

# The Hood River Courier.

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No. 51

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## S. C. LANCASTER TELLS OF PLAN

### LOST LAKE TO BE SITE OF BIG CAMP

Reed College Students to Have Charge of Cuisine—Enterprise Announced at Club Meeting

The enterprise of a dreamer, but a dreamer whose dreams have come true, were given stimulus here Monday night at a banquet of the Commercial Club. Samuel C. Lancaster, a poet who is also a practical man, who has written in heroic measure in climatic grades, in bridges and causeways, in the Figure 8 and curves of Crown Point, the very visionings of an artist brought to reality, told of another dream. His simple story here among friends who had contemplated the wonders of the forested area with a quickening of the thoughts, of plans for a summer camp on the shores of Lost Lake, bore marks that make any story appealing to one's fellow men. It was a great human interest story.

Mr. Lancaster, in the manner of a sincere conversation, told of his motives in establishing the summer camp, where, it is anticipated, 200 folk each day will seek recreation in a region that is a little bit of Paradise. And this is what he said:

"Not long ago I had a call to go to southern China. They wrote me that I would get \$500 per year and expenses, and if this didn't suit me to write them what I wanted. It developed that it would be a task requiring the rest of my life—the rest of my life in China. Then, the folks back in my old home state, Tennessee, asked me to return there. My home town (it was Jackson, Tenn.) proposed to join with the county and the state in attracting me back there. I called in my three daughters and the four grandchildren. My wife was there. I asked them to stand up. I asked them if they would go back with me. The grandchildren, of course, didn't want to go. My daughters preferred the Northwest. It was then that I settled on this new dream and sought the advice of my old friend, Tom Sherrard, Oregon national forest supervisor. And, when he told me that he would do anything in his power for me, I sought the owner of the 100 acres, which we will utilize in our Lost Lake camp, and secured my lease. I realized that I could engage in a task that would give me fitting employment for the rest of my days."

Mr. Lancaster announced his complete plans. He has just consummated also the lease of 72 acres at Bonneville, and, with the cooperation of the Forest Service, will equip a small camp at the site. He has also secured these recreational centers will result in visitors seeing in leisurely fashion the Columbia gorge, the Hood River valley, the environs of Mount Hood and the trails around Wabikon Lake and down Eagle and Herman creeks.

"My friends told me, when I broached my plans, that I knew nothing of commissary or cuisine, and I solved that by going to President Scholz, of Reed College," said Mr. Lancaster. "I was heartened by his whole-souled support. I made him commander in chief of this part of my plans, and he entered enthusiastically into plans that call for the participation of students of the Home Economics department of Reed College. While Reed College as an educational institution will have nothing to do with these plans, the board of regents offered their hearty support. We were gratified in the offer of cooperation from the Oregon Agricultural College and the University of Oregon."

"These students, who will attend to the cuisine, will also aid in the entertainment of guests. They are musicians or otherwise fitted as companions for those who go to the camps for a rest among the quiet forests in the shadow of the great mountain."

Mr. Lancaster stated that it was proposed to interest the students by the offer of a bonus in profits. Plans also call for the setting aside of a graduated increase of the growing profits to be utilized for scholarship funds for Reed College students.

Camp equipment will be shipped by rail to Doe, on the line of the Mt. Hood R. R. Co. along about July 1, and thence it will be taken by truck to the lakeside. Elaborate preparations will be made, Mr. Lancaster cited the startling evening cascades of fire sent hurtling over Sentinel Rock at Yosemite National Park by those in charge of far-famed Camp Curry. He declares that nature will produce as sensational effects at sunset and dawn in her painting of the snow peak, but he proposes to beautify the lake, itself, at night with varicolored spotlights, sent dancing on the waters from Red Hill or Zigzag Mountain. Radio receiving sets will be installed immediately.

The following Reed College students were present: Misses Helen Pippy and Verda McCallum and James Hamilton and Robert Brady. Mr. Lancaster introduced the young men and women as typical of the students who would be in charge of camp cuisine and entertainment. He stated that already President Scholz had been in touch with lecturers and entertainers, of nationwide note, who would visit the camp and give addresses of entertainment and of educational value.

W. D. E. Dodson, executive secretary of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, declared that Hood River, Portland and Oregon should become interested at once in plans for the full development of the scenic assets of Mount Hood. He suggested that Hood River folk should organize themselves into a society called "The Keepers of the Mystic Mountain." Mr. Dodson stated that the Portland Chamber had under consideration plans for raising \$50,000 for publicity on the scenic asset of the state.

C. C. Merrill, chaplain of the Fourth Infantry Regiment, U. S. Army, who is here from Camp Lewis, visiting his sister, Mrs. J. D. Smolin and family, of the Upper Valley, declared that he remarked to his wife as the two motored up the Columbia River Highway the other day that he had never seen more wonderful scenic effect than viewed from along the Gorge side road. Mr. Merrill, who was stationed with his regiment for several months with the Army of Occupation along the Rhine, characterized the Columbia gorge as far superior in its appealing natural beauty. Mr. Merrill told numerous stories that brought spontaneous laughter. He was no more seated

when Mr. Lancaster was on his feet bidding him attend sessions of the Lost Lake campfires this summer.

Thomas H. Sherrard, national forest supervisor, announced plans of the United States Forestry Service in backing the development of the lake region. He also stated that the forestry service, although originally it was prone to withhold appropriation of funds until such time as the Cloud Cap Inn Co. gave assurance of hotel development, had decided to proceed with building a loop road from the Mount Hood Loop Highway to the hostelry site. He declared, however, that the hotel company, in case conditions were not complied with would have their permit revoked and the property would be placed on sale. The conditions for hotel improvement, Mr. Sherrard said, were placed at a minimum in fairness to the organization.

Mr. Sherrard stated that the forestry service had laid out innumerable campsites for individual use and that club members would be at the disposal of the public. He suggested that the best of them be taken by the Hood River Fish and Game Protective Association, members of which have been active in developing the scenic country.

J. B. Fredrick, chairman of the road committee of the Commercial Club, announced that this body had been instrumental in securing a county court appropriation of \$2,500, and that an additional \$1,500 would be raised by private subscription for application on the Lost Lake Highway from Doe to the bounds of the Oregon National Forest. The \$4,000 will be matched by a like amount from the Forestry Service. Mr. Fredrick started the subscription list with \$25 from the game association and a \$10 personal donation.

## INTEREST IN ELECTION WARMING UP

Interest in politics is growing warmer here than usual before a primary election, and it is now anticipated that the vote tomorrow will be comparatively heavy. The primary vote at the last election was less than 40 per cent. Practically all interest is centered in Republican contests.

Political observers here to date concede Hood River county to Olcott, but it is declared, Patterson has made considerable gains and it is said that his strength is now pressing Olcott. White, it is declared, will get a strong vote, having the support of a large number of ex-service men as well as a strength among representative citizens. Rumors have been going the rounds that Charles Hall, whose local support up to date has been considered negligible, though this used to be his home, will carry a considerable vote here due to the activities of the Ku Klux Klan. Observers, who claim to have received authentic information declare that Ku Klux workers, who have been active here have enrolled many new Hood River valley members, who have pledged their votes to Hall.

While a negligible element here will support Gwinn, Hood River county is declared, will go to Gwinn for Sinnott, the Republican incumbent, for representative in congress in this district.

While Judge L. N. Bowers is opposed by J. W. Morton for representative in the legislature, the former has the endorsement of every faction of the county, and his nomination by a heavy majority is predicted.

A vacancy will occur in county offices only in that of the assessor, Jasper Wickham, the Republican incumbent, who is popular in most all county circles, is being opposed by E. C. Miller, Mt. Hood rancher.

## WORK ON GOLF COURSE DUE SOON

Within the next three weeks work will be started on building the Hood River valley's new golf links. H. Chandler Egan, of Medford, ex-amateur champion of America, who has been engaged in laying out a municipal course in Portland, has been secured to lay out the local grounds. Mr. Egan, who was here Sunday before last to make a thorough survey of the Oak Grove place, said:

"In all my experience with golf courses, I have not seen any land lying better for the development of the ideal links than you have here. The natural, rolling expanses are certainly pleasing to a golfer. They can be turned into a course at a minimum of expense. Your local enthusiasts are to be congratulated on their choice of property."

Last Thursday the committee announced that S. Benson, just back from Long Beach, Calif., where he spent the winter, had given \$5,000, which will be utilized in building the first 9-hole unit of the course. Mr. Benson made his gift contingent on the club's sale of a total of \$30,000 in bonds for the purchase of the property. The committee, however, considers this a mere formality, as more than \$15,000 has already been placed, and it is anticipated that the rest will be taken within a few days.

The Oak Grove ranch has won the praise of numerous Portland citizens, among them Rabbi Wise, who made a complete survey of the ground. He pointed out that four of the holes will be in sight of both Mount Hood and Mount Adams. It is expected that a membership of 100 will be secured in Portland.

Work of making a topographic survey of the place will be started immediately. The plans call for the laying out of a full 18-hole link, although only nine holes will be built at once. The other nine holes will be added at a later date.

## NICHOLS SAYS ROADS ARE BEING BETTERED

County Roadmaster Nichols announces that the Neal creek road, penetrating the Upper Valley district by way of the Billy Sunday ranch, has been opened to traffic. Scrapers have been used and crews this week have gone over the route removing all debris. It will be in good condition, he says, for traffic next Sunday.

Mr. Nichols this week has a crew of men opening up the Lost Lake Highway above the confluence of the Lake Branch and West Fork of Hood river. It is anticipated that many motorists will travel out to this section Sunday.

## ANNUAL EVENT IS PROPOSED

### PLANS LAID AT BLOSSOM BANQUET

Smith is Toastmaster—Pythian S... Serve Sumptuous Feed... Event is Success

Apple Blossom Festival was on its first impetus in 1919 when the Portland Ad Club journeyed here to join the Commercial Club in celebrating the season of blossoms. During operations and scattering blossoms prevented the resumption of plans for an annual celebration the next year, but this year the Ad Club promises another delegation of 500, and the Commercial Club and local citizens propose to make Hood River Apple Blossom Day an annual affair, growing more elaborate each year.

The local club plans on initiating the season annually with an apple blossom banquet, the first of which was given Monday night, when a sumptuous dinner was served at the club rooms by the members of Wauna Temple, Pythian Sisters, F. A. Orsted, president of the club, and Ernest C. Smith, toastmaster, elaborated on suggestions for a permanent blossom festival. Mr. Smith, in an eloquent talk, told how 40 years ago, when the district was a forest of wilderness and homes and garden spots were set in little cleared spaces, the first blossom festival was a family affair.

"But travelers over the trails carry news," said Mr. Smith, "and they spread the story of the quality of fruits grown on those earliest trees. More trees were planted and then came an era of unprecedented development, and advanced order of things, stimulated by the construction of roads. Today the bees come down to plunder the nectar from millions of blossoms. We indeed live in a paradise and it behooves us to invite the world to come and join us in the enjoyment of it."

The high school orchestra gave several selections that were highly appreciated and resulted in rounds of applause. Rev. Goddy, who was called on, at repeated requests, recited the audience with a good story.

To C. C. Crew, the club secretary, should go much of the credit for Monday night's banquet. He worked indefatigably for the affair.

Leslie Butler Monday night announced that he had just received a telephone message from W. P. Merry, of the Portland Ad Club, who told of the enthusiasm of that organization over Sunday plans.

## LAUNDRY BIRDS PAY VALLEY VISIT

It was a day of rare birds for the Hood River valley last Thursday, and the Columbia Gorge Hotel became for a time a gilded cage of gigantic proportions, the domicile of members of the Royal Order of Pheasants and Blue Birds, the former the male of the species of laundrymen of Oregon and the latter representing the deadlier sex. Guests of the Oregon Laundry Owners' Association from the Commercial Club, Mayor Scholes delivered an address of welcome. Greetings were extended by Geo. R. Wilbur, representing the Commercial Club. Chief Royal Pheasant C. W. Helm, of Portland, who presided at the luncheon at the tourist hostelry, was presented by The Dalles Pheasants with a mounted specimen of China pheasant. His daughter, Miss Bernice Helm, chief Royal Blue Bird, was presented by S. W. Lawrence, Portland laundryman, with a handsome gold wrist watch. Selections were given by the orchestra accompanying the laundry delegations. Miss Gladys Johnson, an accomplished violinist of Portland, accompanied by Miss Helm on the piano, gave solos. The luncheon was attended by 171.

Before the laundry party left by automobile over the Columbia River Highway for The Dalles, where they spent the next two days at their annual convention, they were escorted through orchard sections of the valley.

J. A. Elliott, builder of Mitchell's Point Tunnel, who is now in general charge of activities of the Bureau of Public Roads in Oregon, and W. G. Peters, who will take charge of the Mt. Hood Loop construction within the Oregon National Forest, were here Tuesday on route to inspect the north end of the road. Mr. Elliott stated that J. E. Clarkson, contractor who built six miles of new grade last summer, now has a crew engaged in cleaning up the grade. His men were interrupted by the sudden snowstorm of November. The camp having been marooned by the deep blanket of sleet.

Mr. Clarkson has also been awarded the contract for 13 miles on the east side of the mountain, which will connect the road up with the old Barlow road," said Mr. Elliott. "He will begin construction as soon as weather conditions will permit. While we are in the vicinity we will inspect rock quarries, for we wish to let a contract immediately for surfacing 10 miles of the highway this summer."

Mr. Elliott says the spur road to Cloud Cap Inn will probably be begun at once, and plans also call for activity on the road connecting Wapinitia in Wasco county, with the Loop Highway.

## LOOP ROAD WORK TO BEGIN SOON

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