

# Howard Morgan Named State Public Utilities Commissioner

Salem — (U.P.) — More top appointments were expected soon from Gov. Robert D. Holmes who named Howard Morgan as public utilities commissioner yesterday to succeed Charles Heltzel.

Morgan, a 42-year-old Monmouth stock rancher who was three times elected chairman of the State Democratic Central Committee, will take over his post immediately.

Heltzel is re-entering law practice here.

Two other top vacancies exist due to resignation of Robert Johnson as director of finance and administration and Warne Nunn as director of the State Motor Vehicle department. Will Name Assistant

Morgan, a native of Tillamook, resigned chairmanship of the Democratic party last July to accept a post on the national campaign staff of Democratic presidential nominee Adlai E. Stevenson. He also was a campaign advisor to Gov. Holmes.

Morgan said he would take time to familiarize himself with workings of the PUC before appointing an assistant.

"His education and experience fits him particularly for the post," Holmes said.

Morgan is a graduate of Eliot grammar school, Jefferson high school and Reed college, all in Portland. He was called from graduate work in transportation, economics and utility law at the University of California to serve in World War II on the staff of the late Joseph B. Eastman, chairman of the Interstate Commerce commission and chief of the office of Defense Transportation.

From 1942 to 1946 he served as a naval officer, principally with the Naval Air Transport service overseas. During the Korean conflict, he was summoned as a consultant to the defense transport administration and helped survey the de-

## 21 Counties List Fewer Road Deaths

Salem — (U.P.) — Twenty-one of Oregon's 38 counties reported fewer traffic deaths in 1956 than in the preceding year, the Oregon Traffic Safety Commission reported today.

Two counties, Clackamas and Douglas, held the line with the same number of fatalities as in 1955.

One of the highest increases in traffic deaths came in Klamath county where accidents claimed 31 lives for a 63 per cent increase over 1955.

Counties reporting fewer deaths last year were: Clatsop, Columbia, Coos, Crook, Curry, Deschutes, Gilliam, Harney, Jefferson, Josephine, Lake, Lane, Lincoln, Linn, Malheur, Marion, Polk, Sherman, Umatilla, Wallowa and Yamhill.

Higher death counts were recorded in Baker, Benton, Grant, Hood River, Jackson, Morrow, Multnomah, Tillamook, Union, Wasco, Washington, Wheeler and Klamath counties.

Tillamook county, which went death-free in 1955, reported five traffic deaths in 1956.

At his first press conference since assuming office, Gov. Holmes said he would do all he could to provide legislative leadership and implement his program in the 1957 Legislature. He said he would be glad to testify before legislative committees if his program got bogged down.

However, the governor said he was not submitting his program to the Legislature in a "package." He said individual legislators had asked him for permission to introduce parts of his program in bill form.

To Attend Inauguration Gov. Holmes will attend President Eisenhower's inauguration in Washington Sunday and Monday and said he should have a special message ready for the Legislature spelling out his resource development program, possibly by late next week.

He said other special messages on such subjects as taxes and institutions probably would follow.

On the tax program he said he would "wait and see" what the Legislature came up with. He said he thought a good tax program would not be referred to the people.

Regarding Oregon's numerous boards and commissions, the governor said he had nothing against them as such — as long as they did not diffuse control and responsibility. He said that in the case of liquor and other commissions, he thought a full-time paid administrator would make for better administration and also save the state money.

## Band Selection May Be Played in Washington

Ashland — Glen Matthews, assistant professor of music and director of the college band at Southern Oregon college, received a request recently from Don Walter, director of bands at Western Washington College of Education, seeking permission to play Matthew's award winning band composition, "Biorama," in two forthcoming concerts at Western Washington.

"Biorama" was written by Matthews in 1956, and was a prize winner in competition in the Northwest College Band Directors association in May last year. The composition is written in a contemporary vein, featuring among other modern techniques, that of the tone-color technique.

## Education Board To Act on Admissions

Portland — (U.P.) — The State Board of Higher Education will act on a plan of selective admission to state colleges at its meeting next week.

The plan calls for a minimum "C" or "2" average in high school work before a student can be admitted as a freshman to a state college. In lieu of this he must pass a standard college aptitude test with a score above 60 per cent or present a C average achieved on a full load of work at a regular college during a summer session.

The plan has been the result of a one-year study by a committee of representatives from the administrative staffs of all tax-supported colleges.

In effect last fall, the restriction would have cut about seven per cent from the state school's freshmen enrollment.

## Chou Will Continue Poland Conferences

Warsaw — (U.P.) — Communist China Premier Chou En-lai, having won Polish Communist Leader Wladyslaw Gomulka into accepting Moscow's leadership of world Communist policy, has returned to Warsaw for further talks with Polish leaders.

Gomulka, who has led Poland's campaign for greater independence from Soviet domination, bowed to Moscow Monday in an election speech.

"Our foreign policy must be such that it strengthens the position of Poland in the world and also strengthens the position of Poland's friends, headed by the Soviet Union," Gomulka declared.

Political observers said the words were probably gratifying to Chou. The Red China leader came here from Moscow last week to talk with Polish leaders, hoping to convince them they should not stray too far from Kremlin rule in their search for a more democratic form of Communism.

## Youths Apprehended For Break, Entry

Two Medford boys, aged 10 and 11, were apprehended by city police Tuesday in connection with two break and entries in a Medford residence and the Jackson County Housing authority, police have reported.

Police said the boys admitted breaking into the housing authority Saturday and taking an Atkins brand hacksaw valued at \$3 and into a Medford residence the same day taking 300 pennies.

They were released to their parents with instructions to appear before county juvenile authorities.

## Grenadier Guard in Full Dress Tackles Bullock

Windsor, England — (U.P.) — A spokesman for the renowned Grenadier Guards today denied a guards captain donned his full dress uniform to kill a mad bullock.

Capt. J. R. S. Besley just happened to be wearing full dress, complete with sword and spurs, at the time, the spokesman said. The bullock was killed by two rifle shots fired by another officer.

## House Convenes With One Bill in Hopper

Salem — (U.P.) — The House convened here today with one bill already in the legislative hopper.

The House Taxation Committee, at the request of Gov. Robert D. Holmes, yesterday introduced a bill to repeal the 45 per cent surtax on incomes established by the 1955 Legislature.

The bill, which would become effective Aug. 4, would also increase personal exemptions from \$500 to \$600, repeal hardship exemptions and increase the minimum taxable net income from \$500 to \$600.

Democrats, who control the House 37 to 23 and head all 19 standing committees, advocated repeal of the surtax during the election campaign.

## Holmes Has No Plans To Discharge Maison

Salem — (U.P.) — Gov. Robert D. Holmes said here yesterday he did not know where a rumor came from that he was firing Harold G. Maison as superintendent of the state police.

The governor implied he had no immediate changes in mind for the state police. Maison's term runs until 1959.

## Gov. Holmes Inherits Smith's Aspirin Bottle

Salem — (U.P.) — Anybody who takes over the task of Oregon's chief executive is bound to inherit plenty of headaches.

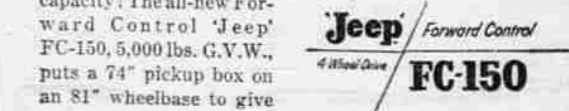
And Capitol observers were wondering today if it was just an oversight or a gesture of sympathy that among the things Elmo Smith left behind when he stepped out as governor and Robert D. Holmes fell heir to when he stepped in as governor this week was: Half a large bottle of aspirin tablets.



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