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A NEW ZOO FOR PORTLAND

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"The zoo ought to be recognized as one of the most powerful means at our disposal to help dam and stem the tide of crime." So said Stephen Hawsis of the National Zoological Park at Washington, D. C. If one watches the throngs of parents and children, and especially in these times the numbers of servicemen ^{women} that visit the city zoos on Saturdays and Sundays, he can't help but realize the great educational and healthy entertainment value as well as the humanitarian thrill of seeing wild animals well cared for and happy in a scientifically modern zoo. ^{Wild} Animals very soon come to regard a cage as their own home, a source of safety and plentiful food, even if it is a little tame compared to ~~avoid~~ the danger and watchfulness of the wilderness.

The recent survey for Portland made by Robert Moses and associates, known as the "Moses Plan," strongly recommended a new and enlarged zoo for the City of Portland. With a team as ardent and ^{well informed} ~~determined~~ as Arthur M. Greenhall, Director of the Portland Zoological Park, and Kenneth Cooper, member of the City Council, the people of Portland may look forward to one ^{post war} improvement that ~~that~~ is very much needed and may become the drawing-card for tourists and visitors that are sure to be with us in the near future. ^{To strengthen the childrens' cause,} ~~only~~ recently Mayor Riley submitted his annual report to the City Council and further recommended that the Council give thought and study to the development of a new zoo and marine gardens (with an aquarium) this coming year.

Though an improvement of this kind may be more for the City of Portland, yet every citizen and child in the state should feel an ownership and pride in "his" zoo. Director Greenhall says: "It is my sincere belief that such a zoo would be an extremely important contribution to educational and recreational welfare of the community. The people of our state and city would have something in which they could feel a justifiable pride." Here is the program that ~~he~~ ^{he} should like to present.

^{The} Our outside enclosures and hoofed stock quarters would use the moat or so-called "bar-less" method of keeping the animals from roaming away. As a matter of fact, wherever possible the cell and jailblock appearance of the average zoo would be eliminated and bars excluded. Glass or indoor moats would

replace the bars. Habitat groups would be encouraged as much as possible and all exhibits would be "landscaped" either with actual foliage or other suitable backgrounds.

One feature which is very important is the inclusion of what ^{is called} ~~I call~~ the "Childrens' Zoo." Here children would be permitted to handle and pet domestic and tame wild animals under competent supervision. There would be plenty of understudy animals to prevent any one pet from receiving too much kindness. The ~~creatures~~ ^{subjects} would be exhibited in the roles of familiar friends of nursery rhymes, fables, Disney characters, Oregon folklore, etc. For example, Little Red Hen, Peter Rabbit, Bambi, , etc. The small enclosures would be scaled down to the size of children. The wealth of material here is inexhaustible.

Of course, there would be the usual animal rides. The aquarium would ^{provide} ~~give us~~ the opportunity of exhibiting and telling the story of conservation. ~~It~~ ^{we} should like to tell the story of the salmon and the steelhead. ~~We would like to have~~ a miniature hatchery in operation. The aquarium project is one that could be developed to fill many pages.

Now ^{for} some, very important features; ~~We want to~~ ^{one of which would} include a sizeable auditorium where motion pictures and slides may be shown, with lectures and demonstrations, too! There should be at least two small classrooms for study purposes, as well as a library."

There are a number of suitable locations in Portland to erect such a zoological park. Our present site is NOT one of these since it receives little sunlight and does not allow for expansion. It has no parking facilities and is far removed from adequate means of public transportation. I feel confident that through the guidance of the public and our City Fathers that a suitable location will finally be decided upon. ^{Mr. G's} My professional guidance is available at any time to assist in the selection of a proper site."

During the months of Sept. and October, Director Greenhall was in the East studying some of the modern zoos and conferring with Mr. Moses. He brought back a good idea of the type of zoo that would be an asset to our community.. Portland does not need a tremendous zoological park on the scale of Bronx Zoo,

~~St. Louis, or San Diego.~~

St. Louis, or San Diego. What we do need is a modern zoo, complete in every respect. Mr. Greenhall recommends certain novel and at the same time practical features, which would set the Portland Zoo aside as something unique and distinctive from any zoo in existence. It would include indoor areas to house those mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians which require heat. There would be an aquarium which if built according to certain ideas would be different from anything ever done before.

Who is this ZOO Director of ours anyway? Arthur M. Greenhall was associated with the late Dr. Raymond L. Ditmars of the New York Zoological Park for many years. He has had experience with animals in both the zoos of this country as well as the American tropics of Central and South America and the West Indies. He received his education at the University of Michigan, Columbia University, and New York University. He came to Portland in March 1942, and he is doing all he can to provide the sort of zoological park that a city the size of Portland should have, and deserves.