**AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER**
(Published every evening and Sunday)

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The Register-Guard's policy is the complete and impartial publication in its news pages of all news and statements on news. On this page, the editors of The Register-Guard offer their opinions on events of the day and matters of importance to the community, endeavoring to be candid but fair, and helpful in the development of constructive community policy.

A NEWSPAPER IS A CITIZEN OF ITS COMMUNITY

## ACTION OR STALEMATE

As the state board of higher education resumes its sessions in Portland, two possibilities lie before them, so far as the federal survey and the economies demanded by the bill which created the board are concerned—action or stalemate. The board will hear the final arguments of President Hall and President Kerr and the presidents of the normal schools on the federal report. After that it is going to be up to the board to outline at least general plans and policies.

It is unlikely that the board will take any immediate action to place all the schools under one head, although they may adopt the idea as a future goal in policy. It would be most unwise to replace either President Kerr or President Hall at the moment, and as for getting some outside super-educator to take supreme command, super-educators are not to be found in a moment. Therefore the problem is likely to be one of making certain preliminary reorganization of functions and duties to effect economy.

What will happen?

President Hall and the presidents of the normal schools have gone a long way in tendering co-operation along the lines indicated by the survey President Kerr has voiced strenuous opposition to nearly all of the changes, the evident reason being that the "distortions" which the survey would correct exist mainly in the State College in such duplicate departments as journalism, commerce, music, physical education, fine arts.

It is going to be a difficult and delicate task to reconcile the views of the two presidents, even though President Hall has suggested a basis of division which does not go nearly so far as the federal survey. On the general principle that the University should be a university in the accepted sense of the word and that the State College should be an outstanding vocational and technical school, they agree, but President Kerr holds that the technical school should include many features which the federal experts assign to a university only.

From Corvallis have come many radical suggestions including even the unofficial idea that the University should be moved bodily to the State College campus. This idea is too absurd and too wasteful to be considered seriously. Likewise, it is difficult to consider seriously the charges that the federal survey was "framed" against the college. The University might as well charge that the objectionable proposal to move all upper division science to Corvallis was the result of a conspiracy.

The report undoubtedly was made extreme with a view to compromises and compromises are the only possible answer, and it is going to be up to the board to take courageous action in making those changes which will save money to the state without destroying the identity of any of its institutions.

One possibility is to put the University and the normal schools in one group since they are reasonably in harmony with the survey, leaving the problem of coordinating the State College to be worked out more slowly. But on the duplications which are obviously expensive and unnecessary there should be no delay in cutting them off promptly. The state board will be made or broken by the manner in which it accepts its responsibility.

## HOW'S THE OL' BUS?

Never was there such a season for knowing your own Lane county and your own Oregon. Never was the country more beautiful. Never were the highways and byways in better condition. With the opening of the McKenzie pass in the next few days, every route in Lane county will be functioning. The fishing is the best in years, thanks to the new policy of using fairly well grown fish for restocking. Gas and oil haven't been so cheap in years.

And while business may not be so good as it has been or as it might be, there's this to be said about getting out around Lane county and the Oregon country. It will restore your faith in the present and the future, if it needs any restoring. Your own town of Eugene or Cottage Grove or Junction City or Florence doesn't live on cannibal economics, as the saying is. The reason for the existence of any town in this or any other part of the country is the territory back of it. Few communities have richer background than we have.

There's only one word of caution before you start your summer's traveling, and this reminder we put in at the suggestion of a traffic officer. Don't be too sure that the good ol' bus is entirely fit just because it is still running. It is one of the strangest peculiarities of human nature that most of us will pour $600 to $2000 in a car and grumble at every dime put into maintenance. But we leave it to your favorite service station man to preach the good sermon on the economics of maintenance.

We have in mind SAFETY. That ragged old tire that may carry you another 500 miles with perfect safety around the streets of Eugene might blow up and drop you into the bottom of a canyon after 100 miles of high speed running. That piston slap that doesn't worry you very much in town might mean a broken connecting rod if you get too much speed on the highway. Oil and grease of the best quality cost only a fraction of what it costs to replace burnt out bearings, assuming there are no broken bones in the bargain.

And, you may be the most careful and skillful driver in the world, but in the glare of somebody's badly adjusted headlights you might just happen to nick some poor chap walking along the highway. Unless you have thousands and thousands back of you, the lawsuits are apt to be very bothersome. Furthermore, a reasonable amount of liability insurance is after all only a Golden Rule policy. If you were to be cracked up through no fault of your own you would hope that the other fellow at least had liability coverage.

It looks like it's going to be the greatest season Oregon ever had for touring. Jack Ponsler and his cohorts send word that there never were such rhododendrons down in Western Lane. Crabs and clams are the best ever. The boys up the McKenzie and the Willamette say you'd hardly know the old rivers. It's time to be going places and seeing things, but let a good reliable man give the car a checking over. It will be an investment in pleasure and safety.

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There are usually but two angles to the "eternal triangle," wisely observes the office sage.

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"Keep your hands to yourself," as the bridge player said to his talkative partner.

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A seven-foot man has been elected mayor of Berlin to succeed a mayor lately involved in a scandal. On the assumption, perhaps, that he's too big to stoop to petty politics.

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Then there's the fellow who refuses to eat fish for fear of pulling a bone.

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Asked how she was getting along, the facetious telephone operator replied, "O, just plugging along."

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A rich man is one who puts two 2-cent stamps on a bulky letter without bothering to have it weighed.

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When a woman begins to shop around for hats her "trying" days have arrived.

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The man who blows his own horn, says the office sage, is the only one who think's he's tootin' right.

## WHAT OTHER EDITORS THINK

### CLASSES FOR GROWN-UPS GROW UP

(Christian Science Monitor)

Adult education has become the great "commons" of education, large in its gatherings beyond the belief of those who have not sat at its tables. Generously it serves an almost endless number of courses, free and open to all. At the door one may tell whether he is a graduate of college or only of grammar school, but it does not matter. The fee is so small as not to be a consideration; and although the number of applicants continues to grow, yet one does not hear of moves to limit enrollment, nor of campaigns for endowment.

When one takes a course, he does not join a school or college. He may even sign up with two or more schools at once. The whole movement is so natural and so liberal, is carried on so quietly—usually while the rest of the inhabitants are at their evening dinner—that it is easy to see why most persons do not know how far-reaching and how important adult education has grown. The large-scale and well-organized programs given over entirely to classes for men and women and provided by state universities throughout the United States are seldom paraded in the newspapers.

Columbia University is doubtless the largest and best known institution in the field. California and Wisconsin are also leaders. In Massachusetts alone, the Commonwealth through its university extension annually enrolls some 35,000 in its 150 courses, to say nothing of thousands more in 220 courses by correspondence, while Harvard and Boston Universities and other schools greatly augment the total. It is interesting to think of the influence all of this adult learning will sooner or later have upon education generally, not on account of its size, but because men and women are so genuine and straightforward in their approach to a course.

That a grown person can learn and often does learn more easily and quickly than a child is becoming a widely accepted fact. Most of all the adult is definitely conscious of his reasons for studying a certain subject. He demands information which will help him in making an intelligent choice.

Most men and women realize that a study of literature, music and art will deepen, broaden and enrich their lives. This cultural side of education is of first importance in the eyes of the state because it is only through such a refining process that the state can be preserved. It is gratifying therefore when factory workers and professional people alike make these subjects their first choice.

Just about every other person one meets in the larger cities across the continent is either taking a course or talking of taking one. Nearly every available small hall is alight for the adults who come almost directly from their work to their lessons. It is worth a trip if only to watch the entrance of these earnest students of the night. Little they think of the poverty or the grandeur of the place in which they meet. They seek the hidden, the intrinsic values. They have glimpsed the expansive, unlocalized nature of education.

## WASHINGTON LETTER

By RODNEY DUTCHER

NEA Service Writer

WASHINGTON, May 13.—You can't trust police officers or convicted criminals for crime statistics, according to the Wickersham commission.

The commission found the criminal statistics situation all jumbled up and quite inadequate from any national standpoint, due to the failure of most states and other units of government to collect them.

But, beyond that, the commission finds that you can't depend on the police to admit the amount of crime that is really committed or on the convicts to give the facts about themselves such as are needed in any study of criminals, their habits and antecedents.

Sometimes, the commission says regarding criminal statistics, "a serious abuse exists in compiling them as a basis for requesting appropriations or for justifying the existence of or urging expanded powers and equipment for the agency in question rather than for the purposes which criminal statistics are designed to further. Frequently the tables of two bureaus in the same department, dealing in part with the same subject and relating to the same activities, are at variance.

**Police Figures Inaccurate**

But police statistics as to offenses are specially lacking in accuracy because the police are often afraid to admit the number of crimes committed lest they incur public disapproval. Professor Sam Bass Warner, who made the commission's survey of criminal statistics, points out that "there is a great tendency in this country to charge crime rates against the police rather than against the community." He adds that this, "along with the political and non-professional character of American police forces, has led to great reluctance on the part of many police departments to publish correct figures of crimes known to the police."

Authority is cited to show that records are apt to be juggled when the number of crimes greatly exceed the number of arrests. A crime commission in Chicago obtained a record of 141 crimes of violence in one month in a single precinct, but the captain of the precinct reported only 37 of them as known to him.

**"No Real Facts"**

In one year the number of thefts reported by police per 100,000 population was 1929 in Washington, 861 in Baltimore, 633 in Rochester, 405 in Philadelphia and 1632 in Toronto. But criminologists scoff at the idea that figures proved there was four or five times as much larceny in Washington or Toronto as in Philadelphia.

Warner concludes that statistics of offenses committed are so untrustworthy in most American cities as to warrant no place in a national publication on crime statistics and implies that it will be a long time before police chiefs and precinct captains can be relied upon for the real facts.

State prisons often collect figures on the use of intoxicating liquor by their inmates, but the report says such statistics are "of no value either to the institution or to the country at large."

**Prisoners Give False Data**

"There are no statistics on the use of liquor by non-criminals with which these figures can be compared," it is explained. "Further, the figures are very unreliable, since the matter is one upon which the prisoners have a strong interest in lying, and the majority of prisons do not check up on the truthfulness of the prisoners' statements as to their use of liquor."

The U. S. attorney general is mildly spoofed for including under "Habits of Life" figures on federal prisoners who—

"Claim to be temperate."

"Admits themselves to be intemperate."

"What, the commission asks, is 'temperate' and what is 'intemperate' and who decides in which class the prisoner shall be entered?

The reliability of prison statistics varies greatly from institution to institution, one learns. Sometimes the records are based almost entirely on the prisoner's statements and "it is almost impossible to secure even reasonably complete information concerning the number of crimes committed."

## SIDE GLANCES

"Thought you said you'd drop around for a chat this morning at nine—You've kept me waitin' 20 minutes."

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

## MORTALITY FROM APPENDICITIS IS STILL HIGH, SURVEY SHOWS

HOME "REMEDY" MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS CONDITION

By DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN
(Editor Journal of American Medical Association, and of Hygeia, the Health Magazine)

Our knowledge of appendicitis goes back many years. The public has apparently been fully informed concerning the control of this condition.

Nevertheless, a survey of the statistics in 27 hospitals in Philadelphia by Dr. John O. Bowers indicates that the mortality from appendicitis is still high. In the early '80's the majority of the patients were operated on only after peritonitis had already developed. Now after 50 years it is found that 44.7 of the patients who enter the hospital with appendicitis still have peritonitis and that one out of every 18 dies.

It is quite certain, as has been revealed in numerous studies throughout the world, that a patient in good physical condition in 99 instances out of 100 is safe, if he is operated on for appendicitis within the first 12 hours after the onset of the symptoms. Without exception patients who develop a rupture of bursting of the appendix with peritonitis within 12 hours after the onset of symptoms have been given laxatives or cathartics.

Out of 5121 patients with appendicitis, 306 died and of the 306 deaths there were only 160 patients in whom a definite history could be had regarding the taking of laxatives. One hundred thirty-one of the 160 patients had peritonitis and 124 of the 131 had taken laxatives.

This evidence may be considered to establish conclusively the danger of taking laxatives in the presence of appendicitis, and also the very serious dangers associated with delay following the appearance of the symptoms of this condition.

The Philadelphia County Medical society printed 302,000 stickers for distribution about the city through physicians with the following recommendation: "In the presence of abdominal pain give nothing by mouth. Never give a laxative. Apply an icebag to the abdomen. Call your family physician. Abdominal pain which persists for six hours is usually dangerous."

Furthermore, the co-operation of retail druggists was secured in making sure that people who are buying laxatives did not have symptoms of appendicitis, and druggists were asked to exhibit placards containing sound advice. It is hoped that by this method of conducting educational campaigns more people with such dangerous symptoms will be induced to make certain of their condition before taking treatment, and by this means the number of deaths from appendicitis can be greatly lowered.

## MAIL BAG

### ABOUT LIBBY MEETING

EUGENE, Ore.—(To the Editor).—No thoughtful person wants another war. Yet a very few people are doing any single thing to prevent one. It is like the Irishman with the hole in his roof—he only thought of how it needed mending when it was raining. But perhaps many of us are inactive because we don't know what to do.

About ten years ago seventeen national organizations, like the National Education association, the National Y. W. C. A., the American Association of University Women, the Consumer's League, etc., decided something active should be done, and they united to form a "Council"—a sort of common organization for bringing people together in finding out what can be done to promote peace between the nations, and for doing it. Its platform is threefold: 1. Progressive world organization. 2. World-wide reduction of armaments by international agreement. 3. World-wide education for peace.

Frederick J. Libby, the executive secretary of this organization, which goes under the name of the National Council for Prevention of War, is to speak in Eugene on Wednesday night. He has devoted the last ten years to the study, in this country and Europe, of what can be done to get nations to feel, as individuals have gradually come to feel, that differences can be settled by other means than a fight. Some of us think that war is impossible; he doesn't. Some of us think that war is inevitable; he doesn't. But he does think there is a constant threat of war and that public indifference to what can be done to prevent it is one of the contributing factors.

Mr. Libby has been called a "radical" by people who differ from him. He is a Quaker, and his "radicalism" seems to consist in the belief that the world doesn't have to go on having wars just because it always has had them. And he thinks he knows something to do about it.

(MRS.) ERIC W. ALLEN

### COBURG PROTESTS

COBURG, Ore.—(To the Editor).—On the front page of a recent issue of your paper appeared an atem "Vangal gang broken up at Coburg."

The writer is addressing this to you in justice to the boys involved, and to correct any false impression gained from it.

These boys are all good workers, honest, and have a good credit standing in this community. They were taken up for dashing water on motorists passing along the highway. (A practice that the writer is informed is now all too prevalent in the vicinity of the university in Eugene, of which nothing is being said).

This is in no way intended to excuse the boys for what they did, as they were deserving of all the punishment received.

But we do not like to have them classed as vandals and hoodlums when they are all good boys, but carried their sport entirely too far.

The writer wishes also to commend the sheriff and district attorney and the parents of these boys for the spirit of co-operation that has been shown in clearing up this matter.

M. J. DRUDY.

## EARLY EUGENE

(From The Guard of May, 1881)

EUGENE WILL CELEBRATE.—The Fourth of July meeting met pursuant to adjournment, Tuesday evening, May 10, 1881. On motion J. W. Jackson was chosen chairman and J. R. Campbell, secretary. The following committees were recommended: Committee on speaker and invitations Hon. R. B. Cochran, F. B. Dunn, S. H. Friendly; grounds, J. W. Jackson, E. J. McClanahan, John Stewart; music, J. H. McClung, James McClaren, J. Rinehart; decoration of Liberty car, etc., Mrs. C. W. Fitch, Mrs. L. G. Adair, Mrs. H. N. Crain, Mrs. Hanchett, Mrs. Wm. Edris; printing, I. L. Campbell, G. S. Kincaid, J. M. Hendricks.

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Accident.—A son of Mrs. Boyd's, who is about 10 years old, shot himself through one of his fingers, one day this week, while carelessly handling a pistol.

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## Hundreds Fight Fire In Canadian Timber

COURTNEY, B. C., May 13.—(AP)—Fire in the Elk River Timber company's holdings on Lower Campbell lake, was being fought today by several hundred men after it destroyed about 2,000,000 feet of lumber and blocked traffic on a road.

The fire jumped a road leading to Buttles lake and Camp 8 of the timber company. Officials believed the fire was caused by friction from a haulback at the logging camp.

## Troops Commence Coal Fields Patrol

HARLAN, Ky., May 13.—(AP)—Four troops of cavalry today moved to Cawood, ten miles southeast of Harlan, to establish a second base camp from which military patrols will operate to enforce order in the coal fields.

The troops were moving from Evart, where Kentucky national guardsmen first were stationed to quell disorders that have cost five lives.

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The thirst for education in Japan is amazing. To learn English speech and English writing is regarded among Japanese coolies as the most obvious pastime for their scanty hours of leisure.

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The longest airplane route in the world has been established by the Netherlands, linking Amsterdam with Java, 9195 miles away.

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