



Washington, D. C., Jan. 16.—Everyone in Washington knows that congress will enact the "lease-loan" bill under which President Roosevelt can do anything he desires with American war material. Naturally, it makes the president a dictator, but that is understood and, if need be, he can be deprived of these powers by a vote of two-thirds of congress.

It will be no rush job, enacting the measure, for the senate will consume time in debating the bill. At present the bill (it was introduced simultaneously) is in the foreign relations committee of the senate and the foreign affairs of the house. The fireworks will begin when the bill emerges from committee and reaches the floor. Opposition will not be on party lines; there are good Democrats as well as Republicans who believe that the measure gives too much authority to the president, and each will have his "say" before the bill reaches a rollcall.

What is occurring in Washington is what had been predicted; anyone who refuses to go the whole distance in aid to the British is viewed with suspicion and is called an appeaser and is not regarded as exactly "right." Somehow such individuals are gradually being considered as disloyal. It is in reality the beginning of a witch hunt such as always presages entry into war.

Tucked away in the bill (its number is 1776) is a little item which authorizes the president to make available the ports of the United States to disabled foreign warships. It makes no mention of what nation, but, of course, means British. This gives the British fleet full access to American ports and all facilities for repairs. For the larger vessels there is only one such place on the Pacific coast—the Bremerton navy yard, and two on the Atlantic side. With the Germans bombing the docks of Britain, the English navy is looking for a place to have repairs made to the fleet, and this bill will meet all requirements in that respect. There is, perhaps, more objection to this part of the measure than to any other. It sounds too much like war.

While debate rambles on, American production will be geared up. New plants are being erected at the expense of the government for the manufacture of smokeless powder, for shell-filling, for tanks, for airplanes, engines, etc. Several months will be required to prepare these plants for production and once they are running out their particular product, the president will be sending the material to the British, saving only a trifle of the output for American national defense.

Of this material for the British none will be paid for by the British taxpayers; the load will be carried by American taxpayers, whether or not they like it. There is no mention of money anywhere in the bill. The measure is an authorization bill and once it is passed congress will be told how much money to vote. The extent to which the United States will aid Britain, Greece and China (possibly some Latin-American nations) is a matter of guesswork, but administration leaders expect it to be not less than three billion dollars to start with. This is on top of the 17 billion dollars which the president has submitted to congress—more than congress voted in the first world war for any one year.

In the president's budget he has eliminated all river and harbor work, and road funds other than those he must sanction. There is not a nickel for military highways in the budget, but there is a strong and persistent demand for such and before this session closes a military highway bill will be offered by the

Reclamation Now Gives Most Hope For New Farmers

Control of water through reclamation offers the greatest opportunity for increasing the number of economic farm units in Oregon, says Dr. W. L. Powers, head of the soils department at Oregon State college, in an introduction to the tri-annual report of the Oregon Reclamation congress covering the three annual conventions from 1938 to 1940, inclusive.

The present irrigated area in Oregon has recently been estimated at 1,500,000 acres. It appears probable that this can ultimately be increased by perhaps 500,000 acres, says Dr. Powers. About 152,000 acres are within 70 developed drainage or dyking districts in the state, and nearly a million acres are still susceptible of improvement by farm tiling or community drains.

Latest census figures show that the increase in the number of farms in Oregon has been confined largely to the irrigated areas. To date 1500 new families have settled on the Vale-Owyhee project land.

As to future reclamation development, Dr. Powers points out the possibility of small feasible projects in Douglas and Josephine counties and the desirability of re-examining the John Day project in the light of recent power developments. Early completion of the Deschutes project is needed, he says, and there may be a combined flood control and reclamation approach to the Grand Ronde project.

The greatest field for drainage and irrigation remaining in Oregon, however, is in the Willamette valley, he says. While there are close to 750,000 acres of good irrigable soil types in the valley, various limitations make it improbable that more than half a million acres will be irrigated in the next generation.

"Sound reclamation decreases the unit cost of production and increases quality of products, and it renders the least area sufficient for the support of a family and thus contributes toward a peaceful world," said Dr. Powers.

The triannual report covers the proceedings at the Klamath Falls, Clatskanie, and Redmond conventions. A few extra copies are available to non-members at cost.

START HOME PRACTICE

Oregon State College—Seventeen senior women have entered the three home management houses here where they will live for the next six weeks, carrying out all normal household duties including the care of a young baby. These houses, each with a baby of its own loaned by Oregon child care institutions, provide a means for home economics seniors to apply the information gained in their college courses under some supervision.

house committee on roads. To date the report on military highways which has been on the president's desk for months is still there. Administration forces contemplate using federal aid funds, wherever possible, for access roads. State highway commissions are not all in favor of this program.

For rivers and harbors and flood control the president proposes stopping any further work. There are 14 dams in the flood control program which he has eliminated—two are in Oregon. Only maintenance is allowed for rivers and harbors on existing projects.

In the shipbuilding program, to be under the maritime commission, one or more yards will be located on the Willamette and Columbia, owned by the federal government and operated privately. These are for steel ships. There will also be a program (yet unannounced officially) for wood ships and some of these may be allocated to Coos Bay, Tillamook and Astoria. For the time being the Puget sound yards have all they can handle and while one recently submitted bids on five cargo carriers, it was \$1,000,000 higher on each ship than a bid from Portland. Before the end of the year approximately 10,000 men will be employed in shipbuilding in the Willamette-Columbia area.

Soil Improvement Short Course Topic

A three-day annual soil improvement short course at Oregon State college has been set for Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Jan. 30 to Feb. 1, announces W. L. Powers, head of the soils department. While the program for the course has not been completed, acceptances have been received from a number of out-of-state speakers who will join with specialists on the experiment station and extension service staff in handling the lecture and demonstration work.

The first day of the course will be devoted to soil surveys, land classification, and land use. The second day will be confined largely to consideration of reclamation problems, including irrigation, drainage, and flood and erosion control. The final day will be devoted to discussion of soil fertility and the use of commercial or other fertilizers.

A considerable amount of new information has been accumulated from research and observation during the past year, said Dr. Powers. The short course will provide an opportunity for growers and agricultural leaders to obtain up-to-the-minute information on the general subject of soil improvement. The relation of land use adjustment to national defense will be considered in one or more luncheon meeting discussions.

Oregon License Plates Changed Early

Only the statutes of Oregon and Washington, in the eleven western states, make the changing of motor license plates compulsory the first of January, according to a survey of the Oregon Motor association. Laws of the other nine western states have periods ranging until March 31.

The two Pacific Northwest states are not in the Dec. 31 plate changing class by themselves, however, with eight other states in the east and the territories of Alaska and the Canal Zone providing the change be made on that date. In Washington, D. C., on the other hand, 1940 plates are good until March 31.

Plate changing dates in other western states are as follows: Arizona, Jan. 31; Calif., Feb. 4; Colo., Feb. 1; Idaho, March 31; Mont., until Feb. 1; Nevada, until Jan. 31; New Mexico, March 2; Utah, Feb. 28; and Wyoming, March 1.

Provinces in Canada likewise have longer to make the changes, with Manitoba's new plates due Jan. 15, and the last, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward island, due April 30.

Winter Enrollment at OSC Same as 1940

Oregon State College—Despite flu epidemics and increased demand for men in defense industries, enrollment here for the winter term is almost exactly equal to the record winter term enrollment of a year ago, reports of Registrar E. B. Lemon reveal.

At the end of the first week the total enrollment was 4479 or just 8 more than that of a year earlier. The final total with all late registration in is expected to reach the 4544 of last year.

Enrollment of women has reached 1553, 5 percent more than last year, but the 2926 total for men is a decrease of 3 percent, largely accounted for by the increased employment opportunities, it is believed.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned was duly appointed by the County Court of the State of Oregon for Morrow County, Administrator of the estate of Clyde G. Wright, deceased, and all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased, are hereby required to present the same with proper vouchers duly verified, to the said Administrator at the law office of P. W. Mahoney, at Heppner, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice. Dated and first published this 16th day of January, 1941. HAROLD A. WRIGHT, Administrator.

Five Morrow Young People at EOCE

Eastern Oregon College of Education, La Grande, Jan. 11.—An enrollment of 326 students during the first week of the winter term at the Eastern Oregon College of Education shows an increase of almost 6 per cent over the enrollment of the same date last year.

Registration of new and returning students will be accepted until January 18, according to Dr. Roben J. Maaske, president, and it is expected that some additional students will enter. The present enrollment, however, has already exceeded the final registration of the winter term last year.

The increased enrollment is particularly gratifying at this time since many prospective college students have this year been drawn into the National Guard, vocational education classes or into jobs which were not open a year ago.

Students from Morrow county enrolled in the Eastern Oregon College of Education are Willard Jones, Irrigon; Vernon Knowles and Kathryn Parker, Heppner; Ted Wilson, Boardman, and Helen Lindsey, Ione.

Willard Jones and Helen Lindsey are members of the freshman class; Vernon Knowles and Ted Wilson are senior teacher-training students, and Miss Parker is a member of the sophomore teacher-training class.

Oregon Flea Secrets To be Told by Expert

Oregon State College—Anyone desiring to learn intimate details of the lives led by Oregon fleas will have the opportunity the night of Jan. 18, when Dr. C. Anderson Hubbard, Pacific university's noted flea authority, will lecture here to a combined meeting of the Entomological Society of Oregon, Phi Sigma, honor society in biology, and the O. S. C. Wildlife club.

Dr. Hubbard is the author of a book describing the hundreds of species of fleas found west of the Rocky mountains, some of which are of considerable economic importance as carriers of diseases of men and animals.

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