

Army's Threat To Withdraw RO Training at Two Oregon Schools

Salem—(U.P.)—Gov. Paul Patterson said yesterday he would present the State Emergency board a Department of Army threat to withdraw ROTC training at the University of Oregon and Oregon State college because the 1953 legislature failed to provide a bond for some \$600,000 worth of Army equipment at the two schools.

Gov. Patterson, after pointing out that the subject was not a new one but had been under consideration since a meeting before the 1953 Legislature convened, said:

"There is no possibility that the state will allow the ROTC units to be withdrawn from the two institutions. We will take whatever steps are required at the proper time, but certainly we will explore every avenue before we agree to pay out state money to insurance companies for a bond."

Gov. Patterson expressed belief that the state of Oregon is every bit as responsible as any bonding company, and he suggested that maybe the remedy for the federal statute which now threatens withdrawal of

ROTC units from the two schools, unless the bonding matter is clarified, might be found in Congress, rather than in the Oregon Legislature.

He suggested that members of the Oregon delegation might well seek to have the federal statute clarified concerning what constitutes an "institution." Several here today expressed belief that Congress did not intend to put states under obligation to bond themselves for Army equipment placed at ROTC schools, but rather referred to private institutions.

To Be Guided by Action
But the matter will be presented to the State Emergency board at its meeting here Friday, and Gov. Patterson said he would be guided largely by what action it takes in any action he may take after that. The Emergency Board is made up of House and Senate members of the 1953 Legislature with the primary function of attending to emergencies in funds that arise between sessions. The Legislature as a whole sets up an emergency fund for just such contingencies to be allotted by its Emergency Board between sessions.

The amount involved in the bond the Department of the Army now says statute requires it to request of any ROTC unit school vary from \$3500 to \$6000 a year estimate, he said.

Part of Defense Act
Gov. Patterson said the requirement for a bond for ROTC property is part of the defense act and so he had no criticism of the Army officials for trying to enforce it.

The Ways and Means committee of the 1953 Legislature declined to appropriate any money to cover the premium of such a bond for the 1953-55 biennium.

State Rep. David C. Baum of La Grande, a Ways and Means member, contended the premium for the bond sought by the Army was too high and in addition, unnecessary, for a state.

A letter to Oregon Republican Congressman Walter Norblad last

July touched off yesterday's reaction. In it, Maj. Gen. William E. Bergin, the adjutant general said: "Institutions maintaining Reserve Officers Training Corps units are required by the national defense act to furnish bond or other means of indemnity in the value of the property

issued to the institution." Opinion was expressed by legal minds here that "institutions" was intended to refer to private, not state institutions. There are several military schools in the United States with ROTC training programs—and equipment.

Also, "equipment" does not mean the rifles and the uniforms the ROTC students use. The students themselves put up modest deposits for these. The equipment refers to such heavy equipment as howitzers—hardly likely to be the object of furtive theft.

Gov. Patterson expressed belief the defense act might well be amended by Congress to eliminate any bond requirement on the part of states. But he said he would take no action until the Emergency Board has met later this week.

Advice Given To Sunglass Wearers

Buffalo, N. Y. — (U.P.) — Erie county health commissioner Berwyn F. Mattison warned "sun squinters" to wear sun glasses during bright days. However, he offered the following warnings to sun bathers.

the sun, even though you are wearing sunglasses.

2. If you wear prescription glasses regularly, you should have specially ground glasses.

3. Never wear sunglasses when driving at night or in the early twilight.

Montreal is only 34 miles from the New York border.

Per Capita Income Of Americans Up To All-Time High

Washington—Per capita income of Americans rose to an all time high of \$1,639 last year, the Commerce Department has reported.

It arrived at that figure by adding up all income payments to individuals—wages, salaries, interest, dividends, pensions, and the net income of farms and other unincorporated business—and dividing that total of \$225,000,000,000 by the total U.S. population.

The result showed an increase of 4 per cent over the 1951 per capita income.

Since men, women and children of all ages were included, the average income of a family of four was \$6,556, before taxes.

Delaware led all states with a per capita income of \$2,260, while Mississippi was in last place with \$818. Behind Delaware in the top flight were Nevada, \$2,250; District of Columbia, \$2,120; Connecticut, \$2,080; New York, \$2,038; California, \$2,032; Illinois, \$1,932, and New Jersey, \$1,929.

Per capita income for other states included: Idaho, \$1,438; Utah, \$1,450; Oregon, \$1,733, and Washington, \$1,810.

Radar Speed Check Praised in Portland

Portland—(U.P.)—Use of radar to check speeding motorists today had the endorsement of City Police Chief Jim Purcell and Mayor Fred Peterson said he will follow with a move to install it in Portland.

Purcell said experience with radar in Salem and Akron, O., showed that speeding was reduced by the presence of the device. He said Akron's accident fatality rate has been cut from 29 to 15 in the first year of radar's use.

Mayor Peterson said he will ask the necessary authority from the city council to buy one unit of the radar device.

Americans Averaged 138 Pounds of Meat in 1952

Champaign, Ill. — (U.P.) — Americans ate an average of 138 pounds of meat a piece in 1952, according to the University of Illinois college of agriculture.

Supplies of meat this year are expected to be about 73 pounds of beef and veal for each person, 67 pounds of pork and four pounds of lamb.



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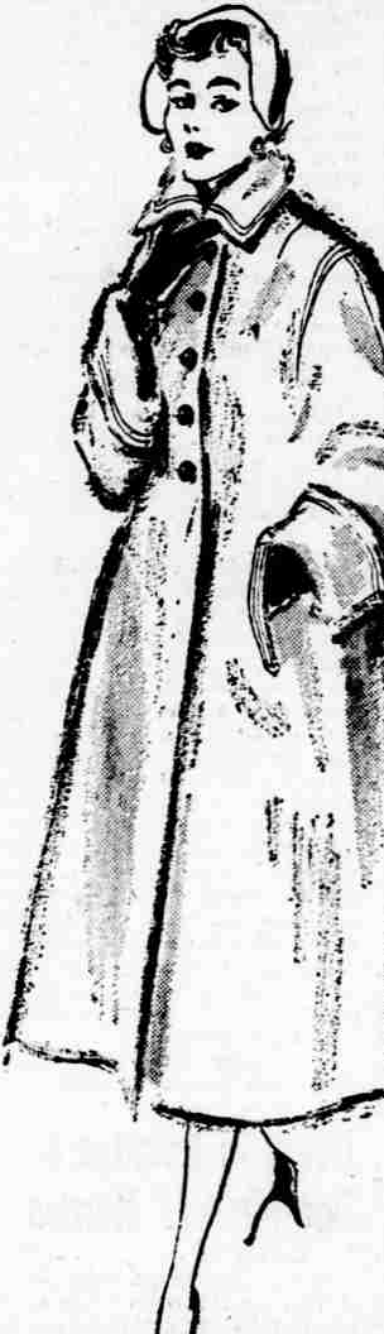
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