



# Opportunity

Noticias de los centros de oportunidad del VML

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## 'We are never too old to learn'

By Rick Simon

"Why do we pay welfare to people who are able to work?"

This is a question many people ask when they see healthy, able-bodied men on welfare.

The reason these people go on welfare is that they are really not able to work. There is nothing wrong with them, mentally or physically; they just cannot get a job. The reason: they do not have an education.

An employer wants his employee to have some kind of education.

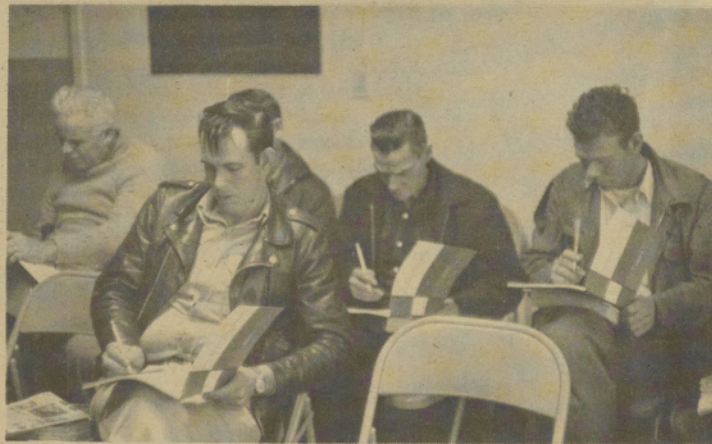
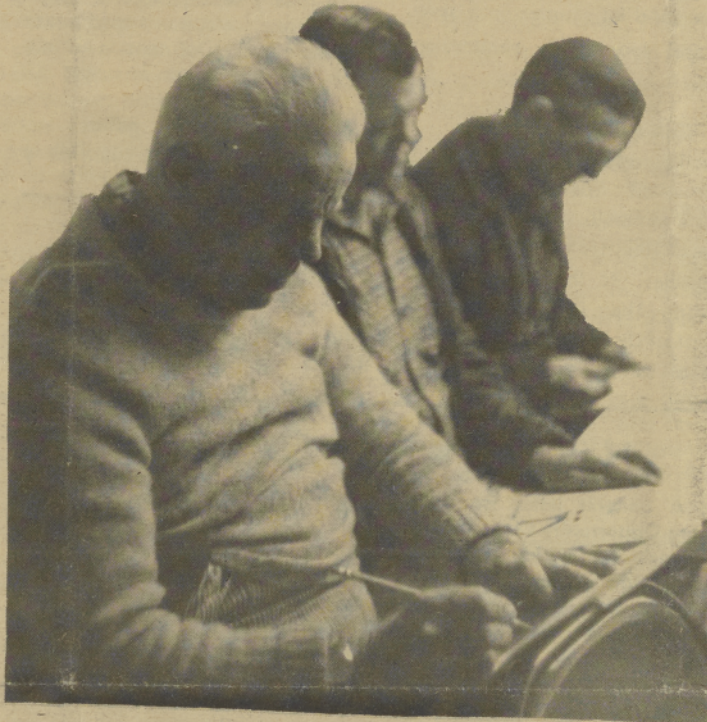
In Dayton, there are 11 people who want to get off welfare. But they know that, until they get some kind of education, they may never find steady work. So they are doing something about it. They are getting an education.

Some of them are the people you see in these photos. They have been on welfare in the winter because they could not find work. In the summer they could pick crops, but in the winter there was nothing to do. How could they take care of their families? Only with the help of welfare.

Last Monday morning they went to their first class. For one man, it was the first time he has been in a classroom in 30 years. For some, it was the first time they have ever gone to school. These people want to learn, so they can work, and get off welfare.

Their class is called "Basic Educa-

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Por Rick Simon

"¿Por qué damos 'welfare' a gente que puede trabajar?"

Esta es una pregunta que mucha gente se hace cuando ven hombres alentados y capaces de trabajar en "welfare."

La razón por la cual esta gente recibe beneficencia es debido a que realmente no pueden trabajar. No hay nada mal en ellos, mental o físicamente; pero no pueden encontrar un trabajo. La razón: ellos no tienen una educación.

Un patrón quiere que un empleado tenga alguna educación. En Dayton, hay 11 personas que quieren dejar el "welfare." Pero no tengan alguna educación, no podrán encontrar un trabajo permanente. Entonces están haciendo algo para esto. Van a conseguir educación.

Algunos de ellos son las personas que Ud. ve en estas fotos. Ellos han estado recibiendo "welfare" en el invierno porque no pudieron encontrar un trabajo. En el verano pudieron coger las cosechas, pero en el invierno no había nada que hacer. ¿Cómo podían atender a las necesidades de sus familias? Solamente con la ayuda de la beneficencia.

El lunes pasado por la mañana ellos fueron a su primera clase. Para un señor, esta fue la primera vez que ha estado en un salón de clase en 30 años. Para otros, esta fue la primera vez que iban a la escuela. Esta gente quiere aprender, de modo que aprendiendo algo pueden dejar el "welfare."

Su clase es llamada "educación (Pase a la página 3)

## A better future for Emma Perez through 'Upward Bound'

By Priscilla Carrasco

It was once said that Emma Perez was not a good student. She had no hope of going to college. Emma had low grades, no money and her parents didn't want her to leave home. Then Emma heard about "Upward Bound," a special program for students who had no chance of going to college.

The Valley Migrant League interviewed Emma, they spoke with her parents. Emma was chosen to go to the University of Oregon. She was given special classes; she worked very hard. Life was different at college and Emma missed her family. Then she made new friends.

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Eso fue en otro tiempo cuando Emma Perez no era buena estudiante. El no tenía esperanzas de ir a la universidad. Emma tenía calificaciones bajas, no tenía dinero y sus padres no querían que dejara la casa. Más tarde Emma supo acerca del "Upward Bound" un programa especial para estudiantes que no tienen oportunidad de ir a la universidad.

Emma fue entrevistada por el Valley Migrant League, y hablaron con sus padres. Emma fue escogida para ir a la universidad de Oregon. Ella recibió clases especiales; y trabajo muy duro. La vida era diferente en la universidad y Emma echaba de menos a su familia. Después ella conoció nuevos

(Pase a la página 3)

### WHAT DO YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT PUBLIC WELFARE?

Do you have questions about Public Welfare in Oregon?

Each week we receive a letter from the state office of Public Welfare, and it contains questions and answers.

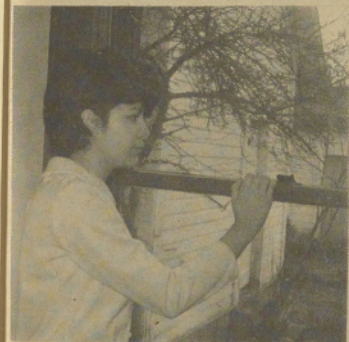
If you have questions about Public Welfare, these letters may contain the official answers. Or we will send your question to the state office, and we will receive an answer.

Here are samples of some of the questions and answers which come to us in these letters:

#### What do you do about people who refuse to work?

A family will be ineligible for aid to dependent children grant if an adult in the grant refuses, without good cause, a job or an assignment to work or train. However,

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EMMA PEREZ looks toward a better future. She has found an opportunity to succeed in the University of Oregon's Upward Bound program.

EMMA PEREZ busca un futuro mejor. Ha encontrado una oportunidad para éxito en el programa de "Upward Bound" de la Universidad de Oregon.

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