

Measure To Increase Salary of Legislators Goes To Senate Over Mann's Objections

City Officials Protest State's Attempt To Preempt Rights in Financial Matters

Salem—(U.P.)—Officials from widely separated Oregon cities appeared here yesterday to protest what they called the state's attempt to preempt the rights of local units of government in solving their own financial problems.

City officials testified at a hearing before the House Taxation Committee in opposition to Sen. Rudie Wilhelm's senate-passed bill that would reserve to the state the right to impose income taxes.

Wilhelm, a Portland Republican, said Oregon relies more on the income tax method for its revenue than any other state

in the nation and that that dependence should be protected by keeping cities and counties out of the income tax field. Local units of government should depend on the property tax for their revenue, he said, and the state should stay out of that field.

Wilhelm told the committee that Portland would be the only city affected by the bill since it is the only city collecting a business tax based on income.

But mayors and city attorneys and the League of Oregon Cities said they objected to a state attempt to deny them the right to impose the same tax whenever they wanted to or needed to.

The bill was supported by representatives of the Portland Retail Bureau and of several Portland firms who said the Portland tax was unfair and discriminatory. The trade bureau said the Portland tax was driving many businesses out of the downtown area and into the fringe area, just outside the city limits, where they still received many city services without paying for them.

They also asserted the tax jeopardized Portland's standing as a northwest distribution center.

Mayor Fred Peterson of Port-

land said he had originally opposed the tax but that he now objected to the bill to eliminate it because it would be a violation of the home rule principle in municipal charters.

The tax brings Portland \$1,400,000 a year. If the city should be denied the right to collect it, that amount would have to be raised from other sources, Peterson said.

Portland City Commissioner William Bowes said the bill would require Portland to cut its city services and would create an almost unbearable situation in municipal finances.

Mayor Paul Landry of Klamath Falls told the committee that his city collected a business tax similar to Portland's but based it on the number of employees in a business rather than on income.

"Where are we going to get our money if the state preempts all our revenue sources?" he demanded.

Cave Junction Man Making Charcoal

Cave Junction—A Cave Junction man has applied an ancient practice to a current problem and come up with a use for heretofore-useless southern Oregon hardwoods, according to the Oregonian.

E. J. (Jiggs) Morris, Cave Junction, makes charcoal from manzanita, oak and madrone wood, long considered useless in this area. He has found a brisk demand for his product from retailers who serve the growing number of persons who own backyard charcoal broilers.

Morris, a contract logger, tree farmer and soil conservation supervisor, has constructed two charcoal kilns with a total capacity of 10 tons per month. He envisions an even larger production from the great quantities of otherwise-useless hardwoods in the area, and thinks that charcoal-making could become a profitable sideline for valley farmers clearing hardwood growth from their lands and woodlots.

Medford Man Balks At Resolution for Expense Account

Salem—(U.P.)—The Senate today received a resolution passed by the House to raise legislators' pay from \$600 to \$1200 per year and to grant the lawmakers a \$10 per day expense allowance for 90 days per session.

The bill passed easily over Rep. E. H. Mann's attempt to send it back to the State and Federal Affairs Committee. The Medford Republican said he favored the resolution until he per diem expense account was inserted by the committee.

Rep. Richard Chapman (D-Coos Bay), author of the resolution, said it represented the consensus of most of the members of the House. It would require voter approval if passed by the Senate and signed by the governor. Chapman said the increase was enough to pay expenses but not high enough to encourage professional politicians.

House action yesterday on a group of ways and means appropriation bills was slowed when Rep. John Hare (R-Hillsboro) attempted to send them back to committee pending final action on tax revenue bills. He contended no appropriations should be passed until the Legislature is certain how it will raise the money.

Other members objected that such a procedure would keep the body in session "until Christmas." Hare was the only member voting for his motion.

Also approved was a bill appropriating \$98,000 for continuation, with federal help, of the spruce budworm control project.

Educators Bill Passed

A Senate-passed bill removing the restriction on residences of members of the Board of Higher Education won unanimous approval. Present law requires that the members of the board may not live in cities where state institutions of higher education are located. Creation of Portland State College as a full-fledged institution was deemed to affect those board members who now live in Portland, and led to drafting of the bill to eliminate the residence requirement.

A hearing last night took testimony on commitments to the proposed new intermediate penal institution.

Up for final passage today was a bill that would repeal the present state law requiring schools to provide a physical education course in their curricula.

Three Hospitalized Following Accident

Three persons were hospitalized in Grants Pass following an accident on Highway 99 north of Rogue River at about 9:55 p.m. Wednesday, according to state police. None of the injuries was thought to be serious.

Officers said that a car driven by Arthur Gerald Sturgell, 25, Tiller, left the right side of the road and struck another car driven by William Kyle Holterhoff, 41, Grants Pass. Sturgell told the investigating officer that he was talking with a passenger, Clyde McNeill, 43, Eugene, and looked back at the road too late to avoid the collision.

Mrs. Lois Holterhoff, passenger in the car driven by her husband, was taken to the hospital in a private car, reportedly suffering from a sprained ankle and hip injuries. Sturgell and McNeill were taken to the hospital by a Grants Pass ambulance, and were treated for slight hurts and released.

Sturgell was cited for failure to operate on the right side of the highway.

Easter Egg Hunt Supplies Ample

All youngsters participating should be able to find some eggs Saturday when the Medford Kiwanis club holds its annual Easter Egg hunt at Hawthorne park on Saturday. That was the word today from members of the service club, which will have 7,000 eggs in various hiding places.

The hunt is scheduled for 9 a.m. and parents of the Medford vicinity are invited to bring their children for the event.

Youngsters will hunt in age groups of 1 to 3, 4 to 6, and 7 to 9 years. There will be three prizes for boys and three for girls in each division. One grand prize will be awarded to the finder of the lucky egg.

Candy eggs, packaged one to a sack, will be hidden.

In terms of potential heat and power, the world output of coal represents two and a half times as much energy as petroleum and natural gas together.

Ex-Ashland Boy Wins Legion Speech Contest

Ashland—A former Ashland boy, Barney Michael Miller, now of Hollywood, Calif., recently won national first place in the annual high school oratorical contest of the American Legion, it was reported here this week.

He wins a \$4,000 college scholarship to the school of his choice.

Young Miller, 18, is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. O. R. Miller and the nephew of Mr. and Mrs. Ned Mars, both Ashland. His father, Barney Miller, is with the Columbia Broadcasting company.

HASTY DEATH

Guilford, Conn.—(U.P.)—William Turner and Edward Mitchell drove their car past a funeral procession because they were in a hurry to keep a date. The car hit a tree and both were killed.

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