

Food Program for Needy Rated Successful

Lane County Distributing Surplus Goods

By DON ROBINSON
Of the Register-Guard

Pea beans from Michigan, cornmeal from Nebraska, flour from Utah . . . and seven more farm products from everywhere—arrive each month, appropriately, at the Cow Palace of the Lane County Fairgrounds.

The plainly packaged food went free to approximately 9,000 men, women, and children in December.

About half the adults who come for the food are on welfare. The other half can show a sufficiently low income to qualify.

14 Distribution Days

They qualify for Lane County's surplus food program, a venture into the grocery business started here four months ago. Similar programs have been going in some other Oregon counties a few more months and in other states for several years.

There are 14 distribution days at the fairgrounds. Then food, record books, portable tables and all the packed into a commercial van for one-day stands in Cottage Grove and Florence.

During the first three months of operation in Lane County 301,510 pounds of food worth \$69,100 wholesale were distributed. It went to 6,300 families, or 20,994 individuals.

People come for food on designated days, hours from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Some come on foot, some come in beat-up cars, some come in nice cars. Who are they? These are examples:

- Elderly people living on social security benefits.
- Heads of families whose seasonal work is out of season.
- People who qualify for public welfare but who need food during the several weeks it may take for their welfare application to be processed.
- College students with families and little money.
- And, in general, people in all the variety of circumstances of those who are served by public welfare.

Surplus food reaches Lane County through an administrative process beginning at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The department acquires the food through its farm price support and surplus removal programs.

The program affords the government a means of disposing of agricultural surpluses and helping needy people at the same time.

Food is offered to the states and the states offer it to local government units. Lane County places its order with the state each month, hauling the food from Salem warehouses to Eugene.

Income Limits Vary

In Lane County, anyone receiving public welfare qualifies for food. In addition, anyone with a sufficiently low income during the preceding 30 days

Seminar Set On Insurance

About 100 members of the Oregon Assn. of Independent Insurance Agents are expected to attend an educational seminar at the University of Oregon Jan. 24-26.

The seminar is conducted by the Institute of Oregon Underwriters and jointly sponsored by the University of Oregon's School of Business Administration and the OAIHA.

Speakers for the three-day event include specialists Jack D. Cooper of Kansas City, Kan.; W. E. Evans, Tacoma, Wash.; Frederick A. Greer, Portland; Eugene Marsh, McMinnville, and Albert C. Wrenn, San Francisco.

Lectures will be held in Commonwealth Hall and in the Erb Memorial Union. Qualified participants (limited to 100 OAIHA member agents and company field personnel) may obtain registration materials from the OAIHA office in Portland's Board of Trade Building.

James W. Neilson of Neilson Insurance Agency, Florence, is a member of the planning committee.



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Surplus Food Applicants at Cow Palace

can qualify. Limits on income vary with family size.

For a family of four, for example, the previous month's income must be no greater than \$223. Beyond this, no family may have cash reserves or liquid assets greater than \$500.

At the fairgrounds applicants go first to a Lane County Public Welfare Commission employee who certifies those that qualify. They move on to an adjacent window where a county employee makes out an order form. Each applicant is asked which of the available items he can

use. If he doesn't want one, he doesn't receive it.

Men who themselves are on welfare and who are working out their welfare benefits under the "work relief" program fill each order, placing the checked commodities in grocery cars.

How much food can a family get? This month, 10 products are available. A family of four can receive the following: Four pounds of pea beans, 4 pounds of butter, 10 pounds of cornmeal, 10 pounds of flour, 4 pounds of lard, 4½ pounds of powdered milk, 2 pounds of pea-

nut butter, 4 pounds of rice, 3 pounds of rolled oats, and a No. 2½ can of chopped meat.

'Excellent Program'

The wholesale value of this much food is \$12.01.

From the standpoint of operational efficiency, the program in Lane County looks good.

"We think they (Lane County) really have an excellent program . . . it is really efficiently operated," says Ken Dory, assistant chief of the state's surplus property section who works on the program from the state end.

All three Lane County Commissioners and the man they assigned to get the program going, Administrative Assistant Keith Parks, express satisfaction.

The costs have not been high. During the first three months the total cost was \$10,260. All but about \$3,000 of that will be paid back to the county since the state and the county share costs on a 70-30 basis.

Buy Other Items

Although it might appear that the county is competing with private grocery stores, Fred Brehne, manager of the Eugene

Chamber of Commerce, says he has heard no local grocers complain.

County Board of Commissioners Chairman Jess Hill and others note that this is probably due to the fact that people who receive free staple items will have money left to buy other, finer types of food, so grocers probably aren't losing any business.

County Commissioner Kenneth Nielsen says he would prefer a "food stamp" plan as is being tried on a pilot basis in eight points around the country suffering from high unemployment.

Under such a plan individuals buy stamps, then use the stamps to buy food at regular grocery stores. On the average, \$3 buys \$5 worth of stamps. It is possible that the federal government will expand this program, although it does not incorporate the disposal of surplus food that is a feature of the plan in use in most of the nation.

Even so, Commissioner Nielsen notes that the local surplus food program "has worked out better than I ever thought it would."

Five Drivers Fined \$200; One Cleared

One man was acquitted, two pleaded guilty, two more forfeited bail and a sixth pleaded guilty to a lesser charge on recent cases in Eugene Municipal Court of driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor.

Found innocent in a jury trial was Ashley Lavern Sandahl, 39, of 1441 Willamette St., who had been arrested on a DUIIL charge Dec. 22 at Seventh Avenue and Jefferson Street.

Guilty pleas were entered by Edwin Daintith Rathbone, 50, of 988 W. 11th Ave., arrested last week at 18th Avenue and Garfield Street; and James William Dick, 37, of 1533 Hilyard St., arrested Jan. 7 at 15th Avenue and Orchard Street. Rathbone was fined \$200, while Dick was fined \$200 and sentenced to five days in jail.

Forfeiting \$200 bail each were Charles D. Scofield, 40, of Portland, arrested Dec. 3, and Larry Allen Berg, 18, of 2532 Sorrel Way, who was arrested Dec. 9 at 20th Avenue and Patterson Street.

George Dewitt Albright, 45, of Portland, was fined \$200 after pleading guilty to a charge of reckless driving. The charge was reduced from driving under the influence of intoxicating liquor on the motion of the city attorney. Albright was first arrested on the charge Oct. 7, 1961.

Accident Reveals Berlin Minefield

BERLIN (AP)—An East German border guard accidentally detonated a land mine in the Communist "death strip" outside the border of northwest Berlin Saturday, Western police reported. The guard apparently was killed by the explosion. Communist police were seen carrying his body away.

West Berlin police said the victim's blunder was the first evidence that the East Germans have mined their border with West Berlin as well as with West Germany. The explosion occurred just outside Frohnau, a suburban district in the French sector of West Berlin which borders East Germany.

New Look Planned At Convict Appeals

SALEM (AP)—The 1963 legislature will take a new look at the 1959 law which guarantees state prison inmates another day in court, Harold W. Adams, assistant attorney general, reports.

Adams said some counties are complaining that the law, called the post-conviction relief law, imposes heavy financial burdens on them.

\$100,000 a Year

He estimated that the law costs \$100,000 a year. The counties outside of Marion pay \$60,000 for this, while Marion County and the state each pay \$20,000.

The law gives every convicted person the right to go back in court and claim that he was unlawfully convicted or received an excessive sentence.

The warden of the prison is always the defendant, and Adams acts as his attorney.

The county in which the convict was sentenced pays his attorney fees, which average \$300 per case. But they range from \$150 to \$1,500.

The counties also have to provide transcripts of the trial proceedings where they are needed.

Almost all of the post-conviction relief cases are tried in Marion County Circuit Court. But the convict rarely wins one.

Until November, 1961, there were 204 of these cases filed, and 123 of these had been completed. Only five per cent of them are appealed to the State Supreme Court.

Survey Under Way

In order for a convict to have his conviction overturned, his lawyer must prove he was denied his constitutional rights.

Adams now is trying to find

out how much each county is having to pay under the law. "We'll give this information to the next legislature," he said, "so that it can take a second look."

"The advantages of this law are that it guarantees prisoners their constitutional rights, and provides reasonable attorney fees. Another good result is that it reduces the number of habeas corpus proceedings which Oregon prisoners file in federal court."

"The only disadvantage is that some counties feel it costs them too much."

Not Surprised

DETROIT (AP)—"I'm not surprised," said Millard Hurlburt, 43, "I've given up hope of having a son."

No wonder. His wife, Rosalie, 39, gave birth to their 10th daughter Thursday.

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Riots Flare in Venezuela

SAN CRISTOBAL, Venezuela (AP)—Armed troops maintained order Saturday in this eastern provincial capital, where a "state of siege" was proclaimed after at least 50 persons had been injured in strike riots.

At least 200 persons were under arrest. Soldiers with fixed bayonets charged one stone-throwing left-

ist mob Friday. In another instance, rioters armed with tommy guns fired on troops, touching off a brief but bitter battle.

Elsewhere in the city, rioters attacked the Torbes radio station. Its main studio was damaged.

San Cristobal, scene of an abortive one-day revolt in 1960, is currently crippled by a strike of bus drivers who provide its principal means of public transportation.

The drivers are protesting a national law requiring that all automobiles must carry liability insurance.

Jury Indicts Ex-Official

PORTLAND (AP)—Leonard W. Raynor has been indicted by the Multnomah County Grand Jury on a charge of larceny by embezzlement.

Raynor, suspended in December from his job as city purchasing agent, is charged with misappropriating \$11,356 of the fund from sales of abandoned bicycles and automobiles.

He was in charge of selling the vehicles. "This indictment came kind of sudden," Raynor said. "I have nothing prepared." He was released after posting \$500 bond.

Raynor's attorney, A. G. Closterman, said his client was innocent of the charge. He said his books had been audited by elected officials and were in top order.

The 62-year-old Raynor has worked for the city government since 1921.

Six Classes Offered

BROWNSVILLE — Six adult classes are being offered at Central Linn High School. They include physical education for women, rural insurance problems, veterinarian medicine, tailoring, typing, and welding.

Adult Education supervisor Dick Schmidt reports that some of the classes still need members.

Italy Reports Border Toll

BOLZANO, Italy (AP)—Italian military authorities said Saturday that eight Italian soldiers and police were killed and 24 injured while safeguarding installations against sabotage in the troubled Tyrol in the last half of 1961.

Another seven were killed on duty in the province along the Austrian border, where German-speaking extremists have been agitating for more self-rule.

The South Tyrol was taken from Austria after World War I and given to Italy. The German-language element of the population claims its ethnic rights suffer because there is too little home rule.

Austria, which is sympathetic to their cause, has met three times with Italy but the talks have produced no agreement.

Articles Filed

SALEM (UPI) — Articles of incorporation are on file for Northwestern Oregon College Foundation, North Bend. They were signed by Henry Hansen, J. W. Slover, Frances Ellen McKenzie and others.

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