

Porter To Continue Campaign for VA Hospital Facility

By J. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Correspondent
 Washington—Rep. Charles Porter (D-Ore.) plans to continue the campaign for a veterans hospital at Camp White near Medford, despite continued opposition from the Veterans Administration.

Porter has testified before the House Veterans Committee for the Camp White proposal, relying heavily on material compiled by Eugene Orr, Medford merchant who has dedicated himself to the project.

Sen. Richard L. Neuberger (D-Ore.) also submitted a strong statement in favor of the hospital and against the current policy of the VA to reduce its hospital facilities.

Neuberger's Statement
 "Let us take a specific example of what the present VA hospital program means," Neuberger stated. "At the VA hospital at Roseburg, the administration plans to reduce the average annual patient load by 60, from 630 to 570, for the fiscal year 1939. At the same time I was advised on July 7 . . . that as of May 31, there was a total of 65 eligible applicants awaiting

admission to the Roseburg hospital.

"So while 65 eligible applicants wait for hospitalization, the VA plans to reduce by 60 the number of hospital beds," Neuberger declared.

Congressman Porter has a bill drafted to authorize a 100-bed general medical and surgical hospital at Camp White, but he said the strategy

now is not to introduce the bill since the VA could ignore it anyway and not exercise that authorization.

"Our approach is going to be to try to convince the VA that this would be a good business proposition for the VA," said Porter. "We will stress that this is not a new hospital we want, but it's an enlargement of the existing

hospital at the domiciliary."

Porter said he planned to take this up with the head of VA in order to show that it would be less cost per bed to the VA to open hospital facilities at Camp White than to transport area patients to Portland or Oakland, nearest general VA hospitals.

Neuberger said he felt the VA "hospital program is be-

ing slowly strangled by the administration. There is a vast difference between what the bureau of the budget permits the VA to request and what the VA actually needs."

The senator pointed out that last March the managers of the 23 VA hospitals, medical centers and domiciliaries in the seven western states met at Oakland and adopted

a resolution which pointed out the need for more hospital facilities. The resolution said:

"Our VA hospitals have not received funds over the past several years sufficient to keep abreast of ascending costs. We are endeavoring to maintain a medical program equal to that offered in the community on pre-inflation appropriation levels. Neither

have managers had funds adequate to discharge their specific responsibility in protecting the government's investment in the physical plant and

in equipment. We have economized to the extent that essential care to our patients is inevitably deteriorating."

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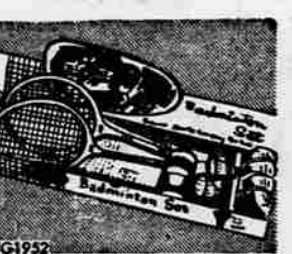
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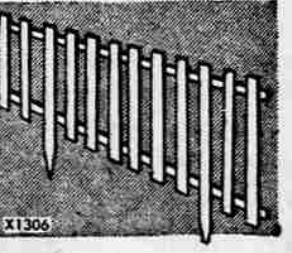
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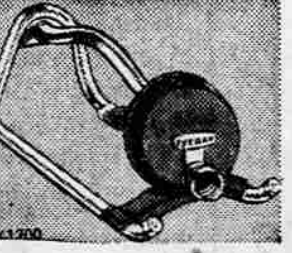
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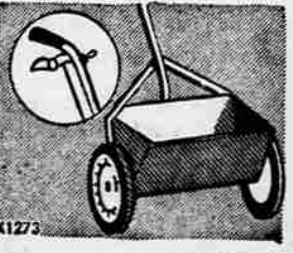
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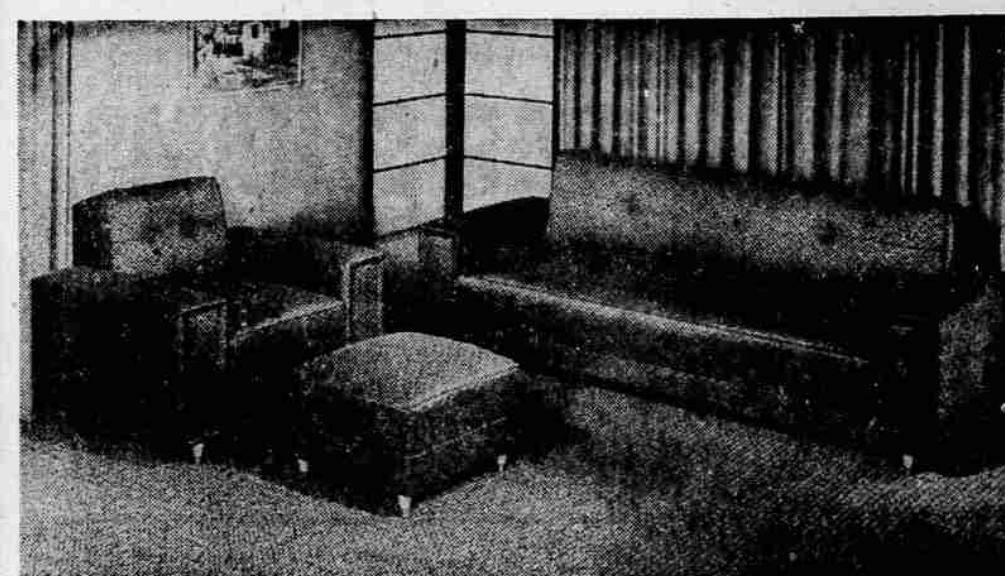
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Rainier, Grace To Be Guests at Ball

New York—(AP)—Prince Rainier III of Monaco and Princess Grace have accepted an invitation to be guests of honor at the fourth annual Imperial Ball at the Hotel Astor Dec. 6, it was announced Wednesday.

It will mark the first time the royal couple has returned to the United States since their marriage in 1936.

Prince Rainier was honor guest at the first Imperial Ball Jan. 6, 1936. Princess Grace, former film actress Grace Kelly, attended that affair while Rainier's fiancée.

REPORT ON FEDERAL JOB
 Washington—(AP)—Federal government employment of civilians increased by 32,832 in June, the biggest jump since 1932, but there was a net drop of 34,560 civilian jobs over fiscal 1938. Senator Harry F. Byrd (D-Va.), chairman of the joint Committee on Reduction of Nonessential Federal Expenditures, reported today regular civilian employment in June totaled 2,408,756.



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