

House Faces Heavy Calendar; 26 Bills Await Passage

Junior College Assistance OK'd By 40 to 18 Vote

Salem—(U.P.)—The House today faced its heaviest calendar of the session. Twenty-six bills were on the agenda for final passage, including a mass of appropriation measures from the Joint Ways and Means Committee.

The House yesterday approved a bill that would provide state assistance to local school districts who maintain a program of education at the junior college level.

Only school district in the state now in position to benefit from the bill is Bend. It would receive a grant of \$1000 plus \$100 for each full time student in the college courses.

The bill was approved by a vote of 40 to 18 after surviving an attempt by Rep. Joe Rogers (D-Independence) to send it to the education committee by a vote of 45 to 13. It now goes to the Senate.

Other Schools Possible

School districts would be required to operate their junior colleges for at least three years before they would be eligible for aid. Rep. Harvey De Armond (R-Bend) said the bill would ease pressure for costly buildings at the state's campus schools by providing lower division work locally. He said there were possibilities that such schools would be established after the Bend pattern at Coos Bay, Astoria and Ontario. California now has 50 such institutions and Washington 10.

Fought Measure

The state board of higher education fought the measure, fearing that \$18,500 estimated cost per biennium would be taken from the board's budget. But Rep. Orval Eaton (R-Astoria) told the House that Dr. John Richard, vice chancellor of the state system of higher education, had not opposed the measure in three appearances before a ways and means subcommittee.

Rep. Al Loucks (R - Salem), supporting Rogers' move for referral, quoted a letter from Richards claiming that the junior college proposal was premature and should have further study.

The House also approved a \$246,000 appropriation for equipping the new wing of the state hospital in Salem.

Vice-Presidency Urge Denied by HST

Kansas City, Mo.—(U.P.)—Former President Truman today characterized as "sheer bunk" a report published in New York that he is available for the vice-presidency.

The report was carried by the New York Daily News in a copyrighted article by Ruth Montgomery of the News' Washington bureau.

The dispatch said life in Independence, Mo., "has become boring" to Mr. Truman and that he would like to return to the Senate, but since Missouri's senators, Stuart Symington and Thomas C. Hennings, are Democrats, he did not wish to disturb party solidarity.

"Mr. Truman has now determined to solve this problem by seeking the vice-presidency if Stevenson is willing to accept him as a running mate," the dispatch said.

"This is sheer bunk and it is ridiculous," Mr. Truman told newsmen. "You can expect to hear more right on through 1956."

Malik's Illness Delays Conference

London—(U.P.)—Meetings of the five-nation disarmament conference have been postponed due to the sudden illness of Soviet chief delegate, Jacob Malik, the United Nations announced today.

A spokesman at the Russian Embassy said Malik was confined to bed by doctor's orders. He said he did not know when Malik could resume his engagements. He said Malik became ill yesterday.

Malik, 49, is known to suffer from serious heart trouble, like his former chief, the late Andrei Y. Vishinsky, who died of a heart attack in New York. Malik was to have presided at today's session of the UN spokesman said. The talks have been going on among the United States, Britain, France, Canada and the Soviet Union for more than six weeks.

First auto traffic death on record occurred when a car struck and killed a pedestrian in New York City in 1889, according to research by the National Geographic society.

Cigarette Tax Expected To Withstand Referendum



SIGNING PAPERS FOR TITLE BOUT, Tony DeMarco (right), world welterweight champ, who won title April 1, hands pen to Carmen Basilio, Syracuse, at New York ceremony. Fight will be held June 10 in Syracuse. Commissioner Julius Helfand is in center. Background, from left are Harry Markson, boxing club official and Promoter Norm Rothschild, Syracuse. (International)

Salem—(U.P.)—A plan to raise \$10,000,000 of new revenue for the state with a cigarette tax probably could withstand a referendum attack, according to Elmer McClure, master of the Oregon State Grange.

McClure told the Senate Taxation Committee last night the Grange could support a cigarette tax as a luxury tax and one that the public could avoid by giving up the luxury.

He said he doubted it would be referred.

Labor Opposed

Grange support of the cigarette tax left the farm group at odds with organized labor spokesmen who said last night they still opposed the plan because all tax payers should pay the tax bill, not just those who use cigarettes.

J. B. McDonald, president of the Oregon Federation of Labor, said that while his organization was opposed to such a tax, it had not threatened to refer it to the voters. McDonald said he "assumed the tobacco people would refer it."

Both McDonald and McClure proposed to the committee a 50 per cent increase of tax rate within the bracket of the personal income tax structure in Oregon. They said they considered that structure one of the fairest in the nation.

25 Granges for Sales Tax

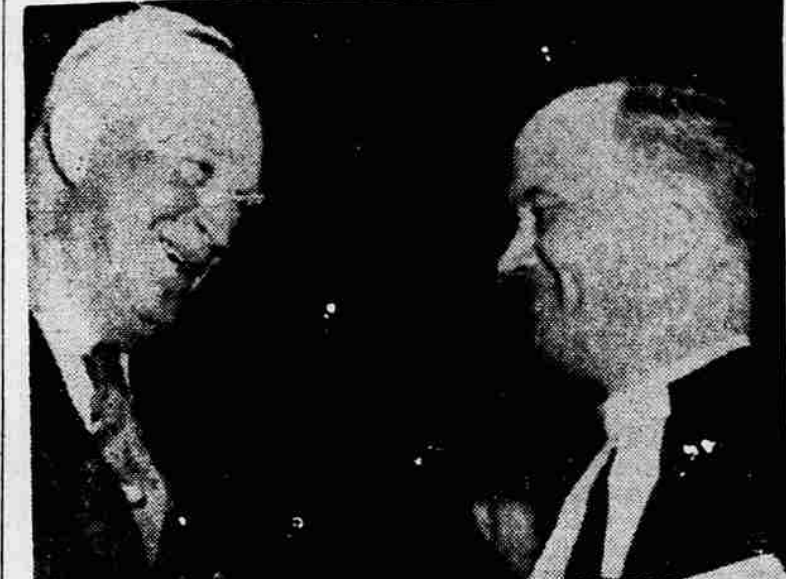
They continued their opposition to reduction of personal exemptions from \$600 to \$500, claiming that such a reduction would touch on the subsistence level of earnings which should be tax free.

In reply to a question from Sen. Lowell Steen of Milton-Freewater, McClure said the state Grange headquarters had received pro-sales tax resolutions from about 25 subordinate Granges. He said that out of 350 Granges it did not represent a change in past policy against the tax.

The Senate Tax Committee was due to continue its study of revenue measures throughout the week, despite the absence of its chairman, Sen. Rudie Wilhelm of Portland. Completion of the committee's work is considered the yardstick that will measure the length of the legislative session.

Swine Quarantine Rescinded by State

Salem—(U.P.)—J. E. Short, state director of agriculture, said today the Oregon quarantine of the swine disease vesicular exanthema, in effect since September of 1952, has been rescinded. W. E. Williams, president of the Portland Union stockyards, said lifting of the quarantine would allow resumption of trading in feeder pigs at the yards.



ATTENDING GOOD FRIDAY RITES at National Presbyterian Church, President Eisenhower chats with the minister, Dr. Edward Elson, before returning to White House. (International)

French Painter Seeking Return of Original Work

Paris—(U.P.)—The noted artist, Fernand Leger, admitted recently that one of his paintings estimated at \$20,000 might have gone to a German art dealer to whom he was under contract some 40 years ago at a fee of about \$1.50 a month.

"In 1913 I had a contract with Daniel Kahnweiler, to whom I sold all my works for 500 francs a month," Leger told the United Press.

Leger pondered the possibility that a painting, which he claims he never sold or gave away, might have been part of his output that automatically went to Kahnweiler under their contract.

Owned by Swiss Dealer

The painting, a huge abstract work entitled "Contrastes de Formes" (Contrasts of Forms), is presently in the possession of a Swiss art dealer. Leger claims the painting is still his, and he has filed a complaint with French police. They are investigating in an almost hopeless attempt to trace the channels through which the painting reached its present owner.

Leger, creator of the murals in the general assembly hall of the United Nations building in New York City, said he never sold or gave away the painting and that it is still his property.

"And you don't throw away 7,000,000 francs," he added. "I frankly cannot remember what happened to this painting except that I am sure it is still mine. Maybe it was included in the works I sold to Kahnweiler under contract. In that case it could have been sold by auction when his belongings were seized by the French state as enemy property during the first World War."

But Kahnweiler, who runs one of Paris' best known art galleries, is inclined to doubt this.

"My contract with Leger began on Oct. 25, 1913," he said. "The painting was completed before then, I believe. At least I have no recollection of it having been handed to me by Leger in accordance with the terms of his contract."

A Swiss art dealer, Siegfried Rosengart, exhibited the work at Lucerne. It was through coincidence that Leger heard about the matter.

A Dutch buyer asked him for a very large painting. Leger did one, but on seeing it, the buyer told him he preferred the one he had seen in the Lucerne exhibition. Leger immediately instructed his lawyer to file a complaint so an investigation could be opened.

Not Confident

Inspector Clot is not at all confident the police investigation will be successful since apparently the painting passed through several hands in the course of 40 years.

"Even if we tracked it down to a dishonest person who originally stole the work this could not be prosecuted because there is a three-year prescription for theft," Clot said.

This limit does not apply to a civil complaint, and it would be possible, if police did discover who originally stole the painting, for Leger to be awarded damages. But this result is rather remote.

In any case, Clot is certain that Rosengart is the painting's present legal owner and that he cannot be forced to return it unless every person concerned in the probably numerous transactions over 40 years pays back the money involved in each one.

Seaman Election Referred to Court

San Francisco—(U.P.)—A petition to delay proceedings in the National Labor Relations Board certification election among seamen on Pacific Maritime Association ships has been referred to the entire U.S. Supreme Court.

The petition was filed by the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union and the National Union of Marine Cooks & Stewards. They appealed the decision of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeal which refused to stop the NLRB election.

The AFL Seafarers International Union, accused by the ILWU and NUMCS of racial discrimination, won the election.

The ILWU yesterday filed objections to the election with the NLRB, an action which may delay certification of the SIU as bargaining agent for 6000 sailors, marine firemen, cooks and stewards.

The two unions had asked Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas for a delay in the election, and he notified the ILWU that he was referring the request to the entire court.

No Polio Occurred In Oregon Tests

Portland—(U.P.)—None of the 4,232 Oregon school children vaccinated last year under the Salk polio vaccine tests contracted the disease, statistics released by the University of Michigan showed today.

In the "control group" of 20,602 children included in the Oregon study in Lane, Marion and Multnomah counties, three cases of paralytic polio were reported in Marion county. However, none of these had received the Salk vaccine. No cases within the study group were reported in Lane or Multnomah counties.

The state breakdown on the nationwide study was received today by Dr. Harold Erickson, state health officer.

The county breakdown: Lane—9027 under controls; 1776 vaccinated; no polio cases. Multnomah, outside Portland—5544 under controls; 1166 vaccinated; no polio cases.

Marion—6031 under controls; 1290 vaccinated; three polio cases but none in the vaccinated group.

Dead late Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday; 1 a.m. Monday for Monday; other days 3:30 previous day.

Dozen Towns Named As Refugee Points

Portland—(U.P.)—A dozen towns near Portland were named by local civil defense officials today as suitable for assembly points for refugees from threat of enemy bombing.

They include Scappoose, Banks, Forest Grove, Newberg, Carlton, Canby, Molalla, Estacada, Sandy, Brooks, Hood River and a town yet to be selected in Clark county, Wash.

Ecuador Fines Fish Boat Owners

Quito, Ecuador—(U.P.)—Fines totaling nearly \$50,000 have been levied by the Ecuadorian government against the owners of two American fishing boats seized last month for fishing within what Ecuador regards as territorial waters.

Economy Minister Federico Intriago announced last night the Arctic Maid would be fined \$43,481.20, and the Santa Ana \$5,881.10. The ships are owned by a Seattle fishing company and, according to Ecuadorian authorities, were part of a fleet of 15 found fishing off Dead Man's island outside the Gulf of Guayaquil.

The Arctic Maid and the Santa Ana were captured by an Ecuadorian naval cutter last March 28 and escorted to Guayaquil. The Arctic Maid was fired on by the cutter when it sought to escape, according to the authorities. One American crewman was injured slightly. Intriago said a "great quantity" of tuna was found in the holds of both vessels. He added that the ships were fishing in Ecuadorian waters without the necessary permits.

Ecuador, Peru and Chile maintain their national jurisdiction extends 200 miles eastward. The United States does not recognize the claims.

French Troops Maintain Calm in Tense Saigon

Saigon, Indochina—(U.P.)—French troops guarding key installations maintained calm in this tense Viet Nam capital today despite threats by a rebellious sect of ex-river pirates to destroy the city.

The Binh Xuyen sect said if Premier Ngo Dinh Diem "wants war he'll have it," but the French kept a safety curtain between the rebellious group and government troops and an expected flareup failed to materialize.

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