

Vandalism Obstacle in Maintaining Park

Officials Tour Roxy Ann Butte To Determine Needs

Vandalism has been a major obstacle to maintaining the picnic grounds at Prescott park, city and county officials said Tuesday.

The park is located on Roxy Ann butte east of Medford, and both the park and road to it give spectacular views of the valley.

Seven county and city officials made a trip to the site Tuesday afternoon to examine the park's condition and determine the extent of work necessary to restore it as an attractive public picnic area.

Group Making Tour
The group making the inspection tour included County Judge Rodney Keating, Commissioners Chester Wendt and Ralph James, County Engineer Paul Rynning, Mayor John Snider, City Manager Robert A. Duff and Parks Supervisor Darrell Huson.

The park, established in 1936 and 1937 by the Civilian Conservation Corps and since taken over by the city, has restroom facilities, picnic tables, water fountain and barbecue pit facilities. But windows of the restrooms have been broken, much of the cooking facilities damaged or stolen, and sections of fence, which was installed around the grounds by the city last year, have been destroyed. Even refuse cans placed there were stolen or damaged, the officials explained.

The lock to the gate had apparently been shot off and the gate was wide open. A large, healthy looking cow strolled around the picnic area, feeding on grass and appearing totally unaware it was trespassing on city property. The drain near the fountain was clogged and water stood in puddles near the fountain and elsewhere on the grounds. There is a large amount of poison oak, but the area seems relatively free of mosquitoes.

Rebuild Roads
Other work done by the city in the last year included rebuilding roads and replacing a cattle guard which were washed out in the December, 1955, flood.

Last week, the Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution urging the city and county to provide better development and maintenance for the park. They designated last Sunday as a Jaycee work day.

The group painted the inside of the rest rooms, sprayed poison oak bushes with control material, installed one new table top and consolidated others, ditched and cleared pathways to the rest rooms and did some clearing work around the fountain.

More Cleaning Slated
Next Tuesday night, the Jaycees will meet at the park to do more brush cutting, cleaning and drain clearing.

City and county officials plan a joint meeting soon to determine what program, if any, can be developed to improve the grounds.

Several suggestions have been made so far. One is a plan for constructing a cottage and keeping a full-time caretaker at the park. This plan would involve considerable expense, it has been pointed out, both for construction costs and caretaker's salary.

Another Suggestion
Another suggestion is giving the county responsibility for road maintenance and the city responsibility for patrolling and cleaning the picnic grounds.

This, too, would involve considerable expense, especially if a police patrol car were required to make frequent trips there. As a means of defraying expense, it has also been suggested that a small admission be charged for each car entering the park.

The officials seem to feel that a large part of the maintenance problem could be solved if the public could be taught to respect the installations there as conveniences for picnickers rather than targets for eager riflemen and vandals.

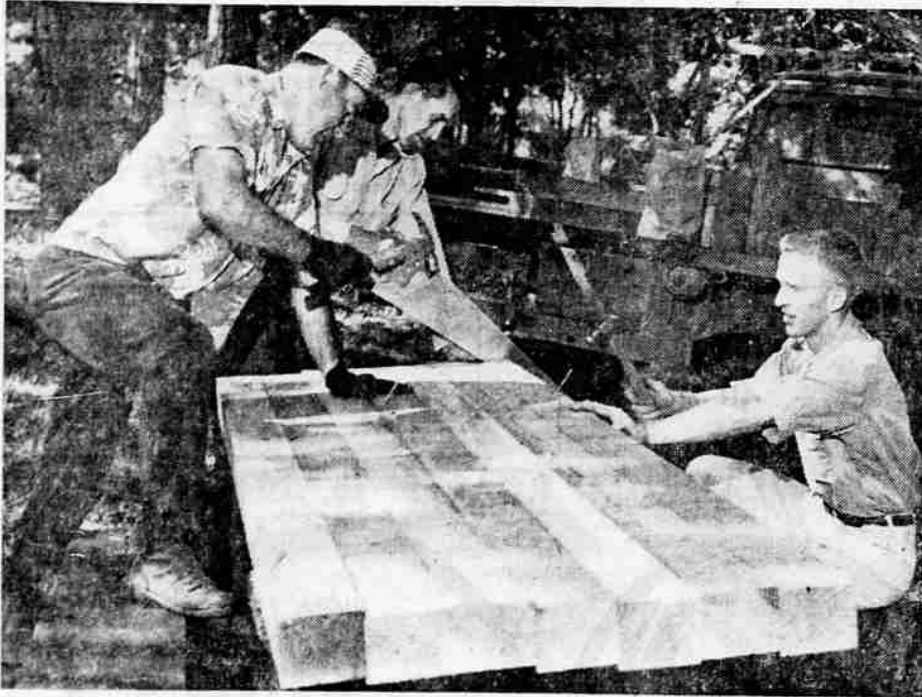
Carload Inspections Total 472 During June

Salem — Some 472 carloads of fruits and vegetables were inspected at Oregon shipping point centers during June, the State Agriculture Department said today.

Almost half—or 225 carloads—were potatoes inspected in the Klamath Falls district.

Portland district accounted for 73 carloads, mostly strawberries for freezing, and Hood River cherries checked in at almost 70 carloads.

About 48 cars of potatoes were shipped out of Redmond district and another 21 out of Ontario. The remaining items moved out of Salem and Medford areas.



MAKE TABLE TOP—Wil Robertson, Jim Asher and Cal McKibben, left to right, construct a new table top for a picnic table at Prescott park on top of Roxy Ann butte during a work-day by the Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce last Sunday. Several Jaycees worked at the park to help make facilities more attractive for visitors. —(Kenn Knackstedt photo).



SPRAY POISON OAK—Fred McLean and Hal Gardner, members of a Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce work-day party at Prescott park, sprayed poison oak in picnic areas Sunday. The spraying is part of an effort by the Jaycees help improve the park. —(Kenn Knackstedt photo).



CLEAR PATHWAY—Four members of the Medford Junior Chamber of Commerce are shown repairing a small footbridge on a path to restrooms at Prescott park on Roxy Ann butte Sunday. They are, left to right, Al Holmes, Leonard Howe, Chuck Henry and Al Franzke. Another work-day has been scheduled by the Jaycees next Tuesday. —(Kenn Knackstedt photo).

Reservations Being Taken for Banquet At Festival Aug. 1

Ashland — Reservations are now being accepted for "The Feasting of the Tribe of Will," the annual Aug. 1 banquet in Ashland's Lithia park which officially opens the 1957 Oregon Shakespearean Festival.

Gov. Robert D. Holmes and several other state dignitaries have accepted invitations to attend the P.M. dinner and entertainment. Immediately after the banquet, the presentation of "As You Like It" will open the 17th season at the Festival theater at 8:30 p.m.

The public has been invited to the banquet at a cost of \$2.50 per person, covering both dinner and entertainment. William Patton, Festival general manager, said the deadline for making reservations is Monday, July 22. Arrangements can be made by calling the Festival box office at Ashland, telephone MURdock 9-5111.

Special invitations, lettered and phrased in the Elizabethan manner, have been sent to many persons, wishing them "good cheer," and bidding them to the banquet "before the acting of his (Shakespeare's) pastoral-comical play called 'As You Like It.'"

In describing the event, the invitation states that "The company is piped to supper in the great park of Master Corry beside the water in Ashland town. A fine dish of roasted meats, hot and hot, is served forth on the green, and new bread buttered, fresh from the oven; scallots of garden greens, jellies and cheese, and all manner of creams and spiced stuffs for to warm the inward of mankind."

Present Market Will Have No Effect on Firm's Plans

Cave Junction — John Hopkins, a director of Nickel Corporation of America, said the present market situation for nickel will have no effect on corporation plans to build a refining plant here, if exploratory work now being conducted proves the amount of ore warrants it.

A recent article of A. Robert Smith, Washington correspondent, pointed out the office of defense mobilization is not planning to buy more nickel for the nation's stockpile, and that export licenses are not currently available.

Smith's items said a 750-man plant was planned for 1959. Four drills are now working on Eight Dollar Mountain near Kerby and some 15 miles of roads are being built for the drilling work going on there. Explorations have not ended on Woodcock mountain near Cave Junction, where cobalt, chrome and magnesium also have been found.

Iron in considerable quantities has shown up in test work on material brought from Eight Dollar Mountain. If the ore can be separated satisfactorily in solution, John H. White, vice president of the corporation said, this may be an important development in the local mining picture.

Stating that the corporation viewed the present situation as temporary, Hopkins said "we have the utmost confidence in the government to deal fairly with domestic producers of nickel. This situation will be cleared up and either export licenses will be available or there will be domestic markets."

Iran Earthquake Toll Seen About 1250 Persons

Tehran, Iran — About 1,250 persons now are believed to have been killed by the earthquakes that struck in northern Iran during the past three weeks, officials said today.

They said a higher casualty estimate of more than 2000 dead was based on unnecessary fears that typhoid and other infectious diseases would spread through the area.

Eisenhower Waging Determined Campaign To Bring About Peace

Washington — President Eisenhower is waging a determined and heartfelt campaign to break down the barrier of U.S.-Soviet suspicions and bring about a truly peaceful world, administration officials said today.

His evident sincerity has deeply impressed America's friends abroad and has even gotten through to some foes. Soviet Premier Nikolai Bulganin recently described Eisenhower as a man of peace.

Two Women, Three Small Boys Drown

Front Royal, Va. — Two women and three 7-year-old boys, all related, drowned Wednesday when their apparently overloaded aluminum boat capsized in the Shenandoah river. An unidentified man and a woman swam to safety, according to state police. The man made a futile effort to aid the victims, police said.

The 12-foot, flat-bottomed boat capsized only minutes after leaving a dock for a fishing trip on the north fork of the Shenandoah river. State police said the boat apparently was overloaded.

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