

# THE KLAMATH NEWS

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## Legislatures Cause Concern

WHAT to do about legislatures seems to be a question that bothers the people of more than one state. We have heard, for instance, arguments in favor of a split or bifurcated session for the Oregon legislature "because California has it." Under this plan, California legislators meet for introduction of bills, go home for a while, and then return for action. It has always sounded like a pretty good plan to us, but apparently not everybody likes it. The Sacramento Bee, in a current editorial, says the "bifurcated or divided session . . . has served to delay and befuddle legislative action." The Bee favors a constitutional amendment to eliminate the split sessions and have the legislature meet annually for not more than 60 days, instead of biannually. Now that the Oregon legislature is approaching the end of another long-drawn-out session that went well beyond the 40 days for which legislators are paid, there will probably be talk about doing something to change the Oregon legislative system or sessions. Discussed here some weeks ago was the scheme for pre-session organization of the legislature, so that presiding officers could be named a month ahead and the ways and means committees appointed for immediate work. A "legislative committee" device has been suggested again by the Salem Statesman for between-sessions operations to speed up action once the legislators get into session. Probably some changes could be made for the good of the state. The present method of running over the 40 days for which the legislators are paid, and then ending up in rush and confusion, is not satisfactory and is not fair to the legislators or the state. Some constructive thought is needed on improvements.

## Second Biggest Gold Pile

THE vast treasure in gold buried at Fort Knox, Ky., naturally occupies the thoughts of all who are gold-minded, and most men have been for at least 2000 years. We forget that the second largest gold pile in the world is also in the Western Hemisphere, buried under a mountain in Martinique, picturesque Caribbean island where Napoleon's Josephine was born. The Caribbean has seen dramas before on the theme of gold, when English naval raiders and free-lance pirates preyed on the golden stream that passed through the Panama bottleneck on the way from America to Spain. The French, it now appears, got a billion dollars' worth of gold aboard a cruiser in 1940 just ahead of the invading Germans, and after some thrilling adventures, landed it at Fort Saint Louis de Saix and Fort de France at Martinique, where it is now buried. We knew that the United States had most of the world's gold. But this story makes it plain that the Western Hemisphere has practically all of it.

## An Army Travels On--

NAPOLEON achieved quite a reputation as a wit by sagely commenting that an army travels on its stomach. Not today. In 1941 an army travels on wheels. Only two years ago the total number of quartermaster motor vehicles in the army was about 14,000. Today, 75,000. By the end of April, 140,000. By next fall, 286,000, which is the number needed for an army of 1,400,000 men. Incidentally, in an army of that size today, nearly a third, or around 400,000 men, will be either drivers or mechanics driving or servicing trucks, tanks, passenger cars, or motorcycles. To "git thar fustest with the mostest" today, you have to roll.

## MARCH 15 DAY FOR TAX PAYING

March 15, a significant date for federal income taxpayers, is also the deadline for first quarterly payments of 1941 real estate taxes in Klamath county, it was pointed out Wednesday by Allen Sloan, deputy sheriff in charge of tax collection. Taxpayers who pay their whole year's taxes on the first quarterly payment date will receive a deduction, while those who do not pay at all on that date will be charged interest. Sloan pointed out. No interest will be charged if first quarterly payments are made on March 15, and other quarterly payments are met on time, he added.

**AMATEUR**  
Barney Oldfield, famous race driver, never drove an automobile until a few hours before his first race, yet he beat the world's champion by half a mile.

You can learn to do anything if you're willing to do anything to learn.

## Clues Found in Girl Slaying

KANSAS CITY, March 12 (AP)—Police Chief L. B. Reed said today that the butcher slaying of Leila Adele Welsh, 24, was nearing a solution. "After two o'clock this morning," he said, "the police department received some definite and positive information that seems very encouraging in this case. Of the maze of clues and tips given us so far, this seems to be the best yet." Reed said special investigators were working on the slaying of the girl, who was hammered and slashed to death in her bed during the dark hours of Sunday morning.

**FARM MEMBERS**  
CORVALLIS, March 12 (AP)—The appointment of two additional farmer members to the state land use planning committee was announced here today by William A. Schoenfeld, dean and director of agriculture at Oregon State college and chairman of the state committee. The two appointees, both of whom have accepted, are Ralph Laird, Eugene, representing the upper Willamette valley, and C. W. Wendt, Medford, representing southern Oregon.



### AUXILIARY TO REGISTER FOR DEFENSE WORK

Registration of the American Legion auxiliary's half million women for voluntary emergency service will be conducted on March 15, Mrs. Connie, president of the auxiliary unit here, has announced.

Auxiliary women will fill out questionnaires similar to those answered by members of the American Legion on February 22. The questionnaire forms are being sent out from national headquarters to the 9100 units throughout the country and when answered will provide the auxiliary with a complete listing of the capabilities of its members for service to their communities and the nation. On the questionnaires, auxiliary members will list their availability for service in many fields, including automobile driving, nursing and first aid, canteen work, entertainment, social service, office, household and administrative work, sewing, knitting and mending. Junior members will be listed for messenger and guide service. One copy of the form will be retained by the local unit, while the other will go to state headquarters. Each unit will be expected to organize a corps of volunteers workers, prepared to meet any calls for emergency service which come to it. The individual members will be assigned to the type of duty for which they are best qualified. This corps will work in close cooperation with the voluntary service organization of the Legion and with the Red Cross. It will undertake services similar to those being carried out by women of England should the necessity arise. The program is being directed nationally by a new national committee, headed by Mrs. T. Louis Chess, of San Mateo, Calif. Similar committees are being organized in each state.

**On Buying Trip**—Keith Moon of the Town shop, is in San Francisco on a spring buying trip. He will return Friday from the south.

### VANDENBERG SITS ON LAKEVIEW CASE

Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg has received his first appointment from the supreme court to sit on a case outside his judicial district. The judge has been assigned to the case of New York Life Insurance company versus Menckmaier, to be tried in Lake county.

### Attorneys Sit In on Kalpine Strike Parley

Negotiations in the nine-day-old Kalpine Plywood strike continued Wednesday with John B. Ebinger sitting in as counsel for the company and Ben Anderson of Portland, attorney firm of Anderson and O'Brien, acting for the union negotiating committee. The parties were in conference throughout Wednesday morning and met again at 2:30 in the afternoon for further parley. Previously counsel for both sides in the labor squabble had been withdrawn, leaving the issue solely up to the company and the union. Anderson said union recognition was the only question involved in negotiations and claimed the CIO union has designations in excess of 75 per cent.

### Nelson Sentenced To Pay \$100 Fine

Hector Nelson, Indian convicted of drunken driving, was sentenced by Justice Joseph Mahoney Wednesday to pay a \$100 fine and \$35.35 costs. Justice Mahoney departed from his usual policy of jail sentences for drunken drivers in deference to a request by the jury in the Nelson case which asked leniency for the defendant. The jury in a note appended to its verdict said its recommendation was based on testimony as to alleged brutality by Officer Jack Hope in the Nelson case.

As near as we can figure it spring is about three tons away.

### PUBLIC POWER GROUP EXTENDS ACTIVITY HERE

The Klamath County Bonneville power committee has been expanding its organization and activities in the past two weeks, according to A. M. Thomas, secretary of the committee. Organization of sub-committees in communities over the county is under way, and will be followed with more organization work in Klamath Falls. Within a month, Thomas said, it is planned to have a mass meeting in downtown Klamath Falls. The immediate objective, he explained, is an educational campaign to acquaint the public with the Bonneville power program and its potentialities for this district. Arrangements, he stated, are being made with the county school superintendent's office for showing of a short version of the film, "Hydro," in the schools. At a recent meeting at Shasta school, more than 300 attended for a discussion of Bonneville. Burrell Short is chairman of the committee, and Ned Smith is vice-chairman.

### 617 Bicycle Tags Sold to Date

Six hundred and seventeen bicycle licenses have been issued to date, according to information received from the office of David Bridge, city recreational officer. This is an increase over last year when 436 licenses were issued up to this date. Number 600 went to Elbert Stiles who purchased five license plates for machines which he operates.

**From Merrill**—Mrs. E. E. Kilpatrick was shopping in the city Wednesday from her home in Merrill.

**Fairview PTA**—The Fairview PTA will have a rummage sale April 4 and 5, the place to be announced later.

## NEWS BEHIND THE NEWS

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, March 12—What frequently happens to strong new senators who come to Washington with a determination to do things for the public weal is illustrated by the decline and fall of the famous Ellender amendment. The circumstances surrounding its evaporation into thin air can now be told on unquestionable authority. Senator Allen Ellender of Houma, Louisiana, was determined to nail down the president's British aid policy with a firm ban on the use of American soldiers abroad. He had a lot of encouraging mail and worked hard among the senators to gain support for his way of making the lend-lease bill acceptable. So successful were his labors that he counted 56 votes sure, a majority of at least 8, a few days before the vote. Then State Secretary Hull got busy among friends in the senate. Next day Mr. Ellender had 52. The third day he had 48. But he still thought he could win as there were sure to be some absentees. Then he was approached by foreign relations chairman, Walter George, in charge of the administration forces. One of Senator George's election campaign speeches saying he would cut off his right arm before he would vote to send boys to Europe, had been brought up in the debate. But George held with the administration that the Japanese would interpret as a sign of weakness any effort to impose Ellender's policy on the president. He sought a compromise which would not tie the president's hands against defense of our far eastern possessions. Administration Leaders Barkley, Byrnes and Harrison worked on Mr. Ellender for certain modifying language. Ellender consulted the legislative counsel who indicated the new language would not emasculate his purpose. A friend, Senator Overton, also said this. So he took the compromise. But instead of changing the amendment so it would not apply to the far east, the compromise said the lend-lease bill did not change existing law except in the ways it changed existing law. Most senators and outside observers agreed it was meaningless.

### Spokane Rejects Public Power at Municipal Poll

SPOKANE, March 12 (AP)—A proposal for a public power distribution system met defeat for the second time in five months at the Spokane polls yesterday. Voters registered overwhelming disapproval of the plan for the city to purchase Grand Coulee power and distribute it wholesale, either in competition or through the purchase of the system of the Washington Water Power company. The vote was: yes, 17,279; no, 26,609.

WASHINGTON, March 12 (AP)—Threat that Grand Coulee power would not be sold to the Washington Water Power company of Spokane, unless it binds itself to distribute it "at the yard stick rate prescribed by the administration" was made today by Rep. Rankin (D-Miss.). Rankin said in a statement he had been informed that the private power company had carried an election in Spokane on municipal distribution of power, which he said meant that the majority, by the vote, had said it did not want "the benefits of cheap electricity from Grand Coulee."

"This power will be distributed at Bonneville yard stick rates to people in surrounding territory but not one kilowatt hour of it will be turned over to private power companies to rob the people of Spokane or any other community with exorbitant overcharges in their retail rates," Rankin said. "Unless this vote is reversed it undoubtedly will be the greatest setback the city of Spokane has ever received. We do not propose to have Grand Coulee power handled by any agency that does not bind itself to distribute it at yard stick rates prescribed by the administration."

### TAX OUTLOOK

Speaker Sam Rayburn was not fooling when he said this congress would bring \$1,500,000 more out of you in taxes for next year than you are paying now. A check of the house ways and means committee shows the authors there know fairly well what they intend to write. About half the increase, \$750,000,000, will be squeezed out of middle bracket incomes of \$5000 to \$50,000. Where \$35,000 now pays about one quarter of its income, it may pay nearly half. The other \$750,000,000 will come out of corporations through increase in the present 24 per cent normal tax and in additional excess profits taxes. For good measure all those nuisance taxes which were abandoned a few years ago, will be revived and hiked, (levies as on checks, etc.)

### RUSSIAN MYSTERY

Mr. Roosevelt's European watchmen have not been able to make out clearly what Russia is up to either. Of one thing they are positive. The anti-Hitler turn indicated in Stalin's note to Bulgaria was a phoney. By telling Bulgaria, after she let the nazis in, that she should not have done it, the tricky reds accomplished two objectives: (A) The strong Bulgarian communist element was kept in line with Moscow for the future, (B) the soviets escaped their pledges to the Bulgarians by blaming it all on them.

**FAR EAST**  
Matsuoka's trip to Berlin is being advertised as a fraternity get-together of two old axis pie biter. Actually he was summoned.

It is known at the top here that Hitler is trying to induce his far eastern Mortimer Snurd to create a diversion against the United States in the Southern Pacific. But Matsuoka will not move until he gets an anti-aggression pact with Russia, and the red price is high. Stalin wants the Chinese Eastern railway and the Sakhalin islands sources. Hitler might buy a pact from Russia with a piece of Turkey but he has not much else to sell. Betting here is running even money that Matsuoka is wasting the fare.

## SIDE GLANCES



"You feel sorry for everyone who stops here to sell you something—now all we have to do is find a salesman to get rid of this junk!"

### JUDGE DENIES KIRK MOTION FOR RE-TRIAL

Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg Wednesday over-ruled a motion for a new trial in the case of Luther Joe Kirk, convicted of the second degree murder of Leonard John. Defense Attorney J. C. O'Neill had asked a new trial on 16 grounds, including a challenge to the state court's jurisdiction in a case involving two Indians. Kirk will be taken to the state penitentiary at Salem Thursday to begin a life sentence. His attorney may file an appeal to the state supreme court. Deputy Sheriff Dale Mattoon, who will take Kirk to Salem, will also take Robert Wilcox Rhodes to the penitentiary to begin a two-year sentence for involuntary manslaughter.

**Lady Eagles**—The Lady Eagles club will meet Friday, March 14, at FOE hall for a 1 o'clock potluck luncheon and business meeting with Maude Larson as hostess. All members are urged to attend.

**Police Court**—Five drunks, one drunk and vag, and six traffic tickets made up the Wednesday morning police court report.

### PELICAN NOW

HER LIFE IN THE BALANCE...  
Yet she dares not testify!  
Courtroom Mystery that will shock you out of your seat!  
THE TRIAL OF MARY DUGAN  
COMEDY "When Willie's Away"  
YOUNG  
LATEST NEWS FLASHES

### COMING!

Anchors Aweigh FOR A GOB AND THE SEASON'S MOST HILARIOUS GAGS!  
"A Girl, a Guy and a Gob"  
GEORGE MURPHY  
LUCILLE BALL  
PELICAN

### NOW PLAYING

He's a big business tycoon!  
ANDY HARDY'S PRIVATE SECRETARY  
with Mickey Rooney - Lewis Stone - Fay Holden  
COMING FRIDAY-SATURDAY  
JOE E. BROWN  
"SO YOU WON'T TALK?"  
with Frances Robinson  
PINE TREE

### COMING!

Packed with fighting punch and power!  
WESTERN UNION  
ROBERT YOUNG - RANDOLPH SCOTT - VIRGINIA GILMORE - DEAN JAGGER  
PINE TREE

### NOW PLAYING

Joan Bennett  
Joel McCrea  
'TWO IN A CROWD'  
RAINBOW

### NOW PLAYING

DOUBLE HIT SHOW  
"A NIGHT AT EARL CARROLL'S"  
COMPANION FEATURE  
WARNER BAXTER  
IN "Earthbound"  
VOX