

governor. He states: "Although we lose our constitutional amendment, Governor Long and some of his followers are recruits for civil service. Whether they really believe in civil service is immaterial, because in any event they evidently believe that they made a mistake in repealing the law in 1948, and have now joined with our groups in advocating the restoration of civil service by constitutional amendment. We believe, and Governor Long publicly stated, that a majority of the people of the state want a merit system law." Good Government.

---

## Sacramento Analyzes Sick Leave

This year, for the first time, Sacramento, California, reported sick leave time taken by city employees on the basis of the illness involved. Six general categories were used to classify the data: (1) common ailments, (2) serious ailments, (3) surgical operations, (4) functional—female, (5) miscellaneous, and (6) injuries and accidents not in line of duty. From a grand total of 7,449 total days of sick leave, common ailments (including colds and influenza) accounted for almost half. Miscellaneous (including two days for a bone stuck in one employee's throat) and surgical operations were practically tied for second place. Although the city denies time off when sick leave is not justified in the opinion of their visiting nurse, denial was considered necessary for only 23 days. In such cases, employees are charged with leave without pay, and employment is terminated when it is obvious a particular employee is an habitual malingerer.

---

### Progress Report

Gus Gooselberry plunked down the first payment on a new petrol buggy last Tuesday. "How is your wife getting along learning to drive the car," we asked to know. "Not bad," sez Gus, "The road is beginning to turn now when she does."

## Oregon Myrtlewood

### Travel Information Department Oregon State Highway Commission

Land of the myrtle woods, southwestern Oregon along spectacular shorelines of the Pacific, is the nation's principal habitat of this distinctive type of tree, which grows to best advantage in Curry and Coos counties. Myrtle is an uncommon species but yet found in Oregon in sufficient supply to form the nucleus of an unusual industry in the manufacture of novelties, furniture and panels.

Yet at the same time, the groves as a whole, are under the protection of the "Save the Myrtle Woods, Inc.," organized just a few years ago to assure preservation of the tree in the years ahead, with special reference to virgin stands.

The Oregon myrtle is a distinctive tree, with dense foliage, dark, rich glossy green throughout the year. Most of the trees are symmetrical, appearing as if they had been freshly pruned, the leaves glistening in the sunshine. Others are columnar and some with fantastic shapes, wide spreading and forked, heavy with burls. They can be seen in every direction in sylvan array as they march up hillsides and through the meadows, flanking the roadways.

Much of Oregon's myrtle is second growth, especially those observed from highways. Foresters say regardless of how the original trees were cut or slashed, they shape themselves generally in perfect symmetry as they grow back from the roots.

A forest of small myrtles greet motorists along state highway 42 entering Myrtle Point from Coquille. Larger myrtles are found throughout both cities and they border the highway to the Powers junction turn-off, with the largest groves on the Powers route, about 22 miles from Myrtle Point. Remnants of once gigantic myrtle forests can be observed in the valley of the south fork of the Coquille river.

Farther south along the coast on the Chetco river, are the well known Loeb and Bankus tracts, rivaled only by the

(Continued on Page 22)