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Oscar Kvaalen's statement about the 1971 Legislative session in Montana

Oscar Kvaalen

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Kvaalen, Oscar, "Oscar Kvaalen's statement about the 1971 Legislative session in Montana" (1972). *The Montana Constitution Collection*. 298.

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My name is Oscar Kvaalen. I'm a member of the House of Representatives from District III. I have served in the House continuously starting in 1959, with the exception of the 1965 session.

The 1971 Legislative session made a bad impression on the people of Montana, and apparently on the delegates to this Convention. That is because they remember only one issue, the sales tax. We are criticized for spending \$10,000 per day trying to resolve an issue involving many millions of dollars and affecting every Montanan--an issue which, once enacted, would be as enduring as the document you people are here to write. The 1971 session was the most productive of my legislative experience, yet the people remember nothing of the other issues.

I hope ;that your deliberations will reflect an objective view of the functioning of the Legislature over the past decade and will not be tempered by the mood of the electorate after the adjourning of the 1971 session.