

Highway Commission Plans 5-Year Program For Park Developments In Oregon

By PAUL W. HARVEY JR. criticism that it isn't doing right. SALEM — Hoping to head off by the state parks, the Oregon

Highway Commission has a five-year program of increasing park facilities.

It says this program will handle the ever-mounting number of persons who are turning to the parks for their recreation.

The commission plans to spend \$7,000,000 in the next five years on the parks, pointing out that as people have more leisure time, they go to the parks in increasing numbers.

There now are 156 state parks, totaling 55,053 acres. Of these, 36

have been improved for recreational use.

There were 6,000,000 day visitors to the parks last year, a whopping 1,500,000 increase from 1953. Another 123,000 persons camped overnight in the 33 parks where that is allowed.

The five most popular parks are Yaquina Bay, with 338,633 visitors last year; rown Point, 338,850; Sunset Bay, 237,369; Boiler Bay, 224,529; and Wallaw Lake, 202,599.

The whole administration of the parks is under two-prong investigation. The matter will come to a showdown in the 1957 Legislature.

Gov. Paul Patterson told the Advisory Committee on Travel Information to investigate the parks. A six-man subcommittee of newspaper editors, headed by William Tugman of Reedsport, soon will hold public hearings on whether a separate commission should be set up to run the parks.

After the committee reports, then the Legislative Interim Highway Committee will consider the evidence, and make its recommendations.

Most recreational groups appear to favor a separate parks commission, thus putting the Highway

Commission out of the parks business. They argue that the Highway Commission won't develop parks distant from the highway system, and that the commission's interest in the parks plays second fiddle to its interest in building roads.

The Highway Commission denies all this. It points to its five-year plan as evidence that it has a big interest in parks. Also, the commission says it can do the park job cheaper than anybody else can, because it can do much of it work the park.

The new plan call for expanding 72 parks which already are developed, developing 12 new parks, and buying and developing four new tracts.

The 12 unimproved parks to be developed total 1,140 acres. They are: Bandon Ocean Wayside, or lumbi River Highway in Hood Rives County, Dringtonia, Detroit Lake, Fort Stevens, John Yeon, Lincoln County Ocean Waysides, North Santiam Forest Waysides, Ochoco Lake, Rooster Rock, South Beach Wayside, and Newburgh.

The new areas to be acquired are at Fogarty creek, two miles north of Depoe Bay; South Yaquina Bay, Leaburg Dam and Triangle Lake.

C. H. Armstrong is state parks superintendent. He succeeded the late Samuel H. Boardman, who built the system on a shoestring. Boardman got much of the park territory by convincing property owners they ought to give the sites to the state.

Armstrong predicts use of state parks will increase 50 per cent in the next five years. That's why he's in a hurry.

In expanding the parks that already are developed, Armstrong's plan calls for adding 2,262 picnic tables, 537 wood stoves, 201 electric stoves, 198 toilets, and water systems.

Electric stoves have been installed in 19 parks. The five-year plan calls for putting them in at least that many more. These stoves are operated by putting a dime in a slot.

As to placing the parks system under a separate commission, there is a knotty legal question.

The constitution says that all highway revenues must be used for highway purposes. The Highway Commission is spending about \$1,000,000 of this revenue for parks.

This use is considered as a highway purpose as long as the Highway commission spends it.

But if the parks were transferred to a separate commission, could

highway money be used for parks? Nobody knows the answer. If the answer is no, then the parks would have to be financed from the state general fund, through a legislative appropriation.

Local News

Has Job — Jim Friday is employed for the summer as survey aid for Milo Godfrey. They will be working for Martin Box Co.

New Baby — A daughter, Laura Linnea, was born June 22 to Mr. and Mrs. Kermit Enander of Los Gatos, Calif. Grandparents here are Mr. and Mrs. Carl Enander.

Leave For Visit — Mrs. C. H. Friday and son, Bill, left Thursday for Portland, Pendleton and Walla Walla to visit relatives and friends for a week.

Returns Home — Larry Welch left yesterday for his home in Eugene, following a visit in Roseburg with his great-aunt, Miss Agnes Pitchford.

Vacationing At Beach — Sgt. and Mrs. Holly Holcomb and daughters and Miss Gayle Godes of this city are spending the week vacationing at the beach.

Has Leave — Marvin Brown, who is stationed with the Coast Guard at Seattle was home on leave recently at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Brown.

In California — Mrs. J. Walter Davis is expected to arrive home this weekend from several days visit with her son, Darrel (Doc) Davis, and family at Lancaster, Calif.

To Visit Slocums — Mr. and Mrs. Randolph Slocum plan to be at the Portland airport Saturday morning to meet his mother, Mrs. Josephine Slocum, of Springfield, La. She will visit them here for several weeks.

Gone To Michigan — Mrs. Nellie Myers left this month for Detroit, Mich., to visit for two months with relatives. She attended the high school graduation of her granddaughter.

Expected Home — Miss Ruth West, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jack West, is expected to arrive at her home this weekend from a two-week trip to Greenlake, Wis. She was there to attend the American Baptist young people's conference.

Moved — Mr. and Mrs. Joe Matthews moved recently into their new home in Cloake's Ferry. They lived in Reedsport for the past year. The former is employed by the city street department. Mrs. Matthews will teach at Fullerton School this fall.

TO MODERNIZE LIGHTING PORTLAND — Plans to start modernizing Portland's street lighting system were approved Tuesday by an advisory committee. Work is to begin on five arterials this year. Eventually, with a million dollars being spent each year, 11 miles of city streets will get new lights.

RUSSIAN DEATH MOSCOW — The Soviet army newspaper Red Star announced the death of Maj. Gen. N. G. Kolesnikov. A member of the Communist Party since 1919, he held the Order of Lenin and many other decorations.

Fri., June 24, 1955—The News-Review, Roseburg, Ore. 3

Sewing Circle Making Nightshirts For Eskimos SITTINGBOURNE, England — Ladies of the local sewing circle are making nightshirts for Eskimos of Canada's far northwest where the nights are six months long.

Normally, Eskimos don't bother much with nightshirts. Fur is the fashion. But the cloth garments are needed when they go to a hospital, a missionary explained on a trip here recently from Canada.

The 12 Sittingbourne sewers set to work immediately. So far their score is 16 flannellette nightshirts and 14 pairs of pajamas, in both plain and striped material.

One problem was size. Said Miss Margaret Sellen, a sewing circle leader: "We understand Eskimos are rather small so we've used patterns for rather large children. We do hope they'll fit."

EMERGENCY!

BLOOD DONORS NEEDED NOW!

Blood donors are badly needed for a serious case of surgery by one of Sutherland's local citizens. Anyone kind enough to donate a pint of good blood to save a life is asked to contact your local blood bank or Mrs. Grace Chestwood, Box 522, Sutherland, Oregon.

These donations must be at the blood bank in your vicinity in time to be at the Good Samaritan Hospital by July 8. Have the bottle labeled with the donors name for Mrs. Chestwood.

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