

Salem Scene

By Everett E. Cutter

With its legislature meeting regularly only every other year, Oregon has remained one of the last strongholds of the citizen-legislator concept of law-making.

Oregon citizens traditionally have been represented here by a broad cross-section of hometown professionals including lawyers and teachers, ranchers and morticians, merchants and farmers. These representatives have maintained private occupations which could be scheduled to work in their biennial lawmaking chores without inviting hardship on their families or regular jobs.

Events of recent years, however, have put the squeeze on this system. State government, becoming bigger and more complex, puts increasing demands on the time and energy of its leaders. It is tougher and tougher, especially, to look at projected state income and confidently approve all items in a growing state budget for a two-year period.

Legislative sessions often have run beyond expiration of a lawmaker's expense allowances, and we have had special sessions in 1963, 1965 and 1967. This added hazard to planning the course of one's business back home has caused many able souls to retire from public service.

Is there a better, more efficient way to run the state's business, short of electing professional politicians who rely on that as their sole occupation? One subcommittee of the Advisory Committee on the Oregon Legislature is seeking answers to that question and will help formulate recommendations to the 1969 legislature.

And annual sessions, even though they would change the complexion of our legislature, are getting the hard look. Gov. Tom McCall has recommended annual sessions, limiting them to 90 days' duration and also limiting the length of a legislator's service time in each house. State Treasurer Robert Straub recently recommended

annual sessions with a 120-day limitation.

Neither would limit subject matter to be considered, as some have proposed. The Oregon Education Association, for example, testified in favor of limiting even-number-year sessions only to budget matters and keeping the time to 60 days, in order to provide an even flow in school budgeting.

Many others have favored similar limitations on subject matter. This, they argue, could ease the interim load on an Emergency Board now sometimes called upon to make decisions better suited to the consideration of the entire legislature. It could encourage better organization, keeping sessions short and to the point and allowing citizen-legislators to plan their stays at the Capitol.

Some are advocating limited annual sessions with odd-year assemblies passing general legislation and merely reviewing budget needs. Budget legislation then could be taken up in even-numbered years, and special sessions by the governor on a strictly limited subject matter basis.

This special session question also figures in the subcommittee's deliberations. Some feel legislators ought to be able to call themselves into special session -- only the governor may do so now. Others, considering the possibilities of embarrassment to a legislative minority party or of bargaining for votes in getting such a session convened, suggest requiring a two-thirds vote instead of a simple majority.

Another school of thought has the legislature adjourning to a specific future date. This would eliminate the feeling of finality when a regular session adjourns for a year and a half, and would be useful when a problem is anticipated or a question comes up for which no answer can be expected until later. Proponents say this, plus permitting the legislature to call itself into special session, could avoid annual sessions and allow brief sessions only when needed for pressing business.

Suggestions will be presented to the overall committee on June 3. At its meeting this month the sub-group decided to recommend:

-- Annual legislative sessions, without limitations on length or subject matter. Some members, however, reserved the right to support an alternative plan allowing the legislature to adjourn until a specific time. (This alternative raises a Constitutional question, as most laws now become effective 90 days after "final" adjournment.)

-- That the legislature should be Constitutionally allowed to call itself into special session by a majority vote of both houses. Reservations again

Named Livestock Police Officer



RAY LEE HUNSAKER

Ray Lee Hunsaker, livestock rancher in the Fort Klamath area since 1963, has been appointed a livestock police officer for the Oregon Department of Agriculture, serving Malheur, Harney and Grant counties. Hunsaker, who will reside at Vale, previously worked for the department for several years as a brand inspector and during part of this time was also a deputy sheriff for Lake county. Prior to going to Fort Klamath Hunsaker managed a ranch in Nevada from 1958 until 1961 and then was a livestock buyer at Red Bluff, California.

were expressed, however, by subcommittee members who would prefer a greater majority requirement.

Outcome of such recommendations undoubtedly will be affected by those of other subcommittees of the Advisory Committee on the Oregon Legislature, notably the subcommittee on legislative organization.

Changing committees to retain regular session members on interim committees, for example, could alter arguments for annual session needs somewhat. So could formation of a Joint Taxation Committee, expanded Ways and Means activities or increased membership and authority for the Emergency Board.

Whatever the immediate outcome, Oregon voters will make the final decisions on annual sessions and on the mechanics of any change, because our present system is locked into the Constitution. Comparison of Oregon with other states, many of which practice systems involving annual sessions and frequent special sessions, will indicate how really significant these decisions can be.

Here's a bit of advice from an authority: "Couples who hope for a happy marriage will do well to remember that in 'wedding' the 'we' comes before the 'I.'"

SAFETY RULES COULD REDUCE U. S. DROWNING CASUALTIES

Over 7,000 people will accidentally drown this year in the United States and 75 per cent of these accidents will happen in waters less than 100 feet from shore, an Oregon State University professor of recreation has estimated.

Prof. Edward J. Slezak of the OSU Department of Recreation says that many lives could be saved by following simple water safety rules during the summer recreational months. He offers these safety hints to swimmers, divers, boaters, water skiers and scuba divers.

Swimmers should never swim alone and should never swim at night except in lighted facilities under supervision. They should avoid staying in the water too long - 30 to 40 minutes at a time is ample, he said. In addition, individuals should never take long swims unless escorted by a boat and two good swimmers in the boat. Finally, he points out, swimmers should obey all rules and regulations posted at swim beaches.

Divers, Slezak says, should never plunge into unknown waters. Sufficient depths for diving are eight feet from one meter board and from 10 to 12 feet in depth from three meter boards. Other safety hints include diving only into designated diving areas, checking for other swimmers in the diving area, and using protective trunks or suits for fancy diving.

Slezak recommends that boaters avoid over-loading boats, wear approved life jackets, and use boats in good condition. He feels that boaters should know and follow marine laws governing all water craft.

For safety's sake, the OSU professor explains, boaters should never leave an overturned floating boat, but should wait for help to arrive or direct the craft toward the shore.

Water skiing safety tips include skiing in areas free of debris, and understanding water skiing signals. Two qualified swimmers should be in the boat as pilot and "rope" man, Slezak recommends. In addition, all rescues or returns to the boat should be made with the motor stopped. Paddles should always be kept in a boat for manual operation, he said.

Slezak feels that scuba divers should obtain expert instruction

before diving. They should never dive alone, but always with a buddy. It is especially important for scuba divers to know and understand tricky currents and to not dive beyond safe depth limits, he says. Finally, Slezak recommends that scuba divers purchase and use only approved equipment that is in top condition.



ADRIAN - Mr. and Mrs. Dan Skerjanec of Jamieson became parents of twin boys on June 20, 1968.

Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. George DeHaven. Mrs. DeHaven left June 24 to help care for her daughter and new sons.

NU ACRES - Mr. and Mrs. Coy Petross are parents of a new daughter, Tammy Lynn. The family has been staying with Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Wilson, parents of Mrs. Petross. She is the former Allyn Wilson.

BIG BEND - Relatives in this area received recent word of the arrival of a son, Jeffery Phillip, born to Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Hatch of Bend. The infant joins a five-year-old sister, Cynthia.

AT MALHEUR MEMORIAL

JUNE 19 - To Mr. and Mrs. Jose Salazar of Vale, a four-pound, eight and one-half-ounce girl, Linda Yvonne.

JUNE 22 - To Mr. and Mrs. George McCall of New Plymouth, a six-pound, thirteen and one-half-ounce girl, Tracy Jean.

JUNE 23 - To Mr. and Mrs. Cruz Hernandez of Nyssa, a six-pound, twelve and one-half-ounce boy, Cruz Jr.

JUNE 23 - To Mr. and Mrs. Fidencio Nungaray of Nyssa, a seven-pound, thirteen and one-half-ounce boy, Larry Anthony.

Child Labor Rules Modified By Wirtz

Labor Secretary Willard Wirtz has modified the agricultural hazardous-occupations order to permit the employment of 14 and 15 year-olds to drive tractors and operate other farm machinery.

The change, effective immediately, allows the hiring of these minors only after they have completed formal training in the safe use of such farm equipment. Written and practical tests will be given.

Secretary Wirtz proposed the amendment to the Federal order on May 16.

The Program will be operated through the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Federal Extension Service and its cooperative units.

Under the amendment, farm employers hiring 14- and 15-year-old workers to drive tractors and operate certain other farm equipment, will be required to:

-- Instruct the minor employees on the safe and proper operation of the specific equipment they will use.

Check on the youth at least three times a day -- at mid-morning, noon, and mid-afternoon -- to see that they are following proper safety procedures.

Keep on file certificates showing youth have been trained; certificates must be signed both by the person conducting training and the Cooperative Agriculture Extension Agent.

Previously the order exempted only youth employed on a farm owned and/or operated by their parents or guardians and students under age 16 enrolled in cooperative vocational agricultural programs.

The amendment was published in the Federal Register on Tuesday, June 11.

AT HOLY ROSARY

JUNE 19 - To Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Charter of Nyssa, a girl.

JUNE 20 - To Mr. and Mrs. William Gilliam of Nyssa, a boy.

JUNE 21 - To Mr. and Mrs. Charles Zinn of Nyssa, a girl.

HOT WEATHER HEALTH RULES

Here are some general rules that will get most healthy individuals comfortably through the summer. Those who have heart disease in any form, or suspect it, should follow a doctor's advice, says Oregon Heart Association.

1. Don't go beyond your normal capacity in anything you do.
2. Don't overeat.
3. Wear loose garments, white or light in color; wear a head covering in any prolonged period in the hot sun to avoid heat stroke.
4. Don't rush into vacations. Working into a program of moderate exercise gradually will protect your heart.
5. Don't gulp icy drinks. Cool drinks will put you at ease.
6. Avoid sudden and extreme

My Neighbors



"I just came in for an estimate, Doctor."

temperature changes. For example, plunging an overheated body into cold water can trigger a heart attack in a susceptible individual. 7. Remember, your heart is not on vacation. Treat it with care and it will respond with a happy beat -- through the summer and the whole year round.

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Summons-Subpoena

Mary's housework was interrupted one day by a knock on the door. At the door was a deputy sheriff. "I have a summons for Mrs. Mary A. Smith, 123 Fourth Street. Are you Mrs. Mary A. Smith?" he asked. "Yes, I am," she replied. The deputy then handed Mary a paper and left. Mary had just been legally notified that someone had filed a case against her in court. The deputy would note that Mary had been properly served with the notice. The court which issued the summons would expect her to be present to answer the charges filed against her. The case could now proceed, so far as the court and the plaintiff (the person filing the charges) were concerned. Mary's first action should be to contact her attorney to determine the problem and what legal steps should be taken. She will have a certain number of days in which to file an answer in court to the charges. Should she ignore the summons, the court might rule in favor of the plaintiff. That would leave Mary with a default judgment against her for a certain amount of money or property or for the relief asked for in the complaint.

Once Mary is properly notified, the court assumes she will do what she feels is necessary to do.

The summons should not be confused with a subpoena. Had Mary been served with a subpoena, but fails to appear in court, she can be arrested and

charged with contempt of court. This could mean a fine or possible jail sentence.

Whatever the situation, if you are served with a summons or subpoena, it is a formal legal notice. Don't ignore it.

(Oregon lawyers offer this column as a public service. No person should apply or interpret any law without the aid of an attorney who is completely advised of the facts involved. Even a slight variance in fact may change the application of the law.)

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