

## 40 Delegates Are Expected at Event

Approximately 40 delegates will attend the 47th semi-annual meeting of the Oregon State Council of Retail Clerks to be held Saturday and Sunday in the Jackson hotel.

Also attending will be representatives from clerks' state councils in California and Washington.

Murray Plopper, national director of organization for the Retail Clerks International association, and Norman Nilsen, state labor commissioner, will be among the speakers. Others will include state officers of the Oregon AFL-CIO.

Business items will include the election of 1961 council officers, formulating the council's 1961 legislative program,

final action on a proposal for a statewide clerks' newspaper, and reports of efforts toward standardization of working agreements and area-wide bargaining.

Retail Clerks Union Local 265, Medford-Grants Pass, will be host to delegates and guests at a dinner Saturday evening. Lenord Smith is secretary of the Medford-Grants Pass local.

**TO WITHDRAW AGENT**  
Salem - UPI - Pacific Motor Trucking Co. and Railway Express, Inc., have been authorized to withdraw their joint agent at Monroe, Ore.

Most valuable whale product is ambergris, used to make perfumes.

## MEDFORD TRIBUNE

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## Prospects Appear Bright for Ending French-Algerian War

Editor's note: Recent events seem to have bolstered hopes that a solution may be in sight for the Algerian war, now in its seventh year. In the following dispatch, the United Press International vice president for Europe and Africa assesses the situation.

By THOMAS R. CURRAN  
Tunis, Tunisia - UPI - Prospects seem bright for ending the French-Algerian conflict,

the oldest hot war in the world today.

In a referendum on Jan. 8, President Charles de Gaulle of France got a blank check from 75 per cent of the French people to end the war his way. The Algerian government-in-exile, with headquarters in Tunis, has recently expressed its willingness to start peace negotiations once more.

Thus the way is cleared for the first secret contacts, probably through intermediaries. The war for Algerian independence, called a rebellion by the French, broke out Nov. 1, 1954.

The peace overtures are most timely because the date for the big Algerian spring offensive is only a few weeks off. Every year the Algerians launch their major drive early in March.

**Fearing Chinese Intervention**  
This year there was the added threat that arms from Communist China might mount the big Algerian push. When the last peace negotiations broke down in June of 1960, Ferhat Abbas, the president of the provisional Algerian government, went to Peking. The Chinese asked him what was his biggest problem. He is supposed to have answered that it was the French defense fortifications running 300 miles along the entire Tunisian frontier.

This new "Magnet line" of the French is about five miles deep, with criss-crossing mazes of barbed wire and electric signals. There's a deep "no man's land" on both sides, and the French army strikes when signals indicate an invading force has penetrated the defenses.

**Line Major Barrier**  
Up to now the line has been a major barrier. Occasionally a "suicide squad" of 25 to 30 Algerian soldiers will cut their way into the defenses and draw the withering fire of the French defenders. The sacrificial group is lost but its action permits the passage of other troops and arms into Algeria.

Some weeks ago the French

defenses were cut for a distance of five kilometers. To the surprise of the French, however, nobody crossed. It is thought here that the plan of the French Maginot line, so gained, has gone to Communist China for study in preparation for the spring offensive.

The Chinese also have volunteered, according to unofficial reports here, to turn the entire product of three of four munitions plants over to the Algerians, FBO Cairo. From Egypt the Algerians would be responsible for moving it by land or sea to Algeria.

**Question of Arms**  
Since every Algerian boy above the age of 15 is ready to serve in the underground, one observer here said: "There's no problem of men for the Algerian army. It's just a question of arming them."

Some quarters here expected the administration of President Kennedy to be more sympathetic with Algerian aspirations than outgoing President Eisenhower seemed to be. Many believed that Eisenhower was handicapped by his close war-time association with De Gaulle. That it was a case of two 70-year-old generals not wishing to run counter to the other's policy.

One of the hurdles to a settlement last year was De Gaulle's insistence on a cease-fire before negotiations. The Algerian provisional government refused that condition. Officials here feared that if the Algerian maquis, or underground, was dismantled or destroyed, it could easily be weakened or destroyed.

Besides, they pointed out, a cease-fire might appear as surrender.

"We haven't lost the war," one official explained, "so why should we surrender?" The Algerians, however, have yielded on one significant point. They formerly insisted on war till complete independence was won. Now they are willing to stop fighting if they are given adequate guarantees in advance.

## Assistant Dean Is Named for Graduate School at College

Corvallis - Rapid increases in the number of students working for master's and doctor's degrees prompted the appointment of an assistant dean of the graduate school at Oregon State college.

President A. L. Strand named Dr. Wendell H. Slabaugh, professor of chemistry, to the assistant dean post on a half-time basis for the present.

In announcing the appointment, Dr. Strand pointed out that 11 per cent of the students enrolled at OSC this year are in the graduate school. OSC has become one of the nation's major institutions for doctor's degree work in recent years, he added.

Slabaugh's appointment was approved by the state board of higher education at its meeting in Portland.

**Dean for 12 Years**  
Dr. Henry P. Hansen has been dean of the graduate school for the past 12 years. In that time, enrollment in the graduate school has more than doubled.

Increases at perhaps an even faster rate are predicted by Hansen for years ahead to meet the nation's need for highly-trained scientists and teachers.

The OSC graduate school also sponsors an important program of research grants-in-aid designed to encourage individual research on the part of staff members. Some 60 staff members are now doing research under the grants-in-aid and more than 50 technical papers were published last year on the basis of that work. Several of the

projects started with grants-in-aid have since received major grants from industry or state and federal agencies.

Slabaugh, 46, has been a member of the OSC staff since 1953. Before that, he taught at North Dakota State college, Washington State university and Kansas State college. In 1957, he was picked as one of three "outstanding teachers" honored that year on campus.

**In Science Fields**  
Nearly half of the graduate students at OSC this year are majoring in science fields. Agriculture has the second largest group, followed by education and engineering, with lesser numbers in home economics, forestry, pharmacy, and general studies.

Students from throughout the U. S. and 35 foreign countries are on the campus this year for advanced studies.

National reports issued in 1960 showed that OSC ranked seventh in the West and 47th in the nation in the number of doctor's degree graduates in the past five years. Last year, OSC conferred 48 doctor's degrees and 313 master's degrees. This June it is anticipated that about 80 doctor's degrees will be conferred.

**MORSE RETURNS**

Portland - Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.), flew back to Washington, D.C. late Tuesday night after two days of appearances in Oregon.

The Canada goose is one of the first water birds to return north in the spring.

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