

Educational Program for Retarded Children Reviewed for Observance of Special 'Week'

Meeting Scheduled Wednesday; 'Pilot' Program Discussed

Phoenix — In observance of National Retarded Children's week, Nov. 14 to 20, as proclaimed by President Eisenhower, a special program will be held at the Phoenix School gymnasium on Wednesday, Nov. 17, at 8 p.m., according to Mrs. Robert Minear.

Mrs. Minear, chairman of a parent study group devoted to the problem of retarded children, said the speaker will be Mason D. McQuiston, director of the Pilot Program for Retarded Children of the Oregon State Department of Education, division of special education.

McQuiston will talk on "Education of the Retarded Child."

Joint Sponsors
The meeting will be sponsored jointly by the Jackson County Public Health association study groups for parents of retarded children, and the International Council for Exceptional Children.

In his proclamation for National Retarded Children's week, President Eisenhower declared that the nation should be made increasingly aware of the need for training and caring for mentally-retarded children as a community problem.

It has been estimated that in Oregon alone as many as 5,000 mentally-retarded youngsters may be regularly enrolled in the public schools.

"We recognize that mentally-retarded youngsters may not adequately be handled in the regular classrooms. For that reason, special 'Pilot Study Programs' have been established in five localities throughout the state where low enrollment classes composed entirely of mentally-retarded youngsters are held," McQuiston reports.

Phoenix Class
One such "Pilot Study Class" has been established and has been operating at the Phoenix Elementary school for over a year under the instruction and guidance of teacher Karl Hayes.

The other pilot study programs are in schools of Springfield, Portland, Pendleton, and Salem. The local pilot study program is conducted on a county-wide basis.

Two other centers in the pilot study program, for gifted children are at Corvallis and Eugene.

Pupils in the Phoenix pilot class have been drawn from several communities throughout Jackson county. Administrators of the program must be satisfied that the youngsters admitted are those who may benefit from schooling experience, even though their mental development may lag far behind other youngsters of their own age.

Educability is the criteria, not any arbitrary so-called Intelligence Quotient or "IQ."

Plan Advancement
The age grouping of the class when it started was 8 to 12 and is now 9 to 13. The older students in the class, it is hoped, can be advanced from primary to intermediate level, with the thought that the state legislature would be encouraged to extend the pilot program and make it a regular part of educational facilities provided jointly by the state and local school districts.

Many of those in the local parent study groups are working actively with delegates to the state legislature, who will report on the success of the project and who will urge its continuance.

Hayes, teacher of the Phoenix class, described other qualifications for students to be enrolled. Students are not accepted unless they are in good physical condition. No students are accepted unless they qualify in terms of other mental, emotional, academic and social development standards.

Must Get Benefits
"Mentally retarded children" means all children diagnosed as having low intelligence to such a degree that they are unable to profit sufficiently from the curriculum of the public schools, under ordinary conditions in the regular classroom," Hayes said.

"But they may be expected to benefit from special education facilities designed to make them socially adequate and reasonably competent to provide themselves with a livelihood."

Some of those special education facilities will be shown at the meeting Wednesday. Hayes uses text material drawn from the experiences of the pupils themselves—a trip to a farm, a chipmunk they keep in the classroom, caterpillars they have captured and watch turn into butterflies, and the like. From these, reading and writing lessons are built, art work is done, and other instructional aids are developed. The class is "ungraded,"—that is the students are not enrolled as first- or second-graders—so "graded" materials cannot always be used.

Small Class Advantage
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FLASH CARDS—Flash cards bring an exciting game in the learning of new words for students in the ungraded class being conducted at Phoenix Elementary school by Karl Hayes. On the easel at the left is a story written out from the experiences of members of the class. Music also is used to aid the class, and furnishes a popular portion of the curriculum.

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Unusual Profession Described By Local Medical Illustrator

Herbert Hunter, 18 Elm st., is a medical illustrator. And what, it may be asked, is a medical illustrator? He is a man who, after years of training in both art and medicine, is equipped to make drawings of parts of the body as they appear before, during or after surgery.

It's a highly specialized task and one not greatly in demand. At least Hunter hasn't been able to find enough calls for his work to keep him steadily employed in Medford, and is now stretching his artist's income with a job as a painter for Mid-Coast Painters.

Chose Medford
In a big medical center, the story would be different, he says, but he chose Medford to live in, and he isn't complaining. He has picked up a few medical illustrating jobs from Medford physicians, and occasionally receives orders from elsewhere.

Hunter, easily identifiable as being of English birth by his accent, is proud of his skill, and thoroughly enjoys the work. His preparations included training in the fine arts before he came to America, long work with surgeons at the Universities of Illinois and Minnesota, time at the Flint Institute of Arts in Michigan, and experience with the medical corps while serving with the U. S. 3rd Army in Europe during World War II. Commended by General

His Army work brought him a letter of commendation from Lt. Gen. George Patton, commander of the 3rd Army. As a member of the 32nd medical depot company, his job was making drawings of battle wounds and their treatment, and he also put to good use his earlier operating room experiences in adapting captured enemy surgical instruments to American use.

This chore came in handy later, too, when he was working at the University of Minnesota hospital. Dr. O. H. Wagensteen, chief of surgery there, encouraged Hunter in his art work, as well as making use of his talent for improvisation.

According to a story in the Minneapolis Tribune, "When Dr. Wagensteen needed a certain type of tubing for an abdominal operation, Hunter adapted a portion of an old trombone."

Early training in England as a shipfitter probably helped on that one.

Drawings in Textbooks
Later, Hunter's drawings were used for many of the illustrations in a textbook written by Dr. Wagensteen, and another by Dr. Wallace P. Ritchie. For a time he was a staff artist for the magazine Modern Medicine, as well as doing free lance work.

He moved to southern California more recently, and last February, after a visit to his sister here, Mrs. Tom Merit of Springbrook rd., he decided to make Medford his home. Mrs. Merit should "be in the chamber of commerce here," he said about her fondness for Medford.

Mr. and Mrs. Hunter have five children, the youngest an 8-year-old and the eldest, Donald, 18, a high school student and football player.

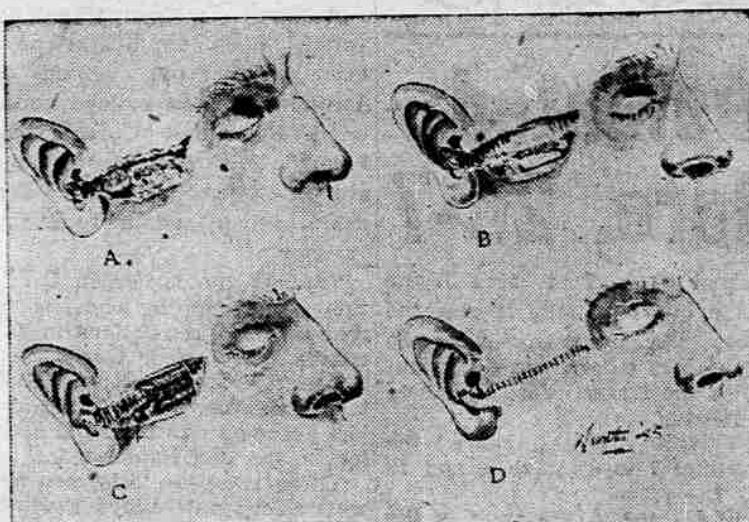
From time to time Hunter has been asked to speak to various groups about his specialty, he said, and he has developed "chalk talks" in which he illustrates his remarks with sketches. He'd be willing to do some more of this if any organizations are interested.

He thinks highly of medical illustration as a profession, and feels that the little-known skill is, and should be, of interest to everyone. It was a story about another medical illustrator in Chicago which appeared in The Mail Tribune, and which Hunter thought "gave the wrong impression" of the work, that brought him to the newspaper office.

Vancouver Auditorium Declared Fire Hazard
Vancouver, Wash. — (U.P.) — The auditorium of Vancouver high school has been ordered closed as a fire hazard by Feb. 1, 1955, unless an outside fire escape is built by that time, it was learned here Friday.

City Fire Marshal M. Brown Friday released to the public a report which classed the balcony of the auditorium as a fire hazard and also ordered hazardous conditions throughout the school system corrected.

Brown also recommended that the main building of Clark college be replaced as soon as possible. His report pointed out violations of fire code in nearly all the 14 schools inspected in the city.



MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR'S ART—The drawings above are a small sample of the type of work done by a medical illustrator, in this case Herbert Hunter, a resident of Medford for the past nine months. The sample shown were made when he was serving with the medical corps in the 3rd U. S. Army during the war, sketching battle casualties. The pictures show the progress of surgery in the case of a face wound.

Sprays that might speed the ripening of apples are being tested by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Valley of 10,000 Smokes in Alaska was formed by the eruption of Mt. Katmai in about 1912.

Fourteen Persons Escape Plane Crash

Miami — (U.P.) — Eleven passengers and three crew members escaped injury Friday night when a National Airlines plane crash landed after its wheels buckled during a landing at Miami International airport.

The twin-engine Key West-to-Miami plane's landing gear collapsed when it was about a third of the way down the runway. The stewardess, Evelyn Gregory of Miami, hustled the passengers from the plane into a driving rain without injury.

The plane was piloted by Capt. S. P. Whittaker of Miami, who said he had no warning of the landing gear failure. He said he did not know what caused it.

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Funeral Services Planned Monday For Harry Hart

Services for Harry H. Hart, 66, Cascade Gorge, who died Thursday, will be held in Conger-Morris chapel Monday at 10:30 a.m., with the Rev. R. L. Greene, Episcopal church at Prospect, officiating. Interment will be in Siskiyou Memorial park.

Mr. Hart was born Aug. 11, 1888, at Waitsburg, Wash. He served as Sgt. in the Quartermaster Corp., U.S. Army, during

World War I. On Aug. 11, 1926, at Coquille, Ore., he was married to Ruth Woodford, who survives. He moved to Oregon 34 years ago and had owned and operated the store at Cascade Gorge for the past 15 years. He was a member of the American Legion.

Honorary pallbearers will be Carroll L. Hays, Robert Skinner, Charley Skeeters, Milt Otoman, Dwight Houghton and Eston Humphrey. Active bearers are: Cole Holmes, Lou Jenkins, Lew Bates, D. M. Chandler, Vic Chapman and Ray Pence.

Surviving besides the widow is a daughter, Mrs. Louise Robbins and two grandchildren, Sharon and Jo Anne, all of Sacramento, Calif.

Services Monday For Rhea Hoover

Services for Emma Rhea Hoover, 60, who died Thursday, will be held in Conger-Morris chapel Monday at 1 p.m., with the Rev. George R. V. Bolster of St. Mark's Episcopal church officiating. Interment will be in Siskiyou Memorial park.

Pallbearers will be Jim Perry, Mike Rossi, Earl Herendeen, John Miller, Earl Halgren, and Gene Moore.

The deceased was born Nov. 13, 1893, in Rohnerville, Calif., and had lived in Medford for the past 22 years. She was a member of the Eagles Auxiliary. On June 30, 1919, in Eureka, Calif., she was married to Earle Hoover who survives.

Other survivors include two brothers, Owen Leach, Selma, Calif., and Newell Leach, Fresno, Calif.

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