

# STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- Session Pressure
- Cities' Share
- 196 Draftees

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem.—Still the pressure for a special session of the state legislature continues. This, too, in spite of the fact that Governor Sprague has declared that he does not propose to convene the legislature unless some one can produce a program for correction of the evils which the petitioners complain and one that will have some chance of acceptance by the lawmakers.

A group of state senators—four of them—have joined in a petition for legislative action to provide tax relief for small home owners and small farmers.

Portland apartment house owners want to be included in the tax relief program.

Petitions filed by 55 Portland civic organizations join in the plea.

Representative Neuberger wants relief for the tax payers and bigger pensions for the aged; also higher salaries for school teachers.

Community clubs of Polk county want the legislature to pass an act authorizing county courts to control construction work in rural areas.

And so it goes. Every straw indicates a flood of legislative proposals once the gates are opened.

Some friends of the governor are now arguing that it would be a good political move to call the session even though they are convinced that no good would come out of it. Such a move, they argue, would relieve the administration of any responsibility for failure to amend the assessment and taxation laws and shift the burden to the shoulders of the lawmakers.

Another group that has joined in the demand for a special session is the interim committee on taxation which wants money with which to hire a staff of research experts to

come into Oregon and take the state's tax structure apart to find out what ails it, if any. The regular session which created this committee neglected to give it any funds and the emergency board at a meeting in Salem a month ago also turned down its request for an appropriation.

The way has now been cleared for the construction of a new \$110,000 armory and recreation center at Astoria. Attorney General Van Winkle has given his approval to the plans for the financing and administrative control of the building and the general staff of the national guard has also approved the plans. The state is putting up \$40,000 toward the cost of the building, the federal government is contributing \$45,000 and Clatsop county, \$25,000. A site is being donated by the city of Astoria. This will be the first armory to be constructed in Oregon for a number of years and the first toward which the federal government has ever contributed.

The Oregon Economic council has turned its attention toward the problem of rehabilitating the Tillamook burn area. W. H. Crawford, director of the council has invited the Tillamook county court to meet with the council and other state officials to discuss the situation with a view to formulating plans for reforestation of the area or dividing it into small farms.

The city of Heppner will receive \$440 from the state highway commission for use in repairing city streets not on the state highway system, according to R. H. Baldoek, state highway engineer. A total of \$150,000 is being distributed to Oregon cities and towns this year for this purpose, Baldoek said. Most of the money will go toward the repair of damage done by logging trucks and other trucking operations.

Meeting here Wednesday at the call of Governor Sprague the Oregon Economic council took steps to head off the threatened shut-down of the state's logging and lumbering industry which has been hard hit due to the slump in building activities due to priority rulings. Sawmill op-

erators attending the meeting declared that they would be compelled to shut down indefinitely unless an outlet was provided for their product. It was estimated that at least 20,000 logging and lumber workers in this state would be thrown out of work this winter unless a modification can be had in the priorities ruling which will permit resumption of construction activities.

Oregon telephone users paid out \$11,084,493 for conversation during 1940, according to a survey by the public utilities commission. This represents an increase of \$1,009,402 over the figures for 1939. Taxes paid by telephone companies operating in this state aggregated \$1,894,283.

If the federal government can be persuaded to take over the Longview bridge the state of Oregon will undertake to one-half the maintenance cost of the structure provided the state of Washington will do likewise. The state highway commission pledged themselves to this policy at a meeting in Salem this week. Residents along the lower Columbia river are united with residents of southwestern Washington in a campaign to make the bridge a toll-free structure and the bond holders are said to be willing to unload the "white elephant" at a small fraction of their investment in the project.

Oregon will contribute 196 draftees to the army next month. The men, coming from practically every county in the state, will report for service at the Portland army induction station December 2, 3 and 4.

The assessed value of taxable public utility property in Oregon as equalized by the state tax commission totals \$168,867,974. This figure represents an increase of nearly \$9,000,000 over the 1940 valuations. The full cash value of utility properties in the state as of March 1, last, as computed by the tax commission was \$304,896,190.

Contributions to the unemployment compensation fund run consistently almost double benefit payments to jobless workers, according to records of the Unemployment Compensation commission. The commission's trust fund on deposit with the federal government now totals \$16,415,000, approximately \$6,500,000 more than a year ago.

### BOARDMAN NEWS

By MRS. CLAUD COATS  
Mr. and Mrs. Z. J. Gillespie and sons returned from Tulare, Cal., Tuesday, where they were called by the illness of his father, Ed Gillespie, who had improved upon their leaving.

Lebon McLouth and Jess Lower were business callers in the county seat Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. George Graves and baby of Hermiston were callers at the Henry Grave home Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Nickerson were shopping in Pendleton Saturday.

A series of pinocle parties are being held at the grange hall every week until the first of the year. One November 12, also the 22nd. Watch paper for other dates.

Mrs. Henry Graves had as guests Saturday her aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Beck of Estacada.

Guests at the Frank Cramer home this week end were their grandson, Basil Cramer and wife of Hermiston, also Mr. and Mrs. Glen Hadley and son of Fossil.

Lyle Tannehill who is employed at Boeing aircraft factory in Seattle was visiting over Armistice day at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Tannehill.

Monday night was the annual "Sadie Hawkins" party for the high school students.

School district census for the coming year has been completed

## New Sheep Disease Just Found in Oregon

Much of the unexplained sheep loss in western Oregon is believed due to a new disease just discovered by Dr. O. H. Muth, associate professor of veterinary medicine at Oregon State college. This disease is known as listerella or listerellosis.

The trouble has also been known as circling disease because infected sheep wander around in circles butting into fences and other objects. These peculiar symptoms are caused by bacteria which enter the brain stem and cause an inflammation of the brain and spinal cord.

While this disease had previously been reported from England, New Zealand and some of the eastern parts of the United States, this is the first record of its appearance in the western states, says Dr. Muth.

These same listerellosis bacteria are also known to affect cattle and poultry, Dr. Muth added. A slightly different type of the organism has been reported to attack humans in Australia, Sweden, Iowa, and other places throughout the world.

It is suggested that any symptoms such as these be reported promptly to the county agent or county veterinarian.

### EXAMINER HERE 19TH

As the regular date for examinations for driver licenses in Heppner falls on November 20, Thanksgiving day, a stop will be made there on Wednesday, November 19, instead. Persons desiring licenses to drive on the highways of Oregon should get in touch with the examiners on that date, at the city hall between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m.

and found total of 169, 92 boys, 77 girls, increase of 20 over last year's census roll.

Arthur Allen returned from the hospital in Portland and is much improved, but confined to home for some weeks.

H. E. C. held at Mrs. Nathan Thorpe's was well attended Wednesday with a pot luck luncheon at 1 p. m.

Dinner guests at the Leo Root home Sunday were their son Vernon and wife of Arlington, also Mr. and Mrs. Ed Barlow and daughter Carma of this city.

The young adult Sunday school class had a pot luck dinner at the church followed by a party in the church parlor.

Dinner guests at the Zearl Gillespie home Sunday were Jim Howell, Mr. and Mrs. Claud Coats and Mr. and Mrs. Art Gillespie and daughters of Hermiston.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Teague of Athena spent Armistice day visiting Mrs. Eva Warner.

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