



HELP FOR THE HANDICAPPED

By Olive Starcher

Helping others is not only an American heritage and responsibility, it is a privilege granted few people, Governor Douglas McKay declared in proclaiming March 13 to April 13 as Easter Seal month in Oregon. The annual seal sale is carried on each year by Oregon Society for Crippled Children and Adults and in the governor's statement he said our right to aid the crippled is a privilege that should be "guarded and exercised fully" through such means as the Easter Seal campaign.

Through the sale of the seals the society secures money to operate the Children's Hospital school at Eugene, a rehabilitation center and the Craft Shop of the Handicapped, Portland, and to carry on other activities.

In Jackson county the campaign is sponsored by Rotana club, classified service club for women in business and the professions. Mrs. C. B. Parich, Rotana member, is volunteer county chairman. With the volunteer help of many individuals and organizations in the county, mailing of the seals has been completed and other phases of the campaign are being planned.

Volunteers who work for the cause of the crippled are particularly proud of the Children's Hospital school at Eugene. Opened in October, 1947, with a staff of two persons and nine children enrolled, the institution has now grown to where it provides services for a maximum daily patient load of 45 children between the ages of two and fifteen, and has a staff of 14 persons. This includes a business manager, a supervisor who is also physical therapist, three physical therapists, three special education classroom teachers, which include instruction in crafts and two speech instructors on an executive-professional level.

According to Howard F. Feast, executive director of the society, a national survey shows that the Eugene school is in the top 10 facilities of its kind in the United States today.

The Portland rehabilitation center provides facilities to supplement medical and surgical treatment of handicapped adults, aiming at the restoration of such individuals to physical, vocational and economic usefulness.

The society also sponsors the Craft Shop of the Handicapped in Portland, which serves as a retail outlet for goods produced by the home-

bound and other handicapped persons. About 360 individuals have been benefited through the shop, and they represent 20 counties and several public and private institutions.

In 1948 the society established Homebound Industries, which has as its goal the economic restoration of the handicapped individual through home training and treatment in crafts and industrial work. Solable goods produced by the individuals have been sold through the Craft shop.

Another project of the society is formation of parents' councils which carry on a program of education for the parents of handicapped children.

Shown at upper right is Irene Marilyn Gregory, 14, Phoenix, Ore., a victim of cerebral palsy who was sent to the school last November in order that she might be taught to walk and speak. She is shown with Thomas Burtscher, speech therapist, who is making a tape recording as a sample of speech work. The patient is a daughter of Mrs. D'wildia Gregory, Phoenix. Mrs. Gregory has been in Eugene recently with her daughter, and the two will return home today for a brief vacation before Irene Marilyn resumes her training.

Dr. William J. Miller, (left center) Medford pediatrician, is Jackson county's consultant for cerebral palsy cases for the society. After his appointment, Dr. Miller went to Chicago last summer where he took intensive training in cerebral palsy work.

The high school girls shown at lower left will conduct the annual Lily Day parade to further increase the fund. Working on the campaign will be, (left to right) Miss Sylvia Tunnell, Miss Kaye Durno, Mrs. John J. McCann, chairman of the Lily Day parade, Miss Jackie Pond and Miss Patsy Strader. Miss Tunnell and Miss Strader represent Girls' league at Medford Senior High school, and Miss Pond and Miss Durno represent Medford Job's Daughters.

Medford Boy Scouts are aiding the Easter Seal campaign by putting up posters. Troop three scouts who aided the project are shown at lower right and are (left to right) John Miller, Star scout; Craig Phillips, Eagle scout; John Van Dyke, Star scout; Darrel Brown, Eagle scout and Dan Christensen, first class scout.

—(Shangle photos)

