

Master Plan for Development Of Recreation Areas Necessary

(Editor's note: This second dispatch reports on measures now being taken to cope with shortages in recreation facilities. Despite the growing awareness of the nation's recreational needs, many experts feel that what's being done is too little. Losses exceed gains.)

By FRED DANZIG
UPI Correspondent

New York—(UPI)—Wanted: A detailed program for developing the nation's public recreation facilities.

At present, Federal, state and local governments all are in the recreation business. But have no master plan to follow. A town can set out to build new playground and the Federal government can knock it aside with a new highway.

There is some hope that leadership will be forthcoming. Congress has created a National Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission that will study public recreation and perhaps come up with a long-range program.

Many recreational authorities believe the solution is up to the 3,000 cities, towns and

villages that now provide recreation programs of varying adequacy.

"These recreation agencies benefit more individuals and afford a greater volume of service than those under Federal and state auspices," says the National Recreation Association, indicating where a building program must begin.

Control Divided

The National Park Service, governing 180 national, military and historical parks, controls nearly 24 million acres. The U.S. Forest Service guards 180 million acres of national forests. The Corps of Engineers has 5.6 million acres, mostly water.

Reservoir projects are the concern of the Bureau of Reclamation and the TVA. The Fish and Wildlife Service administers 17.5 million acres. And the Bureau of Land Management sometimes leases public domain lands for recreational purposes.

In addition, more than 39 million acres are set aside for state parks, forests and game

refuges. And some 455 forest products companies own or lease 46.2 million acres, of which more than 90 per cent is available to hunters and fishermen.

Sixty-five companies operate 132 parks on their commercial timberlands and industry spokesmen believe this approach is becoming a trend.

Mission 66

The Federal government two years ago launched Mission 66, a 10-year, billion-dollar program aimed at building roads, buildings and other improvements at existing national recreation areas.

When launched in 1956, the government estimated it would be completed in 1966 when 80 million persons would visit 180 federally-owned parks, monuments, historic sites and other recreation areas.

However, the 1958 attendance should reach 63.5 million and if this 8 per cent annual increase continues, the 80 million visitors will be at the park gates in 1961.

Conrad L. Wirth, director of the National Park Service, said Mission 66 will increase by 4,000 the capacities of privately-financed lodges and cabins in national parks, now at 40,000.

Another phase of the fight to keep public land public: Federal law now prohibits the armed forces from taking over government-owned lands of 5,000-acres or more without Congressional approval.

New Bill Being Readied

And the Senate Interior Committee now is preparing a new, controversial National Wilderness Preservation Bill that would preserve some 35 million acres against commercial exploitation.

Many Western state officials oppose the bill on grounds that they would rather see more industry than parks. They add that the eastern half of the nation needs the conservation more than the western half does.

"Doubling-up on land usage is another proposed aid in expanding recreation facilities. For example: Turn reservoirs and the wooded fringes around them into public parks. And build schools on park sites and vice versa.

As annual attendance at state parks, forests and game refuges nears the 190-million mark, (more than twice the 1948 total), every state is tackling the problem of expanding recreation facilities.

California has 614,000 acres in its state park system, more than double the acreage it had in 1940. Its park program is largely financed through oil royalties obtained from companies that drill on state-owned and submerged lands.

Washington State last year raised the cost of a driver's license by \$1 to give the State Park and Recreation Commission more revenue. Illinois recently created a Conservation Advisory Board to study the state's recreation needs.

Massachusetts is considering a 20-year, 100-million-dollar development program. More and more subdivisions

Girl's Science Fair Exhibit Contributes To Mold Research

Washington—(UPI)—A 14-year-old girl preparing an exhibit for a junior high school science fair may have contributed significant new knowledge to research on antibiotic molds.

That's the report from scientists at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research who have examined several mold cultures grown by Dorothy Jeanne Drago, a ninth grade student at the Mount Rainier, Md., Junior High school.

Dorothy's project for a recent science fair at her school was to grow several mold cultures under different conditions to determine whether varying wave lengths of light had any effect on their development.

Simple Equipment

She used very simple equipment. The mold cultures were grown in the standard "gunk"—a jelly-like substance called dextrose agar. Dorothy covered some of the trays with cellophane of various colors, including red, green, yellow and blue, so that the light would pass through them onto the molds. She left a few control batches exposed to normal light, and some were kept in total darkness.

Her first experiments indicated that the amount and wave length of light falling on a culture does make a detectable difference in the characteristics of the mold.

One of the judges at the science fair told Dorothy this was a "very interesting" finding, and encouraged her to discuss her work with experts at the Walter Reed Institute where much basic research on antibiotic molds is conducted.

Dorothy, daughter of Maj. and Mrs. Don H. Drago of Lewisdale, Md., talked over her project with Charlotte Campbell, head of the institute's Medical Mycology section and with one of her asso-

ciates, John P. Reilly. They told Dorothy her molds could yield useful knowledge for science if she would continue her experiments.

Following Reilly's advice, Dorothy took small pieces of the mold she had grown in the dark and under the red and blue cellophane and put this "second generation" into fresh agar where they were permitted to develop under varying, controlled conditions.

"It probably will be necessary to grow several more generations of mold to prove or disprove whether these mutations are stable characteristics," Dorothy said.

She is developing her studies from two basic types of molds—an *Aspergillus* species considered to be non-infectious, and *Trichophyton rubrum*, a common cause of athlete's foot and other skin infections. The latter is distinguished by a red pigment.

New Factor

Two new factors, however, have been noted in Dorothy's fungi: (1) A possible antibiotic substance of the *Aspergillus* molds (which forms as globules of moisture) is produced earlier in their growth; and (2) when grown in the dark, the *Aspergillus* loses its green pigment as it produces the antibiotic, while the *Trichophyton rubrum*'s red pigment becomes considerably dimmed and produces no antibiotic.

Whether Dorothy has produced a useful antibiotic is yet to be determined, Miss Campbell said. But she said the project is "scientifically useful" and "might lead to a new medically useful antibiotic too."

Forest Taxation To Be Studied

Corvallis—Forest taxation and its effect upon the management of Oregon forests will be studied in a new Oregon State college school of forestry research project.

Forest economists at the college have outlined a broad research program to determine the effects of Oregon's property tax, yield tax, and severance tax on forestry operations.

Because of the scope of the project, it will be conducted over a period of several years.

First of the studies to be initiated will be an analysis of the property tax burden on forest owners in relation to other property holders. This phase will start this summer and may be completed within a year. Other phases of the project will be undertaken as funds are received.

Working on the project will be Robert F. Keniston, Charles F. Sutherland, Dwight S. Jeffers, and Charles W. Daine of the forestry school staff.

The greatest interest in forest taxation is shown by the number of forest tax bills introduced in the last legislature, the foresters noted. Facts developed from the research are expected to provide new and highly valuable information on forest taxation and management in the state.

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List of Norway Fire Survivors Told By Embassy

Oslo (UPI)—The U. S. Embassy has released the names of 79 American citizens who survived the disastrous fire at Vossesstrand Tuesday.

An Embassy spokesman said, however, that no list of missing Americans would be published by the Embassy in Oslo. He said such a list would be released by the State Department in Washington after the nearest kin are notified.

The spokesman refused to say how many Americans were missing in the fire. Unofficial estimates put the figure at 20.

Included in the list of survivors were the following West Coast residents: Mrs. Leila Rosen, Hollywood, Calif.; Mrs. Nellie O. Lash, Los Angeles; Edvard

URGENT CHARTER REVISION

Washington—(UPI)—Sixteen senators headed by Sen. Joseph S. Clark (D-Pa.) introduced a resolution Tuesday calling for review and revision of the United Nations charter. Fourteen House members introduced the same proposal in that body. The resolution calls on the President to take the lead in advocating a conference before 1962 to completely review the U.N. charter.

LeRoy Lash, Los Angeles; Miss Adelaide Dorothy Fischer, Seattle; Dr. William M. Mulvehill, Beverly Hills, Calif.; Mrs. William M. Mulvehill, Beverly Hills, Calif.; John Roland Anderson, Glendale, Calif.; Mrs. John Roland Anderson, Glendale, Calif.; Richard Crandall, Menlo Park, Calif.; Mrs. Helen R. Kahn, San Francisco; Fay R. Levy, San Francisco; Johanna Davis, Berkeley, Calif.; Charles Copp, Alea Oahu, Hawaii; Mrs. Charles Copp, Alea Oahu, Hawaii; Brooks Farrar, Alhambra, Calif.; and Mrs. Elizabeth Farrar, Alhambra, Calif.

Connective Tissue Yields Clue To Muscular Disease

London—(Science Service)—New clues suggest that connective tissue, not muscle fiber, harbors the culprit that causes crippling muscular dystrophy.

Damaging changes occur in muscles when this disease strikes, leaving its victims weak and crippled. Two American researchers have now discovered that the muscle fibers in "a number of cases" have been invaded and are being destroyed by enzymes that are found in connective tissue.

Enzymes Present

Connective tissue binds to-

gether and is the support of the various structures of the body. These enzymes are present in the connective tissue that surrounds the decaying muscle fibers, Geoffrey H. Bourne and M. Nelly Golarz, department of anatomy, Emory University, Atlanta, explain.

'Leakage' Suspected

Their third theory suggests that some of the elements in muscle fiber may be "leaking" past without being used by the muscle. The enzymes in connective tissue surrounding these muscles might be pre-

venting the normal replacement of this leakage.



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