

### THE GATE CITY JOURNAL

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## SALEM SCENE . . . By ROBERT H. ELSNER

### Lawmakers to Begin Bill Balloting Soon

Activity in the legislature is picking up. In the weeks ahead, an increasing number of bills will be returned from committees—usually after lengthy discussion and public hearings—to the House and Senate floors. There, the issues will be debated and voted upon.

Final hearings have concluded on a number of bills; a good many more will be heard early this month.

Nearly 400 persons attended a public hearing last week on the controversial Sunday closing bill (HB 1256) before the House Planning and Development committee. Most witnesses spoke in favor of the proposal and urged the legislators to take action rather than referring it to a popular vote of the people. Lack of time prevented many people from testifying.

#### Second Hearing Scheduled

As a result, a second hearing has been set for Wednesday, March 13, in Room 6 of the Capitol building at 3 p.m. Persons planning to attend should arrive early. Many late-comers at last week's crowded session were unable to get in.

The House Taxation committee is spending long hours in discussion and public hearings on the many tax proposals. Meeting each afternoon, as well as two evenings a week, this important group will ultimately shape a program to raise up to \$50 million in additional state revenue over the next two years.

Most observers predict the final form will be a broader-based income tax and a cigarette tax of about 4 cents per pack. Chances for a sales tax seem dim because (1) Oregonians traditionally have opposed it and (2) it would not produce enough money by itself. This means the income tax could not be eliminated even if a sales tax were adopted.

#### Woman Bartenders Object

One of the session's hottest bills to date is HB 1535, which would prohibit women from working in bars or other establishments where liquor is served. Introduced by Rep. Ed Whelan (D-Multnomah), who stated that bars are "not a proper place for women to work," the bill was protested violently by the women involved.

So great was their uproar that Rep. Whelan backed down from his original statement and later said his intention was merely to guarantee women equal wages as men when the ladies perform bartending duties.

He also agreed to amend his bill to comply with this latter statement, if necessary. The bill, in its original form, makes no mention of equal wages.

#### Loggers Object to Increase

On the subject of protests, almost 350 logging truck operators turned out for a recent public hearing on a bill to increase highway taxes on some trucks. The mob, which overflowed the hearing room into the hall, cheer-

ed as 14 witnesses charged that the proposal discriminates against log trucks.

The witnesses claimed that they operate on secondary and often poorly maintained roads, yet must pay the same license fees as trucks which operate on primary highways. They also complained that log trucks are denied use of highways on weekends and holidays while buses and other trucks operate anytime. Log trucks, it was voiced, pay the same federal use tax as trucks driving many more miles per year over improved highways.

#### Crowd Supports Amendment

Another crowd in excess of 300 turned out for a public hearing on the "Liberty Amendment," which would forbid certain activities of the federal government and abolish the personal income tax.

This thong, too, was vigorously one-sided in support of the measure. Most testimony favored it. One witness who opposed it was booed. But the House State and Federal Affairs committee, by a 6-3 vote, killed the proposal—at least for this session—by tabling it.

A pair of bills, HB 1462 and HB 1463, relating to property taxation were introduced last month. One would exempt labor union halls and labor temple associations from taxation. The other bill would remove present tax exemptions from churches and benevolent, charitable and scientific institutions.

#### Proposed by Same Sponsor

What makes it even more interesting—or confusing—is that both bills have the same principal sponsor, Representative Richard Eymann (D-Marcola). It raises the theory of a possible "double standard," if nothing else.

And a daylight savings time bill saw light in the Senate last month. It would extend DST to the last weekend in October, to conform with the surrounding Pacific Coast states. Oregon's voters readily approved DST in last year's elections, only as accepted then the cutoff date was to be the final weekend in September.

The bill's 40 sponsors believe Oregonians will agree that daylight savings time should begin and end uniformly in all Pacific Coast states.

#### Urges Correspondence

With more and more decisions facing Oregon's 30 senators and 60 representatives in the weeks ahead, the importance of correspondence from the people "back home" cannot be overemphasized. Legislators are elected by the people and these lawmakers want to know what the people are thinking.

Letters to legislators need not be lengthy or elaborate. They need not be typewritten. They should be respectful and sincere. An insulting letter won't carry much weight. Most important, letters should explain "why" the writer feels as he does.

Citizens who don't express themselves to their legislators have no room to complain when an unfavorable law is passed.

### Concluding Services Slated This Evening By Guest Minister

Final service of the preaching mission with the Rev. Ross Miller as guest minister will be held this evening at 8 o'clock in the Methodist church. Sermon title will be "New Life for an Old Body."

Following the evening service, the evangelism commission will sponsor a social hour.

The Rev. Paul Ludlow has announced that a Lenten series of sermons will be conducted Sunday mornings on "The Vocabulary of Salvation." Topic for next Sunday will be "Christian Conviction."

There will also be Sunday evening services through Lent on the "Fruits of the Spirit."

#### REUNION SET MARCH 15 AT OWYHEE WARD CHAPEL

The Owyhee LDS ward reunion will be held March 15 at the ward chapel. Dinner will be served from 6 to 8 p.m., followed by a program.

All former and present ward members are invited to attend.

#### PLAY TO BE PRESENTED SUNDAY AT LOCAL CHURCH

"New Lives Require New Spirit" is the title of the play to be presented Sunday evening, March 10, at the Christian church.

Meeting time for the "School of World Outreach" is 6:30 p.m. and everyone is invited, it has been announced by the Rev. Wallace Prowell.

### Oregon's Bankruptcy Rate Is the Highest in Nation for 1961

Normally we can take pride in being first at one thing or another. Oregon's record in bankruptcy cases for 1961, however, leaves much to be desired. And even 1962 statistics, yet to be completed, show little if any improvement.

There is no question about it. In 1961 Oregon "led the nation" in bankruptcies. And the authority is Dun & Bradstreet, Inc., although other publications later reported similar or even identical statistics.

Dun & Bradstreet's publication, "The Failure Record Through 1961," shows Oregon at the very top (or should we say, "bottom") with 195.6 bankruptcies per 10,000 listed concerns. Next was California with 136.9; Florida with 133.1; New York, 129.5; Washington, 113.4; and Arizona, 110.5.

The relatively high bankruptcy ratio for California, Florida, New York, Washington and Arizona probably can be explained in large measure, if not completely, by the high rate of growth—both population and industrial—being enjoyed by these states.

Oregon's high mortality rate, however, cannot be similarly explained. Its industrial growth is microscopically modest, to say the least; and had it not been for a valiant effort on the part of Oregon babies, the state would not have shown even the meager population increase of 8,793 over last year. We believe in young people having a stake in Oregon's future, but we hate to see it all left up to mother and child!

Obviously something is wrong. And reluctant though we are to face the issue the answer must lie in Oregon's economic climate. After Arizona's bankruptcy rate of 110.5, the mortalities fall off sharply, with South Carolina in seventh place at 88.3 and Wyoming in last place with a ratio of 1.7. These lower figures give rise to even greater concern for Oregon's extremely high rate of 195.6.

Whatever the reason—and it probably is an unfortunate combination of factors that conspire to create Oregon's economic climate—the future of the state will not be served by a conspiracy of silence. Oregonians deserve to know the facts—and the facts concerning the state's economy are nothing to cheer about! —Oregon Observer.

### Offering to Help Congo Leadership Training Program

Church women of Nyssa and Adrian joined millions of others throughout the world Friday during the annual observance of "World Day of Prayer."

Representatives from several churches in Nyssa and Adrian took part in special afternoon services at the Methodist church. The service followed was identical with the exception of some of the music.

The offering, in part, will go into the training of leadership in the Congo. The Congo Polytechnic Institute plans to expand its work in training men and women to build a stable nation. The balance will continue to help projects already set up.

Mrs. Armand Larive was program chairman. May 1 is date scheduled for the next fellowship meeting of the council.

### Nazarene Men Elect Board of Directors

Men's fellowship group of the Nyssa Nazarene church met Feb. 25 at the church with a good attendance reported.

Members of the board of directors were elected. They are Bill Fitzsimmons, Dwight Seward, Floyd Rhoades, Vane Rusco, John Height, E. J. Hobson and Bob Martin. Rhoades was named president of the organization. Other officers will be appointed by the board.

A film entitled "My Church" was shown by Fitzsimmons and refreshments were served.

### LUTHERAN PASTOR HOLDS WEEKLY LENTEN SERVICES

Mid-week Lenten services are being conducted each Thursday evening at 8 o'clock in Faith Lutheran church, according to Pastor John Milbrath.

Sermon topic for this week will be "Offense Taken at the Cross." Pastor Milbrath also announces that adult instruction and information classes are still meeting at 8 o'clock Tuesday evenings in the church.

### Adrian Community Church News

Bible study group met last Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Erma Sparks with 15 ladies present. Mrs. Lynn Hurst led the lesson taken from the book, "One People of God."

Next meeting will be with Mrs. K. I. Peterson in Adrian.

#### Executive Committee Meets

The executive committee of Friendship Mariners met Saturday evening at the M. L. Kurtz home.

New committee chairmen were appointed, including Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Hurst, chaplains; Mr. and Mrs. Jim Lane, lookouts; Mr. and Mrs. K. I. Peterson, navigators; Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Witt, publicity.

Tentative plans were made for the March meeting.

**Church to Purchase Organ**

The sermon last Sunday was given by Dr. Ruth Grob from the College of Idaho. Dr. Chalker, also from C of I, will conduct services next Sunday. Pastor and Mrs. Gerard Kuiper are still on vacation. The church is now trying out various makes of organs each Sunday. One will be purchased soon from funds being donated to the fund in memory of the late Rev. Henry Moore.

### Owyhee Community Church News

Ladies' Missionary circle of the Owyhee Community church met last Friday at the home of Mrs. Howard Finger. The afternoon was spent making quilts.

Pastor Arthur Skogan and several members of the congregation traveled to Caldwell Saturday to attend the annual workers' conference of the American Sunday School Union. An all-day program was held with a potluck dinner at noon. Keith Himple of Lewiston, Idaho, was guest speaker.

Young people's group of the church went on an outing Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Robb, leaders. The group hiked to the top of Mitchell Butte.

**Laymen Conduct Worship Hour**

Sunday evening worship hour was conducted by laymen of the church. Those participating included Harold Dall, song leader; Elver Nielsen, object lesson; Joe Stephen, scripture reading.

A personal testimony was presented by Ken Lorenson and Wayne Robb delivered the message.

Vocal selections were presented by a boys' quartet comprised of Axel Stephen, Orville Carroll, Mark Stephen and Dick Skogan.

Following the meeting, Pastor and Mrs. Skogan were honored by the congregation in observance of their 17th wedding anniversary.

A singspiration will be held at 8 o'clock Sunday evening, March 10, at the church.

### Ministerial Group Plans Two Services During Holy Season

A breakfast meeting was held Monday morning in Brownie's cafe by members of Nyssa Ministerial association and their wives. Purpose of the session was to conduct regular business and to welcome new pastors and their families, including Pastor and Mrs. John Milbrath, Faith Lutheran church; Pastor and Mrs. John Bullock, Nazarene; Pastor and Mrs. Lupe Juarez, Spanish-speaking Assembly of God; and Pastor Carl Burns, Missionary Baptist.

Good Friday services were discussed and plans were made for the service to be held at 8 p.m. Friday, April 12, in the Methodist church with various ministers speaking on "The Seven Last Words."

The Rev. Bullock is in charge of preparing a program for the Easter sunrise service.

Others attending the Monday morning session were Pastors and Mmes. Paul Ludlow, Joe Moore, J. L. Mussell and the Rev. Armand Larive and the Rev. Wallace Prowell.

Next meeting will be at 10 a.m. on April 8 at the Joe Moore home.

### Sectional Service To Be Held Monday At Assembly of God

There will be a sectional fellowship service on March 11 at the Assembly of God, located at Second and Reece avenue, according to announcement by Pastor J. L. Mussell.

Afternoon services will begin at 2:30 o'clock with the evening meal at 5 o'clock in the church basement. Women's Missionary council meeting will be held at 6:30 and the evening service at 7:30.

Participating will be the 11 assemblies in eastern Oregon including those from Nyssa, Ontario, Vale, Baker, Hereford, Elgin, Imbler, La Grande, Wallawa, Enterprise and Union.

The public is invited to attend these services, the Rev. Mussell concluded.

#### CIRCLE MEETINGS SLATED BY METHODIST LADIES

Regular meetings of Methodist WSCS circles will be held Thursday, March 21, in various homes. Mrs. Maurice Corey will be hostess to members of the Lenora circle.

Ladies of the Fulton circle will meet at the home of Mrs. William Smiley and Mrs. Charles Pittman of Apple Valley will host the Helen Barns group.

Evelyn de Vries circle will meet at 8 p.m. in the home of Mrs. Ken Toomb.

#### GUEST PASTOR TO SPEAK TO METHODIST WOMEN

Methodist Women's Society of Christian Service general meeting will be held at 2 o'clock this afternoon. Members of the Evelyn de Vries circle are in charge of the program.

The Rev. Ross Miller, guest minister from Pocatello, will speak to the group on "What Shall We Tell Our Children About Money?" which is program topic for the day.

### Knife and Fork Club Members to Hear Kansan Speaking on Tour of Russia



JOHN W. CRUTCHER . . . To Appear March 11

The story of four long trips of investigation through Russia and its satellite countries will be unfolded to members of the Knife and Fork club by its guest speaker, John W. Crutcher, who again spent months in the Soviet last summer. It was his fourth trip, others having been made in 1937, 1953 and 1960.

The club meeting is scheduled for Monday evening, March 11, at East Side cafe in Ontario.

Having served a hitch as lieutenant commander in the Navy during World War II and also in the Korean war, Crutcher (now an investment man in the heart of the Kansas wheat belt) always had a yen to make an extensive tour of Russia to determine what makes the average Russian think as he does. He got his wish.

From north in Leningrad to Odessa in the south, across the Black sea in a Russian steamer and east to a point in Central Asia close to the Red China border, Crutcher traveled—always asking questions, observing customs, modes, work and "politics."

Before coming back to the States, he was successful in getting a three-hour interview with Nikita Khrushchev in the Kremlin. As Crutcher put it, "From a standpoint of interest and importance, that was the high spot of the trip."

A graduate of the University of Kansas, Crutcher has served two terms in the Kansas Legislature.

He is president of the Hutchinson Investment company and gives freely to civic endeavors.

#### ATTENDS SEATTLE SERVICES

Mrs. Myrtle Raymond returned home Monday from Seattle where she attended funeral services last week for her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Larry Raymond.

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