



Salem Scene

by Jack Zimmerman

Despite the fact it took almost 22 weeks to accomplish its work, the 56th Legislature provided something for almost everyone.

Consequently, the second-longest Oregon legislative session will probably produce more smiles than frowns as it ended its session after 151 days.

Taxpayers most of all can greet their returning lawmakers in the happiest frame of mind in years. Legislators firmed up what is described as a \$40 million cut in personal income taxes. And property taxpayers -- especially those in low and fixed income groups, are scheduled to receive \$70 million in relief. The \$110 million would be spread over the next two years.

Business -- in spite of the fact it must shoulder part of the cost of this relief because it doesn't realize a share, isn't unhappy. Corporate taxes remain the same and the inventory tax phaseout continues on schedule.

Labor is pleased with developments in both Unemployment and Workmen's Compensation. Smiles from Oregon's workforce involve higher unemployment benefits and payments extended an additional 13 weeks. And both business and labor worked closely to help raise Workmen's Compensation benefits.

Gov. McCall should be happy. In his message to lawmakers last January he asked for property tax relief, a cigarette tax and anti-litter legislation. Legislators delivered all three.

Those who believe government spending should be curbed are pleased with the diligence of a Joint Ways & Means Committee that will give most agencies considerably less than they requested.

And all this was accomplished without increasing taxes. Cigarette smokers will start paying an extra nickel a pack this summer. But smoking, is the only "sin" that will be immediately more expensive. And the tax on smokes is earmarked for property tax relief.

Advocates of the consumer protection movement are counting their legislative blessings -- primarily passage of a Deceptive Trade Practices Act. It's a package measure containing many prohibitions that will make it more difficult for the fly-by-night operators to tar legitimate businessmen with the same shady practices brush.

Newsman found lots to rejoice about during the lengthy session. Battles in both houses over ratification of the 18-year-old vote amendment polarized Republicans and Democrats -- prompting photogenic pyrotechnics that led Democrats

from both houses to desert their respective chambers. The Senate Demo walkout lasted two and-a-half days and ended only after State Troopers were dispatched to round them up.

And then there was the 12-day delay at session's start when the Senate couldn't decide on a president. Committee hearings were extensive and the Capitol hosted its share of protesters and activists. The building's special security police didn't confront any real troublemakers. But it wasn't a dull session for the press corps.

Educators likely will have mixed reactions to the '69 session. Ways & Means funded primary and secondary education first and then tackled our needs. Flat per-pupil grants were made with only slight equalization and observers believe the old basic school support formula is out the window.

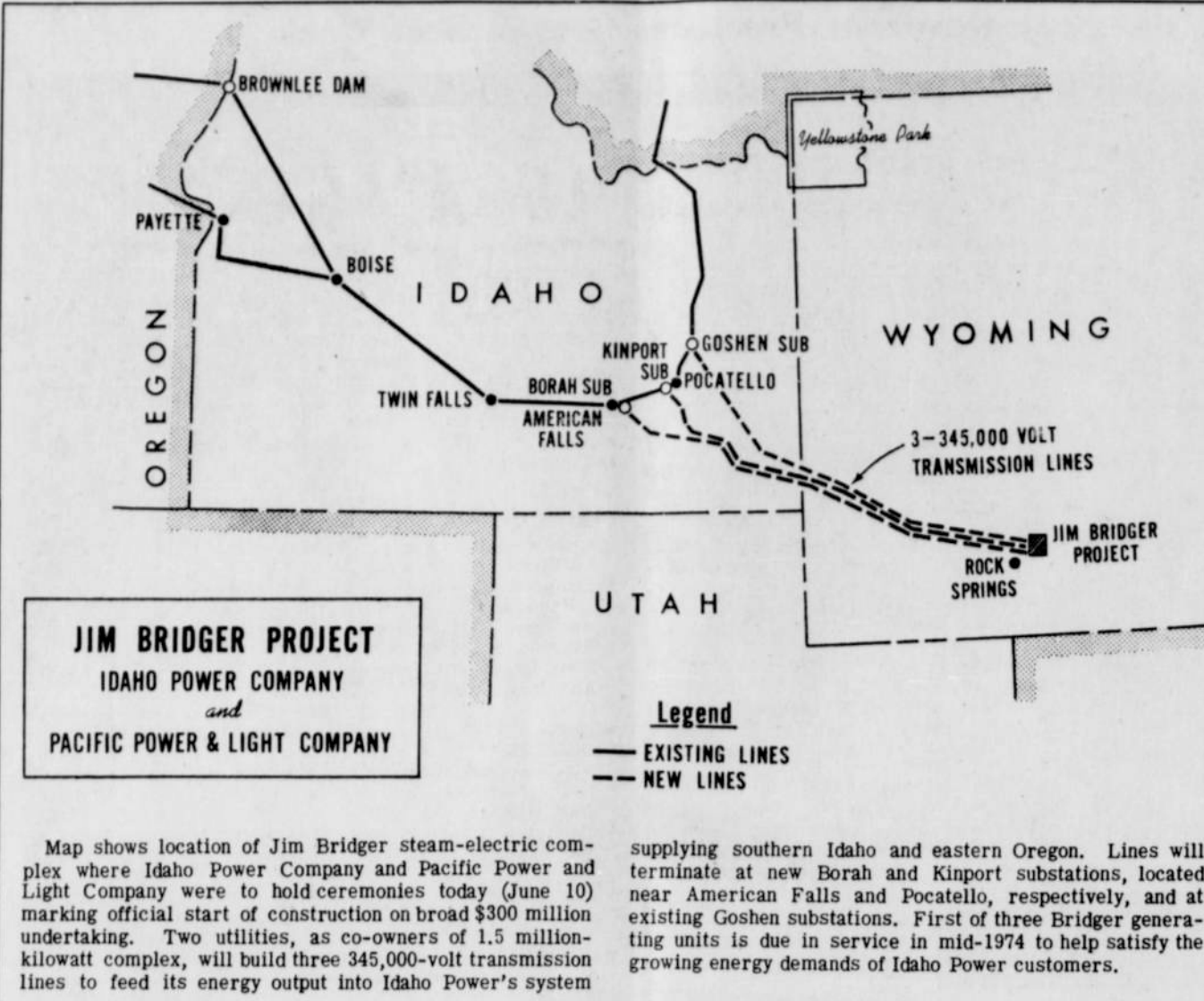
The Division of Continuing Education was placed on a financial self-sustaining basis and Higher Education will live with a tighter-than-requested budget, minus capital construction projects and including only modest salary increases.

Progress was made toward solving problems of local government -- mainly by giving cities and counties more tools with which to cure their own ills. This issue likely will play a starring role in 1973.

If the '71 session deserves a label -- it has to read: "Environment." Many steps were taken to preserve and provide for orderly use of natural resources and to further control pollution. The Department of Environmental Quality, for instance, was about the only agency fully funded to the extent requested in the governor's budget message.

Environmental legislation included passage of a widely heralded Forest Practices Act, Mining Reclamation Act, recreational trails, protection of estuaries and control of slash and field burning.

The Department of Environmental Quality now has responsibility for rules and regulations involving solid waste disposal. And it will promulgate rules to control noise pollution. Permits are required for all air contamination sources. Civil penalties for pollution violations have been strengthened and the governor is empowered to shut down air pollution sources in emergency situations. DEQ will license disposal sites for low-level nuclear and other hazardous wastes and a commission will solve future nuclear power plant siting controversies. Motor vehicle exhaust emissions will be regulated and tax exemptions were extended for installation



WORK SMARTER - NOT HARDER

Are the no-pest strips safe? We asked our chemists at Oregon State University and they recommend using these strips in living rooms or bedrooms but definitely not in the kitchen. A no-pest strip kept in the garage can help get rid of insects before they get to the house. Replace the strip each time the can is emptied. The strips may also be used in closets to discourage moths. Of course the best way to get rid of insects is to provide a sanitary environment, fill in pools of water where mosquitoes breed and cover compost piles.

Polyester Thread is not suitable for basting, the fabric puckers when you try to pull it out. This thread is very strong. It is better to use regular basting thread. Snip thread at frequent intervals and pull out the short lengths carefully so as not to distort fabric.

Taking an extended vacation this summer? Maybe you need to check your insurance. Find out what it covers. Some household insurance policies include a provision for theft or loss. Others need riders attached that list specific items such as cameras that are to be covered.

You can also buy special travel accident and life insurance that covers only the period of your vacation. These special policies help protect against the extra hazards that come with long trips in vacation traffic, and other things that can happen when you are away from home.

Speaking of pollution: Mrs. Clark Hill, president of the Oregon Homemakers Extension Council, said at the recent annual meeting, "We have met the enemy and he is us." How true! Pollution is everyone's problem. Each person

must do his part. Do not litter or pour oil of any kind, paint, pesticides and the like into the sewage systems. If you own a boat, do not pollute the water with your refuse and boat fuel. Buy gasoline with the amount of lead required to operate your car satisfactorily. Better yet, walk, bicycle or use car pools. Much of the auto-caused pollution can be eliminated if a car is given frequent engine "tune-ups," the air filter cleaned or replaced regularly and carburetor and automatic choke adjusted correctly.

NUTRITION DAY CAMPS PLANNED

Cooking fruit flapjacks and red flannel stew, playing games, singing and making handicrafts are a few of the "happenings" in the Nyssa area this summer. Participants will be the young children of families involved in the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).

The "happenings" are part of a series of ten, three-day camps in which participants will have the opportunity to experience daily camping activities, otherwise unavailable. Newly acquired skills will be put to use each day as each camper joins others in preparing a cook-out lunch.

Volunteers are needed to staff the program. Persons older than 14 but younger than 100 who like working with young children and are willing to give three days of their summer, helping in the program are welcomed. For more information, contact Helen Conner of the Malheur County Extension Service at 889-9129 or Nadine Spitzer, 889-6704.

The Nutrition Day Camp is sponsored by the EFNE Program of Oregon State University Cooperative Extension Service.

The Rev. Raymond Wilson called on Mrs. Lydia Worden Thursday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Overstreet of Boise were Wednesday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. M.L. Judd.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry McGruber and son Mark of Walla were Saturday luncheon guests of Mr. and Mrs. M.L. Judd. Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fenn of Milwaukie, Oregon spent the weekend with his mother, Mrs. Carl Fenn. Her granddaughter, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Hall of Austin, Texas and his brother Donald Hall arrived Saturday morning and visited Mrs. Fenn until Sunday afternoon. Larry Hall will go to Vietnam in July.

A family dinner was held Saturday at the Alfred Simpson home. Attending were Mr. and Mrs. Gene Simpson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Fenn and family, Mrs. Jeanie Fenn and girls, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Savage and family, Mr. and Mrs. Benny Beach and Mrs. Darlene Kerby and boys of Vale; Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Walker and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Simpson, Mrs. Carl Fenn and her house guests.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Simpson and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Holdt and sons returned Wednesday from a ten-day trip through Kansas. They visited the Eisenhower Museum, relatives in Kansas City, Willow Springs and Strafford, Mo., and in Illinois. The highlight of the trip was seeing the Baptist Church in Springfield where Mrs. Simpson's grandfather preached the first sermon in the church after it was built.

NEWELL HEIGHTS

BY DALE WITT

Burdette Pratt, college student at LaGrande, is home for the summer. Sheila Pratt left Saturday night for Salem to attend Oregon Girls State.

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Churchill and infant of La Grande arrived Saturday to visit his mother, Mrs. Rollo Fenn and to celebrate her birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Simpson and Johnnie were Saturday evening callers of Mrs. Rollo Fenn.

David and Jimmy Fenn and Darryl Simpson went fishing Sunday at Leslie Gulch.

David and Bill Phelps and the Dave Savage children were Sunday afternoon visitors in the Gene Simpson home.

Mrs. Irvin Topliff, Mrs. Marie Moore, Mrs. Gerri Timmerman and Mrs. Dale Witt attended the bridal shower for Lois Seuell at the Adrian park Saturday afternoon.

Mrs. Marie Moore, Mrs. John Fahrenbruch and Mrs. Dale Witt attended the Women's Association meeting at the home of Mrs. Edna De Haven Thursday afternoon.

Mrs. Marie Moore was a Sunday dinner guest of Mrs. Mary Auker at Farewell Bend. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Simpson visited Mrs. Dale Witt Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ernest and family of La Grande spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R.D. McKinley.

Mr. and Mrs. Art Ferguson of Coos Bay returned from a trip to Kansas City, Missouri by car and visited at the home of Mrs. Mary McConnell in Nyssa Thursday for dinner.

Mrs. Rollo Fenn visited also at the McConnell home with the Fergusons.

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FULLER PAINTS

Savings Bonds Sales Increase

Figures received here today by Malheur County Savings Bonds Committee Chairman Jim Leslie indicate that sales of the United States Treasury Savings Bonds in Oregon zoomed over the 4 million dollar mark in May for the second consecutive month, exceeding 1970 sales for the month by well over a million dollars. The state's sales for the month jumped 38 percent compared to last May.

"I am told that no one in the Oregon Bond office can remember when our sales were above 4 million dollars two months in a row," said Mr. Leslie. "The increase was spread all over the state, and included most of our counties. Total sales for the month were \$4,252,140 as compared to \$2,961,668 a year ago.

The sales in this county in May were \$61,275, compared to \$12,610 in May of 1970. "Oregon has now reached more than 57 percent of its quota of sales for 1971, with 7 months still to go."

FARMERS! SAVE WITH ONE POLICY

U.S. milk production for the 1970 year hit near 117 billion pounds, up slightly from 1969 figures, and the first annual gain since 1964.

New Zealand has developed a new milk and protein biscuit which they say makes children grow taller and heavier, and prevents skin diseases.

Coming, Next Week!

National Oldtime FIDDLERS' FESTIVAL

in **WEISER**

You'll see, You'll hear -- *Authentic 1870 Square Dance exhibition made possible by Idaho Commission on Arts & Humanities, each night.

*Impromptu Numbers by Talented Visitors.

-plus-

National Fiddle Contest Finals

-June 23 -- Junior (under 18)
-June 24 -- Senior (over 70)
-June 25 -- Ladies Division
-June 26 -- Grand Division

GENERAL ADMISSION Sold at Door
June 23, 24, 25, \$1.50, 75¢
June 26, \$2.50, Child \$1.25
RESERVED Ringside Seats Sat. Only \$4.00
Write C of C, Weiser

IN THE ROUND - Stage will be in center to give ringside viewing - NEW AIR CONDITIONING

WEISER HIGH GYM
Sponsored by Chamber of Commerce

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Interstate Freight Rates Increased, Beets Excepted

The Public Utility Commissioner has issued an order providing for general increases in intrastate railroad freight rates of 8 percent on general commodities, except sugar beets, and 6 percent on lumber, plywood and other lumber products. The order goes into effect June 7.

Issuance of this order follows previous Interstate Commerce Commission action which had granted similar increases for interstate freight on an interim, and later on a permanent, basis.

The Public Utility Commissioner held a hearing on February 16, 17 and 18 on this matter. Testimony was received from the railroads to justify the need for the rate increase and

INCREASE IN HOME MORTGAGES

The Boise HUD-FHA Insuring Office had a 72 percent increase in home mortgage applications during the first five months of 1971 over the 1970 volume for that period, Roland C. Ward, Chief Underwriter of that office reported.

Ward reported that 1,461 applications were processed in the 5-month period in 1971 compared to 848 in the same period of 1970. Applications processed include both new and existing housing and represent the FHA portions of the total mortgage activity in the jurisdiction of the Boise office.

In the 5-month period in 1970 the office processed 426 applications involving new homes and 534 in 1971. They also processed 422 mortgage insurance applications on existing homes in 1970 with 927 being processed in 1971.

This 72 percent increase in work load is being processed with fewer employees than in 1970, with no undue delays in service, Ward said.

The Boise office is located at 331 Idaho Street. The office serves all of Southern Idaho and Malheur and Baker Counties in eastern Oregon.

A Wisconsin dairy is marketing butter in seven new flavors, including chocolate, chive, garlic, cinnamon, maple, orange and honey.

It is estimated that 3 million farmers are now producing the food, fiber and other raw materials necessary to care for over 200 million Americans.

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from parties protesting the increases on certain commodities. These commodities included grain, sugar beets, lime and wood chips.

The Commissioner approved the increases for all commodities except the movement of sugar beets. This commodity was exempted for lack of sufficient data to determine the need for an increase on that commodity at this time. Further consideration will be given to the rates on this commodity in another rate case.

Since the February PUC hearing on the pending rate increase, the ICC issued an order permitting railroads to increase rates in the western territory by a maximum of 12 percent, in lieu of 8 percent, with numerous exceptions. After the ICC order was issued March 4, Oregon railroads asked to withdraw the suspended Oregon tariffs, and filed new tariffs with the Public Utility Commissioner to reflect the new ICC-granted increases.

The Commissioner denied a withdrawal of the intrastate tariffs under consideration and has issued his order on those tariffs. The Commissioner also has suspended the new tariffs containing the 12 percent rate increase, pending hearing and investigation, until October 1.

Cause for increased freight rates has been tied to a decline in the net working capital of Oregon railroads, which affects the carriers' ability to borrow money and finance improvements in plant and equipment. In addition, the railroads, like other industries, have been affected by inflation and other economic factors which have increased operating expenses. Increased gross revenues to all western railroads between 1966 and 1969 failed by 5.3 percent, or approximately \$386,000,000, to meet their increased operating expenses during that period of time.



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