

### DAV Commander Charges VA Lax on Hospital Construction

"It's a sad situation that after congress passes laws entitling vets to benefits you still have to fight to get them," said David M. Brown, national commander of the Disabled American Veterans, while in Salem Tuesday.

Brown, a World War I veteran, says he is particularly incensed at the "dilly-dallying" in construction of Veterans Administration hospitals. He declared congress had appropriated money for 81 VA hospitals since 1944 but said only three of them were completed.

#### DAV Chief



David M. Brown of Akron, Ohio, national commander of Disabled American Veterans and a Salem visitor this week. (Statesman photo.)

"At the outbreak of World War II there was a VA hospital bed for every 45 veterans," said Brown. "If the new hospitals were completed there would be just one bed for every 111 vets, he added, and as a result of 'bungling of the building program' today's ratio is 1 to 151. "And last January the hospital program was reduced by 16,000 beds," Brown stated.

Rep. John Rankin (D-Miss.) has introduced a bill which would require VA to build the hospitals cut from the program. Included was a 200-bed institution at Klamath Falls.

"As for economy," said Brown, "if the government decides to carry out some real economy, I think they'll find the veterans willing to go along."

DAV's total membership is 162,000, said Brown. He pointed out that veterans must have a service-connected disability to be eligible. With only ten per cent of all veterans to join, he said the local chapter's strength of 90 would compare with 900 in most veterans' groups.

Every motorist in the nation hears from Brown's organization once a year. They receive a key-tag replica of their license plate as a request for a 25-cent donation. Brown says that half of them respond with donations ranging up to a dollar.

In return DAV mails back 50 pounds of lost keys every month. The tag bears a request for finders to drop them in a mail box. DAV then forwards them to the owner. One wheatbelt farmer who dropped his keys in a sack of grain got them back after the bag was opened in Liverpool, Eng. Another set was returned from Okinawa.

Money from the key-tag project helps maintain a crew of 250 service officers who assist all veterans and their dependents in getting claims through the VA. They work under National Claims Director Cicero Hogan, a native of Oregon, who accompanied Brown here this week.

Brown cited an example of what the service officers do. "Suppose a vet had his eye shot out. He goes to VA and makes application for loss of an eye. Chances are his face has been disfigured, too, entitling him to more. Our men point this out to him and help him get what he's entitled to. They understand medical terms and know the VA law. All had special training for two years before they went on the job."

Brown is an Akron, Ohio heating engineer in private life.

### State Leaders Back Hiring of Handicapped



Gov. Douglas McKay is shown conferring with top Oregon vocational rehabilitation officials at the state library a few minutes prior to making a special broadcast transcription of a roundtable discussion of the current "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week." Shown, left to right, are Vernon Basler, Portland, VA chief of vocational rehabilitation and education; Governor McKay; Robert Thomson, Portland station KGW announcer; Charles F. Felke, Salem, director, state division of vocational rehabilitation; Harry A. Ketterman, Portland chairman of the governor committee on fifth annual handicapped week's observance, and Earl R. Lovell, Salem, director of the Oregon state employment service. The discussion will be broadcast over KGW today at 10:45 p.m.

### Channel Swim Backfires, Seal To Make Jaunt Sans Secrecy

PARIS, Oct. 4—(AP)—There are limits, after all, to the English channel's silly season.

A Cairo challenge to the California sea lion on behalf of the Egyptian crocodile was strictly a gag.

Among those you don't hear laughing are the Compton Advertising agency people in New York. One of their ideas had got out of hand.

But anyway the sea lion, who answers to the name of Pierre Clifton if prompted by a bit of herring, is due to tackle the channel Sunday with just press agents following alongside.

It's a zany swimming stunt for the National Broadcasting company of New York and its "Truth or Consequences" program, a fact the Compton agency hoped wouldn't get out until Sunday.

"It was supposed to be a secret," mourned Muriel Dibble of the agency staff in New York. "The swimmer has been mentioned on the program only as 'Otto The Great' and listeners were supposed to think he was a human being."

The Cairo challenge, cabled to NBC's Paris office, sounded right serious: "Appreciate delay your seal's channel swim until Timmah, a trained crocodile from the Egyptian zoo, arrives by boat on Monday. He challenges your seal to a race with a 1,000 side bet. Timmah is the world's most famous crocodile, presented by Empress Eugenia in 1869. (Signed) Nile Sports association."

But a check in Cairo disclosed: (1) The Cairo zoo has sent no crocodile to France (2) Timmah is just an anglicization of the Arabic word for crocodile (3) There is no Nile Sports Association in Egypt (4) The man who sent the challenge admitted it was a hoax and pleaded "Don't use my name."

Burt Kennedy, a quiz program contestant from Hollywood, Calif., who missed a hard one a week ago last Saturday, was flown to France to "train a channel swimmer" as the penalty. He is Pierre's nominal trainer. Ross McBride actually is in charge.

### Band Parents Seek Housing For Visitors

Volunteers are needed from the membership of Salem high school's band's parent association to house nearly 100 members of the Bend high school band Friday night.

The call for housing was issued at a meeting attended by 50 members of the association Tuesday night at the high school.

Housing has been provided for several years for Bend high school band members who visit Salem for the high school football clash between the two schools. Last year Salem's band members were entertained at Bend.

Volunteers who will offer housing are asked to call the high school at telephone number 2-4143. About 60 girls and 34 boys from Bend will visit Salem.

In addition, at least six automobiles are needed to meet the bus from Bend at 5 p.m. Friday at the high school to transport band members to homes where they will stay Friday night. Persons who can

### DeArmond to Represent DAV In Club Building Controversy

A lawyer will take over for Salem chapter 6, Disabled American Veterans, in their controversy with another group over control of a proposed Salem club building. Announcement came Tuesday from David M. Brown, DAV national commander, who leaves Salem this morning following two days of conferences here on the subject.

Robert W. DeArmond, Salem attorney, will represent the local DAV chapter. Brown said his instructions were to strive for a peaceful solution with the Salem Living War Memorial association, Inc. but if necessary to ask the courts for total equity in the property in the name of the Salem chapter of DAV.

A drive for funds for the building started three years ago. The building corporation was formed from membership of the local chapter, purportedly with the approval of national headquarters.

During the past year some members of the chapter who were trustees of the building corporation lost their good standing in DAV. Construction of the building at Marion and North Church streets was halted and the contractor sued for a claim against the building corporation.

While in Salem Brown sought agreement of trustees of the building corporation that it be dissolving. He said the property then would have been sold and contributors reimbursed as much as possible. Five trustees agreed, said Brown, but two more were required.

Attorneys for the building corporation say its by-laws provide that the property shall revert to Marion county in the event the corporation is dissolved.

### Child Custody Appeal Dismissed by Court

The state supreme court, in an opinion by Justice James T. Brand, Tuesday dismissed a suit involving custody of a child after the mother was killed in an automobile accident.

The suit was brought by Mrs. Maxine Mignot against her husband, Ernest Mignot, in Linn county. Circuit Judge Victor Olliver gave the child to her mother and the father appealed. The appeal was heard September 6, approximately a week before Mrs. Mignot was killed. The father now receives the child.

**LUTHERAN MEN TO MEET**  
SILVERTON — At a special meeting of the Lutheran Men's club Thursday night Arthur Christenson, chairman of the Lutheran Placement bureau and M. Stollie, president of the Oregon Circuit of Lutheran Men, will be guest speakers. The Rev. S. L. Almille has announced. The meeting will be held at Immanuel Lutheran church at 8 p.m. and all men are welcome to attend.

Other business Tuesday the parent association elected four new directors to its eight-man executive board. They were A. J. Cross, U. Q. Wolfer, August Manke and J. H. McConville.

### Salem Hunters Fined in Nevada

RENO, Nev., Oct. 4—(AP)—Two Salem, Ore. men were among eight Oregonians charged with illegal deer hunting Tuesday in justice court here.

John Linderman, 43, and Hans Hefstetter, 57, both of Salem, were members of the party arrested Saturday near Bald mountain in northern Washoe county. The season in that county does not open until October 16.

The eight men posted \$250 bail each.

The .847 slugging percentage posted by Babe Ruth in 1920 is the major league record.

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**"The Singing Church"**

### Chest Workers Too Thorough

"Haven't I seen you somewhere before?" asked a young woman worker for the Community Chest drive Tuesday when a man came to the door at a north Salem home. The man allowed that probably she had. He was Joseph Dodd, chairman of the Community Chest drive, who had been master of ceremonies at the kick-off breakfast for workers a few hours before. The woman lived near the 12th street junction and was working miles away from her part of town.

**MORE EFFICIENT**  
CHICAGO—(INS)—The Council of State Government reports that studies on governmental reorganization—with emphasis on increasing efficiency—are underway in at least 16 states and two territories—Puerto Rico and Hawaii.

**Five Injured In Car Crash Near Albany**  
ALBANY, Oct. 4—(Special)—Five persons were hospitalized after their car skidded and rolled nearly 400 feet off the Pacific highway 11 miles south of Albany last night.  
In serious condition today at Albany city hospital is the driver, LeVerne Keith Edwards, Sweet Home, who incurred a skull fracture and severe internal injuries.  
Also hospitalized, with cuts, bruises and shock, are Robert Orvell Stedwick, David Kimball and Mrs. Gertrude Herrold, all of Sweet Home, and Florence Frost, Crawfordsville. All were passengers in the car.  
The accident occurred shortly before midnight when the auto skidded on a curve in highway 99-E, rolled over and finally crashed at a point between the road and Southern Pacific railroad tracks. The car was demolished. State police investigated the accident.

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- J. W. Yelton, Portland, Oregon—Food Mixer
- Harry Hagadorn, Silverton, Oregon—Waffle Baker
- O. H. Otis, Tigard, Oregon—Pop-up Toaster
- Lloyd Quick, North Bend, Oregon—Pop-up Toaster
- Kenneth Erickson, Baker, Oregon—Iron
- Don E. Garber, Portland, Oregon—Iron

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