

Seasonal Peak Of Unemployment Seen This Month

The seasonal peak of unemployment in Douglas County probably will be reached this month, in the estimate of George T. Foster, manager of the Roseburg office of the State Employment Service.

Foster said the number of unemployed at the end of December increased slightly over the estimated 2,000 persons out of work at the end of November. But the figure was about 30 per cent over the number at the end of December 1954.

There probably will be but few job openings during the next 60 days, Foster said. January usually is the month in which the unemployment peak is reached. The return-to-work movement follows in a few weeks.

The December floods caused much temporary idleness among the Douglas County labor force. Logging operations which normally work the year around were closed because of bridge and road washouts.

Other employment reductions followed Christmas in retail and wholesale trades.

Claims for unemployment compensation during the month nearly equaled the high levels established in December 1952.

Job opportunities in the next two months will be limited to "re-hires," Foster said.

Construction work has been hindered some by the weather, but most of the projects already under way haven't been slowed down. A few new jobs are being delayed until the ground dries out.

Service Man Visits Yoncalla Family

By MRS. GEORGE EDES

Mr. and Mrs. Ben Metz were surprised during the holiday with a visit from their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Metz. Metz goes to a technical school at Camp Lejeune, N. C.

Attend Funeral

Among the out-of-town people who attended the funeral of Webster Huntington last week were: Mr. and Mrs. Peret Huntington and son, Jimmie; Sisters; Tom Huntington of Bend; Ben Huntington of Coquille; Tom Ingram of Grants Pass; Mrs. Irving of The Dalles; and Mrs. Lydia Jean Rhodes of Dallas.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Walker have the distinction of having the second baby born at Cottage Grove Hospital this year. Darrell Michael Walker and his mother will receive \$40 in merchandise and a \$10 reduction in the hospital bill.

Guests last week at the Earl Brant home were Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Hutson and family of Glendale; Alberta Wilson of Coos Bay and Lavena Wilson of Eugene.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl McDaniels had as their guests recently Mr. and Mrs. Jack McDaniels and three daughters of Eugene, and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis McDaniels of Bridgeville, Calif.

Herman Mathis who is ill at the Sacred Heart Hospital, Eugene, is reported to be slowly recovering. Mathis underwent two major operations last week.

Dr. and Mrs. Irvin Cederlund and Mrs. Harold Eldridge of Portland transacted business in Yoncalla Friday.

Mrs. Jessie Hummel of Napa, Calif., spent last week in Yoncalla with her mother, Mrs. D. J. Rogers.

Guests at the Henry Hubbell home in Hayhurst Valley last week were Mr. and Mrs. James Madden and family of Medford.

Robert Jones returned home after spending several weeks visiting in California.

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Ferguson's Chance For Seat On ICC Virtually Hopeless Despite Okay Of Patterson

By A. ROBERT SMITH
News-Review Correspondent
WASHINGTON — Gov. Paul Patterson's recommendation of an Oregon official for a seat on the Interstate Commerce Commission here in the nation's capital has been quietly buried by the Eisenhower administration.

The governor last month sent President Eisenhower the name of Clifford W. Ferguson, who is rail transportation director for the Oregon public utilities commission. Patterson urged that Ferguson be

named to fill a vacancy on the ICC. A high official of the administration told this reporter "there isn't a chance that Ferguson will get that position."

Patterson had pointed out to the president that currently none of the commissioners on the 11-man body are from Oregon, whereas Oregon had been represented for many years by the late Clyde Atchison, who served until July 10, 1952.

But the administration official in a position to know about the ICC vacancy explained:

"The West already has three men on the commission. It can hardly expect more than that."

He was referring to Owen Clarke

Small Wheat Growers May Not Get Relief

WASHINGTON — Farmers seeking relief from government controls on wheat grown only for farm consumption may be in for a disappointment.

Chairman Cooley (D-NC) of the House Agriculture Committee said Thursday that he and every member of his committee in both parties opposed this legislation last year.

And in spite of urging from President Eisenhower that this bill be made law, Cooley said: "I don't think there's a chance on earth of the committee reversing itself."

The measure—passed by the Senate—would exempt from acreage limitations wheat grown solely for feed or seed.

Oakland Sorority Meet Highlights Culture, Art

Members of the Beta Pi Chapter, Epsilon Sigma Alpha of Oakland met recently at the home of Mrs. Lyle Stuve with Mrs. Mary Ann Perrault as co-hostess.

The topic for the evening was "Culture and Fine Arts." Mrs. Stuve gave a report on George Frederick Handel and how he wrote the "Messiah."

A musical quiz was held with Mrs. William Adams winning the prize.

Refreshments were served.

of Yakima, Wash., John H. Winchell of Colorado, and Howard G. Freas of California. All three men are Republicans appointed by President Eisenhower to serve 7-year terms.

Although there is no rule requiring wide geographical spread of the membership of the ICC, it is observed in the president's selection of commissioners.

In addition to the three westerners now serving, there are two from the midwest — Iowa and Indiana; two from the south — Texas and Georgia; one border state — Kentucky; and one easterner — Connecticut.

The next commissioner will probably come from one of the big eastern manufacturing states, possibly Pennsylvania or New York, the administration source predicted.

Antagonism Created

A second factor weighs heavily against Ferguson, it was explained, and that relates to his past service at the ICC from 1936 to 1942.

"Even if there were no westerners on the commission now," the official went on, "Ferguson wouldn't get the job."

He said the Oregon official is not spoken of highly in all ICC quarters among those officials of the agency who worked with him during his term of service with the commission. He indicated this was a major factor in the fact that the governor's recommendation is not being given any serious consideration.

During the recent freight car shortage, one high ICC official

complained bitterly to this reporter about what he regarded as the political cross-fire the ICC was caught in between Oregon state officials and the state's two senators. Ferguson then was serving as counsel for the governor's emergency committee which was appointed to take action to alleviate the boxcar shortage this past summer and fall.

ICC officials felt they were doing all in their power to disburse all available cars equitably over the western rail systems, including the Southern Pacific. Since Ferguson

was cast in the role of spokesman for the governor's committee, he had to deal with ICC officials and, this official made clear, he had not made any friends at the ICC in the process.

Whatever the root of the antagonism may have been, the result has clearly served to scratch Ferguson from the list of potential candidates for the \$15,000-a-year vacancy on the ICC.

Coos Representative Files For Senate Seat

SALEM — State Rep. R. A. Chapman, Coos Bay Democrat, filed his candidacy this week for senator from Coos and Curry counties.

He wants to succeed State Sen. George Ulett, Coquille Republican, who announced he won't run for re-election.

C. E. Nichols, Portland Democrat, filed for state representative from Multnomah County, 3rd sub-district.

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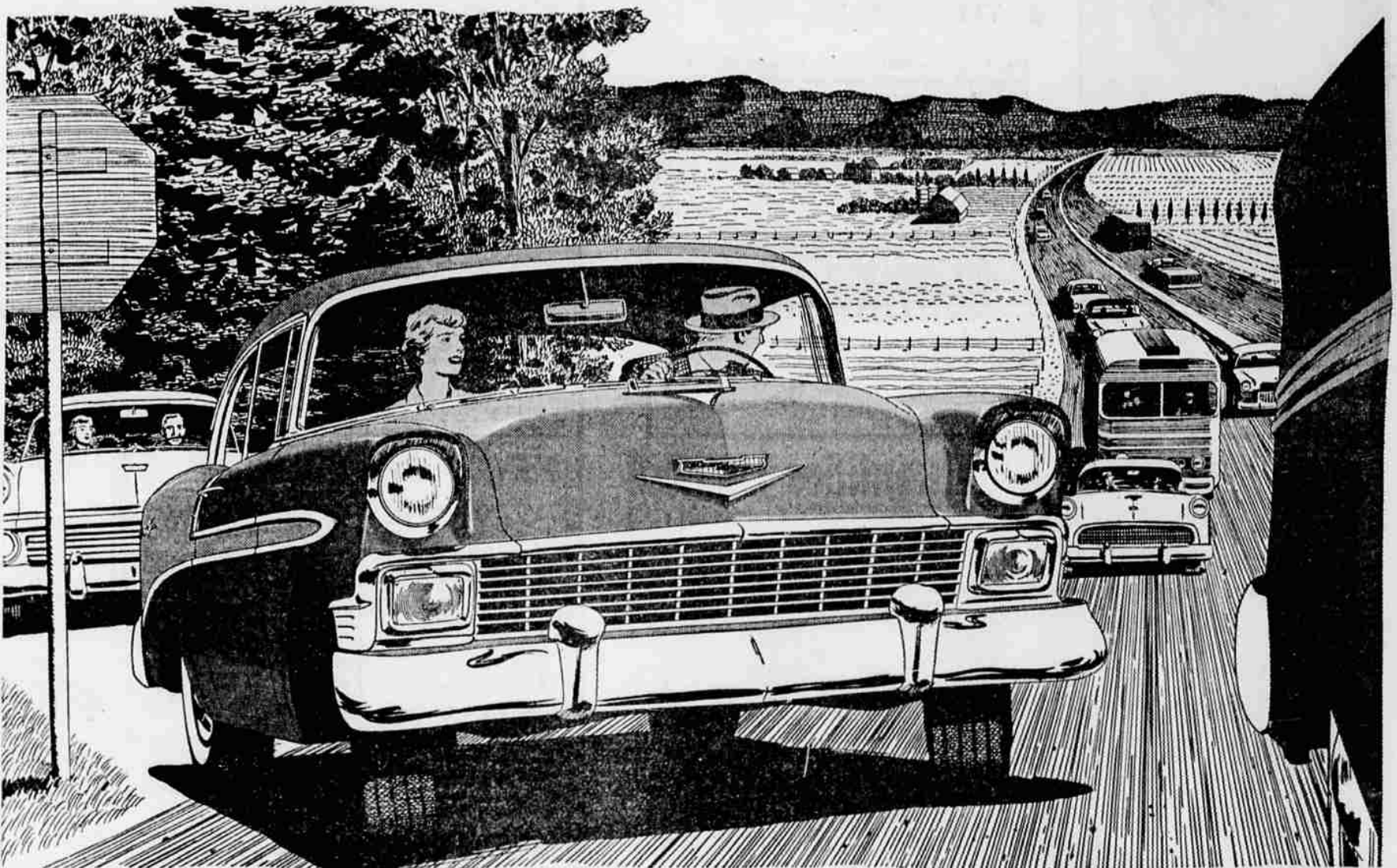
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