

Medford Airport Ranks Second in State Operations

Medford's municipal airport held its second rank in Oregon in all types of operations during 1960, the federal aviation agency has reported. In total operations Medford recorded 55,539 flights (both landings and takeoffs) to rank second in Oregon behind Portland's 139,896 flights. Medford ranked 190th nationwide among the 229 airports for which FAA figures were compiled.

Klamath Falls was the third ranking city in total operations in Oregon with 54,858 flights, and Pendleton was fourth with 29,335 flights.

Chicago's Midway airport was first nationwide in total operations with a total of 376,030 flights during the year. Portland ranked 58th.

Aircraft operations throughout the nation declined for the first time since 1952 with 25,774,000 landings and takeoffs reported. This is four per cent less than the total of 26,906,000 recorded in calendar 1959.

Itinerant Operations

In itinerant operations (airport to airport) Medford recorded 37,660 flights, good enough to rank 186th among the nation's airports. Portland was 37th nationwide with 125,518 itinerant flights. Klamath Falls had 33,381 and Pendleton, 23,920.

Medford recorded 9,977 air carrier flights during the year, to rank 156th in the nation. Portland was 28th with 65,555 air carrier flights. Pendleton had 9,950 such flights, and Klamath Falls, 5,273.

In general aviation itinerant operations (airport to airport, excluding air carriers) Medford recorded 27,142 flights to rank 142nd nationwide. Portland recorded 31,820 such flights for a 110 ranking, and Klamath Falls recorded 17,358. Pendleton had 13,987.

OUT OF UNIFORM

Chattanooga, Tenn. — CPB — A youth who admitted stealing a police car might have gotten away with it if he hadn't forgotten the accessories. A patrolman pulled up beside the stolen police cruiser Sunday to give his "fellow officer" a friendly warning that it was a violation of regulations to drive without a police cap. Sitting in the driver's seat was capless Grady Smith, 19, who confessed he stole the car after ditching another police cruiser earlier in the day.



Lobbyists are spending half a million dollars to influence legislation at the Oregon Legislature this session.

That is about half the amount of money that the Legislature itself is costing taxpayers.

There are nearly twice as many lobbyists, representing special interest groups, as there are legislators, representing the public.

The lobbyists' outlay of bourbon, beefsteak and buncome is accompanied by their distribution of factual information which, they claim, legislators need in order to make wise decisions throughout the lawmaking process.

Is this bad? House and Senate members, spurred by Rep. Ed Fadeley (D-Eugene) who has introduced a bill to require lobbyists to register and make financial reports, are taking a closer look at the "Third House" — and, perhaps, at themselves in relation to it.

What is the payoff? Nothing so crude as money changing hands would be likely at the Statehouse. Entertainment provided by lobbyists during the session is more a matter of personal friendship and tradition than a quid pro quo.

Every night in Salem — at the Marion and Senator hotels, at Chuck's Steak House or The Ranch — you will see legislators being wined and dined by lobbyists, and the lobbyists being attentive to lady lawmakers and legislators' wives.

This routine is almost as formalized as the mating dance of the penguins, and has as little real significance. Lobbyists reward their friends in more substantial ways: campaign contributions either directly or through dummy committees, or jobs after the session is over. A legislator-attorney who "votes right" may find himself awarded a handsome retainer by a firm which profited from his actions in the legislature. A legislator-insurance man may get himself some profitable insurance clients by "voting right." And so on. But such cases are no proof that a lawmaker "sold out." Chances are he voted his own

convictions which coincide with the interests of, for example, the insurance lobby or the utilities lobby. To do so would be reprehensible only if the legislator knowingly subverted the public's best interests.

On the other hand, lobbyists are quite adept at trying to convince lawmakers that the public's interest coincides with the lobbyists' program. One technique is to get the lobbyists' information and point of view to the legislator indirectly, through a third person. Instead of a medical society lobbyist talking to a leery lawmaker, the lawmaker's own doctor may explain legislative matters to him. Or the lawmaker's own banker may explain financial matters — using information provided by some lobbyist.

One danger in this technique is that the unwary lawmaker may think he is listening to "the voice of the people," when, in fact, he is listening to the voice of a lobbyist, once removed.

This explains why lobbyists are interested in knowing who a legislator's trusted friends and associates may be, and it also explains why many legislators are somewhat suspicious of apparently organized letter-writing campaigns or "mob scenes" at public hearings. They know perfectly well that special interest groups — not individual spontaneous action — are behind these attempts to apply pressure and exert influence on the legislature.

Fadeley's proposal to require lobbyists to register and report expenditures is not welcomed wholeheartedly by the Third House. Lobbyists already print an unofficial list of members of the "Capital Club" including names of 103 representatives of various groups and organizations, but not including the many more part-time lobbyists that appear every session.

A good, experienced, full-time lobbyist may cost his client around \$10,000 for the session, including salary, room and board. His expense account for entertaining legislators would run into many hundreds of dollars. Then there are costs for secretarial help, printing, supplies, telephone, etc.

Some lobbyists get as little as \$1,200 (about \$10 a day) for the session; some work for nothing. Some have no expense accounts and can't even buy a senator a cup of coffee. (They still get their message across.)

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By
Marguerite W. Wright

ed to be agreed that, unlike some in the past, these legislators can't be bought.

Of course, when the session first starts, there is always speculation about each member: "Can he be had?" The speculation is for purposes of information, so that lobbyists will know how to deal with each individual. Most lobbyists would rather deal with an honest legislator, because they know that if a man would sell his vote for a case of whiskey to one side he would sell it again for two cases to the other side.

Lobbyists are, of necessity, as tough and cynical as they can be smooth and charming. They respect money, power and success a great deal, indeed, but they recognize and respect an honest man and a courageous legislator more.

Any lawmaker who would sell his vote, who "can be had," would be regarded with secret ridicule and contempt by lobbyists even though they may pay off generously for favors given.

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Some legislators consider attempts to influence legislation by state boards and commissions to be more insidious than ordinary lobbying. These are as much special interest groups as is the powerful railroad lobby, but their quasi-public character makes their appeals harder to judge objectively.

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