

Meeting held

Officials hear complaints on Holgate Farm

By Ila S. Grant
Bulletin Staff Writer

Criticism of the operation of Holgate Farm, foster home for parolees from MacLaren School for Boys, was given orally to a delegation of staff members from the school, at a meeting last night. A number of persons present also presented complaints in writing.

Some 60 persons were present, most of them apparently dissatisfied with conditions at the farm, which is a few miles out of Tumalo on the Cline Falls Road. It is operated by Mr. and Mrs. Norman Holgate. Criticisms charge lack of supervision, an excessive number of boys for the population of the area, inadequately trained personnel and the threat of vandalism.

Alva Goodrich, a local attorney, presided at the meeting, held in the circuit courtroom of the courthouse. He also conducted a meeting of some 40 Tumalo residents last week at his office.

Present from the school were Amos Reed, superintendent; Dr. L. A. Ashkins, assistant superintendent; Lincoln Pfeiffer, director of field services, and Wayne Hamilton, Bend, field worker.

Further Study Due
Reed said that no decision would be made without further study, but indicated that probably some changes would be made. He said that the number of boys housed at Holgate's may be decreased, and that it is possible that the operation will be discontinued entirely. It has been an experiment, he said, and it is obvious that there are serious problems. There are usually 12 to 14 boys on the farm.

One of the major complaints voiced by persons at the meeting is that boys who have been involved in car thefts in the area have been permitted to return to the home, some after first being returned to MacLaren, others without such disciplinary action.

Claire Gatchell, who said that he understood that there have been as many as 11 car thefts in the area, by boys at the home, was told by Hamilton that the number is seven. The most recent car theft was last December. Testimony established the fact that one boy, involved in car thefts and returned to MacLaren, and later released from jurisdiction of the institution, has been staying at the farm, with the permission of the Holgates.

Within 24 Hours
Reed said that the boy must be out of the area within 24 hours, and ordered Hamilton to see that this is done.

Buck Davis and Mr. and Mrs. Dan Rice told of having their cars stolen. Gatchell told of the theft of his son-in-law's car. Davis said that he had tried to befriend the boys, and had given them rides from the swimming hole at Tumalo to the farm. "That's how I was repaid," he said. "Now the boys must walk in the sun, and I'm forced to pass them up."

Bob Beesley, a member of the Redmond Union High School board, said that the meeting would not have been necessary, "if this thing had been handled

Prince nips brandy in Scottish pub

LONDON (UPI) — Prince Charles, the 14-year-old heir to the British throne, faces a possible caning because he snipped a cherry brandy in a Scottish pub.

But his school headmaster, Robert Chew of strict Gordonstoun, indicated the future king of England may be demoted instead. The incident has caused a royal commotion.

Charles took the drink Monday night in the bar of the Crown Hotel in Stornoway, on the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides.

"I cannot pre-judge the issue, but if he is guilty the normal punishment for an offense of this nature is a beating or a demotion," the headmaster said Wednesday night. "The latter is the likelier of the two."

Gordonstoun rules permit no drinking. The usual form for a beating is with a cane.

LINE COMPLETED

HOOD RIVER (UPI) — Northwest Natural Gas Co. officials and local civic leaders Tuesday observed completion of the \$500,000 pipeline to bring natural gas to Hood River County.

right in the first place." He charged that Mr. and Mrs. Holgate's recommendations were not from sources representative of the Tumalo community and the Redmond school; that Hamilton was remiss in not calling a community meeting to ask for help with the project, and that investigation of the community's acceptance should have been made before the home was established.

Acceptance Later
Reed said that it has been his experience, that if a canvass of a community is made in advance, it would be impossible to make placings. In a number of cases, acceptance has come later, he said. He mentioned several times that MacLaren is putting over \$30,000 a year into Deschutes county.

James Brown, superintendent of the Redmond school, said that he should have been consulted in advance, before the boys were presented for school registration. He said that in the first year and a half of the home's operation, unsanitary conditions were tolerated, and a flue that had charred the kitchen wall was not repaired.

Reed said that subsequently, there have been inspections, and approval given, by the office of the state fire marshal, the Bend fire department and the tri-county health department, and that plumbing and wiring in the bunkhouse conform to code.

Goodrich, in calling the meeting together, said that undoubtedly there were persons in the audience who were ready to give their blessing to Holgate Farm. "This is not your time to speak," he said. Several persons, apparently intending to defend the operation of the home, left before the meeting was over.

Letters Received
At one point Reed said that he has received many more letters of commendation than those expressing disapproval. Several in the audience called for names. After a long silence, some one said, "Doesn't anyone know?" Mrs. Wes Cushman stood up and said, "I do." She told about help given by a crew of boys from the farm, when the Cusmans' herd was being treated for Bangs disease. The boys gave efficient service, she said, and refused to accept any money.

Reed said that there is no regulation against the boys being paid for work — in fact, it is recommended, he said. He and Hamilton cited several examples of boys who have been hired for regular compensation, and found satisfactory. If the boys wish to do work as a kindness, this is their privilege, Reed said.

Obscene Letter Reported
Goodrich said at the beginning that the meeting was called because of a complaint by Olin Mouser, that his daughter had received an obscene letter from one of the boys. Reed said that he would not make a judgment until reading the letter, but that it was as bad as it was represented, he felt that the boy should be returned to MacLaren.

"In this area, we are not dealing with an exact science," Reed said. "Even in the exact sciences, there have been dangerous errors before products and drugs have been perfected. We are doing the best we can. We are aware of the seriousness of the situation here."

At one point Reed said that he could close the home at any time. There was a spontaneous round of applause. Several times, emotions ran high, and snickering, sarcastic remarks and challenges were directed at the MacLarens staff.

At the end of the two and a half-hour meeting, Goodrich told the staff that they had heard the complaints, and were expected to act accordingly. "We expect action," he said.

4 ballots by cardinals fail to elect pope

VATICAN CITY (UPI) — The Sacred College of Cardinals failed on four ballots today to elect a successor to Pope John XXIII.

The cardinals met twice—once this morning and again this