948 and twins born last year are living. Doctors said the triplets born Friday averaged about five pounds each and are "doing nicely."

Pfc. Lonnie Brown, the woman's husband, entered the Army eight months ago. He was a saw-mill worker.

Dead line Sunday Classifieds at noon Saturdays

Town's Legal System Wiped Out by Judge

Seattle—(U.P.)—The town of Kent, incorporated more than 50 years ago in King county, found itself Saturday without a single traffic or criminal law.

A decision by Superior Judge Harold J. Seering wiped out the town's entire system of misdemeanor law. Judge Seering made the decision Friday after an attorney appealed a traffic conviction of one of his clients in Kent.

Judge Seering ruled that the town had adopted for its own the state misdemeanor code by merely referring to it. At their next meeting, the town's fathers will have to write the entire code in the city books if they want legal laws, the judge said.

Dam Construction Said of No Danger To Columbia Fish

Washington—(U.P.)—The director of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service said Saturday he believed salmon would be in no danger of extermination by the construction of Ice Harbor dam on the Columbia river near Pasco, Wash.

Albert M. Day clarified his position in a letter to Rep. Clarence Cannon (D-Mo.), chairman of the House appropriations committee. A sub-committee of the appropriations committee recently eliminated a request by President Truman for \$10,000,000 to start construction of Ice Harbor.

Day referred to his appearance before the sub-committee March 1.

Corrects Wrong Impression "Any impression which my testimony may have left that the extermination of a salmon species would result was in no way intended," Day wrote. "I think there is no such question that species as such are not in any danger of extinction."

Day said, however, that "there is no question" that there will be some losses. "But if the dam is built, the fisheries interests are prepared to prescribe the best possible devices known to modern science to keep those losses at a minimum," he said.

No Restriction Set On Bone Meal Import

Washington—(U.P.)—The Agriculture Department does not plan to restrict bone meal imports as a means of halting an outbreak of anthrax among American livestock.

S. O. Fladness, assistant chief of the Department's Bureau of Animal Industry said Saturday that "right now we are not contemplating severe import restrictions." If such action is taken, he said, it would have to be "severe."

Fladness said the Bureau is not yet convinced that imported meal is to blame for the anthrax outbreak in nine states. He said some officials feel that domestic meal may also be suspected and are "studying the whole picture" before taking any action.

Flyers Protest Closure Of Observation Station

Salt Lake City—(U.P.)—The regional office of the U. S. Weather Bureau said Saturday that a three-man weather observation station at Stevenson, Wash., probably would be closed about April 15.

Hugh Spangler, assistant regional director, explained that the station was being closed as part of a national economy move.

East of Portland The Stevenson station, 40 miles east of Portland in the Columbia river gorge, was opened a number of years ago to provide weather data for commercial and itinerant flyers. It was reduced from fulltime to 2 hours daily operation two years ago.

Spangler said that a survey of the gorge was now being made to secure a suitable location from which adequate weather information on gorge flying conditions could be furnished.

No Break in Service He added that there will be no break in service but that the new observation post would be in operation before the Stevenson station, originally to be closed April 1, was closed.

Spangler said he had conferred on the matter with Jack Bartlett, Oregon State Aeronautics director at Salem, on the relocation of the gorge station.

Portland—(U.P.)—A member of the Oregon State Board of Aeronautics says he will join other airmen in protesting the closing of the Stevenson, Wash., weather station.

To Consider Matter A. J. Dwyer of Portland said the board will consider the matter at a meeting in Salem Wednesday.

He said he realized the gov-

Triplets Delivered by Caesarean Operation

Topeka, Kan.—(U.P.)—Mrs. Damien Levings and her new triplet daughters all were reported in satisfactory condition by hospital authorities Saturday.

The triplets were delivered by Caesarean section Friday. They weighed in at, respectively, four pounds, 12 ounces, four pounds, eight ounces; and five pounds, eight ounces.

Mr. and Mrs. Levings are residents of Topeka.

through Tacoma, Puyallup and Sumner.

The four-hour marathon of color paid tribute to 17-year-old Queen Eva Beattie of Puyallup and the Puyallup valley's important bulb industry.

The festive spirit continues Saturday night with the annual daffodil festival ball here, and Sunday with the marine parade of daffodil-decorated yachts and boats on Commencement bay to wind up the week-long celebration.

Puyallup Daffodil Festival Parade Largest on Record

Tacoma—(U.P.)—Tacoma and the Puget Sound area stole a march on the Easter parade Saturday with the biggest Puyallup valley daffodil festival parade in history.

The "Alfred in Wonderland" spectacle featured 123 entries using a total of more than 1,000,000 daffodils. Twenty-one bands from all parts of western Washington and Canada, 27 marching units, three mounted units, floats and decorated cars, moved

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