

Garberville--The Heart of the Redwoods



Looking north on Garberville's main street can be seen the many convenient businesses which provide the citizens' needs.



This hill-top view of Garberville shows the wide expanse of the city of over 600 residents.

Garberville Nestles in Sleepy Valley—But City Is Wide Awake

By HERB HOLLAND

One of California's most delightful cities, a pride of Humboldt county, is Garberville, which itself is justly proud of its community and of its locale. Garberville has taken unto itself the slogan, "The Heart of the Redwoods," for the California giant tree is at home no place more than in Garberville and its environs.

About this time of the year in Garberville, hunting becomes a major industry with the opening of the deer season. Many of the townspeople for a time desert their various occupations, but most return with a prized buck.

Ordinarily the more than 600 citizens of the Heart of the Red-

woods are engaged in the various business pursuits, and the lumber industry and sheep raising employ many of the residents of Garberville and surrounding communities.

Garberville is a thriving community approximately seven miles from the southern line of Humboldt county, and lies 480 feet above sea level among ancient California redwood trees. Perhaps

most impressive about the town's geographical site is the magnificent view it affords of the sprawling Eel river valley.

LOTS OF SUNSHINE

The town enjoys sunshine and warmth during more of the year than her sister county cities and has an annual rainfall average of 53 inches, but the weather is always comfortable.

Highway 101 is the main street of Garberville and brings thousands of tourists each year during the summer months and the hunting and fishing seasons.

Three hotels and eight auto courts provide adequate facilities for the vacationers, who come to rest, to ride, to swim or to indulge in the many other recreational outlets in which the area abounds.

The newest motel is one of several businesses recently constructed and has 32 individual units.

The ranching area surrounding Garberville includes at least 38,000 acres of sheep raising land. Leonard Robertson has 10,000 acres, Guy Satterlee and Cal Stewart have 10,000 and Fred Hurlbutt has 18,000.

When the deer hunting season opened September 16, one of the first bucks to be reported was a four-pointer brought in by 15-year-old Walt Nesbitt. The hunting was good for nearly all who went out, some reporting bucks in the first 10 minutes, and there were at least 10 killed the first day.

MANY NEW HOMES

The Garberville building program has included four commercial buildings in the past two years and over 25 private homes. In the near future the Garberville theater owners will start a new movie house and will increase the ca-

capacity over the present 300.

There are 425 telephone service subscribers and reports indicate 24-hour service may be provided. There are rumors about town that the telephone company may be in the process of sale to the huge Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company.

Garbervillians long have realized the importance of their children's education and several years ago erected an elementary school to take care of more than 200 pupils.

Principal Walter Hill said that this year the enrollment has topped all previous records with 270 students in the eight grades. This year three new teachers were added to the staff, bringing the total to nine, but the children have overflowed the new building. Several of the classes now must be held in a quonset hut in the rear of the main building.

SCHOOLS OVERFLOW

Many of the pupils are in the first grade and their bewilderment at the new surroundings was apparent last week as they wandered their way about. One little boy was a little more sophisticated than the rest; when he was seeking a friend during recess, he went to look in the "pool hall," his term for the playground.

Several of the classes must be held in the Community church building, and transportation is a big problem for the parents and children. Only 80 live in Garberville, and the others must get to school by buses, which often break down.

The high school students attend the South Fork school, and the southern Humboldt citizens are the only group in the county thus far to have adopted a unified school system for secondary pupils.

With the town situated on the much-travelled highway, Garberville garages receive a great many calls to accidents. But the fatalities are at a low percentage, there having been only five deaths in over 100 accidents this year.

The Garberville citizens have no city government, but are a part of the county system. City problems in the main are handled by a chamber of commerce. However, this year the chamber has had but one meeting.

ALERT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

President of the chamber of commerce is Sterling Knapp, local businessman. Vice-president is C. Earl Miller, publisher of the weekly newspaper, the Redwood Record; and secretary is Richard B. Tipton, tax consultant.

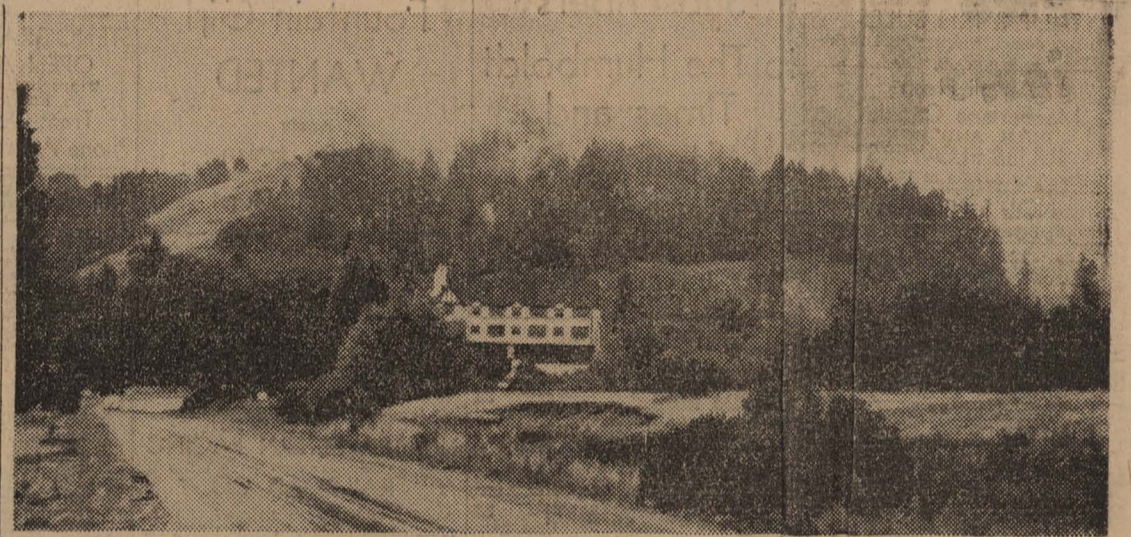
Miller has owned and edited the Record for nine years, and his paper covers an area of approximately 2500 square miles with 1000 subscribers. The paper covers the whole territory between the sea and the Trinity county line, south from Weott 65 miles to the southern Humboldt county line.

The famed Hotel Benbow, one mile on the highway south of town, is a rendezvous for local residents, vacationers and many personalities of the entertainment world. The hotel offers recreation of every sort from a fine golf course to horseback riding and canoeing.

TOURISTS FLY IN

Many who come to Garberville for vacations fly their own planes to the county airport a mile and a half from town. The field has a 3,000-foot runway, and extensive improvements are planned to make it one of the best in northern California.

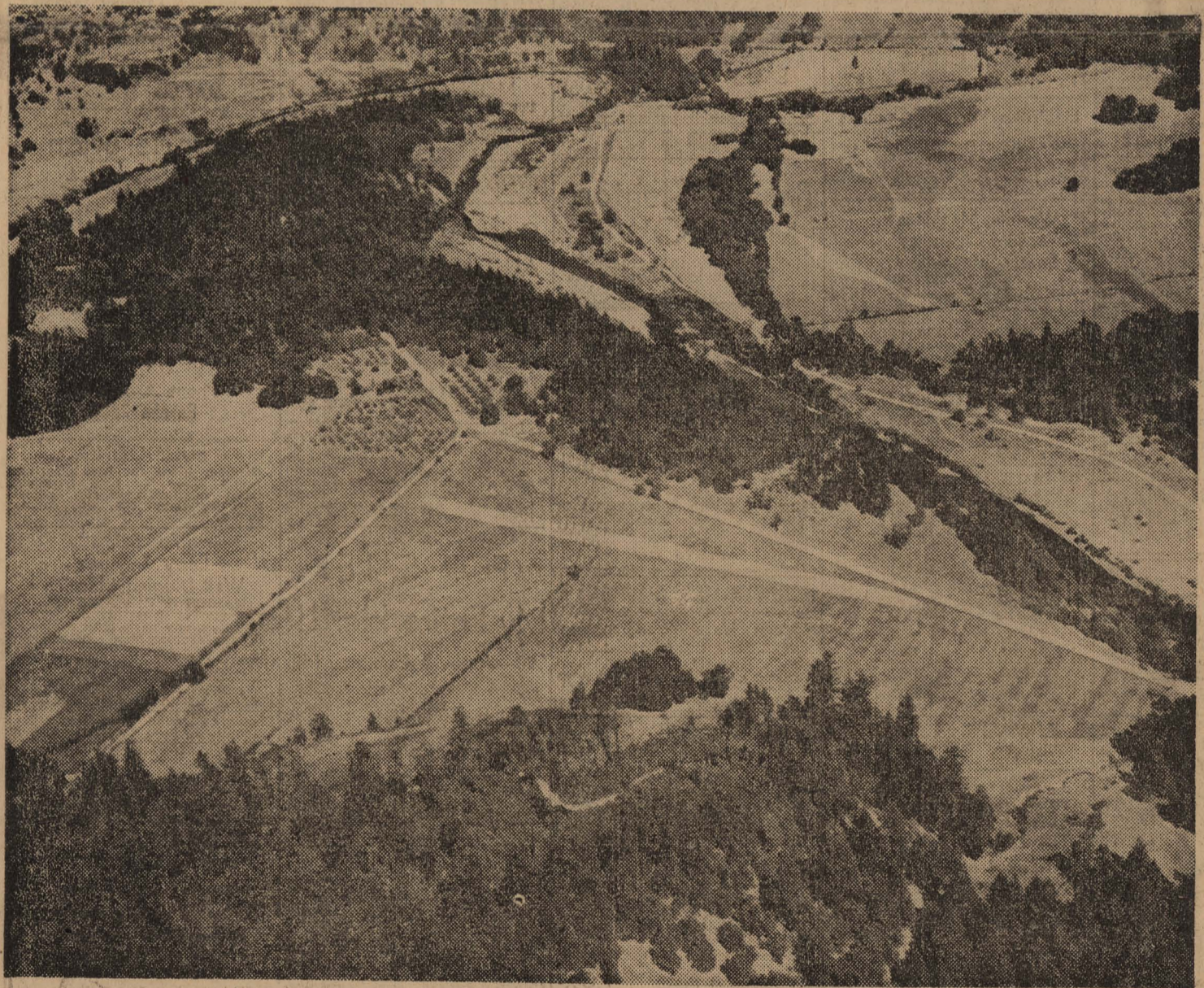
Recently Garberville citizens have been making plans for a new hospital, the nearest facilities now



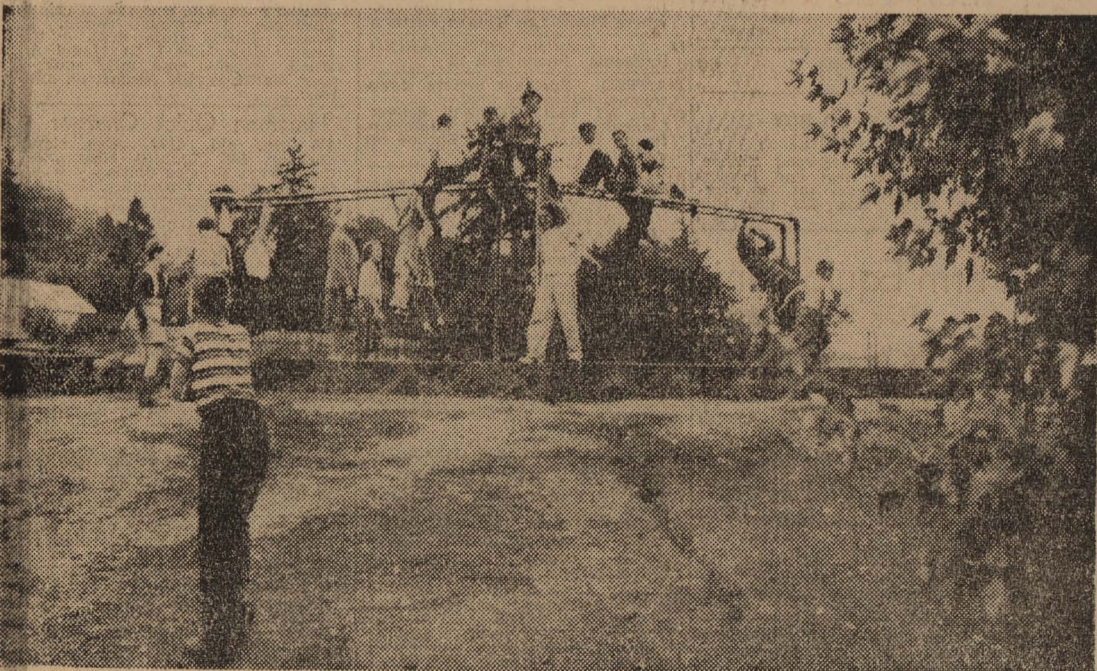
The famous Hotel Benbow is just one mile south of Garberville.



Some of Garberville's third grade pupils, shown in a drawing session under teacher Bonnie Knapp



The charm of Garberville is enhanced by the beautiful Eel River valley which it overlooks from its site among the redwoods.



The Garberville elementary school provides adequate playground equipment for its enrollment.

New Feature

Today the Times is starting a new feature for its readers with this complete page devoted to the southern Humboldt city of Garberville.

The editors would appreciate criticism of the article and the pictures, and hope that in the future every town in the county may have such representation in these pages.

A statistical review of Garberville includes notations of the ample police protection offered, the facilities of a volunteer fire department, and the multitude of recreation offered to the more than 600 residents.

There is a fine elementary school, and two church buildings held services weekly for all faiths in unifying Garberville as an integral part of the prosperity and growth of Humboldt.

being at Scotia, over 50 miles away. The plans provide for a 10-bed hospital, funds for which will either be from individual sources or by public subscription.

Truly a paradise among California cities, Garberville is ideally located. It may take years before a resident ceases being a "tourist" and is accepted as a full-time member of the citizenry, but when one finally is taken into the inner circle, he already has been a long-time town "booster."

Radio Ham Makes Palestine Contact

Bill Branaman, local radio ham of 1911 S street, had a good radio contact on the 20 meter band with Navy personnel in Palestine about 10 p.m. Friday night. One of the Navy men is from the Middle West and another from New York. They may be part of the 16-man group of Navy observers which was recently sent to Palestine.

Branaman built his own radio rig. His call letters are W6FYY. He has made other distant contact to such places as Turkey and Sweden.



Office of the Redwood Record, Garberville's weekly newspaper.