

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 SETTIN' SEASON DRAWS NIGH

Have you noticed the new-gold gleam in the sunlight, when the sun shines, and it has been shining the last day or so? Have you noticed, looking down the street, the new bright-green where spring grass is pushing up through the brown patches made by the December cold spell? Have you noticed, if you stand on a hillside, and look out across the valley, the new purples and lavenders and yellows which are beginning to show in the tree tops?

Al Cook was in the other day and he has it figured out that it is just 95 days till fishin' season. Ajax McGurk is even more optimistic. He says it is time for the settin' season to start. Ajax is probably our most prominent patron of "settlin'" which he claims is by far the noblest of the lost arts.

The great advantage of settin', according to Ajax is its great healthfulness and extreme low cost. It can be practiced "solo" or by big or little groups. It can be done indoors or outdoors, but Ajax thinks outdoors is best. For outdoor settin', one needs only a touch of bright sunshine and a patch of dry grass or a log or a box. One needs no equipment although some of the experts find it enjoyable to have the company of a long whitlin' stick and a good sharp pocket knife. Others like to have a good pipe.

There are no memberships or greens fees as in golf and no strain and fuss as in bridge. You just "set" and you watch a distant sunshower building rainbows on the Coburg hills. There is no rule against thinking, but the best settlers advise against it. You just watch the shiftin' of light and shadow and maybe you hear the river tumbling around the bend and perhaps after a time you become aware of an interesting bug or bird.

It is McGurk's contention that a world-wide revival of settin' could do more to save the world than technocracy. There would have to be "a law," of course to prescribe settin' for all persons over 45, especially millionaires. As part of the program for world peace, settin' would be made one of the most important features of the Olympic games, with a "decathlon" of settin', whitlin', whistlin', chucklin', and the kindred arts for the elder statesmen.

Anyhow, with the grass showing green, the settin' season is at hand and there is hope in the world.

SUGGESTIONS FOR LEGISLATORS

LEGISLATORS at Salem who are wrestling with the sore problems of public debt and taxation might find some good ideas in an article in the current "Scribners" on "No Taxes To Pay."

This discussion shows that there is a vast body of "tax dodgers" but it is not made up, as we commonly suppose, of the "lousy rich." It is made up mainly of "you and me," if you want to put it that way. Millions of people, unless they happen to have invested in real estate, find it possible to get their incomes exempted from all tax.

One very large group with "no taxes to pay" is composed of employes of federal and state governments. In nearly every state there are scores of classes enjoying special exemptions, partial or complete, according to their occupations, affiliations, record of service.

In some of the older states the amount of tax-free valuation held by eleemosynary institutions cuts a great hole in returns. The main trouble however is the failure of most states to make income taxes really apply. A man with \$2,000 to \$5,000 annual income can find any number of allowances which let him partially or completely out.

It might be a good idea to examine Oregon's situation very carefully to see just where it "leaks." A sales tax may be a temporary solution of the problem, but any sales tax is unscientific. In addition to disturbing business, it has the more serious disadvantage that the taxpayer is plucked while unconscious.

How many thousands in Oregon feel no conscious obligation to government from which they expect everything from public safety to the latest hints on "pink toothbrush?"

AN ESTIMATE OF TECHNOCRACY

NOBODY can be quite sure he really understands the meaning of that Big Idea which has lately flashed across the news horizon under the name "Technocracy." As we understand it, the thing is an engineer's dream of Utopia. Some engineers out of work and some still working, but suffering like the rest of us from depression have begun to turn away from their Big Business gods and tinker with politics and philosophy.

The man, Howard Scott, who seems to be the chief of the tribe is a recognizable type, a dilettant with some engineering experience and training, but much more of the Greenwich Village background of speakeasy culture. The movement derives much more weight from the friendly interest of various practicing scientists such as Tolman of California Tech, Bassett Jones, of New York, and Hubbert of Columbia.

The "Technocrats," so called, are attempting to make "an energy survey of North America." That idea is not entirely new. Scientists have long recognized the need of a common denominator to measure the work of both man and machine in production. Most of the figures so far cited by Scott are probably UTTERLY UNRELIABLE. How could they be otherwise? How could an accurate and conclusive survey of this nature be made without the employment of a large and specially trained force, working on the ground in each industry?

The speculations of the "Technocrats" in their off hours provide the big thrill. Could man master himself and the machine by making an authentic "Energy Survey," a master chart? Could he create a paradise where by a few days work in each year under scientific direction he could service all human wants and the rest of the time be free? Could money, as we know it, be abolished and "energy equivalents" be made the basis of human reward?

Here we have communism all spruced up in a new dress of the technical limbo, so dear to the machine-minded American public. If Moscow de-

signed this new front for the doctrines of Lenin and Marx, Moscow is getting very smart. We don't give Moscow credit for being that smart. "Technocracy," a native American product just as much as the mystic proletarian communism belongs peculiarly to Russia.

A dictatorship of engineers and scientists where the Russians have the dictatorship of the proletariat! Let's see, just about 400 years before Christ was born, Socrates, greatest of the Greeks dreamed his dictatorship of the philosophers. Well, there is no harm in dreaming, and (let us remember, please) in this country, so far, no law agin' it. But "Technocracy" would encounter all of the difficulties encountered by every social and political advance including the great Roman and British and American experiments with republican government—difficulties which are rooted deep in human instincts and habits.

Resistance of the inherently conservative farm population has nearly wrecked the Russian experiment time and again. Picture a bright May morning with the "Technocrats" telling the American farmers to take their milk and butter and eggs and wheat to town as usual and eventually Uncle Sam will mail "energy certificates" good for boots and shoes, overcoats, movies and gas. Just how long will the vast population centers last?

Over the centuries we are probably drifting toward government which will realize something of the dreams of Socrates and Marx and Scott and maybe Jesus Christ. The statesmen of the millennium will be not only scientists and philosophers, but practical saints and they will be supported by a democracy which will know a saint when it sees one. (Or is that counting on too much?) For the present, "Technocracy" is going to be useful only because it stimulates a little unaccustomed thought.

And—as often happens in the meanderings of dreamers, there is one valid idea in the whole speculation. A factual survey of human and material resources, conducted by genuine scientists (not Mr. Scott) over a period of years could be of tremendous help in bringing order out of chaos in industry and government. But many a glorious Oregon spring will come before the Millennium dawns on the Cascade peaks. Anyhow, that's candidly what we think.

A RED CROSS APPEAL

ONE of the most perplexing problems which confronts the very limited staff of the Red Cross during the depression emergency is what to do with the unfortunate children whose homes have been wrecked by depression troubles. Lots of people adopt small babies (you'd be surprised right here in Eugene) but not many want older children.

Right now Miss Mary Ann is wondering what to do with two nice kids, both about 12, one a boy, the other a girl, from different families. Both families have been demoralized by hardship. The youngsters also have "lost their grip." It's tough to hold your own in school when it's been a long time since porkchops and when your clothes are just one grand patch.

Send 'em to some home? The limited homes in Oregon are just about full up. Lane county is almost too poor to pay the rates, anyhow. So there you are, Miss Annin can save the taxpayers some money if she can find some real patriots. She doesn't promise it's easy to train other people's badly trained youngsters, but she thinks these two are worth the effort.

Patriots step up!

CARBON MOUNTAIN ON SPREE

HOW little we really know about the earth we are permitted to inhabit is illustrated in the strange stories that are coming out of Colorado about the weird behavior of a hump called Carbon Mountain. Without anything which can be identified as a genuine earthquake or earth slip, the vast mountain is going to pieces. Great sections of base rock with all the surface encrustations of soil and forest and underbrush are being heaved over into deep canyons which are opening up.

Geologists "guess" that a huge vein of coal supposed to be under the mountain is on fire. They figure the disturbances come from pent up superheated combustion gas. Some of them, from the Colorado state university are risking their lives trying to find out. Why? Scientists are just made that way. If they can get Carbon Mountain's secrets it may be the key to other secrets.

What do we know about Oregon's mountains? Precious little. It used to be the habit to ask the legislature for funds for a geologic survey. Not this year! Right! But some day we'll find out.

Think Oregon has a tough financial problem? Our rich cousins down in California are facing a \$50,000,000 deficit. Whoops! However, California can still capitalize. The Native Sons can insist that their deficit like everything else grown in the Golden State is the BIGGEST.

At last a historian digs up evidence that George Washington did tell a lie. Now if the debunkers can establish that Godiva went for her gallop in a chic three-piece ensemble they ought to feel pretty proud of a thorough job.

A compact stopped a policeman's stray bullet and saved the life of a New York girl. But nothing's been found that will save a man from what comes out of a girl's compact.

France is anxious to keep on discussing the war debts, says a news story. The only real difference then lies in the American idea that money talks. Ajax McGurk grunts that it doesn't talk French.

There is no real professionalism in Pacific Coast football, according to Mr. Butler, retiring conference sleuth. Ho hum! Poor old Joe Lillard's fault was in being born black.

Blue River Bill suggests that probably the best way to cure some of those legislators who want the state to run on a warrant basis would be to hand them their pay in warrants.

Some folks are afraid the legislature will stay in session all summer. Why not post a banner in the state house reminding the boys that in 35 days the fishing season starts?

There's one good thing about having the Oregon legislature in session. It lets us forget that we also have congress.

Blue River Bill wants to know if it's because it's been so deflated that business is still feeling the bumps?

Cheer up! Spring fever will be a welcome change from the "flu" at least.

Another Vaccination That Didn't Take



WHAT SOME THINKERS THINK
—Compiled by CLAY E. PALMER—
Pastor of First Congregational Church

SHERWOOD EDDY, world traveler and author: "Ten million perished in Russia before she got stabilized. Many more will perish if China turns to communism."

BISHOP FRANCIS J. MCCONNELL, **DR. HARRY E. FOSDICK**, **DR. S. PARKS CADMAN**, **DR. JOHN HAYNES HOLMES**, **DR. HENRY SLOAN COFFIN**, the greatest preachers of New York and many others, urge "the immediate recognition of the Soviet government of Russia by the United States."

ALFRED NOYES, English poet: "There isn't any religion any more. There isn't any common belief in anything, and when the test comes how can a civilization conquer anything when it doesn't believe in anything."

TOYO HIKO KADAWA, Japan's greatest Christian: "Napoleon tasted the sadness of victory after his conquest of Moscow. Now is the time for Japan to taste the sadness of victory. No victory of the sword can conquer the soul of man."

REPORT OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS COMMISSION on the private manufacture of munitions: "If governments wish us to believe in their sincerity when they preach peace and discuss disarmament, they must begin by abandoning their unholy alliance with the vested interests in arms. . . . These vested interests are powerful enemies not stage dummies and their defeat and subjugation is an essential part of our genuine scheme of disarmament."

LORD CECIL, one of England's outstanding statesmen, speaking of vested interest in armaments: "There is a very sinister feature to all disarmament discussions. I refer to the tremendous power wielded against all proposals by armament firms. . . . It is no longer safe to keep in private hands the construction of these terrible instruments of death."

THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS REPORT that organized international armament rings through and which the armament race has been accentuated by playing off one nation against another: armament firms have attempted to bribe government officials both at home and abroad, and that armament firms have been active in fomenting war scares and in persuading their own countries to adopt warlike policies and to increase their armaments.

IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL BAG

THIS ANOTHER?
EUGENE, Ore.—(To the Editor)—Farmers have been paying \$1295 for tractors to raise wheat where oats used to grow. I guess they have because I saw one advertised for \$1205. And after they got the wheat raised, they had to pay to have the wheat bound and after they got the wheat bound, they had to pay to have the wheat threshed. At that rate it might take 1295 years to pay for the tractor, and if it took 1300 years, I would consider that an unlucky number.

The Bible says if you give to the rich, you will come to want. People have been giving Henry Ford for his cars and giving to Harvey Firestone for his tires, to put on the cars, and giving to Rockefeller for his oil and gas to run the cars with and giving Uncle Sam from 10 to 20 dollars a year to keep up roads.

I don't know as Uncle Sam would be very rich if foreign debts were collected, but old England has been giving him shiploads of gold bricks. Another idea for unemployment relief is for the government to raise wheat on government land in the old fashioned way and bind it by hand.

I have found out that lots of times the big idea is the little idea and the little idea is the big idea. I got the big idea of putting \$100 into airplane stocks. They flew away, where, nobody can tell. Perhaps they will go to hell. I got the little idea of putting \$10 into the Eugene Fruit Growers' association stock and they not only paid me 8 per cent but they paid me a dividend.

If the rich keep getting richer and the poor keep getting poorer, it puts me in mind of an old fashioned stationary steam engine without any governor so it is a long time since

DR. HENRY WIEMAN, University of Chicago: "Human nature is God-bent. It is also hell-bent—and for exactly the same reason."

DR. HARRY S. FOSDICK: To gain the whole world and to lose a soul would be a bad bargain for God as well as for men. Personality is the one infinitely valuable treasure in the universe. If God is, be careful—if he cares, be careful for personality."

PROF. CHARLES T. HOLMAN, author of "The Cure of Souls": "The soul is the total personality. It is what we are. It is our very self."

DR. BURRIS JENKINS: "Perhaps the only way to banish fears is in imagination boldly to face them and their possible results. Suppose this disease develops into incurable and unbearable pain. Good physicians will take care of us and give us an anodyne. Suppose we die of it, all well and good. Nothing is so dreadful if you come to face it. Just imagine the worst that could possibly happen to you and you'll find yourself equal to it."

AMERICAN CONSUMERS MARKET, have studied how we spend our dollars, based upon figures of U. S. government from 1926-1929 and find that Mr. Average Citizen for every ten dollars he receives gives 19 cents to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, help the underprivileged and promote the Church of Christ on earth. He spends \$8.81 on himself and family for food, clothing, recreation, etc.

DR. J. G. MCKENZIE, psychologist: "The opposite of science is not religion but superstition; and the opposite of religion is not science but Godlessness—a refusal to believe that behind and within the appearance of things, behind the knowledge which science acquires and organizes, there are spiritual values of beauty, goodness and truth with which the soul can hold converse."

G. K. CHESTERTON, English writer: "The spiritual sin of living as if no God had brought creation into existence, as if the moral law had no meaning to the soul of man, and as if the beauty of the earth, the majesty of the heavens and the usefulness of perfect love are of secondary importance to commercial success and worldly satisfaction is doing greater mischief than all the sins and crimes of the body lumped together."

ARGUES WITH ALLEY
EUGENE, Ore.—(To the Editor)—In the article by James Alley I find some statements that I do not wish to go unchallenged.

Quoting from the article it reads: "No one seems to have any money this year, and yet it seems to me as never before have people made preparations to look out for their fellowman. 'Peace on earth, good will to man' has ceased to be a hollow phrase."

Now if that statement were true, there would be no cause for me to write this article, but the facts are that it is not true for practically no preparations have been made up to the present time, which holds out to the human race even a remote possibility of "Peace on earth good will to men."

There are two things necessary before mankind can expect to enjoy the benefits of that desirable state. First, the religion of mankind must be humanized, and instead of worshipping a myth in the sky while pushing his fellowman in the gutter.

GOITRE CAUSES UNTIMELY DEATH
"Sufferers of Goitre often do not realize the danger of their affliction" states a well known Battle Creek Goitre Specialist whose home treatment has brought enthusiastic reports from thousands of former Goitre victims. This Specialist in his warning against delay of treatment, calls attention to the number of deaths caused by Goitre. Anyone suffering with Goitre will write to the Physicians Treatment and Advisory Co., Suite 32-A, 65 Michigan Ave., Battle Creek, Michigan, will receive absolutely free a large illustrated book on how to end Goitre quickly at home, without surgery or operation. Send your name to-

case is not in my district. Call Dr. So and so."

So she called So and So, and practically the following conversation took place over the phone: "Doctor, my neighbor's wife is very sick, can you come at once?" Ans.: "I am now very busy, and can't go. Tell them to wait till morning."

Very truly yours,
E. C. PECK.

DEPLORES CHARITY
COTTAGE GROVE, Ore., (To the Editor)—May I use your valued columns to express my indignation at the methods used in relieving the needy in this county.

Yesterday I appeared at the county court house to try and obtain relief for an aged couple, who for the first time in their lives were compelled to ask for aid.

Upon my arrival at the court house I was informed that the county relief funds had been placed at the disposal of the Red Cross agency which was upstairs. Here I found a long line of human misery, some of them mothers with tiny babies in their arms sitting patiently on a hard bench awaiting their turn to be examined to (I presume) make sure that they actually were hungry.

After waiting there for an hour it early dawned on me that some of the most unfortunate on the roll end of the line would surely be compelled to go home and try their luck some other day. And goodness only knows how many miles some of them walked to get there.

This is not necessarily an indictment against the Red Cross. But it is a warning indictment against our social and economic system, which allows a few money lords to dictate to the extent that we dole out billions to their banks and railroads while our working men are denied the right to make an honest living with the result that their families are forced to stand in line for hours at a time.

Now Mr. Editor I am not malicious but sometimes I find myself wishing that some government heads would be forced to take their place at the tail end of one of those lines with the full knowledge that their loved ones were depending on the results.

And since we have taken it upon ourselves to care for the needy, for God's sake let us do it in a human way. Thank you.

JAMES A. SCOTT.

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man must center his worship on higher ideals with greater benefit to humanity as a whole. The Gods take care of themselves—they don't need his help anyway.

Second, we must humanize our economic system to the point where it is rational and humane, now this is not contrary to Jesus Christ's philosophy of life as advocated by Mr. Alley, but a philosophy of life, and the worship of a philosopher are two different things, it is one thing to accept the person of Jesus Christ as the savior of men, and quite another thing to accept the psychology of Jesus as a constructive rule of life, and that is where I draw the line on the article in question.

Mr. Alley says, take your family and go to church, any church where Christ is honored as the "Son of God," and virgin born savior of the world, and worship him for all the blessings of life that you now enjoy, you owe it to "Almighty God," to your family, to your country, to yourself.

Now, I do not doubt the sincerity of the writer, but 1832 years of that simple remedy has proven it to be not only a rank failure, but also a shameful and hollow mockery, for in all those years as well as the unnumbered years before, there has been wars of conquest, aggression and extinction, human slavery, woman's subordination, cruel and heartless rulers, inhuman competition, rabid rich and miserable poor, and after all those centuries of misery and crime, of war and massacre, of preaching and praying, of blistering and blowing of blood and tears we have nothing better to show for such teaching than a rotten past, a shameful present, and a dark future unless we get out of the rut of orthodox and adjust our economic system to take care of its victims, for there are just two forces which shape the destiny of men and nations, namely—the religious and political forces and until they are rationalized and humanized, there will be no "Peace on earth good will to men."

If we wish to profit by an upward trend of humanity, we must counteract the evils which beset us with that which is good and true, for the hope of mankind does not rest with our glorification and enjoyment of a mysterious God, but depends entirely upon our willingness to be rationalized and humanized, the perfecting of the relations that exist between man and man, is the highest service man could perform for any God.

G. W. THOMPSON.

THE VANISHING HERDS
A cowboy lay on the prairie sod, Under the starlight's gleam; He closed his eyes and went to sleep, And this was part of his dream.

The range is swiftly changing, The cowboy's horse is dead; The buffalo grass is under fence Where a thousand cattle fed; The water holes are filled upon, No longer his to hold Against the voice of fellow-man As in the days of old.

No more the smell of campfires Comes drifting o'er the plains, To guide him on the homeward trail Through the sunshine and the rains; His blankets are rolled forever, He'll sleep no more out doors, Where the stars are little lanterns With their twinkling lights aglow.

The Roundup fire is dying, The Branding irons are cold, And the riding days are over For the cowboy, brave and bold. His chaps are in the bunk house Collecting full of dust, His spurs are on the 'dobe wall All covered now with rust.

The cowboy's sure a lonesome man For his six-gun's empty now; Where once he rode a bucking bronco, He drives a tractor plow; Where once a million doggies roamed, There's fields of waving grain, While a silo stands in bold relief, The sign of the Vanishing Plains.

The Durco-Jessys rool around Where once the coyote howled, The Holstein-Freilans rules the roost Where the long-horned Texas prowled;

Yes, the herds are surely drifting, From out the ken of man, But, we who've seen the passing, Are pleased with the Better Plan. **GLEN B. WOOD,** Springfield, Oregon.

ARGUE WITH ALLEY
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U. O. OBSIDIANS TO GIVE COURSE IN OUTDOOR LIFE

In cooperation with the Club, local outdoor organizations, University of Oregon will offer a course in geology and botany. The course will be taught by Dr. Eugene H. Smith, professor of geology, and is announced by Mrs. Estelle Hair, in charge of extension work here.

The course, which will deal with geology and botany of this part of the state, will be taught by Dr. Eugene H. Smith, professor of geology, and an authority on Oregon geology, and by Dr. A. R. Sweetser, professor emeritus of plant biology. Dr. Sweetser has made extensive research on the plants of the state and is an authority in his field.

The lectures are planned especially for those who would like to learn about the geology and botany of this part of the state, and through a knowledge of geology and botany they will also be taken for those who wish to see the material first hand.

The first six lectures will deal with geology, and will include mineralogy, structural geology, metamorphic geology, and volcanism. Dr. Sweetser's lectures will include plant structure, the plant in relation to the geology of the plants, tales of the trees and their doings, thieves and murderers among plants, flowers in fancy in fact.

A moderate fee will be charged and the course will be open to anyone interested. Information may be obtained from the extension division of the university, and those wishing to take the course are asked to enroll soon as possible.

CAMPUS REPORTS ENROLLMENT GOOD

Registration for the winter term starting at the University of Oregon is holding up remarkably well and has exceeded all expectations. A study of figures released Saturday by Earl M. Pallett, executive secretary and registrar, shows. By noon yesterday a total of 2125 students had registered, while the total for the term was 2204, or but 180 more at present. Approximately 100 students can be expected to register during the coming few days, which will bring the total for this term nearly up to that of the fall.

Maintaining actual registration at this high level for the second year is regarded as unusual for any institution. Last year the registration fell from 2870 for the fall to 2604 for the winter quarter, or a loss of nearly 200. With enrollment expected to reach a final total for this term approximately 2250, the loss for the term over the winter term a year ago will be but about 400, or approximately 16 per cent.

Tucson, Ariz., is the only city in the United States.

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