

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- Open Capitol
- Resigning Martin
- More Insurance

By A. L. LINDBECK

SALEM—The taxpayers who footed the bill for the new building got their first chance to inspect Oregon's new \$2,500,000 capitol Saturday afternoon.

More than 5000 persons took advantage of the opportunity offered by the "open house" program to spend an hour or more exploring the spacious hallways, exclaiming over the magnificence of the legislative chambers, going into raptures over the myrtle wood lined room that will be the governor's private office and sparing a few moments to inspect the private shower baths that have been installed in the offices of the secretary of state and state treasurer.

A parade participated in by the Salem Cherrians, Newberg Berrians and Portland Rosarians and a dozen bands and drum and bugle corps preceded the program at the capitol at which Governor Martin declared that completion of the state house "demonstrates anew Oregon's ability to turn adversity into triumph."

Frank Branch Riley, noted lecturer, described the building as "one of the most beautiful structures in America." Four states and one territory had contributed material for its construction, he pointed out. The marble for the exterior of the building came from Vermont. The interior is decorated with marble from Montana and granite from California, Arkansas and Alaska.

Dr. Bruce Baxter, president of Willamette university, who presided as chairman, declared that "this day will remain a most significant one in the history of Oregon."

Any lingering doubt as to Governor Martin's political intentions were definitely resolved this week by his declaration that he would "be glad when he could get away" from public service. The governor told newspapermen this week that he proposed to "take it easy" for the remainder of his term as governor, carrying on the duties of his office but taking on no additional responsibilities such as outside speaking engagements. State House gossip has it that the Governor and Mrs. Martin will embark on a tour of the world shortly after he retires from office next January.

O. Henry Oleen, state representative from Columbia county for the past six years, will sidestep politics for the time being, he declared on a visit to Salem this week. Rumor had it that Oleen, defeated for the democratic nomination for governor, might seek a return to the legislature as an independent candidate.

The scale model of the new capitol building which has been on display in the lobby of the state office building for several months, is soon to be sent to the architectural school at the University of Oregon.

The high cost of living slipped substantially in the three month period between March and June according to records of the state purchasing department. Cow beef, of which state institutions use about 90,000 pounds every three months and which was noted at \$10.65 per 100 pounds in March was offered at \$8.96 when bids for the new supply were opened this week. Steer beef prices were down from \$12.83 to \$11.97.

Oregon's liquor control law will never be liberalized in the opinion of Austin Flegel, attorney for the Oregon Liquor Control Board. Speaking before the state convention of Food and Beverage dispensers in session here Flegel warned that any attempt to liberalize the control law was bound to react to the detriment of the liquor interests.

At least one old age pension bill will be on the November ballot. Completed petitions for the Citizens Retirement bill, sponsored by Elbert Eastman, Portland attorney, were filed with Secretary of State Snell this week. The measure pro-

vides for a monthly pension of not to exceed \$100 for all persons 65 years of age or over who would cease gainful employment, the pension to be financed by a two percent transactions tax. This is the second initiative measure for which petitions have been completed. Deadline for completing petitions is set for 5:00 p. m. Thursday of this week.

Twenty-nine out of every 1000 residents of Oregon were on the relief rolls during May, Elmer Goudy, executive secretary of the state relief committee reported to Governor Martin. Thirty-seven percent of these were on direct relief and 57 percent were old age pensioners. The remainder were dependent children, and blind pensioners. Malheur county has the highest percentage of direct relief cases with 58 out of every 1000 inhabitants on the relief rolls. Sherman county with only seven relievers per 1000 inhabitants foots the list.

The fight against Oregon's teachers' retirement act has been carried up to the United States supreme court. The Oregon supreme court in a recent opinion in a suit brought by A. A. Campbell and others against the Portland school board, held the act to be constitutional. The act which provides for the automatic retirement of teachers upon reaching the age of 65 years now applies only to Portland and Salem but there has been talk of a move to make its application state-wide.

Approximately 75 former patients of the state tuberculosis hospital at Salem attended the annual home coming at the institution Friday and Saturday. Dr. G. C. Bellinger, superintendent of the hospital, says that one woman visited the institution who had been a patient there more than 20 years ago and a number were present who were discharged as cured more than ten years ago.

Oregon residents paid out a total of \$41,085,928 in insurance premiums during 1937, according to the annual report of Hugh Earle, insurance commissioner. This was an increase of 8.18 per cent over the 1936 premiums. Oregon policyholders, on the other hand, collected a total of \$21,877,025 in claims during the year, representing 53.2 percent of the premium payments. A total of 524 companies writing all kinds of insurance, were operating in Oregon last year, Earle's report shows.

The state's contribution toward the support of its common schools this year will amount to only \$1.20 for each child on the school census roll, according to Lewis Griffith, clerk of the state land board. This money represents interest earnings of the irreducible school fund. Last year's apportionment amounted to \$1.32 per capita. Lewis predicts that next year's apportionment will be still smaller.

PINE CITY NEWS

Pine City Folk At Echo for Fourth

By BERNICE WATTENBURGER
A large crowd from Butter creek attended the 4th of July celebration at Echo.

Malcolm O'Brien returned home last week from the hospital much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Ayers and family, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Finch and family of Butter creek spent the 4th of July on Meadow creek.

Mr. and Mrs. John Harrison and family, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Wattenburger and family and Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Strain all spent the 4th at Meacham, picnicking.

Mrs. J. S. Moore went to Portland Thursday and met her daughter, Mrs. Chris Broderson of Seattle and visited coast points.

Freddy Rauch, Jr., returned home this last week from Spokane.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Wattenburger and Mr. and Mrs. Glenn H. Orr spent Friday in Pendleton shopping.

Lloyd Baldrige spent the 4th at the Charlie Morehead place at Ellensburg, Wash.

Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Mahoney departed Sunday evening on their way to Atlantic City to attend the national Elks convention. They joined Mr. and Mrs. Raley Peterson, Pendleton delegates, at Pendleton.

Field Day Group Bids Farewell to Dave E. Stephens

Moro—The last field day at the Sherman County branch experiment station to be conducted personally by the retiring superintendent, Dave E. Stephens, has served to emphasize to a half hundred visiting farmers the important contribution the station has made to the agriculture of the inland empire.

Superintendent Stephens, who has been on the federal staff of the bureau of plant industry as well as on the state experiment station staff, has been transferred to Washington, D. C., to act as co-ordinator between the bureau and the Soil Conservation service.

Those who attended the field day saw the first crested wheat grass planting made in this state. After 24 years it is still maintaining a good stand and is bearing seed every year. There are now 150 different grasses in the nursery maintained on the station.

The importance of these grass studies was brought out by E. R. Jackman, extension agronomist, who said that no country in the world has been able to maintain a permanent agriculture without developing a grass rotation of some sort. Such a rotation may be "in the cards" for the dry-land wheat belt some day, he ventured.

Scores of wheat trials were viewed by the visitors. Smut resistance coupled with yield and quality are the chief goals in this work. Superintendent Stephens is leaving three varieties outstanding in these respects as a result of his work. These are Rex, a soft white wheat, and Rio and Oro among the hard red turkey varieties.

Tillage experiments viewed revealed, as in past years, that plowing more than five inches deep is wasted effort in eastern Oregon wheat lands. Yield tests comparing disked land with that plowed with mold board plows showed no appreciable difference. The greatest problem in connection with the now widely used trashy summer fallow is weed control.

Trees for shelter belts around dry land farmsteads were also viewed on the station where western yellow pine and Russian olive trees have shown good possibilities for general planting.

Selection of Draperies Explained by Specialist

With the many patterns and materials for draperies now on the market, the difficulty in selecting those best suited to a particular room is greater than ever, says Miss Joan Patterson, extension specialist in home furnishings at Oregon State college.

Curtains or draperies of shiny, lustrous material makes plain, simple, not-too-new furniture look older, and sometimes even shabby, she points out. The best selection for such a room is usually crash, homespun, cretonne, linen or mohair, as these are not shiny and will fit beautifully into almost any room. These fabrics are usually good in color, and if lined, as all draperies should be to insure wear, will look well for many years.

Chintz, and some cretonne patterns as well as linen and mohairs, create a more formal atmosphere, Miss Patterson says, but often lend an atmosphere of hominess in an informal room. Chintz is fresh, crisp, and comes in lovely patterns, but because of its starched, shiny finish it is prone to fade. Some chintzes do not wash or clean well, and a lining is always needed, but they have their compensations, as dust does not stick to them and cleaning is not often needed.

The size of the room definitely affects the drapery pattern. For a room that is 15 by 24, or larger, can have draperies with large, bold design or stripes, but smaller rooms require smaller figures or plain material.

While draperies can be made in many ways, it is best to follow a few rules in regard to their length, says Miss Patterson. One of these is that draperies should be made to the sill, to the bottom of the apron under the sill, to the top of the baseboard, or to within one inch of the floor,

but not in between these. Other rules are found in Miss Patterson's new bulletin, "Curtains and Draperies, How to Design and Make Them," which is available for free distribution from the OSC extension service at Corvallis.

Rural Youth of Oregon Discuss Chief Problems

Oregon State College—What are the problems of greatest importance to rural youth in Oregon? Rather than guessing about this matter, those who made a recent survey of Oregon rural youth problems asked the question of hundreds of boys and girls between the ages of 16 and 25 years.

Earning additional money; getting started in chosen vocation; getting additional education; developing a more attractive personality; choosing a vocation, and knowing more young people.

In the out-of-school-not-married group there are more than twice as many young men as young women, the investigation made by Ralph Beck, rural service specialist, and Bernard D. Joy, federal extension man, revealed. The most important reason for this situation is that the young women marry at an earlier age. In addition to marrying earlier, a larger portion of the farm reared young women migrate to village or urban centers than do the young men.

Of the 410 young people interviewed in four Oregon counties, 76 per cent were born in the country. Seven per cent were born in rural villages and 17 per cent in cities. When asked the question, "Where would you prefer to live?" 84 per cent answered that they preferred the country, 4 per cent liked village life, while 12 per cent would rather be in the city.

Although 86 per cent of the young people interviewed lived on farms, parents of nearly a fourth of the total earned most of their living from skilled or unskilled labor. Rather a high standard of living prevailed as indicated by the fact that the average home had 6.8 rooms and 51 per cent of the homes had telephones, 65 per cent running water, 69 per cent electric lights, and 79 per cent radios.

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