

Population at Oregon Institutions Increases

The population of Oregon's state institutions has increased about 10 per cent during the past two years reaching an all-time high of approximately 8,217, Roy Mills, state board of control secretary, reported Tuesday.

Largest population increases are at the Oregon state hospitals and the state penitentiary. All institutions, other than the Hillcrest school for girls, are operating virtually at capacity with the penitentiary overcrowded pending completion of a new cell block now under construction.

The girls' school population of 66 is approximately 50 under capacity, Mills said.

Latest count at the state hospital here showed a population of 3,029 with 1,435 at Eastern Oregon state hospital at Pendleton. The prison population was 1,568 and Fairview home (institution for the mentally deficient) 1,350. Other population figures show 172 at the Oregon boys school, 209 at the Salem state tuberculosis hospital, 152 at the Eastern Oregon tuberculosis hospital, 169 at the deaf school and fewer than 100 at the state blind school.

Mills advised that while the 1951 legislature reduced materially some of the budget requests of the state institutions for the next biennium starting July 1, they probably would operate within their appropriations. This prediction was based on the assumption there will be no material increase in commodity costs and the normal population increase will not be exceeded.

Mills said pieces of commodities purchased by the state were leveling off with the exception of beef and a few other articles.

At some of the institutions, particularly the state hospitals and penitentiary, a substantial amount of produce is produced on their farms. Much of this produce is consumed at the institutions.

For the first time in several years, Mills said, the medical staffs at most of the institutions are filled although two additional physicians are required at the Eastern Oregon state hospital. A similar situation involves other institutions.

Improvement in the help situation was attributed largely to the action of recent legislatures in providing more adequate living quarters for workers. Figures show that the state has expended more than \$12,000,000 in institution construction during the past few years.

The last legislature, however, refused to approve construction of an intermediate institution for younger offenders and an institution for the care and treatment of sex offenders. These institutions would have cost a total of \$3,000,000.

Prison Warden George Alexander said his institution would be relieved somewhat when a forest camp manned by convicts is established in the Tillamook burn area under direction of the state forestry department.

Establishment of this camp was approved by the 1951 legislature. Convicts assigned to the camp will be engaged in construction of forest trails, reseeded operations, and other forestry work for which they will receive maximum compensation of \$2 a day.

Jobless Pay Ruling Asked From Neuner

Attorney General George Neuner Tuesday was asked to write an opinion in connection with a law of the recent legislature providing that all Oregon employers shall come under provisions of the state jobless insurance law.

The question stemmed from action of the recent legislature which through error in copying a new bill, made it apply to all employers. The current law exempts employers of fewer than four persons. The new provision becomes operative early in July.

Records show the senate of the last legislature upheld a minority committee report that the bill including all employers under the jobless insurance law be indefinitely postponed. Later, however, the bill was recopied to include all employers and sent to the house where it was approved. The senate then concurred apparently without realizing what the recopied bill provided.

The attorney general's opinion was requested by the state unemployment compensation commission.

Despite any ruling by Neuner the issue was expected to be referred to the courts. Labor unions desire that all employers be included but the employers are opposed.

Officials said the expanded act, if placed in operation, would double the 18,000 total of employers now under the law and result in 35,000 additional employees.

The unemployment compensation commission estimated it would have to employ approximately 50 additional workers to enforce the law.

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Postmaster To Move Office To 2nd Floor

Salem Postmaster Albert C. Gragg will move his offices from the main floor of the post office building to a suite of offices on the second floor July 1, he reported Tuesday.

The postmaster, his secretary and auditor will occupy rooms 207, 209 and 211. These were formerly taken up by the Marion county agent's office, which has moved to the Salem school office building.

The downstairs office, to be vacated by Gragg, will be occupied by Clayton Dickson, superintendent of mails. His present office will then be occupied by Charles E. Eyre, assistant postmaster.

Gragg also reported Tuesday renewal of three suburban post office contracts to present operators for the next two years. The contracts are to Hale Mickey, who operates an office at his store on south 99E, Mrs. Hazel Teets, at the Keizer Paint store and Floyd Borden, at the Four Corners Variety store.

Methodist's Meet Draws 200 Delegates

Nearly 200 ministerial and lay delegates opened Oregon's annual Methodist conference Tuesday afternoon at Willamette university. Business sessions are slated to get underway at 9 o'clock this morning.

With Bishop Gerald H. Kennedy of Portland presiding, added committee appointments were announced. These include William Bowman, chairman of memorials; William Hobbs of Sweet Home, religion in life; Lawrence Guderian, press representative.

Other events today will include open house at the Methodist old people's home from 3 to 5 p.m., laymen's forum at 4 p.m., Town and Country fellowship dinner at 5:30 p.m. worship at 7:30 p.m. in First Methodist church, with Dr. J. Richard Sneed of Los Angeles giving the address.

BANKERS ELECT ROGERS GEARHART, June 12—(P)—John B. Rogers of the First National bank of Baker is the new president of the Oregon Bankers association.

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Russ Narrows Exit Routes From Vienna

VIENNA, June 12—(P)—Russian occupation authorities appeared today to have suddenly closed one route for Americans departing from the Austrian capital.

American officials said the Russians had refused an abnormally large number of American applications to travel through the Russian zone to the British zone of occupation.

The routes for American army and diplomatic personnel and tourists to leave the city are directly westward through the Soviet zone of Austria over the U. S.-Russian zone border at the Enns river, or southwestward through the Soviet area over the Semmering pass to the British zone.

"Grey passes" acceptable to the Russians are required for both routes. An American official rubber stamp is all that is needed on the pass to cross the Enns river, but a Russian signature must be on the pass for travel to the British zone.

It is the latter that was refused to 11 applicants yesterday. Only two applications to travel by the Semmering pass were approved. American officials were unsuccessful in efforts to obtain an explanation from the Russians. They resubmitted the rejected applications, along with fresh ones, today.

"We will get a clearer picture tomorrow morning," an American officer said, "whether it was just a misup by some Russian new on the job or whether it was purposeful. We will see how many are refused then. We do not feel there is any cause for concern yet."

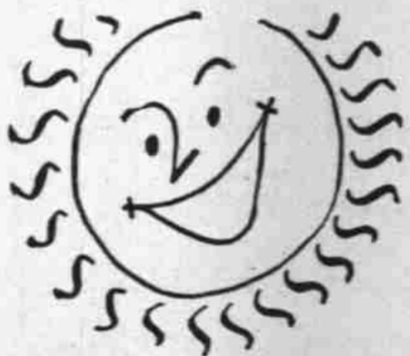
Baptismal Heater Blamed for Fire

BREMERTON, June 12—(P)—Fire destroyed the Manette community church Monday. Firemen expressed the belief it may have been caused by a short circuit to the heating element in the baptismal tank.

The church is affiliated with the Washington Baptist convention. The church was valued at \$40,000. Furnishings also were destroyed. The church carried \$18,000 insurance on the 45-year-old structure.

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Men's main floor

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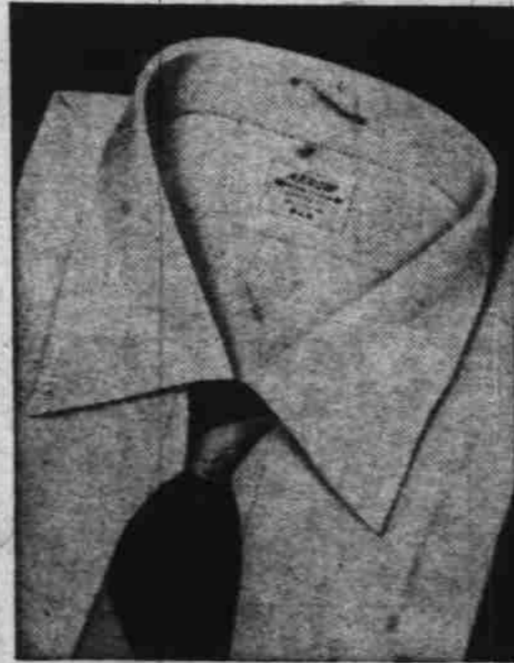
Big, generous-sized hankies, just the way he wants them. Pick from white linens; corded lawns; colored woven border styles. Buy 3 for \$1.

Colored Pure Nylon Socks \$1

Elastic top style; shrinkproof. Fast colors of Light and Dark Green, Maroon, Navy, Red, Tan, Grey, Light Blue, Maize. 10-13.

Jacquard Polo Shirts 99c

Worth \$1.98. Ribbed crew neck and gaucho collar styles; knit waist. Maize, Light Green, Blue, Tan, Grey, White. Washable. S, M, L.



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