

**Military Academy Exams Scheduled**

Washington, D. C. — Rep. Harris Ellsworth announced today that he has arranged with the Civil Service commission to hold on Monday, July 9, a preliminary qualifying examination to determine the eligible candidates for appointment in 1957 to the U. S. Naval academy, Annapolis, Md.; the U. S. Military academy, West Point, N. Y.; and the Air Force academy, Denver, Colo.

Candidates for admission to the academies must be not less than 17 years of age nor more than 22 on July 1, 1957.

Candidates must be actual residents of the fourth Oregon district, which includes Linn, Lane, Douglas, Coos, Josephine, Jackson and Curry counties.

Applicants must notify Congressman Harris Ellsworth, 1130 House Office building, Washington 25, D., in writing not later than June 5, 1956, of their desire to participate in the examination. Appointment of principals and alternates is based on grades achieved in the examination.

**Interim Tax Committee Sets Meeting Thursday**

Salem—(U.P.)—The Legislative Interim Tax Study Committee will meet here Thursday through Saturday to study various sales tax laws, Sen. Rudie Wilhelm Jr., chairman, announced today.

Subcommittees on forestry and electric utilities meet Thursday with full committee sessions Friday and Saturday.

The highest point in the Philippine Islands is Mount Apo, on the Island of Mindanao, 9610 feet.

**Political Rumors Lose No Time In Making Headway in Washington**

By A. ROBERT SMITH  
Mail Tribune Correspondent

Washington—Nothing moves so fast through the bureaucracy of Washington as a new political rumor. And where they come from is almost always a mystery, especially to the persons involved.

Take Ervin L. Peterson for example. The quiet, industrious former state director of agriculture for Oregon has been working for many months as assistant secretary of agriculture, one of Ezra Taft Benson's top administrators in the sprawling Department of Agriculture.

Then this reporter spoiled it all by telephoning Mr. Peterson and saying, "I hear reports that you are being considered as Doug McKay's successor in the cabinet."

There followed a pause interrupted only by the clatter of Mr. Peterson picking himself up off the floor and getting a firmer grip on the telephone.

"What did you say?" The reporter repeated the information, explaining that it came from two widely scattered sources in the West.

**No Apparent Dreams**  
"Well, this is amazing to me," said the flabbergasted assistant secretary of agriculture who apparently had no dreams of becoming secretary of the Interior.

After an exchange in which it was agreed that neither put much stock in the reports inasmuch as they were news to Peterson, the two went their separate ways—but both Mr. Peterson and the reporter kept bumping into the rumor.

Before a week had elapsed, the report had spread to a top Interior official and to various members of the press corps. Reporters began banging on the Oregon man's office door to see what they could learn. And all were as mystified as Peterson about the origin and the validity of the report, if not amazed at the speed of its travel.

During the recent Senate hearings on the boxcar shortage, a bit of doggerel was used by Leonard Netzorg, counsel for Western Forest Industries Association, to illustrate the plight of western Oregon shippers. It went like this:

A poor old man with trembling limbs and stooped decrepit form  
Stood on a weather beaten

dock and faced a wintry storm. He minded not the icy winds that fanned his snow white beard  
But holding high a telescope straight down the track he peered.

The scene about the place he stood was one of desolation. But patiently he took his stand, for such was his occupation.

Off to the right there stood a mill, the roof had blown away  
And where they once had piled the lath now grew a crop of hay.

(The verse continues for many lines describing the tumbled down scene, with timber wolves living in the stable and beavers in the log pond.)

The poor man with his tottering frame through the tall grass trudged one day  
And he'd take his place with telescope and he'd only look one way.

He would look "way off toward the sun-kist South and his face was filled with sorrow. And the only thing that he would say was, "They promised me some tomorrow."

A stranger passing by one day inquired of a native son, "Who is that man who sits over there with the antique vision gun?"

"My friend," the native answered as he wiped away the tears, "You shouldn't speak of him that way, for he's been there 50 years."

"Why that man's story to us out here is as common as the stars."  
"He's a western Oregon lumberman looking for S.P. cars."

**Lost Portland Boy Located by Searchers**

Kelso, Wash., — (U.P.) — An eight-year-old Portland grade school student, lost overnight near the Lewis river, was found safe and in apparent "good condition" by a search party about 8:30 a.m. yesterday.

The report that Melvin Charles Bennett had been found came from Robert Wiester, deputy sheriff of Cowlitz county, who had been in the search area overnight.

The boy, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn H. Bennett, became lost on a fishing trip. He was found about a mile from the Swift Creek camp on the Lewis river.

**Airway Company Tells Of New April Record**

West Coast Airlines today announced that a total of 17,278 passengers were transported in company planes during the month of April, setting a new passenger record for that month. Company officials stated the

April, 1956, passenger total exceeded by 16 per cent the previous record established in April, 1955. A total of 62,894 passengers traveled by West Coast routes during the first four months of this year. Com-

pany officials predict an approximate total of 220,000 will have traveled by West Coast by the end of this year.

Passengers carried last year reached an all-time record of 200,000 an increase of nearly 33 over the previous year, officials stated.

The Lloyd Smith collection of Washington recently donated for the Morristown National Historical park in New Jersey has been valued at \$500,000.

In California losses from weeds and the cost of weed control are about \$200,000,000 annually.



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