



HENRY L. SEARLE

Guest Speaker Coming Sunday To Two Churches

Henry L. Searle, executive secretary of the Oregon Christian Missionary Society since September, 1960, will be guest speaker at the Heppner and Lexington Christian churches on Sunday, March 20, according to Rev. Al Boschee, pastor.

Mr. Searle will speak at the Heppner church at the 9:00 a.m. service and at the Lexington church at the 11:00 a.m. worship hour. The message for both services will be "You Are Involved."

Special invitation was extended Mr. Searle by the Heppner-Lexington Pastoral Unity to help them plan a comprehensive program for the coming year. He will meet with the Unity Council, the Heppner and Lexington boards, and as many leaders and officers of both churches as possible.

The planning conference will be at the Heppner church at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 20.

A graduate of Chapman College in California, Mr. Searle did graduate work at College of the Bible, Lexington, Ky., and School of Religion, University of Southern California. He held pastorates for 25 years in northern and southern California.

His family consists of his wife, Ruth, president of the United Church Women of Oregon; a married son, Dr. T. H. Searle, dentist in Chico, Calif., and a married daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Ford, whose husband is on the staff of the Wesley Foundation of the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebr.

Farm Bureau Furrow

By CRESTON FOSTER
News Director, American
Farm Bureau Federation

RELUCTANT MEDICARE CLIENTS

Government administrators running the new Medicare program are having trouble getting the 65-and-older group to sign up before the March 31 deadline. This must be very embarrassing to the politicians and bureaucrats who have long contended that "the people," especially the old folks, were demanding the Medicare program.

Latest move to sell the program to reluctant eligibles is a thing called "Medicare alert." Under this project, a crew of Medicare promoters will make house calls in communities as part of a crash sign-up promotion.

It is apparent that the government lacks the club of economic persuasion in the voluntary Medicare program that is used in signing up participants in the so-called "voluntary" farm programs.

One of the arguments being used to push people into the Medicare program is the warning that if they don't sign up by March 31, they won't have another chance to do so for two years.

This is not nearly as strong a compulsion as is used on farmers who are threatened with lower farm income through government dumping of surpluses at price-wrecking levels to force them into the feed grain and wheat programs.

It may also be that many feel that the Medicare program falls far short of the extravagant promises made by President Johnson when he was running for election.

This disillusionment with the Great Society which is cropping up in many places is generally referred to as "the credibility gap." This is a polite way of saying that people don't believe all that the Administration tells them in carefully staged TV fireside chats.

There probably is another reason for the less than wholehearted response to regimentation, even in this day when government pokes into every nook and cranny of life.


Americans, unlike their European neighbors, have not fully accepted the idea that the State is the complete master of their destinies. We may not be as independent as the early pioneers who broke the ground on the wilderness frontiers, but there are some remnants of a free spirit that find the cloak of big government a little scratchy.

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