

## OUT OUR WAY

By J. R. Williams



THE HOPPER-UPPER

J.R. WILLIAMS  
T.M. REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.  
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## Public Impression Of Mental Illness Wrong, Dr. John Haskins Points Out; Cases Occupy Half Of Hospital Beds

The sooner people get away from the idea mental illness is hereditary and that the afflicted person's soul is "possessed by the devil," the sooner medical science can approach the problem of mental health scientifically.

This in effect was the way Dr. John Haskins, manager of the Roseburg Veterans hospital summed up the situation in a talk before the Roseburg Kiwanis club Tuesday noon. He called special attention to Mental Health week, which starts next Monday.

Mental illness is a disease the same as pneumonia or any other physical ailment. The prime need is to educate the public that a person so afflicted is a sick person. Unfortunately, he said, there is a no way to vaccinate against the sickness, but he contends a great deal can be learned through study and research.

One half the beds in our hospitals are occupied by mental cases, he stated. There are three times the number of mentally ill persons as there are cancer, tuberculosis, polio or heart disease patients combined, yet \$100 is spent on every polio case to \$1 for mental health; \$25 to \$1 for tuberculosis, and \$10 to \$1 for cancer.

For every dollar spent on mental health research, \$65 is spent for research on these other diseases.

He said study and treatment of the other diseases are important, but he emphasized likewise the importance of mental illnesses.

Statistics show that one out of every 20 persons will spend some time in a mental hospital. Fifty per cent of the people are disturbed by emotional upsets, and five million are unhappy because of mental maladjustment.

Trained Personnel Lacking

He deplored the lack of public knowledge of mental illnesses and the lack of trained personnel

There is only one psychologist between Salem and San Francisco who is not a member of the staff of a mental institution.

He said the matter is definitely one of public interest, considering the cost to the taxpayer of keeping people in mental institutions. He stressed the importance of trying to prevent the illness as well as early treatment, especially among children where the first signs are noted.

According to Dr. Haskins only two to three per cent of psychopaths are dangerous.

## Douglas Flying Club Formed At Sutherlin

The Douglas Flying club was organized in Sutherlin last week. The members bought a new Aeronca plane and started flying Sunday.

Membership is open to anyone that is interested, and the fee is \$25 per member.

As soon as possible they plan to buy two more planes, one large enough to be used for cross-country flights.

Headquarters for the club are at the Sutherlin airport and the meeting will be held at the grange hall the second Tuesday of each month. The club plans on building a clubhouse at the airport as soon as possible.

The present membership is 21, including members from different parts of Douglas county.

Officers were elected as follows: Howard Magill, president, Elmer Winslow, vice-president, both of

## TV HEARING AWAITED

PORTLAND. — (AP) — Portland will get its hearing on television in May or June, Monroe Sweetland, Democratic national committeeman, says.

Sweetland, who recently returned from Washington, D. C., said the Federal Communications commission would conduct the hearing on whether a ban on new television stations would be lifted for this city.

The National Geographic Society says Diamond Shoals, off the North Carolina coast, is one of the deadliest ship traps on the Atlantic seaboard.

Sutherland and Walt Roser, secretary and treasurer, of Roseburg.

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