

Vet Requests For Home Appraisals Soar In February

Monthly Rate Exceeded 50,000 Seventh Straight Month

Veterans Administration received requests for appraisal for more than 104,000 proposed and existing homes for veterans during February, the highest monthly total since October, 1950, VA announced.

The February total was 38 per cent above the 75,493 units for which VA received appraisal requests in January and 86 per cent more than the 55,954 received in February, 1954, the month the current surge in home-building activity got underway.

VA said the October, 1950, total of 119,734 units was artificially induced in that many builders put in appraisal requests prior to the imposition of credit controls shortly after the start of the Korean conflict.

Of the 104,188 units for which appraisal requests were received last month, 64,192 were from builders for proposed homes. This was 17,988 above January and 87 per cent above the 34,407 received in February, 1954.

The remaining 39,996 appraisal requests received last month were for existing homes, 10,707 above January and 86 per cent above the 21,547 received in February, 1954.

Home loan applications received by VA during February totaled 55,621 making it the seventh straight month the rate has topped 50,000. The February total was 3,704 over that for January and more than double the 26,865 received in February, 1954.

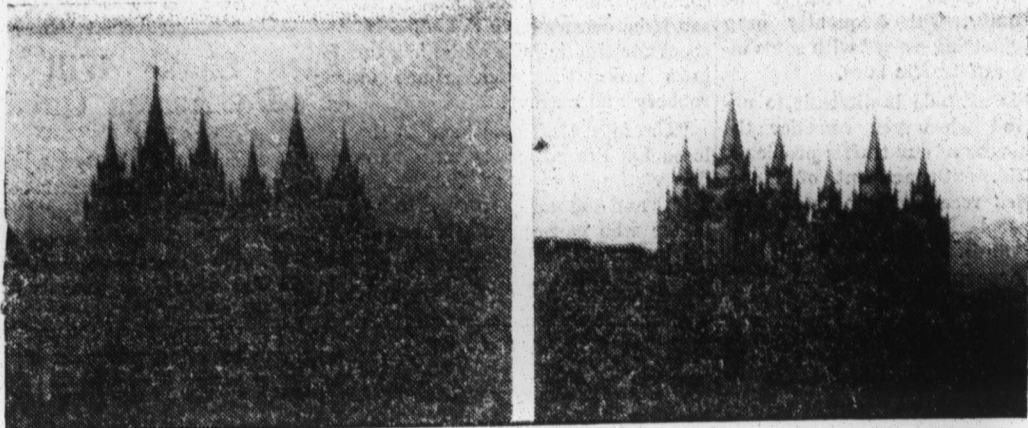
School Milk Program Now Well Underway

By mid-January, 42,000 schools were participating in the special school milk program provided by Congress in the Agricultural Act of 1954.

The U. S. Department of Agriculture, general administrator of the school milk program, reports that 10,600 more schools joined the program between the end of November and mid-January. About one-fourth of the schools eligible to join—all nonprofit schools of high grade or under—are now participating.

Milk consumption in participating schools increased during November to more than 90 million half pints, which was 55 per cent over their normal consumption of 58 million half pints.

The Department of Agriculture estimates that over 3 billion pounds of milk would be needed in a year to supply every American child with a half pint of milk at school each day. Less than half of this amount is now consumed in school, and it is being consumed by far less than half of the school children. At present, out of 34 million children enrolled in school, it



ATOMIC DAWN—Mormon Temple at Salt Lake City, Utah, is shrouded in early morning darkness, left, seconds before explosion of a nuclear device at Nevada Proving Grounds, 370 miles away, turns night into day, right. Biggest device exploded in the current series of tests, its blast was felt in Salt Lake City, light seen as far away as Bellingham, Wash., 1080 miles from the test site.



60-SECOND SERMONS

BY FRED DODGE

TEXT: "It is much easier to be critical than correct." — Distracted

A country carpenter of considerable skill visited his son in a big city. The son proudly showed his father the points of interest without receiving any comment. Finally, they reached the highest corner in the city. Skyscrapers towered all around. The son could see that his carpenter-father was properly awed. He looked at the buildings for some time, then walked to the curb. Raising his thumb at arm's length, shoulder high, he squinted intently down the row of skyscrapers. Finally, he spoke.

"Got 'em pretty plumb, didn't they?"

leaders that at present there are 29 girls in college because of the fund. She added that 16 out of 14 applications for the year 1955-56 were approved by the committee. Mrs. T. J. Benthall of Aboskie, Route 3, citizenship chairman, reported to the group that North Carolina would be invited to send a delegate from each of the 27 Federated Districts to the annual Citizenship Conference in Washington, D. C., in September. The board voted to send 27 delegates in 1955.

Mrs. F. F. Gibson of Laurel Hill, president of the North Carolina Federation of Home Demonstration Clubs, presided over the two-day session.

ACREAGE UNCHANGED

March 1 reports from Tar Heel farmers indicate intentions to plant a total of 39,000 acres of Irish potato this year. If current intentions materialize the 1955 acreage will be the same as was planted in 1954, but 38 per cent below average, reported to the club age.

No matter how little we know and understand, we can find something to praise in the other fellow. Though we may not understand what was built, how it was done or why, we can praise the fact that the building is "plumb." When we notice a fellow man's good points, the things we do not like or understand about him become less important. Maybe if we were more wise, if we had a greater understanding ourselves, we would see many more good things about him. Criticism of others merely turns the spotlight on our own lack of understanding. Before criticizing, look for the good points. The world will love you for it.

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Health For All

Atomic Energy Works For Health

The world of the future: cars with atomic engines, houses automatically heated. We think of things like this when people talk of the peaceful uses of the atom. But atomic energy is already at work for us in the laboratories of medical researchers seeking even better ways to cure and prevent disease.

Scientists have found that by "labeling" a substance they are studying with radioactive isotopes they can follow its behavior more accurately than ever before. These isotopes are by-products of the manufacture of atomic energy and are allocated for research by the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission.

A group of investigators at the University of Chicago has been studying the action of Isoniazid, a drug used in the treatment of tuberculosis. They first discovered that tuberculosis germs susceptible to the drug became radioactive



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when the drug was labeled with an isotope named Carbon 14, whereas resistant germs did not become radioactive. Now they are able to study just how Isoniazid attacks the susceptible TB germs. With

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this information, doctors treating TB will know better how and when to use the drug to help TB patients.

This is only one of many medical research projects in which radioactive isotopes help the scientist to "see" things beyond the power of any microscope yet invented. These test tube experiments may seem far removed from the problem of the tuberculosis patient lying in his hospital bed. But because of them, the doctor knows more about his disease, the germ that causes it, and the means of curing it.

A grain of gaiety seasons everything. —Gracian.

WOMEN'S FEATURES HELP HOMEMAKERS

Decorating your home? Like to make things to furnish your home yourself? Every Sunday be sure to look for helpful home hints in the Dottie Decorates and Do It Yourself columns of the Baltimore American. Read The Garden Corner and Bridge, The Blackwood Way. Get these and many other fine features every week in the

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