

Drastic Steps Said Needed To Get Engineers in Federal Service

By A. ROBERT SMITH
 Mail Tribune Correspondent

Washington — Congress will have to take "drastic steps" to get more qualified engineers into government service or the capacity of the U. S. Corps of Engineers to tackle local harbor control, harbor improvements, navigation works and other river problems will seriously decline.



A. Robert Smith

This is the judgment of Maj. Gen. Emerson C. Itchner, deputy chief of engineers for civil works, who declared: "We are losing engineers at an alarming rate."

"This problem faced today by the Corps of Engineers is rooted in the fact that the government can't compete successfully with private industry for the limited number of college engineering graduates."

"The Corps of Engineers, the largest single government agency in the use of engineering personnel, has been adversely affected by this shortage and will be even more seriously affected on an accumulative basis in the near future unless drastic steps are taken to increase the number of college-trained engineers and scientists," Gen. Itchner told a Senate committee recently.

He cited an instance in which the entire student body graduating in engineering received offers of \$410 and more per month right out of school. The best the Corps could do was about \$340 per month, he added.

While government jobs never compared favorably salary-wise with private business, Itchner said years ago "government employment lent a certain amount of security to their lives which today does not exist so much because of the fringe benefits which are given by private industry."

The personnel crisis is not as critical in the North Pacific division as elsewhere, said Itchner, but he said there will definitely be a slow down on planning new projects and conduct-

ing various surveys which precede detailed plans for each project. He pointed out that delays in planning will mean delays in construction and completion of river and harbor improvements.

Recently the civil service pay scale for beginning engineers has been raised to \$373 per

Russia Expected To Protest Ouster Note

United Nations — (U.P.) — Diplomats today expected Russia to lodge a vigorous protest with the United Nations about Washington action in ousting two members of the Soviet delegation to the world organization.

Soviet Ambassador Georgi N. Zaroubin was reported to have rejected the U. S. ouster note which the State Department presented to him Wednesday.

Arkay S. Sobolev, Russia's chief UN delegate, whose activities in "persuading" defaulting Soviet sailors to return to their homeland was roundly criticized in the note, was expected to ask Secretary General Dag Hammarskjöld's office to intervene.

The Russians had no immediate comment on Washington's action.

Roseburg Students Set National MOD Record

Roseburg — (U.P.) — The better than \$10,000 raised for the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis by Roseburg high school students this year stands as a new record for the nation.

Gene Malecki, Oregon representative for the foundation, announced here that the amount turned in represented the high mark throughout the entire country.

month and the period one had to remain in this GS3 grade has been reduced from a year to six months. But this is still short of the incentives being offered in private industry, Itchner said.

Working on Legislation

Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) and other members of Congress have been working on legislation that is designed to induce more engineering talent into government service. Morse told Itchner in a recent hearing that "the evidence we are getting in the Senate Foreign Relations committee is that Russia is running away from us by leaps and bounds in the training of engineers, scientists and technicians."

The proposal now in the works would provide an eight-year program sponsored by the federal government. As tentatively outlined, it would start with a national examination for all high school seniors who want to compete for engineering scholarships.

After each year's exam, the top scholars, possibly 5,000 of them, would receive four-year scholarships which would include tuition and cost-of-living allowances. In return for this the student would agree to go to work for one of the government's services—anything from the Public Health Service—and serve at least four years.

If any student wished to cancel his agreement before the eight years had expired, he could do so by repaying the government the money it had invested in his education.

The Corps of Engineers is hopeful that something along this line will be enacted soon as a long-range bulwark against the depletion of its 8000-man staff of civilian engineers.

14 Workshops, Confabs Set at OSC in Summer

Corvallis — Fourteen special workshops and conferences are scheduled this year during the Oregon State college summer session, June 18 to Aug. 10, in addition to regular courses offered by the various schools.

Workshops are in camping education, agricultural economics, teaching of typing, guidance and adjustment problems of school-age children, industrial arts, foods and nutrition, clothing construction, homemaking education, trade and industrial education, and college and university teaching.

Highway Program Debated in House

Washington — (U.P.) — The proposed \$51,500,000,000 highway program came up for debate today in the House.

House leaders hoped to begin voting on it Friday. Speaker Sam Rayburn predicted passage.

The big 13-year program calls for increased taxes on gas, tires, trucks, buses and trailers to help finance it.

The core of the program is a proposed 40,000-mile interstate highway system linking most state capitals. The federal government would pay \$24,800,000,000 of its cost. The states would pay \$2,700,000,000.

Congressmen expected heated debate on a provision that would pay \$1,500,000,000 to public utilities to defray the cost of moving their facilities.

An average adult person has four to six quarts of blood weighing 12 to 15 pounds.

Clackamas Sheriff Suffers Heart Attack

Oregon City — (U.P.) — Clackamas County Sheriff N. F. Reaksecker late Tuesday was taken to Tillamook hospital after suffering a heart attack at Gribaldi. It was reported here today. He was placed in an oxygen tent.

Sheriff Reaksecker, who has been in office for more than 15 years, suffered a mild heart attack several weeks ago but had apparently recovered. He has not filed for reelection.

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U. S. DENIES RED WIRETAP CHARGE—Accusing the United States of tapping Soviet Army and East German telephone lines, Col. Ivan Kotsiuba (left), acting Soviet military commandant in Berlin, shows newsmen the spot where cables lead to a U. S. tunnel. Kotsiuba charged the Americans had dug a long tunnel where the Soviet and American sectors meet, then cut in with listening devices on the Soviet Army's main cable line. American officials say the charge is ridiculous.

Dr. Hibbs Elected to OPS Trustee Board

Dr. Ralph E. Hibbs of Medford has been elected to the board of trustees of Oregon Physicians' service, Joseph E. Harvey Jr., general manager, has announced. Dr. Hibbs, who replaces Dr. Dwight H. Findley, also of Medford, was named for a five-year term at the board's annual meeting in Portland.

Harvey reported at the meeting that since last July, 63 physicians have been accepted in OPS, bringing the total to 1,316, or 88 per cent of the state's active practicing physicians.

OPS, founded in 1941 by the Oregon State Medical society as a non-profit public service organization, has a membership of more than 126,000.

Portland Planning Dinner for Stevenson

Portland — (U.P.) — A fund raising spaghetti supper Sunday is scheduled as the first planned public event as Adlai Stevenson opens a three-day campaign in Oregon for primary ballot write-in votes.

The Democratic presidential hopeful is scheduled to arrive in Portland at 10:45 p.m. Saturday. Stevenson's campaign headquarters announced that the remainder of the Sunday schedule for the presidential aspirant still is tentative.

On Monday Stevenson has appearances scheduled at St. Helens, Astoria and Milwaukie. Tuesday's schedule calls for him to be at Medford and Klamath Falls before departing by train for California.

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