

Over Half a Million Dollars to Be Spent For State Park Improvement in 1955

SALEM, (Special)—More than half a million dollars will be spent during 1955 in the development and betterment of Oregon's State Park system, according to figures recently released by the Oregon State Highway Commission.

A record-breaking third year of overnight camping use, particularly in more than a dozen of the improved park areas, showed the importance of this development program begun in the Oregon system five years ago. A comparison of overnight camping attendance figures shows that the public is enjoying Oregon's parks more than ever under this program. In 1952, camper nights in parks totaled 44,112; in 1953, over 63,000, and during the past year, figures just released show that over 100,300 camper nights were utilized in Oregon state parks camping areas. Over 27,000 families enjoyed camping in Oregon's parks during 1954.

More Campers Expected

The State Parks Division is anticipating an even larger number of campers and visitors during 1955, and an intensified program of construction and development is underway to take care of this tremendously increased use. Additional camping facilities are being constructed at Cape Lookout, Sands, Honeyman, Harris Beach and Humboldt Parks on the coast and Wallowa Lake, south of Joseph, as well as newly developed facilities at Ochoco Lake, near Prineville. The Parks Division will also operate the camping and picnic area formerly maintained by the U. S. Forest Service at Detroit Lake, and additional developments are planned there.

New developments will be ready later in 1955 at Fort Stevens, a new state park located west of Astoria and encompassing an area along Coffeenbury Lake and the Pacific Ocean. Picnic facilities will be ready for use in the near future at Bandon Wayside Park on the coast. And construction will also be under way on a \$165,000 development in Rooster Rock State Park in the Columbia River Gorge. An access road, parking area, boat basin, picnic area, stove and sanitary facilities are among the developments to be constructed there.

More Oregon Parks
A recent (1953) National Park

Service report, showing trends in nearly all of the nation's state parks, indicates that Oregon's system has the greatest number of park areas available to the public (156 areas) and at the same time is tenth in the nation in development of these areas.

A 1954 survey made by the State Parks Division of representative parks, covering developments during the period 1948-54 shows that recreation facilities have increased at least 265 per cent during that time. This figure covered all such facilities as stoves, picnic tables, sanitary facilities, buildings, parking areas, overnight camps, trails, roads and many other things included in making a state park enjoyable for the public.

Equipment Replaced

During the period of the survey, too, in addition to increased facilities, the Highway Commission calls attention to the fact that many pieces of equipment in parks prior to 1948 were replaced but are not reflected in the percentage of increase. For instance, at Wallowa Lake State Park, the number of picnic tables increased from 20 in 1948 to 224 in 1954, and the original 20 tables have also been replaced with new ones in the meantime.

Other important facilities in the State Park system also reflected the increased percentage—wise were picnic tables which increased 244 per cent in the seven year period of the survey; park benches up 87 per cent; camp stoves up 151 per cent; electric stoves up 454 per cent and parking areas up 307 per cent.

Other representative figures in the survey showed camp stoves at Wallowa Lake park increasing from none to 73; tables at Champego Park from 110 to 243; tables at Cape Lookout from none to 70; camp stoves at Honeyman Park from 10 to 45; tables at Viento Park from 17 to 30 and tables at TouVelle Park near Medford from none to 47 in the seven year period.

Azalea Petal Blight Not Here After All

Azalea petal blight or flower spot (Oculina azaleae) may not be present in Oregon after all. That's what the state department of agriculture's division of plant industry says. The disease here is apparently botrytis.

"Frankly, our face is a bit red over giving our azalea growers this scare, but for once we're more than happy to admit we made a mistake," Division Chief Frank McKenney says. (At least greenhouse azalea plantings in Oregon got the most concentrated scrutiny they've ever had, for this is no plant disease with which to trifles.)

If you're interested in how the department reversed itself, here's the story. Lindsay Loring, pathologist who made the original determination, based it on comparisons with microscopic studies of specimens of the petal blight brought back from California early this month. He also searched literature on the petal blight or botrytis and on botrytis, normally found in azalea.

Most strains of botrytis have sclerotia typically different from the sclerotia found in the azalea petal blight organism. That's what threw him. After careful reexaminations, the pathologist concluded that the specimens picked up in Oregon carry a botrytis strain very similar in size and shape to the petal blight sclerotia.

In any event, the department is continuing its azalea survey and hopes it will not have to reverse its last determination.

Business Forms and Supplies
— The Sentinel —



A TWO-CAR SMASHUP, damaged the auto of Loren Meacham early Saturday morning. Meacham's car stalled at the Sweet Lane-Highway 99 intersection and was struck by Junior R. Granger's car. Meacham stated he tried to get out and flag the car down, but Granger saw his stalled auto too late. State, local and county police investigated the accident. Pictured from left to right are: Granger, local officer Cliff Roberts, Meacham (pointing), Lane County Deputy Sheriff Bob Crowneover and an unidentified state policeman.

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Pontiac Announces New Custom Station Wagon

The Pontiac Safari, a sensational new concept of station wagon luxury, was unveiled by Pontiac Motor Division today. It will be one of the feature cars at the General Motors Motorama of 1955 opening at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City. Only 59 inches high the sleek, powerful Safari is Pontiac engineers and designers interpretation of a family dream car.

In announcing the new two-door model, R. M. Critchfield, Vice President of General Motors and Pontiac General Manager, said, "In the Safari, which is scheduled for production soon, we have combined the luxury and panoramic styling of our passenger cars with the utility of the station wagon. It is ideal for modern suburban living where the family car must serve several purposes with the added assurance of having the finest looking motor car on the road."

Low Silhouette

The Safari is styled in minute detail for luxury and beauty. A departure from the conventional smooth surface, horizontal design lines across the roof accentuate the width of the Safari. Its extremely low silhouette makes this styling innovation on the roof top an important, eye-catching feature. Unique side window styling and moulding treatment gives added appeal. The traditional Pontiac Silver Streak motif which has been so gracefully adapted to the 1955 line of cars is featured on the Safari's front hood and rear tail fins.

A distinctively slanted rear compartment door trimmed with vertical parallel chrome bars adds to this feeling of luxury while the handsome rear fins with fine chrome Silver Streaks maintain the Pontiac custom car motif.

Unique panoramic styling of the rear windows is another feature distinguishing the Safari from all other station wagons.

Interior Beauty

The Pontiac Custom Station Wagon reaches new heights in interior beauty with chrome roof bows and its genuine leather two-tone upholstery tastefully combined with rich carpeting.

Handsome Vogue two-tone, toning with brilliant new Firegold and Turquoise colors, combined with White Mist, add an unmistakable air of distinction to the exterior of the car.

Mounted on a 122 inch wheelbase, the Safari has an over-all length of 204.3 inches and is powered with Pontiac's famous 180 h.p. Strato-Streak V-8 engine.

The Safari will list for \$2714, Pontiac, Michigan.

COINER LIFE MEMBER

Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Coiner attended a meeting of the American society of civil engineers at the Heathman hotel in Portland January 13. At this time, Mr. Coiner was made a life member of the society, an honor bestowed upon those who have been members for 35 years or longer.

'Mush' Torson New State Crippled Soc. Executive Director

James M. (Mush) Torson, former head of the department of physical education and basketball coach at University of Portland, has been named executive director of the Oregon Society for Crippled Children and Adults, the Easter Seal Society, Edgar White of Coos Bay, president, announced.

Torson succeeds Howard Feast who resigned recently to accept a post as director of welfare and evacuation for Region 6 of the Civilian Defense department.

Feast will have headquarters in Denver, where he resided prior to coming to Portland as the organizer and first director of the society.

Outstanding Athlete
After resigning from the University of Portland last year, Torson became associated with the McGuire Bearing Co. as a salesman. He is a graduate of Oregon State College, where he was an outstanding athlete in both basketball and baseball.

"As a coach and teacher I have worked with youngsters of all ages for nearly 24 years," Torson said in accepting the appointment. "and I have always felt keenly about the physical handicapped youngsters who were unable to participate in the various school programs. I am happy for the opportunity to work with and for these youngsters."

Torson began his teaching and coaching career immediately following graduation from Oregon State, his first assignment being at Corvallis High school from 1931 to 1936. His Corvallis basketball team won the state title in 1936 and the next year he moved to Grant High school in Portland, where he remained from 1937 to 1946.

Grant Coach
In addition to teaching and coaching basketball at Grant, he also served as football coach in 1945, directing his team to the state championship.

Torson moved to the Portland campus in the fall of 1946 and soon built the Pilot basketball team into a major court power. His 1951 team went to the semi-finals of the NAIA tournament in Kansas City. During his tenure as head of the university's physical education department there was considerable growth in the staff and expansion of the courses offered.

RETURN FROM EXTENDED TRIP

Mr. Charles Beidler, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. George Matthews, returned the first of the week from a 11,000 mile trip which took them into 17 states. They visited a number of points of interest enroute to the southern states and went as far south as Key West, Florida. They visited a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Beidler, Mrs. Gordon Neideigh and Mr. Neideigh, at Columbus, Ga., and had a visit to their eight months old grandson, Bobby, whom they had never seen.

They also visited another daughter of the Beidler's, Mrs. Henry Molino, and family of Arcadia, Calif.

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Oregon Veterans Set Loan Record During Past Year

Oregon state veterans' home and farm loans set a record in 1954 when 2,607 ex-servicemen borrowed \$17,381,100 or 66 per cent more than the previous peak of \$10,451,450 loaned in 1953. Director H. C. Saalfeld of the Department of Veterans' Affairs reported today.

Altogether, 13,923 veterans of World War II and Korea have borrowed \$68,216,989 for home and farm purchase and new construction since the state's lending program started in the fall of 1945, Saalfeld said.

Of this amount, borrowers have repaid more than \$25 million in principal and more than \$6 million in interest.

The greatest single reason for the upsurge in loans last year was the increase in the loan maximums approved by the 1953 legislature. Prior to July of 1953, veterans were limited to \$6,000 loans for acquiring their own homes and farms. Since that time they have been permitted to borrow up to \$9,000 for home purchase and \$15,000 for farms. The average loan now runs to about \$6,600, whereas the over-all average since the program started is \$4,900.

To qualify for a state loan, the applicant must be a veteran either of World War II or the Korean emergency. He must have been a resident of Oregon either before he entered military service, or for a two-year period following his discharge. The World War II veteran applying on the basis of his post-war Oregon residence must have lived his two years in Oregon prior to December 31, 1950.

Interested veterans should inquire through their county veterans' service officers or from the state veterans' department in Salem or Portland.

Vision Specialists Membership Group Records Increase

A 47 per cent increase in membership during the past six months was reported to members of the Vision Conservation Institute of the Northwest at its annual meeting, just completed in Portland.

Dr. Walter Hart, of Tacoma, managing director of the institute, announced, the number of professional vision specialists associated with the institute increased from 190 to 280 during the six-months period.

The institute, a non-profit organization dedicated to public education in the care and preservation of vision, increased its board of directors from six to nine members and elected officers and directors for the ensuing year. Under the new program, each of the four member states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana will have representation on the board.

Michaelis President
Dr. Walter Michaelis, of Spokane, was named president, succeeding Dr. Max Friedman, of Portland, who has led the institute for the past two years. Dr. Terry Pace, of Lebanon, Ore., was named vice president, succeeding Dr. Earl Keller, of Bozeman, Mont.; Dr. Maurice Tweit, of Tacoma, Wash., was re-elected secretary-treasurer, and Dr. Walter Hart, of Tacoma, was re-named managing director.

Re-elected directors included Doctors Hart and Friedman; new directors are Dr. M. E. Conway, Seattle; Dr. J. M. Scholer, Idaho Falls, Idaho; and Dr. M. J. Thompson, Medford, Ore.

Campaign Approved
Members approved a concentrated public education campaign for the spring months, culminating in the nationally observed "Save Your Vision" week which starts March 12.

The year's program will include advertising budgets for both television and newspapers, directors declared.

Vision Conservation Institute members in this area include: Samuel H. Tyler, O. D., Eugene; Don E. Jones, O. D., Eugene; Robert M. Ramp, O. D., Eugene; B. W. Bond, O. D., Eugene.

ADDING MACHINES FOR SALE

— THE SENTINEL —

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Grove Girl Scouts

(Continued from Page One)
erson and Morton Welden.

Others include Mmes. Zelma Durham, Jess Campbell, Nelson Zeller, Emory Dailey, Jess Hill, Verlin Odell, Mark Morgan, Ivan Hoyer and Miss Gertrude Elliott and Della Gallo.

Mrs. Kingsley reported also that such donations as \$22 from the Lions club and \$25 from the B.P.O.E. have been turned in.

Snake River Dam Sites Are Sought

Exploration of two new dam sites deep in the lower reaches of the Snake river canyon, which are expected to add 850,000 kilowatts to the regional power supply, was being readied today by Pacific Northwest Power Company as advance crews moved camp supplies and drilling equipment over rugged mountain trails into the isolated area.

Immediate objective of the pioneer parties was to establish access roads and set up field camps in the canyon before mid-winter snows handicapped travel through the adjacent high country.

PF&L Among Sponsors

To be investigated are the Mountain Sheep and Pleasant Valley dam sites, on which Pacific Northwest Power has filed applications for preliminary permits with the Federal Power Commission. The development company's sponsors are Pacific Power & Light, Portland General Electric, Washington Water Power and Montana Power companies, which together serve 800,000 of the region's electric customers.

A 233-foot dam at Mountain Sheep and a 492-foot dam at Pleasant Valley would drop water a total of 530 feet through generators to harness the 850,000-kilowatt potential of a 55-mile stretch of the Snake river downstream from Hells Canyon and above the Salmon and Imnaha rivers.

Joint Studies

Engineering studies of the sites will be carried on jointly by the Bechtel Corporation and Elbasco Services, Inc., with construction cost estimates to be developed by the Morrison-Knudsen Company, it was announced.

Work parties are being moved in to the camp sites from both the Oregon and Idaho sides of the river. Because of the rugged nature of the country, supplies are also expected to be moved in by boat from Lewiston.

Birth Announcements
— The Sentinel —

ART FESTIVAL SCHEDULED UNIVERSITY OF OREGON

Eugene, January (Special)—The university will have its second Festival of Art, a six-week program filled with big-name personalities, lectures, exhibits and movies, starting February 1. The festival's theme will be "The American Heritage." It will trace early American art.

The first festival was held here during winter term, 1953, and centered around contemporary art. Plans are to make the festival an annual event, according to Horace W. Robinson, associate professor of speech and chairman of this year's program.

Cantwells Market

"Fuel for Man or Car"

There are many reports of physical unfitness among the young men of our country who are called into the armed services. We can see the same condition among all our people including lower and middle income brackets.

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