

Oregon Democrats Plan To Divide PO Appointments

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune
Washington Correspondent

Washington - Oregon's four Democrats in Congress have agreed to a plan by which they have divided the responsibility for screening new postmaster appointees.

Because of the traditional practice of giving their presidential appointees political clearance by the party in power, Rep. Walter Norblad (R-Ore.) for the past four years had to handle the entire state.

Now Rep. Edith Green will handle any vacancies in her congressional district, which includes only Multnomah county; Rep. Al Ullman will handle his district, all of the state east of the Cascades; Sen. Maurice Neuberger will handle those in the first congressional district (Norblad's district) and Sen. Wayne Morse will cover the fourth district.

Won't Replace All

There is to be no wholesale replacement of existing postmasters just because the administration has changed parties. Permanently appointed postmasters holding office are not subject to replacement, except for due cause like any other government official.

In communities where an acting postmaster is in office, new postmasters can be installed. But first the civil service commission conducts an examination of applicants to rate their suitability.

At Corvallis, for example, an examination was held last fall but the results have yet to be made known. Normally, those results would be conveyed to Sen. Neuberger and she could indicate which one of the top three the president should appoint.

Review of Eligibility

However, on orders of Postmaster General J. Edward Day, all work on examinations and standards of judging new postmaster applicants have been suspended until April 30. This will delay further appointments while a review of eligibility criteria is made.

"We are most anxious to insure that we recruit for these positions only persons with the experience and training necessary to manage and operate modern postal establishments," Day wrote the civil service commission. "Our preliminary considerations of this problem lead us to the conclusion that the present qualifications standards may not be producing the kind of personnel necessary to meet this objective."

The Oregon Democrats report that they are receiving

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

JUVENILE SKIN DIVERS are causing increasing confusion in vacation spots. The life guard at a lake resort was recently heard begging over a loudspeaker, "Will any foot please check in with me immediately?"



That great comedian W. C. Fields was definitely anti-author, particularly after he hit Hollywood. After one full day's shooting on a new script, Fields returned to his dressing room in an unusually jovial mood. "This was a day to remember," he explained happily. "I didn't say one word the so-and-so wrote for me!"

Bernard Baruch defines a successful Wall Street speculator as "one who dies at the top of a bull market."

Sign in the window of a necktie emporium: "Come in and tie one on."

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Governments Should Be Closer, Clerk Tells Group

Jackson County Clerk Marvin Madden told the county home rule study committee Thursday night that he favored closer ties between the county and state governments rather than making the county more independent as would be the case under a home rule charter.

Madden and County Commissioner Edwin Taylor presented their views on county government before the home rule study group, which this week will interview District Attorney Alan B. Holmes.

"It might be a saving to the taxpayer to abolish county government, and provide for local needs from the state level entirely," Madden said. "I do feel that since the state government has adopted electronic computers and other high speed devices to speed up government operation, the county governments should maintain equipment or systems to compliment this," he added.

Regional Operation

Madden thought the county election department should be operated on a regional basis by the secretary of state's office. He noted that equipment and personnel in the county elections department are only used during election periods.

Both Madden and Taylor thought some parts of county

government could be reorganized voluntarily by department heads and without a home rule charter.

Madden said his office maintains eight separate bank accounts, and other county offices each have a number of bank accounts. He thought all these could be consolidated into one account.

The county clerk also favored moving some functions of each office closer together,

Man Injured When Car, Truck Collide

Simeon Burrill, 78, of 5611 Table Rock rd., Central Point, was reported in good condition Saturday morning at Sacred Heart hospital following a truck-car collision at Vilas and Table Rock rds. intersection Friday afternoon.

Hospital attendants said Burrill is being treated for bumps and bruises.

State police said the car driven by Burrill was traveling east on West Vilas rd. and a truck driven by Elmer Edward Baker, 35, Rogue River, was travelling south on Table Rock rd. when the collision occurred. The Burrill car was almost stopped at the time, officers.

but keeping them under separate departments. He thought, for instance, that the assessor's office and the county clerk's recording department could be more closely coordinated to avoid duplication.

Discuss Purchasing Agent

Taylor said the county court has discussed establishing one of its members as a purchasing agent. Although admitting he was not completely informed on how this could be accomplished, Taylor thought this plan had possibilities.

Taylor favored non-partisan county government, and Madden was opposed to it. Only political parties are equipped to get well-qualified people to run, the county clerk said. It's different with non-partisan judicial offices where the local bar association gets well-qualified attorneys to run for election, he said.

Both men opposed appointed county officers, Madden said he would oppose a non-partisan basis.

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