

KOG Association Anticipates Long, Dangerous Season

Salem - Directors of the Keep Oregon Green association, studying reports of an all-time record low snowpack in Oregon at their annual meeting in Salem recently, predicted that the early uncovering of combustible materials in the forest "may fore-shadow possibilities of a highly disastrous forest fire season" this summer.

"If the situation doesn't improve rapidly forests will be tinder-dry before long," according to Robert P. Conklin, U. S. Plywood corporation official and president of Keep Oregon Green. "Our only salvation is the possibility of a wet spring and summer."

Conklin said lack of moisture in the woods, coupled with a hair-trigger situation created by the Columbus Day blowdown, could mean the need to close many forested areas. This is within the authority of the state forester, he added.

Littered With Debris "Our forests are littered with a tremendous amount of debris, and if a fire gets going in one of the areas, there is no telling where it will stop," he warned. "This year, more than any other in the past, people who work and play in our forests must exercise extreme caution with respect to fire."

Conklin said forest industries in Oregon and government protection agencies are gearing themselves for an intensive campaign of fire prevention and rapid attack on any fires which may start. He pointed to such joint efforts as those carried out last summer by independent radio networks used by logging operations and which served as lookouts for arsonists in the Jackson and Josephine counties area.

"However," Conklin said, "the most effective tool to safeguard our forests during threatening time is the cooperation and help of all people in their careful use of fire and observance of fire warning signs and signals."

Campus Day Slated At Linfield College McMinnville—High school seniors from throughout the Northwest have been invited to the annual Campus Day at Linfield college March 30 to receive a first-hand look at college life.

The preview of life at Linfield will include interviews with professors, sample classes, do-it-yourself laboratories, a style show, double header baseball game, tours of fraternity houses and sorority chapter rooms, a vespers service, a banquet, and the annual fraternity song contest.

There will be ample time for students to meet professors and to explore the various academic departments at Linfield.



PLUGS FOR WOMEN—Capt. Viola Sanders, USN, director of the WAVES, said in San Francisco that the space program "shouldn't differentiate from women if they are qualified." She is visiting major naval commands throughout the San Francisco area. (UPI)

School News

St. Mary's High Editor Mary Ann Carnegie, and reporters Stephanie Hollen and Susie Latendresse

First prize in the annual talent show was awarded to the "Forest Sax" who were Michelle Ely, Marilyn Hull, Mary Ross, Tara Hill and Jeanne Ross.

The talent show featuring a variety of dances, songs and skits was staged by the junior class recently.

The junior class opened the show with an act done to the theme song "Showtime on Broadway." Sixteen acts followed and included everything from frilly clowns to a hair-raising wildman. Singing was a main part of the varied program and dances formed another major portion of the evening's entertainment.

Co-chairmen for the project were Annette Burich and Mike Hutchinson. Abstract decorations depicting Broadway were constructed by a

committee headed by Pat Barnum, Rick Rementeria acted as stage manager; Robert Stevenson was in charge of tickets; and Jeff Randolph headed publicity.

An impersonation of Boris Karloff done by John Schuchard took second place. John played an autoharp for background music as he narrated the story of Anne Boleyn "with her head tucked underneath her arm"; then sang about "Me and My Mummy."

A dance routine to the song "Mississippi Mud" performed by Anne Depner, Susie Latendresse, Barbara Heinzman and Stephanie Hollen, received third place.

The award was a trophy on which the names of the three winners were engraved.

Don Zelenik, master of ceremonies was assisted by Annette Burich.

Mrs. Ann Hamilton of the American Cancer Society brought a film on lung cancer for the students recently. Dr. Florian Shasky was present for the film and answered questions.

"Signal 30" was run recently, courtesy of Capt. Clyde Fichtner of the Medford police. The film was a warning of the danger that attends breaking traffic laws. It was brought to the school because some of the boys who had seen it made the arrangements for faculty members to preview the film and for the presentation.

Sister Marion, school music consultant for Oregon, visited St. Mary's Monday and Tuesday. Sister attended the Marian choir rehearsal and was present for many of the private lessons, acting as an adjudicator.

Gordon Rancey, associated with the State Mental Health program, was a guest recently.

Rancey spoke to sophomores and seniors on alcoholism, its dangers and its control. The students learned that alcohol consumed at an early age is the cause of emotional as well as social problems. Each session was then opened up into a question and answer period.

News About Servicemen ABOARD MINESWEEPER Seaman Apprentice Geary M. Garrett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Geary E. Garrett, route 3, Medford, is now serving aboard the ocean minesweeper USS Acme, a Pacific Fleet vessel which is participating in a major amphibious exercise being held off the coast of southern California.

SEEKS WINGS Second Lt. Stanley P. Shogren of San Mateo, Calif., son of Peter S. Shogren, 1705 South Columbus ave., Medford, has entered United States Air Force navigator training at James Connally Air Force base in Texas.

Bill Proposes Revealing Annual Interest Charges

Salem - (UPI) - A plea for "truth-in-lending" was met by charges of "technical difficulties" at a hearing Monday night before the Senate Committee on Financial Affairs.

At issue was a bill that would require retail outlets to disclose the annual rate of simple interest they charge.

Sen. Don Willner (D-Portland) sponsor of the bill, said if it passes, "consumers will know possibly for the first time" how much interest they actually are paying.

The bill was supported by the Oregon Savings and Loan Association, six credit unions, the AFL-CIO, the Grange, and the Oregon Farmers Union.

Retailers opposed it. They said it was unnecessary, would confuse the public, and would be "impossible for dealers to administer."

J. D. MacEwan, speaking for a group of Portland retailers, said it is "normal business practice" to quote interest on a monthly rather than a yearly rate. He said retailers would experience "technical difficulties" in changing the ways they describe interest.

Willner said the public is confused by five methods currently used in figuring interest.

Clarence Brooks of the Grange added the bill only seeks "open faced truth." Charles Wentworth of the Oregon Auto Dealers Association replied it would be impossible to figure auto contracts on the basis of simple annual interest.

Frank Geiger of Meier and Frank stores said the bill would penalize reputable dealers in an effort to reach a few unethical ones. He said it would be a big job for Meier and Frank to figure annual interest rates for people who buy items each month on the revolving charge account system.

Willner conceded a bill before the U. S. Congress, sponsored by Sen. Paul Douglas (D-Ill.) would make an Oregon law unnecessary. But, he said, "No one knows if the bill will pass."

Ullman Introduces Car Shortage Bill

Washington - (UPI) - Rep. Al Ullman (D-Ore.) has introduced a bill intended to reduce a shortage of railroad freight cars which has been particularly severe in the West.

Ullman said the shortage was "especially harmful" to the western lumber industry because of its need for longer, wide-door cars.

The bill was seen as an incentive to railroads to maintain more cars. The Interstate Commerce Commission would be allowed to take the level of freight car ownership into consideration in determining the rate a railroad would pay for use of cars owned by other railroads.

Similar legislation has been introduced in the Senate by Sen. Warren G. Magnuson (D-Wash.).

Your Money's Worth

By SYLVIA PORTER Copyright, Hall Syndicate, Inc.

WOMEN AS HEADS OF HOUSEHOLDS

The number of U. S. households headed by a woman now has climbed past the 10 million milestone, and in this spring of 1963, an astounding total of more than 18 out of every 100 American households is headed by a woman.

Not in our country's history has so many women been the sole or primary income-producers, buyers and financial managers of so many households. Just since 1955, the number of households headed by women has more than doubled. As recently as 1950, the proportion of households headed by a woman was 14 per cent; it's now up to 18.5 per cent. In contrast to the total of households headed by women, those headed by men are only around 4 million. (The balance of our 54,852,000 households are headed, of course, by husbands and wives.)

In social welfare-minded government circles, the reasons and implications of this trend are coming in for mounting attention. But even among businessmen who are aware of the significance of our changing population "mix," there are few who recognize the challenges and opportunities inherent in the fact that women now dominate so many millions of households. What are some reasons, implications?

A first obvious reason is the fact that women in the U.S. on average outlive men, and so in their older years they become household heads simply because they are widows. In almost 8 million households the woman is a widow and the average age of women heading households is 58. In the 35-44 age group the total of woman-headed households starts to rise steeply, hits a peak in the 55-64 age category.

A second obvious reason is the rate of separation and divorce in the U.S. In another 1.5 million households the woman is separated from her husband. In 1.2 million she is divorced.

A third obvious reason is the large number of women who never marry. In almost 1.5 million households the woman is single.

A fourth obvious reason is the extent to which women have become wage-earners and financially independent in recent years. Only a few decades ago, women who were widowed, separated, etc., would have been compelled to live with relatives because they couldn't earn the paychecks to finance living alone. Now, 55 per cent of the separated women, 37 per cent of the widowed or divorced women and 44 per cent of the single women are working. These percentages dwarf the total proportion of women in our work force and the proportion living with their husbands who are working.

Finally, an obvious reason is the development of our social security and private pension systems in this generation. Again, women who a few decades ago could not possibly have headed their own households after losing their husbands can now swing it because they do have pension checks and they have, or can earn extra income as well.

What does this imply to businessmen? To me it merely implies a great and growing need for "smaller" products and packages in hundreds of areas - ranging from food to refrigerators. Of the 10,131,000 woman-headed households more than 5,540,000 are headed by a woman who is an individual, and chances are six out of seven this woman is completely alone. To huge numbers of these, the family-size package is irritating and wasteful. Surely it implies a great and growing need for recreation and community activities aimed at pleasing the older woman who is widowed, divorced, single. While tourism leaders in our country may deny this, they are flagrantly neglecting this woman's needs - and there are many among these women who have plenty of time and money to spend on leisure activities.

What does this imply to officials in Washington? In the words of Dr. Paul C. Glick of the U.S. Census Bureau, "A responsibility to help the needy among these women keep eating and sheltered." Moreover, Glick repeatedly emphasized in our talk that, "these women are at ages when doctor bills become heavy and they have only their Social Security checks to rely on."

The trend toward more woman-headed households will continue to reach new peaks, for our whole population is living longer and women still are outliving men. It's more than time for us to wake up to this phenomenon in our society, to give it the searching analysis it demands, to find out what it means to all of us.

Promotion of Ashland Area Facilities Reviewed at Lunch

The Mt. Ashland ski area and the Oregon Shakespearean Festival will work hand-in-hand in bringing tourists to southern Oregon, the Medford Chamber of Commerce roundtable was told Monday.

Speaking were Bill Brooks, Medford, local ski enthusiast who is promoting the Mt. Ashland ski development, and William Patton, Ashland, general manager of the Oregon Shakespearean Festival.

Brooks, who recently returned from a trip to Europe for skiers, reviewed what the Bachelor Butte ski development has done for the Bend, Ore., area. He mentioned that Bend was one of a few places that had snow this year along with Mt. Ashland.

"Persons will travel thousands of miles to ski," he said, commenting that California ski groups had chartered 11 airplanes to Europe this season. He added that this was a 35 per cent increase over the previous year.

Commenting about the Bend area, Brooks said that in a two-week period near New Year's, some 15,000 ski lift rides were bought. He stressed that Bend is in an isolated area and commented on the income to the area for food, lodging, gasoline, and such items, that had been made during the two-week period.

Patton stressed that the Festival has tried to get a winter season theater operating in Ashland. Such a theater would fit into the ski program, he continued, since it would provide entertainment in the evenings. Such a program also would encourage student actors to remain here, making early rehearsals for the Shakespearean plays possible, thus lengthening the season.

Benefit From Festival Patton explained that Ashland is not the only community which benefits from the festival. Patrons are lodged in motels from Yreka, Calif., to Grants Pass, he explained, adding that the festival "got good support in its building program" from the Grants Pass motel owners.

He urged the Mt. Ashland ski resort backers not to exaggerate what they have to offer the skier this year. In this way they will not be disappointed and will want to return.

This point also was stressed by Brooks.

"The Mt. Ashland ski area has a great potential. Let us not get too greedy," He referred to inflated prices for essential services needed by the tourists. He mentioned that when this happens, the skier may not return, or will drive an extra 100 miles to return home.

Plans Mentioned Plans to develop Mt. Ashland as a ski area were mentioned as early as the mid-1930s. Harold Wall mentioned that he and his wife skied on

Mt. Ashland Oct. 4, 1939, and later on Memorial day in 1940.

Snow is on the north slope for a considerable time before and after snow is visible on the south slope. This was explained due to the steepness of the south slope, prevailing winds, and the southern exposure.

The ski area will be reached by a road approximately seven miles long from an interchange with Interstate 5 at Siskiyou summit. Brooks commented that there are few slides on the slopes due to the trees. He concluded by saying that the

slopes have sufficient rise to qualify for Pacific Northwest S.K.I. association competitive meets.

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