

Handicapped Employees Rate High on the Job

The Veterans Administration not only prepares disabled veterans for return to jobs, it also has one of the highest percentages of physically handicapped employees of all government agencies.

Administrator John S. Gleason Jr., in a recent report to the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped, revealed that more than 8 per cent of the VA's 170,000 employees have some kind of disability.

Among the VA's employees are:

- 4,251 with impaired body function, largely bone deformities; 2,286 with inactive pulmonary tuberculosis; 1,578

Sharon Rube On Honor Roll

Miss Sharon Ann Rube, 4702 Cathann St., was one of 1,058 undergraduate students to be placed on the Deans' List at San Francisco State College during the spring semester.

To be so recognized a student must achieve a minimum 3.25 (B plus) average for the semester, according to college president, Paul Dodd.

Higher Pay Would Solve State Teacher Shortage

Emergencies will always call for teachers with substandard qualifications as long as school with both unattractive teaching conditions and substandard salaries are tolerated.

This was the response voiced recently by California Teacher Association (CTA) President Charles Herbst, Beverly Hills High School science instructor, following the announcement by the State Department of Education that 12 counties are claiming 20 to 75 teacher vacancies each.

Dr. Max Rafferty, state superintendent of public instruction, termed this situation an "instructional emergency," and the State Board of Education took steps to create emergency certificates which would place people lacking required preparation in the classrooms.

The "emergency" counties listed were Fresno, Imperial, Kings, Lassen, Mendocino, Riverside, San Bernardino, Shasta, Siskiyou, Stanislaus, Tulare and Tuolumne.

"BEFORE an emergency credential is issued for a school district, the Board should take a long, close look at the

district's salary level, and determine whether or not its governing board had exhausted its financial ability to attract a fully qualified teacher," Herbst declared.

The CTA leader said large areas in each of the 12 counties mentioned are comprised of notoriously low-pay districts. In many, the living and teaching conditions are such that much higher-than-average salaries or other inducements would be needed to attract qualified teachers.

"The CTA has long advocated elimination of certificates which would classify persons as 'teachers' though lacking in the preparation

deemed necessary under State standards. We urge the Board to investigate other possible solutions before it grants emergency credentials to solve a shortage which is more apparent than real," Herbst said.

CITING REPORTS showing beginning, average and maximum salaries in all "emergency" counties except San Bernardino are far below statewide averages, the CTA President proposed that isolated districts in desert and mountain areas should try higher salaries as a means of attracting teachers into their communities. Attractive housing facilities at low rental costs might also help, he suggested.

"The CTA doesn't want children deprived of schooling for lack of a teacher, but lowered standards offer too easy a solution. In fact, experience has shown that merely calling someone a teacher is no solution at all. Issuance of substandard credentials tends to increase the shortage of qualified teachers as surely as the economic law about bad money driving out the good," Herbst explained.

City Plunge Will Close

The city plunge will be closed to the public because of rehearsal sessions for the Ninth Annual Aquacade, which will be presented on Aug. 14 and 15.

There will be no evening sessions on Aug. 12, 13 and 14; there will be no afternoon sessions on Aug. 13, 14 and 15.

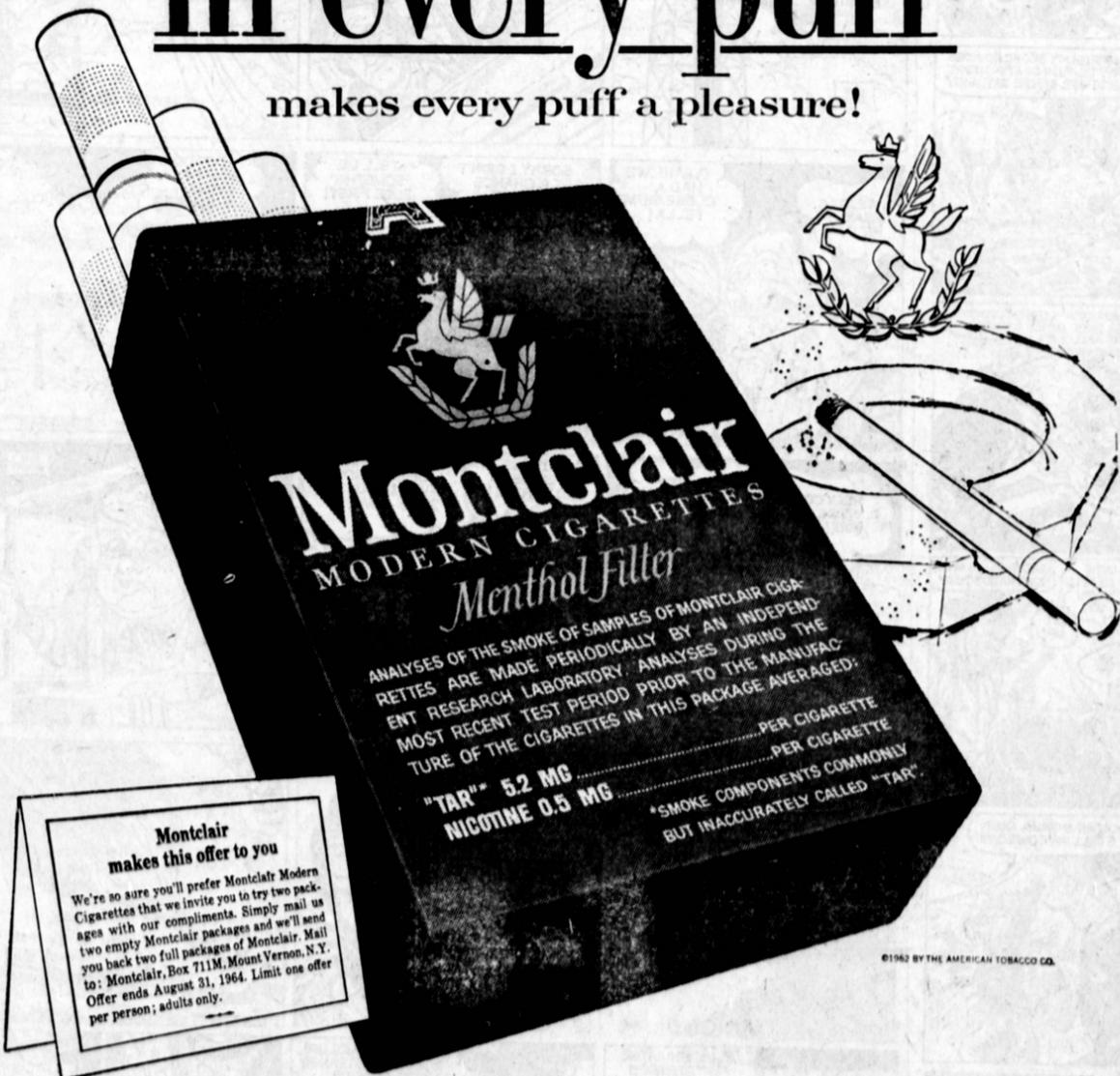
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