Jpen House At Pt. Pinos Lighthouse

Service Is 150 Years Old This Week; Now Part of Coast Guard

By JIMMIE COSTELLO 8 | 9/39 Timing his act to coincide the nation-wide celebration of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the United States Lighthouse Service, President Roosevelt this week signed a bill consolidating that organization with the Coast Guard under the department of the treasury.

Under this act, certain technical men in the service will be trans-ferred to the military service and will be given ranks commensurate with those of the Coast Guard. Future vacancies in the service will be filled from the military training schools.

And if the lighthouses are taken into the service as commissioned Coast Guard ships, they will be every bit as ship-shape as any vessel that has ever put to sea. And the crews will live up to the tradition of seafaring men in tradition of seafaring men in efficiency—and the number of pets signed on, too.

At least this is true if the Point

Pinos light at Pacific Grove is any example.

VISITORS INVITED

Now holding open house as their part of Lighthouse Week, August 7 to 13 inclusive, Thomas Henderson, keeper of the light, and George W. Peterson, assistant keeper, have invited the r blic to visit their reservation to learn just what work is done in keeping these navigation aids in operation.

In the service for 15 years, Henderson has been keeper of the Point Pinos light since January, 1938, and he was keeper at Point Sur for six years prior to taking over his present command. He had ring side seat there when the dirigible Macon sank off his light. Asked yesterday if he thought the bill just signed by the President would materially affect the present status of the lighthouse service, Henderson said he had no official word but he did not believe any immediate changes were contemplated.
The bill becomes effective next

July 1, at the beginning of the fiscal year and is in line with the President's reorganization pro-

gram. OLD LIGHT

Point Pinos light, a familiar landmark to coast sailors and to local landlubbers, is the Peninsula's contact with the lighthouse service and it is well worth while to visit the reservation



Keeper of the Light



Thomas Henderson, the captain of a crew of two men whose job it is to see that the Point Pinos light functions properly as a navigation aid, introduces Dopey to the camera. Both are extending a cordial invitation to the public to visit the Pacific Grove light this week as part of the nation-wide observance of the 150th anniversary of the founding of the lighthouse service. Visiting hours are from 10 to 12 o'clock in the morning and 1 to 4 in the afternoon all this week. (Herald photo)

light was established and is still in perfect working order.

Flashing from a tower 90 feet above the sea, the light is visible for 16 miles.
VISITING HOURS

The fog signal which was only installed last July can be heard for at least 12 miles, according to reports of fishermen.

Announcing visiting hours as 10 o'clock until noon and from 1 o'clock until 4 in the afternoon, Henderson and Peterson will be on duty, all this week to show

visitors the light.

And if they are very lucky, guests probably will be shown Dopey, a three months old fawn keeper has adopted, Polly, a veteran of the service who apparently has adopted the Henderson family.

Polly is a 30 year old parrot and ame down to Henderson from Peter C. Nelson, the former keeper

of the Point Pinos light.
At any rate, visitors will be impressed with the spotlessness of the entire grounds and the general ship-shape air about the whole reservation.