

**\$30 Million In Bonds Are Sold To State Bank**

SALEM (AP)—The Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs today sold \$30 million worth of veterans farm and home loan bonds to First National Bank of Portland at 3.433 per cent interest.

This is the first issue of self-liquidating bonds under the authority granted at the November election to issue \$135 million worth.

The department has issued a total of \$180 million in bonds since the program was started 15 years ago. The average interest rate has been 2.962 per cent.

The highest interest paid by the department was 3.654 per cent three years ago.

Two other bids were received today—C. J. Devine, New York, at 3.4856 and First National Bank of Chicago at 3.4567.

Proceeds of today's bond sale will be received about Feb. 20. The department then will start completing loans in the backlog of 2,400 applications on file.

The money from today's sale will last until about July.

**2,000 Girdles Taken By Thief**

ATLANTA (AP)—A thief who stole about 2,000 girdles from a suburban Chamblee plant is being sought by police.

The girdles, valued at about \$50,000, were stolen from the Warner Bros. Co. during the weekend. Detective B. R. Varner said some brassieres might be involved, too.

Police said the thief broke a window to get into the building, then loaded the girdles, in boxes, into a truck at a loading platform.

**Lighter Beats Scout's Flint**

JOPLIN, Mo. (AP)—Planning a mortgage-burning ceremony at a Boy Scout campsite, adult leaders decided it should be done in true scouting style—igniting the mortgage with flint and steel.

Don Roney of the Mo-Kan Council executive board stepped forward Monday night with his trusty scout kit.

He struck the flint again and again. Plenty of sparks, but the mortgage was unscorched.

A companion proved that fire can be kindled by flint and steel—in a cigarette lighter.

**High Benefits Cited In Accident Program**

SALEM (AP)—An official of the Oregon Industrial Accident Commission said Tuesday that benefits under Oregon's state system are among the highest in the nation.

Roy Green, actuary for the commission, told the House committee on labor-management that the present system is not monopolistic in that it allows an employer to carry industrial accident insurance with a private carrier.

He said that the system often results in a ratio of benefits paid out to premiums paid in that are greater for small employers.

He said in some classes of employers that benefits paid to hurt workers are slightly more than 100 per cent of premiums paid by the employers. In other classes, the figure is less than 100 per cent.

There will be considerable fighting over the law in this session of the legislature.

Sen. Walter Pearson, D-Portland, is expected to introduce a bill that would substitute the so-called three-way law for the present system.

Under this method an employer would be permitted to insure with a private insurance company, with the state or insure himself.

Gov. Mark O. Hatfield in his legislative message proposed that an employer be permitted to either self insure or insure with the state. Only state insurance now comes under the workmen's compensation act.

Green said that Oregon law is unique in that it has no waiting period for benefits. He said it is the only one in the nation in which the workman pays a set amount.

He said that the Oregon law

provides for unlimited medical benefits to workmen seriously injured. He said in some states benefits are limited to \$1,000, which he called peanuts in cases such as serious burns.

The Oregon law, he said, provides for continuous jurisdiction which means that if an injured man's condition in later years gets worse as a result of the industrial accident the case can be reopened.

Green said that Oregon also provides full coverage for occupational diseases and radiation injury. He said there are base benefits for single persons with additional benefits for each dependent.

He said that widows and total disability claims are paid for life under the Oregon law and that its rehabilitation program is rated one of the best in the nation.

The Senate Education Committee put off consideration of interim appointments in the education field until next week.

The committee acted after vice chairman William A. Grenfell, D-Portland, said he felt the committee should not act on the appointment of Dean E. B. Lemon of Oregon State College as chairman of the state scholarship committee until next week. The committee then decided not to act on any appointments until next week.

At that time Sen. Monroe Sweetland, the chairman and a Democrat from Milwaukie, will be back. He is in Washington, D. C. for the inauguration.

Grenfell previously had opposed the appointment of Lemon.

There are more school teachers than soldiers in Costa Rica.

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**State Property Tax Repeal Said Essential**

PENDLETON (AP)—Repeal of Oregon's personal property tax on business inventories was called essential today by Robert Duncan, speaker of the Oregon House of Representatives.

The Medford Democrat, in remarks prepared for a Kiwanis luncheon, called the tax obsolete.

He said Oregon's tax climate for attracting new industry is second to none in the Northwest. In proof of this, he cited bills introduced recently in the Washington Legislature and said two of the provisions already are incorporated in Oregon law.

Duncan said Oregon's present inventory tax is impossible to administer fairly and works an extreme hardship on businesses it taxes.

"Its repeal and subsequent replacement with a net income tax on business would spread the tax over the entire business community, based on ability to pay, and would assure that Oregon would continue to present the most favorable tax climate to business," he said.

46 MILLION STUDENTS  
WASHINGTON (UPI)—The Census Bureau reports that approximately 46 million students were enrolled in American schools and colleges last fall.

**Steel Companies Consent To Correcting Abuses**

SAN FRANCISCO (UPI)—The U.S. Department of Justice won consent judgments today in civil antitrust suits against 15 steel fabricating companies.

The defendants were charged Nov. 23, 1959, in U.S. District Court with conspiring to eliminate competition in the sale and fabrication of concrete reinforcing bars (rebars) in Arizona, California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington.

Jyle Jones, antitrust chief here, said the decrees entered today "will cure all the ills set forth in the complaints."

He said the consenting defendants are enjoined from allocating fabricating jobs among fabricators, fixing uniform interest rates, refusing to buy foreign made re-

bars, and from preventing steel mills from selling rebars directly to general contractors.

Consenting defendants are: Blue Diamond Corp., Los Angeles, which recently has been absorbed by Flintkote, New York; Ceco Steel Products Corp., Chicago; Gilmore-Skoubye Steel Con-

tractors, Oakland, Calif.; Herrick Iron Works, Hayward, Calif.; F. A. Klinger Inc., Stockton, Calif.

Meehleis Steel Co., Vernon, Calif.; Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Co., Pittsburgh; Rutherford and Skoubye Inc., Los Angeles; Joseph T. Hyerson and Son, Inc., Chicago.

NO OLD RELICS  
LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Helen Marlow, a former dancer, celebrated her 104th birthday Tuesday. She said her wish was that she could someday travel to the planet Mars.

Asked if she had any relics left of her 43-year career as a dancer, she laughed. "No old relics. I'm relic enough."

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Assn., Oakland, Calif. Jones said that the government will proceed to trial against the remaining defendants in the case, all major producers. They are Bethlehem Pacific Coast Steel Corp., Bethlehem Steel Co., Judson Steel Corp., Pacific States Steel Corp., and U.S. Steel Corp.

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