

Three Oregon Colleges Selected For Science Training Program

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Correspondent
Washington — Three Oregon colleges have been selected by the National Science Foundation to participate in a program for helping strengthen the training of scientists in the United States.

The foundation is putting up \$5,340,000 in grants to support summer institutes for science teachers at the University of Oregon, Oregon State College and Reed College and 101 other institutions elsewhere.

The institutes at Oregon and Oregon State will be for college biology teachers. At Reed it will be limited to high school teachers in the field of physics.

Grants to each institute will cover costs of tuition and fees for 20 to 100 teachers. Most institutes will also pay stipends directly to participating teachers up to \$75 per week, plus allowances for as many as four dependents and for travel.

"The summer-institutes program of the foundation is in step with current plans for strengthening the training of scientists in the United States," explained Dr. Alan T. Waterman, director of the foundation.

Expect To Attract \$250
The foundation expects to attract about 5000 high school and 250 college teachers of science and mathematics during the 1958 summer program. Directors of the institutes, who are taking applications, are Robert W. Morris at the University, Henry P. Hansen at Oregon State and Kenneth E. Davis at Reed.

In Washington, the state col-

lege is the only participating institution, offering institutes in biology, chemistry, earth science, general science, mathematics and physics. Alfred B. Butler is the director.

"Good science teachers are apt to be the first to stimulate an interest in science among our young people in secondary schools," said Dr. Waterman. "But if instruction is not stimulating, and contains outdated concepts, it tends to weaken youths' motivations toward science careers."

The foundation is supported by appropriations from Congress, which for the past two years have included \$9.5 million earmarked for supplementary training of secondary-school science teachers.

The problem of keeping science-trained teachers in the schools is becoming more acute, according to the National Education Association. This is especial-

ly true in colleges.

Fewer and fewer of the new doctor's degree graduates have been joining the teaching ranks in colleges and universities the past four years, an NEA survey showed.

"The production of Ph Ds is four times greater than it was 10 years ago, the study shows. But these new graduates are turning their backs on teaching and heading for jobs in business and industry," said NEA.

Teaching Hardest Hit
"Science teaching is hardest hit. Three of every four new Ph. Ds in chemistry who take new jobs upon graduation go outside education's environs. Three of every five new Ph. Ds in physics and the other physical

sciences take the same path."

NEA reported that 88 per cent of all colleges and universities cite a serious shortage of qualified teachers. It said almost 14 per cent of all new full-time college teachers for the last two years came directly to the colleges from high school positions where teachers can hardly afford to be lost.

The study by NEA suggests three possible methods of obtaining better educated teachers: (1) more encouragement to women to pursue graduate study; (2) possibility of part-time teachers; (3) more opportunities for upgrading by teachers now in service.

The federally-financed summer institutions come under this

method of trying to halt the "deterioration in the quality" of science teaching staffs caused by the attraction of science teachers and science graduates into industry.



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Breaking Elberta Peach Barrier May Be Boon To Food-Growing

By DELOS SMITH
United Press Science Editor
New York — Science has broken the Elberta Peach barrier which, in its way, is no less exciting than breaking the sound barrier was during the first year of the jet propulsion age.

You see, nothing is quite so stubborn as a natural "law" and no natural law was any more stubborn than the one which seemed to govern the behavior of the Elberta peach tree.

After it dropped its leaves in the fall, nothing whatever would induce it to put forth new ones until after it had endured a period of cold days.

You could put it in a hot house, into the soil most liked by Elberta peach trees. You could create artificially the weather it likes best. But all this to no avail.

Productive in Georgia
For that reason the Elberta peach tree is unknown in all-

year warm climates. This is why the trees are most productive in such areas as Georgia where winters are long enough for the purpose of the trees, but still short enough for growing seasons to be long ones.

To put forth new leaves, an Elberta peach tree must first go through 950-hours—or 39 24-hour days—in which the temperature is below 45 degrees. It doesn't matter if there are more than 39 such days. But there can't be fewer.

Clive W. Donoho Jr. and David R. Walker of North Carolina State college, Raleigh, are the peach scientists who broke the barrier. They did it with the experimental plant growth substance, gibberellic acid which is a chemical manufactured by a Japanese fungus.

They experimented with trees which had had no more than 164 hours of cold before they were transplanted from orchard into large cans and put into a storage room with a continuous temperature of 65 degrees.

After 95 days, the trees still were dormant, as was to be expected. Donoho and Walker then sprayed them twice with solutions of gibberellic acid, and behold! The barrier was broken—the trees began growing and putting forth leaves.

Wall Street Visions Tug of War in Next Session of Congress

By ELMER C. WALZER
United Press Financial Editor
New York — Having listened to a week of discussion by the nation's manufacturers, Wall Street concluded today that a tug of war is shaping up for the next session of Congress.

On the one side will be a group, strongly supported by the National Association of Manufacturers, seeking to keep nondefense expenses down and thus make way for a tax cut.

On the other, will be a group seeking to spend the nation's money helter-skelter for defense without cutting down on non-defense items.

The latter group may even seek a tax increase, according to the Wall Street discussions.

techniques, and wasteful practices; eliminate extravagance in foreign aid and put more emphasis on military aid while reducing economic aid; and squeeze every non-essential dollar out of domestic-civilian programs.

Program Favored
The Byrd program is seen as sound in Wall Street and to that extent not the type of operation that would result in a sprightly advance in the stock market. Such program, it is held, would fight further against inflation which many regard as a real market rise incentive.

Only the speculative element in Wall Street favors wild government spending and a return to inflation. There are many conservative experts who are planning to help along the moves suggested by Senator Byrd, holding that these basic ideas would provide a strong underpinning for a long-range bull market.

Finding Right Solutions
Not many sprayings were needed in any experiment, but the strength of the solutions was all-important. Solutions containing 1,000 to 40,000 parts of the substance per million parts were highly effective. Weaker solutions were not.

In reporting to the American Association for the Advancement of Science, they said that gibberellic acid evidently either put the whammy on a specific Elberta peach chemical which kept it dormant or needled its over-all chemistry into functioning despite the "law."

This is the newest horticultural wonder attributed to gibberellic acid which is exciting horticulture scientists throughout the world. It has hastened the germination and the early growth of a number of important food plants. It may some day put a new face on food-growing.

Satellite Failure
The spenders received new ammunition when the nation's satellite failed to get off the ground.

Wall Street studied carefully the speech before the NAM by Sen. Harry F. Byrd (D-Va.) who warned that a tax rise of even a billion dollars in any bracket would bring grave consequences.

Byrd did not favor a tax reduction at the expense of a balanced budget.

He estimated that it would cost the government \$6 billion in revenue to give a moderate general overall tax reduction "which is so badly needed in this country."

He would explore the whole field of spending to bring savings in outgo. He would rechart defense expenditures on the basis of a reevaluation of the relative priority of present and developing methods of warfare; eliminate obsolete weapons, methods,

Highway Accident Brings Damage Suit

Robert E. Harnish, Central Point, has filed a complaint in circuit court asking \$50,000 in general damages and \$2,984.62 in special damages from Leroy V. Fellows and William Skyrman, Central Point, for injuries received in a highway accident Sept. 5, 1956, on Butte Falls rd.

According to the complaint Fellows was operating a loaded log truck owned by Skyrman when it crossed the center line on the highway six miles east of U. S. Highway 62 causing the logs to fall onto a dump truck driven by the plaintiff.

Harnish claims that he suffered severe pain, mental anguish, and shock as well as several fractures in the accident. He is represented by W. E. Duhaime, Medford attorney.

Overturning Tractor Kills Man at Mulino
Oregon City — Francis Foltz, 24, was killed Sunday when a tractor overturned on him at Mulino.

The coroner's office said Foltz was trying to tow a loaded truck which was stuck and the tractor turned over backwards, crushing the victim. Foltz was a staff sergeant stationed at the Portland air base.

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