

THERE ARE no trifles in the moral universe of God. Speak but one true word today and it shall go ringing on through the ages.—W. M. Pushon.

Better Eye Care Topic of L. A. Convention

"Bringing Better Eye Care to America" is the theme of the third annual state convention of the National Association of Optometrists, incorporated, scheduled for Los Angeles, February 18-19.

This was revealed this week by Eugene McCann Jr., O. D., of Los Angeles, NOA president, and Donald L. Allison, O. D., of Los Angeles, NAO convention chairman, at "Optometry's First Annual News Conference" at the Terrace room, Sheraton-Town House.

Appointment of Dr. Allison as chairman of a committee to implement the convention objective was announced by President McCann. Dr. McCann explained the National has defined committee purposes as "devoted to research, public welfare, public education and professional relations advancement in the

field of vision":
 "1. To serve the millions of Americans, who now lack any or adequate optometric eye care for economic, educational, social, geographic maldistribution of optometrists, and psychological reasons, and because of this are unnecessarily 'eye cripples';
 "2. To develop for these 'unnecessarily 'part-blind' and 'dangerous' individuals' a visual care plan that is adequate and satisfactory for the patient, is professionally acceptable, sociologically desirable, and economically sound;
 "3. To collaborate, in the public interest, with all concerned factors — ophthalmologists, opticians, educators, legislators, psychologists, publishers, government officials, employers, manufacturers, distributors, and oth-

ers; and
 "4. To ascertain, as basic to the program, the statistical (qualitative and quantitative) extent of the visual care problem — and its relation to personal discomfort, psychological maladjustments, work - play - study and living efficiency and safety."

Dr. McCann emphasized that ocular pathology, surgery, and all medical aspects are within the province of the medical profession and beyond the scope of the committee. The optometric function specializes in refraction of the eye, visual analysis; and when refractive errors are discovered, glasses or vision training or both, are prescribed to bring the vision to as near normal as possible.

Need for the committee's work is required as a professional responsibility to the public, according to Dr. McCann, because of these facts:

"Six million of America's 30 million children have visual disturbances and need visual care; and

"Sixty-five per cent of American adults have inefficient vision; nearly all of which can be improved by professional optometric care;

"Two eye accidents per minute occur in industry; resulting in a \$20,000,000 loss per year; and

"Ninety-eight per cent of all eye injuries could be avoided by the observance of standard safety rules; — By statistical analysis of accident records, optometrists have determined the specific visual shortcomings likely to cause accidents;

"Inefficient vision ranked third in the causes of rejection by the armed forces;

"One-half of the 20,000,000 war workers suffered from uncorrected errors of vision;

"Forty per cent of juvenile delinquency, 15 per cent of motor accidents and 5 per cent of industrial accidents are caused by inefficient vision;

"There are about 17,000 practicing optometrists, with a present need for 33,000 more and only 4000 optometric college students. This shows the need for

optometrists. On the basis of a recent census there is one nurse to every 770 persons, one lawyer to every 730, one physician to every 850, one dentist to every 1590 persons—but only one optometrist to every 7900 persons!

"The optometrist shortage problem in smaller towns and cities and rural areas is acute.

"To learn the full extent of the problem, its causes, and to recommend corrective steps in the public interest is the purpose of the committee," Dr. McCann stated.

Directors Appointed

Al Muir, Great Lakes Carbon company, Torrance plant and Jack Phillips, Paramount Builders Supply, were named new directors of the Chamber of Commerce Monday afternoon by the board of directors.

Muir will represent the Walter area, while Phillips represents the Kettler Knolls area.

Walter A. Garrabrant of the Hollywood Riviera and Milton A. Hunter in North Torrance Civic Improvement association

were renamed to serve one more year as directors-as-large at that same meeting, announced Chamber President John A. Ebbinghouse.

Still to be named is a director representing the Seaside Ranchos area. The committee to make recommendation for this vacancy had been unable to hold a meeting.

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THE GOOD are heaven's peculiar care.—Ovid.

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Party Planned

A gala get-acquainted barbecue and dance is planned for all Jewish teenagers on Sunday, February 19, at the home of Mrs. Lloyd Koosed of Cherry Hill Lane, Portuguese Bend, at 5 p.m.

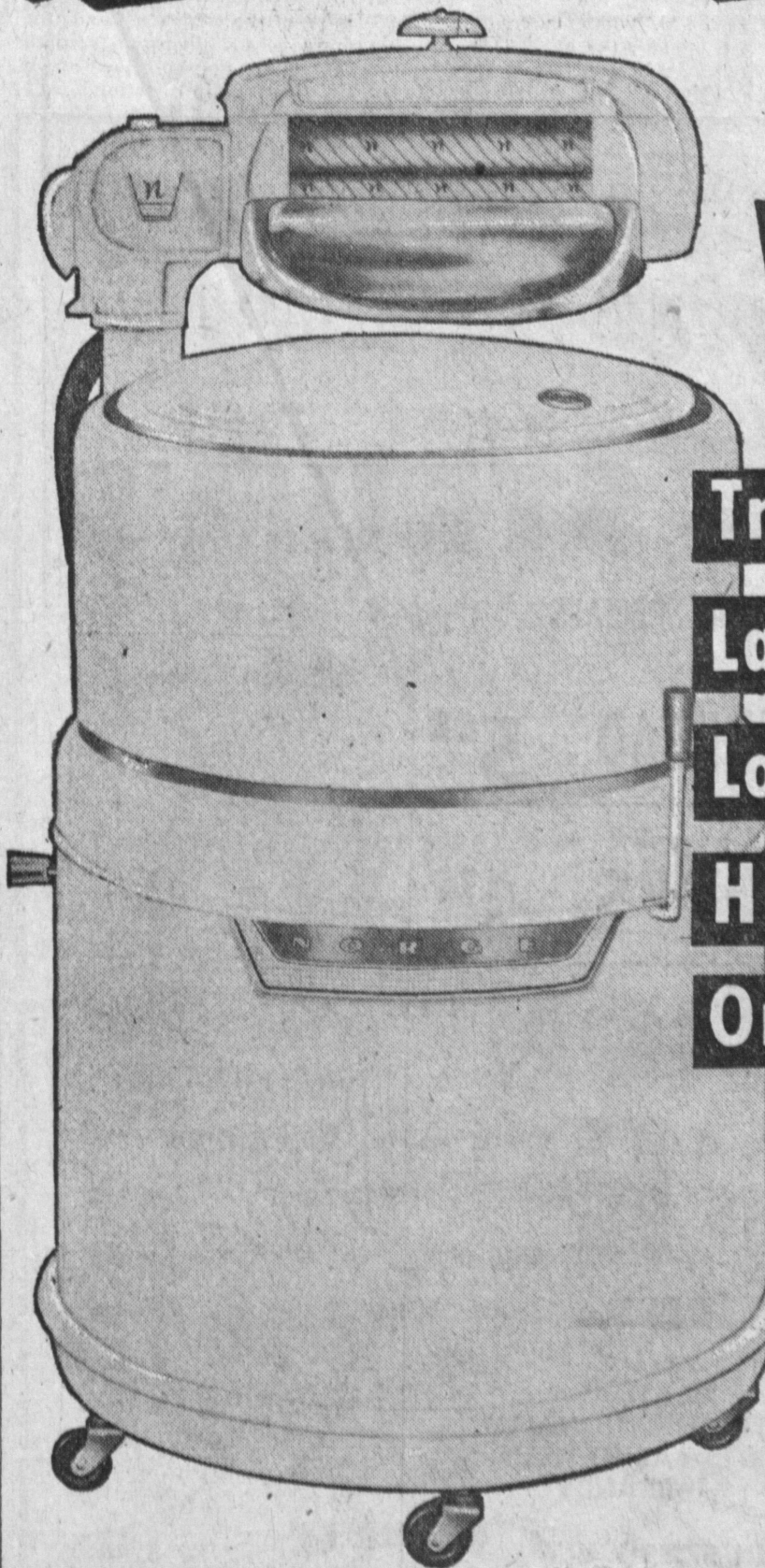
Information and arrangements for transportation may be obtained by calling Mrs. Koosed at FR. 7-1611.

All teenagers of the South Bay area, Torrance, Palos Verdes, and the surrounding beach towns are welcome, said Mrs. Koosed.

The get-together is sponsored by Temple Menorah of Redondo Beach.

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