

Van Dyke To Speak at Local Observance of VA's Birthday

U. S. Commissioner Frank Van Dyke, Medford, will speak at a local observance of the Veterans Administration's 30th birthday at 7:30 p.m. Thursday, July 21, at Kim's restaurant.

H. C. Herzog, manager of the VA domiciliary at White City, said other guests also have been invited. About 120 employees and volunteer representatives of the VA in this district are expected to attend the event, Herzog said.

The local "birthday" celebration is one of many scheduled throughout the country wherever a VA installation is located.

Record of Achievement
"We of the VA look forward to a fourth decade of renewed challenges and opportunities to promote the welfare of veterans and their families," Sumner G. Whittier, administrator of Veterans Affairs, said in making public the record of achievement since the establishment of the Veterans Administration, July 21, 1930, by executive order of President Herbert Hoover.

When the various bureaus, agencies, hospitals, offices and activities dealing with veterans affairs were consolidated, the vastness of the undertaking that was to follow was hardly dreamed of with its prospect of providing for 15,000,000 veterans of WW II and another 5,000,000 following the Korean conflict.

There are still 2,750,000 WW I veterans whose average age is 66 years entitled to benefits under the law. The dwindling number of Spanish-American war veterans whose average age is 82 years, has been reduced to 40,000.

Rehabilitation
The early program was designed mainly for rehabilitation of the many shell-shocked, crippled and maimed veterans of World War I, together with an increasing number needing special hospitalization in neuro-psychiatric hospitals, stressing this phase of medicine for the first time in the annals of veteran care.

Under the direction of Administrator Frank Hines, the work was coordinated under the rules and procedure which he developed to effect a smoothly operating system at a time when economic and so-

cial conditions throughout the nation were in a state of confusion and turmoil.

During this period a basis was established for meeting the veteran problem which, with the changes made in the law from time to time, has served to effect in this country an efficient method, capable of coping with conditions as they arise.

Insurance, Pensions
In addition to the establishment of homes established in strategic areas of the country, the business of handling benefits from both insurance and pensions as well as compensation for service connected disabilities was developed.

Regional offices were opened to facilitate the operation and relieve the congestion of cases accumulating at the central office in Washington,

D. C., where the old pension bureau was located and where all disbursements were made in the early days.

Ever since there has been an America for which men fought and died, there have been benefits of various kinds for those who served and for the families of those who were killed.

For an equally long period, there has been governmental machinery to administer the benefits. Many years before the establishment of the United States.

First Record
The first veterans' benefit enacted in America is one of the Pilgrims of Plymouth Colony in 1636, which provided that any soldier injured in defense of the Colony "shall be maintained competently by the Colony

during his life."
Congress gave up control of pensions in 1819 and established a pension bureau in the war department where it remained until 1849, when it was moved into the newly created department of the Interior. It remained there until the VA took it over in 1930.

During World War II, the VA was handicapped by the loss of many members of the medical personnel including physicians, dentists and nurses. Finally, it became necessary for VA hospitals to be staffed by Army and Navy officers with many of the doctors commissioned and assigned to VA installations.

GI Bill of Rights
The next undertaking of the VA was handling the GI bill of rights called "the largest problem of mass education

and training the world has ever seen." More than 10 million veterans went to universities, trade and technical schools, job and farm training and special handicap schooling.

The GI bills raised the educational level of the entire country and gave early impetus to colleges and universities everywhere to expand their facilities to provide for the three million young men and women seeking higher education.

Vocational counseling was introduced to aid in job placement and this field of social service was given an impetus in the entire country. The range of counseling extends from war orphans at age 14 to retired servicemen at age 60.

Major Force
The sociological signifi-

cance of the vast structure of veterans benefits and services has been a major force in shaping American society and serving as a beacon of hope for the millions of men and women who had to reenter peacetime life, it is stated.

Not to be overlooked in the list of benefits has been the GI home loan program which is said to have changed the architectural face of America. Every sixth house built since WW II has been financed under this plan.

At present, the major undertaking of the VA is in medical research. It is reported that more research in psychiatry and psychology is conducted by the VA than any other agency of the government. More than 8,300 VA medical research projects are under way at the present time, Whittier said.

Court Agrees To Buy Ashland Land

The Jackson county court Friday agreed to purchase 2 3/10 acres of land at Mountain ave. and the railroad tracks in Ashland on which to store county road department equipment, County Commissioner Ralph James said.

Purchase price is \$7,500, James said. Effective now the county will have use of the property rent-free until Jan. 1 when it will assume ownership. The county has been using the property for maintaining a storage shed for 20 years. However, the property was recently acquired by a group of Ashland people who wanted the county to pay more rent or buy it.

County court members inspected the property Thursday.

EDUCATION LAWS
All of the U.S. states have compulsory education laws.

France has possessed Martinique since 1635.

CAT POPULATION
There are an estimated 20 million cats in the U.S.

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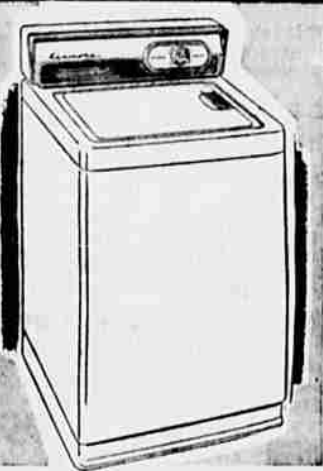
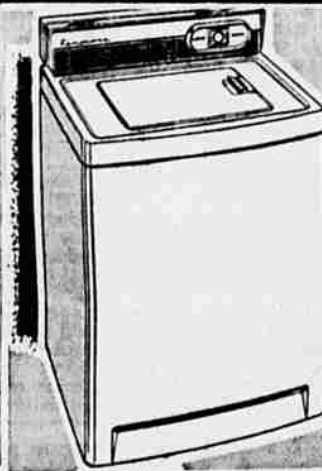
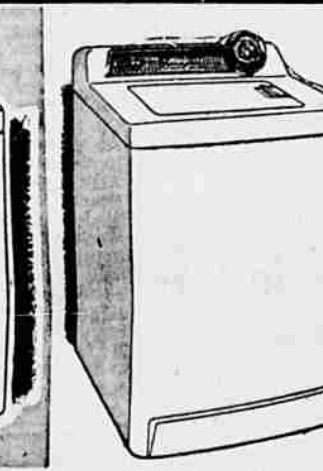
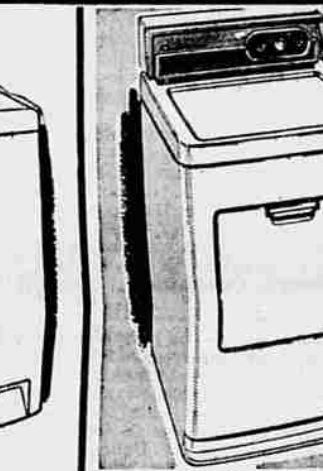

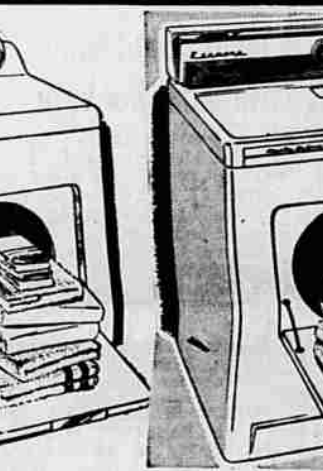
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Summer Program For Youths Gets Good Welcome

Jackson county's first youth summer work program has received an enthusiastic reception from teen-agers in the area but employers are in short supply.

Fred Stock, chairman of the Medford 20-30 club-sponsored project, said Friday that more than 600 youths have filed job applications in Medford and about 200 have filed in Ashland.

But it's a different story with employers. There have been only 30 job referrals in Medford and the one in Ashland.

Most of the employers have been teen-agers seeking live-in jobs to do such chores as yardwork and baby-sitting, Stock said, adding that this type of employment is what is needed to make the project a success.

First of Its Kind
The program, first of its kind in this area, opened nearly two months ago. Prospective employers in the Ashland-Talent area should contact East Side pharmacy, 264 East Main st., Ashland, at MURdock 9-8111. Those having employment opportunities in Medford and all other areas of the county are asked to call the state employment service, 119 North Oakdale ave., at Spring 2-5297.

Both clearing houses, Stock continued, are "very enthusiastic" about the potential of the youths who have filed applications. He said John Patton, manager of the local office of the state employment service, told him teen-agers should not be discouraged since there presently is a lack of jobs all over the valley.

Patton said he expects the picture to brighten late in this month when fruit work begins.

"I hope," Stock added, "that local employers - both businessmen and individuals - will give their whole-hearted support throughout the remainder of the summer to make the program a success and increase the chances of having a similar program in years to come."

CRASH INJURES THREE
Gresham - Three Oregon men were critically injured in a two-car, head-on collision on state highway 26 near here Friday night. The victims were identified as Sylvester C. Earp, 51, Prineville, driver of one of the cars; Wilbur D. Rushing, 40, Albany, driver of the other vehicle; and William Howard, 31, Gresham, a passenger in Rushing's auto.