

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

(Published every evening and Sunday)
 EDITOR AND PUBLISHER: Alton F. Baker
 MANAGING EDITOR: William M. Tugman
 NEWS SERVICE: Associated Press and Press
 MEMBER: Audit Bureau of Circulations

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.

SCHOOL BOARD ON SLOW BELL

WITH tax delinquencies and warrant debts squeezing the credit of the Eugene school district till it squeaks, the school board votes to proceed under the slow bell for the first five months and see what turns up.

There will be 121 teachers, 11 less than last year, a net reduction of 3, counting 8 withdrawals as voluntary. Pay will be figured on the same base as last year and this is approximately 16 per cent less than the pre-depression scale.

Efforts will be made to stimulate a "pay-your-taxes" campaign. For the moment, re-financing seems to be in disfavor because of the probability that bonds might have to be sold at heavy discount, offsetting savings on interest rates.

Presumably teachers will continue to receive 25 per cent or more of their salaries in non-cashable warrants, and the banks will be asked to absorb the rest.

The policy is justified by the circumstances which cannot be corrected in haste. The time has come, however, for an intensive study of re-financing possibilities, in case the tax and warrant situations become more acute.

The schools must go on. Whether NRA is to include school operations or not, it is contrary to sound public policy at this time, as well as contrary to educational policy, to embark on further retrenchments.

Essentially, the finances of the school district are in better shape than for many years. There is no jurisdiction for a timid course.

Although it has not been made clear whether the federal government's re-financing schemes are to include schools, it will be worth while to find out how Washington feels about it.

Certainly the rescue of essentially safe and sound school districts is as worthy and as safe as the bolstering up of tottering railroads and banks or the advance of vast sums for the promotion of new and desirable but postponable projects.

Every possibility requires investigation. We need a program which will insure orderly and economical operation without the further penalizing of teachers after the stop-gap five months.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE.

SINCE the depression began, every business man has known the procession of young people looking for jobs, young men and young women just out of college mostly, some out of high school. With every optimistic prediction that business had "turned the corner" the procession would revive. Since the advent of the Blue Eagles and the NRA, it has become a parade.

"How long till I can get a regular job?" Yet these young people are to be envied rather than pitied. In spite of the difficulties they have experienced in getting started, their promises to be a most interesting and profitable age. Opportunity is not dying nor is it dead. For them, the future promises far more of happiness and far less of disappointment than most of us have had.

It probably will not be so easy to make millions as in the past. It may become quite difficult to control and dictate the fate of other men. But more than ever before it will be possible to lead. All the instruments of industry and science and learning—which we have used so clumsily—will be theirs to adapt to some saner, safer plan. It will be in their power to create leisure and security beyond anything we have had.

Periods of change are those in which the opportunity for youth is greatest. There will be work and rich reward for all who have something to offer. Every great advance in history has been made not by those who looked back but by those young enough in mind and body to look ahead.

H. G. Wells is writing another of those fanciful books of his—a history of civilization in 2106 A.D. He foretells a civilization that will have banished wars and poverty and disease, where vast cities will have been replaced by pleasant widely spread communities, where man will be the masters of their machines rather than machine slaves.

WANDERING WOMEN

A PECULIAR development of the relief situation in New York City, and presumably elsewhere, is that while the number of homeless men is decreasing as business picks up, the number of homeless women is increasing.

The Welfare Council of New York reports that 15 per cent fewer men sought shelter in June than in May, while the number of women was 12 per cent greater.

The increase in the number of destitute women was attributed to the fact that each day additional women and girls are reaching the end of their resources and are obliged to appeal to charity. And they are not the type regarded as "derelicts," but are former white collar workers, unskilled for the most part, but heretofore self-supporting.

It has been estimated that the number of homeless women adrift in the United States has reached a total of 250,000. Many of them have taken to the open road in their search for work.

We have been accustomed in the past to large numbers of unemployed and wandering men; transient labor has in fact been useful in many ways. But the addition of women to the ranks of this unfortunate army constitutes a new and disturbing problem in our social readjustment.

Among the latest statistical nonsense issued by some government bureau is the astounding statement that the American people are eating 5 per cent more pork than before the war. Why not? At least that many more are now living out of the pork barrel.

Gen. Johnson pledges himself not to interfere with the traditional and constitutional privilege of free speech for newspapers, and the publishers, you may be sure, would be the last to suggest that anybody try to curb free speech on the part of Gen. Johnson.

"China Takes Step To Combat Pirates," says a headline, but reading farther we find that the drive does not include the Japs.

Spending is to be the newest form of patri-

tism. A good many of us can qualify as patriots. We're already broke.

It's the vacation season in Hollywood, says a news dispatch. You can tell that. All the boys and girls are lining up for a divorce.

Latest local slang: Give the Blue Eagle another birdseed!

WASHINGTON LETTER

By RODNEY DUTCHER

Register-Guard Washington Correspondent
 WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—All of us must help pay the bill which will be charged up in higher prices under the New Deal.

But we have a fighting champion in Dr. Fred C. Howe, an incorrigible crusader whose job it is to see we aren't gouged when we buy food and clothing. As "consumers' counsel" for the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Howe will publish weekly prices from over the country along with analyses to show how much of the increases are being paid to the farmer and how much to labor.

Aimed at the profiteers and designed to protect the ordinary citizen, this program is almost revolutionary. Howe usually summers on Nantucket Island, which is down under Cape Cod and leaning over toward Spain. He was there when the telephone call came which brought him to Washington.

Served Under Wilson
 In 1914 he had been called from Nantucket by a telegram—delayed a month at his New York hotel—which said President Wilson wanted him to be commissioner of immigration for the port of New York. Howe went to look over Ellis Island, noticed the contrast between hot, crowded detention rooms and the green lawn outside.

He decided the immigration station should be a happy, smiling place and accepted the job. After that children and women played on the lawn. Howe introduced football, baseball, better food, concerts and a small school. He was there six years.

Has Had Varied Career
 First he had studied 11 years in universities. Then he practiced law in Cleveland and became a political lieutenant of the great Tom Johnson, famous for his disbelief in municipal corruption. He held public offices for 10 years and became Johnson's floor leader in the Ohio Senate. He developed a strong belief in public ownership of utilities.

He has been an author, magazine editor, specialist and adviser on banking, railroading and public utilities, director of the People's Institute in New York and head of the All-American Co-operative Institute, which preached co-operative marketing to American farmers following Howe's study of co-operative systems abroad.

Consumers Will Know
 Mrs. Mary Rumsey, chairman of NRA's Consumers' Advisory Board, plans to publish what the board considers approximately legitimate price increases after each industrial code goes into effect. She says her organization is the "C. A. B." and that "no consumer shall be taken for a ride."

Law-Abiding Louisiana
 Just before Senator Huey Long had to dash to Louisiana to deal with election fraud troubles, he was around Attorney General Homer Cummings' office, boasting: "Look at Louisiana. There's no crime wave there. We have no kidnappers!"

Johnson's Moods
 Administrator Hugh Johnson of NRA displayed three contrasting moods in three days of coal strike negotiations.

At Harrisburg he said: "God help the man or group of men who stand against this drive."
 At Washington, after a day of deadlock: "I stuck my nose into something that was none of my business and got what was coming to me."

Finally victorious, he emerged from his office grinning, almost giggling. He laughed as he plowed through a group of newspapermen, insisting: "Not going to tell you a damn thing. The president will give it out."

But he was too happy not to relent. He finally said to a few persistent ones: "Well, if it'll help you any, I'll tell you confidentially." And he did.

WHAT OTHER EDITORS THINK

THE NORTH SANTIAM

(Salem Capital Journal)

ALLOCATION by the state highway commission, the federal bureau of roads and the forest service of another \$120,000 towards the construction of the North Santiam highway, virtually assures the grading of the entire road from the present terminus to the junction with the South Santiam highway, at Big Meadows, 12 miles west of the summit at Hogg pass.

This will assure the completion of an earth road within a year and its graveling and improvement will naturally follow later. Work is also under way on relocating and widening the Niagara-Detroit section, for which an initial appropriation has been made jointly by the forest service and Marion county, the cost of which will be materially reduced if the Southern Pacific abandons its Detroit extension so the right-of-way can be utilized.

The North Santiam road is perhaps the most important of the forest projects in Oregon as it will afford a short cut from central Oregon to Salem and Portland, 17 miles shorter than other proposed roads, and 65 miles shorter than the present McKenzie pass road.

AN EDITORIAL ON HEALTH

By DR. MORRIS FISHBEIN

Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association.

And of Hygiene, the Health Magazine
LEAD is one of the most widely used substances in industrial work of all types. It is, however, at the same time one of the most poisonous substances with which human beings come in contact. It may get into the body through the digestive tract, through the lungs, or through the skin.

Recently Dr. G. H. Gehrmann has outlined the preventive measures used in the various DuPont plants to make certain that employees are not injured by lead. Before a worker enters a plant, he is given a complete examination, including a history of his previous working life. If most of, of course, be established that he has not previously been in contact with sources of lead poisoning. Inasmuch as work in the vicinity of lead may be dangerous, it is not well to put into service any employee who may already have fairly large amounts of lead in his system.

It is also desirable that employees who are to work around hazardous elements should be amenable to teachings of cleanliness and sanitation. The careless, irresponsible and the smart aleck should never be permitted to work in contact with dangerous chemicals. It is one of the rules of this corporation that women and all applicants under 21 years of age are excluded from work with lead. It is also necessary that all those who are subject to disturbances of the bowels be eliminated.

The blood must be studied to make certain that it is free from the typical stippling appearance of the red blood cells commonly associated with lead poisoning. In a well-regulated industrial plant examinations are made every three weeks to determine whether or not the employees are absorbing lead and also the degree and severity of lead absorption. Whenever a worker begins to show even a slight change in digestive powers, loses weight, or shows considerable reduction in the number of red blood cells and red coloring matter in the blood, he is removed from contact with lead.

The two major problems in the handling of lead in industry are the control of dust and of fumes. Nowadays there are suitable respiratory masks and exhaust devices and similar mechanical