

## Glimpses Of State Highway

### Sam Boardman Story Tells How Father Of Park System Will Fish

BY RALPH WATSON

Sam Boardman became a resident engineer of the State Highway department on New Year's Day, 1919. He became parks superintendent in 1929. He was 75 years of age in December, 1949. He is due to retire July 1, next, under the new retirement rule. He says he is "going fishing" after that, and that he "knows all the good holes where the big fish are." He ought to for he is the Father of the far flung system of state parks which has been built up under his loving care since the commission commenced to build that system away back in 1925. But those who are given to guessing have the idea that his vacation will be something like the postman's; he will continue to walk around the Parks department and its parks, handy where he can be consulted by his official successor for some little time yet to come.

The Park system was born in the early days of the Columbia highway construction when Simon Benson donated to the state the tract of land now named Benson Park, at Multnomah Falls. From that start it grew rapidly by gift and purchase and in a few instances by condemnation until now practically every section of the state has its park or wayside area set aside and preserved for the use and enjoyment of the citizens of Oregon and the visitors who travel the highways of the state.

The legislature of 1925 set aside a percentage of the highway revenues for the purchase, development and maintenance of the highway park system. By the end of 1928 the state had acquired 98 park sites scattered along the highway system of the state; 15 of them being outright gifts by public spirited owners and a total of approximately \$109,000 had been spent in purchase and development.

From the time of his appointment as State Parks Superintendent by the Highway Commission in 1929, Sam Boardman has been

gathering the highway parks under the ownership and control of the Highway commission.

During the period from 1917 to June 30, 1949, the total expenditure of state funds by the Highway commission amounted to \$354,915,009. Of this total, the expenditure for acquisition, development, betterment, maintenance and operation of parks was \$2,274,344, slightly less than two-thirds of one per cent of the amount spent on highways and roads. The total spent in the purchase of parks during the period was \$903,660; for improvements \$508,015, and for maintenance and operation, \$862,669.

Listed in a report of the Parks superintendent dated June 30, 1949, are 85 major parks throughout the state which have been developed by the department, and 46 yet in their natural, or wild, state awaiting development. In addition, there are 29 developed wayside view stations, drinking fountains and memorials, together with 17 awaiting development.

As of December 31, 1947, a total of approximately 66,000 acres was owned or controlled by the Highway commission in its park and wayside area.



By The Hon. Harris Ellsworth  
U. S. Representative

After many months of discussion, the House Ways and Means Committee produced a tax bill. It reduces a number of the more irritating "war excise" taxes. To make up for revenue thus elimin-

ated, the committee provided for some additional taxation, the heavy burden of which will fall on large corporate incomes. There is little doubt that the bill will pass both House and Senate and be signed by the President. It should be noted that this tax bill does not actually reduce or eliminate taxes—it will raise substantially the same amount of money as is being levied now. The new bill shifts the places from which tax collections are made and it will seem like a mild relief. But the people, the consumers, will continue to pay the taxes—indirectly.

When the appropriations bill is finally completed by the Senate and cleared through conference and final passage by both Houses, I believe it will contain some really good news for the people at Charleston on Coos Bay. Meanwhile, I am able to report that the Engineers anticipate the availability of funds for beginning work on that project soon after the middle of July, and are even now completing plans and designs for the bulkheads and some other construction there. When I visit Charleston and Coos Bay this fall, I shall enjoy telling the whole rather involved story of our struggle to secure this appropriation.

There is a saying to the effect that an elephant never forgets. Apparently the Democratic donkey has a long memory, too. Two years ago President Truman decided he wanted a balcony on the south portico of the White House. The Truman plan to change the architecture of the White House was presented to the Federal Fine Arts Commission, composed of nationally-known and qualified experts in the art, architectural and engineering fields. The Commission unanimously disapproved of a balcony being located in the middle of the south portico of the White House.

White House officials made no secret that the President was plenty "burned" over the Commission's decision and, disregarding the advice of the experts, went ahead and had the balcony made a part of the White House, already crumbling from old age decay. Since then a major repair job has been started on the executive mansion.

This week the terms of four members of the Fine Arts Commission who opposed the President's balcony expired. The President refused to reappoint any of the four, replacing them with new members.

Robert L. McCormick, research director of the Citizens committee for the Hoover Report, says his organization is very much opposed to two of President's Truman's latest proposals for reorganization of the executive departments. McCormick was assistant to Herbert Hoover during the operation of the Reorganization Committee.

McCormick declared that the President's two recent proposals regarding the Reconstruction Finance Corporation and the creation of a Department of Health, Education and Security are "in conflict with the recommendations of the Hoover Commission."

The President wants the RFC transferred to the Commerce Department. The Hoover Commission said the RFC should be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department.

The reorganization plan creating a Department of Health, Education and Security also is "at variance" with Hoover Commission recommendations. McCormick said that the President's plan would put the health service under the jurisdiction of the Social Security Administrator, while the Hoover Commission urged that the health service be set up as an independent United Medical Administration, taking in the medical activities of the Armed Services and the Veterans' Administration.

#### COOS ARMY CADET TAKING FIELD TRAINING

Cadet Robert J. Detlefsen is one of eight hundred students who have arrived at Fort Lewis, Wn., to begin six weeks of intensive summer training.

Cadet Detlefsen is an advanced ROTC student and upon graduation from college will receive a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Organized Reserve Corps. The purpose of the summer training camp is to supplement the instructions already received by the student with practical outdoor field training.

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## STORK NEWS

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Births filed with the County Health department for the week June 14-27:

To: Messrs. and Mesdames Russell Goodsell, June 10, Coos Bay, a daughter, Kay Laverne; Calvin McAllister, June 9, Reedsport, a daughter, Peggy Lee; Darwin McDonald, June 6, Reedsport, a son, Roger Darwin; Johnnie Caldwell, May 6, Allegany, a son, David Leon; Robert Wade, May 4, Coos Bay, a son, Terry Lynn; Thomas Forbus, June 5, Coos Bay, a daughter, Julie Diane; Mayrue Schutte, June 6, Coos Bay, a son, Steven Henry; Clarence Shiels, June 11, Fourmile, a daughter, Patricia Ann; Wilton Robinson, June 13, Coquille, a son, Ronald Allen;

Lavern Noyes, June 13, Myrtle Point, a son, David Gale; Arthur Lawrence, June 15, Port Orford, a daughter, Candace Sue; Lloyd Ray, June 15, Coquille, a son, Jeffrey Lloyd; Jerry Eshoo, Myrtle Point, a daughter, Lynn Marie; Arnold Melby, June 16, Myrtle Point, a daughter, Marion Esther; Clyde Everton, June 12, Bandon, a son, JJon Pickard; Larry Cotter, June 10, Coquille, a daughter, Linda Louise; William Donahue, June 17, Fourmile, a daughter, Eileen Frances.

William Miller, Myrtle Point, June 19, a son, Ray Dean; James Sweet, Myrtle Point, June 19, a son, Daniel James; Paul Redford, Myrtle Point, June 21, a son, Michael Elvin; William Farmer, Myrtle Point, June 21, a son, Ronald Louis; Cecil McDougle, Myrtle Point, June 22, a daughter, Loretta Linda; Donald Welburn, North Bend, June 19, a daughter, Susan Donnelle; Leslie Mass, North Bend, June 21, a daughter, Linda Colene.

Vern Strong, North Bend, June 20, a son, Vern Dale, Jr.; Bill Beebe, North Bend, June 20, a son, William Leroy; James Reynolds, Bandon, June 21, a daughter, Sherry Rae; Teddy Knapp, Coos Bay, June 14, a daughter, Gaye Louise; James Ring, Coos Bay, June 10, a daughter, Cynthia Ann; Ray Roderick, Coos Bay, June 7, a son, Gary Rex; Alfred Burdine, Coos Bay, June 19, a daughter, Darline Joy; Elmer Albeck, Coos Bay, a son, Richard Eugene.

John Miller, Coos Bay, June 12, a son, Ronald Gene; Alvy Shoemaker, North Bend, June 17, a son, Michael Len; Robert Fulmer, North Bend, June 17, a daughter, Sherri Lea; Robert Fulmer, North Bend, June 17, a son, Gary Lee; Clayton Bergstad, North Bend, June 14, a daughter, Marilyn Kay;

Toivo Laurila, North Bend, June 17, a daughter, Greda Louise; Wilbur Gorst, North Bend, June 15, a daughter, Leann; Robert Roster, North Bend, June 16, a daughter, Bonnie Jean.

## Deaths Filed

Deaths filed with the County Health department, June 21-27: George William Hall, June 17, North Bend; Phillip Barth, June 16,

North Bend; Anna N. Christianson, June 18, North Bend; Conrad Bauriedel, June 16, North Bend; Charles Leroy Hansen, June 23, Coquille; Bessie Pearl Arnot, June 23, Coos Bay.

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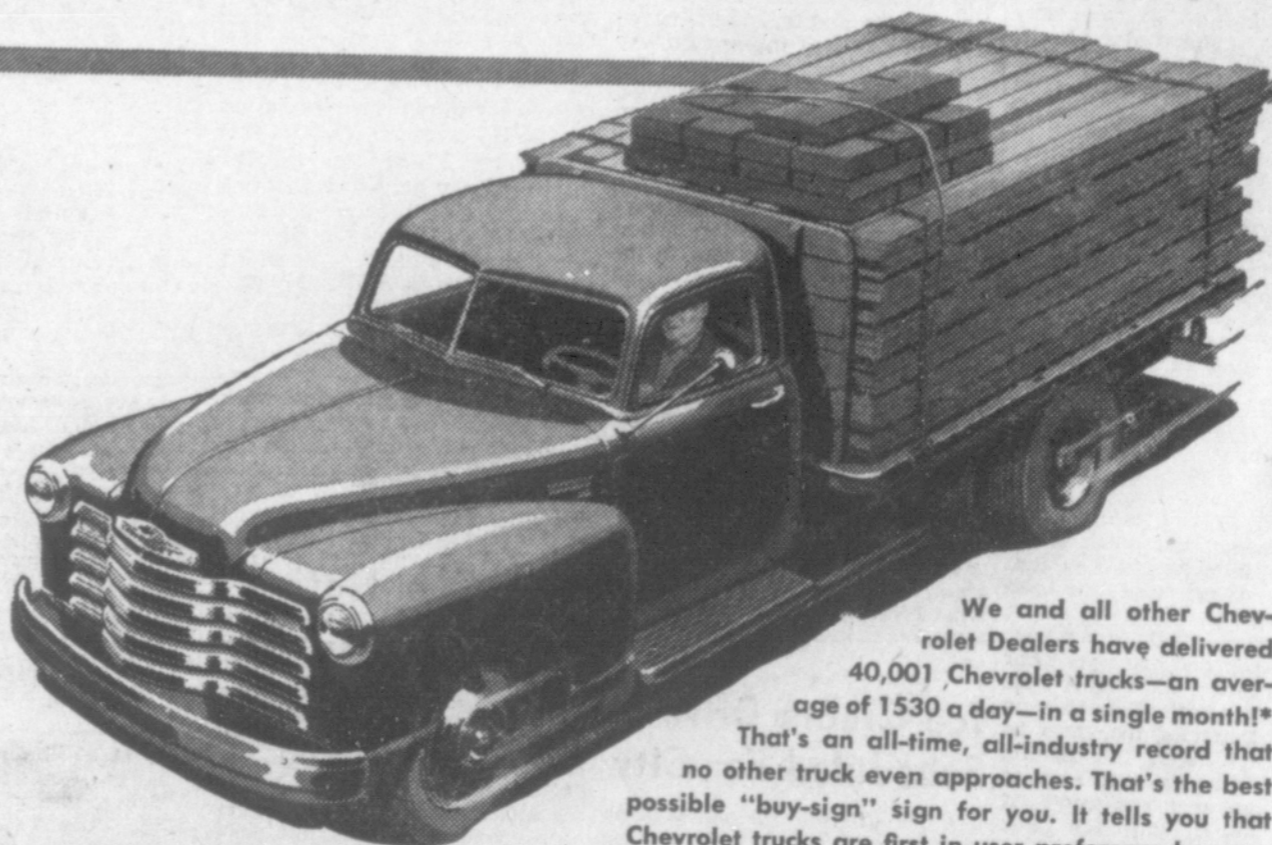
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