

Neuberger Appeals for Camp White Hospital Before House Committee

Editor's note: Following are excerpts of statements made by Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) before the house committee on veterans affairs with respect to the Veterans Administration hospital program and establishment of a VA hospital at Camp White.

Mr. Chairman, the Veterans Administration hospital program, the largest hospital program in the United States, faces a severe crisis. While the need for hospital facilities and beds continues to increase, the Veterans Administration reflects the Administration's philosophy on economizing and reducing medical care for our veterans.

Congress has provided that a veteran of any war who has rendered honorable service is entitled to hospitalization for a service-connected disability, and for any other disability of the veteran is unable to pay the expenses of necessary hospital care.

Plans To Reduce Load
Let us take a specific example of what the present Veterans Administration hospital program means. At the VA hospital at Roseburg, Ore., the Administration plans to reduce the average annual patient load by 60, from 630 to 270, for the fiscal year 1959. At the same time I was advised on July 7, by the director of the Veterans Administration Congressional Liaison

Service that "as of May 31, 1958, there was a total of 65 eligible applicants awaiting admission to the Roseburg Hospital." So while 65 eligible applicants wait for hospitalization, the Veterans Administration plans to reduce by 60 the number of hospital beds. The Roseburg hospital is a neuropsychiatric hospital where hospitalization is especially important. In April of this year the Veterans Administration threatened to close a ward at the Portland Veterans Administration Hospital, lay off hospital personnel and further increase the waiting list. This was prevented from happening by an emergency allocation of funds which I urged the Veterans Administration to make.

Program Being Strangled
The Veterans Administration hospital program is being slowly strangled by the administration. There is a vast difference between what the Bureau of the Budget permits the Veterans Administration to request and what the Veterans Administration actually needs. I would like to discuss the need for a new Veterans Administration hospital at Camp White, Ore., which is located just outside of Medford. This subject has been ably covered

in detail by Congressman Charles O. Porter.

Medford is a city of slightly over 23,000 people. The Veterans Administration operates general medical hospitals in Portland, Ore., and Oakland, Calif., but there is no Veterans Administration general medical hospital located between these two cities. To the east there is a Veterans Administration hospital located at Boise, Idaho, some 400 miles distant. Within a radius of 125 miles from Medford there lives a population of a half-million people and the veteran population totals almost 100,000. Southern Oregon and Northern California are rapidly increasing in population, at a rate much faster than the national average. The Veterans Administration presently operates a 950-bed domiciliary at Camp White, including a 50-bed infirmary. Camp White was built originally by the Army in 1942-43 and provided a 1,754-bed hospital. The buildings are of brick construction, having a useful life expectancy of 50 years. There are permanent buildings at Camp White, presently unused, which are fully equipped to accommodate a 400-bed hospital.

Space for 100 Beds
The 50-bed infirmary has adequate space for a 100-bed hospital. At the present time the infirmary operates a laboratory, operating rooms, x-ray rooms and a dental clinic at the infirmary. The infirmary is operated for those veterans at the domiciliary, and patients are allowed to stay at the infirmary for not more than 30 days.

The Administrator of Veterans Affairs has told me that it would not be possible to obtain a hospital staff if a hospital were established at Camp White. I do not believe that this is so, due to the rapidly increasing number of physicians and specialists in Jackson county, where Camp White is located. In 1946 there were 36 practicing doctors in Jackson county; in 1958 there are 73 practicing physicians there. In 1954 there were 18 certified specialists; in 1958 there are 42 certified specialists. There has been no trouble in keeping an adequate medical staff at the establishment.

The establishment of a Veterans Administration hospital

at Camp White has the unanimous support of all members of the Oregon Congressional delegation, state officials and civic groups within the area it would serve. I believe that it is also worth noting that the manager of the domiciliary establishment when asked the question: "What, in your opinion, are the most pressing needs in your installation," replied that "conversion from a domiciliary to a center having a hospital, intermediate beds and domiciliary activities with supporting personnel."

I believe that we have demonstrated the need for a veterans hospital to be located at Camp White. It would be desirable at this time to establish a 100-bed general medical hospital at Camp White to serve the veterans of Southern Oregon and Northern California.

Record Portland Sale Reported

Portland — (UPI) — Portland's eight-story Lincoln building was sold for \$3,900,000 Saturday to an investment firm headed by two Oregon lumbermen. It was the biggest sale of a single piece of investment property in the city's history.

Norris, Beggs and Simpson, West Coast investment company, said larger transactions have been recorded but the others involved several property units.

The Equity Management Co., headed by Charles F. Wilson, San Francisco and Robert B. Wilson, Portland, purchased the block-square building. The men are officers of the Warm Springs Lumber company here.

The building was sold by McCabe Company, Inc. It was constructed in 1947-48 and is occupied under long-term lease by Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Co., the Veterans Administration, U. S. Post Office, General Insurance Co. of America and the Glen Galls Insurance Co.

Life Expectancy Extension Seen

Los Angeles — (UPI) — Life expectancy in the United States may be extended from 70 to 75 by the year 2,000, according to Dr. Louis I. Dublin of the Institute of Life Insurance.

Dublin based his statement Sunday on estimates by actuaries in government and life insurance business. However, he said the rate at which the average life span has lengthened is slowing down.

Since 1900, according to Dublin the conquest of diseases which primarily affect the young has added 22 years onto the average life expectancy, bringing it to 70 years.

He said the problem now is to find ways to control diseases which mostly affect older persons.

"Although people will live longer, man's life span will not change materially in the future," he said. "Nature has apparently decreed that man, at the most, can live to 110 years, even with much improved health conditions."

Memorial Services Planned for Airman

Edwards AFB, Calif. — (UPI) — Capt. Iven Kincheloe, a most exceptional airman picked to carry his nation's colors into space in the rocket ship X15, will be honored in memorial services here Tuesday.

After that, the body of the 30-year-old Air Force officer will be taken to Arlington National Cemetery in the nation's capital for burial with military honors.

Kincheloe died Saturday 10 miles from this Air Force test center when his F104 Starfighter developed trouble on routine "test support mission," spun to earth, exploded and burst into flames.

PREMIER IN HOSPITAL
Capetown, South Africa — (UPI) — Premier J. G. Strijdom underwent routine treatment for his heart ailment at a hospital today. He has been suffering from a heart condition for several years.

The University of Illinois Agriculture College advises buying herd bulls on the basis of good performance records. The college says this will greatly improve chances of getting offspring that will perform well.



QUITTING BUSINESS!

MAC & JACK BARGAIN FURNITURE

Entire Store Stock NEW and USED

2 BIG DAYS ONLY!

WE MUST VACATE OUR BUILDING



Buy at Wholesale and Below
Everything Must Go
Rugs, Appliances, Bedroom Sets,
Mattresses, Sectionals, Davenos

SALE STARTS TUESDAY MORNING

Open Both Nites Till 8:30

ALL SALES FINAL

Buy On Time!

EASY BUDGET TERMS

1 Block North of Big Y on Highway 99
Lots of Parking

MAC & JACK Bargain Furniture

Try and Stop Me

By BENNETT CERF

A TROUBLED wife told an analyst that her husband was as sane and normal as she was herself—but for one minor detail: he thought he was a race horse! "Odd delusion," admitted the analyst, "and I'm afraid I'll have to charge you \$10,000 to cure him."



"That's a sum we can easily afford today," she agreed lightly. "Last May, you see, my husband says he won the Kentucky Derby."

My excuse for staying away from work popped up in a Manhattan office. A long-haired accountant, asked to explain why he hadn't shown up at all the day previous, explained apologetically, "See, Boss, it was Mozart's birthday, and I thought I ought to spend it with the kids!"

Was in a midtown night club gazed appreciatively at one of those extraordinarily-endowed new movie queens swept majestically into view. "That girl will go far," he predicted, then added, "In fact, she's halfway there already."

© 1958, by Bennett Cerf. Distributed by King Features syndicate.

MORE

for your dollars!

DOLLAR DAYS

FINAL DAYS OF

Buster Brown Clearance Sale

Just A Few More Days

Sandals or Pumps

NOT ALL SIZES

One lot \$1.00 and \$2.00

<h4 style="text-align: center;">DRESSY FLATS</h4> <p style="text-align: center;">In White, Red, Blue and Black</p> <p style="text-align: center;">\$3.00 and \$3.90</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Value \$7.95</p>	<h4 style="text-align: center;">CHILDREN'S AND BOYS' SHOES</h4> <p style="text-align: center;">ONLY \$3.90</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Value \$7.95</p>
<h4 style="text-align: center;">WOMEN'S CASUAL AND FLATS</h4> <p style="text-align: center;">Values to \$10.95</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NOW ONLY \$4.90</p>	<h4 style="text-align: center;">MEN'S SHOES</h4> <p style="text-align: center;">ONLY \$5 and \$7</p>

Buster Brown Shoe Store

Fluhrer Bldg. 15 So. Central