

Eugene Employment Picture Both Heartening, Gloomy

No headlines in Eugene yet is the gist of a July report of the State Unemployment Compensation Commission. Pessimism about business futures among home economists is not reflected in figures compiled by the Oregon agency.

Summer unemployment in Eugene reached a new low of 1050 and more than 1430 job openings were on file in the Eugene employment office during June.

Predictions for the remainder of the year indicate an increase in the number of jobs, followed by a seasonal letdown in construction, food processing, and lumbering this winter.

Peak in August

The summer's peak will be reached late in August when an estimated food processing labor force of 10,400 persons goes to work," estimates Guy Lang, Eugene manager of the employment office.

A gradual drop in the food processing line to rock bottom in December, January, and February will follow the usual seasonal pattern with an upturn in March.

The bulk of this labor force is recruited from migrant workers. However Lang reports movement of transient workers is increasing and the answer to their work queries is a mounting "No."

Overselling of State

These gypsy workers, according to the employment chief, are being oversold on Oregon pay and jobs.

"While it is true," he says, "Oregon has a high resident employment record and wage, it does not offer any easy road to wealth for the 'fly by night' passing through."

Residents affected by seasonal industry such as construction, food processing, and lumbering and logging have little to turn to in the winter months for work and bring compensation totals to high levels in contrast to the summer lows, he said.

Eugene only showed a total of 68 persons on these lists for June; 23 in the lumbering industry and 16 from retail trades lead the field. Salem's record is 121 for the same period.

This figure was offset by the 1430 total of job openings here which was second only to Portland's 8853 and topped Lebanon with 1058, Salem with 952, and Klamath Falls with 515.

Cottage Grove

From the now closed Cottage Grove office a June total of 197 job openings with 172 non-farm placements was reported.

Eugene's placement in non-farm lines, rose to 1036 persons during June and reached 513 in the farming industry including harvest and fruit picking.

Reports from the Lane County lumbering industry indicate a rise from the October, 1947, 10-



The U. S. Army is rushing new air facilities in Berlin, to relieve the city's overtaxed airfields. Cranes and bulldozers load trucks with the rubble of buildings bombed and blasted during World War II. The rubble is used as a base for a new air strip at Tempelhof Field. (Photo by NEA-Acme staff correspondent Al Cocking)

594 to a more than 11,410 working labor force. This is approximately 14 per cent of the statewide total of 81,500 workers in timber products jobs.

With the bulk of Eugene workers concerned in the seasonal fields, Lang points to the "real need" for an early changeover from the production of merely lumber in Lane County to the production of finished lumber products.

Stability Stressed

"Stability of employment will never be reached without it," he said.

And stability is essential to a non-boom type development here; such even employment as is found in Kinzua, Oregon where this one company town, Lang feels, has found the solution by absorbing its seasonal employee roster into manufacturing work at off times.

He cited the rapidly developing business there in sales of small essential lumber cuts; pegs and locks used in such fields as supporting loads of cargo, providing boxwood cuts, and odd lengths to special orders.

Such stability of operation, Lang says, may provide good basis for continuation of the record breaking employment statistics of the summer.

Lane County's top employment estimate for August is 44,500 in all lines; nearly 10,000 more than the 35,000 normal.

Will this prosperity continue? Lang was not in a position to guess.

Homes Slow

However, reports of new homes throughout Eugene and Springfield standing empty with no would-be purchasers in sight have

brought cautioning nods from the man on the street.

"Multiply the empty homes here by the towns in the US and what will that do to the lumber market?" asked one man Thursday.

Air Reserves To Visit NY

Members of the 746th Reserve Bombardment Squadron, and other Air Force Reserve officers, will leave Mahlor Sweet Airport Monday morning at 8 a.m. Air transportation will be available to take the men to Spokane for two weeks of active-duty training.

Some confusion as to the time of departure had resulted from previous information obtained from reserve headquarters at Tacoma, and from orders received by the men. Verification was obtained Thursday from McChord Field, Tacoma, reserve headquarters for this area.

The men will fly to New York during their training, and will participate in an Air Force Day celebration in that metropolitan city on August 1.

Formation flying, bombardment practice, and actual maneuvers will be carried on by the group on the way home from New York City.

Originally, an over-water mission to Hawaii was planned. Since the Berlin crisis, many of the heavy bombardment groups have been sent out of this area, and the Hawaii mission has been cancelled.

The local reserve bombardment squadron is designed to operate in the heaviest bombing planes available. Today, this means B-29's. Several of these "largest" bombers now flying in regular air corps service, will be flown during the two weeks of training.

Since the majority of the local members have never flown B-29's, and since most of them have been away from heavy Army aircraft for a year or longer, regular Army crews will aid the reservists in the flights. All of the pilots will get a chance to handle the "big ships," but no attempt will be made to check them out in the planes so that they can fly them without supervision.

Extensive ground schooling will also be held at Spokane during the two-week training period.

Despite territorial losses since World War II, the British Commonwealth of Nations still has more than a half billion people and covers some 13,000,000 square miles.



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'Whars Them Vitlles' U S Athletes Inquire

LONDON, July 23—(AP)—Olympic circles were buzzing Friday with the "mystery of the missing food."

The questions all the athletes were asking was, "where is all that food from the United States and other countries that was supposed to have been provided as a special diet for the competitors? We haven't seen it yet."

The Americans were dissatisfied particularly with the meals they have been served since they arrived at their training camps. (They pointed out that one meal consisted of one lamb chop, another of very fatty boiled beef.)

One Yank wrestler, who preferred to remain unnamed, said, "they offer us plenty to eat in the form of potatoes and other fattening food which we can't eat because of weight limits, but nothing that's really good for us."

"We are trying to improve the food situation," said Kenneth L. "Tug" Wilson, vice-president of

GROVE NEWS

COTTAGE GROVE — Robert Galten of Chicago, an old shipmate of Kenneth Kennedy's, has been a guest at the Kennedy home recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kennedy (nee Barbara Madsen) have been staying here this week due to the serious illness of her father, John Madsen. Madsen is in Eugene Hospital and was reported Tuesday morning as being slightly improved.

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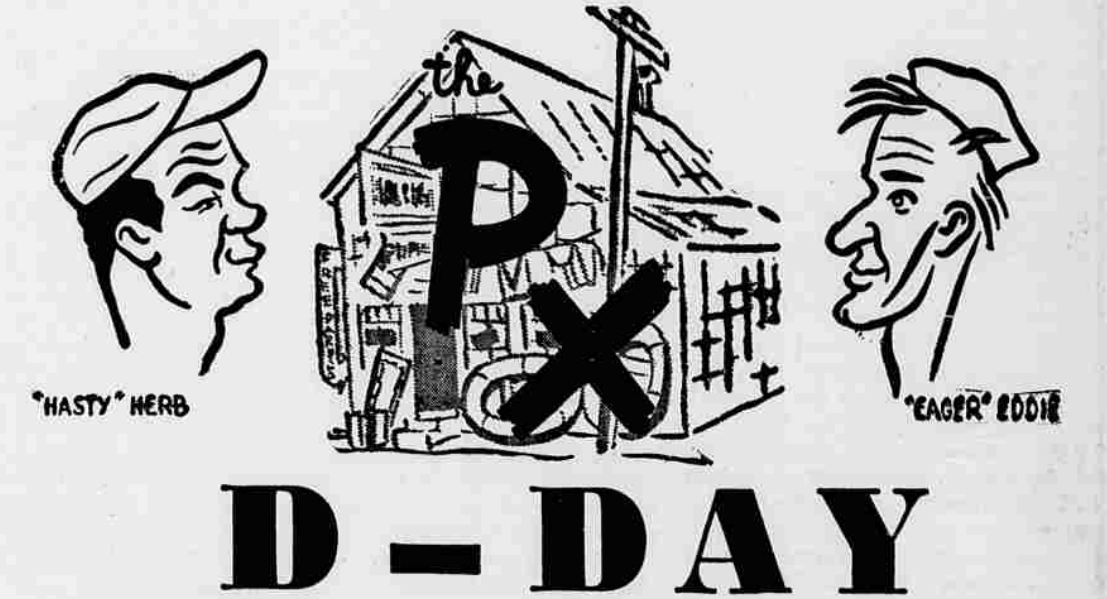
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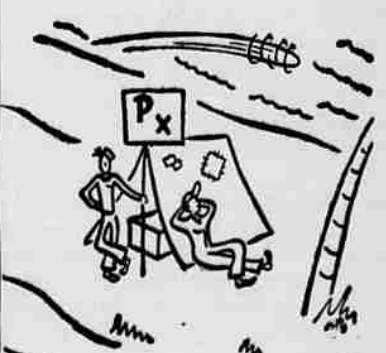
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