

BLUE LAKE PACKERS ASSEMBLE FOR ANNUAL MEETING



Shown is Harold Elbert, president of Blue Lake Packers, Inc., opening the annual meeting held in the cooperative's big West Salem plant on Tuesday morning. Following the meet-

ing members assembled for the big, annual dinner. Following the dinner new officers will be chosen.

Blue Lake Just Missed Million Cases of Beans

Almost a million cases of beans were packed by Blue Lake Packers, Inc., at its plant in West Salem this year. Manager N. W. Merrill told about 300 members and guests at the annual meeting of the big cooperative in the plant auditorium Tuesday.

The million mark was missed by a scant 700 cases, Merrill said, adding that this was the biggest tonnage year in the history of the association, despite some weather troubles.

Merrill said around a million pounds of corn, squash and carrots were received day after day during the fall. Graded beans averaged 8.58 tons per acre this year, and corn tonnage was only .2 of a ton below 1953. He credited H. B. Steingrube with 13.2 tons of graded beans per acre, Elbert Chambers with 23.2 tons of beans, and Art Biles with 10.8

tons of graded corn, best averages of members.

It was announced that \$117,000 in short term retained funds will be released to members next month, pending approval of the Spokane Bank for Cooperatives, and that another ten per cent will be paid on the 1953 crop when liquidation is completed.

President Harold Elbert reported that the board opposes a proposal for increased membership and also opposed a proposal to double its compensation for attending meetings from \$10 to \$20. This was later voted down by the members, though some stood up in favor of it.

Merrill paid tribute to a plant safety committee through whose efforts plant accidents were cut to a small fraction of previous years in 1954.

Invocation was by J. H. Turn-

idge of Salem Academy. E. H. Thompson, president of the Salem Chamber of Commerce, gave a short welcoming talk. Ammon Grice and John Bollinger led a community sing, accompanied by Ruth Mason. O. E. Snider, for 21 years manager, gave a brief expression of good will and best wishes.

The members voted just before noon on by-law changes providing for membership termination when members cease to produce, and for expulsion of members under certain conditions.

The members were fed in two groups, and entertained with motion pictures while the other group ate. The results of the voting were to be announced during the entertainment periods.

Nominated for directors, two to be elected, were: Claude Ammon

of Jefferson, Harold Elbert of Salem, Eldon Cates of Pedee and Earl Stonbrook of Dallas. Elbert was nominated to succeed himself. The other three are new nominations. Results of the election were to be announced in the afternoon.

FLOOD LEAVES MANY HOMELESS

CAIRO, Egypt — Floods caused by torrential rains in upper Egypt have swept away 500 houses in the town of Kena and 4,000 persons are homeless.

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Armed Forces to Be Cut Down by 403,000 Men

By C. YATES McDANIEL

WASHINGTON — The military services have been told to start pruning 403,000 from their present over-all strength to reach the 2,815,000-man level the administration thinks is about right for the current cold war.

In disclosing a manpower cut-back program yesterday, Secretary of Defense Wilson said it will be accompanied by a 50 per cent slash in draft calls starting in February, when the announced quota of 20,000 is to be dropped to 10,000 or 11,000. Quotas have been running about 20,000 for many months.

Wilson said an improved situa-

tion in the Far East and "better opportunities for peace" everywhere entered into President Eisenhower's decision to trim the services.

Only the Air Force, which will continue its gradual buildup to 973,000 men in the next 18 months, escapes the trimming.

In the same period—that is, by June 30, 1956—the Army will drop 25 per cent of its current strength to level off at an even one million. The Navy is down for a 6 per cent cut from present strength to reach 650,000 and the Marine Corps will drop 14 per cent to 190,000. Over-all strength for all services last month was 3,218,000.

There was no immediate reaction from members of Congress, but the decision seemed likely to stir some controversy. A number of Democrats have complained that the nation's military might is already dangerously weak.

The reduction spelled out by Wilson both revived and speeded up by a full year a program set aside by the Pentagon only last year because of the crisis in Indochina and a threatening situation around Formosa.

The Army, Navy and Marine Corps will lose by next June 107,000 uniformed people they have money to maintain under the current budget. They will have to drop an additional 130,000 in the 12 months starting next July.

The new program calls for the early return home from Korea of the 1st Marine Division and the eventual move of one regiment of the 3rd Marine Division from Japan. Some of the slack will be taken up temporarily by the shift of an Army division, one of two now in Japan, to Korea. The net result of these moves will be to leave the equivalent of four American divisions in the two Far East nations. The Army will continue to keep the equivalent of six divi-

Kefauver Raps Slash in Army

WASHINGTON — Sen. Estes Kefauver demanded today that the administration justify its decision to slash the nation's armed forces by 403,000 men in the next 18 months.

"I don't see anything in the troubled world picture to warrant a cut at this time," said the Tennessee Democrat. "I hope the administration isn't reducing our military strength merely to balance the budget."

Defense Secretary Charles E. Wilson announced the sweeping manpower cut late Monday. He said President Eisenhower personally ordered it because of the diminished threat of war and a need for more emphasis on air power and continental defenses.

As a result of the decision, Wilson said monthly draft calls will be slashed from the present 28,000 to 10,000 or 11,000 beginning in February and continuing at least through next June.

City Gets Order Of Intervention

The City of Salem is granted leave to file its complaint in intervention in connection with an order issued by Charles H. Helzel as public utilities commissioner compelling the Southern Pacific company to install certain protective devices at various street crossings in an order issued Tuesday by Circuit Judge Wallace P. Carson.

The Southern Pacific filed a complaint for the purpose of nullifying the commissioner's order and the directive issued today permit the city to intervene on behalf of the principal defendant.

In its complaint in intervention it is set forth that each of the crossings concerned in the litigation is within the corporate limits of the city of Salem and involves a public street over which the city exercises jurisdiction.

Kiddies' Free Christmas Party

North Salem Senior High School Auditorium

7:30 P.M., Dec. 22
This Adv. Courtesy of Fred Meyer Drug

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Make his lounging time leisurely with a new Robe this Christmas from Shryock's. Choose from Silks, Satins, Wools and ever-popular Terrycloth. All sizes and colors of course. Priced from \$6.95

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LONG COATS

Milium Lined

Sizes 10-18

SECOND FLOOR

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Women's Rayon and Acetate Quilted

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2-Year Replacement Guarantee!

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