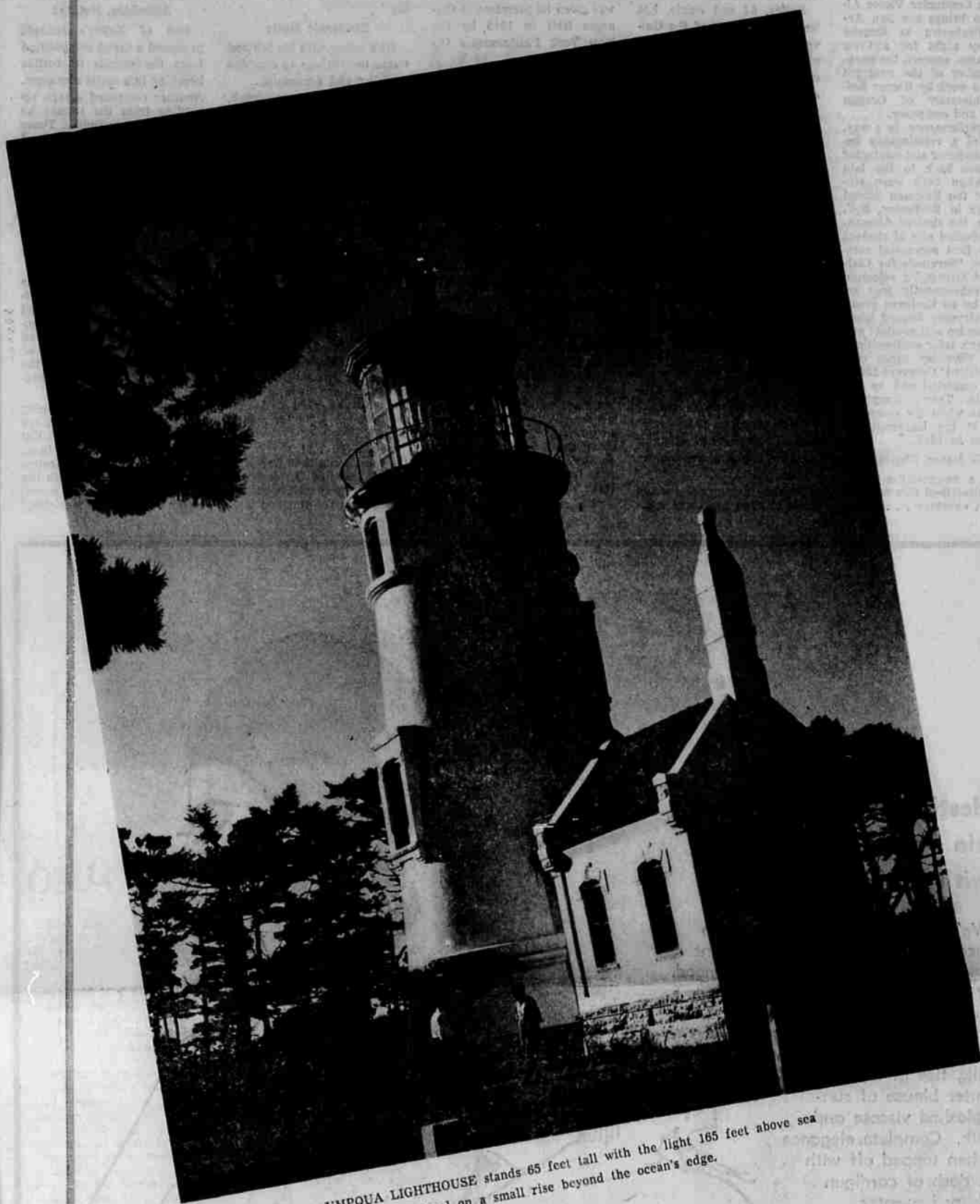


Emerald Empire Living



UMPQUA LIGHTHOUSE stands 65 feet tall with the light 165 feet above sea level on a small rise beyond the ocean's edge.

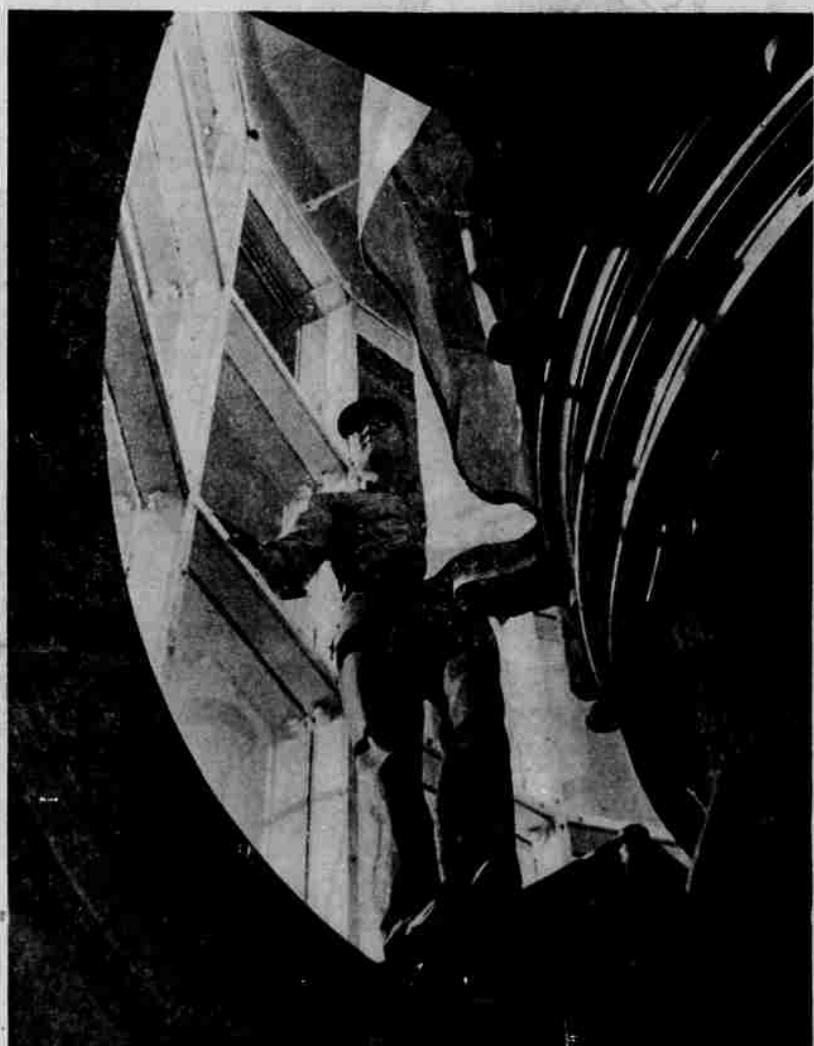


SURREALISTIC PICTURE is created when eye of coast guardsman peers through a lens which magnifies power of 1,000 watt light bulb.

Silent Sentinel

Umpqua Lighthouse, standing near Reedsport close to the mouth of the Umpqua River, has been burning nightly to guide navigators for nearly 70 years. Its predecessor, built on the dunes near the ocean, was the first lighthouse to be erected in what is now the state of Oregon. Following six shipwrecks due to the lack of navigation aids, that structure was erected in 1857, but four years later erosion caused it to topple into the sea. For the next 30 years the area again was without navigation aid until 1893, when Congress appropriated funds for the construction of the present light. Since 1894, it has shone every night with the exception of one two-hour period in 1958. The light is visible for 18 miles across the water—a silent sentinel for many who go down to the sea in ships.

(Register-Guard photos by Phil Wolcott)



PHILLIP R. GORRELL, SNBM, one of 20 U.S. Coast Guardsmen who man the Umpqua River Lifeboat Station, stands in alley way between center lens structure and protective outside windows of lighthouse.



THE 1,000 WATT BULB which burns nightly in the lighthouse is changed every 800 hours. Only blackout, since 1894, was two-hour period on a winter night in 1958, when overheating caused electrical difficulty.