

# REV. PRESTON STUDIES NEEDS OF RECREATION

Editor's Note—This is the first of three articles by Rev. T. Davis Preston on the needs of our city for a system of community recreation as discovered by an experiment carried on last summer under the direction of a committee appointed by the city council of which Mr. Preston was chairman. Before entering the ministry Mr. Preston was engaged in community recreation under the Y. M. C. A. organization for which he was trained.

There has been a distinct consciousness during the past five years that Klamath Falls has grown up. It has long since left its village (childhood) days behind. It has safely passed its infancy (adolescent) period; it has now reached its city (adult) stage. We have faith to believe it is going on to ripe maturity and strength. Like many growing, husky young things which have, especially, a fast growing period—it did not, and perhaps could not, be expected to distinguish all the values and do all the things which later wisdom makes plain.

Like the too fast growing boy the city for a decade or more has been busy and "put it" to keep fitted in suits. For the past few years, now, we have had time to breathe and look around. Some have even made the discovery that the Klamath Falls country has something more than lumber and mills, sagebrush and altitude. Many are discovering that it has cultural potentialities, strategic location, unparalleled scenic attractions, all material and aesthetic, which has attracted a sizeable and growing population of vigorous and ambitious folks.

To ten thousand or more of these folks these things are all comparatively new, and, while they have hardly had time to take it all in it appears an attractive prospect.

**Attention Diverted**  
Well, it's a poor community which does not produce some seeds of visions and dreamers of dreams, and it's a matter for congratulation that our city has its share and that their vision is not all of stumps and board feet, potato collars and wool. Their visions encompass happy, healthy people seeking opportunities for honest toil in a community administered for their well-being, through the God-given natural felicities for the enjoyment of increased leisure. An enforced cessation from the scramble after material things has diverted our attention to more substantial and satisfying prospects right at our own doors as witness an interest in our natural scenic beauty—not only to attract tourists but for our own edification; an interest in the possibilities of our lakes for boating and water sports; our park and open spaces for recreation; the northern environs of the county for winter sports; our gardens, avenues and streets for trees, lawns and flowers; our canal for fencing and landscaping; not to mention the more seductive cultural interests in the field of drama, music, literature and education.

**Happy Omens Appear**  
These are all happy omens of a new and better day in which we may all rejoice. That we are living in a new day is abundantly evident. What it may yet hold in store economically has yet to be revealed. We live in hope. Certain things are clear, however, the outstanding of which is that those who are fortunate to have employment have it on shorter hours, and those who have none have great need to maintain the morale of themselves and their families. They need attractive facilities for, and encouragement in the use of this increased leisure time. This is a community-conscious, progressive city.

A universally recognized function of civic government is the promotion of public recreation. This may range all the way from a small, voluntary effort with meagre facilities, to a comprehensive system of public parks fully equipped and staffed under a regularly salaried department of city government. In hundreds of American communities, for many years adequate organization and facilities for public recreation has proven of such value as to make it an essential function of good government and civic responsibility.

In view of our local situation, and the demands of the new day, an urgent question arises—what should Klamath Falls do?

## WEATHER

The Cyclo-Stormograph at Underwood's Pharmacy shows the barometric pressure in an "unsettled" area and the outlook is for occasional local showers with the general conditions being fairly good over Sunday.

The Tyens recording thermometer registered maximum and minimum temperatures today as follows:

High .....82  
Low .....51

Forecast for next 24 hours: Generally fair; moderate temperatures.

The United States weather bureau reports .03 inch precipitation for the 24-hour period ending Thursday at 5 p. m.; 6.95 for the month to date; 9.70 normal; 7.02 last year.

When you equip every member of a team with a pair of knives for his feet, and then hand them a club apiece, you have what is almost certain to be the makings of a great athletic contest.—Coach Harry Kipke, speaking of hockey.

## Urging Boycott of Germany Boycotters



While Congress was considering a resolution to investigate Nazi propaganda in the United States, New York was the scene of one of the greatest pro-Nazi demonstrations in this country when more than 9,000 Hitler sympathizers crowded Ridgewood Grove stadium to urge a counter boycott of boycotters of German goods. Here Joseph Schuster addresses the gathering; white-shirted storm troopers stand by.

## Muskrat Trapping Brings Large Revenue Into Klamath

**By JOY EVANS**  
Trapping, which has been more or less desultory in Klamath county the past few years, leaped forward this past winter to develop into a small but thriving industry that brought thousands of dollars into Klamath, due to the prevalence of muskrats.

Some interesting data and figures on rat trapping was obtained from Lawrence A. "Dud" Rolph of Rocky Point, who has trapped in the north and on the Oregon coast for nearly 20 years, covering both high and low country. Rolph was recently the recipient of one of the daily award prizes from Sears, Roebuck and company for one of the most correctly prepared fur pelts which will be entered for the grand prizes at Sears' fifth national fur show at Chicago.

**Estimate 30,000**  
After a check by Rolph of fur buyers, the game department of the state police and other trappers, an estimate of 30,000 rats taken in Klamath during the season was considered a conservative figure. The average price received on pelts was 75 cents, fluctuating from 25 cents when trapping commenced early in the fall to 90 cents at the height of the season when pelts were in their prime. Over 20,000 pelts were purchased by buyers in Klamath Falls and heavy shipments were sent out by trappers to other markets.

**Adds Many Families**  
Due to the fact that little equipment or preparation is necessary for this type of trapping, numerous families who would have had to go on relief from lack of work in other fields were able to make a living. Even farmers throughout the valley earned extra dollars to help pay their taxes by trapping the rats that had penetrated the labyrinth of irrigation canals, laterals and even swampy corners of fields.

Escape of rats several years ago from fur farms in this district to Klamath lake where they rapidly increased in numbers and traveled to other points through various waterways was the start of this industry that reached its climax from a financial standpoint in 1933 and 1934, despite the fact that the trapping season was shortened nearly six weeks by a mild winter.

**Good Breeding Stock**  
Good breeding stock which primarily had been shipped in from the north, climatic conditions similar to Alaska, the high altitude and an abundance of marsh and tule land enabled the muskrats to retain the points which make their pelts in demand on the fur market. The little animals are easily caught in small traps that can be purchased for a nominal sum, and only the labor of covering the trap-line daily and preparing the pelts is required.

Rolph said that it is commonly believed muskrats multiply fast, raising four or five litters a year, whereas, through knowledge he has been able to obtain, they usually have but two litters a year unless there is an exceptionally long season of warm weather, such as this will probably be, then they sometimes raise three. It was interesting to note that the rats did not commence building their winter food houses among the tules until almost November last year, whereas their usual custom is to make winter preparations much earlier.

**Swamps Fertile**  
The big swamps and marshes bordering Klamath lake were probably the most fertile trapping territory, and it was reported that thousands were taken on the California Oregon Power company ranch that covers a vast acreage on the east side of the lake. There was also much trapping on the Klamath river, practically all canals and in the Big Marsh in the northern part of the county.

Many are of the opinion that rats should be protected and trapping of them allowed only during the regular open season from January to April while others believe that they are a menace, tunnelling into dikes and ditch banks. The suggestion was made that the industry be allowed to thrive and become permanent by introducing muskrats into the Lower Klamath

## RFC Approves Drainage Loans

WASHINGTON, April 21. (AP)—The Reconstruction Finance corporation today approved loans to assist in refinancing 12 drainage districts throughout the country. The loans approved include: Canyon Creek irrigation district, Madison and Fremont counties, Idaho, \$20,000; White Point irrigation district, Jackson county, Ore., \$92,000; Squaw Creek irrigation district, Deschutes and Jefferson counties, Ore., \$70,000.

## GUILD PLAY NEW TO NORTHWEST

Accompanied by the ceaseless rhythm of booming drums, and staged in the picturesque setting of the old Oregon Trail, "Distant Drums" is well on the road to completion. This is the newest play to be presented by the Little Theater guild.

The play will be given at the Pelican theater, May 3, which will mark its first appearance as an amateur production in the Pacific northwest. Its original opening occurred in 1932 when it was presented by Guthrie McClintic in Washington, D. C., with Miss Pauline Lord carrying the leading role.

This fact, as well as the construction of the play itself lends significance to the typical western character of the vehicle. Miss Lord, who was born in San Francisco, is related to William Falne Lord, pioneer and one-time governor of Oregon.

Action of the drama is built around the travelers in a wagon train en route to Oregon in the 1850's, and the Guild is carefully scouring Klamath and Jackson counties for authentic relics to be used as props and for costume purposes. Some of these relics will be borrowed from a collection at Jacksonville, and others from Captain O. C. Applegate, well-known local pioneer.



Lee Jacobs, local manager of the Mason Ehrman company, who invites independent retail grocers to visit a model grocery store in Medford Sunday.

## GROCERS INVITED TO MODEL STORE

Independent retail grocers of Klamath Falls and surrounding country have been invited to inspect a model grocery store which has been constructed at 412 Main street, next to the

Roxy theatre in Medford, and to hear the principles of the I. G. A. plan explained and the qualifications necessary for membership. Mason, Ehrman and company, wholesale food distributors in Oregon since 1886 with headquarters in Portland and branches in Klamath Falls and Medford, as well as points in Idaho and northern Oregon, are sponsoring the I. G. A. plan and have constructed the model store in order that the grocers of this community could see in operation an actual model of a modern food market and to see the latest merchandising methods.

The I. G. A.—which means the Independent Grocers' Alliance of America—is not a chain yet it is the largest group of owner-operated stores of its kind in the world.

The model store will be opened for the inspection of retail grocers only, at 1:30 Sunday afternoon at Medford, where the meeting will be held. Lee Jacobs, local manager for Mason, Ehrman and company will go to Medford with his entire office and sales force.

Mr. Jacobs says: "We are expecting a large delegation of retailers to drive to Medford to attend this meeting. Independent retail grocers of this section have been looking for some plan that will afford its members efficient administration, mass buying, store arrangement, field supervision, merchandising and advertising. For months we have been investigating various plans now in operation and after careful consideration, determined upon the I. G. A. because it is in operation in thousands of stores in 44 states of the union and is

the most complete plan in the United States today." S. Mason Ehrman, president; Albert H. Wer, secretary-treasurer, and other executives from Mason, Ehrman and company of Portland are going to Medford by airplane to attend the meeting.

## Senator Dunne Resigns Offices

PORTLAND, April 21. (AP)—His resignation as state senator

from Clackamas, Columbia and Multnomah counties was submitted late Friday by Joe E. Dunne, candidate for the Republican nomination as governor. He also resigned as Port of Portland port commissioner.

It's curious and interesting how in history there is always just one figure who counts. The families of the famous disappear like so many leaves in a wind.—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt.

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