

# Comment On This and That

BY HARMAN W. NICHOLS  
United Press Feature Writer

Arvida, Que. — (U.P.) — The area surrounding this community is unique. The only ulcer here around is owned by an alderman who brought it with him when he came here a decade ago. The area has the highest birthrate in North America — 34 per thousand population. And the lowest death rate. Nobody ever is in a hurry. With gas selling around 48 cents per gallon, few people own cars, which come at a fancy price because of taxes, import, and the like. Bicycles are the vogue. Shank's ponies are good enough for many.

The city was built by the Aluminum Company of Canada, which literally carved a town out of rock in the Saguenay district of Quebec.

**No Houses Alike**  
No two houses are alike. The rents are dirt cheap and the homes are stacked away from the highways where children have no fear of getting put low by modern traffic.

There are no slums. The company provides golf courses, and curling facilities during the bitter months.

There are tennis courts, and in the winter basketball and other indoor sports—not to mention outdoor activities such as skating and skiing.

**Schools Built Often**  
The babies come so rapidly that the "city council" finds it necessary to build about a new school every year or so. As of now there are 11 Catholic and one Protestant school to accommodate a population of 11,000.

The people are home lovers. In the late afternoon you'll find the father, mother, and their flock out working in the yard or garden.

Streets are deserted at night and the police haven't had a call for rowdiness in many a month. Family groups gather around a secondhand piano to sing hymns. Either that or the young 'teen agers fly the coop to go to recreation centers where they are chaperoned.

**Emergency Crew Handy**  
In the plant itself — many, many buildings of the plant — the workers have a fairly easy time. Being strictly modern, the place is practically push-button, with a large crew standing by for an emergency. A breakdown could cost hundreds of dollars a minute.

**So, with little physical labor a man is on the job one hour and then off an hour. That has created what likely is the closest thing to a perpetual bridge game.**

The workers who are off scoot to the "rest room." A man will sit down in the middle of a game, get a fast fill-in from his stand-in, and make up his own mind whether it is proper to lead with a small one or finesse with a queen. The plant operates 24 hours a day.

**No Money Wagered**  
You'll find some of the best bridge players in the world among these aluminum workers. No money is bet.

In season, the workers use their idle time to dip a line in the streams for land-locked salmon and trout.

Everybody looks well and healthy. The hospital is almost empty. Nobody was mad or excited. The goose hangs way up there. And people are not hurting for money.

**NUDE statue symbolizing his sweetheart, Beryl Wallace, is placed over sarcophagus of late showman Earl Carroll at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Los Angeles. Statue, requested in Carroll's will, was executed by Adolph Weinman. (International)**

**East Main Rezoning Proposal Loses, 5 to 2**

Extension of the Medford business district east one block on both sides of East Main street was defeated last night by a 5 to 2 vote of the city council.

The council action terminated a lively dispute on the zone change, which was started about five months ago. Councilmen voting for a change in zone were Elmer Childers and Frank Runtz. Stanley Jones Jr., Harold Fry, Dwight Houghton, Earl Miller and Paul Selby voted against changing the zone.

Approximately 30 residents of the area concerned in the proposed change sat in on the hearing, many of them for the third time. Only three were in favor of the zone change. The others, with Attorney Ken Denman acting as spokesman for the group, actively opposed it.

The area which would have been changed from residential to limited commercial is between Cottage and Myrtle streets to a depth of 170 feet on the south side of East Main street, and

between Genessee and Geneva streets to a depth of 160 feet on the north side.

Opposition from the south side of the street was centered chiefly in the Corning court area. Col. Frank D. Applin, 5 Corning court, stated that to allow commercial development of the area would destroy the conditions which make Corning court a desirable section in which to reside.

Other foes of the change cited increased traffic on the narrow east side streets, expansion of the business district before the present downtown district is fully developed and danger to the children from increased traffic.

Those favoring the change stated at earlier phases of the hearing that undeveloped sections of the downtown business area are undeveloped because they are undesirable from a business standpoint. Attractive commercial development of lower East Main street would add to property values in that area, they said.

**Talent Fire Group In Business Meeting**

Talent—Business matters concerning the Talent Rural Fire association were discussed when the board of directors met Monday evening in the Talent city hall, according to Andrew Hawver, chairman of the board.

"We are now in the process of overhauling our bookkeeping system," Hawver pointed out, "and hope to make it more efficient."

The chairman also reported that the association "is just about ready to hook up a phone booth with a direct line so fires can be reported by asking the operator."

A new secretary-treasurer was named at the meeting to replace Mrs. Norma Marsh who moved out of the area. He is Martin Wood.

Hawver added that the association is still asking for those who have pledged subscriptions to turn them in so the group can buy some "much-needed" hose.

The association voted to participate in the Talent Jamboree on June 28 with a booth entry, the chairman concluded.

**Laying of Water Main Blocks Talent Traffic**

Talent—Traffic is being blocked in the center of Talent this week with the laying of a new six-inch water main from Wagner to Main streets on the old highway, according to Mrs. Nona McAbee, city recorder.

The recorder said that the main is being laid in preparation for the resurfacing of the old highway from the Talent junction at Highway 99 through Wagner street next summer.

**Southern Oregon College Gives \$130 To Red Cross**

Ashland—Contributions totaling \$130.50 have been turned over to the Jackson County Red Cross fund drive by staff members at Southern Oregon college, according to Beverly Bennett, chairman of the campus appeal.

Miss Bennett reported that the total exceeded donations collected last spring.

Assisting with the college drive were Otto Wilda, Oscar Bjorlie, Frances Imel, Betty Jg Krug, Lois Bacus, Leon Mulling, Agnes Henning and Lloyd Pennington.

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