

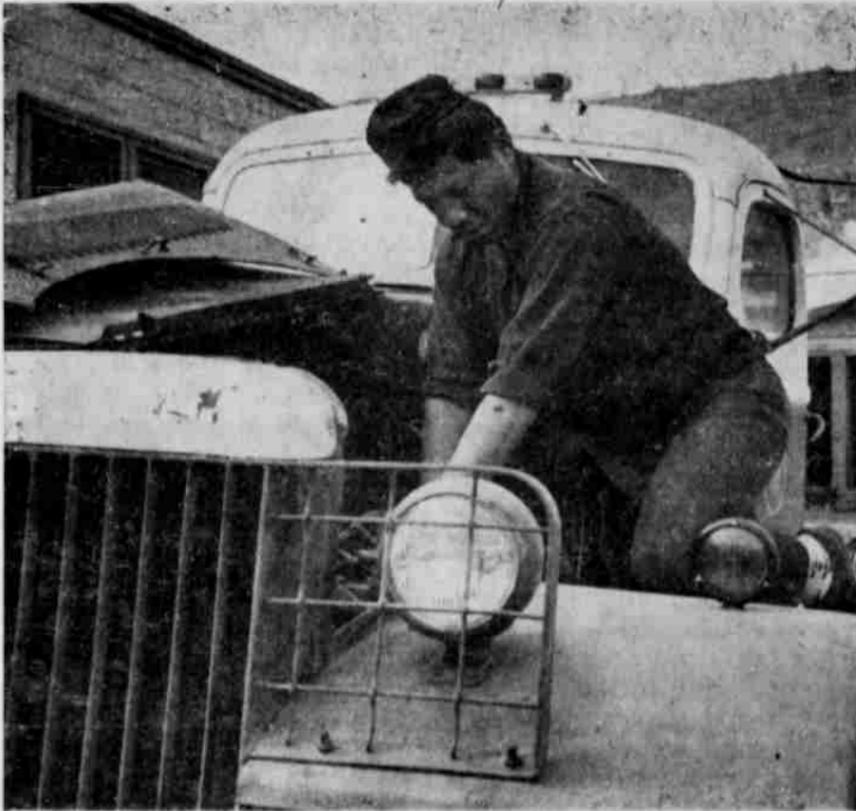
# KLAMATH TRIBUNE

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## ALTON THOMPSON SOON TO COMPLETE DIESEL MECH. COURSE AT OTI

Soon to wind up his diesel mechanics course at O.T.I. is Alton Thompson. Alton began his studies in March, 1955, shortly after having consummated a tour of duty with the army and before the Klamath Education Program had begun operations. He enrolled in the program in Sept., 1955, and is scheduled to graduate in June of this year.

Alton thinks the program is a good one, pointing out: "This program is pretty doggoned good. It just can't be beat. It gives you pretty good security while you're going and it helps you in the knowledge of the trade you're taking."

As far as the diesel mechanics course is concerned, Alton thinks that he is getting a lot out of it. Some of the courses he studies include diesel tech., where all types of diesel engines and related parts are taken up, as well as procedures in overhaul and assembly, and cooling and oiling systems. In diesel electric tech. students get theory of electric circuits, starters, generators, voltage regulators and magneto. In

pump room. Alton has learned how to recondition nozzles, governors, and fuel pumps. He also spends a good deal of time in diesel lab, getting practical engine work. In addition Alton and other diesel mechanics students have the choice of a number of electives, such as English composition, chemistry, mathematics, physics, and drafting and blueprint reading.

As for plans after graduation from O.T.I. Alton thinks he may top his diesel studies off with a course in the operation of heavy equipment. He is thinking of taking this either under the relocation program or at Northwest Tech. Institute in Portland under the Klamath Education Program. He then wants to line up a combination job in diesel mechanics and heavy equipment operation.

All is not work at O.T.I. for Alton, however. He is also a member of the school boxing team, fighting in the heavyweight class, and has been participating in intercollegiate matches with Shasta Junior College in Redding,

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## TRIBAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REQUESTS TRESPASS, INHERITANCE LAWS; ELECTION INFORMATION DISCUSSED

### Executive Committee Urges State Legislation

On March 7, 1957, members of the Klamath Tribal Executive Committee met with State Legislators from Klamath County to request enactment of state laws on matters important to the Klamath Tribe.

Senator Boivin and Representative Carl Yancey, both of Klamath Falls, will sponsor the proposed laws. It will be necessary to have permission from the Rules Committee before the bills can be introduced, since 35 legislative days have elapsed.

### Would Extend Trespass Laws

Two of the four prepared bills dealt with trespass. One would amend the game code to define "enclosed land" to include land within the boundaries of any Indian Reservation. The other would make a similar definition apply to the criminal trespass laws. In the past it has been impossible to prosecute in state courts persons who hunted and trespassed on tribal land because the reservation is not fenced or otherwise enclosed. Under exist-

ing state laws it is not a crime to hunt or trespass upon land unless the land is either cultivated, or enclosed by some barrier which will turn cattle.

If the state laws of trespass are changed as recommended by the Executive Committee, it will no longer be necessary to rely on federal law to discourage trespass on the Reservation. However, it will still be necessary for the tribe to hire watchmen to apprehend and bring complaints against trespassers and illegal hunters.

### Inheritance Laws

The remaining two bills would make it easier for heirs of Indian estates to acquire a part of the property of the estates.

One proposed bill would require the heirs to put up a bond equal to the value of property to be distributed to the heir prior to the formal closing of the estate. Under present law, it is necessary to put up a double bond before receiving any of the property except upon closing of the estate. (According to certain attorneys, it is impossible to close estates of Klamath Indians until the interest in tribal property is received. The solicitor disagrees with this position, however, and declares in a recent opinion that it is unnecessary to keep the estates open. Further information regarding this question will be provided in the next issue of the Tribune.)

Another estate law change suggested by the Executive Committee would exempt from inheritance taxes property of deceased tribal members which is held in trust by the federal government. Prior to passage of Public Law 587 the State of Oregon did not tax such trust property, and the state inheritance tax division's director, J. J. Ferder, has said that he is not opposed to the exemption for Indian estates.

Executive Committee members Dibbon Cook, Ted Crume, Boyd Jackson, and J. L. Kirk, and tribal

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### House Committee Approves Amendment To P.L. 587

A stop-gap bill that would delay final termination of federal supervision over the Klamath Reservation and make other changes in the Klamath Termination Act (P. L. 587) has been reported out of the main committee of the House of Representatives.

However a minority report opposing the amendment has been submitted. It is expected that the matter will be debated in the House of Representatives. It is not possible at this time to tell when or what kind of changes will be made by Congress.

**If P. L. 587 is amended, the changes in the law will be printed in a special issue of the Klamath Tribune.**