August 3, 1945

Copper Commando - vol. 3, no. 25

Victory Labor-Management Production Committees of Butte, Anaconda and Great Falls

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LET US PLAY!
Copper Commando Takes You on a Tour of Columbia Gardens and Washoe Park
AUGUST 3, 1945
Let Us Play!

COPPER COMMANDO PAYS A VISIT TO COLUMBIA GARDENS AND WASHOE PARK

AUGUST 3, 1945
LET US PLAY!

FOR the first time in almost three years, Copper Commando breaks its editorial pace to bring you an issue that is not related at all to the war. Yet in many respects it is an issue devoted to that very thing for which we are fighting. And that, good friends, is the right of a human being to enjoy himself.

Here, in Montana, at Butte and at Anaconda, we have two parks devoted to the pleasure of people. In the many times we have visited Columbia Gardens near Butte and Washoe Park at Anaconda, we have been impressed by the number of families of employees who regularly take advantage of the fun and relaxation these places afford.

We got to kicking the idea around in our minds that maybe a picture tour of these two spots would be of interest, not only to the youngsters and grown-ups whose pictures we got, but also to hundreds of others who would recognize these places afford.

We are going to let you in on a little secret! We could write lots of words about both these places but we thought we'd rather give this issue over almost entirely to pictures.

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VOL. III NO. 25

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COPPER COMMANDO is the official newspaper of the Victory Labor-Management Production Committees of the Anaconda Copper Mining Company and its Union Representatives at Butte, Anaconda, Great Falls and East Helena, Montana.

It is issued every two weeks. COPPER COMMANDO is headed by a joint committee from Labor and Management, its policies are shaped by both sides and are dictated by neither. COPPER COMMANDO was established at the recommendation of the War Department with the concurrence of the War Production Board. Its editors are Bob Newcomb and Marg Sammons; its safety editor is John L. Boardman; its chief photographer is Al Gundorf; its staff photographer is Les Bishop. Its Editorial Board consists of: Denis McCarthy, CIO; John F. Bird, AFL; Ed Renouard, ACM, from Butte; Dan Byrne, CIO; Joe Marick, AFL; C. A. Lemmon, ACM, from Anaconda; Jack Clark, CIO; Herb Donaldson, AFL; and E. S. Bardwell, ACM, from Great Falls. COPPER COMMANDO is mailed to the home of every employee of ACM in the four locations — if you are not receiving your copy, advise COPPER COMMANDO at 112 Hamilton Street, Butte, or better still, drop in and tell us.

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As most of our readers know, these two recreational parks are maintained by the Anaconda Copper Mining Company and operated for the pleasure of the people of the two communities, not only for employees of the company but for residents who have no company connection. By far the largest users of the two parks are, of course, employees and their families.

On our tour of Columbia Gardens and Washoe Park, we found literally hundreds of children of miners and smeltermen and craftsmen. We wish we could have gotten pictures of all those people we saw, but your publication just isn't big enough. We reached Columbia Gardens on a Thursday devoted to the children and nearly 4,000 were there. The swings and slides and teeter-totters were loaded with kids all having a wonderful time. We visited Washoe Park the following Sunday and there we found many groups picnicking, strolling and enjoying the sunshine and fresh air.

We are going to let you in on a little secret! We could write lots of words about both these places but we thought we'd rather give this issue over almost entirely to pictures.
All aboard for Columbia Gardens! There at the right a group of youngsters poses in front of the bus, ready to take off for a day's fun. All these other pictures were taken in and around Columbia Gardens. See if you can find yourself and your friends.
Sunday is fun day at Washoe Park and here friends of yours and their children are snapped by the photographer as they relax and enjoy themselves at this inviting park at Anaconda. One of the park's greatest attractions are the broad, blooming gardens you see nearly everywhere. The beauty of the flowers gives a lot of pleasure to visitors.
Good To Look At
On these two pages are random views at Columbia Gardens and at Washoe Park. On the opposite page we find scenic views and close-ups of youngsters at Columbia Gardens. This page of pictures is devoted entirely to views in and around Anaconda’s Washoe Park.
HERE we go again, good readers! Your editors had no trouble at all in getting folks with their attractive youngsters to line up before the camera. Those two pictures at the top of the page are of groups at Washoe Park and that is another Washoe Park view in the large picture at the right where the folks are relaxing for a game of cards. In the two views below, we catch groups of active youngsters at play at the Columbia Gardens in Butte. If you take a close look in the lower righthand picture you’ll see one young fellow hanging head down from the ladder. That is Charlie Puhlman, ten, the son of a miner at the Mountain Con, who took your editors under his wing as soon as they arrived and guided them on their tour of Columbia Gardens. Now Charlie, like many other Butte youngsters, spends countless happy days at the Gardens and is thoroughly familiar with its attractions.
LIKE everything else, recreational parks need staffs. For such places have to be managed and believe us, when you have a bunch of healthy youngsters running around, you must have supervisors.

In the top picture at the left, we want you to meet W. H. Cockayne, who for forty-five years has been superintendent at Columbia Gardens—he started there at the turn of the century. At the upper right, surrounded by friendly youngsters, is William McC. White of the Columbia Amusement Company which maintains the concessions at Columbia Gardens. At Washoe Park in Anaconda, E. E. Pickell is in charge. Over here at the right we see the Columbia Gardens playground staff.

Those two center pictures show how firewood is delivered to the ovens at Columbia Gardens. The maintenance crew there sees to it that the wood-pile is always high so that the visitors to the Gardens can prepare hot food.

The unusually warm weather in July has attracted many people to both Columbia Gardens and Washoe Park.

AUGUST, 3, 1945
IT'S true, as we have said, that this special issue of your Labor-Management newspaper is not related to the war. We have shown here not the grim realities of battle, but the pleasures of people at peace.

This is the type of world our fighting men want to come back to. They want to enjoy the freedom of the outdoors, and they want their children and their children's children to enjoy it. Over in Germany, a fanatic named Hitler once had different ideas. He did not believe that people should play; he believed only that as soon as children were old enough to walk and talk they must be forced into youth organizations whose only purpose was the total enslavement of the world.

In this country we don't believe those things.

Maybe that's why we have been able to smash the German military machine. Maybe that's why in the years to come we shall be able to convince even the Nazis that a peaceful world is really the only world worth fighting for.

These recreational centers, Columbia Gardens and Washoe Park, were created for your pleasure. The children of many of our readers today are enjoying them.