

California Legislature Studies Huge New Budget

By JAMES C. ANDERSON
United Press Staff Correspondent
SACRAMENTO (UP) — The California Legislature met yesterday to act on a record-breaking state budget, flood relief and water problems.

The last two houses convened promptly at noon to start a session which will last at least a month and maybe longer.

Gov. Goodwin J. Knight highlighted the opening day's session by submitting to a joint meeting of the Senate and Assembly his budget request for \$1.75 billion to operate state government for the fiscal year starting July 1.

Knight said the budget, up \$130 million from last year's all-time high, can be financed without new or higher taxes or drawing on reserve funds piled up in World War II.

FEATHER RIVER PROJECT

1. A Knight proposal to spend \$5.1 million to get started on the Feather River Project.

2. Flood relief. The governor asked for \$10.4 million to help repair public facilities damaged in the winter's floods. Some legislators said the amount was insufficient and that they would press for more state aid.

3. A proposal to create a single department of water resources. Similar legislation was defeated in the last session of the Legislature after a lengthy fight but backers of the bill say they now have "substantial agreement" from most parties.

4. A \$25.6 million program to acquire beaches and parks all over

the state during the next five years. The money would come from tidelands oil revenues and would finance 119 projects by 1961.

5. An appropriation of \$4 million from tidelands oil funds to guarantee that the winter Olympic Games in 1960 will be staged in Squaw Valley, a privately-owned Sierra resort near Lake Tahoe.

6. A change in the tidelands oil formula which current earmarks 70 per cent of the money for beaches and parks. Knight said he feels \$7 million is an ample amount for recreation and the rest of the money—which could run from \$3 million to \$13 million a year depending on oil royalties—should be spent for water resources development.

Even-numbered year sessions of the Legislature normally are confined only to the budget and related matters. But the governor has the power to issue special session proclamations to consider other legislation.

Thus far, he has added 26 special items including the water department bill, flood relief and the tidelands formula to the legislative agenda under a special session call. It also included proposals to aid some 65 school districts which cannot afford to pay the higher taxes needed to finance an increase in teacher pensions and to change the length of legislative sessions.

KNIGHT BESIEGED

Knight has been besieged with requests to add hundreds of other items to the special call, including milk prices, rapid transit and area of origin water rights.

He has as yet consented to none of them but he has the power to broaden the special call at any time during the next 30 days.

There was some talk in Capitol corridors before the session started that the Democrats, whose strength is increasing in both houses, will try to ram through a tax cut at the current session.

Any proposal to trim the state's three per cent sales tax, or personal income taxes or bank and corporation taxes is certain to run into opposition from the governor and Finance Director John M. Peirce.

Both contend the state's comparatively rosy financial condition is temporary; the result of the business boom last year, and that the future presents serious money problems.

Democrats are at their greatest strength in years, particularly in the Senate where Republicans hold a bare 22-18 edge. The lineup in the Assembly is 44 Republicans, 33 Democrats with three seats vacant.

"FAIR"

DULUTH, Minn. (AP) — Albert Woolson, 109-year-old Civil War veteran, had a "fair night" at St. Luke's Hospital where he was taken Sunday because of fatigue.

Woolson, the last survivor of the Union Army. Diagnosis of his ailment has not been completed.

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OSTED

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran has given Russia's assistant military attache in Tehran a week to get out of the country. The attache, Maj. Ivanovich Kouretsoff, was arrested last week as a spy, but Iranian authorities released him when he was found to be carrying diplomatic credentials.

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'Optical Outrider' Solves Problem Of TV Prompting

By CHARLES MERCER

NEW YORK (AP) — TelePrompster, which has developed many marvelous devices to aid the harried speaker appearing before television cameras, has come up with

Union Slows Strike Peace

WASHINGTON (AP) — Union objections to some parts of a government-proposed settlement plan appeared today to be slowing progress toward ending the 143-day Westinghouse strike.

However, mediators reportedly felt such difficulties could be worked out, possibly at talks resuming today.

James B. Carey, president of the International Union of Electrical Workers (IUE), was said to have insisted during five hours of discussions yesterday on reinstatement by the Westinghouse Electric Corp. of 95 strikers fired for alleged violence.

The government plan, which has not been made public, was understood to call for reinstatement of 89 of these strikers. The cases of the other 6 would be submitted to arbitration.

Robert D. Blasler, Westinghouse vice president and the firm's chief negotiator, was said to be insisting that the package proposal be accepted or rejected in its entirety, without change.

The government proposal worked out by three mediators in the case, reportedly provides for a five-year contract with wage increases substantially the same as Westinghouse offered before the strike began in October. At that time workers averaged \$2.10 an hour.

a new one. It's called the "optical outrider."

The viewing public has become highly conscious of the TelePrompster, a machine which feeds a moving script for a speaker who almost—but not quite—appears to be talking extemporaneously. Most TV viewers these days can tell when a speaker uses a TelePrompster. In some cases the movement of a speaker's eyes as he reads his lines is pretty obvious.

But the optical outrider would appear to solve that problem. Published descriptions of the new development make it sound virtually foolproof. A glass coated

with a thin layer of titanium dioxide is placed between the speaker and the TV cameras. Magic lantern mirrors project the lines of a speech onto the coating on the speaker's side of the glass. The speaker reads his speech while gazing directly into the camera. The audience sees only the speaker.

A TelePrompster spokesman says the new optical outrider has been used with extraordinary efficacy on closed-circuit television programs by business men addressing audiences of their employees. In salesmanship, where the direct clear-eyed approach is most important, where sincerity is

prized above all, the new invention obviously is a great boon.

It would be surprising if the major political parties failed to make use of the new invention in this election year when television will have such a big role. But as one voter and viewer, I draw a fine line of distinction between salesmanship and politics. I hope that whenever a politician uses the optical outrider the TV audience will be so informed.

In politics sincerity is more than a direct gaze. It includes a politician's ability to have firmly in mind a great mass of information which he interprets, according to his views. If a politician

has this attribute he is, to my mind, genuinely sincere. If he does not have it, then he can only be "sincere" in quotation marks.

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Judge To Hear Graham Motion

DENVER (AP) — Dist. Judge Joseph M. McDonald arranged to hear arguments today on a request that accused plane saboteur John Gilbert Graham, 24, be tried on a murder charge without a jury.

Graham's three court-appointed attorneys said federal law grants a defendant in a murder trial the choice of whether to have a jury decide his case.

They contended the Colorado murder code is unconstitutional. It requires that a jury be impaneled in all murder trials, that it fix the degree of murder and that it fix the penalty in case of a first-degree murder conviction.

Graham has pleaded innocent in the death last Nov. 1 of his mother, Mrs. Daisie E. King, 54, who and 43 other persons died when a United Air Lines plane exploded and crashed near Longmont, Colo.

AVALANCHE

OSLO, Norway (AP) — The newspaper Aftenposten says a snow avalanche buried two farms near the village of Oldra in northern Norway. A 57-year-old farmer and two children were believed dead under the mountain of snow.

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