

Kiwanis Club's Dental Clinic Dedicated At Medford Hospital

"You've filled a real need and you've done it magnificently," declared Elliott Becken, assistant superintendent of Medford schools, yesterday in addressing those responsible for the Kiwanis club-sponsored dental clinic at Rogue Valley hospital.

Becken was one of four men who spoke yesterday in connection with the dedication of the clinic which is included as part of the \$40,000 dental clinic facilities of the hospital.

"What you have done is a wonderful thing in the way of community help," Charles Gustafson, hospital administrator, said.

"We of the health department feel extremely fortunate for this service," Dr. A. Erin Merkel, Jackson county health officer, remarked.

Chester Wendt, county commissioner and chairman of the Kiwanis dental clinic board, presided over the dedication portion of the service club's luncheon program and gave statistics on the clinic.

The countywide dental clinic, providing care for needy youngsters, is financed by the Kiwanis club. County dentists participate by donating a certain amount of time each month. The city and county schools, the county health department and the hospital cooperate in the project. All groups and agencies were represented yesterday when the Kiwanians held their regular noon luncheon in the hospital auditorium.

The Kiwanis clinic had its beginning in 1957 when facilities were housed in a trailer. Later, permanent facilities were set up in the county courthouse.

Number of Patients

Wendt reported that the clinic has treated 1,483 patients since 1957. Dentists have made 12,277 surface fillings and performed 2,329 extractions. Sixty-three spacer devices have been installed and 58 crowns, 16 dentures and 28 partial dentures made.

Praising those who have made the Kiwanis clinic go, Becken said that watching the clinic has been "one of the richest experiences I've had." He brought out that the clinic was "moving into a facility which probably cannot be equalled anywhere in this country."

Gustafson told of the incorporation of the Kiwanis-sponsored project in the overall plan of Rogue Valley hospital. He presented Dr. Billy Blackstone, president of the Kiwanis club, a key to the dental clinic. Blackstone said that the clinic has done more than \$100,000 worth of dental work since 1957.

Prior to the dedication, Kiwanians and their guests heard a talk by Dr. H. Harrison Clarke, research director in the University of Oregon department of physical education.

Medford Growth Study

Clarke spoke of the Medford Growth Study which he is supervising in the local public school system and noted that it has brought wide recognition to Medford. The study of physiological and motor growth in boys has been under way here six years.

Dr. Clarke reported that 14 scientific articles have concerned the Medford study and that others are in the process. He said that 26 graduate theses at the university have been based on the growth study and that about 20 more are being written. The Medford study also has been mentioned in a New Zealand book.

Clarke also reported that the study is more than one on growth. Many of the tests are being related to other factors involving the total individual.

One reason that the Medford school system was picked for the study, Clarke reported, was because of its athletic program beginning in the ele-

mentary schools. One of the objectives of the study has been to seek some answers in connection with the controversy over whether boys in low the ninth grade level have

been banned in many places, programs which are highly competitive have been set up outside of schools. He indicated that the study

shows that using age to determine whether a boy is ready for competition is a weak criteria. Boys are tested as to matur-

ity, physique, strength and reactions, Clarke mentioned. Personality, interest and aptitude inventories are taken. Many and fascinating indi-

vidual differences are found, the researcher reported. Southern Oregon college and the Athletic Institute of Chicago are among those cooperating in the study with the University of Oregon and Medford schools.

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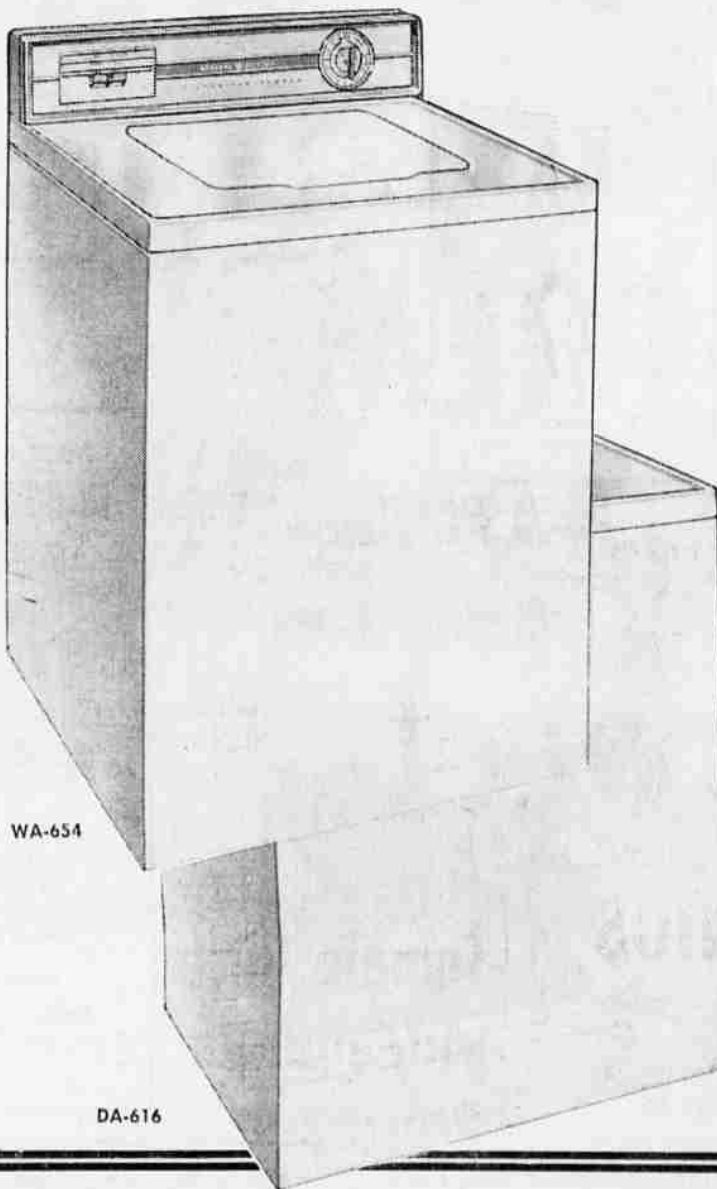
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Pinnacle Employees Hold Annual Party

Employees of Pinnacle Packing company were guests of the management at the annual banquet recently at Rogue Valley Country club. About 150 attended the event, music for which was provided by the Millaires of Medford.

The banquet is almost a tradition with employees and management at Pinnacle. Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Murphy are owners of the company.

The season is not over yet, since Pinnacle is one of the local packing houses which provides Christmas employment for a large number of people.

Cecil Bell, superintendent, and the floor lady, Mrs. E. J. Stillwell, have expressed appreciation to floor help, sorters and packers for their cooperation in making the year a success. Gifts from workers were given to both as tokens of appreciation.

Other guests included were Mr. and Mrs. Meta Simon, Sams Valley, owners of the Pelton orchard, and Mr. and Mrs. George Lyons of the Lyons orchard.