

Manager at State Prison



New man in a new job is Francis Wonderly (right), just hired as business manager at Oregon State Penitentiary after the recent Legislature abolished position of superintendent. The former man in that job, George Alexander, retired. With Wonderly at prison office above is file clerk Mrs. Gertrude Beale. (Statesman Photo.)

Oregon's Industrial Accident Benefits Double in 10 Years As Premiums Rate Declines

Although benefits paid to injured workmen and their dependents under the Oregon workmen's compensation law have doubled since 1943 the premium rates during the same period have decreased 26 per cent, the State Industrial Accident Commission reported here Sunday.

The commission said workmen had been further benefitted by the addition of occupational disease coverage without any increase in rates. Oregon is the only state in the union, officials said, which has not increased its rates during that period. It also was pointed out that the base rates charged major industries are the lowest of comparable states.

Aggressive accident prevention work, careful screening of claims, psychotherapy and rehabilitation, have been important factors in the commission's operations. Officials said this program had saved covered employers more than \$15,000,000.

The commission reported that every month during the current biennium showed an increase over the corresponding month in the previous biennium in both the number of claims received and the number of employer accounts on record.

There were approximately 120,000 claims filed in the 1950-52 biennium, an increase of 24 per cent over the previous period while claim costs increased a record of 42 per cent to a high of \$240,000,000. Number of active accounts increased to 39,000 as of June, 1952, with a 25.5 per cent increase in employers' contributions over the previous two year period.

During the last biennium the administrative cost of the commission's industrial program increased only 14 per cent despite the marked increase in the volume of business. Cost of the administrative activities was 8.56 per cent of income as compared to 9.3 percent during the previous biennium.

Accident Prevention
Special mention was made of the commission's accident prevention program launched in 1943. In that year the law provided that 2.5 per cent of the premium income could be used for accident prevention activities. The 1947 legislature increased this allowance to four per cent and the 1951 legislature to five per cent. The 1953 legislature continued the program.

During the last 10 years, 1943 to 1953, there has been an increase in state insured industries from 20,306, to 39,764. During the same period the accident frequency rate was decreased from 72.28 per cent to 55.55 percent or 23.14 percent. This compilation was based on the number of disabling accidents per million man hours worked. Officials said this record was made possible by complete support and cooperation of management and labor.

To further decrease the accident frequency rate the accident commission, with the support of labor and management, has established a program whereby benefits from safer working conditions can be presented to every employe in Oregon industries and to the community.

Vocational Rehabilitation
Probably the most humanitarian project of the accident commission is the vocational rehabilitation program. The Oregon law provides a fund of not less than \$75,000 for the vocational retraining of injured workmen who, due to injuries, are unable to return to their former employment. During the retraining period of the disabled worker the commission pays for maintenance, transportation, tuition and supplies.

Upon completion of the training the commission furnishes equipment necessary in the use of the new skill in an amount not to exceed \$250. These expenditures are in addition to all other benefits of the workman's compensation law.

Responsibility of the commission does not end until the retraining has been placed in a gainful occupation.

In the past eight years 2,630 cases have been reviewed and 1,048 referred to the division for vocational rehabilitation. In the fiscal year of 1952 approximately 606 cases were reviewed and 190 referred for rehabilitation.

The commission said Oregon's program for retraining injured workmen has received national recognition. Members of the commission are T. Morris Dunne, L. O. Arens and Paul E. Gurske.

The "song" of the cicada is produced by two drumhead-like membranes in its abdomen.

Freed POWs Angry Over 'Red Label'

PHOENIXVILLE, Pa. (AP) — A group of former American prisoners of war Sunday expressed deep bitterness over the "Red label" they said had been hung on them on their return to Valley Forge Military Hospital for special treatment.

The men were among a group of 20 flown back to Valley Forge Military Hospital last Friday night in a secrecy-shrouded trip from Tokyo.

The Air Force said the Pentagon imposed security measures in connection with the flight "because of the position taken by the Army and others that these men may have been misled under conditions of duress and hardship during the period of their captivity."

Of the 20, ten agreed to take part in a news conference Sunday, two at a time, "to try to remove some of the false stigma that has come our way."

Four of the 20 refused to take part in the conference and a hospital spokesman said their action was based on their bitterness over the whole situation.

The remainder were either bedridden too weak to undergo questioning, or did not care to take part because they wanted to be with their recently arrived families.

"Feel Like Criminals"
All those interviewed expressed surprise over the idea that any of the members of their group should be considered pro-Communist. One of the POWs, Cpl. James L. Ball, 21, of Bellvue, W. Va., said "this Red label makes us feel like criminals. We are all completely innocent." And then he added in response to a question about Communist "brainwashing" techniques:

"I never even heard the term 'brain-wash' before I got back home."

A member of the hospital medical staff, who asked that his name not be used, added:

"I don't know where this idea started, but there's one thing for sure—we're not running a damned Laundromat here."

Given "Dirty Deal"
Another of the interviewed groups said they had been given a "dirty deal" in the form of a "Red label" on their return to the U.S.

They were Pfc. Roger Herndon, 20, of Jacksonville, Fla., and Cpl. Vernon L. Warren, 22, of St. Louis.

Herndon, who lost his right arm because of a machine-gun wound suffered at the time of his capture in Nov., 1950, said he was perfectly willing to go back to Korea, for "another crack at the Red's" despite his wound which would prevent any return to combat.

Asked if he had seen anything or been told anything that might have made him sympathetic to Communism, Herndon said:

"They showed us the best they had and it was nothing."

The Jacksonville soldier said he felt "a few" of the Allied prisoners of war may have succumbed to Communist propaganda but hastened to add he knew of no specific American cases.

Both Herndon and Warren said neither was subjected to any ill-treatment or torture but were given "the full treatment" by Communist propaganda officers.

Proposal for Tunnel Under Channel Heard
PARIS (AP)—About once a decade during the last 100 years, someone latches onto a change in world events to revive the idea of digging a tunnel underneath the English channel. Western Europe's defense buildup has again brought the age-old plan to link France and England out of dusty archives.

Ernest Thurtle, a British M.P., and French Architect Andre Baudant approached top-ranking officers at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers in Europe not long ago with a scheme for such a tunnel.

It called for constructing a double-decked, 35-mile-long tunnel connecting Bazinghen near Calais, France, with Folkestone in Kent, England. One deck would be for automotive traffic, the other for a double-track railroad.

In 1934, the liner Olympic followed the radio beam sent out by the Nantucket lightship and collided with the lightship, sinking it.

Hemingway Wins Pulitzer Prize for 'Old Man and Sea'

27 bylee nl prizes bit rs24pps 4 NEW YORK (AP) — Ernest Hemingway won the first Pulitzer prize in his 30-year career as a rugged, outdoor novelist Monday for his vivid short novel, "The Old Man and the Sea."

The 1953 Pulitzer drama award went to William Inge, Kansas-born playwright, for his Broadway hit, "Picnic," a play with a Mid-West setting. It opened here Feb. 19 and previously had won the New York Drama Critics Circle Award and others as the season's best play.

There were two repeat winners in this year's lists of awards made by the trustees of Columbia University.

They were Archibald MacLeish in the field of poetry, and Don Whitehead of The Associated Press in the realm of national reporting. MacLeish last was honored in 1933, and Whitehead in 1951.

Second Citation
The New York Times won its second special Pulitzer edition, this time for its Sunday edition section, "Review of the Week."

Other Pulitzer awards announced late Monday were given for: Meritorious public service by a newspaper—The Whiteville, N. C., News Reporter and The Tabor City N. C., Tribune for their successful campaign against the Ku Klux Klan.

International reporting — Austin Wehrwein of The Milwaukee, Wis., Journal for a series of articles on Canada.

For Reporting
Local reporting — Staff reporters and photographers of The Providence, R. I., Journal and Evening Bulletin for their coverage of a bank robbery; and Edward J. Mowery of The New York World-Telegram and Sun for his reporting of facts that led to vindication and freedom for a man falsely imprisoned for life as a murderer.

Cartoon—Edward D. Kuekes of the Cleveland, O., Plain Dealer, for his sketch of two soldiers in Korea, commenting on the fact that their fallen buddy was old enough to die but too young to vote.

Wall Street Journal
Editorials—Vernon Connecticut Royster of the Wall Street Journal, for his regular editorial series that ranged from prize fights to politics and religion.

News photographer — William M. Gallagher of the Flint, Mich., Journal for his human interest picture of Adlai E. Stevenson, Democratic candidate for President, campaigning with a hole in the bottom of his shoe.

Biography — David J. Mays for his book on Edmund Pendleton, the American lawyer and statesman who guided the state of Virginia in its advocacy of American independence in 1776.

History — George Dangerfield, British-born historian, for his "The Era of Good Feelings," a study of a little known period of American history — the administrations of James Monroe and John Quincy Adams.

Robert Donat, Actor, Marries
LONDON (AP) — Robert Donat, 48, British stage and film star, married Renee Asherson, 33, London actress, Monday.

Their marriage came as a surprise to members of the Old Vic company where on Saturday night Donat finished a triumphant comeback as the star of T. S. Eliot's "Murder in the Cathedral."

This was her first marriage. Donat's first marriage in 1929 ended in divorce in December, 1948. He has three children.

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