

UNIVERSITY WOMEN HAVE FROLIC TODAY

Oregonian
Portland Organization to Be Entertained at Home of Mr.
and Mrs. William L. Finley This Afternoon.
6-6-31

BY FREDA GOODRICH MOWREY.
PLEASURE is given a decided preference over business in affairs of women's groups celebrated for the week end. This afternoon members of the Portland branch of the American Association of University Women will enjoy their annual June frolic at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Finley at Jennings Lodge, with a garden luncheon served. Mr. and Mrs. Finley will talk informally on their recent cruise in Alaskan waters. Mrs. Harry P. Cramer, president of the Portland branch, and Mrs. W. H. Thomas will assist the hostess.

LAW'S HAND HELD LIGHT

Oregonian
STATE BLAMED FOR RIVER
POLLUTION CONTINUING.

6-11-31
Governor Urged to Bring About
Enforcement of Statutes
Affecting Willamette.

Charges that the state board of health, the state game commission and the state fish commission were not enforcing the present laws which will prevent the Willamette river from being a "menace to public health," a death trap for salmon and practically a sewer were made in resolutions adopted last night by the Willamette River Improvement association at its meeting in the Jennings Lodge Community clubhouse. Citizens of Oregon City, Portland, Jennings Lodge and representatives from many civic and wild-life organizations attended.

A plea was made to Governor Meier to bring about the enforcement of the laws of Oregon on the Willamette river, particularly along the stretch from Oregon City to Portland.

It was charged that the state board of health has been lax in enforcing the laws regarding dead salmon and dead eels which fill the stream below Oregon City. Last year each of the mills gave \$150 to pay for collecting the dead eels and salmon and for disposing of them. Representatives at last night's meeting stated that it was known that a person could not put his hand in the waters of the Willamette without being exposed to some disease, that swimming had been forbidden, and that the recreational features of the river had been ruined.

For permitting the mills to pollute the stream the state game commission was taken to task in another resolution. Daily the stream is polluted so that it is rapidly decreasing the salmon run which the state attempts to maintain by expensive hatcheries, and destroying the small fry as they attempt to reach the sea, according to W. L. Finley, Jennings Lodge, who presided at last night's meeting.

The state fish commission received criticism for failing to provide adequate ladders for the lampreys and the salmon, so that thousands of fish and eels die at the base of the falls.

2 MEN WILL BE HIRED TO REMOVE EELS

Oregon City Enterprise
Program of Cooperation is
Outlined at Meeting
With Dr. Stricker

6-17-31
Fund of \$600 in Sight to
Start Work; Experiment
Research Proposed

PORTLAND, June 16.—(U. P.)—A program of cooperation between the various bodies affected by the menace will be put into effect this year in regard to the disposal of eels at the falls of the Willamette river below Oregon City.

This was decided today at a meeting of business, state, city and community representatives with Dr. Frederick Stricker, state health officer here.

The plan, as outlined by Dr. Stricker, calls for the placing of two men at the falls to remove and burn the dead eels. A fund of \$600, practically all of which has been subscribed, will be expended in the maintenance of a crew and the establishment of an experimental research.

The experiments will be conducted with a view to exterminating the spawn over a period of four or five years, Dr. Stricker said. In this manner, it is hoped to reduce the situation to an extremely low level.

The state game commission has appropriated \$100 toward the fund. Additional subscriptions have come from industries and communities directly affected by the pollution.

Fred S. Perrine, secretary of the Oregon City chamber of commerce, who attended the river pollution meeting in the office of Dr. Frederick Stricker in Portland yesterday, stated that after a fund of \$600 has been raised, two men will be employed to pick up dead eels and to catch as many live eels as possible.

The three industries here—Hawley and Crown Willamette paper mills and the Portland General Electric Power company—have pledged \$100 each and the cities of Oregon City and West Linn, the fish commission and the county court will be asked to complete the fund.

Those attending the meeting were W. L. Finley, noted naturalist; G. W. Houk of the Hawley Pulp & Paper Co., G. P. Berkey of the Crown Willamette Paper Co., Mr. Colwell of the power company, Harvey G. Starkweather of Oak Grove and Mr. Perrine. Dr. Stricker presided.

POLLUTION OF THE WILLAMETTE

Oregonian
6-20-31
In his recent letter to this newspaper, William L. Finley characterized the Willamette river as filthy—through the increasing introduction of sewage and other waste—and urged an immediate study and measures for relief. Such measures are admittedly expensive. Yet Mr. Finley did not exaggerate actual conditions, and in connection with the probable cost of a proper disposal of wastes it may be remarked that the public health is never, under other circumstances, set aside for reasons of expense.

It has been said, so severe is the depletion of oxygen in this pestilential water during the summer months, that a game fish must swim quickly if it would traverse the middle city and escape with its life. This statement, too, is undoubtedly well founded, and it affords a graphic, understandable illustration of the condition of a once beautiful river. It is to this river that, watch them as we may, many of our children go to play and swim. Yet the stream might well be the most healthful and comely of all our city's natural endowments.

There seem to be other problems of a more pressing nature. We are inclined to delay the provision for a proper disposal of wastes. The river is our sewer, and all who live below us are welcome to the foulness we send down. But in simple fact there is no problem, whether it is a bridge, or a street, or a park, or whatever it may be, so real and vital as this. Other and greater cities have been taught as much, and now are acting. We cannot long continue to avoid our duty—a duty in law and conscience—but certain it is that every year of delay makes the eventual reckoning all the greater.