

# Legislature Was Good, Fruitful Session, Barton Asserts

Editor's note: The following review for the 1963 Oregon Legislature was written expressly for UPI by Clarence Barton (D-Coquille) speaker of the House of Representatives. His opinion: "A good, fruitful session."

By CLARENCE BARTON  
Written for  
United Press International  
Salem—UPI—The 52nd legislative assembly was—as has been so often written—the longest in state history. There was a reason: The problems it faced were the greatest confronted by any Oregon Legislature.

The state's coffers were empty and we could foresee a deficit in excess of \$5 million

when the legislature convened.

Governor Hatfield had submitted a budget calling for expenditures of \$426 million from the general fund, with about \$20 million of it to be raised by borrowing if the people approved a bond program.

It appeared that the legislature must increase state taxes by \$60 million. The size of the boost loomed large for a state used to living off wartime surpluses, with taxes at a level below expenditures.

The legislative assembly

succeeded in meeting the deficit by transferring to the general fund money which had been loaned to the veterans sinking fund. But meeting the need for \$80 million more in revenue was not so simple.

I believe that the new tax program which resulted is equitable. It leaves our personal taxes based squarely on ability to pay; it calls for a slight increase in taxes on the largest corporations while simplifying the corporate excise tax law in a way which should make Oregon more attractive to large industries; and it provides revenue to pursue publicly worthwhile services for the next two years.

**Sales Tax Revisited**

The two things of which I am most proud are two things which didn't pass. The House can take credit for both:

1. We successfully resisted imposition of a sales tax. The proposed sales taxes were sales taxes on some people—not all people. By this device its backers hoped to lull the people into accepting it, after which they could broaden it

out in succeeding legislatures. Had an honest, all-inclusive sales tax been proposed, I believe the House would have gone along with referring it to the people. We just wanted to make sure the people knew what they were voting on.

2. The House defeated the so-called three-way bill decimating the state industrial accident commission, which has operated so well since 1913. This bill would have been a bonanza to the insurance industry at the expense of injured workers. I have never seen such brazen lobbying as went into the effort to pass this bill, and at one time nearly had to clear the gallery of one lobbyist who was trying to interfere with debate on the floor.

**Other Accomplishments**

In addition, these were among the more noteworthy legislative accomplishments:

—Governor Hatfield's \$426 million budget was trimmed to \$404.2 million. This \$21.8 million cut was at no loss in essential services.

—After many sessions of

struggle, a reasonable home property tax relief bill for senior citizens with low income was passed.

—A new basic school support formula was approved. At the same time, state aid to local public schools was boosted to \$141.2 million, which will account for 36 per cent of the primary and secondary school operating costs.

—One of the House's great victories was in overcoming Senate roadblocks to more fair compensation for academic staff in the state colleges and universities and for civil service personnel.

—A beginning toward executive reorganization was accomplished by creating a Department of Commerce, to gather in a myriad of scattered state services.

—What may turn out to be a model program for the identification and treatment of sexual deviates was enacted. A test of time is needed before we brag overmuch, however.

The great disappointment of this session was the Sen-

ate's refusal to refer the proposed new constitution to the people. I hope that with more study—and with some new faces in the Senate—we can accomplish constitutional modernization in 1965.

This has been a good, fruitful session for the people of

the state, both from the standpoint of what was done and what was defeated.

This is due entirely to the excellent work of most legislators, especially in House committees. Experienced observers say they never saw so much hard work and so little

grandstanding. As a veteran of four terms, I agree.

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## Stocks Move Lower; Steel Prices Ease

New York — UPI — Stocks moved lower today.

Youngstown lost more than 1 in an easier steel section and Du Pont dropped nearly 4 in the chemicals.

Motors were mixed with American Motors and Ford holding steady and General Motors down a fraction.

Tobacco moved sharply lower in the wake of the American Heart Association's statement linking cigarette smoking to heart disease. Philip Morris dropped more

## Effect of Detergents on Water Pollution Debated in Congress

Washington — UPI — The growing controversy over detergents spilled into Congress today in a hearing on their contribution to water pollution.

Representatives from virtually every group involved in the battle converged on a House subcommittee to tell their side of the story. The panel is conducting a study of the nation's water pollution problem.

Leading the drive for a mandatory change in the type of household detergent now being used were Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.), and Sen. Gaylord Nelson (D-Wis.). They have introduced bills to ban after June 30, 1965, manufacture of any detergent that resists decomposing in sewage systems.

Present-day "hard" detergents have filled water systems and streams throughout the country with mountains of foam. In some communities suds have flowed out of water taps like foaming beer.

**Effect on Humans**

The question of whether human beings are harmed by the detergents has not been definitely determined. But it is generally agreed that chemicals in present detergents complicate the problem of sewage treatment, are harmful to some fish, and create unsightly conditions.

Reuss told the House natural resources subcommittee that if the soap industry would cooperate with the government and voluntarily agree to produce soft detergents, "I am all for it."

But he said that if a voluntary agreement is not indicated by Aug. 1, when another House subcommittee begins consideration of Reuss' bill, he would expect the Department of Health, Education and Welfare to support his bill.

**Says Change Needed**

The department declared recently that a new type of detergent was needed. It added, however, that it felt industry should have a chance to do the job on its own.

Most of the industry is opposed to the pending legislation.

Among the scheduled witnesses were representatives of the Soap and Detergent Manufacturers Association, an organization containing most firms in the field.

**Three Arrested for Curfew Violations**

Three area teen-age boys appeared in Medford municipal court this morning to answer charges of curfew violation.

Judge Pro Tem Donald Denman dismissed the charges against a 17-year-old Medford youth, a member of the U.S. Air Force. The other two pleaded innocent and trial date was set for June 26.

## Chicago and North Western and Missouri Pacific backtracked in the rails and Alcoa moved lower in the metals.

Chicago and North Western and Missouri Pacific backtracked in the rails and Alcoa moved lower in the metals. Texas Instruments, Litton and RCA were point-sized losers in the electronics.

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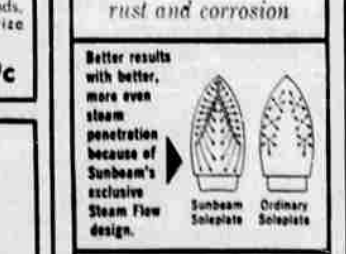
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**Foreign Briefs**

**COMMUNISTS SAID BEING TORTURED IN UAR**

Moscow—UPI—The Soviet bloc journal "Problems of Peace and Socialism" charged Sunday that Communists in the United Arab Republic are being tortured and driven to death in desert concentration camps.

The publication coincided with the visit here of U.A.R. Vice President Abdel Hakim Amer. He was received in the Kremlin Saturday by Premier Nikita Khrushchev.

**SUKARNO ARRIVES FOR TALKS WITH TITO**

Belgrade, Yugoslavia—UPI—President Sukarno of Indonesia arrived today for three days of talks with Yugoslav President Tito.

**SWEDISH PRINCE TO MEET PEARSON**

Ottawa—UPI—Prince Bertil of Sweden, was to meet Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson today during a short stop-over here en route to the east coast.

**PLAIN OF JARS THREAT DISCUSSED**

Vientiane, Laos—UPI—Neutralist Gen. Kong Le conferred with Premier Souvanna Phouma here today on new Communist advances which threatened to encircle neutralist headquarters on the Plain of Jars.

Kong Le told Souvanna Sunday that two battalions of Communist Pathet Lao troops had skirted his artillery units and turned his southern flank, pushing to a point five miles south of neutralist headquarters at Muong Phan.

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