

Average Number of Accidents Listed For City's Pools

In recent weeks much discussion has centered around the city recreation program, especially the two municipal swimming pools, Hawthorne and Jackson.

Most apparent in the public's view of the facilities is the safety and security of the children, and adults, using the two city pools.

According to accident reports filed with the city recreation office, swimming accidents this summer are "about average."

Recreation Director Robert Haworth told the Mail Tribune that the number of accidents inflicted while swimming are "normal," compared to previous years.

Few Serious Accidents

Mishaps at Hawthorne Park pool so far this summer have totaled some 30 cases, with only several considered "serious." Total for the vacation period last year was about 55, Haworth said.

At Jackson park there have been few swimming injuries except for the many complaints received prior to the resurfacing of the bottom of the pool.

The only major accident occurred Sunday afternoon when Jerry Dyer, 8-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ford, was taken from the bottom of the pool and administered artificial respiration by park attendants. The boy was taken to the hospital, but released yesterday. The attending doctor said recently that Young Jerry is "just fine." He noted that "... I didn't have to do much, as the manager

Tool Will Aid Nuclear Research

London—(Science Service)—A new tool expected to be of great value in research aimed at eventual control of the hydrogen bomb's fusion reactions has been developed by three University of Illinois scientists.

They report here in the current British scientific journal, Nature, that the so-called spin energy resonance techniques may be "of value as a diagnostic tool in high-energy plasma research." Plasma is the name given to a gas that has nearly equal numbers of ions and electrons but is electrically neutral as a whole.

Making a plasma react through fusion is being tried in controlled thermonuclear research. Drs. T. C. Marshall, R. A. Kawcyn and L. Goldstein developed the nuclear and electron spin resonance method to detect shifts in a magnetic field. A magnetic field is believed to be the best "container" for the extremely hot plasma undergoing fusion.

Unnamed Plant Has 520 Chromosomes

Ithaca, N.Y.—(Science Service)—Five hundred twenty chromosomes have been found in an unnamed plant discovered growing on Inca ruins in Peru.

Prof. Charles H. Uhl of the New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University was sent the plant from Peru. He counted the chromosomes, which help determine heredity, and announced the

Mountain Road in West Idaho Found Full of Hair-Raising Switchbacks

By RICHARD CHARNOCK
Grangeville, Idaho—(UPI)—Up here in the mountains of western Idaho, folks smile when you ask about their favorite landmark—Whitebird Hill.

"It's not bad, really," they tell you.

Then, winking at one another, they exchange—for your listening enjoyment—stories about the trials and tribulations of some who drove this link to the state's northern panhandle.

If you've driven in the mountains before, don't let them scare you. But if you get a twinge of vertigo when you see blue sky on the other side of hairpin turns, better think it over before you try to drive it yourself.

"It's not the road that's bad," says Dick Welch, a man who drives Whitebird several times a day, "but the motorists who use it."

Climbs 2,900 Feet

Whitebird Hill is the mountain you must cross if you drive on Highway 95 between the towns of Whitebird and Grangeville. The main route through this part of the state to the northwest, it climbs more than 2,900 feet in 12 miles.

It has 13 full-fledged switchbacks which weave back and forth along the side of the mountain. At the summit you can look down a slope too steep for a man to stand upon to the canyon more than 1,000 feet below.

My wife and I made our first trip over this famous hill (remember the hill in "The Long, Long Trailer"?) just the other day.

Thanks to some unexpected car trouble, we rode over it behind a pickup truck on a length of tow chain. Welch, a 32-year-old road construction foreman for Idapine Mills, was our good samaritan.

"Have you ever driven mountain roads before?" he asked, before we started. I said I had and told of some interesting scares I'd had in Montana, Utah and Arizona.

"Then you shouldn't have any trouble," he said. "I'll drive about 25 miles an hour, steady, and take it easy on the curves. Just stay right behind me and don't use your brakes unless I signal."

Smiling through tightly-clenched teeth, I made a show of assurance and we started up the hill.

Told About Switchbacks

Welch had told us about the switchbacks—cut like terraces on the side of the mountain—and about the wide turnouts on the curves.

The first three or four miles we climbed steadily but so smoothly I commented to my wife:

"This is a snap! Wonder why everybody says it's so tough?"

I was so proud of myself I didn't look too closely at the course ahead and the pickup towing me. Welch swung out wide on the curve but I—about nine feet of chain behind him—cut the inside.

We rounded a 180-degree turn—I on two wheels, tires squealing all the way.

"Nice curve," I told my wife, sweat popping out on my hands as I tightened my grip on the wheel. I imitated a laugh to show her it was nothing more than I expected. I heard her swallow.

Grade Became Steeper

After that first switchback, the grade became steeper, the turns sharper. We started climbing faster. Soon, a large truck loomed ahead. The driver signalled it was clear

and we whisked around him, then into another turn.

Sweat trickled down my side.

"This could be a bear in the winter," I observed to my wife. She agreed and I asked her about the view.

"It's beautiful," "Wish I could see it," I said, crouching over the steering wheel and watching—staring hypnotically, actually—at the rear end of Welch's pickup.

The higher we climbed I began to notice the wide turnouts on each of the hairpin turns. Road-wise truck drivers were pulled onto some to allow passenger cars to get around them. I saw several house trailers, too, the cars towing them stopped with their hoods up.

Sights Pointed Out

As we neared the summit, Welch signalled for a stop and pulled onto one of the turnouts. We stopped, climbed out and stretched our legs while our guide pointed out the

sights in the valley below. It was a beautiful view, indeed, just as my wife had said. There a thousand or more feet below us wound a canyon shaded by the afternoon sun. A hay barn sat in the middle of a small valley—so tiny it looked like a dollhouse. Mountains ringed the horizon.

Welch told us of Chief Joseph and the Indian battles fought through the canyons and across the mountains in front and below us. He pointed to tiny logging roads he helped build in distant hillside forests.

"Well," he said, "we're just about to the top. Better get going if we want to make Grangeville before the garage closes. What do you think of our hill now?"

"Not bad," I admitted. "It's a road to respect but not to be scared of."

But I know how why folks hereabouts smile when some fellow like me asks about it.

4-H Club News

Busy Beavers

The August meeting of Meadows Busy Beavers 4-H club was called to order by Ruth Ellis, president, at 8 p.m. Friday, Aug. 12, at the home of Stan Hall. Eight members and two visitors were present. Visitors were Mrs. Stan Hall and the grandmother of Steve and Stanton Hall.

Treasury contained \$12.79 at last count.

We will wait till fall to do anything about our community project, as we can't plant shrubs till the fall.

Although Joyce McCollum has attended only one meeting she has had three meetings at the home of Mrs. Ellis, the sewing leader, and finished her project.

A motion was made and seconded that we buy two hoses and a bucket for the use of livestock members. The money will come from the treasury. Demonstrations will be given

by Ruth Ellis, John Bush and Charles Mose.

Meeting was adjourned and demonstrations were given by Bill Ellis and Stanton Hall.

The next meeting will be held in the home of Wes McDonough on Sept. 17, at 8 p.m. Cynthia Pleasant, Secretary.


Daffy Dills

The monthly meeting of the Daffy Dills flower club was held Saturday, Aug. 6, at Mrs. C. W. Anhorn's home. Mrs. Anhorn checked the record books. We discussed our entries for fair.

Pictures were taken of the members and Mrs. Kay, our judge by Joe Cowley of the Medford Mall Tribune. Elaine, Cheryl and Patti took pictures of the members. The meeting was adjourned by president Judy Frink.

A game was brought by James Anhorn. The refreshments were served by Elaine.

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