



BLOOD DRIVE PLANNERS at Oregon Technical Institute met last week with other officials. Those pictured are, front from left, Mrs. Estelle Lund, Mrs. W. D. Purvine, Mrs. Virginia Dixon, Barbara Karnosh, Paul Guest; back, from left, Bob Williams, Jim Armon, assistant dean of men; Bill Furrow, Mike Stevens, Ron Mortensen and Ron McLoughlin. — OTI Photo.

Government Estimates Cost For Adequate Support For Retired Couple

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government estimated today it takes \$220 to \$280 monthly to support a retired couple aged 65 or more on a modest but adequate urban living level.

Budget costs for such couples in 20 cities surveyed by the Labor Department's statistics bureau ranged from \$2,641 in Houston to \$3,366 in Chicago for the specific living standard on which the study was based.

The bureau described it as "not a luxurious level, but one adequate to provide more than the basic essentials of consumption."

The budget cost estimates compare with average Social Security payments of about \$125 a month to couples over 65.

Officials emphasized that Social Security never was intended to supply more than minimum living cost protection. A more than subsistence living level generally presumes some outside income such as private pensions or yield from investments.

The Labor Department old folks budget is more than minimum and less than luxury. For example, its food cost calculations are a combination of low and moderate-cost eating plans. It contemplates TV set ownership, but assumes most elderly couples will use public transportation.

The budget is described as representing "a level of living which provides the goods and services necessary for a healthful, self-respecting mode of living, and allows normal participation in community life according to standards prevailing in large cities or their suburbs in the United States."

The survey, based on data collected a year ago, is just being made public.

The cost of food-beverages and

ent-heat utilities each runs close to 30 per cent of total budget costs — with "other goods and services" accounting for the remainder.

Included in the latter category are transportation, clothing, house furnishings, medical care, personal care, household operation, reading, recreation, tobacco, gifts, contributions and miscellaneous expenses. A small allowance, about \$20 a year is approximately 9 per cent of the total budget.

One of the loopholes is that the budget assumes the retired couple lives in a two to three-room rented apartment. The bureau knows that retired couples typically live in their own homes, largely free of mortgage. But more accurate data on rental costs were available.

Budget food costs range from \$738 a year in Houston to \$856 in Pittsburgh. Housing is budgeted from a low of \$395 a year at Scranton, Pa., to a high of \$1,067 in Chicago.

The budget assumes a retired couple already has most of the household appliances that have come to be regarded as essential. It's assumed the wife does all the cooking and most of the cleaning and laundry.

Alligator Loses Home

RENO, Nev. (AP)—Alvin the alligator, long the pride of Stead Air Force Base near here, has lost one home but found another.

Muzzled and stuffed into a sleeping bag, the 200-pound native of Florida was flown to Mather Air Force Base, Calif., for the William Land Zoo in Sacramento.

Alvin, 4, was brought to Stead two years ago for use in the reptile display. Thousands of pilots getting survival training were shown Alvin and how—if their plane crashed in alligator country—they could enjoy Alvin for dinner instead of the other way round.

"Everybody loved Alvin," said an officer at a brief farewell ceremony. "He was pampered and petted. But you can't get in the same room with him now."

OTI To Host Bloodmobile

The Oregon Technical Institute student body has set 225 pints as its goal during the annual bloodmobile visit to the campus Wednesday, Dec. 7.

Mrs. W. D. Purvine, county blood program chairman; Mrs. Virginia Dixon, county Red Cross executive secretary; and Mrs. Estelle Lund, Red Cross publicity director, met with the Associated Student Body Blood Drive Committee last week to plan the campaign.

The newly-organized campus Circle K Club has volunteered to do most of the leg work.

Forms for parents' consent will be distributed to students and a schedule set up so that students in the various curricula may donate at the most likely time. Circle K members will make those arrangements.

OTI students say they hope again to defeat Southern Oregon College students in a traditional and informal rivalry during the blood campaign.

SOC students this year gave 180 pints. "That's commendable," an OTI spokesman said, "but OTI students have never lost to SOC and we expect to beat them again this year."

The bloodmobile will be on campus from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

Unemployment Shows Boost

SALEM (AP)—The state Employment Department today reported a sharp rise in unemployment during October.

It received 21,900 initial claims for unemployment compensation during the month, compared with 12,239 in October of 1959. The total was less than the 23,380 figure for October of 1957.

The department said initial claims in September of this year were 11,842, but figures generally are higher in October than in September.

Payments to the jobless between July 1 and Nov. 18 totaled \$6,646,537, compared with \$3,999,778 and \$8,930,162 in the comparable periods of 1959 and 1958.

The department said its trust fund totals \$52 million, compared with \$48 million a year ago.

FIRE IDLES 900
LAKE LAND, Fla. (UPI)—Lakeland Packing Co., Florida's biggest shipper of fresh grapefruit, was put out of business Tuesday by a \$1 million fire that destroyed the packing house and put 900 persons out of work.



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