



BOARD IN SESSION—The Naval Board of Inquiry looking into circumstances of the loss at sea of the USS Thresher is shown in session at Portsmouth, N.H. From left are Capt. James B. Osborn, USN; Rear Adm. Lawrence E. Daspit, USN; Vice Adm. Bernard L. Austin, USN, president; Capt. William C. Hushing, USN, and Capt. Norman C. Nash, USN. (UPI)

Capitol Memo

House Tax Group Has Toughest Job Of Current Session

By ZAN STARK
Salem - UPI - The five Democrats and four Republicans who make up the House Tax committee are faced with the toughest job of this session - drafting a new tax program. They have met more often, for longer hours, and held more public hearings than any other committee.

They are trapped in a mass of cross pressures. They have to find the added money needed to operate the state government. This means a tax increase which the public will not like.

They've got to come up with a program that will be fair, equitable, and adequate. And both Democratic and Republican members realize the results of their actions could affect the balance of power in state government.

They are the focal point of legislative activity. Not until the tax committee has drafted its program, and it has been approved in both houses of the Legislature, will the Ways and Means committee be able to give final judgment on budget requests.

The members of the House Tax committee range in age from 33 to 61. They represent such diverse interests as finance and farming. One is a freshman legislator, while two others are serving their fourth terms in the House.

Committee Chairman Richard Eymann (D-Marcola), 44, served as executive secretary of the State Tax commission under Governor Robert Holmes after serving in the 1957 session. Eymann returned to the House in 1961, and again for this session. He is a farmer and industrial consultant.

The committee vice-chairman is House Minority Leader F. F. Montgomery (R-Eugene), 36. He is serving his third term in the House - his second as minority leader - and is co-owner of an insurance business.

Also serving his third term is Victor Atiyeh (R-Portland), 38. He is co-owner of a rug business, and has served on the Interim Tax committee.

Cornelius Bateson, 33, is Marion county's only Democratic representative, and the only Democrat in the history of the county to be reelected to a second term. When not working with the state's tax problems, he operates a farm at Pratum. His father was chairman of the state board of agriculture.

Oldest member of the committee is Sidney Bazett, 61, of Grants Pass. Republican Bazett, a former vice president of Bank of America, and now a finance company president, is serving his second term in the House.

Dream Inspires New System Of Shorthand

By JAMES K. CAZALAS
Miami-UPI - The sounds of war blanketed the small Pacific island of Majuro that summer night in 1944 and rolled across the water to the flagship U.S.S. Prairie.

The sounds, muffled by the stout steel side of the Prairie, did not disturb 38-year-old W. S. Neal, of Dothan, Ala., who was asleep in his bunk and having a dream that would change his life.

The dream was not of battle, but of a new system of shorthand, for Neal was the fleet stenographer.

"It was the weirdest dream I ever had," Neal, now 55, recalls, "but it came true."

Neal, who owns two small businesses here, said he remembers only one sentence from the dream: "to write with the speed of speech, write in the manner of speech."

Improvement
Neal has parlayed that sentence into a complete shorthand system which he says is a big improvement over standard courses.

Neal's "Steno-Magic" consists of a series of symbols which take the place of letters, words and sometimes phrases - much like any other system.

But "Steno-Magic" is based on the phonetics of the English language, or how words sound, rather than how they are spelled.

"We don't need half of the letters we use," Neal said. During the 19 years he worked perfecting his system, he dropped nearly all the silent letters.

Bids Called for Removing Buildings

Bids will be opened Wednesday, April 24, at 10 a.m. by the Medford purchasing agent for the demolishing or removal of two houses and one garage at the intersection of South Holly st. and Melrose ave.

The removal of the structures, which are on the right-of-way for the extension of Barnett rd., will be the first work towards the completion of this street in southwest Medford which will have direct access to Interstate 5.

The public utilities commissioner last month approved the street's crossing of the Southern Pacific railroad tracks.

The buildings to be removed are at 775 and 903 South Holly st. All three of the structures are south of Melrose ave. and east of Holly st.

This property was purchased by the city in 1959.

REDWOOD

San Francisco - UPI - Saw-textured redwood holds stain and other finishes twice as long as planed lumber, according to the California Redwood association.

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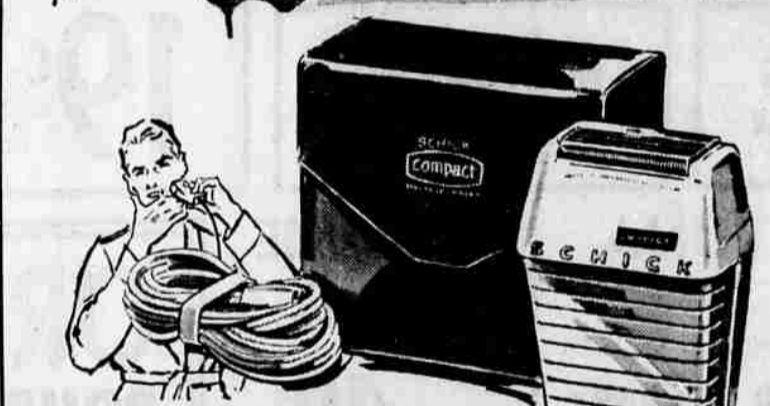
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LIBYA LOOKS UP
Tripoli, Libya - UPI - Libya, which for centuries has been one of the world's poorest lands, now is having to adjust to relative prosperity. Oil, discovered on Libya's torrid desert in 1959, is expected to yield \$500 million in royalties and taxes in the next five years. The North African kingdom is seeking to devise means of using the money wisely, according to the National Geographic society.

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