

Key to Cooperation at Veterans Domiciliary Found in Program

(Editor's note: This is the last in a series of articles about Camp White and the rehabilitation work being done there.)

By SID HOLLINGSWORTH
Camp White - In welding together a group of men from all walks of life, there must be an esprit de corps maintained by willingness to go along.

In the pattern devised for its domiciliaries, the Veterans administration seems finally to have found the key that unlocks the door to cooperation with a minimum of resistance.

There was some inclination to resist when the military ranks of captains and sergeants in charge of companies were removed. The companies were converted into sections with "leaders" in charge.

Applies New Ideas
Assistant Manager Harold Jaffrey came to Camp White from central office in Washington and applied many of the new ideas in domiciliary

housekeeping. First, modern beds and lockers were moved in so that the men could be comfortable with a safe place to keep their valuables including clothing. Recognizing that this was an inducement to sleep more than necessary, the medical department set hours for being outside and encouraged even the aged to walk around.

While the trial and error method has been employed in adapting the numerous plans proposed, the resultant system, a product of many starts and conferences, is a new order and one that bears watching for its effects in providing for aging and disabled veterans a way to make life interesting in spite of their handicap.

Special Services
In the reorganization of procedure after World War II, special services was created to tie up all voluntary efforts inside and outside of the VA, including religious observances. Before that, recreation,

shop work and hobbies, church attendance and service organization activities were all separate, and much rivalry for attention was prevalent.

The VA Volunteer Services was devised to bring together all civil agencies, including service groups, who minister to the recreational needs of hospitalized veterans. The VAUS is an adaptation of the USO idea developed in World War II. Today it is an established institution in all VA procedure.

At Camp White, the volunteers have responded in a big way, fitting their contribution to the special conditions found at the domiciliary. In addition to entertainment, they have furnished assistance in corrective therapy with aphasia classes, language study, musical training, gardening, knitting, basket making, hobbies and art instruction.

Clubs Organized
Philately enthusiasts have a stamp club organized by a volunteer. The "rock hounds" have a club affiliated with the Northwest Federation of Mineralogical Societies. A social club of men past 50 years of age has been formed which takes part in local 50 Plus club gatherings. A bridge club has functioned for a number of years, cooperating with local bridge players. The Alcoholics Anonymous group has a meeting night for all AA's in the region to attend.

At no other station has the volunteer plan been developed more extensively than it has at Camp White. The result is as intended, the recognition of the Camp White domiciliary as part of the Rogue Valley community. A feature of the program is the regular appearance of church bodies, including the Salvation Army, at Sunday services.

The "sphere of influence" extends as far as Redding and Dorris in California and north to Portland. Each year, the Young Oregonians bring their show to the theater here. Result is Apparent

The net result is apparent with a more sober and responsible nucleus of men whose condition necessitates living under the protective wing of the federal government. Disciplinary action is no longer the dread it was at one time and with an understanding guard force under the watchful eye of Vic Frost, the human equation is taken into account.

When Acting Manager Banks Paul, an ex-Navy man with the Marines in the war, turns over the reins to the newly appointed manager, Henry Herzog, he can report confidently that "the Marines have landed and have the situation well in hand."

Camp White still preserves much of the independent spirit of the West, which time and circumstance have modified

quite generally. This is noted in the fact that it has a post office address and a regular postmaster, Arthur Scarseth, who is a veteran among veterans.

In addition to handling the VA mail, which on "pay day" is considerable, the Camp White post office serves the community of White City and the bureau of reclamation office on the reservation.

There are no stores for the men here to patronize without going to "town" and so the heavy duty of service falls upon the shoulders of Canteen Manager Clarence Bryan, who has his coffee shop and store open at convenient hours, rain or shine, every day except national holidays.

Helps Husband
Mrs. Bryan helps her husband occasionally but most of the time she is busy assisting in the post office. It is this spirit which keeps Camp White on its toes all the time.

The Veterans administration provides two agencies on the spot to handle personal problems of members, in So-

cial Service and contact offices.

Difficulties in family as well as individual adjustment are reviewed by the former with the contact representative dealing with the complexities of veteran laws respecting claims and payments.

The contact office has been placed in the building across the hall from the post office. It resembles a doctor's office with a commodious waiting room and chairs for the increasing number of veterans who are in doubt about the working of adjudication with respect to pension and compensation.

Heavy Work Load
Due to the review being made of these files in regional offices, a heavy work load is placed on this office at Camp White. Charles M. Cox has been the contact representative here for more than a year.

Another personal service is performed in the adjoining building where the Red Cross gray ladies, VFW and American Legion auxiliaries have offices. Letters are written

for the men and other attention given. Greeting cards and wrapping facilities for packages at present form a thriving activity with Christmas just around the corner and poppy materials to distribute.

Service officers as well as social security representatives call regularly. They include Jerry Bianconi, service officer of Jackson county, and Pat Graham of the DAV and allied service groups, Medford. The American Legion post service officer, Clifford Hyde, has hours between 2 and 4 p.m. on Tuesdays. Post 6412 of the VFW and Barracks 14, WW I Veterans, also are represented at the station.

The "hot stove" league operates during the winter with golf, baseball and other outdoor sports suspended. Indoor games are provided and bowling takes the lead at this time.

The musical theme is preserved with the Camp White orchestra playing at dances and occasional appearances of Caesar Muzzioli and Eve Prentice with their little stars.

4-H Club News

Meadows Busy Beavers
The Meadows Busy Beavers held its second meeting Dec. 6, at the Meadows Union Sunday school building.

Elections for this year's club officers were held. They are president, Patrick Neal; vice president, Sharon Terry; secretary, Shirley McAllister; treasurer, Ruth Ellis; reporter, Bob McAllister; and sergeant at arms, Leroy Rider.

The new leaders for the boys are Mr. McAllister and son. Among the other leaders are Mrs. Pleasant, who will be working with outdoor cooking and forestry, and Mrs. Ellis, who will be working with sewing.

A New Year's party was planned for Jan. 3. Committees were assigned to certain jobs. The next meeting will be at the New Year's party.

Bob McAllister Reporter
An estimated 55 million acres of United States farmland have been released for food crops because of the widespread shift to tractors instead of horses.

The various islands of the world contain about four million square miles of land area and there are various estimates about how many islands are permanently inhabited. If all the registered motor vehicles in the U. S. were lined up bumper to bumper, the line would stretch from New York to San Francisco about 70 times, statisticians claim.

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Grange News

Shady Cove Grange
Shady Cove Grange met Saturday, Dec. 6 at the Shady Cove school at 8 p.m. with master Ed Houston presiding. Plans were made for the joint installation at the Eagle Point Grange on Dec. 21.

A sympathy card was sent to Mrs. Caroline Harding of Upper Rogue Grange. Insurance Agent Cecil Kee was in charge of the lecturer's program, showing pictures on highway safety.

The next meeting will be Dec. 20. Before the meeting there will be a potluck supper in the cafeteria at 6:30 p.m. The HEC met at the home of Mrs. Phil Motesbacker in Edgewood park. The roll call was given by answering something about Christmas in other countries.

Mrs. Agnes Hubble of the Eagle Point Grange installed the following officers: chairman, Mrs. Ed Houston; vice chairman, Mrs. Walter Cross; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Louis Dusenberry.

For her program, Mrs. Edgar Vanderlip read the minutes of the first meeting of the Shady Cove HEC which was in November 1951.

Mrs. Ed Houston gave a report on the Grange dinner given in November.

Mrs. Houston also reminded everyone to bring their own service to the next potluck supper Dec. 20.

The next HEC meeting will be in the Stalter home. The Busy Beaver motel in Shady Cove in January.

Eagle Point Grange
A potluck dinner will precede the Dec. 16 meeting of the Eagle Point Grange. The dinner will start at 6:45 p.m. Following the dinner and starting at 8 o'clock, Archie

Pierce of Medford will show his pictures of the Antarctic. Christmas music will also be featured. All Grange members and their friends are invited to attend. The regular Grange meeting will be held following the pictures.

Ashland Junior High to Reopen

Ashland - Classes at Ashland Junior High school will resume tomorrow with sixth graders who formerly attended class in the building going to Bellview school.

The junior high school building was closed last week after the entire third floor was condemned by the state fire marshal's office following an inspection of the structure.

No changes in class hours or teachers are necessary, according to Berl Cox, principal of the junior high. Students in the Bellview area may go directly to the Bellview school, and sixth grade students living in the Lincoln school area will be transported to Bellview school by bus.

The cafeteria at the junior high school building will be closed and pupils are either to take their lunch or make arrangements to purchase noon hot lunches at the Lincoln school cafeteria.

The junior high school cafeteria was closed to provide more room for classes, which formerly occupied the third floor.

The Declaration of Independence was signed more than 14 months after the first hostilities of the Revolutionary War at Lexington and Concord.

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