

Delegates from Garden Club Return from Corvallis Convention

Mrs. Ernest W. Jermark and Mrs. Francis B. Russell representing the Central Point Garden Club accompanied by Mrs. R. T. Nichol of Medford and Siskiyou district Vice-President of the Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs returned home Sunday, June 26 from Corvallis after having attended the 21st annual convention of the Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs.

Sessions were held in the Memorial Union building on the O.S.C. Campus. Presiding at the meetings were Mrs. Ralph E. Fowler, State President and other state officers. Some 300 Club delegates and members were present, from the state of Oregon.

The many Clubs of the Santiam district No. 3 were responsible for the fine program planned. A tour through the Campus grounds included the green houses and test gardens, Museum, Herbarium, Wild flower display, Natural history and bird exhibit proved very interesting and educational as was the Philomath garden tour and tea, at the home of Mrs. George Shroyer, "Philomath Garden Club." A special evening feature was the color films of "Hawaiian Beauty as I Saw It" photographed and shown by J. R. Stauffer. Beautiful pictures of the native flowers including the orchid were shown. A highly interesting film was the actual photographing of the eruption of "Mauna Loa" in 1946.

As a fitting close of the convention, a brief program followed the banquet. Among the speakers were S. A. Jackson, Benton County agent, Dean Collins, gardening editor for the Oregon Journal, presented the Horticulture awards citation to Capt. H. H. Harms, Portland, who did more than anyone else to make the Oregon Country Rododendron and Camellia consious. Mr. Collins also presented a posthumous award to the late James Robert Cardwell, Organizer of the first horticulture society in 1893 and one of the founders of the Portland Rose Show. The award was given to Dr. J. A. Milbrath, Dept. of Plant Pathology, O.S.C. to hold in escrow until the next of kin can be located.

Mrs. Fowler closed the convention by making two special awards given by the National Council of the State Garden Clubs Inc. The first going to the congenial Garden club of Portland and second to the Central Point Garden club, for outstanding "Flower Show Achievement" this award was received by Mrs. Ernest W. Jermark, president of the club.

Letter from Washington

HARRIS ELLSWORTH, M.C.
4TH DISTRICT, OREGON

The much discussed (and cussed) public housing bill will become law. I wish more people knew the real truth and the inside facts about this piece of legislation. Unfortunately, so many people and so many splendid and well-meaning organizations have been so completely



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sold on the social welfare feature or the so-called benefits of the plan that the fallacies and outright dangerous features of it are overlooked.

For example, how many people in Oregon realize that the proportion of the total cost of this program that our state will bear is about equivalent to a 40-year bond issue of ONE HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS? In this connection it also should be noted, I think, that under a similar plan adopted in 1937 nearly two hundred thousand public housing units were built—but not one was built in Oregon. (Do not confuse this plan with war housing of which Oregon had considerable.)

Following are some of the other objectionable features of the housing proposal just enacted:

The "slum clearance" provision does not provide for clearance of slums. In Washington, D. C., 240 Federal housing projects have been built since 1935, under a "slum clearance" program. Yet the same slums that were condemned 13 years ago remain inhabited by hundreds of people.

The poorest families can not get

in the subsidized projects. The bill specifically provides that tenants of so-called "low-rent" projects must have a certain minimum income and minimum rent is higher than millions of renters of private housing pay today.

The bill tends to create permanent renters, rather than encourage home ownership.

To obtain farm housing benefits, a farmer would have to submit to absolute Federal control of his farming operation for ten years.

The so-called "local" housing authorities would have no local control.

The bill specifically denies to

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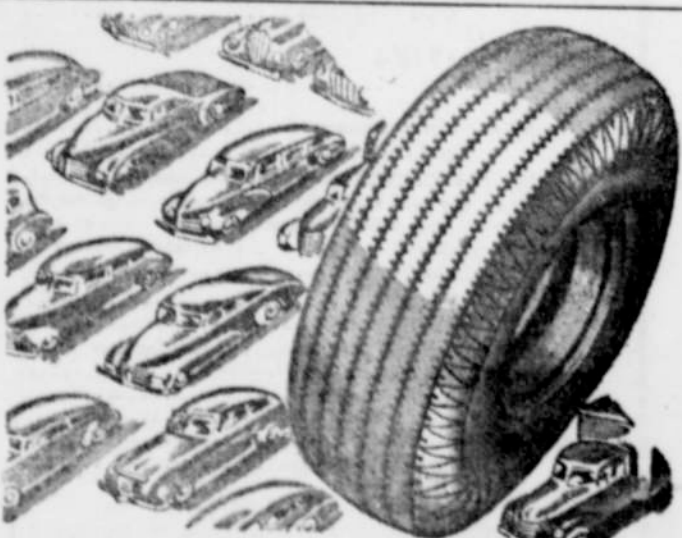
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Congress any review of appropriations or control over specific expenditures.

We need Federal support for redevelopment of slum areas, for guaranteed financing of new homes, for such honest assistance as is really justified. But H.R. 4309 will do more toward aggravating those problems than solving them. It is a cruel political hoax on those who need help.

Under provisions of Public Law 107, signed by President Truman last week, the requirement for performance of \$100 worth of assessment work annually on unpatented mining claims was suspended until July 1, 1949. Assessment work will have to be performed during the year ending June 30, 1950. However, the act provides that claimants taking advantage of this law must file by August 1, 1949, at the office where the location certificate is recorded, a notice of intention to continue holding the claim. Any work already performed this year may be credited toward the labor required for next year. The new law applies only to the United States.

Another section of the new law provides that prospectors working on new claims shall be liable for damage to the value of the land for grazing caused by prospecting, mining or removal of minerals. On old claims, prospectors are liable only for damage to crops or property of the entryman or patentee on such land.

It is probable this will be the last year in which the assessment work requirement will be suspended. The

Administration and Congress seem generally agreed that claims should no longer be held by persons unwilling either to perform development work or qualify for a patent.

The Bureau of Land Management, which administers such claims, is being urged to suggest legislation bringing the laws regarding mining claims up to date. There are many claims in the West on mineral deposits for which commercial demands are so small as to make assessment work an unsound investment. Others are readily available whenever a market for the ore develops, so that development work is not needed except to meet the provisions of the law.

Also of interest to holders of mineral claims and prospectors is P.L. 115 signed some days following P.L. 107. This Act provides for deferment of

assessment work where the claim or claims are surrounded by lands over which right-of-way is denied or where other legal impediments exist. Petition with satisfactory supporting evidence must be filed to secure deferment for a period of one year subject to renewal on application if justifiable conditions exist.

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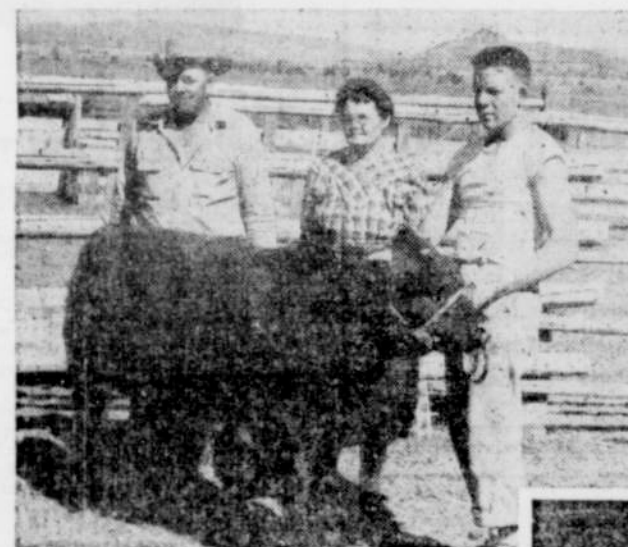
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