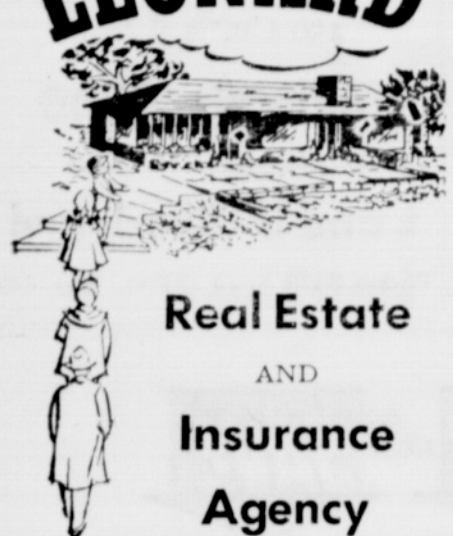


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INTRIPID FRONTIERSMEN—Winning the Centennial committee prize of \$150 in the American Legion sponsored parade in Fourth of July in Crescent City is the 20-30 Club float "Crescent City Model Home, 1854". The entries of this crew of sourdoughs caused an hilarious uproar among the spectators. (Triplicate Photo)

Highway Lifesavers Move To Get Oregon Speed Law Understood

If Legislation about to be recommended by the Highway Lifesavers Committee of Oregon Citizens, Inc., is accepted by the 1955 Oregon Legislature, Oregon will not impose an absolute top speed limit on highways, but the Basic Rule for driving in Oregon will be amended in two essentials. One proposed amendment will be a clarification of the law to make present indicated and posted speeds mean something, with no misunderstanding on the part of the public that they are merely advisory, and another will make it unnecessary for arresting officers to specify speed, should arrests be made where the Basic Rule is being violated in the officers opinion. The Basic Rule requires reasonable and prudent driving at all times and in all places, conditions considered.

Following a conference on the Basic Rule, May 6, at Salem, when the Lifesavers Committee sought to learn whether to recommend a maximum top speed limit, a Subcommittee was set up to compose difference of opinions with the result that the following four recommendations were adopted as the guide to the state-wide Committee in its recommendations to the Interim Committee of the Legislature:

1—That the Basic Rule be retained as the fundamental traffic law of Oregon.

2—That the law be amended so that an arresting officer shall not have to specify the actual miles per hour when making an arrest if the defendant was not driving in a reasonable and prudent manner as required under the Basic Rule. (At present, the officer must specify the speed at which an alleged offender was driving)

3—That the proper Interim Committee of the Legislature consider clarifying the Basic Rule to make it the Basic Rule-Plus-Urma-Facie-Speed Limits, so that the public will understand "prima facie" or designated and posted speeds are legal limits where posted and not merely advisory, and that evidence of driving beyond the posted speed shall be sufficient unless the defendant can prove that conditions made that speed reasonable and prudent as required under the Basic Rule. (This recommendation carries the request that posted or prima facie speeds be set at the

speed 85 per cent of the driving public moves in the posted areas and means that prima facie speeds can be above or below the 55 miles an hour as now provided).

4—That the legislature support, financially and otherwise, a public information program so that the public, courts, prosecutors and officers all understand the Basic Rule and prima facie speed.

Prima facie speed is now 55 miles an hour under the law, or lower where posted. The public, however, apparently thinks posted speeds merely "advisory". This is not the case according to traffic officers, but the Highway Lifesavers Committee of citizens took the position in its recommendations that the public is confused on this and other points and that clarification is necessary.

If legislation is enacted on the basis of the recommendations, Oregon will not have a maximum top speed limit, but the prima facie or posted speeds could be above or below 55 miles an hour as now specified in the law.

The Subcommittee on the Basic Rule was set up by E. C. Sammons, President of the Highway Lifesavers Committee, as a result of a suggestion by Governor Paul L. Patterson, at the May 6 conference in Salem, when it became apparent that traffic authorities were not in agreement on the value of imposing an absolute maximum speed limit in Oregon.

According to Highway Engineer, R. H. Baldock, 48 per cent of all the states has the Basic Rule with indicated or prima facie speed limits such as Oregon, 19 per cent have Basic Rule without indicated speeds, and the others have absolute speed limits.

LEGION TO SHOW MOVIES FOR SCOUTS

Scouts of the Brookings-Harbor area will be entertained Monday night by pictures, which will be shown under the auspices of the American Legion. The show will start at 8 P. M. at the VFW Hall.

Lou Morgan, Commander of Chetco Post 138, said the films consist of one on Alaska wild life, and one on racing cars. All scouts and cub scouts are invited.

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KEN PRIEST HOME

Ken Priest, County Agent, who has been hospitalized in Garberville since he was taken ill there, returned to his home in Gold Beach last week. Mr. Priest is still quite ill and has not been able to return to work.

OKLAHOMA PICNIC SUNDAY, JULY 11

Former Oklahomans of the district will meet at Cavemen Park in Grants Pass, Sunday, July 11, for an annual picnic and election of officers. Families are to take picnic lunches, which will be spread family style, and lemonade and coffee will be furnished by the association committee. A fiddlers' contest and contests for the children are planned. There will be continuous entertainment, and anyone wishing to participate in the program should arrive early for registration. Present officers of the association are: Edgar Renfro, Camp White, president; Lester Wright, Medford, vice-president; Mrs. McClendon, Dillard, secretary-treasurer.

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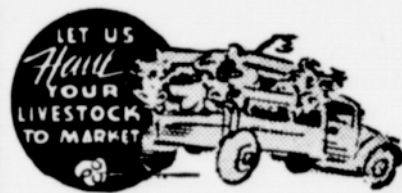
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