

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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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.

AN AMAZING SITUATION.

THE Oregon public may never know what did happen to the 26,500 signatures to the Corvallis school-grab bill which were reported as stolen by masked highwaymen on the night of the Fourth. The trial of Cyril G. Brownell, former president of the Oregon State College Alumni association on charges preferred by his old friends has not thrown much light on the devious affairs at school-grab headquarters.

Publicity stunt? Hijacking operation? Whatever lay behind the strange event, something apparently went wrong somewhere. The efforts to put the blame on "opponents of the measure" were so cheap and flimsy that anybody could see through them. It is regrettable the investigation could not bring out the real truth of the situation, but the Portland authorities were blocked apparently by "cover-ups" and evasions.

One fact the Brownell case did establish clearly. It established the vicious and mercenary nature of the school-grab movement—an amazing situation in Oregon politics.

Theft of the petitions could not be established because ownership could not be established. With brazen persistence the promoters of the measure refused to reveal the interests really responsible for the measure.

It was admitted that the so-called Tax Equalization League of the State of Oregon, Marlon County, was acting merely as an agent for persons unwilling to disclose their connection with the movement. No records have been kept to show the League's financial transactions. Officers of the League have accepted compensation "for travelling expenses."

The crowning revelation was the story of the \$500 handed over "for the cause" by the driver of a luxurious sedan who met an official of the League on a street in Woodburn after dark. This mystery yarn goes nicely with the earlier story of the petition "sickup" and the armored car parade to Salem. The public is asked to accept a measure supported by people who do not dare to show their faces even at night.

Mr. Zorn and his associates admit that they did not draw the bill to which they loaned the name of their organization. They decline to reveal the persons who did inspire it. Yet they have the effrontery to ask the people of Oregon to destroy a great University in which they have millions invested and to take on millions of expense in creating an entirely new system of higher education. They CLAIM economies.

People who are really trying to serve the state do not hide from the light.

BUSINESS TURNS THE CORNER?

IN the opinion of many expert observers, business has turned the famous "corner." There has been a marked change in public feeling. Pessimism is on the wane. Optimism is prevalent.

Only widespread confidence could have produced the persistent upward trend which the stock market has shown in the last few weeks. People believe securities have gone as low as they can go. They believe the future is fairly safe. They are ready again to invest. And as they invest, up goes the price.

The stock market trend, however, is not the most reliable indication of improvement. Commodity trends are much more important. The late Dwight Morrow at the pit of the depression made a comment which has become almost classic.

Mr. Morrow said the depression would be over three months before people would really be aware of it. He said the stock market might go up and down many times before people would be sure of any lasting advance. But, said he, when commodities begin to show a persistent upward trend you can be sure the depression is past. He mentioned especially the things which people wear and eat.

Commodity prices are moving upward at last—all the way from an 8 and 9 per cent improvement in the price of wheat and corn to 102 per cent for sugar. There is marked improvement in the price of hogs, cattle, butterfat, wool, rubber, lead zinc.

Is this a genuine upturn or is it just a showing produced by the rich friends of Mr. Hoover to help him in the election? Silly question. No group of rich men in the country is rich enough to supply the billions needed to force a general price advance. Will the improvement last? That is a more reasonable question.

There probably will be points at which backsliding will occur, as for instance when those who are merely speculating in stocks or commodities sell to grab quick profits, but it is doubtful if prices will get back to the bottom of the pit.

Will there be a limit to recovery? Our guess is: YES. Recovery will be limited by the degree of intelligence we show in curing unemployment and removing the high tariffs and demoralizing conditions which stand in the way of normal world trade. There will be plenty of problems, but the time for despair has passed.

HILL LOSES BUT WINS.

RALPH HILL, of Oregon lost the coveted honor of being the first American ever to win the 5,000 metre race at the Olympics. Lauri Lehtinen, of Finland beat him to the tape by a hair's breadth. To win Lehtinen had to resort to the old racing trick of blocking the man coming up. Very simple trick. You move in if the runner behind you tries to pass on the inside. You move out as he moves out if he tries to pass on the outside. Horse jockeys often use the trick.

Seventy thousand people in the Los Angeles stadium were enraptured at what they considered sportsmanlike tactics on the Finn's part. They "hooped" in protest. Hill declined to take advantage of any technicality which might cover the situation. He said, and it is perfectly true, that at the end of a long, grueling race a runner moves by instinct more than by reason. He refused to protest, officially.

Hill lost a great race, but in losing it he won

the highest honor that can come to any athlete—world-wide acclaim for sportsmanship. No complaints. No alibis. No bitterness. When the names of record-smashers and title winners are forgotten, Hill's name will be remembered for sportsmanship—just as old Tom Lipton's name became glorious the world over although he never won a race.

Hill, of Oregon, lived up to the finest Olympic tradition which is that a race should be run for the love of running it. Lehtinen was moved to insist that Hill should accept the first place medal—a gracious gesture which was accepted with good grace.

HERBERT HOOVER ON THE SPOT.

NEXT week, Herbert Hoover must rise in the presence of a selected group of Republican silk hats and read his "acceptance speech." Mr. Hoover knows that he was nominated by the Republican convention in Chicago and the Republican leaders know that he knows it but an "old Spanish custom" or something of that sort requires that he must be notified and that he must respond with a speech.

In the language of gangland, Mr. Hoover is "on the spot"—especially as pertains to the prohibition issue. News dispatches from Washington say that the organized Wets and Drys both are licking their chops in anticipation of the Hoover speech. What will he say now about "the noble experiment"? It is, indeed a tough spot.

If Mr. Hoover is wise, he will say (for the first time) what he really thinks about the prohibition situation. If he comes out bona fide (personally) he will at least be sure of the bona fide vote. If he comes out wringing wet, he may lose much of the former prohibitionist support but he will at least stand a chance of getting his share of the big wet bloc.

If he "straddles" the situation, he is apt to draw fire from both sides, and that wouldn't be so nice.

The unfortunate part of the prohibition issue, so far as Mr. Hoover is concerned is that it is likely to obscure what he has to say on economic issues. Preliminary reports on the Hoover speech say that it will be a very carefully drawn report of the measures which have been adopted for the relief of business. It may include a program (possibly the five-day week) for the relief of unemployment.

It will be too bad if the important features of the Hoover statement are lost in a cat and dog fight over whether he is personally dry or wet. It doesn't really make much difference whether he is or isn't. The modification program is one issue that will take care of itself without his leadership.

CARL A. MCCLAIN.

THE efficiency of Eugene's municipally owned utilities was in a large measure due to the quiet and effective personality of one man, Carl A. McClain. Mr. McClain was one of those very rare men who can take a political position and lift it above politics. The death of such a man is a great loss to the community.

The success or failure of any public enterprise depends greatly on the men in it. Whether any particular department of government is good or bad depends mainly on whether people have formed good or bad habits concerning it. If an office is held by a man whose personal ambitions outrun his zeal for the job at hand, confusion results.

Carl McClain took the management of the Eugene water plants and power plants because he was an engineer and because he regarded the administration of those plants as primarily an engineering problem. He was of that finest type of engineers—a man who enjoyed his job not for the money he could get out of it but for the satisfaction of seeing it well done.

The splendid plants which Eugene has erected out of municipal earnings is a monument to Carl McClain's quiet genius and vision. He could see years in advance what would have to be done and he could plan how it should be done and he could do it. Gentle and modest, McClain had a gift for friendships. He had also a certain firmness and soundness in his ideals which commanded the respect of those who knew him.

Carl McClain had an important part in building one of the finest traditions of Eugene, the tradition that efficient management of public business is NOT impossible.

THE NEW "HOOVER DOCTRINE"

IN the note which 19 governments of North and South America have sent to Paraguay and Bolivia, a new doctrine is expected which may become as fundamental as the Monroe Doctrine. Bolivia and Paraguay are warned that the Pan-American states will not recognize the legality of any gains of territory in the disputed Chaco jungles or elsewhere—if made by force.

Washington news dispatches speak of it as the new "Hoover Doctrine." Whether Mr. Hoover or somebody else should be given credit for establishing the principle, later historians will determine. The doctrine itself is sensible and it seems to have sobered down the warlike demonstrations in the Chaco.

Bolivia and Paraguay are nations kindred in history and outlook. Both of them need trade outlets and both of them therefore desire the deep water outlets through the Chaco country. Peaceful adjustment of such a dispute should be possible. There is no more real reason for Paraguay forbidding Bolivia access through her rivers than there would be for Western Oregon to forbid Eastern Oregon and Idaho outlets through the Columbia.

The eagerness of the other South American countries to sign the Hoover Doctrine may have a little special significance, however. Next time marines land in some Latin country we may hear echoes of what we said to Paraguay and Bolivia.

Tyler Taylor, president of Young Democrat Clubs of America, Inc., proposes to get out a special soap during the coming campaign with the slogan "Clean Up America With Democratic Soap." Soft soap, says McGurk! Undoubtedly!

Even Wall Street wisecracks were surprised when people began to buy and stocks began to go up, our experts tell us. Unhuh! Just the way you feel when you're ready to fold up and go home and the fish begin to bite.

You've got to hand it to the Marlon County Tax Leaguers for busting up the depression. They've got folks running round in limousines at night handing 'em \$500.

And We Just Celebrated 100 Years of Harmony!



WHAT SOME THINKERS THINK

—Compiled by CLAY E. PALMER—
 Pastor of First Congregational Church

Christian Century Editorial: "Both Mr. Hoover and Mr. Roosevelt are conservatives. One is conservative with responsibility. The other is a conservative without responsibility. If the one who is without responsibility were in the place of the one who has responsibility he would follow essentially the same course. The variations would be only in matters of detail, not in any comprehensive or basic principle."

Robert Hutchins, President of University of Chicago: Advocates 20 year moratorium on war debts, recognition of Soviet Russia, reduction of tariff, stricter regulation of monopolies and possible government operation of those based upon the possession of natural resources, a sound banking system, unemployment insurance, adherence to world Court and cooperation with League of Nations.

Stanley I. Stuber, authority on history of denominationalism: "There is a great similarity between nationalism and denominationalism. They were born in same epoch. Their traits and their motives, their actions and ambitions, closely resemble each other. They have become old and set in their ways, having customs and habits which have now become sacred. They are not able to adapt themselves to the spirit of the new day. Although they are both revered, even today, nevertheless they are being placed on the shelf, having served their day and purpose."

William G. McAdoo, eminent in democratic party: "Among the republicans I had a great liking for Robert La Follette. We got along together splendidly, and agreed in most subjects. He was, in my judgment, one of the greatest men in the history of the republican party."

Clayton C. Morrison, one of our greatest Christian statesmen and a brilliant journalist: "The nation seemed to be in the hands of the most sordid, timid and self-seeking elements of our national life, brought together in two closely knit organizations whose real purpose was to capture office and divide the spoils of patronage. Both parties have become ends in themselves; neither conceives of itself as an instrument of any dominant ideal or of the common good; but each thinks of policies and of the common welfare in terms of party success."

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL BAG

PLEA FOR YOUTH
 CRESWELL, Ore. (To the Editor)—Right here we are again today, six of us, at the old swimming hole. We were here yesterday, the day before that, and almost as often last week. We roll in the sand, sun ourselves, slip off into the rapids, negotiate the whirlpool. You would say we are having a fine time. Are we?

We are young men from seventeen to twenty. We have all finished high school. Some of us have had one or two years in college. Are we likely to be happy at child's play, day after day? If not then why do we do it, this child's play at the old swimming hole, just like we did five, six and seven years ago?

Allow me to explain why we do it. We still make our homes with our parents. They, perhaps unfortunately, have always been professional people or lumber industry people. During prosperity they were able to send us to school. They hoped that we would be prepared to do something better than they were doing. They have no business to take us into; they have no large farms for us to cultivate. We can plow, sow and reap. We can operate typewriters, adding machines, keep a set of books, tally lumber scale logs, run an edger or a cut-off, and may be punch a donkey or teach a school. But where is the ground to plow, the seeder to run, the thresher to operate, the typewriter to click, the books to keep, the donkey to punch, the school to teach?

Have we looked? We say we have. How are we answered? Mr. Smith, the farmer, says "I am doing all of my own work, or I am giving Mr. A a job. He has a wife and children. Mr. Jones, the sawmill man, says "I hire no one but a married man. Mr. White, the merchant, says "I am employing girls. They work cheaper, live at home, and are more efficient." The Co. Supt. and school boards say "We want girls in our schools." And so it goes wherever we apply. "Married men, girls, girls, married men." Fine, brother farmer, brother mill man, brother merchant, brother Supt. and school board you are doing your duty, perhaps, but do you remember a few years back when you thought the Kaiser might come across and blow your farm, your mill, your store, and your schoolhouse to pieces? Did you ask the married

men and the girls to put on uniforms and march up to the muzzle of the Kaiser's gun? You know you did not. You called on young men like us. Do you know brothers, or sisters as you might be, that there is far greater chance of your needing uniform donors within five years than there was in 1917? If such a calamity comes in a year or in ten years or in fifteen years, are you going to call for cannon fodder. Is it going to be the married men and the girls or is it going to be we six boys, and our tens of thousands of brothers? You may cuss and discuss the bonus, the finance corp., the eighth amendment, farm relief, etc., but they are not your big problems. We are your big problem. We six boys, we hundred thousand boys. We million boys.

DOUG KARKER.

HITS "MILK COMBINE"

EUGENE, Ore. (To the Editor)—While we are upon the subject of "milk price adjustment" may I offer an opinion.

It is my understanding that there is an association of milk distributors, and each distributor has his milk truck to deliver milk to customers scattered all over the city.

In my opinion, there is no excuse for this high price of milk. Many, many families, no doubt, would be taking milk regularly of these milk producers if they could afford the price, but because there is a duplication of effort on the part of all these producers the price is held up to take care of the "coverhead."

Why should a dozen milk trucks deliver milk on Olive street—where I live, instead of having one truck do the delivering.

In the name of "efficiency" why is it necessary to have these milk trucks passing each other on their routes when one truck could cover the field and make it possible to cut out perhaps 75 per cent of all this overhead—and retire 75 per cent of the useless trucks that doesn't help the quality of the milk but it does keep the price beyond the reach of families who might be benefited by having it on their menu.

Let's begin to sell for "cent milk" or break the combine.

These those unfortunate families who cannot afford to pay the present price would be able to become a con-

sumer, instead of the pigs taking care of the "surplus."

There's something radically wrong with a system that will deliberately withhold food from our citizens because they cannot afford it and our pigs because of the lack of a market. Shame!

ODE TO THE EARWIG

The Earwig is the worst bug That lives upon the earth He starts a doing damage On the day of his birth, And this is how you know him A sign that'll never fail He always has two pinchers

REBUILD ECONOMICS

EUGENE, Ore. (To the Editor)—I'm always glad to hear what our old friend Mr. Arnold Bodker, has to say, even though he is more altruistic and liberal than I, a republican.

Like Clarence Darrow said, "In this world there is no justice, the only thing we can hope for is mercy." Some call it Christianity, others socialism, hinduism, judism and ad infinitum The important thing is not the label but its meaning. What will it produce if allowed to grow; try it in a small way if possible. Confucius thought and tried his theory of ethics. For the religious of the Chinese it works out all right. In it is a statement containing the same idea as the Biblical Golden Rule, but worded in the nega-

USE THE STOPPER

Curtailed classified advertising appropriations or cancelling newspaper advertising schedules, won't put the cork back in the red ink bottle . . . nor will discarding the "stopper" eliminate the need for the use of red ink in the accounting department.

As has been proven time and again in the past, the persistent and consistent use of the Want-Ad columns of the Register-Guard WILL most effectively put a stop to the red ink flow . . . We suggest that you use THIS medium to eliminate the NEED for the use of red ink.

USE THE STOPPER—AND NOT THE INK

The Register-Guard

WANT-ADS

Protruding from his tail. He is an odd little fellow. Cause when you have just one Planted on your ground It isn't very many days Till there's millions to be found. You'll find him in the closet A gnawing on your dress And you're always mashing him When you your trousers press. You'll find him in your floor mop And in your disrag too And also in your broom There's always one or two. You'll find him in the parlor A crawling on the floor And you'll find him in the corner Behind the kitchen door. You'll find him in the milk pan And in your loaf of bread You'll find him in before you When you hop into your bed. You'll find him in the cabbage And in the lettuce too And in your potatoes You'll always find a few. They are a sort of worry To little girls and boys They're sure to find some scattered About among the toys. When it grows dark at night He's plain to be seen A peeping in the windows And crawling through the screen. You'll find him in the bathtub You'll find him in the chair You'll find him in the kitchen sink A washing off his face. You'll find him in the attic And in the cellar dark You'll find him in the cowbarn You'll find him in the park You'll find him in the schoolhouse You'll find him in the pews You'll find him in your dirty socks And in your Sunday shoes. And when you go to a camping With your tent and kits It's always close beside you Mr. Earwig always sits. You'll find him in the cupboard You'll find him in the chairs You'll find him single handed You'll find he goes in pairs. He is an awful fellow A bold and brazen thief He keeps you always worrying And fills your life with grief. So get out your earwig bait And also spray and shoot Turn out your Bantam chicks And we'll exterminate the brute. (MRS.) O. A. THOMPSON Rt. 1.

BOND FURNISHED In Cameron Ca

PORTLAND, Aug. 6.—(AP)—A bond of \$1,000 was posted here Friday by the Rev. Duncan Cameron, 44, for the past six years pastor of the Presbyterian church at Cottage Grove, recently indicted by the federal grand jury for being in the United States illegally.

The clergyman is accused of having fraudulently represented himself to be a citizen of the United States by registering under the registration law for elections, stating that he was born in Nebraska.

He served the American Legion state chaplain for two years.

"TEDDY" WAS A RIDER

In 1900 President Roosevelt rode 98 miles in 17 hours on horseback. Three horses were used on the trip, which was from Washington, D. C. to Warrenton, Va., and return.

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