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OFFICIALLY OPENED... The new Fredericks Realty office at Carson and Arlington was officially opened this week with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. Taking part in the event were, left to right, Fred L. Fredericks, owner; Beverly Conrad, escrow manager, and Ben Nowatka, manager. (Herald Photo)

TV CANDIDS by Terrence O'Flaherty

The Hollywood television factory is famous for creating short-run series. Some new shows are discontinued after a handful of episodes. Some, of course, should be removed sooner than that, but seldom are. But the new Robert Taylor series established a world's record for the short-run. It was pulled off the air before it got on. The series proposed to dramatize the work of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, which appeared to be a laudable idea, but NBC-TV removed it from its fall schedule when the network discovered the show did not have the full support of the Government department.

Television viewers familiar with the way Hollywood souped-up Eliot Ness and the FBI, Ben Casey and hospitals, "The Eleventh Hour" and psychiatry, "Highway Patrol" and the highway patrol, will be able to read between the lines in the following comment from the HEW's information chief:

"In addition to the entertainment value of such a series, we would expect it to have some educational value in letting the taxpayers know more about the Department. We could not agree, however, to an inaccurate portrayal of the Department's programs and activities."

The entitled series was classified as an "action" show. In order to hold the Nation's mass audience weaned on violence, sex and abnormality, one can only imagine what liberties would have to be taken to glamorize officials of the Health, Education and Welfare Department. Robert Loggia and Taylor would have to be bachelors, naturally, to bring a pretty girl into the plot now and then.

Gosh! I just remembered the recent dawn raids on welfare-supported love nests. When the HEW official complained about inaccurate portrayals, maybe he meant they weren't spicy enough.

The terrible part about it is we'll never know for sure.

Taylor's own health, education and welfare were not immediately affected. He was in the mountains and could not be reached by anyone including the Department of H. E. and W.

The cancellation, however, will affect the career of Loggia, who was to have co-starred with Taylor in the series. Loggia was last seen as the dashing Elfigo Baca in a series comprising a noisy volume of Walt Disney's History of America which also includes Davy Crockett.

For Loggia, the switch from the border gunfire of Baca to the comparative tranquillity of an H. E. and W. man would have constituted the greatest sleeper jump in show business since Rosalind Russell moved from "Mourning Becomes Electra" to "Auntie Mame."

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California School Absenteeism Ranks High; Common Cold Blamed

The common cold continues to be the largest single factor contributing to the 23.5 days per school year the average California student is absent from school, according to a study by a leading pharmaceutical company.

Using statistics from the National Education Assn., the study reveals that California ranks 40th in days attended per pupil. The best attendance record for the 1962-63 school year was set by the state of Washington with an average of 10.5 days missed. Utah was second with 11.2. The national average of school absence was 18.9.

Medical surveys indicate that children of elementary school age have five times as many colds as adults. According to a 1963 P. S. Public Health Service report, respiratory illnesses were responsible for about two-thirds of school days lost because of acute illnesses or injuries during the 1961-62 school year.

THE FIRST onslaught of colds strikes almost as soon as children reassemble for the new year. One contributing factor to this, according to research scientists, is that spread

of colds like other virus-caused infections is accelerated by mixing of populations. In fixed stable groups which are not exposed to strangers, cold-like infections tend to die out, and do not reappear until there is contact outside the group.

The best defense against the common cold is prevention. Warm clothing should be worn, and good diets planned. Whenever possible avoid contact with a person suffering from a cold.

MEDICINES, of course, are important. A recent survey by a drug industry publication revealed that only one out of eight home medicine cabinets is fully equipped with products needed in common types of health situations arising in the home, such as the cold.

The list of 11 "basic" supplies includes: gargle, antihistamine-aspirin (such as Coricidin), cotton swabs, stomach

settler, laxative, cough syrup, eye drops, decongestant, fever thermometer, bandages, and an analgesic.

Table with 3 columns: Rank, State, Days Absent. Lists states from Alabama to Wyoming with corresponding absenteeism rates.

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