

Member
**OREGON NEWSPAPER
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EDITORIAL

A New Haven for Tourists

Portlanders and others living near Mt. Hood have come to realize the great potential tourist business embodied in the grandeur of Oregon's No. 1 mountain peak, and an active campaign is under way to capitalize on it. First of all, a group of far-seeing citizens have organized for the purpose of promoting the area as a tourist center and an ambitious program is being studied to make Oregon's Mt. Hood one of the great attractions of the Pacific coast region. Oregon's Mt. Hood, Inc. is the name of the organization.

While there has been some development at Mt. Hood, accommodations thus far have been designed to meet local conditions and have no contemplation of anything of a national scope. Formulation of a non-profit corporation dedicated to the year-round development of the Mt. Hood area has been accomplished with the idea that commercial interests will be attracted to it.

A survey is being made of available housing and of proposed housing necessary to relieve the present shortage of accommodations. It also is proposed that a corporation be formed to build and center, including ice arena, winter and summer, a hockey arena convention hall, restaurants, bowl-operate commercial facilities. An amusementing alleys and billiard rooms will be necessary to attract tourists to the area. Skiing and winter sports will not fill the bill, the backers say, and indoor swimming pools, ballrooms and other recreational facilities for tourists who are not interested in winter sports, but who would visit the Mt. Hood playground if other activities were established are the great need.

What is being done in the Mt. Hood region could well be undertaken in other sections of the state on less ambitious lines. Southern Oregonians might possibly be able to save Crater Lake to Oregon or should we say reclaim it since it has been considered California property for these many years, and Eastern Oregonians could invest something in Wallowa lake to good advantage, or Central Oregonians make the matchless Cascade skyline attractive to outside money. The possibilities are great for year-round tourist trade in Oregon if we want to cash in on them.

Oregon's Mt. Hood, Inc. has taken the initiative and the state as a whole can do no less than to congratulate this progressive group of citizens upon their ambitious plans.

Flood Dam Should Be Built

People favoring the construction of a flood dam to protect human life and property in Heppner and down the Willow creek valley should get behind the engineers who have done such a splendid job of preparing plans and see that the work already done is not lost.

Those citizens who saw the plans and heard them explained Wednesday evening were convinced that the dam should be put in and it is safe to say that when all of the people of the community understand the program clearly there will be little opposition.

The engineers are convinced that they have done a good job in the preliminary work and that construction of the dam is fully justified. Flood history in the Willow creek valley indicates that a repetition of previous disasters is almost certain and the best way to prevent a heavy loss of life and destruction of property is to take steps toward flood control now. To build the dam would mean placing high value on human life; not to build it follows that human life is taken cheaply.

If you count yourself among those who favor construction of the dam, you are urged to communicate your views to Oregon's congressional delegation. Our own Lowell Stockman is familiar with the conditions here, knows the history of the Heppner flood of 1903 and subsequent bad storms. Urge his vigorous support of the bill when it comes before congress and acquaint the senators and other representatives with conditions here and the great need for flood control. We can think of numerous places that are receiving this type of aid but not one of them that deserves it more than Heppner.

Fish and game production figures for 1945 show that 13,857,057 game fish weighing in the aggregate 91,854 pounds were released in Oregon lakes and streams from game commission hatcheries. Pheasants raised at the four state game farms totalled 33,717, of which 11,736 were released in western and 21,981 in the eastern counties. During 1946 it is hoped to increase these figures considerably as operations are brought back to a normal basis.

Former Heppner Folks Announce Troths at Salem

The Sunday Oregonian society page contained two announcements of interest to Heppner and Morrow county. Both were in the Salem column and read as follows:

Miss Jean McElhinney, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles McElhin-

ney, has made known the date of her wedding to Norman Nelson, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Nelson of Lexington. The couple will wed February 3 at the First Congregational church (Salem).

Another Salem girl joining the ranks of bride-elects is Miss Jean Gemmell who will wed Calvin W. Crawford U. S. N. R., son of Mrs. Lera Crawford of Berkeley, Calif. Miss Gemmell's parents are Mr.

and Mrs. Paul Gemmell. No definite plans have been made for the wedding.

Mrs. Agnes Curran has moved into an apartment in her house from the former Curran's Ready to Wear shop and Mrs. Nellie Anderson is now occupying the living quarters in the rear of her store.

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