

Mount Hood Mecca of Thousands for Climb

Ho for the mountain top!
That is the cry that will ring from the throats of two hundred hardy climbers, and be echoed by those of two thousand more watching them, when the great 17th annual American Legion Mount Hood Climb swings into action on this Saturday evening, July 17.

Famous throughout the Northwest, the Climb is one of the most popular outdoor events ever sponsored by a rural community. Although comparatively few of the participants will actually scale the mountain, thousands will drive to the Climb headquarters at Legion camp to enjoy the scenery, join in the singing, watch the fireworks, follow the climbers' progress, hike a bit themselves, eat the big meals prepared by the Legion and Auxiliary, and sleep under the stars.

The program will be officially opened with a buffet-style dinner served around 6 o'clock Saturday evening. Later there will be a campfire program of talks and community singing. At 10 P. M., 108 flares will be lit outlining the course to be followed by the climbers in the morning. A figure "17" in green flares on the snow field will remind on-lookers that this is the 17th annual climb, and finally, rockets and other forms of pyrotechnics will be set off at the summit.

Some time before midnight the big crowd will settle down for sleep, using the ground as a mattress. At 2 A. M. the climbers are to be roused, have breakfast, and an hour later, start for the summit. At 8 A. M., when they will have covered more than half the distance, the hundreds in camp will be having breakfast and preparing for hikes of their own.

Church services will be held at 11 o'clock.

About noon lunch will be served at both Legion camp and the mountain top, which the climbers will have by then reached. At 3 o'clock or thereabouts, every one will be back in camp, the big event will be over, and hundreds of tired but happy people will begin their way homewards. Entertainment will be furnished during lunch by the Mount Hood Breakfast club, consisting of instrumental and specialty numbers. Featured will be Parkdale's Musical Mountaineers and nine-year-old Claire Hodgkins, a violin prodigy who has been starred on KGW-KEX.

Entertainment around the campfire Saturday evening will be of a more varied and elaborate nature than in previous years. Yodelers, an accordion soloist, tap dancers, and community singing will be highlights. Guy Cordon, state commander of the American Legion, is to be a guest and speaker. Another guest will be

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Al Weisendanger, Eagle Creek forest ranger, who serves as forest service publicity director in the Northwest. Weisendanger will show colored motion pictures and slides to the crowd assembled about the campfire.

Chief of staff for the Climb is Kent Shoemaker. Chairmen of committees are as follows: Frank Gilbert, secretary and treasurer; Vera La Combe, kitchen chairman for the Women's Auxiliary, and Floyd French, for the Legion; Percy Buck, publicity; Harold Buck, Saturday evening entertainment; Charlie Howe, Sunday program; Harold Wells, head guide for climbers; Bob Fuller, pyrotechnics; Bill Parmelee, short wave radio.

Swim School Opens With Big Splash

With a lusty shout and a booming splash, about 500 children are taking to the water this week. The occasion is the annual Hood River county swimming school, conducted over a six weeks' period at Koberg beach, that every child may become a good swimmer.

Monday, 88 boys from Hood River locally answered the call, and yesterday, 112 girl attended. Today an even larger number of boys is expected from the country districts which, with the country girls coming in tomorrow, is expected to swell enrollment to 500 by the week's end. Prince Koberg, who is conducting the school, predicts that registrations will total 1100 before the session is over.

There are two classes a day, beginners and advanced, lasting from 9 to 12. Beginners are simply taught to swim, but children in the advanced class learn a variety of strokes, the crawl, side stroke, and back stroke. Life-saving lessons are also offered the expert swimmers, with the chance to pass the Red Cross life-saving tests.

There is no charge whatsoever, costs of the school being paid by the Red Cross, the American Legion and its Auxiliary, the city of Hood River, and Hood River county. School buses are used to bring the children in from country districts.

Swimming instructors are Prince Koberg, Edward Shoemaker, and Clara Koberg.

DRIED FRUIT SHIPMENTS LISTED IN BOOK

Dried fruit shipments from the Port of Portland during the past 10 years have averaged in excess of 45 million pounds annually, or slightly more than 10 per cent of the total exports of dried fruit for the entire United States. This and many more detailed facts concerning dried fruit shipments from Oregon are shown in a new brief statistical handbook on this subject just issued by the Oregon State college extension service.

The Port of Portland business in shipments of dried fruits is mostly dried prunes and dried apples. The average quantity shipped during the 1927-36 period was 45,719,427 pounds. Of this total, the average shipments of dried prunes during the ten-year period amounted to 44,260,142 pounds, of which an average of 26,440,952 pounds went to foreign countries and 17,709,190 pounds to other domestic ports.

Dried apple shipments to foreign ports averaged 1,053,563 pounds for the period, and an average of 3,789 pounds a year of other dried fruits were shipped abroad. The average water shipments of dried apples and

miscellaneous dried fruits to other domestic ports was 401,933 pounds a year.

The tabulated data lists 43 foreign countries to which dried prunes were shipped from Portland during the 1927-36 period. Of these countries, Germany ranked first on the basis of ten-year averages, although the United Kingdom, which ranked second appears to have been the more regular customer. During recent years, Poland has ranked third in importance as a market for Oregon dried prunes. The averages place France fourth, Holland fifth, and Italy sixth.

Most of the domestic water shipments of dried prunes from Portland during the ten-year period went to Atlantic coast ports, with moderate amounts to Gulf ports. This trade was steadier from year to year than the foreign business.

The handbook, showing yearly trends in shipments for the various dried fruits, was compiled in the office of the extension economist from bulletins of the Portland Merchants' Exchange with the aid of student help furnished by the National Youth administration. Copies will be available soon from county agents and other extension offices.

Had Special Gibbet for the Use of Alchemists

The medieval alchemists did not enjoy a very high social standing. It was popularly believed that they consorted with demons in their efforts to learn the secrets of nature. Moreover, as time went on the profession was afflicted with an increasing number of charlatans, more adept at extracting gold from the pockets of gullible patrons than from lead. Consequently alchemy was officially frowned upon by both church and state, according to an authority in the Chicago Tribune.

Men of keen scientific abilities, like Bacon and Aquinas and Raymond Lully, were compelled to keep their scientific interest as secret as possible. Bacon, one of the greatest scientists of all time, was threatened with imprisonment by Oxford university unless he ceased experimenting. The Dominican order prohibited the study of alchemy among its members. In 1404 all alchemists were ordered to leave England, although this edict never was thoroughly enforced. On another occasion a certain duke of Wurttemberg, who probably had been fleeced, erected a special gallows for the exclusive use of alchemists. Appropriately, the frame was gilded.

Because of the need of secrecy, and because they believed that the common knowledge of how to make gold would do away with the divinely ordained poverty of the masses, the alchemists either kept notes in code or described their experiments in a fantastic jargon that both amuses and exasperates translators. For instance, they called gold the red lion, silver the lily bride, sulphur the yellow scorpion, mercury the dragon, and lead the black crow. Some of their terms may still exist, as in aqua regia (royal water) sal ammoniac (salt of Ammon), oleum (oil of vitriol), sugar of lead, butter of antimony, and cream of tartar.

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Columbia Mill Workers Meet Here

Representatives from 42 locals of the Lumber and Sawmill Workers' union in the Columbia River district council held their monthly meeting at the Liberty theater in Hood River on Saturday and Sunday, all but six locals being represented. Delegates numbering 250 were nominated to attend the Pacific Coast Federation of Woodworkers' convention to be held at Tacoma, Wash., July 15-17.

Al Hartung, president of the council, was in charge of the meeting. A prominent guest and speaker was Ray Nousha, Aberdeen, who is editor of the Timber Worker.

The union is at present affiliated with the A. F. of L. in the carpenters' division, but a vote is now being taken in the various locals on the question of joining the C. I. O., results of which are being tabulated and will be announced at the Federation meeting.

The next monthly meeting of the district council will be at Cathlamet, Wash., August 7 and 8.

More than 12,000,000 names are listed in the directories of the Bell Telephone system.

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