

Proposed Sunday Closing Bill Could Be Session's Blockbuster

Salem — (UPI) — What could become the "blockbuster" of the 52nd Legislative Assembly — a tough Sunday closing law — will be introduced in the House Monday.

Willamette University President Dr. G. Herbert Smith, chairman of the "Save a Day for the Family Committee," said Friday the bill would be sponsored in the House by Victor Atiyeh, R-Beaverton, and William Holmstrom, D-Gearhart, and in the Senate by Harry Bovin, D-Klamath Falls, and Anthony Yturri, R-Ontario.

Smith pointed to what he termed the "continued erosion of one day for the family

for recreation, rest, and family affairs."

He said a day must be maintained for the family, and "state regulation is the only way to get it done."

Smith said "representative citizens throughout the state" supported his idea. "There has not yet been any opposition, we may get some when this hits the press."

He said supporters included businessmen who now operate on Sundays as well as those who close Sunday.

"Six or seven states" presently have such laws, he explained. It was brought out that Washington, Idaho and California also were consid-

ering such legislation.

No Blue Law

Smith said he was "not familiar" with any efforts by church groups to get Sunday closing laws enacted nationwide.

"This is not a blue law, not an effort to legislate morality or religion," Smith insisted.

"It is simply an effort to maintain what has traditionally been a family day in America for that purpose."

Holmstrom, sales manager for an auto company, said it was "very desirable legislation." He said his firm did not open on Sundays.

Yturri said most businesses in Malheur County along the Idaho border did not now open on Sunday. He said residents of that area support the idea, and added he did not think it mattered whether Idaho adopted such laws.

"I think there's more support than opposition for this plan," Yturri added.

When asked by UPI if he felt business firms remained open on Sundays in response to consumer demand, Smith replied "I think that demand has been created by the merchants."

Smith stressed several times that the proposed Sunday closing law "was not organized by any church."

Auto Sales Illegal

The city of Salem presently has a law which forbids auto sales on Sundays. The law was termed unconstitutional by a municipal court, then termed valid by a circuit court. At least two Salem auto dealers recently violated the law as the first step toward testing its constitutionality in a higher court.

Smith said the proposed law would have no effect on the sale of food, beverages, drugs, gasoline, real estate or sporting goods. Nor will it hinder the operation of restaurants, places of entertainment or sporting events, he added.

The proposed bill specifically prohibits the "selling, exchanging or trading" of such items of clothing, household goods, electric and gas appliances and equipment, business or home furnishings, tools, paints and hardware, building supply materials, new and used motor vehicles, cameras, radios, television sets and record players, and many other items.

"The measure has the support of an overwhelming majority of the state's retailers who have been polled on the proposal," Smith said.

Most of these retailers are closed now on Sunday and would prefer to remain so, he added.

Survey Of Major Tax Bills Slated To Start Monday

Salem — (UPI) — Matters touching the pocketbook of the Oregon taxpayer get their most serious legislative attention to date Monday when the House Tax committee opens a survey of all major tax bills.

New plans to ease Oregon's fiscal woes kept turning up as the legislature completed its third week Friday and adjourned for the week end.

The survey will cover the governor's net receipts income tax plan, the Musa income tax plan, the Moses flat five percent income tax proposal, two 3-cent sales tax bills that also call for an election to get voter views, the cigarette tax bill, and a measure to increase income taxes by 20 percent for property tax relief.

Under the governor's proposed \$404.1 million budget, the state needs some \$49 million in new taxes.

As the third week ended, blue laws and trading stamps promised to stir up interest. One bill was scheduled next week to eliminate Sunday sales of items like cars and furniture but permit entertainment and sale of items like food and drugs.

Stamp Bill Drafted

Another bill was being drafted to make trading stamps available to all stores.

The third week saw introduction of Gov. Mark Hatfield's plan for a natural resources department, and preparation of a bill for a commerce department.

The standard of legislative living was improved when Hatfield signed a bill setting legislators' salaries at \$3,000 a year plus \$20 a day in expenses up to 120 days of a session.

The bill whipped through the Senate 17-12 after one senator said there was no point in talking about it any longer.

Taxes held their own as a major area of legislative significance during the week. Strong support for business inventory tax relief was evidenced at a hearing.

Hatfield said he will have to consider a special session of the legislature if voters turn down tax hikes.

Legislative fiscal officer Kenneth Bragg issued a report suggesting the legislature trim some \$20 million from Hatfield's budget. He also called for some sharp revisions in a few financing procedures.

Civil Defense Rapped

The Columbus Day storm cropped up several times. The state Civil Defense agency's performance during the storm drew barbs from legislators examining the agency's budget.

A memorial urging federal agencies to facilitate faster salvage of windblown timber was sent to the Senate floor with unanimous committee approval. And Rep. Jake Bennett (D-Portland) said the state should share the cost of storm repairs by exempting up to \$1,000 in repairs from property taxes for five years.

Josephine Safety Council Organized

Grants Pass — A group of Grants Pass business and civic leaders met here recently to organize a Josephine County Safety Council.

The council, which will meet monthly, will back up all safety endeavors undertaken by various groups and industries in the community.

Medford Police Captain Clyde Fichtner and Assistant School Superintendent Elliott Beeken, both members of the Medford Safety Council, were on hand to help launch the new organization.

Sen. Thomas Mahoney (D-Portland) announced his judiciary committee will hold a hearing Monday on an obscenity bill aimed at movies.

Sen. Don Willner (D-Portland) introduced a resolution calling for an interim committee to study the problem of automation.

The co-chairmen of the powerful Ways and Means committee took issue with the governor's proposal to budget \$40.1 million but raise and spend only \$398 million.

Rep. Ross Morgan (D-Gresham) said the legislature should do just the reverse: Provide for \$405 million in revenues, but budget only \$398 million in the spending side.

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MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1963

Eastern Oregon Highways Flooded

By United Press International

Fast-melting snow and ice flooded parts of two highways in Eastern Oregon, the State Highway Department reported Saturday.

Sections of U.S. 95 were under as much as 18 inches of water and parts of U.S. 20 near Baker were closed by floods.

There was one-way traffic near Wilson River Summit when a rock and mud slide blocked the highway for a time Friday.

Officials said that in other areas, however, slow warming seemed to be holding back flood dangers.

Rains were forecast for most of the state through Sunday with a rise in temperatures which were expected to reach 60 on parts of the coast Sunday.



EXTENT OF DAMAGE — The front wall of the Peter Dee Flury home in the Prospect powerhouse area was torn out when a logging truck ran into it late Thursday night. There was heavy damage to the front bedroom, occupied by Peter Dee Flury, 31, and his wife Gwendolyn, 32. Both were taken to Rogue Valley hospital by ambulance.

Mr. Flury was released after treatment. Mrs. Flury is still hospitalized but in good condition. The logging truck was northbound on highway 62 at 11:15 p.m. Thursday when it ran into the house for some unknown reason, state police said. Driving the truck, which was empty, was Luther Laverne Lambert, 40, of Prospect.

500 At Governor's Prayer Breakfast

Salem — (UPI) — An estimated 500 civic and economic leaders attended the fourth annual Governor's Prayer Breakfast here early Saturday.

Boyd Leedom, a member of the National Labor Relations Board in Washington, D.C., said "The man in public life can double, triple his effectiveness if he will only accept the claims Jesus Christ made for him."

"A new life in the spirit of Christ doesn't make a nut of you," he assured.

"You'll have an answer for every problem you've got, and it can turn your life around 180 degrees."

Leedom turned to Gov. Mark Hatfield, seated at his left and said, "The nation is

aware of the Christian leadership provided by this young man."

Leedom, a former Supreme Court judge in South Dakota who described himself as "a renegade Republican in Washington," is president of the International Christian Leadership, a group coordinating prayer breakfasts this week in 49 states — Mississippi was not interested.

Hatfield told his audience, which came from all parts of the state, "we hear many disturbing and conflicting reports about the future of our nation. I firmly believe we as Americans should take counsel with our faith, not our fears. . . . America looks toward leadership that is more than just a Sunday activity."

Another Intertie Proposal Submitted

Portland — (UPI) — Northwest Intertie, an Oregon nonprofit corporation owned by 25 rural electric cooperatives, has submitted a proposal to build an 800-mile electric transmission intertie between the Pacific Northwest and Southern California.

The corporation told the Bonneville Power Administration that it would build the power line by way of Nevada and Owens Valley.

The proposal was the fifth submitted to the BPA since it issued an invitation Nov. 6 to 21 utilities to make proposals for a nonfederal intertie between the two regions. Deadline for receipt of the proposals was Thursday.

The blink of the eye occupies about one-fortieth of a second.

Pilot Killed As Plane Crashes On Highway 15

Eugene, Ore. — (UPI) — A Valley road near the community of Saginaw Junction. There was no traffic on the road at the time.

Navy officials in Seattle said the plane's starboard engine caught fire.

The pilot, Lt. Cmdr. Ralph Valentine, 38, Salem, was killed, and his co-pilot, Lt. Ralph McLooughlin, Portland, was injured when they bailed out from a low altitude.

The Western Air Rescue center at Hamilton Air Force Base, Calif., announced the plane was on flight from the nation's Sand Point Naval Air Station at Seattle to Mather Air Force Base, near Sacramento, Calif. It came down on Delight

Bandon Man Awarded Legion of Merit

Honolulu — (UPI) — David J. McDonald of Bandon, Ore., was awarded the nation's highest peace time honor, the Legion of Merit, in ceremonies Saturday at the Pearl Harbor submarine base.

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The council, which will meet monthly, will back up all safety endeavors undertaken by various groups and industries in the community.

Medford Police Captain Clyde Fichtner and Assistant School Superintendent Elliott Beeken, both members of the Medford Safety Council, were on hand to help launch the new organization.

Grants Pass businessman Jack Dunham was elected chairman, Vice chairman is Fred Kitterman; secretary, Bernadine Graham; treasurer, George Eckstein; and directors, Walfred Koski, Earl Gurnsey and James Brockus, all of Grants Pass.