

STATE CAPITAL NEWS

- Prosperous Year
- 4th Celebrations
- Car Pooling

By A. L. LINDBECK

Salem.—Gauged by income tax returns 1941 was the most prosperous year in Oregon's history, according to state tax officials.

Income tax collections for 1942 to April 30 totalling \$8,262,266.67 were 75.7 percent greater than collections for the same period last year. With an estimated \$3,500,000 yet to collect on taxable returns filed tax officials expect 1942 revenues from income taxes to exceed \$11,500,000, an increase of more than 50 percent over the \$8,012,000 collected last year.

The average tax paid by individuals this year, \$45.42, was only slightly higher than the average of \$41.54 in 1941 but nearly 49,000 more individuals filed taxable returns this year than last, accounting for the increase from \$3,398,491 to \$5,473,593 in collections from individual tax payers.

At the same time collections from corporations increased from \$1,304,250 to \$2,788,673 in spite of a slight decrease in the number of corporations filing returns and reflecting greatly increased corporate profits.

Members of the state tax commission estimate that nearly \$9,000,000 in income tax revenues will be needed to meet the state and elementary school levies for the next fiscal year, ending June 30, 1943.

Fourth of July celebrations in Oregon, as in all other Pacific coast states, this year, will be confined largely to parades and picnics and noise making will be confined to the blare of the bands, the bombast of the orators and the cheering of the crowds. The sale and use of fireworks and firecrackers of all kinds is strictly banned and Governor Sprague has directed all state police, sheriffs and local police officials

to see to it that the ban is enforced. Even the lowly cap pistol has been placed on the taboo list. Furthermore the ban extends to rural areas as well as the cities and towns. The ban has been ordered by Lieut. General John L. DeWitt, commanding the western defense area, whose orders are supreme during the present war emergency.

Tire and gasoline rationing has brought the need for pooling of state owned automobiles to the foreground again. The board of control has instructed Budget Director George Aiken to investigate the system now in operation in the state of Washington. That system it is understood does not involve the use of a central garage but rather a dispatching system through which employees from different state departments can arrange their trips to cut down the number of cars in use.

Governor Sprague denied as unfounded a report that he was a candidate for the presidency of Willamette university from which post Dr. Carl Sumner Knopf has just resigned. The governor said that he was not a candidate for the post and that he definitely plans to return to newspaper work as editor and publisher of the Oregon Statesman as soon as his term of office expires next January.

Sixty law school graduates, including five women, have signified their intention of taking the bar examinations to be held in Salem June 22 and 23, according to Arthur S. Benson, clerk of the state supreme court. The examinations are being held earlier than usual in order to accommodate a number of the bar aspirants who are scheduled to change their "civvies" for military uniforms about the first of July.

No person should hold a position in more than one of the state's three defense organizations—state guard, state police and civilian defense—Governor Sprague declared in a statement outlining the "fields of action" of the organization.

The statement was issued, the governor explained, "to prevent mis-

understanding and confusion," but it is understood to have been prompted by the threat of the rapidly expanding state guard to absorb most of the key men in the civilian defense and thereby disrupt that organization completely.

Strength is lent to this suspicion by the governor's statement that "persons recruiting for one organization should not enroll persons now enrolled in other defense work unless there is no conflict of duty or unless competent substitutes are available.

Preparations for the defense of Oregon's forested areas from fires this summer were completed this week when 555 emergency fire fighters were placed in strategic districts throughout the state. These workers who are in addition to others employed by the U. S. forest service and the Indian service will provide protection of all forest and rural areas in western Oregon and intensified patrol of western Oregon, according to N. S. Rogers, state forester. Included in this expanded organization are 48 emergency fire crews of from five to 20 men each and 126 additional patrolmen, lookouts and wardens. The new personnel consists largely of high school and college boys who have been given special training and conditioning for this type of work.

The first shipment of gas masks and decontamination suits has just been received by the state defense council. A number of the masks will be allocated to members of the state police and the remainder together with the decontamination suits will be used in training key men in the several counties. These decontamination suits are a sort of rubberized coverall that closes with a zipper up the front, plus a hood of the same material. Garbed in one of these suits and a gas mask the wearer is a pretty good imitation of a man from Mars.

Governor Sprague has given his endorsement to a plan advanced by Governor Clark of Idaho in an effort to provide storage space for this year's wheat crop. Under this plan every family is being urged to buy an entire year's supply of flour to store in their own home, thus relieving the mills of this stored flour to provide space for storing more flour to be ground from wheat now stored in bins throughout the northwest.

Official figures of the vote cast in the recent primary election show that slightly more than 50 percent of the registered republicans exercised their right of franchise while only a little more than 30 percent of the registered democrats took the trouble to go to the polls. While the official figures differ materially in some instances from the unofficial tabulations released at the time of the election these differences were not enough to change the results in any instance. Tabulation of the county totals show that 1316 democrats expressed a preference for Earl Snell for governor while 418 democrats voted for Governor Sprague. Only 35 republicans voted for candidates other than the two regular entries.

Thelma Nelson Gets U. of O. Scholarship

University of Oregon, Eugene, June 11.—(Special)—Thelma C. Nelson, Ione, is one of 26 students at the University of Oregon to be granted a scholarship of \$66 which will be applied against the annual tuition and fees of \$108.50 for the school year 1942-43. This announcement was made here Thursday by Dr. Earl M. Pallett, executive secretary of the university.

The scholarships were made available through the appropriation of

Commissioner Loans Available to Farmers

Land Bank Commissioner loans will continue to be available to farmers and ranchers of Morrow county under terms of legislations signed last week by President Roosevelt, announced Elart F. Hultgren, acting secretary-treasurer of Hardman National Farm Loan association, this week. Original authorization for these loans expired June 1. Land Bank Commissioner loans usually are written as second mortgage loans in connection with Federal Land Bank loans, thus permitting loans of as much as 75 percent of the appraised agricultural value of farms where that much credit is needed and it justified by the security. Under certain conditions they may also be written as first mortgage loans.

The interest rate on Land Bank Commissioner loans is 5 per cent, and the usual term of the loan is 20 years, semi-annual payments on the principal retiring the loan by the end of its term.

"Originally authorized in 1933 as an emergency measure," Hultgren said, "commissioner loans have filled a real need in farm financing. They have enabled thousands of farmers to consolidate indebtedness at lower rates of interest and begin to make progress in getting out of debt. They have helped many tenants become farm owners. And of course, during the depression, they made it possible for thousands of farmers to keep farms they otherwise would have lost if such loans had not been available.

"Commissioner loans are made by the Federal Farm Mortgage corporation through Federal Land banks and are serviced by local national farm loan associations exactly as Federal Land bank loans are serviced."

Purebred Boars Need For Good Crossbreeds

Announcement that crossbred hogs have made more economical gains in closely checked experimental tests in some states than purebred hogs has brought a number of inquiries to A. W. Oliver, swine specialist in the animal husbandry department at Oregon State college. Oliver is advising breeders that the use of a good type purebred boar is essential to good results in crossbreeding.

He also says that it is far more important to pay attention to desirable strains within breeds than it is to be particular about the breeds themselves. No one so far has been able to demonstrate that any certain cross is any better than another cross as far as breeds are concerned, he says.

funds by the state system of higher education, and are granted on the basis of the need and ability of each student.

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