

Disaster Unit Plans Talked by Red Cross

Ten disaster units, with some 100 people active in manning them and about 250 persons trained for the job, have been set up in Jackson county, Mrs. O. A. Eden, chairman for the disaster plan, reported to the board of directors of the county Red Cross chapter last week.

She pointed out that the program has a great importance in peacetime, as well as during war in connection with civil defense. The floods in the Rogue valley of three years ago alerted the Red Cross to the need for trained units, Mrs. Eden said, and as a result a representative of the national organization came here to help plan and set up the units.

Chairmen Named

Primary responsibility of a disaster unit is in furnishing food, clothing and shelter to persons made homeless during an emergency. Chairmen for various disaster services are Col. H. J. Meiring, food; John Graff, clothing; Robert Temple, housing; H. Pringle, transportation; and Ken MacDonald, communications.

Mrs. Eden said that section chiefs have been appointed in all communities of the county to arrange for mass care, and the Granges are cooperating, offering their halls as centers for feeding, clothing and housing.

The chairman closed by pointing out that the Red Cross has more and more come to be a symbol of self help.

"It has touched all our lives at some time," she said. "The Red Cross taught us our first aid. The Red Cross taught our children to swim. The Red Cross stood by our sons on the battlefield. And whenever disaster struck—flood, fire or storm—the Red Cross was there. We have not hesitated to take," she concluded, "we should not hesitate to give."

Mrs. J. W. Burba, blood program chairman, reported that

the bloodmobile's next visit will be on April 6, and that 240 pints of blood are needed. For this one visit only, the place has been changed to the Medford YWCA building, she said.

Aid Station Set Up

First Aid Chairman Leroy Williams reported that the county's first roadside first aid station was set up in the Shady Cove area on March 3. He also reported that a class for instructors has been started in Ashland, and that a recent refresher course here had 24 instructors in attendance. The fire department has completed a refresher course, and state police here will soon have its patrol cars equipped with portable first aid kits, Williams said. He added that within two weeks, the entire personnel of the Ashland fire department will have had first aid training.

The work being done by the Gray Lady service in the community was discussed by Mrs. John Day, representing volunteer services. She stressed the importance of the work, especially with blind people, and said that new recruits are needed. She reported that seven representatives of the local chapter attend a hospital council meeting in Roseburg recently.

Take Service Course

All home service volunteer workers took a one-day course in service to veterans last week, under the direction of Max Novak, Portland, field director of the Veterans Administration regional office. It was reported by Mrs. Frank Fairweather.

Touches All

Col. C. E. Stafford was introduced as a newly elected member of the board. It was announced that Mrs. Lillian Salade has been appointed alternate representative to the hospital council, and that Edward Branchfield has been named representative to the United Medford Crusade, with Manville Heisel as alternate.

Dr. Elmo Stevenson, vice-president, was in charge of the meeting.



MERCY FLIGHTS' EQUIPMENT—Shown above are the three major items of equipment owned by Mercy Flights, Inc., Jackson county's non-profit air ambulance service. At left is the Stinson Reliant air ambulance, used for operation from small fields and as a standby plane when the other aircraft is in service. In the center is the twin-engine Cessna, which carries most of Mercy Flights' patients, and is a veteran of thousands of miles of ambulance service. The hangar itself

is a major item of equipment, being owned outright by the organization. It was constructed entirely by volunteer workmen, and includes office and storage space. The city of Medford furnishes the airport space at a \$1 annual rental. A fund for eventual replacement of the planes is being set up by Mercy Flights, which is increasing its pre-paid subscription charge to \$4 per family per year. Details are told in the accompanying story.

Mercy Flights Announces Plans For Price, Operation Changes

Mercy Flights, Inc., Jackson county's non-profit air ambulance organization, Saturday announced plans for administrative changes which will guarantee continuation of its service.

The group's air ambulances last week carried the 334th patient—an average of nearly 1 1/4 flights per week since service was started just over five years ago.

The non-profit corporation has grown from nothing but an idea to a responsible organization with assets totaling several thousand dollars, including a metal hangar at the Medford airport, a twin-engine Cessna aircraft, a single-engine Stinson aircraft, both converted to ambulance planes by the use of stretchers and big loading doors, and considerable radio, first aid and other equipment.

To maintain its planes in top condition, and to plan for future purchase of replacement planes, the group's board of directors has found it necessary to increase its pre-paid subscription charge to \$4 per family per year. Subscription will be \$2 for individuals.

The income from this higher fee will permit the corporation to set up a fund for the purchase of replacement planes, which will become necessary some time in the future, and will allow continuance of maintenance and operations at the present level.

The pre-paid subscription plan "saved" Mercy Flights from going bankrupt when it was first instituted in 1951 about a year and a half after service was first started, and provided it with a regular and reliable source of income. Prior to that, the only income was from flight charges, which were irregular. And since Mercy Flights has

never turned down a patient for inability to pay, the corporation once or twice was in debt with no prospects of getting out.

Four Service Classes

Four classes of service are now offered:

1. For subscribers, emergency ambulance service, certified as necessary by a doctor, within a 400 mile radius (this includes Seattle and San Francisco), is free on both the planes.

2. For subscribers, non-emergency but necessary ambulance service is available at a rate of 25 cents per mile one-way in the Cessna and 17 1/2 cents in the Stinson.

3. For non-subscribers living in Jackson county, the rate is 35 cents per mile in the Cessna and 25 cents in the Stinson.

4. For non-subscribers living outside of Jackson county the rate is 50 cents for the Cessna; 35 cents for the Stinson.

Out-of-county flights are made only in medical emergencies, and only when other air transportation is unavailable. As a non-profit corporation, Mercy Flights does not compete with commercial operators. Its flights are limited strictly to ambulance operations.

Pilots Net Small Pay

When the service began operations, the pilots were unpaid. Since the demand for the service has increased, however, and the calls for pilots are more and more frequent, they are paid at a rate of 3 cents per mile—which in most cases does not compensate them for the time.

All pilots are volunteers, and all observe strict flight safety regulations. All are qualified

and experienced in the type of flying done.

Other phases of the operation being changed includes the bonding of company officers who handle funds of the organization; the centralization of record-keeping, and setting up of a new accounting system. Officers believe these steps together with the increase in rates to provide needed income, will insure the stability and safety of the organization.

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Mrs. J. W. Burba, blood program chairman, reported that

Home Safety Session Planned on March 25

Plans for an area-wide home safety conference, to be held at Southern Oregon college Friday, March 25, were studied and discussed at a meeting of the Medford Safety Council Friday noon.

A film on home safety was shown by Miss Dorothy Huskey, health educator of the county health department.

Dr. William Thompson will be chairman of the one-day conference assisted by Miss Eula Wintertome of the county extension service.

Sponsoring the conference will be a number of organizations including the Safety Council. Other sponsors include the Jackson County Public Health Association, the Jackson County Council for Children and Youth, the Josephine and Klamath county health departments, the state board of health and the

Jackson county extension service.

Principal speaker, it was announced, will be Dr. Harry F. Dietrich, Beverly Hills, Calif., a nationally-recognized authority on child safety practices. Other speakers will include Lawrence Beauchamp, chairman of "Safety Limited" in Camas, Wash., Claude Haggard, safety engineer for the California Oregon Power company, and Dr. Ralph Sullivan, of the state board of health, as well as others.

To Study Intersection

At the council meeting, a committee was appointed to study means of improving the safety of the intersection of Highway 62 and the Camp White turnoff, where there was a recent traffic fatality.

The council also passed a resolution asking the city council to initiate means of utilizing radar traffic control in Medford, which the Safety Council has agreed to help underwrite.

Allan Cameron, chairman of the council, presided.

Business Names Status Changes

Three business names have been filed in the office of the Jackson county clerk, and two retirements from assumed business names have been listed, according to clerk's records.

Floy Kucera, James M. Sims, and Don Kucera have filed the assumed business name Kucera and Sims, for a logging business with an address of Route 1, Applegate.

The assumed business name Boner Candy Service, with an address of Box 1143, Phoenix, has been filed by Howard G. Boner and Johnna T. Boner.

Earl E. Nill has filed the assumed business name Hiway Furniture Exchange, with a Central Point address.

Gordon S. MacKenzie has retired from the assumed business name Gordon MacKenzie Phoenix Agency.

Notice of retirement for the assumed business name Manley and Offord Logging Company has been filed by Earl M. Manley and Ray Offord Jr.

fires and three trash or grass fires occurred.

Equipment was out on rural alarms for a total of five hours and three minutes.

Returned to Medford

Dr. ROBT. E. LEE, Optometrist

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INSTRUCTOR — Capt. Paul Parson, above, head of the southwest Oregon state police district, Medford, will give instruction in the laws of arrest, search and seizure during the advanced police training school now under way at the Medford city hall. Captain Parson's lecture is scheduled for tomorrow. It is the second in a series of eight classes being held here sponsored by the Oregon Association of City Police Officers and the Oregon State Sheriffs association.



OPEN HOUSE TODAY—Shown above are five ambulatory patients and staff members at the Park View Nursing home, 906 West Main st., where an open house is planned today. Ambulatory patients, who are seated, are, left to right, Mrs. Maude Edwards, Mrs. Alma Heilman, Mrs. Sarah Hedberg, Mrs. Nora Jones, and Mrs. Margaret Burroughs. Standing, left to right, are staff members including Mrs. Anna Tonn, Mrs. Juanita Atkins, Mrs. Elizabeth Reed, Mrs. Vevia Grigsby, Mrs. Rouvena Cury, registered nurse and su-

pervisor; A. J. Curry, business manager; Mrs. Jeannette Chapman, Mrs. Esther Erickson, and Mrs. Ethel Hoeft. Although the open house is planned for today, the Park View Nursing home has regular visiting hours and visitors are welcome, according to Mr. and Mrs. Curry, owners and operators of the home. Park View Nursing home is not associated with the Nursing Home association, members of which are also holding open house today. —(Brainerd Photo)

UNICEF Film To Be Shown in Medford

"Assignment Children," a short motion picture featuring Danny Kaye and a number of children in Asia, will start a showing at the Holly theater today. It will run through March 17.

The film was made under the auspices of the United Nations International Children's Emergency fund, and was produced on a non-profit basis by Paramount Pictures. It shows the work UNICEF is doing for sick and undernourished children in Asia, and Kaye, who appeared in the film voluntarily while on a tour of the Far East, was designated as UNICEF "ambassador-at-large."

Proceeds from showings of the picture go to UNICEF aid work. It is being shown with the feature film, "Captain Lightfoot." The short subject runs for 20 minutes, and is in color.

According to those acquainted with the film, it "is more than a motion picture." — it is a learn that governments and people are determined that the means by which millions will children of tomorrow will "be healthier and happier than any preceding generations."

The average worker in the United States loses seven and a half days a year because of temporary illness, reports a Twentieth Century fund study.

36 Fire Alarms Here In February Listed

A total of 36 alarms were answered during February by Medford city firemen. Nine alarms were sounded for the rural district.

Fire Chief Gordon Barker in his monthly report said there were thirteen fires in dwellings, 1 hotel, 1 auto court, 7 trash, 10 gasoline spills, 3 miscellaneous calls and 1 false alarm.

Equipment was in service a total of 11 hours 57 minutes. A total of 107 hours of drill and school was conducted at the stations.

In the rural district, six dwellings were involved in minor



'OPERATION ICICLE' READIED—Plans for supplying members of 'Operation Icicle,' in which 34 scouts and four adult leaders will spend five days in the snow-covered Lake O' Woods country, were being made last week. Test-loading a plane which will be used to air-drop supplies to the scouts are Bob Frazer and Mike Bauer, member of Explorers Post 8,

Bill McNeel, advisor to the post, and Gene Kooser, who will pilot the air-drop plane, owned by George brothers' Rogue Aircraft service. Two groups of boys, one from the Big Pines district of the Medford-Ashland area, and the other from Grants Pass and Cave Junction, will ski and snowshoe into the lake this week.—(Photo by Frank Bash Jr.)

'Operation Icicle,' Scout Trip Through Snow, Set This Week

"Operation Icicle," a five-day trip during which 34 Explorer Scouts and four adult leaders will ski and snowshoe into the

Lake O' Woods area, will begin this week.

It is the third annual trip into snow country, and will have the largest number of scouts along, according to George Fredeen, Grants Pass, who is in charge.

Ski Seven Miles

The boys, who come from the Big Pines and Roaring Rogue districts, will enter the lake area from the Klamath Falls side. They will go by car as far as possible, and will use skis and snowshoes for about seven miles. The first night will be spent in the Boy Scout camp hospital building, where there are facilities for cooking and heating.

The second day they will go to the area known variously as Calamity Flats, and Cold Springs at the base of Mt. McLoughlin. for two nights. Igloos and other shelters, such as snow caves, tunnels between trees and burrows, will be used for protection from the weather. Instructions in camping in snow and cold weather will be given.

Will Drop Food

Food supplies will be dropped from an airplane flying out of Medford at both campsites. Gene Kooser will pilot the George Brothers' plane for the airdrops, and radio contact between the plane and the Scouts will be maintained.

Al Hanson, of the Rogue River National forest, has supervised preparation and packing for the parachute drops, and the forest service is furnishing the chutes.

The fourth night will be spent back at base camp, where a ceremony will be conducted in

recognition of the boys' snow training, camping and rescue work.

Adult Leaders

In addition to Fredeen, who is camping chairman for the scout district in Grants Pass, the adult leaders will be Robert Cotton, Grants Pass, advisor to Post 22; William McNeel, advisor, and Jerry Conner, assistant advisor, Post 8, Medford.

The scouts are from Illinois Valley Troop 70; Explorer Post 24, Jerome Prairie, 22, Grants Pass, Squadron 83 and Ship 88, Grants Pass, and Post 8, Squadron 14, and Troop 9, Medford, and Troop 112, Ashland.

The Josephine and Jackson county groups will go in separately, the first on Wednesday, returning Sunday, and the second on Thursday, returning Monday.

Previous Years

The first year of "Operation Icicle" had 12 scouts from Grants Pass making the trip. Last year 20 explorers from Grants Pass, Medford and Ashland were along. Fred McMullin, field executive in Grants Pass, was leader the first year and was along last year. Fredeen has been on each of the trips.

Four years ago a group of 14 Explorer Scouts from Medford camped on the Butte Falls side of Mt. McLoughlin in a winter survival camp, where they took only flour, salt and shortening for food, and killed a porcupine to stretch out their supplies. This trip did not involve the distances of "Operation Icicle," however, and lasted only three days.

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