



Critics of Oregon's 1961 Legislature are working themselves up into a froth of charges that this is a "do-nothing" session.

With sine die adjournment now officially set for April 22, it is time to accentuate the positive accomplishments of the people's representatives working such long hours (from 8 a.m. to as late as 11 p.m.) for such little pay (\$6 a day).

Loudest critics of the Legislature recently have been the Republican leaders, although some newspaper editors and reporters (including this one) have done their share of griping, too.

Gov. Mark Hatfield, at his weekly press conferences, rarely has missed a chance to get in a dig at the Legislature. He has expressed displeasure at the long deliberation over the Boardman industrial site, over state construction project funds, and over the general legislative pace.

Former Gov. Charles A. Sprague in an Oregon Statesman editorial, however, pointed out that:

"Gov. Hatfield gains no ground with his sniping at the Legislative Assembly. It is a law unto itself, and legis-

By Marguerite W. Wright

lators brook no umbrage from the executive. The Oregon Legislature sets its own pace, and in recent sessions has overrun 100 days. No one can say members at this session haven't worked. They have been exceedingly diligent in their committee work. . . .

**Test on Substance**  
"Lack of cohesive control accounts for failure to dispatch bills, but rarely has Oregon in recent years had any tight organization of the Legislature, with a few able to crack the whip and get performance. The test of a session is not the rate at which bills emerge and go to the governor, but on what the substance is of the legislation that is passed. For that we must await the 'sine die' adjournment."

Legislators joined in their own defense against the governor's charges. Some of them said Hatfield was using the suffering of Oregon's unemployed as a political weapon in his criticism of the Legislature's handling of the state building program.

Sen. Al Flegel (D-Roseburg) cited the Joint Ways and Means Committee's labors of 14 and 15 hours a day in attempts "to come to a conclusion for the benefit of the people of the state of Oregon." He said the governor's building program had inequities which the Legislature would be remiss in approving hastily.

Sen. Dan Thiel (D-Astoria), chairman of Ways and Means, and Sen. Harry Bolvin (D-Klamath Falls) president of the Senate, concurred with Flegel. Bolvin said, "I do not believe we have to apologize for Ways and Means in any way."

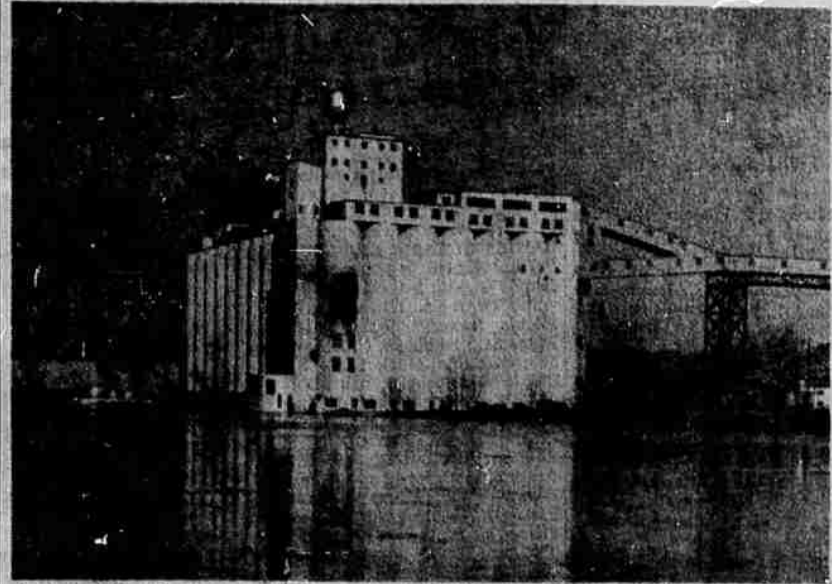
(Ways and Means reviews all appropriations and has been very cautious about spending the taxpayers' money this session.)

Another prominent critic of the Legislature is Sen. Anthony Yturri (R-Ontario), Republican minority leader in the Senate. He says legislators are dragging their feet on Hatfield's plans for government reorganization. Of the 20 reorganization bills, none have yet reached the governor's desk for his signature.

**No Public Outcry**  
But defenders of the Legislature are quick to observe that "the public usually gets what it wants and deserves"—meaning that there has been no great public outcry backing up the governor's demands. Instead, the pressure to leave things as they are ap-

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**QUAKER OATS PLUS WATER** — Flood waters of the Cedar river edge toward the giant Quaker Oats company plant at Cedar Rapids, Ia., before crest begins to recede. Officials expressed optimism that the worst of the threat was over. (UPI Telephoto)

parently is much greater than any pressure to make the changes the governor (and many of the more liberal legislators themselves) would like to make.

Since legislators traditionally are not much "ahead" of the people, criticism of the Legislature's reluctance to make radical changes amounts to criticism of the Oregon public's rather conservative mood, too.

Notwithstanding that apparent contentment with the status quo, the governor is getting more and more of what he wants as the session advances.

Legislators acquiesced to Hatfield's request for bills enabling Boeing Airplane Co. of Seattle to lease the 100,000-acre Boardman site for 80 years at \$60,000 a year, even though some of them fear that Oregon may have bought a pig in a poke. Some have serious reservations about the ultimate benefits to Oregon if the Boardman site is used only as a missile testing ground with no big-scale job-creating development there. Still, they are willing to take the governor's word for it that this will become a great economy boost for the state.

Recommendations by Hatfield's Finance and Administration Department for substantial pay raises for the state's top employees have also found favor in the Legislature. Raises of \$2,000 to \$3,000 per year for some institutional heads (with top pay of \$19,500 going to the state hospital superintendent) tentatively have been approved by the Ways and Means salary subcommittee.

If finally passed, the new salaries would include \$18,300 for the state health officer, \$18,300 for the state highway engineer, \$15,000 for the penitentiary warden, \$13,200 for state police superintendent, \$12,300 for the state forester, \$13,200 for the game commission director, and so on.

The governor also had his way on the issue of decreasing the size of the planned Capitol Mall and the expense of projected Mall buildings. Under threat of a Hatfield veto and objections from all over the state, the Mall cut-back failed.

**Newbury's Opinion**  
It appears that the governor will also get his wish to move the Welfare Commission from Portland to Salem. Sen. L. W. Newbury (R-Talent) said he thought the Welfare Commission needs "a slap on the wrist" and Sen. John Hare (R-Hillsboro) said he thought "it needs a kick in the pants" and that the governor ought to have this \$100,000,000 operation "under his thumb."

Slaps, kicks, and firm gubernatorial thumb all seem to be in the offing, now, after the dispute between Welfare and Hatfield made sensational headlines earlier in the session.

Another source of satisfaction for the governor should be passage of the Republican approved legislative reappointment bill. It passed the House by a coalition of Republicans and Eastern Oregon Democrats and, with minor changes, is expected to pass the Senate.

Chief objections to the bill come from Washington county, which constitutionally is entitled to more than the one senator allowed, and Multnomah county which wants an additional senator on the same grounds of population growth. Considered unconstitutional, therefore, by some, the bill may go to the Supreme Court for final decision.

**Favorable Action**  
Community mental health clinics under a new state division of mental health, proposed by Gov. Hatfield, are getting favorable action in the House, although the governor's request also to place five state mental institutions under the new division has not been approved so far. If approved by both houses, the clinics (also proposed by leaders in both parties) can be claimed another Hatfield success.

Two labor bills, one to provide enforcement against unfair labor and management practices and one to provide for state-conducted union elections, have passed the Senate. The "Little Landrum-Griffin bill" was supported by all but one Republican senator and about half the Democrats, and amounts to another GOP victory which should please Republicans from Hatfield on down.

A bi-partisan group of 19 Republicans and 19 Democrats in the House beat down objections to a bill to cut weight-mile taxes on trucks by \$1,000,000 a year. Opponents say that if signed by the governor, the matter will be referred to the voters.

**Pollution, Civil Rights**  
Other measures that should win compliments for the Legislature from the governor include House action to strengthen anti-water pollution en-

forcement, and Senate approval of a major civil rights item this session — a bill outlawing discrimination in personal service establishments such as barber shops.

Action on some kind of net receipts income tax, requested by Hatfield, is still possible. . . .

The off-shore oil lease bills, requested by Hatfield, are up for action soon. . . .

Much other legislation, up 'till now in various committees, is due for action in the next two weeks. . . .

'Till now it has been too early to discuss legislative accomplishments. From now on, however, as "the substance of the legislation that is passed" becomes clear, there'll be plenty to praise and an abundance to belabor by sine die day.

Then Gov. Hatfield can say whether the Legislature comes up to the Mark!

**College Negroes Will Be Recruited**

Washington — (UPI) — The Kennedy administration has embarked on the first step in a nationwide drive to recruit college-trained Negroes for upper level jobs in the federal service.

It is in line with an order by President Kennedy for the government to take "positive measures for the elimination of any discrimination, direct or indirect, which now exists" in government hiring.

Ross Clinchy, a Civil Service Commission official assigned to minority group matters, left Sunday on a six-week tour of 24 predominantly Negro colleges. Later, he will visit 70 additional colleges with heavy Negro enrollments.

**Cuba Units Control Navy Installations**

Havana, Cuba — (UPI) — Cuban army units today controlled most of the island's naval installations to prevent further uprisings by naval personnel opposed to the pro-Communist policies of the Castro regime.

Twenty-one sailors and one officer—the entire detachment of a small navy post at Guanabo Beach—were reported to have defected and escaped aboard a coast guard craft Sunday.

On Saturday, reports in Havana said the government had broken up a counter-revolutionary movement by 300 naval personnel. It was the fourth reported mutiny by naval officers and men.

**Navy Makes Effort To Save Russian**

Washington — (UPI) — The Navy Saturday dispatched two transport planes to the Antarctic in an effort to evacuate a Russian scientist who is seriously ill with stomach ulcers.

The Russian is Leonid Kuperov, who arrived in February at America's Byrd station on the South Pole continent as part of an exchange program. He has been in serious condition since March 23.

**CASTRO, K TO MEET**

Mexico City — (UPI) — Premier Fidel Castro will meet Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev later this year to discuss means of disposing of the Cuban sugar crop, diplomatic sources said Saturday.

## MACHINES TO TESTIFY?

### Machine To Do Away With Reporters Carrying Things a Little Too Far

By DICK WEST

Washington — (UPI) — A House labor subcommittee has been holding a series of hearings this month on a man's conquest of machines, and vice versa.

In general, the testimony touched on the progress of "progress" is the proper word — that man has been making toward rendering himself obsolete with instruments of his own creation.

Machines already can do most things better than we can, except invent better machines. And that probably will be the next step.

Being a homo sapiens myself, about the only comfort that I could derive from the hearings was the fact that all of the witnesses were of the human variety.

If Congress ever starts calling in machines to testify, which is not as far-fetched as it might sound, then we members of the human race might as well hang up our uniforms.

One of the witnesses was John Diebold of New York, a 34-year-old management consultant who is alleged to have invented the word "automation." In fact, I understand he has confessed to the charge.

Diebold said the machine age really came of age, so to speak, with the development of electronic computers, which for the first time, provided instruments with "brains."

By the time that Diebold got through outlining all the things that computers can do, or soon will be doing, I was nursing a king-sized interior-

ity complex. And subcommittee Chairman Elmer J. Holland (D-Pa.) seems to feel the same way.

"I was just wondering, sitting here, are you going to do away with Congress?" Holland inquired. "And also with those news reporters down there—do away with them?"

"You have me a little afraid. Maybe we are not going to need any Congress. You will just put it in that machine." Holland's soliloquy left me with mixed emotions. Or, put-

ting it another way, I agreed with 50 per cent of his fears.

There are times when I feel that a machine that would do away with Congress might not be a bad thing. But any talk of doing away with news reporters is carrying things too far.

As I visualize it, Congress could be replaced by two big computers with Remington Rand representing the Senate and IBM standing in for the House.

Then, if someone felt in-

need of legislation, he would merely press a button and out would come a new law. Or, if the legislation happened to be against the national interest, a light would flash and the machine would register "hilt."

All a government bureau would have to do to get an appropriation would be to pull the handle and pick up the money as it came down the slot.

Only two things that I can think of stand in the way of computer legislation.

In order to function properly, a lawmaking machine would have to have a built-in lobbyist. And some kind of safety device would be needed to keep it from filibustering.

## Owners Acclaim Chevy Corvair!



Here's what Mr. W. F. White, Rt. 1, Box 277A, Rogue River, Oregon, says about his new Chevrolet Corvair: "This is my seventh new Chevrolet and my second new Corvair. I have a Medford Mall Tribune route and make 340 stops per day. I have automatic transmission, and with all the idling and stopping, I average 27 miles per gallon—no oil consumption. Good solid body—no rattles. It's just perfect. Easy riding, perfect handling. If I had a million dollars, I'd still drive a Corvair. No anti-frisco. Perfect balance, no nose dive, and the service I get at Courtesy Chevrolet is tremendous." Adv.

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