

Revision of Constitution To Be Big Issue in Legislature

Editor's note: United Press International polled members of the 1963 Legislature for their views on significant issues. This is the concluding dispatch of a five-part series.

By ZAN STARK
Salem — (UPI) — Proposed revision of Oregon's Constitution has become one of the most involved issues faced by the 1963 Legislature.

Discussions of the issue will be held in the House and Senate, but there will be plenty of time for discussion, a poll by United Press International indicated today.

More than half the state senators and about one-third of the House members answered a series of questions submitted by UPI.

Legislators were equally divided over whether the con-

stitution should have a major or partial revision, but the poll showed they anticipated one of the longest legislative sessions in history.

Sixteen lawmakers called for major revision of the constitution, 15 for partial revision, and one for no change. Several other senators and representatives declined to comment "at this time."

Many legislators expressed views on how revision should be handled.

Clarence Barton (D-Columbia) commented "I favor a major revision, but am opposed to a number of the recommendations of the Constitutional Revision Commission."

Redden's Opinion
Rep. James A. Redden (D-Medford) said "I do favor a major revision of the Oregon

Constitution. I feel that portions of the proposed constitutional revision would lead to its defeat if presented to the people now. I favor submitting a major revision plan to the people with certain changes. The most important

change must be in the plan which leaves but one elective office."

Rep. Merrill C. Hagan (R-McMinnville) said "I favor a portion of the house cleaning changes but do not favor the sections regarding the judicial amendments or the amendments making the governor the only elected major state official."

Rep. C. R. Hoyt (R-Corvallis) replied "I definitely favor partial revision. I approach major revision with an open mind and would try to vote for it if it did not require giving up a few things that are vital to the Oregon system as we have learned over the years to know and live with it."

Rep. Edward W. Elder (R-

Eugene) said "I favor a major revision but not as written by the commission. Without major revision the legislature should, at least, jettison the type of clause that is statutory in nature."

Estimates on Length
Estimates on the length of the 1963 session ran from 100 days—the view held by Speaker—designate of the House, Barton—to predictions of "the longest session in history."

Most legislators believed the session would last from four to six months.

Sen. Robert L. Elfstrom (R-Salem) predicted "the longest in history."

Sen. Arthur P. Ireland (R-Forest Grove) said "It would be foolish to try and estimate... but I will predict we are faced with the longest session in the history of the state."

Rep. Merrill C. Hagan (R-McMinnville) commented "Some experienced legislators indicate this could be the longest session in history. As much as six months has been indicated. This would be especially true if a tax plan was submitted to the people during the session."

Rep. Carl Back (D-Port Orford) said "not any shorter than the 122-day 1961 session. Rep. Howard Willits (D-Portland) took this optimistic view: "I'll guess 100 days because there is a great deal of advance preparation, because Barton will be in control, and because so many veterans will have returned."

Columbia Power Costs Discussed

Vancouver, B. C. — (UPI) — Talks on the cost of Columbia river power began Wednesday between U. S. and Canadian officials.

Technical and financial experts from Ottawa, Victoria and Washington opened sessions to discuss whether the United States will pay British Columbia Premier W. A. C. Bennett's asking price for the 1.3 million kilowatts of power that British Columbia will get from development of the Columbia. Bennett is demand-

ing "five mills per kilowatt hour, or the equivalent."

The "equivalent" is what is required to cover the cost of building the three Canadian dams covered by the Canada-U. S. treaty — Mica Creek, Duncan Lake and High Arrow, the premier said.

The B. C. government still has to ratify the treaty which was signed by Canada and the United States early in 1961. Outcome of the talks may not be known until the negotiators report to their respective governments.

Request for Attorney Postpones Arraignment
Klamath Falls — (UPI) — A request that the court appoint a defense attorney delayed arraignment Wednesday of Royal Jones, Klamath Falls, on a charge of assault with a dangerous weapon.

Bail was set at \$5,000. Jones is charged in connection with the shooting of his wife, Johnnie Mae, Tuesday. One bullet struck her behind the ear and two lodged in the left shoulder. She was reported in satisfactory condition at a hospital here Wednesday.

Tanker Plane Crash Kills 11

Naha, Okinawa — (UPI) — A U.S. Air Force KB50 tanker plane crashed into an Okinawan farmhouse Thursday and exploded, killing 11 persons and injuring seven others.

An official spokesman at Kadena Air Force Base said seven of the dead were Americans who were members of the plane's crew. The other four were members of an Okinawa farm family.

The plane was en route from Yokota Air Base in Japan when it crashed shortly after it had waved away from an earlier landing attempt.

As the plane approached the field, one engine failed, the aircraft dipped, sliced off a 35-foot power pole, and hurtled into the home of farmer Chojin Fukuhara in nearby Yara village.

The house was demolished. Wreckage of the house, which caught on fire, and the plane were spread over a wide area.

Firemen were hampered in getting to the flames by muddy roads which caused several fire vehicles to bog down. Firemen fought the blaze for more than an hour before dousing it.

Witnesses said all the victims were burned beyond recognition.

Electrical Workers Suspend Official

Washington — (UPI) — Al Hartnett has been suspended as secretary-treasurer of the International Union of Electrical Workers to climax a bitter feud with President James B. Carey.

The union's executive board voted 25-5 to suspend Hartnett. But his \$22,000 annual salary will continue — apparently in an effort by the board to block any appeal to the courts.

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