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OREGON COAST LEADERS SPEAK HERE; PREDICT TOUGHER FIGHT

The Oregon Coast is going to have to fight harder in coming years for its share of tourists.

That's the message that was brought to Brookings Friday by two officials of the Oregon Coast Association, Assistant Manager Tiny Rowan and President Lafe Compton of Coos Bay.

The two met with Brookings members of the Association at a dinner Friday at the Chetco Inn. Fourteen were present.

Travel inquiries, they told the

group, were substantially down from previous years. They blamed the decrease primarily on growing competition by Europe, Hawaii, and other states as they became increasingly aware of the value of the tourist's dollars.

However, Compton told the local people, there is no reason that the Coast cannot maintain its share of tourist travel and increase it. It is primarily up to the people who deal with the tourists, locally. Learn to know the tourists, to talk with them and to help them, he said, and they will come here.

The main problems facing development of the coastal area were brought out as the group discussed means of improving relations with tourists along the coast. One of the actions that the Association will back is a plan to permit out-of-state tourists to buy single-day fishing stamps for one dollar. Such a plan, members feel, would bring a number of out-of-state fishermen here. The plan may be presented to the next session of the Legislature.

Other participants had quite a bit to say about improving tourist travel on 101. Mayor Bob Dimmick said he thought the highway got an excess of bad publicity on conditions, slides, etc. And Art Knox said he thought we should try to establish closer liaison with Crescent City, to prevent so many north-bound tourists from being routed up Highway 99. The AAA also came in for criticism, with Merle Bullock saying that they should be asked to stop recommending 99.

And coast people got criticism, too—for high rates, poor salesmanship, and occasional tactics which could, Compton said, be halted by the action of the others collectively.

The two officials visited Brookings after having spent a day in Crescent City, southern terminus of the Association.

The association hopes, the officers said, to improve relations with the Redwood Empire area south of here to provide for their common welfare.

Along Azalea Row

By RUTH B. SMITH

Our Garden Club objective: "To coordinate the interests of the people in conserving and promoting the beauty of this area and to develop better gardens."

When our president penned the above for our year-book last summer, she did not realize that this objective demands more now than it did a few years ago. We are growing! This was brought home forcibly this week when the League of Oregon Cities released statistics which show that the fastest growing area of Oregon is the south-west portion and that Curry county led all others over the past three years.

Perhaps you'd like more detailed information, for it involves a lot of homes, a lot of landscaping, and a lot of education (garden-wise). From 1950-53, the natural increase for the county was 389 (Thank you, Mr. Stork!) and by migration, 1,935, the net change totaling 2,324. Curry county's percentage change from 1950-53 is 38.4 and for the past year, 19.7 per cent. Over both the three year period and the year just closed the nearest to our increase is Wasco county with 24.1 per cent and 13.4. Among Oregon's 36 counties, 11 lost population for the three years and 10 (only five the same) had reduced numbers for 1952-53.

Just as a further point of interest, there were 77,178 more births than deaths in Oregon and 38,242 more people migrated into the state than out of it during this three year period.

Aren't we lucky and aren't we proud, in Curry county? Someone may say, "So what does that prove, all these statistics?" The answer will be that it proves most conclusively that our county, in which we take such pride has definitely something of worth to offer — beauty, climate, recreation facilities, opportunity, and contentment, just to name a few attributes.

The newcomers are fortunate to have found this place and we are lucky to have them here. Many have already been assimilated and have fitted into the pattern of our ways. Speaking for this one group only, and there are other niches, too, the Garden Clubbers welcome the privilege of helping others with their gardening problems if we just hear about them and are qualified. But we also can learn much from the new arrivals. Share our efforts to conserve and protect the beauties and privileges we enjoy here but permit us to benefit through your knowledge, too. If you have talents, reveal and share them. We can grow together and become neither weedy nor seedy in the cultivation.

A fine hobby is Gardening. A challenge to All! Times ahead may be Rugged Or the Days on you pall; But Encourage your neighbor And start forth right Now— Dig deep with your Shovels, The reward's in that soil!



THURSDAY, JAN. 14
Azalea Garden Club — Grange Hall.

IOOF—IOOF Hall.
Chetco Home Ext. Unit—Home of Una Rowley, 10:30 a.m.

FRIDAY, JAN. 15
FOE—Jaklewicz Anchorage.
Chetco Grange—Grange Hall, 3 p.m.

MONDAY, JAN. 18
Chetco Choral Club — Baptist Church, 8 p.m.
Barbershoppers—VFW Hall, 8 p.m.

TUESDAY, JAN. 19
OES—IOOF Hall.
Lions Auxiliary—Chetco Inn.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 20
VFW and Auxiliary — VFW Hall.

CONN'S VISIT HERE
Mr. and Mrs. Conn and family of Salem were visitors in Brookings last week on their way home from a holiday trip to California. Mr. Conn formerly operated what is now Menning Buick.

HOGANS VISIT
Mr. and Mrs. John Hogan, former residents, now living in Santa Cruz, Calif., spent some time in Brookings during the holiday season.

VFW Whing Ding Feb. 13.

ZIP-ZIPPERS MEET

The Zip-Zippers, 4-H first year sewing group, held their sixth meeting Monday, Jan. 11, at the home of Kathleen Olson.

The meeting was started with

the discussion about sewing machines. The plan for the next two weeks is making head scarves.

Refreshments were served by Ann Breuer.

Reporter A.M.

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