

Donald E. Hardcastle is acquiring his basic training close at home. He is now at Camp Adair.

Cecil W. Head was inducted into the U. S. Army in October of 1942 and fought the "Battle of Oregon" until recently, being stationed while in Oregon at Camp White and Camp Adair. Cec recently left Oregon for overseas duty.

J. M. Williams is also stationed at Camp Adair. However, the Williams family is still represented among Oregon State Employees. Mrs. Williams is employed in the office of Ernie Umphlette, State Highway Engineer, at Eugene.

Carroll Robinson enlisted in the Seabees in October of 1942 and received his basic training at Norfolk, Virginia. Unfortunately, Carroll did not experience a period of duty overseas in that he was confined to a hospital in the States with asthma and was discharged in February of 1943. He is at present employed as computer in the traffic engineering division.

Lt. Hilbert Young, Seabees, is on active duty in England. That should be

a good place to see "active duty" almost any time now.

Capt. John Beakey, T. C., former State Highway Traffic Engineer, now in England, writes to Art Kneass that he went to the dog races. He says it cost him one and a half "Quid" to find out that the British dogs are just as undependable as their canine cousins across the seas.

The SERVICE NEWS in this issue is of necessity very limited. The editor was unable to gather as much news about our servicemen and women as he wished to publish. You undoubtedly know several employees of the State of Oregon now in the service. Send in names and addresses, news, excerpts from letters or whole letters, and all other items of interest, to Salem, Oregon. We believe SERVICE NEWS will be appreciated, both by regular employees and employees now in the service. Copies of OSE will be sent free to all employees now in the service provided the correct address is received.

The Statewide Merit System of Civil Service

The Statewide Merit System of Civil Service Bill did not pass the last Legislature. However, the work in its behalf was not wasted. Education is necessary concerning any new bill and it will be in a better position to pass the next Legislature. There were twenty-six aye votes counted when thirty-one were needed to carry.

An Interim Committee was created to study a merit system of Civil Service and to make a report to the next Legislature. The Committee is com-

posed of Representative Leo Smith, Chairman; Representative W. W. Chadwick; Representative Earl Hill and Senators Lew Wallace and Jim Jones.

The Interim Committee held a meeting in Portland, August 30, 1943, at which time George Aiken, Budget Director, and Dr. William C. Jones appeared at a private meeting. A public hearing was held in Portland, November 8, 1943, at which time interested parties were invited to appear. Those