

Improving Process Of Legislature Is Being Considered

The state legislative council committee continued its consideration of ways to improve legislative processes and procedures at a recent two-day meeting in Portland, according to Sam R. Haley, Salem, legislative counsel.

The committee reported that innovations at the last session cut the cost of printing and binding legislative journals in 1959 to less than one-half the 1957 costs, resulting in a saving of more than \$6,000.

Other areas of legislative operations are being explored by legislators and staff personnel, according to Haley. Chief clerks of the house and senate and other legislative personnel were invited to comment and make suggestions at the last meeting.

Members present urged the preparation or refinement of manuals procedure to be used by legislative personnel engaged in technical operations such as engrossing and enrolling.

The committee also recommended the development of an orientation program, stressing the mechanics of the legislative processes, for the benefit of new legislators and legislative employees.

The legislative council's staff was instructed to study the feasibility of publishing advance sheets of the session laws during a legislative session. The publication of advance sheets would enable subscribers to have, at a date earlier than the publication of the session laws, the exact text of acts passed, Haley reported.

Speaker of the House Robert B. Duncan, Medford, is a member of the Legislative Council committee.

Jefferson Arms Group to Meet

The Jefferson State Arms Collectors will meet at the home of Jim Scheffel, 2502 Jackson dr., Medford, Nov. 7, at 7 p.m. with "favorite guns" being featured.

At the October meeting, which was held at the home of William Redhead, Medford, a collection of muzzle-loading rifles owned by George Knutson of Medford was featured.

Robert Ison of Red Bluff, Calif., showed examples of stock carving.

Persons interested in antique guns are invited to attend the organization's meeting.

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Personal Income Taxpayers To Receive New Card Forms

Oregon's 600,000 personal income taxpayers in December will receive a packet containing a punch card tax return, a work-sheet and a shortened and simplified set of instructions, the Oregon state tax commission has announced.

The change from the long forms which Oregon income taxpayers have filed in previous years has been made for two reasons, the commission said. They are:

Compliance with the law is made easier for Oregon's taxpayers.

To bring new equipment and ideas in records and office management to bear on income tax administration.

Not all taxpayers, however, will use the punch card form only, the commission noted. If the taxpayer is self-employed and grosses \$5,000 or more from a business or farm, he will have to file a supplemental schedule. Additional information will also have to be provided by capital gains taxpayers.

With the shortened return, the commission said, fewer taxpayers will find themselves paying for professional assistance in getting their returns made out.

The income tax is often called the "educated man's tax," because it is assumed a taxpayer has the ability to compute it. However, the commission said the belief exists that income tax forms, in steadily growing more complex, are likely to pass the average taxpayer's competence, if the forms have not already done so.

Less information will be collected, and consequently less information will have to be processed and stored, the commission noted. Automatic sorting, tabulating and computing equipment will be used, in part, for picking returns most justifying review and for finding nonfiling taxpayers.

The new administration techniques will perform the job as effectively as previously, the commission noted, but at a lesser cost. An incidental advantage of punching data into cards, the commission noted, is that once the cards are prepared, a wide variety of application such as billings, statistics, and mailing lists can be turned out at a low cost.

The commission said it already is cutting back on personnel by not replacing some employees who voluntarily resign. It expects the normal turnover rate to take care of most of the planned reduction.

Related to Changing

Related to changing the forms and procedures, the commission said, is a plan to reduce central office auditing and expand field examinations. In the near future, it said, taxpayers and tax practitioners will find more auditors working out of the office serving their area.

New offices are also contemplated for territories presently too big for geographical or population reasons, the commission said.

The commission said the change to the short form and related procedural changes represents one of the largest single steps forward ever taken by a state tax collection agency. Some states have punch card forms, but they either require about as much detail as the 1958 Oregon return or they permit taxpayers to start with a figure off their federal returns.

In other states, the commission said, the punch card is frequently an optional form or is limited mainly to wage and salary taxpayers. Other states also have decentralized auditing systems, but as far as is known no state has simultaneously streamlined procedures both for the taxpayer and the state.

Pendleton Man Faces Arson Charge

Pendleton - UPB - John L. Timmerman, 55, Pendleton, has been arrested on a secret grand jury indictment charging him with second degree arson. The action followed several weeks of undercover work by two members of the State Arson Squad.

Timmerman was charged in connection with a warehouse fire at Pendleton airport Sept. 12. Bond was set at \$2,500 and arraignment for Monday in circuit court.

FRONT SIDE—This is the front side of the new Oregon income tax punch card form. Dependents, with the exception of the spouse, are listed to the right with signa-

BACK SIDE—Above is the reverse side of the new Oregon income tax punch card form. Dependents, with the exception of the spouse, are listed to the right with signa-

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Foresters Schedule Meeting Nov. 13

The Siskiyou chapter of the Society of American Foresters will meet at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 13, in the Pioneer room of the Jackson hotel.

On the program will be reports on progress and accomplishments by personnel from the Medford bureau of land management district, the Siskiyou and Rogue River National forests, and the state board of forestry.

Participating will be Robert Hostetter, assistant district ranger, BLM; Richard Tutman, fire control officer for Siskiyou National forest; Robert Forheim, fire control officer for Rogue River National forest; and Curt Nesheim, southwest district warden, state board of forestry.

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Jack Thomsen is chairman of the Siskiyou chapter. Carroll Brown is vice chairman, and Calvin Smith is secretary-treasurer.

Interim Group to Support Request

Corvallis - The state legislative interim committee on agriculture will support a request of pear growers for state emergency funds to seek out the cause of a disease that threatens to wipe out pear trees in the Medford area, Sen. Francis Ziegler, Corvallis, said Friday.

Ziegler is chairman of the interim committee and a member of the emergency board.

The Pear Growers league plans to ask the emergency board for about \$17,000 to continue the search for the cause of the disease another year, Ziegler said.

The growers already have put \$28,000 of their own money into the research since the disease first struck about two years ago, he said. Henry Hartman, Oregon State college pear specialist, is heading the work.

The interim committee last week viewed the orchards in the Medford area where a third of the pear trees are said to be dead or dying. The entire \$14 million industry there is threatened with annihilation, Ziegler said. Cause of the disease has not yet been determined, he added.

Present funds will run until June 30, 1960, he said. The emergency funds would, if approved, carry the work for another year.

Eligibility for Loan Reviewed

A veteran's eligibility for a GI loan is not restored automatically when he sells his GI-purchased home and obtains a VA release from liability to the government on the loan, S. T. Brannock, contact representative, VA Domiciliary, Camp White, said Saturday.

Release of the veteran from liability to the government does not affect VA's guaranty on the loan. As long as the guaranty is outstanding, no restoration of GI loan rights can be extended the veteran, Brannock stated.

Even if the loan is paid in full, thus relieving VA of liability to the lender, veteran's entitlement to another GI loan may be restored only when the property was taken by a government agency for public use; was destroyed by natural hazard; or was disposed of for compelling reasons such as health, employment transfer, change to a better job in another city, or other reasons considered sufficient by the VA.

In such cases, veterans should apply to the nearest VA office for restoration of entitlement. For southern Oregon that address and office is contact office, post office building, VA Domiciliary, Camp White.

Wolfgang Mozart, Austrian composer, who died in 1791, made his Vienna debut as violinist and pianist at the age of six.

Watermelon, corn and tomatoes are often grown successfully in the Mackenzie valley of the Northwest Territory. The fishing settlement of Tracadis with its fine harbor on the southeast coast of Newfoundland was established in 1617.

A Tribute to the Junior Service League

Members of the Junior Service League deserves the highest commendation for their unselfish effort in behalf of youngsters who are unfortunate enough to have hearing trouble. The League's Kindergarten for hard-of-hearing children is a community program deserving of widest support. Next Wednesday and Thursday, November 4th and 5th, the League's FOLLIES of 1959 will be featured at the Craterian Theater in Medford. Proceeds from this fine live-talent show will further the hard-of-hearing program. Be SURE to attend and help a truly worthy cause!

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MEET LUCY...

LUCY is a three-time winner of the title, "World's No. 1 Fuss-Budget." She's a loud-mouth, a carping critic whose lack of logic—a kind of shining lunacy—drives her friends nuts. Yes, Lucy is the know-it-all of the little people who have made PEANUTS one of America's funniest newspaper comics.

MEET SNOOPY...

SNOOPY is dog who wants to be a human being—or a ferocious lion, an alligator, or a snake. He's a kind of a canine Walter Mitty. But most of the time his imitations come a cropper, giving hearty chuckles to fans of PEANUTS, the sensation of modern comic strips which appears in The Mail Tribune.

MEET LINUS...

LINUS is Lucy's baby brother who finds security in sucking his thumb and holding a blanket against his face. He craves independence, only to be utterly baffled when he finds it. And his occasional flashes of competence bring added laughs to PEANUTS, that delightfully funny comic strip appearing in the Tribune.

MEET CHARLIE...

CHARLIE is an inveterate warrior, frets over trifles. And he's convinced that nobody likes him. Most of all, he wants to be recognized by the other kids. So he's extremely friendly and polite—which doesn't often help. He's the lovable little fellow in PEANUTS, one of America's greatest comic strips.

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