

# PEOPLE . . .

## Success Of Recreational Program Lies Chiefly In The Supervision, Ohio Plant Director Points Out

By BETTY VAN BUREN

"Next to food, recreation is the most important thing in the world."

This was the opinion voiced this week in a talk with an Akron, Ohio director of recreation, who for 28 years has served in that line of work.

"Recreation," said Paul Sheeks, director of recreation at the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio, "is doing anything different from the daily routine work and is necessary for young and old alike."

In Initial Stages The younger folk of Huron will be the opening of Teen Town last week have already been afforded accommodations for such activity. And the older people of the city, in a project now in the initial stages of preparation shall be offered a program sometime after the first of the year.

Sheeks, former South Dakota football player, in charge of 40 other department workers, is responsible for meeting the after-working hours demands of 13,000 employees of the rubber plant. This number is equal to the present population of the city of Huron.

Teen Town, now under the direction of Helen Buchanan, will after January first have a new director. This, with the exception of salaries to be partially paid from taxes, will be on its own financially. The city recreation levy, okayed by voters in the April election, at the present time gives the members of the Huron Recreation Board \$11,000 with which to work.

"That sounds like a lot of money but as disclosed in a talk with Sheeks it is not until the project is well on its way that one realizes the financial needs necessary to give the people what they demand."

The local board in an original budget made plans for three swimming pool lifeguards, three to five playground supervisors besides the director and assistant director, yet to be secured. In salaries alone this took up over \$10,000 leaving the remainder for various athletic and other activity equipment.

From experience, it is the belief of the 58-year-old director that "athletics will draw the attention of the majority, yet music, dramatics and artcraft will also undoubtedly be in strong demand." In time he thought there would be a demand for card clubs and dances.

"For our 13,000 workers," added the man, "we have a program that compares favorably with any university in the offerings of our sports department and recreational service."

When asked his definition of a successful recreational program, the veteran leader replied that "the sparkplug of the whole thing lies in your director. He must be willing to work seven days a week and more than eight hours a day; maintain a clean, respectable rating in the community; be able to get along with all people and to meet the many problems that may arise."

This, in addition to the cooperation of the whole community plus lots of voluntary help, would in the end, according to Sheeks, assure a most efficient and successful recreational program.

The Firestone Company plant has, from the demands of its employees, established two 18-hole golf courses, a large club house with bowling alleys, swimming pool, cafeteria and dining room, gymnasium, auditorium, club rooms, library and a lighted athletic field for the department leagues. At the latter, baseball, softball, horseshoe, padminton, shuffleboard, volleyball, archery and various other athletics are carried on.

Will Meet Demands "This is what has been the demand of our people," remarked the director, "and in time that will probably be the demands of the people of Huron."

With the youth of Huron and the older group having the advantages of recreational facilities at their disposal, Sheeks believed that as the project grows so will the demands.

"One of the most important things to remember in establishing a recreational project," he added, "is to sort and break into groups those interested in the various types of entertainment. With a 'live wire' at the head of

each you then have a good start on your project."

A little work, a little play, then more work as the demand for more play increases, will in the end, it was gathered from the opinion of Sheeks, assure to the city of Huron a well-rounded, city-wide supervised program for the recreation-hungry people.

Sheeks, his wife, and son, Paul Jr., were visiting here this week at the home of his brother, George C. Sheeks, 555 Ohio Ave. S. W., leaving the latter part of the week for Mitchell to attend a reunion of the Mitchell school football team of 1907. Twelve of the 14 man team which that year won the state championship, 21-6 in a game played with Aberdeen at Redfield, were present at a two-day reunion Thursday and Friday.

Sheeks was the first four-letter man the University of South Dakota ever had, participating not only in football, but baseball, basketball and track. This was in 1910-12 prior to his coaching at the LeMars High School, LeMars, Ia., and at Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Ind. Then upon completion of two years in the service he entered the employ of Firestone.

Planes Destroyed In Luverne Blaze LUVERNE, Minn., Nov. 1 (UP) Firemen brought under control late Friday night a \$65,000 blaze that gutted a hangar and office and destroyed 10 airplanes at the McDowell Sky Ranch.

W. Earl McDowell, the owner and a pioneer Rock Creek airplane, said only two craft escaped the flames, which also destroyed a car and some farm machinery. The planes, all light craft, had been housed in the hangar during an all-day rain.

The fire, believed to have started when sparks from a welding torch ignited inflammable materials, broke out late in the afternoon.

Doland Scout Dens Have Regular Meets DOLAND — The weekly meeting of Den One met at the home of their Den mother, Mrs. Harold Kline Wednesday evening with Den Chief Billie Schumacher in charge.

Maxie McNickle displayed his stone collection and Clayton Kline showed his book on sketches of dogs and how to deal with them. The new den song was sung and a new den call will be chosen at the next meeting. Lunch was served at the close of the meeting.

Den Two held its meeting at the home of Den Mother Mrs. Arthur Dennis with Bob Schumacher in charge. Larry Bales, a former Cub at Fairbury, Neb., joined the group, making an enrollment of seven. James Irwin, Duane Dovich, Dick Dovich, Jimmie Ruschenberg, Dean Dennis and Larry Bales.

Treats were served at the close.

Program To Precede Royalty Crowning WOONSOCKET, Nov. 2 — A program of music and a one act play will precede the crowning of the king and queen at the annual high school carnival here Thursday at the city auditorium. The usual games and stunts will follow the coronation.

Seniors Reign As Carnival Royalty WESSINGTON, Nov. 2 — Reigning as king and queen of the Wessington High School carnival were Coleen Murphy and Wilford Hiles, seniors.

The event was held Monday and gross receipts were \$650. Under direction of Miss Carla Brown the program opened with an operetta by the high school. "The Dizzy Baton," and the grade school gave a playlet "Little Red Riding Hood," under the direction of the grade teachers.

## Phone Company Announces Big Expansion Plans For Huron Area

A \$150,000 program to improve and extend telephone service in and around Huron was announced today by L. D. Johnson, manager for the Northwestern Bell Telephone Company here.

"We will improve our long-distance service by mid-November when four additional switchboards for long distance telephone operation will be put in service," Johnson explained. "Other parts of our program call for dial phones in rural Huron, extra lines in Huron, and changing farm lines from one-wire to two-wire lines."

Switchboard operators are handling nearly 23,000 long distance calls a month at present, he said, or about 4,000 a month more than a year ago. In 1940, the last previous year, they handled about 9,150 such calls a month.

Service Expands Additional dial central office equipment to provide facilities to serve about 400 more persons has been installed recently on the first floor of the telephone building. The Huron telephone office now serves more than 4,240 telephones, or about 440 more than a year ago, and over 1,200 more than in 1940.

The new addition to the telephone building is practically completed. New dial central office

equipment to provide service for about 900 persons, including those using farm telephone service, has been ordered and will be installed in the new addition to the building early next year, Mr. Johnson said.

Work was started here recently in improving farm lines, changing them from one-wire to two-wire lines, Johnson said. The two-wire or metallic line practically eliminates the noise caused by electric power lines which run parallel to the telephone line. Interference from adjacent telephone lines is lessened so that the hearing qualities are materially improved. The farm lines will be re-arranged so that not more than about eight customers will be served on any one line and the most rings each customer will hear will be only one other than his own.

When this farm telephone extension and improvement program is complete, late in 1948, farm service will be modernized to include all of the latest features. If the Huron telephone office now will be dial service, as in town, farm telephone users, when placing calls, will merely lift the receiver, wait for a dial tone and dial the number they want.

Install New Cable It is planned to place more new telephone cable in Huron some time in 1948. This will provide additional facilities to enable the company to furnish telephone service to some who have been waiting for it and others who may want it.

Every effort is being put forth in Huron to provide telephone service to those who apply for it as soon as possible, Johnson declared. The gross expenditures to extend and improve the service here, in erecting the new building, adding additional dial central office equipment, in enlarging the size of the switchboard by fifty per cent and in adding to telephone lines, he said, have been approximately \$60,000, to date.

Work now started and to be completed by late 1948, including the modernizing of farm telephone service at Huron and the laying of additional cable in town, will entail an additional gross expenditure of approximately \$150,000. The carrying out of this program, Johnson said, is part of the company's program to spend several million dollars in South Dakota to keep pace with the demand for service caused by the economic growth of the state.

## N. D. Youth Killed By Electric Wire

MADDOCK, N. D., Oct. 31. (UP) Glen Swenson, 22-year-old Sheyenne, N. D., youth, was electrocuted yesterday when he came into contact with a live wire while working on a dormitory at the Benson County Agricultural and Training School.

Swenson was working on the roof of the structure and had picked up the wire to get it out of his way.

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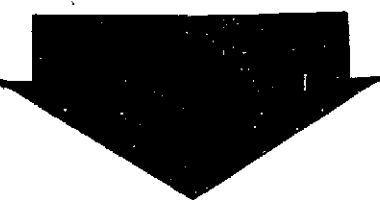
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If you are not approached by a solicitor please mail your check to the Huron Community Fund or drop it at the Community Fund Headquarters.

### ALL SOLICITORS

are requested to meet on the mezzanine floor of the Marvin Hughitt Hotel, Monday, Nov. 3, at 9 a.m.

# Huron Community Fund

Headquarters: Local Office of Northwestern Public Service Co.

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