

## Youth Conference Reports Summarize Needs of Young People, Point to Progress

By Winston H. Taylor  
Assistant City Editor, the Statesman

Will Oregon's half million children and youth gain anything from another two days of talk by 1,000 adults? The answer to that question, often posed concerning the just-finished state conference on children and youth, appeared today to depend on the legislators and on the people who elect them, as well as on the teachers, doctors, psychiatrists, courts and recreation leaders.

The social workers and the laymen at the meeting, however, reported an encouraging concern among parents, children, churches and various civic groups to find the right answers to problems and to work together in solving troubles.

**Influx of Population**  
They emphasized also that Oregon's natural resources, in health especially, are above average but that programs of organizations working with young people have been taxed by the heavy influx of population. The conference proposals are to be carried back to the newcomers and to the "old-timers" to show the responsibility of both groups.

With the family recognized as having prime responsibility for the child, and the most time with him, suggestions from many of the eight conference committees reverted to this field. Recommendations and discussion of the committee reviewed by Dr. Lester Kirkendall included schools' addition of courses in personal relationships and preparation for marriage, as vital as home economics; a family service center available anywhere in Oregon for counseling to prevent family breakups; more industry and better land use to keep pace with the growth of population.

It noted that churches are showing increasing concern for working with the family as a unit, upon finding that some of its present programs discourage family unity by having organizations for single age groups. Members found that Oregon's divorce rate is falling, but not as rapidly as the marriage rate. In addition, more families were found learning to do things together, rather than always as individuals.

**Opportunities Not Equal**  
The education summary by Dr. Henry Gunn, president of Oregon College of Education, declared that Oregon does not have equal educational opportunities for all children — particularly in the lack of kindergartens and training for nearly 5,000 children who need special education because of handicaps. Members urged establishment of non-college vocational schools for high school graduates and dropouts not destined for college, more study of consolidation for too small schools, arousing the public to the grave needs of education because of finances involved in improvement, that the problem get high priority from the legislative interim tax committee.

Mrs. C. A. Mockmore reported the health group found the attitude on the subject had switched from therapy only to include prevention of disease. It noted that schools should train the child in good health practices and parents should see that the community provides services. It recommended an addition to Doernbecher children's hospital in Portland, a convalescent hospital for children, full pediatrics training at University of Oregon medical school and more care for exceptional, that is, handicapped, children.

**Emotional Troubles**  
Much of children's mental health trouble stems from parents' emotional troubles, Dr. Harlan P. McNutt reported for the mental health committee. The group found that, while the sick mind can be healed, the focus is now on prevention — preservation of mental health. It claimed the principal needs in the field are understanding by all that children need love and acceptance before the learning process starts and that mentally handicapped children need special education. It criticized the use of jails for holding mental cases pending commitment.

Oregon has good basic laws and organization for welfare, according to the welfare committee report by John Whitelaw. The group questioned the propriety of variance between \$29,000,000 old age assistance and \$9,000,000 aid to dependent children appropriated.

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## Woman's Club Selects Leaders At Auburn

AP Newsfeatures Writer  
AUBURN — The Auburn Woman's club met Thursday night at the community house. There were 64 present with 17 families and three guests present for a covered dish supper.

A program followed with all taking part in square and folk dancing. Calling for the program were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Schubel. A short business meeting was called by the president, Mrs. Orval

in the state in the past decade. It recommended that boards of public and private welfare services should have a reasonable turnover of personnel and that boards should be larger or have advisory groups; that University of Oregon have a school of social work, "because learning everything by trial and error is too slow;" more day care and home-maker's service to help keep families together; more and better foster homes to care for essential separations, and more safeguards in adoption procedure.

**More State Parks**  
The recreation committee, reported by Gus Moore, Salem YMCA general secretary, urged a platform of "recreation, an essential community service for Oregon"; provision for state-level recreation leadership; legislation by state to enable communities to provide facilities by "spending public funds for public recreation"; a state commission to aid community programs; action by the highway commission to have more state parks, open larger parks for overnight camping and establish more youth camp units such as Camp Silver Creek near Salem.

The juvenile delinquency committee, according to Mrs. Frank Queen, recommended, in order to cut future adult jail population, uniform juvenile court practice; no juveniles under 16 years of age in an adult court; those 16-18 years in adult court only for felonies; close watch on delinquent tendencies of those under 8 years; separate detention quarters for juveniles; special facilities for those 18-21 years; stress on healthy family situation.

Children leave school too early to get proper training for employment, according to the employment committee report by Capt. Arvid Leppaluoto. Surveys showed most failure in the first three grades; that children want more personal interest from teachers; that they want work experience in school and sports for all, not just a few. Members said reluctance by many employers to hire local workers rather than migrants hurt the employment situation.

## Hayesville Unit Elects New Leaders

Statesman News Service  
HAYESVILLE—The Hayesville extension unit was entertained by Mrs. Marvin H. Stuhr on Claxter road. Mrs. R. M. Kelley, chairman, presided over the business session when new officers were elected. They are Mrs. Floyd O. West, chairman; Mrs. C. Ward Davis, vice-chairman, and Mrs. Burns Christofferson, secretary.

Others present were Mesdames Walter Nystrom, Monte Davis, H. J. Robertson, V. D. Griffiths, A. F. Harvey, B. Reimann, Virgil Ferrine, Charles Andresen, Wayne Powers, Bruce Willis, Grover Farmer, Harry L. Miller, William Kennedy and Misses Mern Morgan and Eleanor Trindle.

Prunk and officers for the new club year were elected. They are: president, Mrs. Charles O. Gillmin; vice president, Mrs. Elmer Baker; and secretary and treasurer, Mrs. Stuart Johns. The committee for the evening was Mrs. Prunk, Mrs. Douglas Freeburn and Mrs. Donald Jacobs. The supper tables and rooms were bright with spring flowers.

## North Santiam Club Plans Sale May 12

Statesman News Service  
MARION FORKS—The North Santiam Willing workers met at Marion Forks with 13 adults and five children present. Plans were made to hold a food sale at Van's store at Idanha May

## Thor Lodge to Observe 10th Anniversary

The 10th anniversary of Thor lodge, Sons of Norway, will be observed May 13 at a public meeting in Mayflower hall. Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Quamme, new lodge social directors announced Saturday night that Norway's Independence day, which is May 17, also would be celebrated at the May 13 meeting.

Officers elected March 19 were installed Saturday night with Theodore Josten as installing officer. Albert M. Moen was re-elected lodge president. John Norby and Mrs. O. H. Lunda were named delegates to the second district Sons of Norway convention, scheduled June 22-24 at Astoria. A. J. Sholseth and Mrs. E. F. Arneson were elected as alternates. New appointments announced Saturday included: Velda Lunda, pianist, and Eva C. Nelson, sick committee. Theodore G. Nelson was reappointed as reporter.

The MacGregor clan almost exterminated the Colquhoun clan in the last great Scottish highland clan battle in 1602.

## Pre-School Clinic Slated at Jefferson

Statesman News Service  
JEFFERSON—A pre-school clinic, conference for children from 1 month to six years, is scheduled for the third Monday of each month at the Stayton library. Hours will be from 9:30 until noon and from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Physical examinations and immunizations will be given to all children from the south Marion district which includes Jefferson and adjoining regular district. Dr. Stone will be present for the May and July clinics and nurses from the county health office will attend each meeting. Appointments should be made either with Mrs. R. A. Hammer, box 101, route 1,

Aumsville, or with Mrs. V. Frye, Stayton.

There are about 5,700,000 colonies of honey bees in the United States.

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