

Capitol Memo

Government Officials Strive To Keep Pace With Demands For Government at Low Cost

Editor's note: This is another in a series of guest columns from the state capitol. Today the Speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives discusses three not-so-little words.

By ROBERT B. DUNCAN
Written for UPI

Salem — Efficiency! Economy! Reorganization! Words such as these are read and heard frequently these days as officials of government at all levels strive to keep up with the increasing demands for more governmental services at less cost to the taxpayer.

"Efficiency" and "economy" are the goals. "Reorganization" is the means most frequently used to achieve them. Study to develop new ideas, new techniques and a willingness to try them have enabled industry to provide better products at less cost. Government can do the same.

The Oregon Legislature has provided the statutory tools for reorganization of the schools, for county home rule and reorganization, and for reorganization of the executive branch of state government. New laws, court rules and good administration are speeding the work of the courts.

Increasing population and industrial development means more problems for the Legislature; its techniques and organization must be constantly reappraised to enable it to correctly solve these problems and to avoid or slow down the trend to longer or more frequent sessions; the governor's office and the executive department must be

strengthened and realistic lines of authority and responsibility established.

Along with this must go a strong and efficient legislative branch.

During the last session, unnecessary record-keeping was eliminated; committee staffs were combined to eliminate duplication and uneven work loads, thus reducing the number of employees; printing and regulations were changed, greatly reducing costs; Senate and House Committees combined to eliminate duplicate hearings on the same bill, and tighter restrictions on the introduction of bills were imposed.

The legislative council committee has to its credit a recodification of the state statutes. It is now moving to a revision of the state code. Even now this committee is preparing recommendations for further procedural changes at the next session.

The 1959 session took a tremendous step forward in establishing its permanent and nonpartisan fiscal committee. The governor disapproved but did not veto the committee, permitting the bill to become law without his signature.

The fiscal committee functions primarily in the field

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The ancient Egyptians were expert gardeners. Remnants of funeral wreaths found in tombs prove that people of the Nile grew such flowers as the lily, cornflower, and narcissus.

of budgets and state spending.

Detailed Studies Made

Already this new committee has secured a detailed study of the use which our colleges are making of their buildings. This has pointed up both shortages in housing and extravagances in other areas. Inquiries into the use of state funds by the military department will result in tighter controls over their budget. These are examples of ways in which this committee will save money for the state and enable the legislature to do a better job.

If it can be said that the executive department has and will do these same things, the answer is that the fiscal committee has provided a necessary and desirable stimulus.

Beyond that, the important thing is not who gets the credit for improvements in government but that the improvements take place.

Final Responsibility
The final responsibility in appropriating and raising the money for state government and in deciding how it is to be spent is the legislature's. The governor's function is to recommend and execute the laws.

It cannot be denied that the men and women who serve on a part-time basis and virtually without compensation must have the independent research and information to enable them to discharge their responsibility effectively. In no other way can the separation of powers between the three co-equal branches of government be maintained.

Writer Recalls Roosevelt's Speech Technique

By WILLIAM D. LAFFLER
United Press International
New York — A great nation stood with its head bowed in despair.

The year was 1933. Breadlines were long and jobs were scarce. Theaters in many sections of the country were closed. Respectable merchants stood in front of empty stores and begged for customers.

Will Rogers cracked jokes about the depression. Eddie Cantor tried to cheer the radio audience with a song that said "potatoes are cheaper, tomatoes are cheaper," but few persons had money to buy them.

The future looked bleak early in 1933. Then a voice rang out.

"We have nothing to fear but fear itself!" The voice was clear and crisp. It exuded confidence with a blend of humility and authority. It was that of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

Sales in bakery products stores amounted to \$751 million for the first nine months of 1959.

Much has been said about Sir Winston Churchill and his heroic oratory during the dark days of World War II. But the voice of F.D.R. was equally persuasive during the months after the Pearl Harbor attack.

It is possible now to study the speeches of Roosevelt with cool detachment 16 years after his death. With the permission of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, the president's widow, Washington Records has recorded many of them on six 12-inch long-play records under the title, "F.D.R. Speaks."

"It will be historically valuable as well as give pleasure to a great many people," said Mrs. Roosevelt, who will turn her royalties over to a boys' home.

Robert Blake, president of the recording firm, and his staff explored every available tape or transcription of Roosevelt speeches and pieces of speeches.

Then Dr. Henry Steele Commager, the noted historian, selected and edited 33 covering the period from Roosevelt's inauguration in 1933 to his

report to Congress on Yalta 12 years later.

"This is the first use of the phonograph record for historical reporting in depth," Blake said.

Though Roosevelt later was criticized by many disillusioned persons as a Jeckyl-Hyde politician, and adored by others, these records show that Roosevelt was a consummate orator.

F.D.R. was the master of the neatly turned phrase — "day of infamy" (Pearl Harbor), "a plague on both your houses" (Steel versus John L. Lewis), "the hand that held the dagger" (Mussolini's entry into the war), just to mention a few.

Roosevelt used old techniques, such as alliteration and dramatic repetition, to get across a point but his delivery made these techniques effective.

TRUCK OWNERS

One-third of all the trucks in the U.S. are on farms. The other one-third are based in urban communities.

Congress May Investigate Radiation Protection Guides

Washington — (Science Service) — Congressional investigation may be expected because of an administrative order permitting any Federal agency to set up its own radiation protection guides.

The individual jurisdiction and the "do-it-yourself" safety procedures for agencies in atomic work was recommended by the Federal Radiation Council and accepted and approved by President Eisenhower.

The Federal Radiation Council through its chairman, Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Arthur S. Flemming, submitted to the President on May 13, 1960, a memorandum on radiation protection guidance for Federal agencies.

This was the council's first report on its statutory responsibility under executive order 10831 and Public Law 86-373 to "advise the President with respect to radiation mat-

ters, directly or indirectly affecting health, including guidance for all Federal agencies in the formulation of radiation standards and in the establishment and execution of programs of cooperation with states."

Sen. Clinton P. Anderson (D.-N. M.), chairman of the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, told Science Service that Congress had expected from the council more uniformity rather than diversity in setting up radiation guides.

He said, "The trend should be toward uniformity; and one federal agency should decide and be responsible for the establishment of radiation standards or guides."

"If any deviation of these standards is deemed necessary by an agency, application should be made to the controlling agency which should decide the requested change and give written reasons for its decisions." The council recommended

in general terms "Radiation Protection Guides" to be used by the agencies "for normal peacetime operations." The final recommendation of the council states, agencies should adhere to the guides "with judgment and discretion" but that "the guides may be exceeded only after the federal agency having jurisdiction over the matter has carefully considered the reason for doing so in light of the recommendations in this paper."

Dr. Donald Chadwick of the U.S. Public Health Service and secretary to the Federal Radiation Council told Science Service that this final recommendation does, in fact, allow each agency the freedom to determine its own safety standards "weighing the benefits against the risks." He justified the independence of judgment allowed the agencies by the council on the ground that one standard cannot apply to all radiation uses.

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