

# Geary, Smith Defend Choice For Committee Chairmanships

Salem—(U.P.)—Most of the legislators were home Saturday for a week end in which to wind up their personal affairs before settling down to the long struggle to attend to the affairs of state. But a hard core of ways and means subcommittees in both houses remained here to tackle problems in which already have been laid in their laps.

Speaker of the House Edward A. Geary remained over the week end and was busy in his office Saturday assessing and completing the work of organization.

Senate President Elmo E. Smith of John Day also remained in the capitol, but Saturday he was confined in his home with a sudden and severe cold. He presided at Friday's brief session, then went home and went to bed.

**Defend Choices**  
Both Smith and Geary gave vigorous defenses to their choice of committee chairmen. Some Democrats and some newspapers had criticized them for appointing only two Democrats as chairmen, both in the House.

To charges that this looked like a return to the spoils system, Smith said there was no such thing as any thought of a spoils system. He said: "It is my responsibility as Senate president to put the best men in the best places, and that I have done to the best of my ability and only after very careful and prolonged study. There are no sacred cows in the senate."

Criticism there had been largely about removal of Sen. Robert D. Holmes of Gearhart from the chairmanship of the Senate Education Committee. Sen. Holmes still is a member of that committee, headed this session by Sen. John C. F. Merrifield of Portland.

**Appointed Henry Semon**  
Speaker Geary had named Democrats as chairman of two committees. Rep. Henry Semon of Klamath Falls as chairman of the powerful Ways and Means

Committee, and Robert J. Stewart of Keating as chairman of the new livestock committee. Geary said:

## Oregon Dairymen Oppose Controls

Bend — (U.P.)—The Oregon Dairymen's Association was on record Saturday as opposed to a new state milk price control law.

By a margin of 19 to 15, the association voted not to ask the Legislature for a law to fix producer prices. Many of those who previously had defended the old state law lined up in favor of a federal milk market order. Proponents of a state law indicated, however, such a measure may be introduced in the Legislature.

Dairymen also voted against a proposal favoring increase of the minimum butterfat content of standard milk from 3.2 to 3.8 per cent.

The association elected Richard Lyons of Junction City as president; George Hostetler of Redmond, first vice-president, and Ray Hobson, Klamath Falls, second vice-president.

## La Grande Woman Likes Jury Duty

La Grande —(U.P.)—No one can ever accuse Mrs. Charles Montgomery of trying to duck jury duty.

Sitting in on a trial here at the Union County courthouse, Mrs. Montgomery slipped and broke her arm during the noon recess.

During the lunch hour, she contacted a doctor, had the arm set and placed in a cast, and was back in the jury box when court re-convened.

"I appointed two Democrats as committee chairmen, not because they were Democrats but because of their abilities.

As to his appointment of Charles A. Tom of Rufus as chairman of the education committee, he said "Tom definitely showed his ability at the last session of the Legislature and his interest in education. He is a young man whose main political interest is in the state of Oregon, and undoubtedly will be returned in following years. I don't think anybody can criticize his ability.

The reference to Tom's "political interest" in the state of Oregon was pointed. Tom succeeds Rep. Maurine Neuberger of Portland as chairman of the education committee. She is the wife of Richard L. Neuberger who was elevated from the Oregon Senate to the U. S. Senate on the Democratic ticket in last November's general election.

## State Gets \$65,000 In Back Payments

Salem — (U.P.)—More than \$65,000 in delinquent unemployment contributions has been collected from delinquent employers since last May by a bill-collecting drive instituted jointly by the attorney general's office and the State Unemployment Compensation Commission, Attorney General Robert Y. Thornton said Saturday.

Most of the money was collected upon old judgments against delinquent employers. During the eight months' period 186 judgments were entered; 97 liens and claims were filed; 410 executions and supplementary proceedings resorted to; and the number of pending actions was reduced by 57, since 253 were disposed of while 198 new actions were being filed.



**'FRESHMAN' MEETS VETERANS**—State Rep. E. A. (Al) Littrell, Medford, shown above (center), last week was introduced into the "mysteries" of the state legislative processes as the Oregon legislator opened. He is shown with Rep. Ed Geary (left), Klamath Falls, who is speaker of the house of representatives this session, and Gov. Paul Patterson, both of whom are legislative veterans. Littrell was assigned to the committees on commerce and utilities, labor and industries, and is vice-chairman of the important Highways committee.

# Costa Rica Receives 'Alarming Reports' Of Possible Landings

Washington — (U.P.) — The Costa Rican government reported here Saturday night that it has received what it called "alarming reports" of possible landings by invaders on both its Atlantic and Pacific shores.

It asked the American nations to furnish patrol boats, anti-aircraft guns and combat planes to help protect it against new attacks.

**Asks New Meeting**  
The Costa Rican government's fear of possible new landings was relayed by the Costa Rican embassy here. The embassy said it was asking for a new meeting of the representatives of the American states here in an effort to obtain help.

A statement by the embassy said: "Alarming reports have been received of possible landings on both coasts which would indicate large scale operations."

Attacks on Costa Rica so far have come by air or overland from Nicaraguan territory to the north.

The Costa Rican embassy said Saturday it wanted further protection from these sources, as well as safeguards against possible landings by sea.

The Embassy's statement said: "Costa Rica is asking for a meeting of the organization of American States, organ of consultation, at which it will ask for effective control of the Costa Rican-Nicaraguan border, ground or land vigilance of the frontier to avoid, above all, during the night continued supplying of invasion forces and contact of any kind between the invasion forces and Nicaragua."

"It is also asking that the organization of American States furnish Costa Rica with the means of defense against night air attacks, that is anti-aircraft and combat planes to repel attacks, and adequate facilities for defense and vigilance against new aggressions, above all, patrol boats to guard the coast."

"It asks the organization of American States to demonstrate that the Rio De Janeiro treaty is capable of dominating aggression and consolidating American peace."

In the Rio De Janeiro Treaty the 21 American Nations agreed to come to the aid of any one

## Kiwanis Kapers Committees Told

Names of 12 men who will be committee heads for the production of the 1955 Kiwanis Kapers have been announced by Co-Chairmen Frank Benesh and Lou Cranston.

The annual musical show is set for Feb. 23, 24, 25 and 26. It is the major fund raising project of Medford Kiwanis club for its boys' and girls' and underprivileged children's work.

The committee heads are George Polski, accounting; Robert Voegtly, publicity; Robert Temple, programs; Darell Huson, tickets; Tom Shepard, concessions; Chan Drew, properties; Del Wright, chorus; Ken Swartz, stage; Dr. Abner Clark, talent party; Russ Brown, costumes; Vic Cluff, sound, and Irv Mirick, music.

This year's production is entitled "Tel-Aversions."

The uncontrolled movement of livestock from one range to another is called "drift."

## 4-H Club News

**Central Point 4-H Dairy Club**  
The Central Point 4-H Dairy club met at the Carl Hoover home Jan. 3.

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 p.m. by Lewis Nickerson. David Young led us in flag salutes.

Mrs. Anhorn passed out last year's record books and then the new record books and Fluhner's 4-H calendars.

The next meeting is to begin at 7:30 p.m. at the C. W. Anhorn's, Monday, Feb. 7. Then the meeting was adjourned. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Hoover.

Jeffrey Anhorn, Reporter.

**Central Point Meeting**  
All the 4-H club members of Central Point are reminded to be present at the general club meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 18. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m. in the juvenile room of the Central Point Grange hall. Program and refreshments will be had, as well as business.

On December 27, leaders of Central Point clubs met at the C. W. Anhorn home and chose Floyd Charley to serve again as general chairman. Discussion was had on general club activities and Mr. Charley appointed the following committees: refreshments, Mrs. Chuck Taylor and Mrs. Clinton Charley; program, Mrs. Anhorn; publicity, Mrs. Chester Ashton; recreation, Mrs. John Bohner and Miss Rose Marie Legler and pre-fair, A. T. Lathrop and Morris Frink.

A quick 5-minute fudge frosting for the top of an eight or nine inch square cake can be made this way: In a saucepan melt 1 tablespoon margarine in 2 tablespoons milk. Stir in 3/4 cup sifted powdered sugar, 1/4 cup cocoa, and 1/4 teaspoon salt; cook about 1 minute. Remove from heat; add 1/2 teaspoon vanilla extract and 1/4 cup coarsely chopped nuts. Beat until thickened.

## Portland Man Lost On Mt. Hood Slopes

Government Camp — (U.P.)—Michael Farrar, 29-year-old Portland lander, was reported missing on the treacherous slopes of Mt. Hood Saturday.

Farrar was reported lightly clad when he left a lodge alone late Friday, apparently to investigate rock formation at the 10,000-foot level.

His family in Portland reported he failed to return home. An immediate search was organized and two or three small search parties set out immediately after he was reported missing. His family said he was not an experienced woodsman.

## Selma Man Killed In Truck Accident

Grants Pass—(U.P.)—Alvin T. Johnson, 75, Selma, was killed Friday when struck by a log truck, state police reported. The accident occurred near Selma, which is about 20 miles southwest of here on Highway 199.

It was the first 1955 traffic fatality for Josephine county.

## 'Barbershop Widows' Form Own Quartet

Forest Grove—(U.P.)—Four barbershop "widows" who became bored while their quartet singing spouses were harmonizing have entered the new women's division of the Northwest Barber Shop Balled Contest.

The ninth annual songfest is scheduled to be held Feb. 24-28 in Forest Grove, Ore. The petticoat foursome call themselves the "Better Half Notes" and are from Vancouver, Wash. Members are Cecilia Dunbar, Mavis Stolee, Alma Osborn and Ione Willson.

Their husbands will sing in another quartet.

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