

## Legislature Activities

BY SMITH AND YTURRI

Most of the newspaper headlines during the legislative session have dealt with the subject of property tax relief, but legislative committees are working quietly in many areas of concern to Oregonians.

One of the major problem areas receiving attention in the Senate and House Elections Committees is the question of election law reform.

We need only to look at the primary and general elections of 1968 to realize that our election laws are full of loopholes and devoid of clarity.

You have heard a lot lately from Senator Vernon Cook of Troutdale. He is the individual who has been the loudest opponent of property tax relief. He has been making irresponsible and inaccurate statements about the property tax relief question.

As you may remember, Cook was defeated in the May primary election by Mrs. Alice Corbett, a former State Senator. The people of Multnomah County indicated they were tired of his type of representation when they defeated Mr. Cook.

But lo and behold, we find Cook still doing the same type of things that caused the voters to defeat him.

How come the people of Multnomah County are still stuck with Cook as their Senator? After the election, Cook complained that Mrs. Corbett had made false statements in her campaign.

The courts upheld Cook's complaint and, under present law, they had no choice but to disqualify Mrs. Corbett and declare Cook the winner by default.

This would seem to be a slap-in-the-face to the majority of voters who rejected Cook, but the court had no choice because of the way the law is written.

It would make much more sense for an office to be declared vacant in such an event,

and the office could then be filled by appointment, just as in the cases of death or resignation of an office holder.

We received another example of this nature in the general election race for Attorney General when the incumbent, Robert Thornton, was soundly thrashed at the polls. The challenger, Rep. Lee Johnson, won the race by nearly 80,000 votes, a clear mandate for change.

Thornton followed Cook's example by complaining to the courts. His complaints were upheld, Johnson was disqualified and Thornton was declared the winner.

Both these cases demonstrate that much work must be done to clarify the provisions of the Corrupt Practices Act.

Candidates are often left in the dark as to what the ground rules are, especially in the area of campaign financing and the definition of false statements. This law must be clarified so that candidates for public office know exactly what their responsibilities are.

Another situation where election laws have failed to keep pace with the times is our widely heralded Presidential primary election.

Oregonians found themselves left in the lurch last year, with two announced candidates for the presidency, Gov. Rockefeller and Vice President Humphrey, being excluded from the ballot.

This absence from the ballot rendered the primary nearly meaningless. This could be changed by not allowing candidates to withdraw from the ballot and by extending the deadline for selecting the candidates. We might also consider removal of the provision for placing Vice Presidential candidates on the ballot.

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UPON BEING MOVED AND RENOVATED THESE BUILDINGS will provide a meeting center for Senior Citizens of the Nyssa-Adrian area. The structures are now located just south of the old Morocco club which is being razed. They stand on land owned by the Wilsons of Wilson's Market, Inc., and were given to the Senior Citizens by Clarence Page who secured the structures for cost of razing and materials. Exact location of the Senior Citizens' center is not known, as plans are still under discussion. However, the elderly

area residents are most anxious in 'getting the ball rolling' to establish a meeting place of their own, and are in the process of making plans to raise funds from a two-day rummage sale. The articles of clothing which will be on sale will be good garments, most of them from out-of-state. Much of the merchandise will be worth gift items, including the clothing and other miscellaneous bric-a-brac articles. Dates and location of the sale will be announced at a later date.—Journal Photo.

## Furniture Buying Guide Given For Young Couples

The "early marriage period" of furniture (hand-me-downs) can be a great boon to a young married couple, in the opinion of Mrs. Dorothy F. Brown, Oregon State University extension home furnishings specialist. It gives them time to shop more carefully for furniture that will be a wise investment.

"Purchase unmatched pieces of furniture one at a time," Mrs. Brown advises. "Live with it, to evaluate your taste and your judgment, before investing too heavily in additional pieces."

Most couples, Mrs. Brown says, find their taste in furnishings changes as they settle into a pattern of living. For that reason, rushing into the purchase of furniture is unwise.

While waiting for money to accumulate, couples can also do more reading and observing. Sources of readily-obtainable information are libraries, magazines, furniture stores, and Oregon State University publications available at County Extension offices.

In the meantime, suggests the OSU home furnishings specialist, furniture given the young couple can be coordinated by refinishing or painting, slip cover, and "throws." Let ingenuity and color substitute for money, she says. Amateur decorators can find guidelines in the Extension Service bulletin titled "Live with Color."

To help with those first big purchases, Mrs. Brown outlines important features to consider. Quality comes first when shopping for a bed. Look for reputable brands, sold by retailers with experienced salesmen. Lie down on the mattress

and spring unit, to be sure the firmness is right for you. A convertible sofa for the living room, to take care of guests, is a good "first buy."

A sofa-bed, if it is to be used every night, should have an extra-quality mattress. Try the sofa bed for "sit-ability," too. Convertible sofas vary widely in comfort.

Two-person sofas lend themselves to easier furniture arrangement than the long sofa, and better suited to intimate conversational groupings.

Every piece of furniture made for sitting should be given the "sit test." Remove outdoor

clothing before making the test. The extra bulk of a coat may give the illusion of comfort that isn't built into the chair or sofa. Both husband and wife should be satisfied that the piece is comfortable before making the purchase.

If money is not available for the quality of sofa or chair that would be a good purchase, an alternative would be to buy with future patio or family room use in mind. Good buys can be found in rattan, palm, willow and wicker imports, in high fashion now.

Furniture that serves more than one purpose can help a young couple stretch furnishings money. Low chests can double as storage and as tables. The hall table may be a dining table in disguise. The coffee table may break into four snack tables for a buffet party. Low tables and chests may serve as extra seating, with cushions added.

To gain a basis for judging quality of upholstered and wood furniture, shop at stores carrying expensive lines, Mrs.

## OSU Official Discusses Family Members Adjustment To Moves

The first two moves a family makes may pave the way to a good adjustment on the third one, notes Mrs. Roberta C. Frasier, Extension family life specialist, Oregon State University.

Based on the report of a study of 100 newly-arrived families with school-age children in a western community, Mrs. Frasier said family members apparently develop skills at set-

tling in and making friends in a new community by their third move.

Family scores of adjustment indicated residents moving from a smaller community to a larger one have more difficulty adjusting than those moving from a large to a small community.

The study showed no significant difference between the adjustment scores of boys and girls. However, the older the child, the more difficult the adjustment seemed to be.

Children from families of two to five seemed to take the moving process more in stride than did the only child, or children in families of six or more.

Although parents frequently express concern about the effect of moving on the children, Mrs. Frasier notes, the study indicated that adjustment was easier for children of school age than for their parents. In 10 of the 100 families, however, both parents and children had low adjustment scores.

Of the 256 children involved, more than a third made as good a score as possible on the measuring device used to indicate adjustment. By far, the largest number of parents and children took moving in their stride.

While no two families adjust to any life situation in the same way, Mrs. Frasier suggests that, based on the findings of this research, the effect on children shouldn't be the overriding factor in making the decision on whether or not to move. Chances are the school-age youngsters will adjust more easily than their parents.

### WORK SMARTER - NOT HARDER

THESE FOOD SHOPPING tips that make cents come from Mrs. Velma Seat, Oregon State university extension food marketing specialist.

Shop your newspaper's supermarket ad for all its worth and look for specials. On your shopping list, jot down "alternates" in case one food is a better buy than another. Take time to read labels, compare brands, grades and sizes. For example, canned whole fruits make attractive salads while cut varieties in baked desserts taste just as good and cost less.

Cheese prices vary. Aged natural cheeses are the highest in price; the process varieties, particularly in large packages, are least expensive per pound.

Eggs are a budget booster. A serving of two eggs can cost as little as 10 cents and make a good main dish. Day-old baked goods are usually marked way down, but are as fresh as if you'd bought them yesterday and stored them at home.

Brown suggests. Salesmen can be asked to point out construction features on the best quality pieces. In the same store may be found less expensive lines that are good buys, below the luxury price range.

"Furniture that is worth the money is made of sturdy materials put together with long life in mind," the OSU home furnishings specialist emphasizes.

"Avoid furniture that appears to be made for a quick sale on a high-interest-rate contract," she warns. "It's far better to buy only quality furniture, even if this means getting by with less new furniture for a while."

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