

Pre-Legislative Planning Greatest In State History

Salem—UPI—Legislative counsel Sam Haley said today there has been more pre-legislative planning for the 1961 Oregon Legislature than any session before in history. It convenes Monday.

Haley and his staff of seven attorneys do legal work for the Legislative Counsel committee, made up of legislators, plus all other legislators and many state agencies.

At present the staff is plunged into one of its main functions—drafting measures of all kinds that legislators will introduce.

Comparable To 1959

Haley, a short man with a big cigar and crewcut, has drafted or is drafting 631 bills and resolutions. This is comparable to the pre-legislative load in 1959, although actually 16 less.

Some 147 measures are completed and ready for introduction. Another 145 are in rough draft and 339 are pending.

Haley is working with the state finance department in drafting all appropriation bills concerning the governor's 1961-63 budget. This alone amounts to about 105 bills.

Bulk of the bill drafting will occur during the session.

His office drafts about 50 per cent of all bills. The other half is done by state agencies, private organizations and individuals. Measures can only be introduced by a legislator.

In 1959 Haley's staff handled a total of 1,435 measures.

Recommendations Made

The counsel committee is making several recommendations designed to make the legislature operate more smoothly. They include:

1. A new procedure for processing bills.

2. An all-day orientation conference for legislators on processes and procedures the second day of the session, first full scale program of its kind in Oregon.

3. Simplified, standard binders to hold bills—eliminating cumbersome, more expensive books.

Also recommended is a priority system on legislation to induce early introduction of bills.

'Advance Sheets'

A proposal mainly for the public is periodic issuance of "advance sheets" of laws passed so far in the legislature. They would be in the form of paper back booklets available at cost to the public at intervals of one month to six weeks during the session.

At present, copies of laws passed by a legislature are not available until 90 days after the session ends.

Haley said various state groups and others have indicated an interest in this manner of keeping up to date on the legislature's activities.

Minister's Housing Money Not Taxable

Portland—UPI—Money paid to a minister in lieu of housing is not taxable by the state.

That ruling was handed down Wednesday by Multnomah County Circuit Judge James W. Crawford.

Judge Crawford issued the ruling in overruling a demurrer by the state in the case brought by Rabbi Julius J. Nodel against the State Tax Commission.

The case arose from Rabbi Nodel's claim for exemption under gross income of a yearly \$2,000 housing allowance paid him by his former congregation, Temple Beth Israel, Portland.

Judge Crawford said the state law which exempts rental value of a dwelling furnished a minister as part of his compensation applied in Rabbi Nodel's case.

Nairns To Head Division in Area

Don K. Nairns, Fisher Flouring Mills company, succeeds R. E. McElhose as head of the grocery trade division in the Medford area. McElhose will continue to represent the feed and bakery division.

The separation of Fisher's grocery, institutional and bakery trade divisions was required because of heavy southern Oregon supermarket activity in Fisher's flour and cereal volume, according to Robert L. Erzinger, sales and advertising manager, Seattle, grocery products division, and Raymond Ryland, Portland sales supervisor.

CUBAN PLANE SEIZED

Key West, Fla.—UPI—Monroe county deputies seized a two-engine DC3 belonging to Aerovias Ariantes Wednesday at Key West International Airport for failure of the Cuban government-controlled airline to pay about \$10,000 in over-due airport rent.



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