

Public Hearings Held by State Legislature Groups Recently

By MRS. EVELYN NYE
State Representative
From Jackson County

Three weeks of the session are behind us and the deadline for filing bills, Feb. 5th, is past. After that date it takes the approval of the Rules committee to have a bill introduced, and Speaker Bob Duncan assures us that will be tough to get. Last week saw some interesting public hearings held. One was by the Judiciary

committee and was devoted to an explanation of the recommended revision of the Juvenile Code. This hearing was continued on Feb. 3, when the reduction of age limit for selling cigarettes to minors was discussed. I am following this closely.

Another hearing was on House Bill 22 which would forbid dentists from advertising. Most dentists support the bill but advertising firms, lawyers and others oppose it. It will be interesting to know what decision the Judiciary committee makes regarding it. They can vote it out with a do pass, recommend a do not pass, or can table it, thus

killing the bill. The big hearing room was filled for this one.

Fryer Labeling Bill

The Food and Dairy committee had a hearing on the fryer labeling bill, which would require that all fryers be labeled as to place of production. The Oregon Fryer Commission claims that housewives are entitled to know whether the birds they buy are Oregon grown or shipped in from a distance. The opposition claims the bill is in restraint of trade and will result in retaliatory measures against Oregon.

The Agriculture and Livestock committee, of which I am a member, listened to testimony on the commodity commission bill, House Bill 128. All witnesses were in strong support of this legislation which would make commodity commissions responsible to the growers and the legislature, rather than to the Department of Agriculture.

Timber Taxation Bill

On Feb. 4, the House Taxation committee held a hearing on the highly controversial timber taxation bill, House Bill 14. This bill would change the ad valorem tax on timber holdings from the present county-wide depletion rate, to individual tract rates set in accordance with estimated cutting program. There is strong opposition to this bill from the small or individual owners, and some larger ones who have rather rapid cutting plans, and equally strong support from the large operators who are cutting on a sustained yield basis. The change was recommended by the Interim Tax committee.

Out of 559 bills which have been introduced so far, many, of course, are of more vital importance than the ones I've mentioned here but I have confined myself to some of those on which hearings have been held or are about to be held. Incidentally, complete files of all bills are available at the Medford library, the city hall, the county court and the office of the county superintendent of schools, and I will be glad to send copies of specific bills to anyone who requests them, and to advise as to hearing dates.

Small Worlds Around Us

By Lynn M. Watkins

The Porpoise Speaks

To the family of cetacean belongs the largest animal that has ever lived upon the earth, the whale. To this same family also belongs the porpoise.

In bodily characteristics, regardless of size, they resemble each other to a startling degree. The most prominent aspects are the flukes of the tail, being horizontal instead of vertical, like the fishes. The porpoise is a warm-blooded mammal, bringing forth its young alive and suckling it at the mammalian ducts, like all true terrestrial mammals.

The porpoise is highly intelligent - perhaps more so than the dog or horse. They can be tamed in a few days and reward kindness with devotion and tolerance. Scientists have suspected for a long time that the porpoise seems

to have some very adequate means of conversing with one another. What this consists of or how it is carried on, is still unknown, but schools of these animals seem to understand one another, even in the darkness of a black, oceanic night.

He is a traveler of great distances. His range is uncharted, he visits all the seven seas and has been a welcome sight to sailors on lonely voyages everywhere. He has added exuberant life to the great open wastes of the ocean. Sailors for ages have treated the porpoise with the respect he deserves. It has been only recently that some have pointed the finger of scorn at him and asked that his number be lessened because he eats fish and fishermen trade fish for dollars.

A creature as intelligent as

the porpoise most certainly has a voice that we do not hear. It is not the fault of him but of us. I believe he would sum up his story something like this: "I am only an animal of the sea. I bring life and interest to vast desolate expanses of wild water, where nothing but desolation and loneliness exist."

"I possess all the emotions common to man himself, and more intelligence than I am given credit for. My way of life is a tolerant forbearance of animosity or hatred toward any creature. I am harmless and possess no means of offense or defense. I have no quarrel with nature, nor man himself.

"The only thing I ask of life is a place in the sun, an ocean to patrol and a few fish to eat." (Man asks and demands all this and more). "I deserve consideration for myself and my kind, if only for the unusualness of my black hide shining in the sun or my joyful grunt of surprise when I rise to the surface to breathe the same air so necessary to me and you alike. Please allow me to survive."

(Released by The Register and Tribune Syndicate, 1959)

Population in State To Reach 2 Million

Salem-Oregon's population which has climbed steadily but unexpectantly from about 50,000 a century ago to slightly under 1,800,000 today, is expected to top the two million mark about 1965 or 1966.

That is the educated guess of population experts from the state census board and the state board of health, who estimate the 1965 tally at 1,985,268 and the 1966 count at 2,014,687.

Deane L. Huxtable, who can claim title as Oregon's chief nose-counter through his dual role as state registrar for the health board and secretary of the census board, said the predictions should be within 15-20 thousand of the actual population if natural increase and migration remain about the same as they have since 1950.

By 1970, according to Huxtable, Oregon's population should be about 2,132,000.

Grange News

Pomona Grange

The January meeting of Jackson County Pomona Grange, held at the Phoenix Grange hall, was well attended. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Sims of Linn County Pomona Grange. Roll call of officers found all committee chairmen and officers present, except Gatekeeper Herma Kamping.

A resolution read at the previous meeting concerning changes in by-laws regarding requirements for membership was approved. Also approved was a letter to be sent to the Jackson county legislators opposing the proposed resolution of the wages and hours commission forcing employers to give a 15-minute coffee break out of every hour, when temperatures reach 92 degrees.

Speaking at the morning session, Attorney Ben Day gave a comprehensive report on the matter of Rogue River water development. He stated that the future of the people of the valley depends on what is done in developing flood control, irrigation, protection of fishing, tourist attractions, etc.; and that legal changes now make it possible to appease all factions involved.

He gave statistics regarding the decline in fish population and stated dams were

needed to store water that temperatures and water levels compatible with healthy fish life might be preserved. These dams would also develop new tourist areas. He discussed the various sites under consideration for dams.

Reports were heard on bees, horticulture, dairies, poultry, and livestock; but only livestock seemed to be bringing satisfactory prices. It was stated that the government is exchanging wheat with India for manganese, and sending flour and wheat to Japan and Formosa to ease surpluses.

During the literary program, a talk was given by Johann Manz, a Swiss exchange student, attending Oregon State college. Son of the Swiss secretary of agriculture, he is making a study of Oregon farm conditions and has had articles on this subject printed in five Swiss newspapers, pointing out the great progress that has been made in agricultural methods here. In his talk he compared the political and educational systems of the two countries, which appear to bear many similarities. Manz was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. R. R. Bitterling of Eagle Point while in the valley.

Songs were sung by Maynard Hadley of Medford, accompanied by Mrs. Keith Kranbeal. The program concluded with a skit, "The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter," presented by a cast from Sams Valley Grange, with Victor Croxton as narrator.

Retiring HEC chairman Edith Poe reviewed the accomplishments of the subordinate Granges in Jackson county during her term of office; and concluded her report by presenting a past chairman's pin to Mrs. Lillian Force, who had preceded her in office.

Mabel Wertz, chairman of the committee planning a Pomona visitation program, told of prizes to be offered for the subordinate Granges having the highest percentage of attendance at the series of meetings. She reminded all visiting ladies to bring sandwiches or cookies to each meeting. The first visitation meeting will be at Central Point Grange, Feb. 20.

Demits were voted at the request of Gertrude and Bar-

nie Lewin and Sandra Jean Densmore, who have moved out of the county.

Chaplain Hattie Hendrickson announced that the next Pomona Grange meeting would be a memorial service. On Sunday, April 19, practice will be held at 2 p.m. in Phoenix Grange hall for all Pomona officers and chaplains of subordinate granges having members to be honored. She requested each chaplain to check her own membership list.

It was announced that Carl Christensen of Live Oak Grange is the new president of Grange Council and Irene Culy of Upper Applegate the new secretary. Next meeting of Grange council will be April 11 at 8 p.m. at the Eagle Point Grange hall. Masters, secretaries, and lecturers are especially urged to attend.

Master Robert Bitterling announced that Eagle Point Grange was selling many varieties of trees, suitable for shade or windbreaks, at a low price, as a community service project.

Announcement was made of the Centennial dinner to be given at Central Point Grange hall Feb. 14, from 6 to 8 p.m., with the public invited.

Next meeting of Jackson County Pomona Grange will be held at Gold Hill Saturday, April 25, at 10 a.m.

Mrs. Melvin Lattie, Secretary

Medford Youth on List for Academy

Marvin Lee Terry, 2722 Bullock rd., Medford, is one of eight Oregon young men nominated to the United States Merchant Marine academy at King Point, Long Island, N. Y., by Senator Richard L. Neuberger.

Also nominated was Gary Hal Brunner, route 1, box 810, Grants Pass.

They were selected for the class which starts in August, 1959, and were chosen on the basis of merit. The academy will select the top three men from Oregon.

An adult migratory grasshopper can eat its own weight in green range forage in 16 hours. In contrast, a mature, 1,000 pound cow requires 7.6 days to eat her own weight in green forage.



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