

# Lawyers Duel On Senate Labor Bill

SALEM (AP) — Attorneys for labor and management duelled Wednesday over a bill that would give Oregon its own version of the federal Landrum-Griffin labor law.

It would set up a body of rules aimed at avoiding labor strife and would help keep such strife within reasonable boundaries to protect the state and public, said William P. Lubersky, Portland attorney for Associated Oregon Industries.

The bill will not help labor relations but will destroy the kind that exist today in Oregon, said James T. Marr, executive secretary of Oregon AFL-CIO. He called labor relations now in Oregon good.

"Since the repeal of the anti-picketing law in Oregon, nothing has happened to demonstrate any need or legislation to regulate and control picketing," said Don Richardson, Portland labor attorney.

Richard R. Carney, Portland attorney representing the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, said the bill would make it more difficult for unions to organize employees of small firms.

In replying to questioning by Senate State and Federal Affairs Committee members, Carney said he did not think small businesses in Oregon were at the mercy of big labor unions.

Thomas K. Thorpe said he was at the hearing to represent Byron W. Wright, one small retail meat market owner who was having labor troubles.

Thorpe said Wright's two employees did not want to join the AFL-CIO Butcher's Union. "Yesterday a picket appeared before the place," said Thorpe, displaying a picture.

Thorpe said this employer is not covered by the federal law and feels a state law would protect him from this organizational picketing.

# Timberman Says Severance Tax Hurts Small Operators

SALEM (AP) — A man representing timber companies with holdings both east and west of the Cascade said Wednesday severance tax is unfair because it treats the good and bad tree alike.

A severance tax, Dan Goldy told the House Tax Committee, levies the same tax on the dead or marginal board that it does on the highly valued lumber.

Goldy testified on a bill that would get rid of the ad valorem principle of taxing timber the same as other property in eastern Oregon and put in its place the severance tax.

The bill would put all timber severance tax into a pool and then parcel it out to individual counties on the basis of the percentage of timber based on assessed value within the county.

Goldy said a declining cutting rate for timber could bring pressure either to raise the severance tax or to boost the ad valorem tax on the land, which would be taxed separately.

Goldy appealed for the same form of taxation on timber as on other property and said that to do differently could result in double taxation.

David T. Mason of Mason, Bruce & Girard, Portland consulting forestry firm, said the present ad valorem tax procedure is the greatest obstacle in the way of sound forest management.

Mason, whose firm manages large timber holdings held as investments, said the present method of timber taxation seriously threatens sustained yield management of forests.

Mason said the proposed severance bill would encourage sustained yield cutting by taxing the soil as farm soil and by taxing the tree only once — when it is cut.

Mason said he would like to see the severance principle applied to the taxing of all timber in Oregon — both east and west of the Cascades.

Rep. W. O. Kelsay, D-Roseburg, said a severance tax would destroy the incentive for private timber owners to cut their own timber and this would drive up the price of government timber.

The result of this, Kelsay said, would be to drive out of business the small timber operator — the man with no timber holdings of his own.

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**Bill To Aid Aged Passed**

SALEM (AP) — The House Taxation Committee approved Wednesday a bill to defer property taxes on homes of persons over 65 years of age.

The bill provides that any person or couple over 65 could postpone payment of his or their taxes until both die or the property is sold.

When tax payment becomes due upon death or sale, the taxes would be paid with 8 per cent interest. In event of death, taxes would be collected from the estate.

The bill applies to all persons over 65, regardless of their income or the value of the property.

**Posse Captures Mountain Man**

ROSEBURG, Ore. (AP)—Steve Solovich, object of a long search in the Cascade Mountains, was captured without a struggle by three sheriff's deputies Wednesday.

Solovich, 56, an expert mountain man, had lived alone in the woods for nearly a year since his escape from the Veterans Administration hospital here. He has been returned to the hospital.

More than three weeks ago, he wounded a member of a posse that was closing in on him.

**BEAT THE CLOCK**

TRENTON, N.J. (UPI) — The state Highway Department has posted guards in the corridors to catch employees who arrive late and leave early.

The latest move in Commissioner Dwight R. G. Palmer's relentless campaign for a full working day was described as "very effective" by a department official.

"A few turkeys ruined the whole barnyard," one official said in explaining the origins of the tough policy. "The same ones were always arriving late and leaving early."

# Attorney General Declares Reapportionment Plan Illegal

SALEM (AP) — A Republican-sponsored "preferred" plan for reapportioning the Oregon Legislature was called unconstitutional Wednesday by Atty. Gen. Robert Y. Thornton.

While Chairman George Annala, D-Hood River, termed the Thornton opinion just another opinion, his committee pulled back a reapportionment bill it had reported out of committee favorably.

The bill recommended by the committee made only a minor change in the Republican-approved plan. It drew support from Republicans and eastern Oregon Democrats.

"By the plain language of the constitution," Thornton's opinion said, "Multnomah County is entitled to 18 members. The preferred plan proposed to limit Multnomah County to 16 members."

This new development means the house elections and reapportionment committee must do its work all over again.

Annala said a representative of the attorney general's office would be asked to attend a committee meeting and "tell us just what joining of counties to form legislative districts will be constitutional."

The Republican plan would take one representative seat from eastern Oregon and give it to Clackamas County. It would take a half-Senate seat from Polk County and give it to Washington County.

The plan approved by the committee would change this to give Multnomah County 16 1/2. The additional one for its major fraction. The major fraction exists because the county has more than 50 per cent of the number of people needed for another House seat.

"This same objection would apply to senators from Multnomah County, since, under the 'preferred' plan Multnomah County is limited to seven senators, but upon applying the constitutional formula Multnomah County is entitled to eight, plus one for the major fraction."

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