

Membership Drive by YMCA To End on Friday

A month-long membership drive by the Medford Young Men's Christian Association will end Friday, March 31, and indications are that the drive will be successful, according to YMCA officials.

Goal in the drive is 1,000 new members and a total of \$7,000, the amount needed to complete the budget for the new year, officials said.

A victory banquet is scheduled Friday, April 7, and during the week following the concentrated drive, YMCA officials will try to have all reports gathered and included to determine the memberships obtained this month.

The Medford YMCA is in its 17th year. It first opened in what is now the federal building on North Riverside ave., and was located in two other buildings before moving into its present location in 1949.

Services Expanded

Since the YMCA moved into its present building, its services have expanded to include almost all types of recreation, club activities and other programs for both youth and adults.

Ground for the building was broken in 1947, and Bessonet and Graf Construction company proceeded with construction. Although financial assistance was slow, volunteer labor and materials accounted for much of the work on the building.

The local carpenters union mustered about 50 men, all of them volunteers, and laid 5,720 square feet of hardwood floor in three areas of the building in less than four hours. The floors finished were in the gymnasium, the social hall and the handball court.

The plasterers and painting contractors volunteered much of their work, as did several other individuals and organizations in the area.

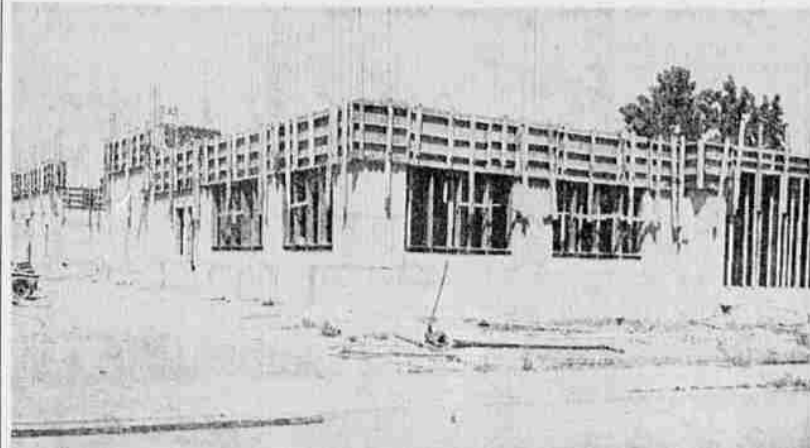
Governor Participates

As a result, a building valued in 1951 at \$206,000 cost the community less than \$120,000 when built. The building was dedicated May 22, 1949, in ceremonies in which the late Gov. Douglas McKay participated.

Funds for operation of the YMCA and its activities are derived from two sources. Membership dues, fees and projects account for about 60 per cent of the total operation, including camping. Contributions through the United Medford Crusade account for about 40 per cent of the total operational costs.

Fees for youth membership have consistently been able to remain low because of the community support through the United Medford Crusade, YMCA officials noted.

Present enrollment of members totals 1,882 persons, with 800 of them youths under 18 years old.



UNDER CONSTRUCTION — This picture shows the Medford Young Men's Christian Association building on West Sixth st. under construction in 1948. Much of the work was done by volunteer help. Bessonet and Graf Construction company had the contract for building the structure.



BUILDING TODAY—This is the Medford YMCA building as it appears today. Included in the building is a gymnasium, a social hall and a swimming pool, along with other facilities for all types of recreation and activities for groups and individuals.

Open House Slated At VA Domiciliary

White City—Southern Oregon and northern California residents will be welcomed Sunday, April 9, between noon and 5 p.m. at an "open house" and reception at the Veterans Administration, White City, Manager Henry C. Herzog has announced.

"We are doing our utmost to make this open house and reception worthy of the support we receive throughout this large territory," Herzog said. "We feel this is the opportunity for the public to meet the staff of this large Veterans Administration facility and to become personally acquainted with the installation, its programs and objectives."

Conducted tours which will show the public the domiciliary library, dining rooms, a representative ward housing members and the newly decorated and refurbished buildings for hobbyists and recreation. The areas which are used by representatives of the 22 volunteer organizations providing services which include recreation and games through free sewing and repairing work are included on the tours.

Herzog pointed out that most communities are rapidly becoming more and more aware of the approaching problems of the aged and the retired as the United States and local populations age.

"We also feel that officials and residents will be interested in the multitude of activities sponsored by the Veterans Administration and the nationwide organizations of volunteer workers for the disabled retired," he said.

"The problems of retirement are urgent and real to all citizens and here at White City we are prepared to show the various programs of recreation, entertainment, hobbies, gardening, arts and crafts, music, art, writing and a host of other activities which point the way towards happier and more productive retirements."

The annual arts, crafts and hobby fair exhibits will be shown on the floor of the theater building, Herzog pointed out. Refreshments will be served throughout the afternoon in this area, he said.

During 1960's reception more than 2,500 people, in-

cluding the officials of government, civic and fraternal organizations, visited the VA domiciliary. Veterans organizations and auxiliary members work the year around pointing efforts to the successful display of domiciliary members' arts and crafts, Herzog stressed.

"Fine hand weaving, loom work and hand arts and crafts of all kinds bring back a part of history that is swiftly disappearing from our lives," he further pointed out.

"We have men here who have been master craftsmen—one is a descendant of the fine masters of Switzerland, O. R. Kipfer Sr.—whose skills have come down

through the centuries from the historical guilds. Live demonstrations will be given throughout the afternoon on the theater floor including metal spinning, knitting, leather tooling and loom work."

Ample parking spaces, guides and all assistance will be offered the public, Herzog concluded.

PORT INDUSTRY

New York—New York City has about 550 miles of developed water front and employs an estimated 250,000 persons in the import-export business.

LAKE WATERS

Washington — It is estimated if all of the lake water in the world was poured into the oceans, the sea level would be raised by only about two feet.

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The Week in California

Attempts To Stop Wilkinson From Speaking End in Failure

By United Press International
Frank Wilkinson, who faces prison for defying the House Committee on Un-American Activities, spoke at the University of California despite efforts to cancel his appearance.

An overflow crowd of 5,000 students gathered at the university's Wheeler hall to hear the speech. Four thousand of them had to stand outside and listen to Wilkinson over loudspeakers.

There were no demonstrations. Wilkinson has been sen-

tenced to a year in prison on a contempt of Congress charge for refusing to testify before the Committee on Un-American activities about possible Communist affiliations.

Brings Objections
His scheduled appearance at the university brought objections from two Baptist ministers who went to Sacramento with an 80-car caravan in a vain attempt to have Gov. Edmund G. Brown forbid the speech.

Brown said he had no authority to silence Wilkinson. "I think you are on dangerous ground," he said. "You are moving from one danger to another by censoring people."

President Clark Kerr of the university also refused to interfere, saying the university was "not engaged in making ideas safe for students, but in making students safe for ideas."

As Wilkinson finished his speech, a student asked him, "Are you a Communist?"

He replied that his principles could "best be served by declining to answer until such time as the courts declare such questions, under compulsion, to be unconstitutional."

Wilkinson said his case was a test made along with about 40 others. He planned to go east next week, but did not know when he would be ordered to begin his jail term, he said.

He denied that he helped incite the demonstrations against House Committee on Un-American Activities hearings in San Francisco last May, but said he was present.

Wilkinson was graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles in 1936. He is chairman of a Los Angeles committee to preserve American freedoms, and a representative of the American Committee to Abolish the House Committee on Un-American Activities.


His appearance at the university was sponsored by SLATE, a student political organization.

Elsewhere, there were these developments:

Crash: A six-man test crew was killed when a four-engine Super - Constellation crashed and burned in a rice field near Gridley, Calif., on a shakedown flight from McClellan Air Force base at Sacramento. An Air Force spokesman said there were no classified weapons aboard the plane and the cause of the crash was not known. "There was no word from the plane at all - it just disappeared," he said. The crash happened in a swamp area three miles from the nearest paved road and 300 yards from the nearest dirt road. Heavy rains made the crash scene impassable to vehicles.

Veterans: A state official charged that California's home for veterans in Yountville was run under a loose administration that encouraged drunkenness among the aged inmates. The charge came from Joseph H. Farber, director of the department of veterans affairs, whose report on the Napa county institution went to Gov. Edmund G. Brown. Farber said his nine-month investigation showed that 1,854 inmates of the home "come and go as they please" and many "consume a lot of alcohol in Yountville taverns." Brown said he enthusiastically endorsed reforms proposed by Farber.

Reward: Douglas W. Johnson of Los Angeles chose \$10,000 for "urgent" family needs rather than security as a \$90-a-week guard as his reward for returning \$240,000 he found laying in the middle of the street. Most of the money will go for a house for Johnson and his family. Johnson, 50, part-time maintenance jobber for building contractors, took 10 days to make up his mind. He was looking for a job on March 10 when he saw a canvas bag containing \$240,000 in unmarked bills in the middle of the street. It had fallen through the open door of a Brink's armored car.



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