

Where They Read

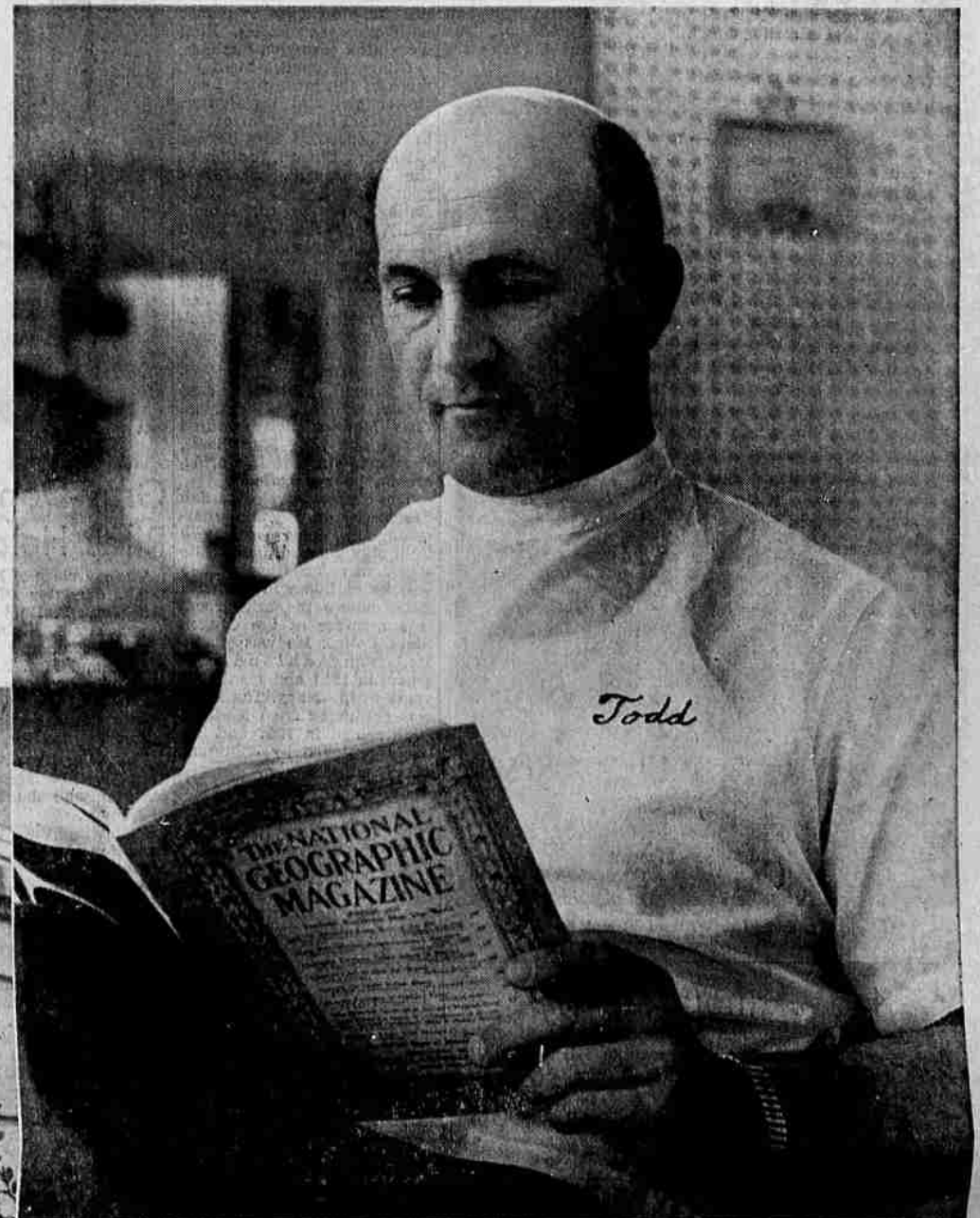


"A better-read, better-informed America" is the goal of National Library week, which opens today. The reading record of Ansley E. Hutchinson (above), would gladden the hearts of the men and women of the sponsoring group, the National Book committee, Inc., for Mr. Hutchinson, a retired U. S. forest ranger, now living at 912 South Holly street, reads many hours every week. One of his favorite reading spots is in the family car while waiting for the distaff side of the family. In addition to newspapers and magazines, Mr. Hutchinson reads many books and not long ago borrowed from the Public Library the Lewis and Clark journals, taken from the original. In recent months he has also read Gibbon's "The Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire," William L. Shirer's "The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich," "The Compact History of the Civil War" by R. Ernest and Trevor N. Depuy, and Leonard Cottrell's "The Last Pharaohs."

As soon as Nancy Gordon arrives home from McLoughlin Junior High school, she settles herself in a comfortable spot to read. Nancy, oldest child of the Rev. and Mrs. James Gordon, 1324 Mt. Pitt avenue, reads books on many topics from both the school and the public library, and augments her formal education. An eighth grader, she is a member of Torch Honor society. Mrs. Gordon states that Nancy reads four or five books each week, in addition to her school assignments. The Gordon family, which includes Jim, 12, Judith, 8 and Becky, 3, came to Medford recently from Terra Bella, Calif.



Thousands of American women read while sitting under the dryer after a hair set, and one of these is Mrs. Ralph Matlack, 3287 Forest avenue, who took along James A. Michener's "Hawaii" when she went to Rolland's salon last week. A soprano, Mrs. Matlack is well known in the Rogue Valley's musical circles and sometimes substitutes a musical score for a book or magazine. The Matlacks have two sons, Bruce, 6, and Blake, 3 months old.



Angus Todd, who operates the barber shop at 132 North Riverside avenue, Medford, reads whenever he gets a chance during the day. Sitting down for a few minutes helps "rest" his feet and at the same time gives him a chance to read about local and world news. Mr. Todd prefers newspapers and periodicals dealing with current events, travel and sports. Reading is important to a barber, he feels, because it enables him to be informed on a number of subjects that a customer may discuss with him. Mr. Todd came to Medford with his parents when he was seven years old, was educated in the Medford school system and now lives with his wife and children at 12 Ashland avenue.

When Photographer Robert Vroman visited the Public Library of Medford and Jackson County last week, one of the library patrons was Stanley Floreak. Mr. Floreak came to Medford a short time ago from Seattle, hoping to find employment, and is making his home with a friend, Richard Ketchum, 822 South Oakdale avenue, for the present. With so much leisure time to fill, Mr. Floreak finds it to his advantage to spend some of it in the public library where there is a wealth of reading material on every conceivable subject.

