

# Eastern College Gave Much to War Effort; Taught Nurses, Fliers

Eastern Oregon college feels a measure of pride in its record of contributions made as an institution during World War II. In April of 1940, the college contracted with the civil aeronautics administrator for the training of its first group of regular college students for their private pilot certificates. Ground school instruction was offered by the college staff in civil air regulations, navigation, meteorology and radio code. Flight instruction was conducted at the La Grande municipal airport. This program was known as the elementary training program for pilots and was limited to regular college students who could pass the prescribed physical and other examinations.

This program with some modifications was continued throughout the academic year 1941-42, with several groups graduating from the elementary training course. In the fall quarter of 1942 the civilian pilot training was changed to the "war training service" and became in effect a semi-military program. The men were issued uniforms and those in the navy contingent were given military pay.

### Withdrawn

To the former elementary course was added the secondary or advanced course, as well as ones in liaison pilot and Link trainer pilot courses. This revised, semi-military program included training in military drill and army regulations. A total of approximately 111 pilots graduated from the CPT and WTS programs for the army and navy.

During the college year 1942-43, there were enrolled in the college 20 students in the navy V-1 program, four in the marine corps reserves, and three in the navy V-7 program. At the same time there were five men in the army enlisted reserve and eight in the army air corps enlisted reserve, who were assigned to the college for instruction but withdrawn into service at the close of the winter quarter.

As a service to high school teachers in this area interested in preparing themselves to teach preflight aeronautics to high school students, a special course was organized and taught by college faculty members. The course was entitled "Teaching of preflight aeronautics in high school." Twenty-one teachers and prospective teachers completed the course, which was given evenings and Saturday mornings for the convenience of the students.

### Home Nursing

A war-emergency course in "Home Nursing" was also added to the curriculum in 1942. It was taken by a number of college girls and non-college women.

Recognizing the inherent responsibilities resting upon the colleges in the war effort, there was appointed at Eastern Oregon college Jan. 5, 1942, a college wartime council. This council gave timely assistance in connection with various wartime services rendered by the institution throughout the period of World War II.

The CPT and WTS programs concluded March, 1943. On the following day, March 31, there arrived on the campus 500 aviation students under the army air forces college training detachment program. The accommodation of such a relatively large group of army trainees for a small college, in addition to the civilian students, necessitated many drastic changes, such as: (1) addition of some 20 new instructors, (2) reorganization of the administrative and supervisory staff to adjust to the new program which involved instruction, housing, messing, transportation, and medical health services, (3) renovation of additional classrooms and the acquisition of a considerable amount of new equipment, and (4) leasing of the Sacajawea hotel in La Grande for housing some of the 500 aviation students.

### Conduct Course

During the period of approximately 15 months until the program terminated June 30, 1944, 2,102 men were sent to this college for instruction in physics, mathematics, geography, history, English, medical aid, physical training, and civil air regulations.

In addition, the students received training in military conduct under the tutelage of military personnel and learned the rudiments of flying in a ten-hour course at La Grande airport. The city council and city manager were instrumental in providing expansion of the airport to meet requirements.

The program was originally planned so each squadron of 100 men would remain for a period of 21 weeks, but in actuality the length of time each group of students was in attendance varied from only seven weeks for one squadron to 22 weeks for another group.

### New Color

During the time this program was in operation on the campus it added color, enthusiasm and new experience to the atmosphere.

Recognizing also, the need for institutional postwar planning, a committee for this purpose was created Aug. 20, 1943, with the following assigned functions: (1) to analyze prospective problems and potential services of the college in the postwar period, (2)

to appraise the present progress of the college with a view to strengthening its offerings, (3) to project carefully program of service to meet the needs of returning war veterans and other students, and (4) to devise and plan the necessary steps to consummate improvements and possible new programs, to enable the college to serve fully its functions.

At the opening of the fall term in 1943-44, a contingent of 30 members of the U. S. cadet nurse corps began preclinical nursing program at the college, under an affiliated arrangement with The Dalles hospital school of nursing in The Dalles. The program provided for nine months' training at the college followed by 21 months at The Dalles hospital. Prospective nurses pledged themselves, health permitting, to continue their training and later service.

### 34 More

With the opening of the spring quarter in March, 1944, an additional contingent of 34 cadet nurses entered upon their training, under an affiliation arrangement with Deaconess hospital school of nursing in Spokane. Required courses prescribed by the U. S. cadet nurse corps were taught at the college and the necessary supervised hospital practice was provided at St. Joseph hospital. A new 10-bed nursing arts laboratory was established and additional equipment was acquired.

On Oct. 1, 1944, under arrangement with St. Elizabeth hospital at Baker, a new beginning group of 17 cadet nurses began its nine months pre-cadet training. At the same time, a second class of 34 for The Dalles hospital also started. Grande Ronde hospital was added to the program.

### Unified Program

On March 16, 1945, additional classes of 18 cadet nurses for St. Elizabeth hospital at Baker and 18 for St. Anthony hospital at Pendleton began training. This completed the original plan of having a beginning made in a unified nursing education pro-



UNDER THE LEADERSHIP of Mrs. T. B. Lumsden, the Union county chapter of the American Red Cross is doing a notable piece of war work. Mrs. Lumsden majored in journalism at the University of Oregon after which she completed the course of occupational therapy at Reed college. She then spent 18 months in the medical department of the U. S. army during World War I. "The task of restoration from war to peace is going to be even a bigger undertaking," says Mrs. Lumsden, "and we do hope all of our people who have so loyally supported the chapter in wartime will continue their efforts."

gram involving the schools of nursing at The Dalles hospital, St. Elizabeth, and St. Anthony.

In summary, there might be listed a number of benefits:

1. The program gave life, vigor, and color.
2. The faculty was kept intact throughout the war period.
3. A considerable proportion of the faculty acquired valuable professional experience in the adaptation of curriculum materials.
4. The college as a whole was enabled to discharge its wartime obligations.
5. A creditable addition to the good will of the general public toward the college accrued.
6. The college has cause for pride, in which each alumni and returning veteran students can join.
7. The clarification of the aims of the college in serving fully its function of higher educational leadership in its area.

8. A considerable amount of valuable instructional equipment and materials was acquired.

9. The reputation of having consummated contractual obligations creditably with several organizations.

10. The carryover into peacetime college instruction of some of the instructional procedures, including the greater use of audio and visual aids.

11. Temporary addition of 20 new faculty members provides a reservoir of demonstrated capability upon which to draw.

12. Potential peacetime continuation of the nursing education program in affiliation with hospital schools of nursing.

### PLENTY OF WATER

"Old Faithful" geyser, in Yellowstone National Park, spouts more than 1,500,000 gallons of water at each display, and could supply the water needs of a city the size of Denver.



# TOWARD A NEW WORLD

Not as did Columbus — whose discovery of our shores we celebrate this month—but across a sea of human understanding and achievement we sail toward a new world.

Our armies lay down their guns, having fulfilled their duty to humanity and preserved the foundations of our civilization and we may devote our energies toward a greater civilization—a new world, the atomic age.

Our prayer should be that misery and suffering may be diminished—that each race, nation and individual may find his place in the scheme of things—and that man may stand in his full stature in the light of the world.

### AN UNDERSTANDING SERVICE

In time of tribulation, friends are needed as at no other time. We extend our friendliness and our counsel to those bereaved, knowing that need.

# SNODGRASS FUNERAL HOME



## A Solid Foundation

For many years it has been the policy of this bank to serve the essential interests of the State. This policy has been instrumental in developing the agricultural, commercial and industrial facilities of Oregon.

T. B. LUMSDEN, Manager  
W. R. WINTERS, Acting Asst. Manager

## La Grande Branch

Office of The

# United States National Bank

28 BRANCH OFFICES IN OREGON

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION