

Society and Clubs

By LOTUS KNIGHT PORTER

MISS PITCHFORD IS SPEAKER AT LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Miss Pitchford, county juvenile officer, gave a talk on the "Handling of Juvenile Delinquency" to the Women Voters League of Roseburg which met last Wednesday afternoon at the Episcopal Parish House. Miss Pitchford has had many years of successful experience in the handling of juvenile problems, qualifying her to speak with authority on this subject. She introduced her talk by saying it was her personal opinion that questionable behavior on the part of the juveniles was given too much publicity.

The juvenile court with which Miss Pitchford works deals with different types of social problems concerning children, the juvenile delinquents being only one of many types, dependent children, abandoned children, and runaways also come under this court jurisdiction.

Although each type is treated differently in the finer details they all must follow the same general routine of complaint and follow up investigation.

Before any case can be taken up there must be a complaint made. This complaint means nothing until it is followed up by a petition that has been signed. In this petition the complaint must be taken to the County Clerk to be sworn to by the County Clerk. This petition must be presented to the parents at least twenty-four hours before there can be any hearing. After this there is a complete investigation made by Miss Pitchford.

Children of fifteen years or over are brought in on a warrant rather than a petition. Youths of this age are often picked up by the justice of the peace. This age youth is usually kept in custody under bail. This procedure has proved wise in a disciplinary measure.

In the case of delinquent attendance at school the teacher or principal reports absence. This is first reacted to by the authorities by a registered notice to the parents, very often this is all that is necessary to establish attendance in school. In some cases, however, the handling of the case will follow any of the three major divisions of problems coming under this court's jurisdiction. The remark was made here that the character of misbehavior of boys and girls of fifteen years and over were usually of different natures. Judge Busenbark, having judgment over these cases rarely sends youngsters away on first offenses, unless of extreme behavior. The policy of this juvenile court is to help the child, not to hurt him or her.

When a child is placed on probation he must report, at intervals, but at these reports the court proceedings are not brought up unless of extreme necessity.

A condition that Judge Busenbark insists on, and should be noted by everyone, is that these youngsters must go to Sunday school.

Boys and girls under fourteen years are never kept in jail but in custody in homes. Run-aways are kept in the ward in the juvenile department under the supervision of the matron. The conditions of the local ward were reported to be clean and sanitary. Usually parents are very cooperative when contacted about problem children, the warning is for parents to be on the alert long before conditions reach the attention of the courts. If this were done most of the cases would never have to reach court. The second type of child the court has jurisdiction over is the dependent child, the proceedings are the same as for the above. The complaints usually are ne-

glect in one respect or another. The district attorney always attends these cases, although most of the problems can be solved before they reach this magnitude of decision. Miss Pitchford made this significant statement: "We always feel we are dealing with children, not criminals, all cases are handled behind closed doors, a protection against damaging publicity."

A third type of cases taken care of in this court are defective children. The procedure in caring for these children varies a little. If a child needs to go to an institutional school he must be committed by parents or guardians. This is often a heart-breaking commitment but in many cases the child can be made happier in an institution where specially trained teachers and doctors can help this child develop a happier life than the most devoted parent could provide.

Deaf and dumb children are admitted to schools by the consent of the parents not by commitment. Mentally deficient children are usually brought in by parents who consent to a medical examination conducted by a medical board. When children are committed to a hospital before they are six or seven years old they have the decided advantage of being taught a happier way of living, according to their individual capacities, whereas if they waited until they were nearly grown they may have intensified their incapacities.

Girls going to the Hillcrest home are given wonderful training in home management as well as privilege to continue their high school education.

In closing Miss Pitchford remarked that the enforcement of the curfew law had decided advantages. She said children should be in their homes under ordinary circumstances after curfew hour. That the enforcement of that law threw the responsibility upon the parents for the care of their youngsters, rather than leaving it to service clubs and public and city officials.

HEALTH ASSOCIATION TO MEET WEDNESDAY

The annual meeting of the Douglas County Public Health Association will be held at a 12 o'clock luncheon Wednesday, May 21, at the Methodist Church parlors. Red G. Scherer, director of social hygiene education, will be the speaker on the subject, "Social Hygiene Education and Additional Public Education." The public is invited. Reservations must be made by telephoning County Health Unit at 344.

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RIVERSDALE HAPPY HOUR CLUB HAS ENJOYABLE MEETING

The Riversdale Happy Hour Club met Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. H. C. McDonald with Mrs. B. A. Young as co-hostess. A lovely dessert-luncheon was served buffet style. The table was centered with a beautiful arrangement of columbine and Canterbury bells, flanked by tall lighted tapers in candelabra. A very interesting meeting followed conducted by the president, Mrs. Ned Dixon. Each member contributed to the program as she responded to a call, including a vocal duet by Mrs. R. L. Harmon and Mrs. Walter Bailey. Committee reports were presented including the program for entertaining hostesses during the ensuing year. It was voted to present the day's social service collection to the United China Relief drive.

Members present were Mrs. Ned Dixon, Mrs. Glenn Cox, Mrs. Walter Bailey, Mrs. L. W. Cole, Mrs. Vance Cox, Mrs. Dale Guiley, Mrs. R. L. Harmon, Mrs. Donald, Mrs. H. B. Lee, Mrs. E. L. Paris, Mrs. Ernest Trussell, Mrs. B. A. Utterback, Mrs. G. H. Wignall, Mrs. Donald Guiley and the two hostesses. Hostesses for the June 11 meeting will be Mrs. Vance Cox and Mrs. G. H. Wignall.

CALAPOOIA CLUB TO MEET ON WEDNESDAY

The Calapooia Ladies Club will meet at 11 A. M. Wednesday at the clubhouse. A potluck luncheon will be served at noon. Hostesses include: Mrs. Bertha Carille, Mrs. Nora Stevens, Mrs. Dee Stevens and Mrs. Lucille Starr. All members are urged to be present.

GLENGARY SEWING CLUB TO MEET

The Glengary Sewing Club will meet Wednesday at a one o'clock luncheon and social at the home of Mrs. Helen Anderson in Glengary. Members are reminded to have a recitation, joke, song, or poem for the program or be fined 5 cents.

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MELROSE GRANGE TO MEET TUESDAY NIGHT

Melrose Grange, No. 434, will meet Tuesday night at 8 o'clock at the hall. All officers are requested to be present. Refreshments will be served by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Aydelott, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Nickens and Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Reece.

The last meeting was held May 6 at the hall with Amy Matthews, worthy master, in charge. Twelve officers answered roll-call. Two applications for membership were read and referred to the investigating committee. Alice Goff conferred the third and fourth degree obligation upon Frank Smith.

Alvin Greer was appointed pest hunt chairman and sides will be chosen for the pest hunt contest within the grange with Dale Busenbark and Ray Doerner acting as captains. Mabel Busenbark was nominated and elected alternate to the state grange. John Trozelle was granted a demit from the grange.

A most enjoyable program of skits, readings and music was presented by Mr. and Mrs. Herman Aydelott, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Matthews and Mr. and Mrs. L. Chitwood, after which refreshments were served by the Home Economics committee to 50 members and guests.

YOUNG LUTHERANS LEAGUE TO MEET

The Young Lutherans League will meet Wednesday evening at the recreational hall of the housing project in Sutherland at eight o'clock. For transportation, members and friends are asked to meet at the corner of Stephens and Oak streets at 7:30 o'clock.

WOMAN'S CLUB TO PICNIC ON TUESDAY

The Roseburg Women's Club will hold installation of new officers at a noon picnic luncheon at the A. F. Micelli home Tuesday.

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day. In case the weather is inclement, a potluck luncheon will be held at the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. George E. Houck, Mrs. William Bailey and Mrs. C. H. Bailey will assist Mrs. Micelli. Those attending are asked to bring their own table service, a covered dish and sandwiches and those desiring transportation are asked to meet at the Presbyterian Church. Cars will leave the church at 12:30 o'clock.

D. A. R. to Meet—Umpqua Chapter of D. A. R. will elect officers and enjoy a program to night at 7:30 o'clock at the C. P. Caylor home on Corey Avenue with Mrs. O. W. French and Mrs. Leslie Chapman as co-hostesses.

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Leave for Spokane — Mrs. W. S. Higgins and daughter, Megan, and Mrs. W. M. Huff, left Saturday for their homes in Spokane, following a week's stay in Roseburg as guests of Mrs. Higgins' brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Mel Ingram, and family, on Hamilton Avenue. Mrs. Ingram's mother, Mrs. Curran, also of Spokane, who has been spending several weeks here visiting, remained over for a longer visit.

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