

## STATE NEWS

- First 83 Draftees
- Five New PUD's
- New Hospital

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem—Oregon's first quota of 83 men, reporting this year for a year of military training under the recently enacted selective service act were all selected from volunteers who had applied to their local boards for immediate induction into the army, according to Lt. Col. Elmer V. Wooten, state director of selective service. At that the 83 represented only about 40 percent of the volunteers in the districts contributing this first contingent, Wooten said.

Only ten Oregon counties were called on to supply men in this first quota. Multnomah county supplied 24 of the 83 men, these being called up from six of the county's 13 draft districts. Other counties contributing to the first quota and the number of men from each were: Lane, 12; Klamath, 10; Benton, 5; Linn, 5; Hood River, 5; Deschutes, 5; Coos, 6; Josephine, 6; and Marion, 5.

Data is now being assembled on all Oregon men now serving in the various fighting forces of the nation, including the national guard, according to Colonel Wooten. As soon as these records can be broken down each local draft board will be given credit for the men from his district already in the service and these credits will operate to off-set future calls under the selective service act.

A total of 186 Oregon motorists were deprived of their operator's licenses during the month of October, according to figures compiled by Secretary of State Earl Snell. Ninety-one of those had their licenses revoked for drunken driving. Reckless driving accounted for 43 license suspensions. Thirty-three Oregon motorists ran afoul of the law while traveling in other states, 24 of those being guilty of drunken driving.

Pending receipt of the complete text of the report by the Osborne Association criticising conditions of the state training school for boys members of the state board of control refused to comment on the report. J. S. Murray, fingerprint expert at the state prison, however, called attention to the fact that fingerprinting at the boys' school, to which the Osborne report objected, was ordered by the board of control five years ago over the objection of Sam Laughlin, superintendent of the institution, who feared that the practice would lead to public criticism.

Meeting here Saturday to canvass the results of the recount election the State Hydroelectric commission issued proclamations authorizing the creation of five new peoples utility districts. The five districts in which a majority of the voters favored the PUD were Central Lincoln, Clatskanie, Columbia River, Union county and Central Oregon. In Union county the municipalities of Elgin and Island City voted against the PUD and were not included in the district. In the Central Oregon district, which includes portions of Jefferson, Crook and Deschutes counties, the city of Prineville voted itself out of the district. Six other proposals to create PUD's were rejected at the recent election.

In spite of the fact that general fund revenues for the next biennium will exceed those of the 1939-40 biennium by approximately \$1,500,000 the legislature will actually have less money available for appropriation purposes than it had two years ago. This is due to the fact that relief needs will dip into the general fund for approximately \$2,500,000 to supplement profits from the state's liquor monopoly. This drain on the treasury, exceeding the 1939 appropriation by approximately \$1,900,000 more than off-sets the estimated increase in revenue, most

of which is accounted for by the six per cent annual increase which, compounding annually as it does, will increase the tax base for the two year period by \$1,329,282 over the 1938 and 1939 levies.

Recognizing the need for improvement of conditions at the state hospital for insane at Salem Governor Charles A. Sprague is recommending to the next legislature the construction of a 300-bed treatment hospital at that institution at an estimated cost of \$325,000. This, incidentally, is the only major capital outlay included in the budget for the forthcoming biennium, all other requests for new buildings at state institutions being turned down by the budget department because of lack of funds with which to finance their construction.

While state officials admit that conditions at the hospital are by no means ideal they at the same time deny that they are as deplorable as pictured in recent attacks on that institution. The buildings while old are substantial and have been made reasonably fireproof through the installation of sprinkler systems and the over crowded condition will be greatly relieved by the construction of the new building provided for in the hospital budget.

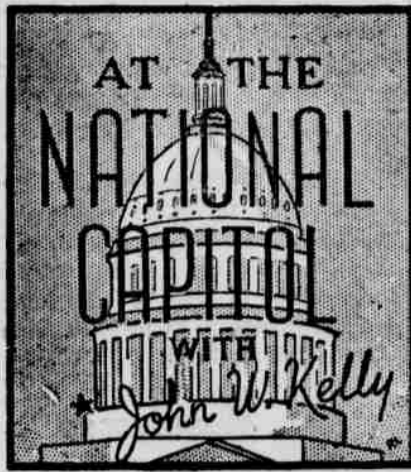
Admitting that the per capita cost of the Salem institution is much lower than that of institutions in neighboring states, state officials point out that these costs in the Salem institutions are still above those at the Pendleton hospital with a much smaller population. The low cost of feeding inmates of the Oregon institutions is explained by the fact that much of the foodstuff is produced on the institution farms. The per capita cost item includes only such foodstuffs as are issued from the hospital commissary, such as flour, beef, sugar, salt, etc. It does not include milk, butter, eggs, pork, vegetables and other supplies which are produced by the institution and which constitute the major items of daily diet of the hospital inmates.

The House Speakership race, now seemingly hopelessly deadlocked will probably not be settled until a showdown can be had when the legislature convenes in January. The definite withdrawal of John Steelhammer of Salem from the race leaves it a two-way contest between Robert S. Farrell, Jr., of Portland and Wm. McAllister of Medford. Claims by Farrell that he has the names of 30 representatives "on the dotted line" in support of his candidacy are disputed by McAllister, whose challenge of the Farrell claim has brought forth a statement from at least one House member listed by Farrell denying that he has made any commitment.

The state this week filed suit in the circuit court for Multnomah county in an effort to recover \$9000 alleged to have been erroneously paid to the Oregon Forest Fire association and R. H. Chaplor its manager by J. W. Ferguson as state forester. The complaint in the suit asserts that on June 25, 1936, Ferguson paid the fire association \$4500 "in payment of a purported obligation that the state owed to the defendant association, on behalf of the Southwest Oregon Forest Protective association." A second check for the same amount and in payment of the same "purported obligation" is alleged to have been paid the fire association by Ferguson on March 9, 1937.

Unemployment compensation paid to jobless workers in Oregon, so far this year have averaged slightly more than \$367,000 a month as compared to \$350,000 a month during the first 10 months of 1939, a report by the Oregon Unemployment Compensation commission shows. Contributions to the jobless insurance fund for the 10 months of the current year totalling \$6,610,644 represent an increase of \$1,000,000 over payroll taxes paid during the same period in 1939.

News for the man of the house. Give the lady of the house one of Myrtle's distinguished permanents for Christmas. 37tf.



Washington, D. C., Nov. 20.—Adroitly, President Roosevelt is changing the National Labor Relations board from a scourge for employers and haven for young radicals who disapprove of the American form of government, to a more conservative agency. The practice of razzing employers on the slightest provocation and going beyond the Wagner act to impose punishment and interpreting conduct of payroll makers as crimes, is to be abandoned.

Principal criticism against the Wagner act was not of the law but of the manner of its administration by NLRB. The board took the view that an employer had no rights which should be respected. The board promoted boycotts, strikes, and while permitting certain labor groups to attack the employer forbade and punished employers who attempted to print their side of the story. The board even sought to destroy freedom of the press; undertook to punish an editor for publishing an article favorable to an eastern industry.

Some of the board's best trouble makers were employed in Washington and Oregon. For its review section the board hired many young men and women who had scarcely left law school and these acted on the reports of examiners, who had to know law. Many of the employees of NLRB were associated with Communist-controlled "fronts." Members spied upon one another and an examiner who appeared to give an employer a fair break became suspect and soon was off the payroll.

NLRB leaned toward CIO and against AFL, as the records show and a congressional investigation proves. As a result of the board's failure to play fair with both labor organizations it caused strife and increased bitterness, prevented labor from presenting a solid front.

President Roosevelt was patient for a long time, but immediately after election he acted to reform the board. This was accomplished by appointing Dr. Henry A. Millis in place of J. Warren Madden. Dr. Millis is notionally known as a labor conciliator. With Dr. Leiserson, member of the board and also famed as a labor conciliator, NLRB has now two seasoned, well-balanced members with years of experience. Next step will be a housecleaning of the employees of radical type. President Roosevelt believes he has now cured a trouble spot.

The national grange is pleased with the board changes, but insists that amendments to the Wagner act recommended by the grange and AFL be enacted. These amendments have been bottled in a senate committee for months by Senator Thomas of Colorado and Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin.

Paul J. Raver, administrator of Bonneville and Grand Coulee power, is in the national capital asking for more money to construct more transmission lines. His program calls for extending line into the Blue mountains, into central Oregon, and on the coast in Oregon and spreading out into remote sections of Washington.

Only stand of Port Orford cedar in the world may be saved by the government. For years Japan bought the cedar logs, sent shiploads to Japan, and the supply of trees gradually diminished. These trees are stubborn about reforestation, altho the forest service is conducting experiments with indications of success. There is a probability that the last stand of these cedars may be declared a national monument and thereby preserved for future generations. Protest, if any, will come from county officials who do not

## Noise Out, Alumni in Homecoming Plans

Oregon State College.—A homecoming program designed for alumni rather than students has been announced by Larry Marshall, chairman of the committee. The time-consuming and rather dangerous noise parade has been dispensed with as has the midnight matinee, but more plans for alumni entertainment are included in the events of November 29 and 30.

The traditional Friday night football rally prior to the U. of O.-OSC game will start with a torch-light parade ending at the annual Rook bonfire, long considered the outstanding collegiate rally bonfire in the west. Elaborate house signs will be featured by all living groups as usual.

Saturday, a special luncheon for classes of 1920 to 1923, inclusive, will precede the game at 2 o'clock. In the event an alumni reception and dinner dance in the remodeled Memorial Union ball and banquet room will end the day's events. A brief dedication service for the remodeled portions of the building is planned as a feature of the dinner program.

want the timber removed from the tax roll.

Despite re-employment resulting from the national defense program and British munitions orders, there is still the relief program. The government is spending about 11 million dollars a month on relief and President Roosevelt will ask congress for approximately 350 million dollars in January to carry the relief work on until next June 30. The President continues approving as eligible for WPA funds many county wide road programs in Oregon and Washington, but which are dependent on additional funds being voted by congress.

When the Mexican government learned that Vice President Wallace was being sent to attend the inauguration of the newly elected Mexican president it decided to play no favorites, and sent an invitation to the defeated Republican vice-presidential candidate, McNary of Oregon... War or no war, Reclamation Commissioner John Page is asking the director of the budget for enough money to carry on the reclamation projects in the Pacific northwest.

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