

First-Run Moving Pictures Piped Into Video Sets Under Experiment

Bartlesville, Okla. — (U.P.) — A big movie theater chain has picked this town of 25,000 for an experiment in whether families are willing to pay \$9.50 a month to have first-run Hollywood pictures piped into their TV sets.

The firm, Video Independent Theaters, operates more than 150 movie houses and drive-ins throughout the Southwest. It will invest some \$300,000 to test whether the public will pay monthly movie bills like they do the lights and gas.

To Start in Six Months

Henry Griffing, head of Video, says the service will start in

about six months. He said his firm picked Bartlesville after a market survey team reported that 15-24ths of the people here wanted it.

Video operates the three movie houses here. It may close two of them if the new venture, labeled "Tele-movie," goes over. "This isn't pay-as-you-go television," said Griffing, "and it's not an experiment from a technical standpoint. Anyone can obtain the equipment we will use. Half a dozen companies make it."

For the \$9.50 Bartlesville subscribers will receive approxi-

mately 13 first-run movies each month. They will be carried by cable from a downtown studio. The shows will run continuously from noon to midnight — with newsreels and short subjects like any movie program.

"We will run trailers on coming attractions, but no commercials," Griffing said.

Better Than Ordinary TV

"People with color sets will receive color films in color. On all sets the picture will be better than ordinary TV because we will be using 35 millimeter film. Most movies broadcast over TV now are 16 millimeter."

Griffing said installing the cable would not be charged to the customer. He said the movie would be dialed on one of the channel stops not used in the area. The sets could be used for commercial television on the other channels.

"We expect to lose money for a while," he said, "but ultimately we believe 3,000 to 4,000 Bartlesville homes will have theater service. And the first subscribers will probably have lots of company from around their neighborhoods, just like in the early days of TV."

Morse Bill Seeks Change in Social Security Benefits

Washington, D. C. — Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) has introduced a bill to eliminate the requirement in the Social Security Act which prevents a totally disabled worker from drawing benefits until he reaches age 50.

Co-sponsors of the measure were Sen. Richard L. Neuberger, and Sen. Russell Long (D-La.).

Morse told the Senate: "Last year the Congress adopted a series of changes in the Social Security Act, among them a provision for payment of benefits to persons who have become totally and permanently disabled, starting at age 50. That was a bare beginning. Now we should move forward to do an adequate job.

"Adding disability provisions to the Social Security law was the most notable and desirable extension since the basic law was instituted 20 years ago. But it did not go far enough.

Plight Recognized

"This extension recognized the desperate plight of working people and of their families when the provider is stricken with an illness or sustains an injury which robs him of earning power. This injustice has been removed for persons with social security coverage who are 50 or over.

"However, I am greatly disturbed because the remaining thousands of disabled individuals under 50 are excluded from the extended provisions. Many such families are relying upon meager public welfare funds for their subsistence.

"The bill I have introduced will repeal the unrealistic and discriminatory age requirement of the disability provision. Let us give working people and their families what they earn by their social security payments—namely, security against disabling illness and injury."

Neuberger Joins In NSLI Measure

Washington — Sen. Richard L. Neuberger of Oregon has joined with 49 other senators in sponsoring a bill to give World War II and Korean veterans an opportunity to take out National Service Life Insurance.

The bill, which passed the Senate last year, would make it possible for veterans of World War II and the Korean conflict to take out the full amount of insurance to which they were entitled at the time of their discharge from the service. The American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and AMVets adopted national convention resolutions last year urging such legislation.

Neuberger said the bill was of especial importance to veterans who had permitted their NSLI policies to lapse. Under provisions of the new proposal veterans who originally qualified for the insurance program but passed up the opportunity and those who permitted their policies to lapse would be given one year to apply for insurance coverage.

Douglas Cuts Jobs; Planning Group Quits

Roseburg — (U.P.) — The Douglas county court has announced it was eliminating the posts of building inspector and assistant building inspector, and the entire county planning commission announced its resignation.

The court gave 30-day notices to Building Inspector Charles H. Boniels, his assistant, Chet Hamm, and two research assistants.

The court also invited the seven member planning commission to come back as new members. There was no immediate statement from the members.

The county court said it was planning a sweeping reorganization of the planning commission. It said it was now hunting a qualified public relations man to work under the commission who has a knowledge of building and construction.

The first woman doctor in the United States was Elizabeth Blackwell.

Oregon State to Add Air Flight Training

Corvallis — (U.P.) — Oregon State College announced that it has been chosen as one of 40 colleges in the nation to add flight training to its advance Army ROTC program.

OSC is the first college in the western states to start the program. Fourteen seniors have been selected to start training private pilot certificates before June graduation.

The Medical Roundup

by *Walter Alvarez*

Emeritus Consultant in Medicine, Mayo Clinic
Emeritus Professor of Medicine, Mayo Foundation

I was just reading a book, "Young World and Mine" (Exposition Press) written by my old friend Dr. Halbert L. Dunn, chief of the National Office of Vital Statistics. This book contains so much wisdom that all could profit from reading it. Dr. Dunn says, we should be willing always to face truths. Every so often we should re-examine old ideas in the light of new facts that have recently been discovered by scientists. We should have an open mind on every subject, no matter how unpleasant another person's ideas may be to us, perhaps because of our upbringing or some personal sorrow.

I think of this every day as I get letters from people ordering me to stop writing certain things. Some go one step further and write to the newspaper and perhaps to the owner of the medical journal I edit, demanding that I be fired. How curious we people are! Here in America, while we keep bragging about our blessed right to free speech, hundreds of thousands of us are free doing our best to deny free speech to people whose statements we do not like. For instance, if in this column I were to say anything that might be construed as derogatory by any large group of people, I would next day get a letter from their Public Relations man telling me in no uncertain terms never again to say what I had said—or else.

Study With Open Mind

Dr. Dunn's second golden rule is—Let us always be willing to study with an open mind the view-point of many a writer. Before we shout at him, "You're all wrong," we should stop and think. Perhaps he is right; perhaps his views are based on a mass of facts of which we know little or nothing. For instance, when in this column I say that after reading much technical literature on the fluoridation of water, I have been unable to learn of any harm done by it, dozens of people write angrily to say, "Shut up, you're stupid, you're wrong; you are in the pay of the fluorine trust!"

It does not occur to these persons that, after reading the reports available to me of the many scientific and government commissions that have investigated the subject, I should know immensely more about it than they do. It does not occur to them that, right or wrong, I should have the right to express my views. Although I have read and studied several books on statistics, it would never occur to me to argue with Dr. Dunn for a minute on some statistical point. Back of him is a lifetime of the study of statistics.

Learn From Others

The third rule of Dr. Dunn is — be willing always to learn from others who have much special training and knowledge.

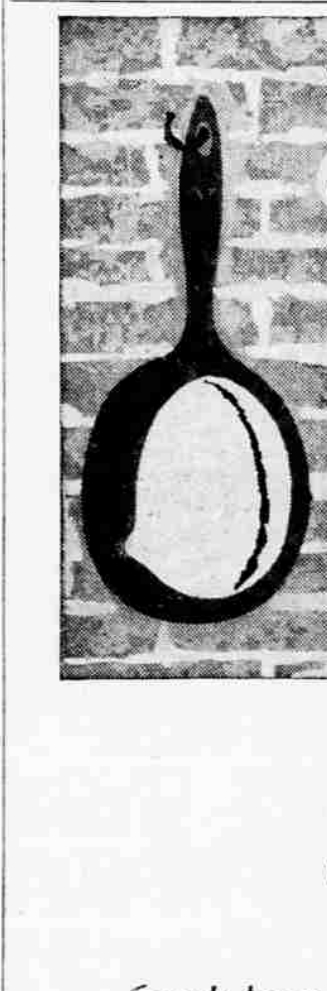
Rule four is—be willing to adjust your views so as to meet another person half-way. The late Dwight Morrow had a great gift for getting hostile groups together on a matter. As I remember, he would begin by finding out quickly which points he and the other fellow could agree on. That immediately got rid of a lot of useless argument. Then the two groups could discuss the points on which they did differ. Often they would find that their antagonism was due largely to their different understanding of what a word meant.

The fifth rule—be willing to take time for contact with other persons.

Rule six is a good one for all those of us who write, and this is, always to give credit to some other chap when it is due him for what he has written. As I used to say to one of my students when, in a paper, he had failed to admit his indebtedness to the work of another writer, "Why not make a friend of the man by saying what is true, that he did a magnificent piece of work? Why not have the joy of having made a friend?"

Be Willing To Help

A good rule is number seven — which is to be willing to help others when opportunity offers,



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