Picked by a "phantom scout," these eight starry-eyed state service beauties emerged from behind the veil of mystery surrounding their selection as princesses of the Fourth of July Willamette River Days Festival. Jewelled mask removed, each girl faced cameras and Gold Room (Marion Hotel) audience with regal grace. They are, left to right (back row), Jackie Hayes, Joann Erstgaard, Shirley Sonderman, left), Ronna Hardman, (left, front row), Minnie Neuharth, Pat Halseth, Neva Seems and Donna Eshleman. Mystery still shrouds queenship.

OSEA QUEEN COMPETITION IS KEEN
As Willamette River Days Festival Approaches

Beauty the keynote, secrecy the watchword and competition the fever-pitch order—that about sums up the situation as regards the exciting selection of the eight lovely princesses and the heated contest for queenship.

Choice of the princesses was a closely guarded secret. Each girl, all unknown to everyone except an incognito scout, was selected from the state agencies where the about-to-become princesses were busy at theeir duties.

Announcement to the girls was a cryptic message out of the blue. Wham! It struck like a bomb-shell. Each selectee saw stars. But when the air cleared and she realized that the fairy-tale happening that "couldn't happen to me," actually had happened, each brunet or blonde rose to the occasion like royalty to the manor born.

Presentation at the Marion Hotel Gold Room the evening of June 7 took on the atmosphere of a Hollywood premiere. The girls, in turn, stepped to the spotlight wearing white taffeta gowns, queen's crown and royal robe and holding a jewelled, dark-glass lorgnette to her eyes to conceal her identity.

Each girl, carrying a regal bouquet of scarlet roses, was given a fanfare and introduced to the audience. She was then escorted by her chapter president and her sponsoring civic club representative to her place on the stage.

The Royal Court, as dazzlingly beautiful as any you'd see this side of Fairyland, made an unforgettable picture as eight bare-shouldered, starry-eyed girls faced the battery of photographers and cheering "subjects."

Any one of the graceful charmers would make a lovely queen. In the order of their presentation, they are:

Neva Seems, 21, YWCA, employee of the Department of Veterans Affairs, brown-haired, brown-eyed, sponsored by Chamber of Commerce.

Shirley Sonderman, 21, married, employee of the Governor's office, sponsored by Salem Optimist Club—light brown hair, green eyes.

Ronna Hardman, 19, Independence, employed in the office at the State Hospital. Another light brownette with brown eyes. Sponsored by Salem 20-30 Club.

Pat Halseth, 21, 355 S. 24th St., employee of the State Highway Traffic Department, a green-eyed blonde, sponsored by Salem Junior Chamber of Commerce.

Joan Erstgaard, 26, 345 S. 25th St., employed by the State Agriculture Department, dark brown hair, hazel eyes, sponsored by Salem Exchange Club. Married.

Donna Eshleman, 22, 1071 Shamrock St., employee of State Driver's License Department, raven-haired, brown-eyed, married, sponsored by Downtown Salem Lions Club.

Jackie Hayes, 19, 2040 Virginia St., employee of Oregon National Guard, blonde, blue-eyed, sponsored by Salem Rotary Club.

Minnie Neuharth, 24, employee of State Probation Department, brown hair, brown eyes, sponsored by Downtown Kiwanis Club.

Sponsors were selected by lottery. Selection of queen is to be determined by the number of tickets sold for the "River Days" Fourth of July celebration. The club selling the most tickets in the name of its princess will see its princess crowned queen at a pree-Fourth of July coronation.

CSEICo Insurance
Program Progressing

The auto insurance program is getting under way. Much planning and training of agents and insurance representatives remains to be done, along with the operational procedure in our office. These things take time, and only time will work them out.

We are seeking an office girl, trained in insurance work, one who can take care of the policy service functions. If any readers know of such a person, please contact Headquarters office immediately.

Field contact is planned for the near future with all the insurance representatives, and again time is of the essence. I wish to thank all of the representatives who have already given of their time to meet with me on the rather hurried trip down the coast the last week of May. Chapter Officers Schools are designed to inform the representatives of the program.

New business premium volume for May exceeded $2,200 and the first renewals for November business of 1955 were received. This income which goes to your Association is destined to become a financial asset of the Association in the future.

Please bear with us on quotations as the time consumed in this activity must be secondary to policy service. As the insurance representatives and agents are better informed this service will be improved. Anyone having an immediately pending expiration date and who has not as yet been contacted, please call or write again and we will make every effort to cover you.

Wylie J. Graham

Shattuck Given Nunn's Position on Suggestion Board

Gov. Elmo Smith recently announced the appointment of Gordon Shattuck as secretary of the State Employes Suggestion Board to succeed Warne H. Nunn.

Shattuck has been appointed assistant to the Public Utilities Commissioner, succeeding Nunn. He will assume his new duties in both of these capacities when Nunn takes over his newly appointed position as director of the Department of Motor Vehicles on July 1.

Shattuck will move up from his present position of supervisor of personnel and training with the State Unemployment Compensation Commission.

The state employees suggestion system has been developed as a result of 1955 legislation granting cash awards to state employees for the submission of suggestions which result in economy and efficiency in the state government.

Board members under Shattuck will remain the same: G. S. Paxson, chairman, W. F. Gaarenstroom and Melvin H. Cleveland.

Gordon Shattuck is a member of OSEA Chapter 22. G. S. Paxson belongs to Salem 1.

KEEP GREEN ASSOCIATION PLANS FOR SEASON WORK

Encouraged by a lower than usual number of man-caused forest fires in 1955, Keep Oregon Green Association Trustees, met in Salem recently for their annual meeting and laid plans for an even more intensive fire prevention drive during 1956.

The public will be urged, Chairman E. P. Stamm stated, to help prevent man-caused forest fires. A drive will be made against cigarette flippers who last year caused 257 fires.

Loggers came in for credit from the KOG Trustees who noted there were only 78 logging fires, despite a serious fire condition in the woods late last summer.

Albert Wiesendanger outlined, to the trustees, plans for a stepped up program of work with young Oregonians through the KOG youth activity, the Oregon Green Guards.

Credit Unions for State Employees

State employees, like other people, can often benefit from credit made available at low interest rates. Like others, state employees should be encouraged to practice habits of thrift and saving.

For some time the OSEA Board of Directors has inquired diligently into the possibility of establishing a credit union capable of serving members on a statewide basis. All avenues have been explored and, at the May 26 meeting of the Board, Don Parker, chairman of the investigating committee, reported conclusions of his group.

Parker, who has spearheaded efforts in this direction, stated that after exhaustive studies, the committee had concluded that a statewide credit union was impractical and would furthermore conflict with the three such groups now serving state employees in the Portland, Salem and Corvallis areas.

The committee has recommended that the Association encourage its members to participate in the activity of groups now in operation. It also advised that chapters in areas presently having no credit union available to their members should be stimulated to form such organizations. Said Parker:

"The committee is prepared to provide interested chapters the information necessary to start the ball rolling."

What Is a Credit Union?

A credit union is a self-help, do-it-yourself service type organization of people with some common bond such as a mutual employer or membership in the same church, association or fraternal order. A credit union is a way of thinking about mutual problems. It is a means of promoting thrift. It enables its members to take advantage of favorable opportunities for wise purchases under circumstances which might not again be available for extended periods.

How It Works

The credit union is used by its members to accumulate their savings and to make loans to each other. A board of directors takes care of the business details. A credit committee elected by the members passes on applications for loans. An elected supervisory committee and state or federal inspectors keep close watch on all operations. Each year in an annual meeting the members review the business of the credit union and vote on policies.

Since a credit union is operated by its members who as a rule serve without pay, the expenses are low. Since the members are known to each other and have common bonds, the credit risk is low. These factors serve to permit low interest charges which cannot exceed 1 per cent per month on the unpaid balance, and may be considerably less. Loans are frequently made on the basis of character as much as on collateral security. A credit union is primarily a cooperative association of people who want to help each other.

Why Organize?

There are more than 21,000 credit unions in 58 states and provincial credit union leagues which are further coordinated in the Credit Union National Association. Assets of these groups total more than $3,400,000,000. It is estimated that 90 per cent of the savings in credit union shares would not have been accumulated had it not been for the facilities provided by such an organization.

Life savings insurance up to $1,000 and loan protection insurance is available at no added cost to the individual. Such benefits make credit unions particularly attractive agencies for saving regularly and obtaining loans when needed. Dividends up to 6 per cent on savings are possible and usually range between 4 and 5 per cent.

How To Organize

OSEA chapters other than those in Portland, Marion County or Corvallis—or individuals in those areas who desire information relative to establishing a credit union to serve state employees in their vicinity—should communicate with Don Parker, 1290 N. 21st St., Salem. Or they may write to the Oregon Credit Union League, Mead Building, Portland.

The leagues and national association maintain field men and have publications and numerous other services to help organize and maintain credit unions.

Democratic Principles

A credit union is as important as the vision of the people who organize and operate it. It may be a means of combating usury. It may be a convenient and economical way of making low-cost loans. It offers a systematic method of saving money.

It is organized for a particular group with common interests. Membership is open to anyone in the group. For maximum strength and effectiveness, a credit union needs able officers and a membership fully aware of its rights and privileges.

Newcomb Named Sec.-Treas. Western Div. American Fisheries Soc.

Ross Newcomb, Corvallis Chapter No. 29, fishery research biologist for the Oregon State Game Commission, was named Secretary-Treasurer of the Western Division of the American Fisheries Society at its recent concurrent meeting with the Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners.

Dr. H. J. Rayner, Chief of Fisheries Operations for the Game Commission was the 1955-56 head of the organization. Dr. Rayner is a member of Or-Ga-Co Chapter No. 51. Newcomb is Director of Public Relations for OSEA.

L. F. Schneider, game research biologist, also a member of Chapter 29, prepared a paper for the meeting entitled "The Value of Supplemental Salt as a Big Game Management Technique in Oregon," while Professor Carl E. Bond of OSC Faculty Chapter No. 72, presented a paper referring to "Experimental Control of Elodea densa, (Brazilian Waterweed), and other Aquatic Weeds."

Ed. note: It is likely that other OSEA members are making valuable contributions to the understanding and management of the world's natural and human resources. Press correspondents are requested to report such achievements to the Sentinel so that credit may be given where credit is due. Fellow OSEAer's will be interested and the member whose work is so mentioned will be given a justly deserved tribute.

Speed Signs

Vince Gallagher is a man who knows a curve when he sees one—a highway curve, that is.

Gallagher, an employee of Oregon's Highway Department, has spent most of the past three years studying curves to determine what the department calls the "safe speed on curves."

The results of the work can be seen on all the state's major highways in the form of advisory speed signs posted directly under the regular diamond-shaped curve warning signs. All but 300 of the state's 9500 highway curves have now been speed-tested and posted. The job required driving slightly over 100,000 miles.

Oregon Trail OSEA 35 Holds Annual Picnic

Oregon Trail Chapter No. 35 staged its once a year picnic Saturday evening, June 2, at Uncle Walt's Park, The Dalles. Games were enjoyed preceding the fried chicken supper at 7:30 p. m.

For preparation of the food, the hospital kitchen was staffed by what was probably the most lettered personnel ever to fry chicken. In charge were all Rn's with Jo Einarson, dietitian, assisting.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Daniels attended as did Mr. and Mrs. Andy Smith. Andy Smith, superintendent of the Oak Springs Fish Hatchery, is the incoming director of District 7.