

MEIER SWINGS VET AX AND TWO BILLS DIE

SALEM, Feb. 24. (AP)—Governor Meier exercised his veto power for the first time yesterday afternoon when he returned two bills to the house with his disapproval.

House Bill No. 191, by Hamilton, Schupp and DeLap, was one to fall before the executive ax. It would have increased the salary of the county judge of Deschutes county from \$1,000 to \$1,500 a year, which the governor termed "during the present economic depression when many people are unable to pay their taxes, is unwarranted."

The governor also said "that when any official accepts a public office, he impliedly contracts with the public to discharge its duties as a public officer."

In House Bill No. 147, pertaining to the recovery of attorney's fees where appeals on state compensation claims are sustained, the governor explained that "the existing law provides that 'the total expenses of the administration of the commission for any fiscal year shall not exceed the amount of the receipts from the industrial accident fund for that period,' placing a limitation upon such expenditures and thereby intending that the remainder shall go for the payment of claims to the injured. This proposed amendment would be a further inroad on that fund and would take away part of that which is now held in trust for the payment of claims to the workmen."

The governor also pointed out that while "in some cases this proposed amendment might prove helpful to claimants, there is a great possibility of undue advantage being taken of this prospect for remuneration by legal advisers and representatives anticipating a fee."

DUCHESS DIES IN BAY CITY

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 24. (AP)—The body of the Duchess of Mecklenburg-Schwerin, divorced wife of Duke Heinrich Borwin Zu Mecklenburg, who died in Hotel Richelieu of pneumonia where she had resided alone the last year, remained here today pending completion of funeral arrangements.

The Duchess, who was the former Natalie Oelrichs Martin of San Francisco and Newport, R. I., and once a social leader on both coasts, had been ill but a few weeks. Her condition became aggravated a few days ago. She was in her fifty-first year and was a native of Cheyenne, Wyo.

Peter Martin, internationally known polo player and former husband of the Duchess, was taken ill in Paris in 1913 and died two years later at Santa Barbara, Cal.

Duke Borwin Zu Mecklenburg, nephew of the then reigning Grand Duke of Mecklenburg, cousin of the Crown Prince of Germany and lieutenant in the noted Ziehan Hussars, made his first visit to San Francisco in 1915 during the Panama Pacific International exposition. He was a guest at the Martin home.

A romance between the Duke and Mrs. Martin followed Martin's death and they were married in 1916 in New York City. The Duchess inherited a fortune estimated at \$5,000,000.

In recent years the Duchess had been a frequent visitor in San Francisco. Her son, Charles Martin married here in 1926 and the Duchess spent much time with her daughter-in-law.

Besides her parents and son she is survived by a sister, Mrs. Harrison Tweed, known in the literary world as "Michael Strange," and a brother, Charles Del Oelrichs.

U'Ren's Primary Election Bill Is Before Senators

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 24. (AP)—The new primary election code, advocated by W. S. U'Ren, who is regarded as the father of the direct primary law in Oregon, was introduced yesterday by the senate committee on elections and privileges.

The purposes of the bill are summarized as follows: To permit the people to organize themselves effectively politically; to insure nominations and elections by majority vote instead of plurality minority vote; to promote representation of large minority groups in legislative bodies; to make effective provisions for the corrupt practices act relating to campaign expenses.

Constance Bennett Ill of Influenza

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., Feb. 24. (AP)—Constance Bennett, Hollywood's newest star of films, was confined to bed today from an attack of influenza. A doctor and nurse were in attendance.

At Pathé studio, where she recently signed a contract calling for a salary of \$20,000 a week for five weeks, it was announced that work on a picture starring Miss Bennett had been stopped, and she would be unable to appear for two weeks.

The actress' physician said she contracted the illness after intensive work on a series of pictures, and advised her to remain in bed at least a week to prevent a possibility of pneumonia.

A Herald Classified Ad Will Sell It.

Nine Hundred Million Dollars Is Uncle Sam's Scheduled Expenditure for Veterans This Year

(Editors Note: This is the second of a series of four stories by Rodney Dutcher, Washington correspondent for the Evening Herald and NEA Service, on veterans' relief.)

By RODNEY DUTCHER
NEA Service Writer
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WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—In one form or another, Uncle Sam will spend 900 million dollars this year for veterans' relief of various kinds, according to the most recent estimates.

The constant tendency of Congress ever since the world war has been to liberalize veteran legislation, as shown by the disability pension bill and free hospitalization for all veterans who need it, regardless of whether their illness or disability arose from a war cause. From \$12 to \$40 a month is now paid to disabled men.

About 325,000 veterans have applied for this help. It is estimated that 150,000 will benefit this year and that by 1935 the number will have increased to 250,000, at annual cost of \$80,000,000. There is now pending legislation to make the present payments larger, and measures for increased hospital care have been over-taxed since Congress extended to all veterans the privilege of hospital care.

Adjusted compensation certificates, which it is now proposed to cash for world war veterans on one basis or another, represents a form of endowment insurance policy which Congress gave to the veterans in 1924 in lieu of a cash bonus.

Congress voted to adjust the compensation of veterans for their war service. It granted \$1.25 a day for overseas service and \$1 a day for service in the United States. The original \$60 bonus was deducted from the total for each man and if the balance exceeded \$50, the credit was used to buy a paid-up endowment policy to mature at the end of 20 years.

Either because this bonus had been delayed or because no cash settlement was made, the intent of Congress now is a matter of argument—the veteran was credited with an additional 35 per cent. More than \$100,000,000 annually was to be paid from the treasury into a special fund to pay the certificates when due. It was argued that the plan would prevent an immediate huge drain on the treasury and stand as a form of protection for veterans and their families.

3,500,000 Vets Accept
The veterans' bureau has issued certificates to just about 3,500,000 veterans which have a face value of some \$2,525,000,000. Some 3,400,000, face valued at \$2,425,000,000, are outstanding. The average face value (amount payable on maturity, in most cases in 1945) is \$1010, but the face values vary from \$125 to \$1590. About one-fourth are for more than \$2500 and slightly more than that proportion run below \$750. Of approximately 4,500,000 men enlisted in the war, 3,650,000 were eligible. The others, due to brief service, received small cash payments or were dead. Thus, all but 150,000 eligible veterans applied for and received certificates.

Various legislative proposals for immediate cash settlement of the certificates would pay the veterans all the way from 50 to 100 per cent of the face value, depending on whether face value, present cash value of another method is used as a basis. The amount received immediately by veterans, in aggregate, as well as the cost to the government, would depend on the percentage of veterans taking advantage of the chance to cash their certificates. This important phase will be considered in a subsequent article.

Loan Value Grows
After the first two years, the loan value of each certificate has increased about 4 per cent. The present loan value is 22½ per cent of a little more than \$225 on the average certificate. Interest has varied from 4 to 6 per cent, or 2 per cent above the discount rates in the respective federal reserve districts. Some proposals in Congress would automatically raise the loan value as high as 50 per cent, eliminating the cash settlement idea and making the amount the veteran could borrow on an average certificate more than \$500.

About half the veterans—48 per cent—have borrowed money on their certificates. Less than 5 per cent of the loans have been repaid. On January 1, the veterans' bureau estimated, about 1,600,000 veterans had borrowed some \$300,000,000 of about \$725,000,000 available for loans on certificates. The average amount of indebtedness on certificates pledged for loans was \$151 on a loan value of \$217.

Average Age Is 37
The large percentage of veterans who have borrowed on their certificates is taken by some advocates of cash payments as evidence of great need among them. The veteran's average age is about 37, and the majority of them have families who now enjoy some protection from the certificates.

The loan value increases each year until it reaches 80 per cent in the nineteenth year. Congressman Patman of Texas has presented figures to show that if the veteran borrows each year the maximum amount allowed by law and repays none of the principal he will, on an average \$1000 certificate, receive \$46 cash at the end of 20 years, having received \$475.72 in cash and paid \$475.28 in interest at an assumed rate of 6 per cent.

Other things the government has done for the veteran, in addition to the compensation certificates, are being mentioned. General Frank T. Hines, administrator of veterans' affairs, who fears that large federal expenditures at this time might prejudice the public against relief measures, says that:

Disability Payments
Veterans are being paid from \$8 to \$250 per month for disability compensation, plus government insurance—if they have full insurance—of \$57.50 a month. Such compensation is being paid to 475,000 veterans, veterans' wives and children or dependent parents. Death compensations at \$30 a month are being paid to 140,000 persons. Congress last year granted disability allowance of \$12 to \$40 a month for disabilities unconnected with service and about 85,000 such claims have since been allowed, more than half of them being for only the minimum of 25 per cent disability. This is a permanent pension for permanent disability.

Hines has estimated that under this law 250,000 veterans will be receiving \$30,000,000 in 1935. About 50 per cent of applications are being allowed.

The old war risk insurance, issued at low rates and officially dubbed a substitute for the old pension system, was made convertible into U. S. government list insurance which is still held by

when a revolution placed him in power, would be carried out.

Meanwhile the provisional government is continuing enlistment of reserves for service in restoring order in southern Peru. Strict censorship is in force. Official announcements claim that only Arequipa had been affected by the military movement and that the attitude of civilians has forced the rebel armies to camp outside the bounds of the city.

Boys Who Battled Water Three Hours Emerge Unharmmed

SEATTLE, Feb. 24. (AP)—Although suffering from shock and exhaustion, five Seattle boys who battled for three hours in Elliott Bay after their skiff capsized, were at their homes today with no serious after-effects from the experience.

The boys, George Jones, 17; Richard Henry, 16; William O'Neil, 15; Robert Mickleberry, 13, and Earl Smith, 16, started out yesterday in a skiff. Waves overturned the craft. They had been in the water three hours when a tug found them clinging feebly to the overturned boat.

AVIATORS HONOR HAWK

PARIS, Feb. 24. (AP)—Frank Hawks, American speed flier, today was named America's "prominent aviator" for 1930 by the International League of Aviators.

The term "red tape" originated from the practice of tying up official documents in "red tape" to keep them in order.

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Some of them had been named in the grand jury's investigation of graft, but Alcock said it was necessary to put the men back in uniform since no charges were placed against them within the allotted 30 days.

The voting, enhanced by keen interest in the mayoralty and the clear weather, proceeded at a brisk rate during the early hours.

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HOUSE WILL TACKLE TAX LEGISLATION

SALEM, Feb. 24. (AP)—The beginning of the tax program will start through the house today, with consideration of the excise tax as the first order of the day, and followed soon after by the intangibles tax bill. Both are taxes on incomes in these classifications, and both providing for an eight percent levy. The tax program follows closely upon the heels of a demand made yesterday upon Governor Julius L. Meier for immediate relief to real property owners. The request was presented by a group of about 75 farmers representing Yamhill, Polk, Marion and Washington counties.

Leaders in the legislature believe that night sessions will have to be resorted to if the assembly expects to complete the work this week. Opposition to night sessions came from the ways and means committee which meets every night and which constitutes one-third of the members of the senate and as many from the house. The committee, which has held nightly meetings since the legislature opened, has not completed its work. The two houses yesterday acted upon

37 of the 80 bills upon their calendars, neither clearing their decks. Today 76 bills are listed for consideration.

The game code, which was placed back into the field by the senate with its vote to reconsider the bill, defeated Saturday, is among the major bills listed in the upper house. Along with the game code is also the new commercial fish code, placed on special order the first thing in the day, and several other fish measures. The house after two hours debate defeated the attempt to repeal the fish wheel law and replace these rigging back into the Columbia river. The move lost by a 29 to 31 vote. This automatically kills a measure before the senate which would provide licenses for the fish wheels and upon which that body has debated at length.

An excise tax upon oleomargarine and the senate bill prohibiting the use of oleomargarine or better substitutes in state institutions join the senate cream grading bill upon for consideration in the house. Nine appropriation bills are also on the house calendar. The scheduled to consider the Bennett primary election provisions, the five education bills, proposals providing relatives to aid in financing institution inmates, and the Portland art museum.

Japan outranks all other Asiatic countries in the use of commercial fertilizers, with soil conditions