

## Steam Tunnels Found Impractical as Shelters

By AL LARSEN

If the bombs begin to fall in New York City there are many miles of subways and tunnels that will be converted into bomb shelters. But, that's in New York.

What of the humors and statements about the two miles of tunnels that snake a subterranean path under the campus?

"All this talk has been just simply a farce," said D. L. Lewis, superintendent of the physical plant. "A fellow would die if he stayed down there very long with such poor ventilation."

### Steam Dangerous

"If any of that steam got loose you'd be cooked in five minutes," he added. It might be best to 'hit for the hills' tomorrow if an attack were made. Mr. Lewis, however, had reference to the present state of the tunnels.

A month from today the entire student body and faculty could descend to the comparative safety of a modern bomb shelter. They could if plans that W. V. Norris, professor of physics and original designer of the tunnels, has completed for the conversion of the underground channels were pressed to completion.

### Tunnels Campus-Wide

They are now used to convey steam and water pipes, electricity and telephone lines to all parts of the campus.

Under Dr. Norris' plan the steam would be shut off, and possibly the 2300 volts of electricity, too. A ventilation system would have to be installed. Entrances and exits would have to be built into the ground at breaks of 300 or 400 feet.

Gerlinger hall, chapman hall, McArthur court and other campus buildings at present have entrances to the tunnels. The population of Eugene could not, as has been rumored, find room in the campus bomb shelters. For over a mile these concrete tunnels average a height of seven feet and a width of six. The remaining distance is even smaller. Along the sides run the numerous pipes and lines. There will likely be standing room only.

### Varying Depths

Near Chapman hall the sidewalk is the ceiling. At other places the ceiling of the tunnels is down as far as 30 or 35 feet.

In an air-raid shelter the only great danger is a direct hit, the chances of which are comparatively small.

### Bombs Dangerous

An exploding bomb, depending upon its size, will kill anyone within a distance of from 50 to 200 feet. Flying fragments would possibly be fatal, but even more fatal would be the pressure caused by the explosion. The waves of air pressure that move out from the bomb account also for the shattered windows long distances away.

## Writing Honorary Sets Meeting Early in Term

Sigma Upsilon, men's national creative writing honorary, will meet this term as soon as convenient, according to Johnny Kahananui, vice-president of the group. The group has not been functioning because of the absence of its president, Bill Moxley, who is studying in Mexico.

Sigma Upsilon plans to sponsor a campus talent contest similar to the successful one undertaken last year for poets and short story writers. Participants in this contest are eligible to compete for the Marshall-Haycox prize offered to the person writing the best short story.

Working in conjunction with Pot and Quill Sigma Upsilon tries to help men and women undergraduates to get to know other people interested in writing and to help them develop their talent. New members of the group will be selected from these undergraduates.

## Military Men Meet in Igloo

Col. R. M. Lyon, head of the University military department, announced that all members of Company A, crack drill unit, will meet in McArthur court tonight at 7 o'clock.

Plans will be made at tonight's meeting to raise money for the company, and the unit will practice rifle calisthenics.

All basic course military students will report to the drill field at 1 o'clock Thursday, for organization into companies, Colonel Lyon said. Today's classes will meet as usual.

## Intense Drama Packs Steinbeck Performances

Drama as intense as the latest news report is packed into the University theater's next production, John Steinbeck's "Of Mice and Men," which is due January 16, 17 and 20.

As a stark piece of realism this plays ranks with the best, if book sales and movie and theater attendance are any criteria.

Its characters are strange, almost weird people, who nevertheless have a sort of fascination for audiences.

Under the direction of Horace Robinson, assistant professor of drama, the University theater presents an imposing group of players which includes: Jerry

Lakerish, Robert Steadman, Parker McNeil, Dave Zilka, Ramona Roberts, James Bronson.

The box office in Johnson hall will open January 9 for season ticket holders only. On January 12 the sale of regular tickets will begin.

## 'Buy Bonds' Urged in New Speech Topic

"Buying Defense Bonds" is the general subject of the new W. F. Jewett contest, second in a series of speech contests, announced J. L. Casteel, director of the speech division.

The speech event, to be held Wednesday evening, January 21, is open to all undergraduate students. Enrollment for the contest, and the subject of the speech must be in by Wednesday, January 14.

Winners of the last Jewett contest were Gerd Hansen, Mary Jane Dickson, Bill Moshofsky, Harold Locke, and Merrill Brown.

If more than eight entries are turned in there will be a preliminary contest January 20. First prize for the contest is \$15, with \$10 and \$5 as second and third prizes.

## Alumni Officers Chosen by Mail

Election of new alumni officers through the annual mail ballot was announced by Lyle M. Nelson, Old Oregon editor. Harry Ellsworth, '22, was elected president; Donald B. McCormick, '32, vice-president; and Elmer Farnsett, Eugene, will remain secretary-treasurer.

Ellsworth, long active in Oregon alumni affairs, has been Douglas county alumni director for several years. He is a graduate in commerce, and is a Sigma Delta Chi member. At present, Ellsworth is editor of the Roseburg News-Review. In 1939 he was head of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers' association.

McCormick, Portland attorney, is Multnomah county alumni director.


Old Oregon for January will appear about January 8, according to Nelson. This issue will feature the place of the University in the nation's war effort, and ROTC contributions in this direction. A story on E. Palmer Hoyt, publisher of the Oregonian, as "alum of the month" is being prepared by Ray Schrick.

## UC Gets Periodicals

Two new subscriptions have been added to the periodical department of the University library. The Nervous Child, published by Philosophical Librarian in New York City; and The South and World Affairs, which is published by the Southern Council on International Relations, in North Carolina.



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