

## 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.

## THE PRESS AND THE ELECT

IN a single sentence, Col. Lindbergh has indicted the press of the United States by saying that "publicity was in a large measure responsible for the death of the first born." Newspaper men are expressing resentment of this statement, and with much justice, yet Col. Lindbergh has stated a problem which the press cannot disown.

True, it is not fair to imply that the Lindbergh first born would not have been kidnapped or murdered if there had not been the continuous spotlight of publicity upon the family. The family millions were a more direct cause of the kidnapping than all the publicity. If Lindbergh were still poor, he would still be famous, but fame does not attract those who think of ransom.

It is unfair to cover the police bungling of the kidnapping case by blaming the newspapers for printing stories, most of which the police themselves handed them. No doubt there was greater hindrance in the activities of young reporters anxious to have a hand in "solving the crime," and yet it is of record that intelligent reporters have succeeded on many a case where police have failed.

All these things can be brought up in behalf of the press, and yet there are problems in the Lindbergh situation which the press cannot disown. Because a man has become rich and famous, must he have no private life of his own?

Let's be perfectly frank about the Lindbergh situation. Some newspaper men feel that while Lindbergh can be pardoned now for any bitterness, he has forgotten the part his newspaper friends had in "making him." When Lindbergh came to Mineola back in 1927 to compete for the \$25,000 prize for a flight to Paris, he was just another man pilot "from the sticks" and he often courted the publicity he now shuns.

It was this friendliness which led the newspaper fraternity to build on his personality when success crowned his great flight over the Atlantic. It was NOT the first trans-Atlantic flight, but the press spared nothing to give the flier fame. Fame is a strange thing. It grows like a snowball. It also has the unfortunate habit of separating old friends. Some feel that Lindbergh, taken into the circle of the rich and famous, has acquired some of the prejudices of the exclusive class to which he now belongs.

As some members of the press see it, wealth and fame inevitably bring with them certain grave risks and certain threesome responsibilities of performing under the public eye. Lindbergh's course was entirely his own choosing, and the press, which looks back upon more natural and friendly relations with him, resents the imputation that it is to blame for his misfortunes.

What the press in its irritation fails to allow is that even wealth and fame do not make a man's family affairs public property. Nor do they justify many of the practices of high pressure reporting which all decent editors, in their saner moments, know are rotten.

The Lindbergh statement rankles because underneath all the bitterness and over-statement there is too much that is true.

Press associations will do well to weigh the Lindbergh complaint seriously and without self-righteousness. There are abuses of reporting privilege which need to be brought under professional control.

## VERY LUCKY ACCIDENT

THE driver of the truck and the motor car which figured in the collapse of the bridge at the south entry to Corvallis Tuesday, evening were extremely lucky to escape serious injury. Even luckier are the thousands of people who have ridden over that same bridge in motor busses and other large and cumbersome vehicles.

The bridge will now have to be rebuilt, of course. It was old anyhow. But an investigation of the collapse by the state highway department and the authorities of Benton county is in order. The incident likewise indicates the need of more careful inspection of all old bridges which are being subjected to modern heavy traffic.

We make this suggestion of an investigation seriously and for a double motive. Judging by the hysterical outcries of our friends at Corvallis over the alleged theft of the Zorn-Macpherson petitions (in which, of course, they were not at that time interested) there is every reason to believe that the collapse of the bridge could be attributed to "supporters of the University," (or lack of support at Corvallis.)

We can't help wondering if Corvallis' Mr. Getz was posted on the curb near the bridge at the time that Eugene truck went through. The more we think of the situation the more we become interested in "safety."

## ROLPH STARTS SOMETHING

APPEARING before the American Legion state convention in California, Governor Rolph ("Smilin' Jim") puts out the rather startling suggestion that the state should assume the burden of cashing the soldier bonuses since the federal government, so far, has refused to do it.

"Bond the state," says Rolph. "Take over the federal government's insurance certificates and let the state be paid back, when the time arrives, by Uncle Sam."

News reports say Governor Rolph's proposal was received with tumultuous applause. That is believable. The Rolph scheme may be merely a politician's play for a little favorable publicity, or it may be a clever plan to divert pressure from the federal government and transfer it to the states, for the duration of the coming campaign.

From the viewpoint of state management, the Rolph plan is dangerous in the extreme. It California assumes the federal government's obligations all states will be "on the spot" for similar action. Many states, Oregon among them, would find it difficult to stand the financial strain.

"Issue bonds?" That slogan ought to be embroidered on the

banners of the politicians.

The bonus is an obligation of Uncle Sam's. It does not belong to the states. Most of the states (and this includes Oregon) have been liberal in enacting special aids and bonuses to show their appreciation of war service. Whether the federal bonus should be cashed now or later is a matter strictly between Uncle Sam and his veterans.

## POWER OF SUPERSTITION

OUT of mysterious India comes a story of the sinking of a ferryboat and the drowning of 150 passengers. That in itself is not so remarkable. India has such a vast population. All conveyances are always crowded. An accident of any kind is almost sure to mean large loss of life.

Later, however, comes an explanation of the catastrophe. A snake riding a log in the swollen Ganges leaped from the log to the deck of the ferry. Fear of snakes is deep-rooted in India. Regardless of the variety of the snake there is a superstition that it brings ill luck to those whose abode it enters.

This was in the minds of the 300 people on the ferry. They all rushed to the side of the ferry away from the snake, overturned it. Only half of them could be rescued. One small snake. One hundred and fifty dead people. Superstition is a strange power.

An eastern cutlery firm intends to bring out a pocket knife with a brief history of George Washington inscribed on the handle. Enabling our schoolboys to sharpen their wits and pencils at the same time.

The 1905 styles of peg-top pants and button shoes are coming back this fall, the clothing designers say. Bringing some of the 1905 business along with them, we hope.

A woman in Massachusetts has just divorced a husband who had previously divorced her. Still determined to have the last word, we suppose.

The Prince of Wales says the way to avoid depression is to keep busy at something. Another way is to choose a king for a father.

Just about the time everybody is convinced that the outlook is really brighter, the football coaches will cover everything with black again.

## WHAT OTHER EDITORS THINK

## YEP! SAME EDITOR.

THE Corvallis Gazette-Times, says the Oregonian, is "the most biased, prejudiced and bigoted" sheet in the state. Yet we faintly remember when the editor of the Corvallis paper spoke over KGW and was introduced as "one of the state's greatest editors." Now we know that to be ranked among the greatest editors one must be biased, prejudiced and bigoted.—Salem Journal.

Sips, who writes the Journal's best column, knows of course, that that introduction was merely kindly words of a fine editor gentleman rising to the occasion. When the same gentleman took the opposite view the other day, his words were those of an angry man caught in the act of violating the sacred traditions of his profession. The difficulty an up-state paper has in a fight with a Portland paper is that its circulation is too limited to let the world read the other side. "There order be a law" regarding a metropolitan paper to print the answer to its attacks.

## WASHINGTON LETTER

By RODNEY DUTCHER  
 (NEA Service Writer)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—Democratic politicians, elatedly, and republican politicians, annoyedly, are discovering that Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt is a real showman with an effective sense of the dramatic. That sense of showmanship is an important factor in the gift of popular leadership. It is such an important asset that the republicans are fortunate in being able to console themselves in the belief that this is a year in which a cool, steady, unemotional, untheatrical performance such as President Hoover produces is more effective than in any ordinary campaign.

There is a fundamentally conservative quality in the Hoover "act" which they feel will appeal to all those who figure that they have something to save rather than nothing to lose.

## A VIGOROUS OFFENSIVE

If the republicans couldn't feel that way, the contest wouldn't be quite fair. Because Hoover, as compared with Roosevelt, has none of that dramatic instinct by virtue of which both Teddy Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson were able to make themselves heroes with great gobs of people. Al Smith was good at it—but apparently not in technique as compared with the man who succeeds him as governor of New York and as democratic candidate for the presidency.

There is none of the Big Bill Thompson "stuff" in Roosevelt. Thus far he has only exhibited a clean, vigorous, spectacular offensive which indicates that he is taking advantage of every possible opportunity for legitimate self-exploitation and advisable self-defense.

If he overdoes it he will move himself a smart aleck, but if he continues to play the game as scientifically as he has played it to date he will lose very few tricks. The governor's intent usually seems clear to all professional analysts of underlying motives and, to some degree at least, usually appears achieved.

HIS REAL MASTERPIECE

His magnum opus at Albany which exhibited Mayor Jimmy Walker pitted against Prosecutor Sam Seabury (with Roosevelt himself in the role of Jehovah) was a masterpiece of showmanship, but it was only the latest in a series of dramatic exhibitions which demonstrate just how good Frank is at that sort of thing. Heaven only knows what he may have in his sleeve when he really cuts loose and goes after Hoover.

Heaven also knows that he hadn't shown much of anything calculated to arouse a populace prior to his nomination at Chicago.

But right at that time he began. Out he came to Chicago in an airplane, professing—although probably not—writing his acceptance speech on route. He rode through cheering crowds and delivered a warm, vigorous, progressive—apparently almost spontaneous—but probably carefully prepared speech. That performance seemed designed to prove his real strength—strength political, mental and physical.

THAT BOAT TRIP

Later he went on a boat trip. He sailed the boat and cooked the meals himself. Then and afterward he posed for the cameras, sometimes as a swimmer smiling out from a wet mop of hair and sometimes just as a hale, hearty outdoor man with clothes on. Convincing evidence, as he must have well known, that he was not physically unfit for the presidency.

Dramatic also was his challenge to Hoover for a personal conference prior to the signing of the St. Lawrence waterways treaty. It was an unheard of thing and Hoover, the conservative, promptly refused to participate—as gracefully and conciliatorily as possible. But Roosevelt had grabbed the headlines just the same.

Meanwhile, the governor at Albany has been treating the country to a passing show of visiting industrialists, railroad executives, bankers, rich men and famous western political foes—as if to show the voters how ridiculous it was for the republicans to call him a radical.

A BLOW AT HOOVER

And the Walker-Seabury show, staged on the day of Hoover's acceptance speech, when it was bound to compete with it not to bury the president's first campaign blast insofar as publicity was concerned, is the master stroke to date. Roosevelt must have enjoyed that one—the latter personal conflict between the wisecracking, stinging, upper little New York mayor and the urbane, impeccable, relentless but politically ambivalent prosecutor, both of whom were at Chicago doing what they could to keep Roosevelt from that democratic nomination, now helping him take a sock at Hoover.

And at the same time Roosevelt, the master showman, was building himself up before the country for the big act in which he would take final action on the case of Jimmy Walker.

## SIDE GLANCES



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## HEALTH TALKS

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

THE symptoms of food poisoning vary greatly according to the portion involved, the amount of the infection received, and the amount of the poison of the germ that is taken in with food. For this reason, instances occur in which some people who partake of a meal do not show any symptoms, whereas others become seriously sick.

However, in the infection which occurred on board the boat in Washington, D. C., mentioned in this column yesterday, hundreds of people were involved and few, if any, escaped. It became necessary to have ambulances by scores on the dock awaiting the arrival of the boat to take care of the sick.

Usually, within a few hours after eating, although sometimes in shorter or longer periods, the first symptoms occur. They take the form of severe pains in the stomach and intestines, nausea and vomiting.

Usually there is also thirst, headache, dizziness and a slight fever. The mild attack passes off in most instances within 24 hours, but in severe cases the symptoms may last three or four weeks. Sometimes the prostration is so great that the patients collapse, having rapid pulse, low blood pressure, and a cold and clammy sweat.

It is not difficult usually for a physician to make a diagnosis when several people or even scores and hundreds have eaten the same food, and develop symptoms about the same time after eating. The treatment is, moreover, relatively simple.

Unless the stomach has already emptied itself by nature's method of getting rid of the infection, the physician can wash out the stomach with warm water and can produce vomiting by any one of a number of methods.

One of the simplest ways is to have the person drink three or four glasses of lukewarm water in which there are one of two tablespoonfuls

of baking soda or of salt. Another simple way is merely to put a finger down the throat. This initiates the vomiting and the irritation in the

stomach will keep it up as long as is necessary.  
 Tomorrow: Remedies for food poisoning.

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