

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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 EDITOR AND PUBLISHER - - - Alton F. Baker
 MANAGING EDITOR - - - William M. Tugman
 NEWS SERVICE, Associated Press, United Press
 MEMBER - - - - - Audit Bureau of Circulation

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 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

WANTED: ONE MOTHER

EVERYBODY knows that if he were only in full charge of things in this world, especially social and economic problems, everything would be much better. But, sit in with the Lane county Red Cross some day when they are discussing some of their more difficult problems, and see what a difficult thing it is to handle human problems wisely.

There's the case of Mirabel, age about 15, bright, attractive, ambitious, and like most girls of that age, with "just a touch of the devil." Mirabel has never had any real parents. She has had foster parents, yes, but not exactly of the sort to set a very wholesome example for a spirited youngster. Much of Mirabel's time has been spent in the homes of people who have been willing to trade food, shelter, clothes, schooling, and a certain degree of passing interest for such services as a girl that age can render.

And this is one of those cases where such casual ministrations haven't "taken." As in most girls of that age, Mirabel's ego sticks out all over her. She is at that very difficult age where even the most carefully reared girl needs a lot of personal attention, friendship, if you want to call it that, somebody to listen to all the tiresome tales about what happened in school, and about what she wants to be, and about whether the made-over dress will get by without new stockings. She needs a mother and it's darned hard to find a good one that isn't already pretty well occupied.

So after a good many flying starts, Mirabel has always ended up with the same "case history"—sulkiness, shirking, then open rebellion, then some ally escapade "just to show who's boss anyway." Yet there isn't any reason to feel that Mirabel is a "bad" girl. She's not feeble-minded. On the contrary she has an intelligence that is quite active and a bit too resolute.

Of course her "attitude" is all wrong. She ought to be deeply grateful for the opportunities to "make something out of herself" which busy people are willing to give her, and at more sacrifices to themselves than she may realize.

But after you've been knocking around the country a good many years, mostly with people who haven't set a very fancy example, can there be any very permanent change in your own ideas after even the best of "talking-to's"? So it doesn't seem very likely that if this young woman of 15 is given "another opportunity to make her way," the results will be any better than formerly. And the alternative is to send her to an "institution" with the grave possibility that institutional handling will only kill the little spark of ambition and hope that has carried her this far.

Of course, if somebody could be found who would be willing to be a real mother to the child! But that isn't a trading proposition. That's a giving proposition. It doesn't mean merely the clothes and food and shelter but the constant personal interest and solicitude that one would give her own daughter. Patience, infinite patience to remold the warped ideas; tolerance for youthful follies; a gift of understanding and affection. There is no short-cut formula to rebuild an "attitude." Anybody want to tackle a ten-year job, with no pay and doubtful rewards?

Or is there a point at which society ceases to owe the unfortunate any special opportunity? There are some hard-headed thinkers who believe modern medicine and modern social science are utterly mistaken in their efforts to save "the unfit." Some think that society in time will have to recognize a big "write-off" in humans. But the Red Cross people aren't quite willing to believe that human write-off begins at the age of fifteen, or that the best way out is to transfer responsibility. What would you do? What do you think, anyway?

MORATORIUM FOR EUROPE.

PRESIDENT HOOVER is reported to be giving his support to the plan to grant a moratorium on all war debts for the next two years in an effort to stabilize economic conditions throughout the world, but especially in Europe, and with particular reference to Germany. The United States which gets paid by its former allies only if the allies are paid promptly by Germany would probably bear the brunt of the burdens.

The plan has this merit. It does not yield the established principle of the United States that debts contracted in good faith must be paid in good faith. And yet it does afford an opportunity to test out the theories of those financiers and philanthropists who feel that the only chance for general prosperity in this country or any other country is to give the European countries relief from the tax burdens which the war debts have entailed.

Of all the plans that have been suggested, the Hoover plan sounds like the safest one. At the end of two years we should be in position to judge the wisdom or un-wisdom of any permanent concessions to European debtors. War debts are breeders of future wars. Debt questions and peace questions march hand in hand.

If we have learned anything of value out of the world war it is that wars settle nothing. If we have learned anything out of our subsequent experience it should be that enfeebled nations are not able to contribute to the peace and prosperity of the world.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

HAVING abandoned several months back its expensive experiment in trying to stabilize grain prices by buying up all the grain in sight, the federal farm board is now engaged in trying to sell off its accumulations gradually, into export markets, and with a minimum of disturbance to the home market for wheat. By selling out slowly, the board may be able to minimize the effects. That's about all. The effect will be there just the same, for each sale of stored wheat blocks some possible

sale of new wheat. Old Man Supply still governs long-run price.

We sometimes think we are pretty smart with all the new wrinkles we devise to protect us against ourselves. Take this matter of price fixing, for instance. It's really as old as the hills. Way back about 350 years after the birth of Christ there was a Roman emperor named Julian who prided himself on being quite a philosopher and friend of the public. Julian made camp one winter in the city of Antioch in Asia Minor and discovered that due to a short crop, food supplies were scarce and that merchants were taking advantage of the situation to boost prices up. That made Julian mad as a horse.

So he sent ships over to Egypt and Italy and had a lot of food stuffs brought in from those points at government expense. Then he ordered the grain sold to the people "at cost" or something like that, anyhow a price much lower than the profiteers had made. But Julian woke up one day to find that the profiteers, being the only people who had ready cash, had bought all the government food up, and that they had settled back to dole it out at increased profits.

So Julian declared war on Sapor, king of Persia. He did not have to run for office, but he was a politician by instinct and knew that a good war is always worth four or five price fixings if you want popular support.

According to the press reports the warring oil companies have made a "truce," but when we look at that 5 1/2 cent increase on gasoline it kinda looks to us like they've declared war on the consumers.

You've got to hand it to these Vanderbilts for doing the unusual. Most of these rich society folks just go to Reno to get a divorce, but the Vans have developed the new stunt of going there to fight over it. Some day, some particularly original rich young couple are going to crash the headlines by living happily and raising a family.

"President Hoover Seeks to Avert Business Crisis in Europe," says a headline. The office skeptic hopes Herbert will have better luck there than he has had on the home grounds.

We have a great admiration for Sir Hubert Wilkins, the intrepid explorer, and wish him luck on his submarine trip to the North Pole but if he had to get a battleship to tow him to Ireland who'll he get to tow him in the Arctic?

The historic American warship "Old Ironsides" has been rebuilt completely, largely through the generosity of patriotic citizens. Somebody has even donated a complete set of sails for her. But now they can't find anybody who knows how to sail her. What an age.

With the whole world in the grip of depression, or too much prosperity, according to the way you look at it, you can't help wondering how they finance all those wars in China.

WHAT OTHER EDITORS THINK

THAT GLORIOUS VICTORY

(Salem Capital-Journal)
 Will Rogers thus sums up the loudly heralded "victory" of the government over Al Capone, the gangster leader:

"The government has finally been able to arrange an 'armistice' with Al Capone. He is to go to jail 'in person' for two years, (which term he named himself). His lieutenants are to carry on his business and deliver the receipts to him at the jail every day. In return the government is to feed, clothe and protect him from harm and release him just about the time business turns the corner. The government is remodeling Leavenworth now for him."

The indictments to which Capone pleaded guilty recited 5000 offenses against the law during the past ten years which produced a reign of terror in Chicago, punctuated with machine gun warfare and bomb assassinations which yielded millions of dollars profit to gangland's boss. For this profitable continuous criminal career Capone is to spend two or three years in prison where he will be safe from a "pineapple."

The government belatedly seeking partnership in the loot imposes a heavy fine for violations of the income tax law, but cannot collect it, so all the racketeer's tangible property is in the names of others. The moral of course is that if you are going to become a criminal be a big one. Then you can compress your penalty, take an immunity bath and enjoy a life of leisure, a single lapse in a small way is much more dangerous.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By RODNEY DUTCHER

(NEA Service Writer)

WASHINGTON.—If anyone doesn't realize now that less meat should be eaten during the summer months it isn't the fault of the meat packers and the livestock interests.

The more umbrellas you take at anything the more publicity you give it and the bulletin of the United States Public Health Service warning against eating too much meat in hot weather would have attracted no more attention than other U. S. P. H. S. bulletins if the meat men had been willing to let well enough alone.

Instead, they protested vigorously to Secretary of Treasury Mellon, in whose department the health service is, and got themselves and the meat-eating issue into the newspapers. When Mellon decided to censor federal health bulletins in the future that news and the row about censorship which it stirred up presumably left few people unaware of what the U. S. P. H. S. had been advising.

Politicians can tell you that it often doesn't pay to take umbrage. When Premier Mussolini went after General Smedley Butler for calling him a hit-and-run driver the charge didn't stick, but Mussolini found himself being panned on general principles all over the United States while Butler became a sort of national hero. Senator Nye of North Dakota, finding that Moses of New Hampshire had introduced his expenses as chairman of the campaign funds committee into the Congressional Record, hastily charged a political plot and so directed attention to his accounts. The accounts undoubtedly were fair, but some of the items looked funny on the face of them and lots of people had a good laugh at Nye.

As one who has sometimes reported the presence of numerous speakeasies and gambling joints more or less "in the shadow of the White House," your correspondent now announces that it is virtually impossible to buy a drink or place a bet in the first police precinct as a result of non-removal of police raids. That hasn't been true for several years heretofore and appears to demonstrate that the cops, if they try, can keep the town comparatively free of speakeasies and gambling joints. The successful methods employed have been principally, the removal of barriers from such places and arrests of gamblers as "vagabonds." The first precinct, where the drive has centered, takes in the downtown business district and part of the White House grounds. . . . The local liquor traffic is now in the hands of men and women who accept telephone orders for delivery. These violators have proved hard to eliminate.

Nearly everyone would like to know what comment, if any, President Hoover made to Congressman Dyer of Missouri about the latter's proposal for legalized four per cent beer so as to raise a billion dollars in taxes and employ 100,000 persons. But there is a strict rule that if the president ever says anything to you, you must tell anyone what he said. The most conspicuous violator of the rule was Amos Pinchot who, seven months afterward, wrote an article about how Mr. Hoover, about a year ago, had told a visiting delegation that unemployment was shamefully exaggerated, that business was on the upturn and that the committee had come "six weeks too late."

SIDE GLANCES



"Well, don't go to work for a dentist—you don't even get day off with a toothache."

DAILY HEALTH SERVICE

PRECAUTIONS FOR WORKERS EXPOSED TO EXHAUST GAS

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

MOST of the deaths due to the inhalation of exhaust gas from automobiles occur in the winter when men attempt to work under running cars in closed garages. Cases occur also, however, in other periods of the year, particularly among people who work constantly in the automobile industry. In order to prevent such deaths and in order to aid as much as possible those who are exposed to carbon monoxide poisoning, the New York State Department of Labor has issued a bulletin on the subject with special warnings and advice. Here is a list of "things to do" for workers exposed to automobile exhaust gas:

1. Keep windows open as much as possible.
2. Do not permit the engine to run and discharge exhaust gas directly into the air of the workroom. Every workroom should have a flexible tube which can be attached to the exhaust pipe, and through which the exhaust gas may then be carried out of doors.
3. Remember that carbon monoxide gas has no smell. You cannot, there-

fore, know if carbon monoxide gas is in the air by the smell of the room or by the cloudiness of the air. These are produced by burning oil and gasoline.

4. If you suffer with headaches report this fact at once so that the conditions of the air may be investigated, and proper ventilation established.
5. If you do not feel well, see a doctor at once. You may be particularly sensitive to carbon monoxide gas, more so than the others. In that case you had better change your occupation. It is not safe for you to be exposed to even very small amounts of the gas.

The labor department bulletin recommended these first aid measures: "If you ever get a headache, or feel faint, nervous or irritable, go out into the fresh air at once and stay there until you feel better. When you go out sit down quietly. Do not go for a walk. You may not have enough oxygen in your blood to permit you to take any additional exercise, or exert yourself in any way. Any added exertion at such a time is dangerous and may be sufficient to cause you to become unconscious. Wrap up warmly,

therefore, and sit down out of doors until you feel better.

"Do not hurry around unnecessarily at your work. The more exercise you take, the more carbon monoxide gas will get into your blood."

"If one of your comrades faints, get him out into the fresh air at once. Put blankets under and over him, and surround him with hot water bottles or hot bricks. Keep him warm at all costs or he may develop pneumonia. Persons who become asphyxiated with carbon monoxide gas are peculiarly susceptible to pneumonia. Call up the gas company and an ambulance at once. You must always call both of these, because ambulances are not equipped with resuscitation apparatus. In the meantime the patient should be given artificial respiration, by what is known as the 'Manual' or 'Schaefer' method. Everyone working in industries where there is a possibility of exposure to carbon monoxide gas should be familiar with this method of resuscitation. It is very easily carried out. Anyone can learn how to do it. He may thus by his knowledge be able to save someone's life."

EARLY EUGENE

(From The Guard of June, 1881)

THE large sum of \$1263 has been paid for the right to sell liquor on the grounds at the next state fair.

The GUARD is the best advertising medium in Lane county. It has the largest circulation.

The Plug Uglies will turn out on the Fourth at 4 o'clock and parade through the principal streets.

Meals cheap. Chas. Baker at the St. Charles hotel will sell five meal tickets for \$1. He buys his groceries at wholesale and can afford it. Table set with the best the market affords.

University of Oregon.—We have received the catalogue of the University of Oregon for 1881. From it we learn that for the year just closed students in the Collegiate Preparatory department numbered 114; in the English Preparatory department 72; total number in attendance 186. The next school year will begin September 12, 1881. Those wishing catalogues may obtain them of J. J. Walton, secretary Board of Regents, J. W. Johnson, president of Faculty, or John Straub, Eugene City, Oregon.

MAIL BAG

A SOLUTION

OKARKIDE, Ore.—(To the Editor) I am just wondering if you would give space for a radical view for a cure of the present depression which is that the modern efficiency of men, tools and machinery can produce so much more than the people are able to buy! So the wheels of industry must stop causing a vast army of unemployed! Having no earning power, no money to buy! The cure is to reduce the hours of labor to 6-4-3 or two if necessary to give every "idle man a job."

I know that profit takers don't want to do that. Yours,

D. C. DILLABERGH.

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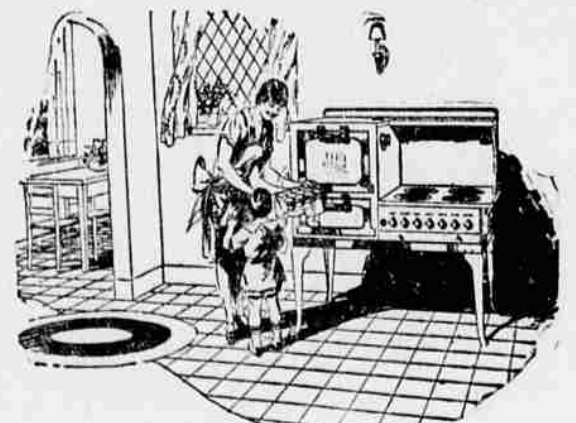
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