

# Story of Mongold

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of Mongold began to be hauled in piece-meal. The apartments were salvaged from Fruit Valley war housing in Vancouver, Wash. They were sawed, and hauled in on trucks, re-assembled, painted, roofs repaired and chimneys built. When completed, or re-completed, they were something less than a bride's dream, but they were eagerly snatched up by the families who had been living in tents and others who had been driving long distances to work on the dam.

By early 1949 all 48 apartments were full or overfull. As one observer put it "There weren't a dozen kids in each apartment, it just seemed like it." A new grammar school was built at Detroit to accommodate the influx of new children.

By then Mongold's fire station was fully equipped and manned to supply fire and police protection and ambulance service. The so-called Mess Hall was being used as an office for the Army Engineers while the permanent building was completed. About sixty single men were living in the barracks and plans were underway to set up an adjacent trailer park to house more workers.

## D. D. R. A. Formed

As soon as people had time to catch their breath after getting settled, they looked around them. Most of them had lived in cities with buses by their door, shopping around the corner, organized play for their children and wide variety of entertainment at hand for their leisure hours. Now they found themselves isolated by poor roads in what looked to them a wilderness. No doctor, no dentist, the nearest grocery and dry goods store three miles away, no place equipped for the children to play and the sole entertainment facilities a distant movie playing Westerns.

So a meeting was held and the Detroit Dam Recreation Association was formed. The first order of business was a playground for the small fry. With warmer weather sand boxes and wading pools were provided. A softball diamond was built and promptly pressed into use. A weekly newspaper was set up. Square dances, a sewing club, study club, bridge and pinochle club and Teen-ager club were organized. A fishing derby and cribbage play-off were soon underway. Shortly the first tuning up of instruments heralded the beginnings of what was to become the fourteen-piece orchestra known as Mongold Mavericks.

At first the Mess Hall had been used in the evenings as a common room but now the members decided that the multiple activities deserved a place of their own and the men pitched in and built a community center—the Hut—complete with kitchen and rest rooms. The Hut was soon furnished and equipped with juke box, card tables and ping pong equipment, and the first dance proved to be a huge success.

From that time until the Hut was finally dismantled this year the door was never locked and the hall was

seldom out of use. It provided a place for the teen-agers, Sunday school classes, children's parties and impromptu get-togethers.

By this time the Detroit Dam Recreation Association was a going concern financially and ready to tackle other ventures. A contract was negotiated for garbage disposal for the apartments and trailer court, housing over thirty families. Laundry had always been a headache in the cramped quarters of the apartments and trailer court so the association purchased and installed a large, complete self-service laundry.

## Beginning of the End

By late 1952 the peak of the job was over and the workers began leaving for other places and other jobs all over the world. The first resident engineer, Col. Jack Miles, went to Peru, S. A.; the Jeff Boyers and "Woody" Burgesses to Washington, D.C.; the Bill-Smiths and the Keith Pinkstuffs to Hanford, Wash.; the Charles Staytons to L.A., Calif.; Col. C. C. Davis to Lake Champlain, N.Y.; the Plato McFees to Casablanca, N. Africa; the Lewis MacDaniels to Alaska and others to all points north, south, east, and west, wherever heavy construction is now in progress.

As the people left, the apartments, barracks, mess hall, the trailer court, and finally the fire station were sold and dismantled. The Detroit Dam Recreation Association had a final banquet for its members and disbanded, donating the remaining \$300 in its treasury for the purchase of incubators for the Santiam Memorial hospital. The windows, doors, and other salvageable material from the Hut were hauled to Detroit, where they will be used, fittingly, in the new Community building. In May of this year four of the remaining apartment buildings were given for salvage to Canyon organizations, the Idanha and Mill City posts of the American Legion; the Eagles' Auxiliary and the Fire and Community building for the City of Detroit.

Still living in the apartments that stood on highest ground are three families that saw Mongold's beginning and will see its ending—namely the Claude Becks, the Ted Browns and the Bill Shufords.

So this is a story of the beginning and ending of the town of Mongold and a tribute to the people who lived there and built a dam and a special tribute to a man who never lived to see the dam.

## Garden Club Holds Spring Flower Show

Mill City Garden club held its late spring flower show in the Presbyterian recreation room. A total of 177 entries included beautiful iris of every color, flowering shrubs and arrangements.

Mrs. John Neal of Lyons and Mrs. Elmer Taylor of Mehama judged the exhibits. Clerks were Mrs. Harold Pound and Mrs. Charles Dolezal.

A baked food sale chaired by Mrs. R. Olmstead as held in connection with the show to help pay for two pairs of drapes for the Santiam Memorial hospital donated by the garden club.

Flower show chairman Francis Dolezal thanks all who helped make the flower show a success and Doralee Wilson for typing the master copy schedule.

**OREGON REPUBLICAN WOMEN MEETING MONDAY, JUNE 8**  
The Salem unit of the Oregon Federation of Republican Women will

meet at 2 o'clock on Monday, June 8, at the Senator hotel. This will be the last meeting of the summer, the fall meeting will be held the second Monday in September.

Mrs. Winifred Pettyjohn will tell of her recent cruise through the Mediterranean and the Holy Land.

The usual white elephant sale will be held following the meeting.



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## THE FOURTH "R"

Some American pioneers believed that the limit of education was the teaching of "readin', 'ritin', and 'rithmetic." How far education has gone beyond that crude idea!

It has dared so many spectacular things that unless Man's spiritual progress keeps pace with his scientific achievements, the results may destroy him.

What we need most today is education in the most important "R" of all—**Religion**.

Here is where the Church—through its Sunday Schools and Vacation Church Schools—steps in to help save civilization from itself. We must strengthen the fourth "R" or the other three will mean nothing.

Unless education is made to include the knowledge and the use of moral and spiritual facts, all the rest will be in vain.

If you are not interested in the Church and its educational program, think of it in terms of what it can do for your children. Think of it in terms of insurance against what must be a black future for us all if the higher values are neglected.

## THE CHURCH FOR ALL . . . ALL FOR THE CHURCH

The Church is the greatest factor on earth for the building of character and good citizenship. It is a storehouse of spiritual values. Without a strong Church, neither democracy nor civilization can survive. There are four sound reasons why every person should attend services regularly and support the Church. They are: (1) For his own sake. (2) For the sake of his children and nation. (3) For the sake of his community and nation. (4) For the sake of the Church itself, which needs his moral and material support. Plan to go to church regularly and read your Bible daily.

| Sunday          | Monday          | Tuesday         | Wednesday          | Thursday       | Friday          | Saturday      |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Proverbs 22 1-6 | Isaiah 54 11-15 | Ephesians 6 1-4 | Colossians 3 12-21 | Timothy 3 1-13 | Timothy 3 14-17 | Psalms 78 1-8 |

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