

Hoover Commission Suggests Cut in Federal Medical Services

Ex-Servicemen's Program Would Face Curtailment

Washington — (U.P.) — The Hoover Commission angered some organized veterans and stirred sure controversy in Congress today with a proposal that the government revise and curtail its vast medical programs, particularly those for ex-servicemen.

The commission said the government through the years has obligated itself to give full or part medical care to 30,000,000 persons. It said it found "a great deal of waste" in the numerous medical programs.

Among other economies, it recommended closing some veterans administration hospitals as inefficient or unneeded. It proposed new restrictions on free hospital care for veterans whose ailments are not due to military service. It said monthly government payments to veterans disabled in service should be "more realistically related" to their loss of earning power.

Legion Shocked
Seaborn P. Collins, national commander of the American Legion, protested the commission's findings.

"The American Legion is shocked and disappointed by Hoover Commission proposals which would place government services to disabled veterans on a purely dollars-and-cents basis," Collins said.

"The Hoover Commission recommends the closing of 19 veterans administration hospitals. We find it impossible to reconcile this move with the fact that the existing number of VA hospital beds is short of the total authorized by Congress.

"The Hoover commission apparently wants to make ability to earn the single criterion for determining the veterans' entitlement to disability compensation. To do this would be totally unrealistic and a reversal of the present fair standard."

'A Long, Hard Look'
Collins said he is sure Congress will take a "long hard look" at the commission proposal. This seemed assured. The report touched on issues which in the past have proved unflinchingly controversial.

Key lawmakers took a cautious approach. Chairman Olin E. Teague (D-Tex.) of the House Veterans committee declined comment. He ordered an analysis of the report prepared by the committee staff.

Rep. Chet Holifield (D-Calif.) member of the commission as well as of Congress, filed a stiff dissent. He said commission proposals to curtail medical care for non-service connected veterans cases and for dependents of military personnel were "wholly unrealistic."

He opposed any curtailment of hospital and medical facilities "in the face of impending civilian defense needs."

Outlandish Costs
The commission, in one of a series of reports to Congress on government reorganization, said federal medical programs are costing \$4,000,000,000 a year and that the cost will mount unless something is done.

It submitted recommendations to save more than \$250,000,000 a year by meshing some federal medical activities and abolishing others.

The commission's report was based on the findings of a medical services task force composed of 16 leaders in the medical profession and headed by the late Chauncey McCormick of Chicago and Dr. Theodore Klumpp of New York. The commission itself is headed by former President Herbert Hoover.

In addition to wasting money through disjointed operation of medical and health programs, the government also drains off physicians and dentists from private practice, the commission said. In 1954, it said, more than six per cent of the country's active medical personnel was employed by the government.

Nautilus Tested In Atlantic Waters

Groton, Conn. — (U.P.) — The USS Nautilus, the Navy's first atomic-powered submarine, knifed through Atlantic waters "somewhere off the coast of Maine" today for final diving tests before assuming position as a first-line warship.

The Navy said yesterday it expected the craft's skipper, Cmdr. Eugene T. Wilkinson, to begin deep water dives late in the day. The results were not expected before the craft returns to port there late today or tomorrow.

Many vital details of the Nautilus' performance were still listed as secret by the Navy. However, the craft was expected to be able to drive deeper and stay under longer than any previous undersea craft.

Antarctic H-Bomb Test By British Rumored

London — (U.P.) — The Daily Sketch says Britain will test its first hydrogen bomb in the Antarctic. British officials refused to comment on the report.

"Plans are going ahead to find a suitable site," the Daily Sketch said. "When it is found British warships and planes will speed to the area to reserve it from Argentine and other expeditions in the area."

The Sketch said the House of Commons will be told next week of Britain's progress toward the H-bomb, which was first disclosed week before last.

It said the "heavy guard" that will be put around the Antarctic site will recall the recent disputes with Argentina and Chile over the British Falkland Islands.

PT&T Creates New Advisory Board For Oregon Area

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company has created an advisory council for its Oregon area. The council at present consists of five Oregon business, industrial, and financial leaders, and two company officials. When fully organized it will have two additional members, and it is hoped at that time that both sides of the Cascades will be represented.

The advisory council will meet once a month to consider Oregon Telephone construction activities and operational matters and to make recommendations to the company's management.

Names Members

In an announcement Monday F. A. Dressler, vice president and general manager, named the following as having accepted his invitation to serve as members of the council:

E. C. Sammons, Portland, president, U. S. National Bank, and member of the board of directors of Pacific Telephone.

Raymond R. Brown, Portland, president, Standard Insurance Company.

Frank E. McCaslin, Portland, president and general manager, Oregon Portland Cement Co.

Edwin C. Dwyer, Portland, vice-president, Dwyer Lumber Co.

George F. Chambers, Salem, president, Valley Packing Co.

The company officials are Dressler, who will serve as chairman of the council, and James Redman, assistant vice-president.

Earthquake Listed In New Zealand Area

San Francisco — (U.P.) — A two-hour long earthquake that could have caused tremendous damage rumbled through the South Pacific some 440 miles north of New Zealand yesterday.

Report so far have been scanty, but Don Tocher, University of California seismologist at Berkeley, said the tremor registered an intensity of 7 to 7½ on the Richter scale of 10.

Dr. Charles F. Richter, seismologist at the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena, said his instruments showed a magnitude of 7.8. The maximum ever recorded was 9.

Elizabeth Taylor Gives Birth To Son

Hollywood — (U.P.) — Actress Elizabeth Taylor received her anticipated birthday present right on schedule last night with the arrival of a 5-pound, 12 ounce boy delivered by caesarean section.

She and her husband, former British actor Michael Wilding, named the infant Christopher Edward.

Mother and child were reported in "very satisfactory" condition.

Trailer Owners Select Mitchell For Regional Job

W. R. Mitchell, of the Valley Center Trailer court, Medford, was named southern Oregon director of publicity and membership for the Organized Trailer Owners of Oregon at a recent meeting of the organization held in Roseburg.

Other Officers

Other new officers named at the Roseburg meeting were Mrs. Florence Pitts, Roseburg, president; Richard Firman Sr., Roseburg, vice-president; Raymond Neves, Roseburg, secretary-treasurer, and E. P. Teeter, Portland, director of publicity and membership for northern Oregon.

Firman also was elected coordinator of publicity and membership for the state. He will serve as director for central Oregon.

It was decided at the meeting that the state offices of the organization will be moved from Portland to Roseburg.

Among the topics for discussion at the meeting was the present tax law which is being opposed by members of the Organized Trailer Owners of Oregon. Business agents of two labor organizations were present, and voiced their support of the trailer owners in opposing the tax law.

Local Delegates

Delegates to the meeting from Jackson and Josephine counties were Mrs. Alice Sukow, Shady Oaks Trailer court, Central Point, who is president of the local group; W. R. Mitchell, and Paul Grimes, Valley Center Trailer court, Medford.

A meeting of Jackson and Josephine county trailer owners will be held Saturday, March 5, starting at 7:30 p. m. at the Valley Center Trailer court, 3410 North Pacific highway, Medford.

Klamath TV Station Gets Transmitter

Klamath Falls — Negotiations with national television networks for a new television station in Klamath Falls are now being carried out, according to Alan K. Abner, manager of the station. The letters for the station are KJFI-TV.

A General Electric 5,000 watt transmitter has arrived in Klamath Falls prior to being installed in a transmitter building on radio hill, site of the present KJFI radio transmitter. When the station will begin operation depends on a number of factors, according to Abner.

Engineers have estimated that the coverage of the station probably will include the Rogue valley. The antenna will be approximately 1,000 feet above the average terrain surrounding Klamath Falls. The station is licensed for Channel 2 and will radiate an ERP of 13,600.

Boy's Shouts Attract Police To Auto Trunk

New York — (U.P.) — Robert De Joanis wondered why police were trying to force the lock of his automobile trunk when he arrived after a shopping trip.

He discovered that his 11-year old son, Eugene, had accidentally been locked in the compartment and that the boy's shouts had attracted a passerby who summoned police.

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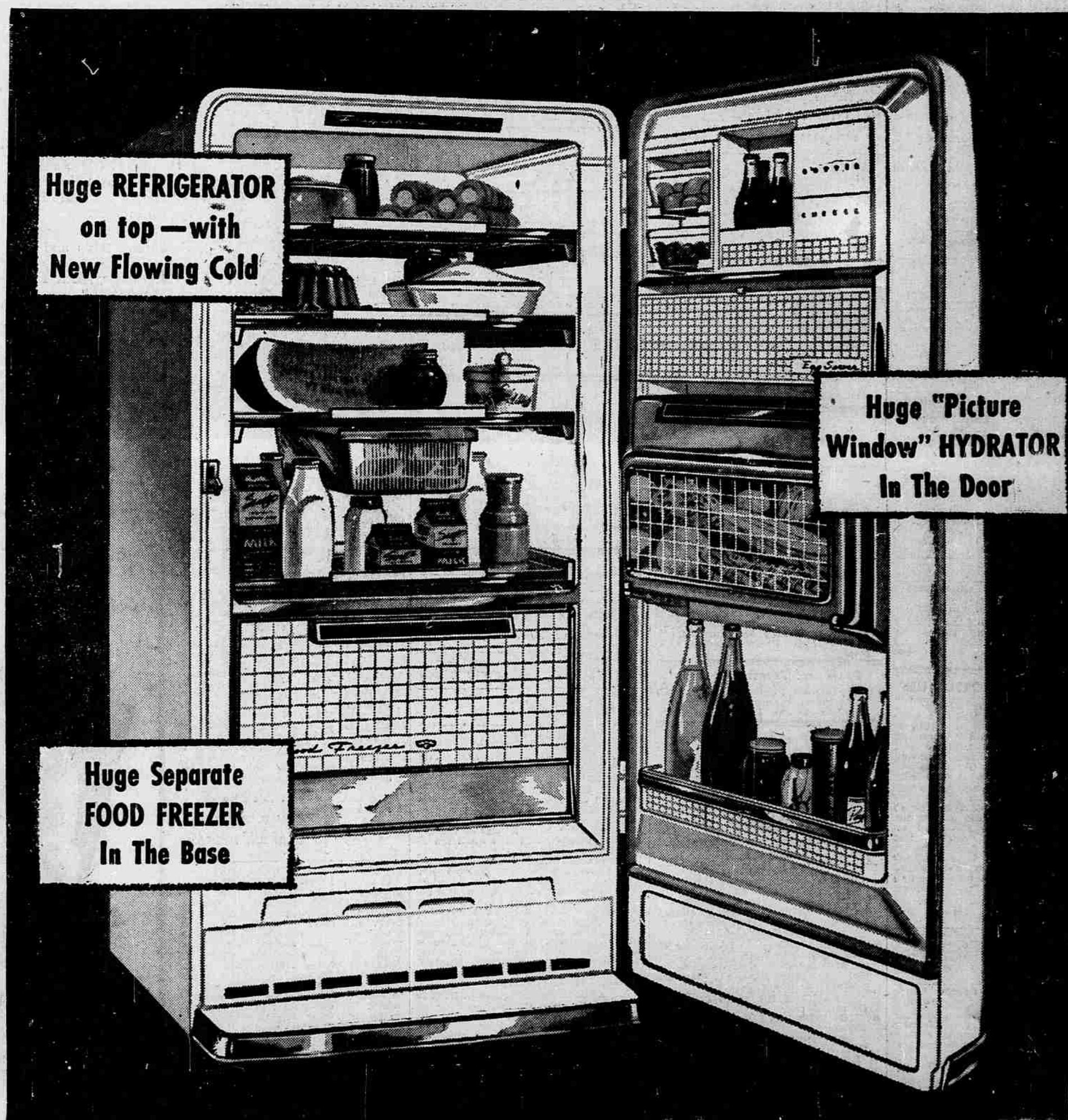
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