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NOVEMBER 28, 1965 PRESS-HERALD Solon Sees Need for New **State Veterans Hospital**

"I wish to By CHARLES E. CHAPEL Assemblyman, 46th District On Friday, Nov. 12, I at-tended a meeting of the Asfornia

sembly Committee or. Mili-tary and Veterans Aflairs. The purpose of the meeting was to hear testimony rearding possible legislation at the 1966 Budget Sersion of the Legislature, which will begin Feb. 1 in Sacra-

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will begin Feb. 1 in Sacra-mento. The principal witnesses who testified were John Han 2 saker, Administra-tive Deputy Dirtetor De-partment of Veterans Af-fairs, State of Califonnia; Stanley Dunmire, Legisla-tive Representative, Ameri-can Legicn, Department of Stanley Dunmire, Legisla-tive Representative, Ameri-can Legion, Department of California; Buddy Michael Locker, Senior Vice Com-mander, Veterans of World War I of U.S.A., Department of California; Edwin L. Myers, Department Com-mander, Veterans of the Foreign Wars of the United States; Norman Kelly, Mili-tary and Veterans Affairs Officer for Los Angeles County; and B. Bill Murad, Com.nander, AMVETS, De-partment of California. The remarkable thing is that all these gentlemen agreed on what new laws should be enacted and what existing laws should be amended. They also agreed that they want the emphasis placed on the urgent needs of the men and women of our armed forces who have become dischled beause of

our armed forces who have become disabled because of become disabled because of actual service against the enemies of the United States, both domestic and foreign. I use the wort "do-mestic" deliberately to in-clude the soldiers of our own California National Guard who were wounded Guard who were wounded during the recent armed in-surrection in Los Angeles County, including the Watts area; and those who taky be wounded in the futur suppressing other armed insurrections

The patriotic legislative program of our California veterans is too long to dus-cuss in detail in this ramily journal. However, one item on the agenda deserves pe-cial attention. More than two and one-halt million men and room

More than two and one-half million men and wom-en are veterans who live and pay taxes in the State of California. The vast major-lty of them live in Southern California, that is, south of the Tehachapi Moun'ains. Of this number, far more than 50 per cent live in Los Angeles County The Southern California veterans are very reluctant to leave their families and friends and go to the Cali-

to leave their families and friends and go to the Cali-fornia State Veteraus Home at Yountville, in Napa County. This is the only California State facilit; for the care of our wounded, sick, aged, and indigent vet-eraus. erans. The question may arise as

to why such veterans dc not enter the U.S. Veteran, Hos-pital at Sawtelle, in Los Angeles County. The answer is that they do when there are empty beds for them but there is always a waiting list

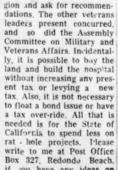
On June 30, 1965, 1 dis-covered that of all the vet-erans *i*t the California State Veterans Home at Yount-ville, only 7 per cent were from Southern California and the remaining 93 per

the VFW, or any other veterans' organization in Cali-During the discussion, that

During the discussion, that followed, I explained that whethen the State is going to build a freeway, a South Bay State. College, or a new States. Veterans' Hospital, it is first necessary to find suitable land, at a reason-able cost, which can be used as a public benefit without injury to those living or working near the site se-lected.

lected. Mr. Stanley Dunmirc re-plied that he would report back to the American Leif you have any ideas on this subject.

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