'Pay-raise' budget delayed

OLYMPIA-Despite all the hustle and bustle Tuesday over moving the \$13.1 million supplemental budget, providing a range of pay raises, the spending document still has not come before the Senate for final

The reason is that Senator Martin J. Durkan, Ways and Means Committee Chairman, consulted with some legal authorities yesterday and decided that the budget could be passed anytime this month and still provide

pay raises effective today.

Raises would go to state employes, nonteaching school-district employes and faculty and administrative staff of four-year colleges and universities. Increases averaging \$7.50 a month would go to persons on old-age

Durkan originally had understood that the bill had to he passed by both houses and signed by the governor today to satisfy a constitutional prohibition against retroactive pay raises. Now he has changed his mind.

Senate action on the supplemental budget is expect ed Monday or Tuesday. There is little doubt but what the bill will pass both houses, probably by about the middle

Bitter words over oil-spill legislation The Legislature

ted Lindskog's suggestion

the oil-tax cleanup bill would build a departmental

"I just totally disagree

THEN, AFTER Repre-

sentative Donn Charnley, Seattle Democrat, delivered

an emotional attack on oil

companies, Lindskog rebut-

ted him. Charnley charged that, during the Cherry Point oil spill last year, oil

companies dawdled for 30

hours before trying to de-

cide whether or not to spend

Charnley was wrong,

money to clean it up.

. .," Biggs said.

empire.

By RICHARD W. LARSEN Times political writer

OLYMPIA - The issue was oil spills, but, near the end of a lengthy hearing last night, bitter words were spilling across a legislative

The head of the Department of Ecology, a lawmaker and a spokesman for oil companies disagreed on the question of who should pay for and be responsible for cleanup of oil spills.

Vernon Lindskog, an Olympia attorney and representative of oil companies, testified a suggested tax on oil would provide a massive budget increase for the Department of Ecology: But, he added, industry and United States Coast Guard already are capable of preventing and cleaning

Lindskog pointed out. State, Coast Guard and oil compa-John Biggs, head of the nies thought the spill had ecology department, rebutbeen contained by a boom:

Never did the companies withhold action for money reasons, Lindskog said.

But Lindskog was out-numbered overwhelmingly during the more than two hours of testimony given to House and Senate Ecology committee members.

A stream of environmentalists and others called for the Legislature to enact legislation which would:

1. Impose a 2 cents a barrel tax on oil moving into the state. 2. Assign proceeds to the Department of Ecology to

monitor oil movement, and transfer and set up a prevention program. 3. Money also would be

for clean-up if there are spills.

Total revenue would be about \$6 milion for a bien-

nium. Representative Lois North, Seattle Republican, and a prime sponsor, said 410,000 barrels of oil move into the state each day. The tax, she added "represents less than 1 per cent of the oil's value.'

Tax-cut bill would slash liquor cost 2c an ounce

OLYMPIA - (AP) Washington legislators are taking a look at a bill that would make liquor nearly 2 cents a fluid ounce cheaper and apply uniform license fees for the sale of alcoholic

Representative Irving Newhouse, Mabton Republican, one of the sponsors of the legislation advocating a reduction in the liquor tax, said the object of the bill is "to make liquor prices more competitive with those of neighboring states."

But a lower liquor tax means less revenue to the state, and that could spell trouble for the bill. New house said he expects the cut to cost \$19 million a biennium, part of which would be shared by cities

many witnesses from oil-spill-conscious Bellingham, "They (oil companies) are getting off easy.'

THE LEGISLATION has a heavy push behind it from Gov. Dan Evans' administration. Biggs gave powerful testimony. James Dolliver, Evans' administrative assistant, called the legislation "imperative".

There have been some positive state steps on oil spills, Dolliver said. But this measure — H. B. 283 and its companion, Senate Bill 2403 — is needed "in order to prevent a catastrophic event," Dolliver added,

Its chief advantage, Biggs said, would be to set up an ongoing surveillance of oil handling, to guard against mishaps.

In 1970 the Legislature approved a landmark bill: It placed on oil companies unlimited liability" for damage from oil spills. In 1971 the Legislature set up the Coastal Waters Protection Act, — setting up a re-volving fund for cleanup. But that is a modest fundabout \$100,000. The stream of witnesses

testified about the delicacy of the Puget Sound environ-ment and the harm which is caused to fish, aquaculture, the beaches and other resources when oil is spilled. Robert Gay of Bellingham, spokesman for the Na-tional Federation of Fishermen, told how herring

the Cherry Point spill. 'One summer run of fish would be worth more than all of the oil refineries that

spawn was decimated by

Gay said.

THERE HAD BEEN two hours of testimony from proponents before Lindskog — the lone opponent — spoke against the bill.

He challenged the premise that an industry should be taxed to hire a state "police force" to monitor itself. Oil companies already have had imposed on themselves the "unlimited liabili-

ty", he noted. And they have the financial capability to meet that, Lindskog add-He said carriers offer vessel insurance of up to \$10 million a spill and on cargo

Fife series to discuss state issues

A series of public "townhall" meetings to discuss issues concerning state gov-ernment will be sponsored the Washington Voters

Information League.
Bert C. Nelson, league president, said the first meeting in the series will be from 2 to 5 p. m. Sunday in the Fife School, Fife. Speakers will include State Senator Martin Durkan; Hal Wolf, former State representative; Ken Johnston, Pierce County assessor, and Corcoran, television commentator.

Subjects will include property tax, tax reform, tax exemptions, and the new "land use" bill. bonding, Lindskog said.

Lindskog added that local

Coast Guard officials have

instant availability of up to \$1 million for an emergency cleanup. He added that the Coast Guard has carried out an effective surveillance. Teams in one effort monitored 93 per cent of all major oil transfers (more than 5,000 barrels) and 62 per cent of small transfers (involving 1,000 to 5,000 bar-

rels).
"What we have here,"
Lindskog said, "is a jurisdictional fight between the federal government and the

Biggs challenged Lind-skog's evaluation of Coast Guard programs. He said it isn't sufficient safeguard for Puget Sound.

Evans aide to take U.S. post

OLYMPIA - (AP) Gov. Dan Evans announced yesterday the resignation of his legislative assistant, Glenn Paschall, to become director of government studies for the Committee

for Economic Development. Paschall, 30, will leave the governor's office Febru-ary 9 to take the new position in Washington, D. C. He served on the governor's staff for two years before leaving in September, 1971, to be assistant deputy controller in California. He returned to the staff last

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Times Olympia Bureau.

Veteran clerk runs a tight ship

OLYMPIA - The cynics may say that, when the Legislature is in session, it's brewing bitter medicine. But Charles Gerold finds it a tonic.

Gerold, a grizzled legislative watcher, suffered a heart attack 20 years ago. "They wanted to put me on the shelf, he recalls. Instead of going into total retirement, he took a job in the Legislature as a Republican Senate Caucus clerk. He's been happily at it ever since.

In fact, he's the chief G. O. P. guardian of decorum on the Republican side of the Senate: "I run a very tight ship

Before the Depression, Gerold was in the weekly publishing business around Chicago. By 1941 he had traveled to Seattle to take over the weekly Queen Anne News.

In 1950 he began his own brief political career, appointed Republican State Representative, succeeding George Kinnear in a 36th District House seat. The heart attack quickly ended his career.

Gerold still lives in semi retirement on Whidbey Island

with his wife of 51 years. But, as the Legislature begins, he travels to Olympia to take an apartment and begin his seasonal work.

Even in the span of 20 years, he's noticed historic changes in the Senate. He remembers when the last spitoon was taken off the floor—a happy event, because, Gerold remembers, the one senator who had used it "always

He even remembers the last time Republicans had control of the Senate—1955. "There was a time when we (the G. O. P.) were down to 13 members" he says. (Today the G. O. P. is "up" to 18 members—still hopelessly outnumbered in the Senate.)

"It's a great place," says Gerold of the Legislature.
"These people are all very sincere. "They all work hard."

Even Democrats, he conceded. Gerold's fondest memories are of the young people who first appeared in the Legislature as pages ("Great kids!") and later as people of rising importance.

'There's Dennis in there in the caucus," he added. The reference was to one of Gerold's favorites, Dennis Hindman of Bellingham, one-time page, now an attorney on the Republican staff.

"I think this keeps me young," Gerold says of his job. "I really think it's prolonged my life." Today he'll be

beverages.

Measure would create new county

Legislation to create a new county by deleting a large section of Southwest King County has been circulated in the House by Representative Paul Barden, Seattle

Republican, and four others. Barden said the bill coincides with a petition drive in the area which would be "Evergreen Coun-

ty."

If successful, the move would result in creation of the fourth largest county in the state with a population in excess of 200,000.

Barden said the new coun-

ty would also have one of the largest property valuations per capita in the state. Action by the Legislature is dependent upon a campaign to collect signatures of 60,000 registered voters in the area which includes the

incorporated cities of Tuk-

wila, Normandy Park and

Des Moines.

\$2.9 million in bonds OK'd for Expo '74

OLYMPIA - (UPI) -The Senate yesterday approved \$2.9 million in bonds to expand the state pavilion for Expo '74 in Spokane. The final vote on the measure (S. B. 2039) was 42-6.

The bonds are in addition to \$7.5 million allocated for state pavilion bonds by the

Senator William S. Day, Spokane Democrat, and prime sponsor of the expansion bill, assured the Senate

that a corporate license tax imposed to cover the original bonds would more than cover the cost of the new bonds.

He said the bond fund could support up to \$14 million in obligations.

Lower drinking age urged at hearing

OLYMPIA - (UPI) -Leroy Hittle, State Liquor Control Board members, today said that lowering the drinking age to 18 would relieve law-enforcement problems and not create serious

new trouble areas. Hittle told a joint legislative Judiciary Committee hearing that lowering the drinking age from 21 to 18 "would relieve the board of some of the biggest enforce-

ment problems we have at the present time." He was referring to the number of 18, 19 and 20-year olds who illegally purchase liquor at the present time.
The joint hearing was

concerned with four proposals to lower the drinking age to 18 or 19 years.

Gov. Dan Evans has asked the Legislature to

lower the drinking age to 18. Assistant Secretary of State Sam S. Reed contended that although 18-yearolds can marry on their own they cannot drink a champagne toast at their wed-

On the other side, Lester Wetzstein, executive director of the Alcohol

Problems Association, contended that lowering the drinking age to 18 would mean liquor would be more readily available for 15, 16 and 17 year olds.

Closure planned for juvenile institutions

OLYMPIA - (AP) - The state is "looking forward to complete closure" of state juvenile institutions, a Joint Ways and Means Committee

meeting has been told. Dr. Robert Shearer, sistant secretary of the Department of Social and Health Services, said however, that other than institutions now slated for closure. no others are planned in the upcoming biennium.

Shearer indicated vesterday that the emphasis on juvenile-rehabilitation grams will continue to shift them to the community lev-

Shearer said the entire juvenile-rehabilitation program of the department for the next two years is seeking an increase of only \$1.7 million. Most of it, he said, will be used to broaden juvenile-probation subsidy DIOGIAMS under which counties are subsidized for youths put on probation in the community rather than committed to state institu-

Dispute delays plan to save salmon

OLYMPIA - (AP) - Aprogram designed to save a

vanishing species of salmon has been delayed by disagreement over who is to pay the cost, legislators have been told.

R. S. Robison, assistant director of fisheries, testified that Gov. Dan Evans decided to omit a spawning channel on the Elwha River from his budget for the next biennium.

Robison said the Crown-Zellerbach Corp., owner of two dams which obstruct the migration of salmon in the stream, agreed to pay only \$120,000 of the estimated \$720,000 cost. Fisheries Department offi-

cials told the House and Senate Natural Resources Committees that only 80,000 eggs were taken for hatchery purposes last vear from Elwha River salmon.

A department spokesmn said the take of eggs the year before was 350,000.

The salmon, an extremely large fall chinook which the department says is unique to the Elwha, averages about 40 pounds. The river empties into the Strait of Juan de Fuca west of Port Angeles.

Congratulations for Nixon to be reworded

OLYMPIA - (AP) - Acongratulatory resolution to President Nixon was slapped into a committee by the Senate yesterday after some sharply partisan de-

The resolution, offered by

tee with instructions a reworked version be reported out in one week. The vote was a near-party-line alignment of 28-19. Apparently one of the phrases in the resolution touching off the debate said

Republican minority senate

leaders, was sent to the

State Government Commit-

the previous Nixon administration was marked by "major progress in the re-duction of conflict at home and an increase in domestic tranquillity through the implementation of significant social and economic programs and reforms that provide for a better way of

Senator Harry B. Lewis. Olympia Republican, minority leader, called attention to language he said was to show that many of the efforts of the President "deserve support from the other side of the aisle because they transcend partisan-ship."

Democrats said they didn't mind praising the President's actions they agreed with, but didn't want to be in a position of praising things they didn't like.

Bill would cut air fares for elderly

Representative Joel Pritchard will introduce legislation to allow air travelers 62 years or older to get reduced fares on a space available basis, the Associated Press reported from Washington, D. C.

'Older people are generally living on fixed incomes which allow limited expenditures for air travel at standard fare levels," Pritchard said.

Audit discloses

state audit report disclosed yesterday a cash shortage of more than \$1,880 in the camping - fee fund for Steamboat Rock State Park.

The report from Auditor Robert V. Graham said an internal examination revealed that the ranger at the park failed to turn in camping fees since June 1



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Digest of bills filed in the Legislature

saistance for looks to graduate stu-lents.

S. B. 3819—Knoblouch, Summer Dem-rorth—Requiring a mandatory sentence if death for persons convicted of the legal sale of heroin.

S. B. 3828—Balley, South Bend Dem-strat and others—Allowing tox deuc-lents to carbon transportation utilities.

S. B. 3821—Relater, Seattle Democrative where—Prescribing information to be included in published notices of pro-posed constitutional amendments.

S. B. 3822—Bettiger, Tacoma. Demo-crat and others—Including sex, marriel status or age in the laws against dis-crimination.

Manual Personners.

JOHNT RESOLUTIONS FILED
IN SENATE
S. J. R. 119—Whetzel, Seattle Republican—Proposing on constitutional omendment to reorganize the court system in Washington.
S. J. R. 114—Ridder—Reducing the reculrement for publication of proposed constitutional ormendments from 4 to 2 times in the four weeks preceding on election.

ing skilled workers in the buttoing tracks to obbain a license to practice their crast.

M. B. S15 — Mortinis. Everett Demecrat. and others — Providing regulations for contracts for public works or improvements of a first-class city.

M. B. S16 — Mortinis. Everett Demecrat. For adiligater, Tocoma Democrat. Part and logiter, Tocoma Democrat. Providing for review of providing for review of providing for review of political advertising by the Public Disclessure Commission in cases of completint. M. B. S18 — Moon, Snothomisto Democrat. Providing for review of political advertising by the Public Disclessure Commission in cases of completint. M. B. S18 — Garrett, Yaklima Republican and others — Requiring a blood last before "Issuance of a marriage II-ceres."

fee shortage OLYMPIA - (UPI) - A

of last year.