

Around Hollywood

By **ALINE MOSBY**
United Press Correspondent

Hollywood —UP— When Dr. William Eschrich hurries around racing tracks in his home-made sports car, he is too busy cornering and shifting to worry about spectators are whispering his car includes the motor from the late Jimmy Dean's death car.

Like others who own anything of Dean's the doctor has been eyed by members of the "cult" who worship the dead actor.

They crowd around the car after the races. Recently when Eschrich ran into some gravel and cracked up at the Pomona Road Races the Dean fans jabbered "Jinx." The superstitious cries grew when Dr. Troy McHenry was killed in the same race after borrowing two small parts from the Dean motor.

But in an interview at the industrial hospital he runs in suburban Burbank the doctor scoffed that "all this superstitious reaction is a lot of balony."

The motor had nothing to do with either accident, he said. "A machine is a piece of equipment and that's all. All this morbid interest by fans in his be-

longings is not normal. I raced with Jimmy, and I'm sorry he's gone. But I wouldn't walk across the street to look at his motor." Eschrich purchased Dean's battered Porsche from a salvage company that, in turn, had purchased it from the insurance firm. The doctor paid \$1,000 for the wreck because, "It was a terrific bargain—the special motor alone was worth at least \$4,000 new."

Motor Repaired
The amateur racer spent about \$500 repairing the damaged motor. He decided to put the motor inside a Lotus body. The Lotus he bought coincidentally turned out to be the later Lotus Dean had ordered but later cancelled in favor of the fatal Porsche.

Eschrich's "Por-tus," as he calls it, also has the frame and near wheels from Dean's Porsche, an MG transmission and a rear end from an Austin Healy.

The doctor gave the body of Dean's car to another driver, who sold it to driver Walt Turner. Parts of the body were used to rebuild Turner's own old Porsche but that car had not yet been raced.

NEWS NOTES from Medford High School

Edited by James Boyd; Staff: Pat Minnis, Sharon Koch, Mike Travis and Charley Goodman.

A bird in the power lines almost caused one student to miss the National Merit Scholarship test given Wednesday morning. The power failure the night before made his alarm go off late and he arrived 15 minutes after the test had started. To add insult to injury, his father works for the power company.

Edward McKinsty, Medford city engineer, spoke to a group of students after school Wednesday, about preparation for an engineering career. He stated that the students of Medford High are "extremely fortunate" that Medford offers these courses in science since many high schools do not.

Mrs. Frances Dempster, assistant to Dr. Alfred Fosdal, spoke on the opportunities in "dental assisting" at another of the after-school vocational conferences last week. The two speakers are but the first of many trying to help Medford students select a career.

Jacque Colton, was selected as Southern Oregon's delegate to the Northwest Area Council at the Hi-Y, Tri-Hi-Y conference in Klamath Falls Saturday, Oct. 20. She will be one of 12 delegates seeking to represent the Northwest at the national conference held at Forest Lake college.

Medford High are students will exhibit their work at the American Association of University Women's are exhibit in the Medford hotel. The exhibit, to be held November 1 and 2 from 7 to 9 p.m., will show work done by professionals as well as students from other schools.

Marion Elkins of Medford was installed as district secretary at the Southern Oregon Conference of Future Homemakers of America in Grants Pass Saturday, Oct. 20.

Highlights of the program were a luncheon; "What's your Glamour I.Q.," a demonstration given by two former New York models; the report of the national meeting and installation

of district officers. Ten schools participated in this conference.

Yelling students ran through the halls Friday afternoon while the fight song reverberated through the long corridors of MHS. The serpentine, starting at the band room and ending at the "pep dance" in the boys' gym, was part of the preparation to meet the Ashland Grizzlies.

The four armed forces academies sent representatives to speak to the boys of Medford high this last Wednesday. Each representative gave a film on his particular academy followed by a brief address. All the college preparatory students were urged to consider the academies.

Wet hair and pin curls are the distinguishing mark now carried by all sophomore girls. They have started their annual swimming classes in physical education. The classes are being held at the YMCA.

Forest Fire Damage Listed Low This Year

Portland — Damage from forest fires on land protected by national forests' fire control forces has been extremely low this year, according to Kermit W. Linstedt, forest service regional fire control chief.

To date the number of burned areas is about 1,500, only slightly above the record low of 1,435 acres in 1953. The average annual figure for the previous five years is 17,367.

Lightning fires were most numerous. The total number of lightning fires started by the end of September this year totaled 1,378 on national forest protective areas. The number of man-caused was 285. To date the total number of fires is approximately 1,763. This is almost double the previous five-year annual average of 912. The fewest number of fires ever recorded was in 1948 when 642 blazes were started.

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