

More Than 6,000 Youths Participate In Activities During Week

Programs Range From Youth Government to PAL Boxing Matches

"The tremendous activity program for young people carried on through the schools, churches and other organizations, has greatly contributed to the elimination of juvenile delinquency in Southern Oregon," Medford Chief of Police Charles Champ- lin said yesterday.

Youth activity during the past week in Jackson county, ranging from a youth government program at the YMCA to Police Athletic league boxing matches last night, more than substantiated Champ- lin's statement.

6,000 Participants

It is almost impossible to estimate the number of young people actively engaged in constructive youth programs last week but there were more than 6,000.

"People don't realize," Champ- lin said, "the scope of activities provided for the youngsters in this area. The schools alone, through sports, drama, journalism, and club work, give almost every youngster in the area an opportunity to participate in at least one activity."

To name just a few of the activities engaged in by the younger generation last week, 1,838 scouts participated in boy scout week in the county; 105 students from four cities took part in a youth government program at the YMCA; about 170 business and commercial students from county high schools took part in a Career day in an attempt to determine employer requirements; groups of high school students met to select delegates for a statewide International Relations league meeting in Eugene; youth of nine churches held an interdenominational Christian youth rally at the First Methodist church; another youth rally was held at Church of the Nazarene; plans were made for a young people's convention to be held at Friends Church today; and seniors at Medford High school went through the last week of practice preparatory to presenting the senior play this week.

Routine Activities

The above list does not include the more routine school activities. Varsity, junior varsity and intra-mural sports, in addition to the regular physical education classes, give nearly every student a chance to compete in sports; drama clubs, activity on the school newspaper and year-books; school sponsored bowling classes; driver training program and the affairs of complex student governments all give students a chance to show initiative and creative good citizenship.

A youth government program at the YMCA Feb. 4, brought about 105 students from Ashland, Grants Pass, Klamath Falls and Medford together to select student government officers to represent southern Oregon at the youth legislature in Salem April 27-28.

Government Discussion

During the morning, students heard local government experts discuss areas where possible legislation is needed, and government procedure. In the afternoon, the students held panels, with adult advisors, in an attempt to work out desired legislation.

The students approved a bill that would require all babies to be issued identification tags, and would require all people to wear the tags in the future. It was felt that the tags would be valuable in the case of disaster, either of a routine nature, such as auto accidents or drownings, or in the case of floods or atomic warfare.

An attempt to introduce a bill repealing income tax and substituting a sales tax, lost after heavy debate. A bill that would have reduced income tax in the lower brackets was referred back to committee.

Flood Relief Measure

The students, some of whom

will actually take over the reins of state government April 27, suggested a flood relief measure on the state level. It was suggested that a commission be set up to study flood relief and prepare a type of state flood insurance.

Another bill, which was killed in committee because of adjournment, would have required that all motor vehicles be inspected bi-annually to ascertain that they were mechanically safe to operate. It would have been unlawful to operate a vehicle unless it bore a special tag, showing it had been inspected.

Many of the committees did not get an opportunity to present their bills to the floor because of the shortage of time. "The meeting was adjourned for swimming and recreation while they still had a heavy docket of legislation to consider," Frank Van Dyke, former speaker of the state house of representatives and one of the adult advisors said. "It was just like the real thing."

Scouting Sunday

Today is Scout Sunday and marks the end of Boy Scout Week. Boy Scouts of the Crater Lake Area council, in many cases will attend church as a group today. Most churches will have special scout services.

Scouts wore uniforms during the past week in honor of the "Onward for God and Country" program. Blue and Gold dinners and potluck suppers were held for many cubs, scouts and explorers.

An annual scout recognition dinner was held at Jerome Prairie, Monday. Scouts and explorers held a district court of honor Wednesday at McLoughlin Junior High school to make awards to outstanding troops.

Window Displays

Window displays prepared by scouts to tell a scouting story were placed in many business establishments. The displays were judged and special awards were presented.

Jackson county 4-H groups have been recognized by 4-H officials as some of the most active in the state.

During the past week, they heard reports from an International Farm Youth Exchange delegate who returned recently from Greece. She showed slides to local 4-H groups and discussed farming procedures and problems in Greece. The IFYE program, in which Jackson county has participated actively for several years, is designed to provide a medium of exchange of ideas among farm youth.

Friendship Follies

4-H members also last week made plans for a Friendship Follies program Feb. 21. The follies will include square dance training and information for beginning club members.

Nathan C. Douthitt, and Miss Vicki J. Noel, both of Central Point, were chosen winners of the annual Elks Youth Leadership contest last week. Winners for the contest were selected on a basis of leadership, citizenship appreciation, perseverance and resourcefulness. Three other high school students won honorable mention.

About 175 students from seven high schools in the county met Monday at the First Methodist church for a Career day. Local business men met with the young people, all of whom are taking business and commercial courses in high school, in an attempt to help them determine what employers expect from the people they hire in their offices.

Questions Answered

Businessmen answered such questions as: What is your attitude toward secretaries who smoke? What is your opinion of coffee breaks? How much emphasis do you place on appearance? What typing speed do you require an employee to have? Do you prefer students to learn a definite bookkeeping method, or simply to have a

generalized knowledge of theories involved? How many words per minute dictation must your secretary be able to take? A full evaluation of the answers to those and other questions will be released later in an attempt to help students determine what qualifications they will need to compete for jobs in the business world.



TO SPEAK HERE—Ivan Congleton, Oregon State Junior Chamber of Commerce president, will speak Tuesday at a noon luncheon of the Medford Jaycees at the Rogue Valley Country club. He was recently named junior first citizen for 1955 by the Portland chapter.

Highlights, Events of National Forest During 1955 Are Reviewed

A review of activities in the Rogue River National forest during 1955 was released last week by Jack H. Wood, supervisor.

The report follows: The year 1955 marked the Golden Anniversary of the United States Forest Service. One of the major Forest Service responsibilities during that 50-year period has been the protection and management of the national forests in a manner to afford maximum long term use and enjoyment of their resources by the general public to whom they belong.

The Rogue River forest was created by presidential proclamation in 1893. It is managed for a variety of products including water, timber, forage, recreation and wildlife. Under this multiple use principle no single use is

avored to the exclusion of others. In all uses and forest activities the basic resources, soil and water, are given primary consideration.

1955 HIGHLIGHTS AND EVENTS

Timber

Timber harvest for the year totaled slightly more than 126,000,000 board feet. The estimated allowable cut under sustained yield is 103,000,000 board feet. The slight overcut this season balances an undercut which has accumulated for several years. Approximately 14,000,000 board feet of the total cut came from salvage of windthrown disease and insect killed timber.

There were 84 individual timber sales during the year, 48 of which were in amounts of less than \$2,000. Bidding for national forest timber was more competitive this year than last and in a number of instances, purchase prices were well above appraised values.

Watershed Studies

Ashland canyon and its resources are being given special attention and study. This portion of the national forest furnishes the city of Ashland its entire supply of domestic water, by far the most important single use to which the area can be put. Timber cutting has never been permitted in the watershed and there are few roads in the area.

Much of the timber is now mature or older and is increasingly susceptible to disease and insects. The resulting death and decay of timber is an economic loss to the community. The increasing fire hazard created by dead and down timber is of even more significance. The existence of this fuel coupled with inaccessibility makes control of forest fires more and more difficult. There is good reason to believe careful, conservative management of the watershed can furnish both timber and water with no ill effect on the water producing capacity of the forest.

Experiment Planned

The Forest Service is planning an experimental sale of timber, not in the watershed itself, but in an adjacent drainage having similar forest and soil conditions. Harvest of the timber will be handled with special attention to safeguards of watershed values. If results indicate that timber harvesting and water use are compatible for this soil type and other conditions, the way will be cleared for careful, orderly harvest of mature timber in the Ashland city watershed. With the harvest will come improved access and reduction of fire hazard, the greatest single threat to any watershed. Water production will remain the primary purpose of the 11,000 acre area.

Reforestation

Planting of 700,000 seedling trees on 1,000 acres of cutover land was accomplished in 1955. During the last four years, 4,758 acres have been logged by clearcut method. Of that total, 3,082 acres have been planted. The remainder of the cutover area was satisfactorily situated for reforestation from natural seedfall.

The Forest Service has had encouraging results from experiments in chemical control of brush competition to tree reproduction. If such control proves economical, it will open the way to reclaiming thousands of acres of brush fields on old burns within the forest. Many of these old burns were taken over by brush years before the national forest was created.

Fire Control

Up to the first of September the forest experienced 29 fires with a burned-over area of less than 45 acres. On Sept. 4 and 5 a series of dry lightning storms passed over the forest, starting a total of 43 fires. Total area burned was 540 acres. The largest fire covered 273 acres. Smokejumpers were dropped from the air on 13 of the blazes.

One of the main reasons for rapid control of the fires, and the resulting low loss of timber

and watershed values, was the prompt and wholehearted assistance furnished by local citizens and the lumber industry. Their unstinting cooperation in our time of need was one of the highlights of the Rogue River year.

Slash-burning

An important activity associated with national forest timber sales is the periodic disposal by burning of inflammable debris resulting from logging. This usually is done after fall rains have made control of such fires practicable.

There are two reasons for burning slash; first, controlled burning of debris reduces risk of future wildfires starting and reaching disastrous size. The second reason is to clear the ground for the planting of trees and to provide favorable seed bed for natural seedfall. During the year, 1,600 acres of slash were burned.

Recreation and Wildlife

More people visited the Rogue River forest in 1955 than ever before. Recreation has become a major industry in southwest Oregon and is a rapidly expanding use of this national forest. Forest recreation is available to all and the fewest possible restrictions are placed on use and travel.

The steadily increasing use makes it difficult to keep abreast of campground maintenance and repair needs because of limited budgets. This year a small additional recreation fund was made available to the forest. It was used to furnish additional public forest camp facilities at Four Mile lake.

The Forest Service continues to cooperate closely with the Oregon State Game commission in matters pertaining to fish and game habitat on national forest land. Late in the fall, the game commission carried out a program of trash fish poisoning at Lake of Woods. The project was reported a success and it is planned to replant with trout in 1956.

Grazing

The Rogue River forest furnishes important summer range to 7,415 head of cattle and 4,100 head of sheep. Permits to graze these animals were issued to 99 livestock operators. The basic consideration in use of the range resource is the utilization of the

forage without impairing watershed or other forest values.

Engineering

Maintenance was done on 480 miles of road, 653 miles of trail, 30 of telephone line. Three permanent bridges were built, and construction was started on a span across the main Rogue river on the National creek access road.

Location and construction surveys were completed on 30 miles of timber sale roads. Loggers built 40 miles of access road under timber sales contracts. The December floods damaged

roads, bridges and other improvements on the forest in the amount of about \$60,000. Many of the damaged areas are inaccessible because of snow and repair will have to wait until spring.

Mining Claims

The last of more than 330 previously contested mining claims in the Union creek area involving nearly 60,000 acres were invalidated after public hearing procedure last spring. The action restores full national forest status to all the lands involved.

A revision to the general mining laws was passed by the Congress July 23, 1955. The bill was supported by American Mining Congress and many conservation groups. Its provisions include reservation of rights to timber, forage and other surface resources to the people until patent is issued.

Access across claims also is provided and materials such as common sand, gravel and pumice are removed from the purchase of the mining laws. The bill has been heralded as a significant forward step.

O & C Exchange

The Congressional O & C Exchange act passed in 1954 will make important changes in local federal land status. On a number of national forests of western Oregon, O & C lands are intermingled extensively with Forest Service lands. The exchange act directs the two agencies to exchange such lands with the objective of eliminating the intermingled pattern of ownership to simplify and improve administration. The exchange is proceeding rapidly and completion goal has been set in June, 1956.

Receipts

Public forest business on the Rogue River National forest through the sale and use of its resources in 1955 brought in \$1,834,210. Of this, 25 per cent is returned to the counties in which the forest lies. During 1955, Jackson county received \$184,567 and Klamath county received \$163,260.

Lesser amounts were paid to Josephine, Douglas and Siskiyou counties, which contain a small part of Rogue River forest. All five counties received additional proportionate amounts from the other national forests which lie within their boundaries.

Heart Diseases Among Main Causes Of Death In County Last Year

Diseases of heart and circulation and of cancer and tumor were the main causes of death in Jackson county during 1955, according to a report released by the public health department.

Other causes high on the list were respiratory, 43; accident and violence, 33; early infancy, 29; diseases of digestive system, 16; and genito-urinary system, 12.

Brain tumors claimed five lives; ill defined causes, four; diabetes, three; diseases of the blood, two; and one each for influenza meningitis, acute encephalitis, Meckel's disease and senility, making a total for the year of 569.

Age Groups Listed

By age, 283 deaths were of persons over 70 years; 139 were 60-69; 68 were 50 to 59; 23, 40-49; 9, 30-39; 12, 20-29; 4, 15-19; 3, 10-14; 3, 6-9; 5, 1-4; and 29 under 1 year.

Total live births in the county totaled 749 males and 701 females. Ten were born at home and two each in doctor's

offices or enroute to the hospital.

Illegitimate births are not registered in the county, but are sent directly to the state registrar.

Death rate for 1955 was 8.6 per 1,000, a decrease from the previous year. Present population as estimated by the vital statistics division on July 1, 1955, 65,790.

Rodney Olson Named For Bank Education

Rodney Water Olson, 1351 Kings Hwy., a 1956 Medford High school graduate, has been selected for the Work College program sponsored by the United States National bank. Allan F. Perry, Medford branch manager, has announced.

Olson, who has started training at the bank, will receive a \$1,000 college scholarship and a guaranteed position with the bank after college graduation.

Under the Work College program Olson will alternately work a year, and go to school for two years. The bank will pay tuition and text book expenses.

The program was started in 1950 by U. S. National and is open each year to outstanding high school senior boys. Selection is made on the basis of teachers' and principal's recommendations and final tests and interviews given by the bank, Perry said.

Rogue Floods Subject Of February Magazine

An article by Cleo (Butch) Gilchrist, Gold Hill, on the Rogue river floods appears in the February issue of the Ideal Cement Mixer magazine. Pictures of the flood progress and rescue of Barney Governor from his home on a river bar accompany the article.

Gilchrist reports that the Ideal company hydro-electric plant at Gold Hill felt the "full impact of the flood's crest," and that employees are "bending every effort to get the plant back in service."

Patrick Foreman Earl Moore, an amateur archeologist, had a field day, Gilchrist writes, for "water washed out an Indian grave, and he found a skeleton and some arrowheads—and he killed a rattlesnake on Christmas day..."

WEATHER By United Press Northern California: Variable high cloudiness Sunday; little change in temperature; north to northwest winds 12-25 MPH near coast.

Dead line for Sunday Classified is at noon Saturday

Landscape Clinic Set By County Agent Here

A landscape clinic to assist county home-owners in home beautification will be held Mar. 8 and 9 in the courthouse auditorium, it was announced yesterday by County Horticultural Agent C. B. Cordy.

Landscape architects assisting with the work will be Prof. I. B. Solberg, Oregon State college; Mrs. Fred Lorrish, Medford; Chester Cory, Ashland; and George Fradeen, Grants Pass.

Half-hour appointments for the free professional advice will be available. The clinic is for planning basic landscape planting, either for those with new homes and no plantings, or for those with established yards who need help in rearrangement.

It is designed to help owners of modest homes, Cordy said, not for those with acres of land to prepare. Those coming to the clinic should bring photos of their house and yard and a scale drawing indicating location of the house in relation to its surroundings. Particular plants desired or undesired should be listed in advance to save time during the half-hour interviews.

A display of shrubs and plants will be available in the auditorium.

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on a home of your own?

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