

### Spring Work Is Two Weeks Behind Normal

WASHINGTON, (AP)—The chilly spring weather has played hob with the nation's crops. It hasn't done the birds and the bees much good, either.

A roundup of reports from across the nation, collected by the Agriculture department, is filled with comments like this:

Virginia—Fruit crops "heavily damaged by frosts." North Carolina—"weather too cool for good plant growth." Indiana—"each crop 'seriously damaged.' Arkansas—pastures sprouting three weeks late. Ohio—"out at crease 'materially reduced.'"

Farm work in Illinois is two weeks behind schedule. In Minnesota, growth of vegetation is "very backward," and in Kansas they're still feeding livestock from the barn because of slow grass growth. Idaho pastures are "snow." It's been too cold for good growth in Montana. Spring work is two weeks behind in Oregon.

Food crops aren't the only things which have suffered. Take the daffodil.

Along about March he popped up for fresh air, after a long winter underground. Instead of sun he got frost. That froze him up solid. Then he got sun. His expanded cell walls couldn't take it. He shriveled and died.

It's been just as tough on bees. They need a mild spring to gather enough honey to live on.

When the dandelions and the clover and the Norway apples fail to produce on schedule the bees are overworked. He dies before his time—and the time for a spring bee is only six weeks away.

### OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



### Army Libraries Lift Silence Ban

Thanks to the U. S. Army Library service, that time-honored custom of the American public library, which has imposed an almost ear-splitting silence on its patrons for many a year, is gradually undergoing a "humanizing" process, according to M. Sgt. John F. Rose of the local U. S. Army and U. S. Air Force recruiting station.

By creating a relaxed and informal atmosphere, the Army dreads of young men, many of whom had probably never seen the inside of a library before, into long term customers. No smoking signs and the strictly hush-hush ruling were done away with, permitting men to smoke and talk softly. Some army libraries installed phonographs, built craft rooms, organized clubs and conducted lectures.

St. Rose points out that since the war there has been a tremendous amount of redecoration and construction of new libraries. Outmoded army libraries today are like-wise cleaning up, painting up and lighting up.

Aware of the significant increase in the number of book borrowers as a result of these liberalizing policies, U. S. public libraries all over the country are beginning to let their hair down and eliminate some of the restrictions which formerly frightened many a potential borrower away.

### Indian To Get Degree

ITHICA, N. Y., May 1. — (AP)—For the first time in its history, Cornell university will award a doctor's degree to an American Indian.

Solomon Cook, a Mohawk who served in the Navy in World War II, will receive the degree in June.

He majored in vegetable crops while studying agriculture at Cornell, where he also earned his bachelor and master's degrees.

Cook walked 13 miles a day, from the St. Regis Indian reservation to Massena to attend high school.

He has been appointed an assistant professor at the South Dakota State college of agriculture.

### 2 Democratic Candidates Hit By Labor Attack

PORTLAND, May 1. — (AP)—Two Democratic candidates for state office were accused Friday of misrepresenting the seasonal exemption provision of the unemployment compensation law adopted by the last legislature.

The charge against Austin Flegel, candidate for the gubernatorial nomination, and Howard Morgan, unopposed for nomination as labor commissioner, came from James T. Marr, secretary of the Oregon State Federation of Labor.

Marr said that Flegel and Morgan, while members of the state legislature, both voted for the provision "which they now so vocally condemn."

Flegel and Morgan have demanded repeal of the seasonal exemption provision of the law.

"These candidates fail to see, or have not read the law or refuse to admit it, that labor caused to be included in the law a provision that enables a great many workers in seasonal employment to receive benefits despite the seeming disqualifications of the law as it was adopted," Marr, one of labor's representatives in the legislature, said.

The amendments to the compensation law, Marr said, were contained in an omnibus bill which was a substitute for 14 bills previously introduced, and was agreed on in labor-management conferences, and that "both interests knew exactly what it contained."

He added there was agreement in the conference that the seasonal exemption provision, as drafted, would be given a two-year trial.

### Watson Bell Ross, 80 Dies At Local Hospital

Watson Bell Ross, 80, of Drain, died April 28 at a Roseburg hospital after a long illness.

He was born in Punksutawney, Pa., on Oct. 6, 1869, and has been a resident of the Drain vicinity for 58 years. He was a member of the Methodist church and was never married.

He is survived by two brothers, Milt and Ross of Cottage Grove, and James Ross of Junction City. In addition, he is survived by two half brothers and four half sisters, Harry and Leonard Ross, Drain; Mrs. Clara Pardee, Castle Rock, Wash.; Mrs. Alice Varrelman, Portland; Mrs. Pearl Smith, Roseburg; and Mrs. Edith Brown, Elkton, and a step brother, Alfred Ross of Reedsport.

### Large Posters Advertise State Elks Convention

CORVALLIS (Special)—Purple and gold programs, satirizing a typical chamber of commerce poster, have been sent out to Elks and newspapers throughout the state by the publicity committee for the state Elks convention here June 9, 10, and 11.

Printed on a large sheet of stucco-finish Maxwell paper, they are decorated with a border of 16 pictured scenes from the area set on a film strip.

Included are Newport Crab, Benton Reef, Avery Park Bear, Mary's Lamb, Mary's Peak, Mary's River, Mary's Tired, featuring a girl with uncombed hair, Willamette River for relief and Gill Coliseum, Memorial union building, Corvallis high school and Corvallis Country club for buildings directly concerned with Elks convention. The Elks temple is screened on a television set, centered at the bottom of the program.

Some of the events on the program for the three-day convention include registration, beginning at noon Thursday, June 8, an exalted rulers' state association officers and distinguished guests dinner slated for the evening at the Corvallis hotel.

On Friday, June 9, the women's golf tournament opens at the Country club.

There is a rifle shoot at 8 p. m. in the ROTC armory. Other highlights include a men's golf tournament at the club, Saturday, 8:00 a. m.; trap shoot registration at the Elks Gun club, Airport, at 9:00 a. m. A memorial service for departed members at 11 a. m. Two hundred acceptances have been received so far for the past exalted rulers luncheon at noon on Saturday.

A tour of Oregon State college in chartered buses is on tap for Saturday afternoon as well as the Elks barbecue at 4 p. m. at the high school field.

Sunday a coast tour, Yaquina river trip and deep sea fishing excursions will be sponsored by Toledo Elks lodge for all delegates and their guests.

### Truman To Draw Fire Of GOP On Tour Of 16 States

WASHINGTON, May 1. — (AP)—President Truman is depending on a number of prepared speeches and any number of homey "trackside chats" this month to strengthen his "fair deal."

To meet this expected barrage, the Republicans laid plans for calling up their own big guns whenever Mr. Truman speaks out.

He starts for the west next Sunday on a 4,000-mile stumping tour carrying him into 16 states.

Such Republicans as Senator Taft of Ohio, Rep. Martin of Massachusetts, Senator Wherry of Nebraska and National Chairman Guy Gabrielson are expected to be ready to reply on any issues Mr. Truman raises along the route.

"This is a fight and we're going to be in it every minute," said Senator Brewster of Maine, chairman of the GOP senatorial campaign committee.

The presidential tour is the first of a series of cross-country trips Mr. Truman will make before the voting in November. It will be built around the eight prepared speeches—one a day—starting Monday, May 8 at Lincoln, Neb.

However, he will make dozens of other talks from the rear platform of his bulletproof private car.

These chatty, neighborly appeals to the voters featured his 31,500-mile campaign for the presidency in 1948.

The men around him feel that he is especially effective in these personal talks to crowds clustered along the railroad tracks at towns through which he passes.

### Religious Belief May Cost Youth School Diplomas

TOLEDO, O., May 1. — (AP)—A religious belief may cost an 18-year-old Ohio school senior his diploma.

Ronald Terry says he wants to live up to the biblical requirement that Christians shall "adorn themselves in modest apparel, shamefacedness and sobriety."

That's why he refuses to attend physical education classes at Macomber vocational high school.

"It's not only the nakedness of myself," he explains, "but also being present in that environment. I just don't feel right about it."

School officials have offered to let him dress and undress in private, or even wear street clothes to gymnasium classes.

Ronald won't do either.

Principal F. A. Dannenfels told him in January he could not graduate if he did not attend the physical education sessions.

"I'll go to my other classes," Ronald said. He has not been in the gymnasium since.

Dannenfels and acting school Superintendent Philo Dunsmore said their offer expires today. He must attend from today on or not graduate.

### Changes In Housing Act Ease Procedure For World War 2 Veterans To Acquire Homes

World War II veterans will find their home loan benefits greatly enhanced by provisions of the Housing Act of 1950, just signed by the President, Clifford Fields, of the Veterans administration, said today in outlining important changes in the G. I. home loan program which will result from the new law.

Fields said regulations and procedures to put the new provisions into effect are now being drafted by the VA and will be issued as soon as possible. In the meantime, he asked lenders and veterans to keep inquiries to a minimum until further information is received from the VA's central office, in Washington, D. C.

The principal changes are:

1. The amount of the VA's guaranty on an eligible veterans home loan is increased to 60 percent of the loan, up to a maximum guarantee of \$7,500. Previously, the guarantee was 50 percent, up to \$4,000. Thus, under the new law, the 60 percent ratio will apply on mortgages up to \$12,500, with the guarantee remaining at \$7,500 for loans over \$12,500.
2. Despite the increased guaranty the VA gratuity payment for credit on the veteran's loan will remain at 4 percent of the first \$4,000 of guarantee used, and so may not exceed \$160, as under the old law.
3. Unmarried widows of deceased veterans who died in service, or from service-connected causes after discharge, are made eligible for G. I. loan benefits to which their husbands would have been entitled.
4. Combination FHA-GI loans to veterans, which currently represent about one-third of the volume in veterans loans, will be eliminated after a future date to be announced by Carl R. Gray Jr., administrator of veterans affairs. These loans are more costly and less advantageous to the borrower than the straight G. I. loan.
5. Under this plan, the Federal Housing administration insured the veterans first mortgage, usually 80 percent of the total loan, and VA guaranteed the entire amount of the 20 percent second mortgage. Net cost to the veteran is about 4.8 percent, as compared with the 4 percent maximum interest rate permitted on a straight G. I. loan.
6. The maximum period of time over which home loans may be made repayable is extended from 25 years to 30 years, to provide lower monthly payments. For example, a 20-year G. I. loan of \$8,000 results in monthly payments of little over \$48, as against \$42 for a 25-year loan and \$38 for a 30-year loan.
7. Effective 90 days hence, VA is authorized to make direct government loans at 4 percent interest to eligible veterans in certain areas where 4 percent home financing is not available from other sources. Such veterans must meet all the qualifications for a regular G. I.
8. Homes on which construction is to begin subsequent to 60 days from the effective date of the law will not be eligible for sale to veterans with the aid of G. I. loans unless the property meets certain minimum construction requirements as prescribed by VA. Similar requirements for new construction have been in effect for some time on a voluntary basis, but this is the first authority granted VA to make them mandatory.
9. VA is authorized, in certain circumstances, to restore the loan guaranty rights of veterans who used their entitlement to purchase property which later is taken through condemnation, or is destroyed by fire or other natural hazard.
10. VA is authorized and directed to issue regulations limiting the fees and other charges which may be made against builder and veterans in connection with the construction and sales of homes financed through G. I. loans.
11. The Federal National Mortgage association, a government agency commonly known as "Fanny May," is given \$250,000,000 in additional authority for the purchase of G. I. and FHA loans made by private lending agencies. This must be used for current purchases only and is not subject to earmarking in the form of commitments for future purchases.
12. Provisions are included to make G. I. loans for farm dwellings easier to obtain, and farm loans are granted equality with other home loans with respect to eligibility for purchase by Fanny May.
13. Through last March, just under two million veterans had been granted G. I. loans for home, farm, or business purposes. Loans approved totaled \$1,818,000 for homes and \$5,000 for farms and \$18,000 for businesses. The original face amount of all loans approved reached about \$10,720,000,000.
14. VA again reminded veterans that they face no early deadline in connection with their loan guaranty rights. Their entitlement to a guaranteed loan remains available until July 25, 1957.

### 54 Homestead Units Opened In Wyoming

Official announcement has been made of the opening of 54 homestead units in the Riverton project, Wyoming, the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs reported this week. World War II veterans have until June 26 to apply ahead of all others.

Application forms may be obtained from the Oregon veterans' department at 305 State Library building, Salem, and 415 S. W. 11th avenue, Portland; from county service officers; or by writing the Bureau of Reclamation, P. O. Box 2130, Billings, Montana.

The 54 farm units cover 6940 acres of irrigable public land north of Riverton in central Wyoming. The reclamation bureau says the lands are "in their raw state, covered with sage and grasses, and must be cleared and leveled, and a farm irrigation system installed prior to crop production," and that the soils, which are low in organic matter, will require three to five years of soil building to obtain maximum yields.

### Nation Watches Florida's Heated Primary Election

MIAMI, Fla., April 29. — (AP)—The nation's eyes will focus on Florida Tuesday as an expected 600,000 Democrats nominate their candidate for the United States Senate.

The May 2 Democratic primaries—which assure victory in the November general elections in this predominantly Democratic state—will conclude one of the most bitterly waged battles in Florida's turbulent political history.

Senator Claude Pepper of Tallahassee, a veteran of 14 years in the upper chamber, and youthful Rep. George A. Smathers of Miami are the principals.

But basic political philosophies more than personalities are the factors which have stirred an unprecedented interest among Florida's 1,000,000 eligible voters and the rest of the nation.

Pepper, one of the state's most controversial political figures, has campaigned as an advocate of more federal financing, broader public services, increased old age assistance and a national health program. He repeatedly has linked himself with the late Franklin D. Roosevelt and the "New Deal" and labels himself as one of President Truman's staunchest "Fair Deal" supporters.

Smathers, a Marine corps combat veteran who is serving his second term as a congressman, advocates less deficit spending and more free enterprise.

In two visits to the state during the campaign, President Truman has not indicated his choice of the two candidates.

All cucumbers will climb if they are permitted to do so. In a small vegetable plot, cucumbers, tomatoes, peas, beans and melons can be grown on the fence.

### Rape Charge Dropped

ROME, Ga., (AP)—The third member of a trio charged with rape and statutory rape of a 13-year-old Negro girl has been freed.

A superior court jury debated 2 and one-half hours before acquitting 20-year-old Louie Eugene Byars of Rome. His two companions had been given prison terms of 3 to 5 years at their joint trial Tuesday.

Jerald David Hicks, 24, of Dallas, Ga., and James Marion Elder, 28, of Rockmart, Ga., were convicted of assault with intent to rape, a lesser offense.

The girl accused the men of ravishing her April 3 in the presence of two white women and two small white children. One of the women, Geneva Davis, testified she saw Hicks and Elder force themselves on the girl. She said Byars had no part in the assault.

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**2 Killed In Air Crash**

PASADENA, Calif., May 1. — (AP)—A private plane crashed into a 25-room house in the Linda Vista district of Pasadena Friday and exploded, killing the pilot and his wife and causing \$25,000 damage to the residence.

Killed in the accident were O. N. Lowry, 41, North American aircraft assembly plant foreman, and Eleanor Lowry, 38, of Downey. They had taken off shortly before from the East Los Angeles airport for Oroville, Calif., for a visit with Mrs. Lowry's parents.

Lowry apparently tried to land on a nearby golf course. The plane struck the roof of the \$200,000 house of Willard Allen, Altadena sanitarium operator.

No one in the house was hurt.

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