

# CHILD WELFARE WORK IN OREGON RACKET, KLETZER

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

put it on the state, but if you wish to kill it, say in your law 'The county may pay.'

"Within one month after accepting the responsibility of being legion child welfare chairman, four years ago, the auxiliary in Multnomah county appealed to me for assistance in securing aid for a mother and four children. I am citing this case because it was the first of many similar cases and because it illustrates perfectly the points I am trying to get across without involving the sympathy and sentimentality that many of the later cases involved.

**Home Care Better, Cheaper**

"A veteran who had been at work only a short time following a somewhat prolonged illness, died of heart failure. He left a widow with four children. There was \$700 left in the adjusted compensation certificate. The mother paid back rent and store bills, expecting to preserve her credit until something turned up. But the merchants knew the provider was gone, there was no such thing as credit. She applied for mother's pension. It was denied, why? The reason given was she had paid bills with the \$700 service certificate instead of hoarding it. She begged; she went from one charity to another but it wasn't until the danger of losing her children to an institution threatened her that she began collecting aid. To make a long story short, we succeeded in getting a grant of \$45 for this family. If these children had been committed to an institution it would have cost the state \$94 for the care of the children only. Say nothing about the care of the mother during those strenuous times. Here is a saving of \$228 a year to the taxpayer on only one family, measured in dollars alone. Say nothing at all about the value of rearing these children in their own family atmosphere."

**Lobby Defeats Bill, Claim**

The speaker advocated that the cost of institutional care and mothers' aid be shared equally by the county and state, thus eliminating "passing the buck" of the cost from one tax-paying body to another, and center-

ing attention on the needs of the individual child instead.

Outlining attempts made in the past to secure legislation to this end, Kletzer charged that highly trained lobbyists, with plenty of money at their disposal, had defeated past attempts along this line. The lobby, he said, represented what is known as the Child Caring Federation of Oregon.

"In order to cope with them it will be necessary for you to know the methods they use in presenting legislation. In 1931 they had an open high priced lobby. In 1933 it was at the legislature but under cover. When the legion measure for creating unpaid county child welfare boards was introduced it passed the committee on public welfare with a unanimous vote. Two days later when it came up in the house things began to happen. Why? Every county judge in Oregon received a letter of which part of the text is as follows: 'Sect. 6 of the proposed act which requires that the county court shall furnish the board of children's guardians such data, records and information as will enable them to advise with the court in such matters should be particularly repugnant to you as a judge. Your experience has shown how many matters coming before you are and must be confidential and you undoubtedly know how the troubles of the children would be broadcast throughout your county if you were required to furnish to the proposed board all of the information at your command concerning any case.'

**Letters Solicited**

"The Child Caring group of the state of Oregon has in the past operated fully with your court and your workers and it is this group is anxious to continue the present harmonious relations. We do not want to see the creation of this cumbersome machine which, if placed in operation, will result in making you, as judge, simply a "yes man" to your county child welfare commission.

"May we request, if you agree with us on this bill, that you voice your opposition to your representatives and senators in the legislature immediately by wire and that you follow the wires up by letter?"

"Also, may we have a letter from you expressive of your opinion on the bill, with your permission to use the letter at such time as the occasion may warrant?"

"Very truly yours, The Child Caring Federation of Oregon, by the president."

**Segregation Held Need**

"Now, why are county committees a part of our program? Let me tell you a few stories that will point out how county committees can be helpful and why there should be some group

in the community that should concern itself with the quality of work that is being done.

"My attention was called to a ten year old boy at the state training school who had been living with his stepfather, but whose father had been an ex-service man. He was the type of boy both in appearance and disposition that any of you would have been glad to have in your home. Yet, there he was mixed with older criminals and a young negro who had been committed for having murdered his mother. In looking over his record there was nothing which warranted sending a boy of this age to the 'training school for crime' short of the fact that the family was about to go on relief and thus made one less for the county to provide for. If this county had had a group interested in such problems do you think that they could not have worked out a better solution for this child and the other children of this family?"

**Coordination Declared Need**

There are in Oregon 36 different methods of dealing with dependent children; 36 different methods of administering mothers' aid; 36 different methods of dealing with delinquency and probation; 16 different private child caring institutions, receiving state subsidies; nine public owned institutions managed by political appointees, he said.

"Isn't it time to ponder on what kind of a job is being done for the unfortunates of this state at an annual cost of \$8,500,000 under the haphazard methods we are using. Doesn't this remind you somewhat of the road system we had 20 years ago with its haphazard system of filling the ruts in the spring and tearing them to pieces in the winter. We recognized where we crossed the county lines by the difference felt in the bumps in the road.

"We coordinated our road system by putting it under state control as a department of public highways.

"Because we cannot segregate the child from the adult in the fundamental services we must perform, we have come to the realization that to best serve this child we must coordinate all public welfare activities under a department of public welfare.

"We hope that when such legislation is offered every post and auxiliary of the American Legion will do its utmost to bring it to a successful conclusion.

"Not until we have provided more adequate care for dependents, not until we have raised the standard of training of personnel dealing with dependents, not until we have removed the institutions caring for unfortunates from political manipula-

tion and not until we have set up machinery for the prevention of delinquency as well as the custodial care of the delinquent; not until then can the American Legion feel that it has reached its goal."

# MISSIONARIES STORY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

every effort to bring about the capture and execution of the Chinese bandits who murdered Mr. and Mrs. John C. Stam, American missionaries.

The state department had no news regarding Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Koffield of Bend, Oregon, for whose safety fears were expressed after the Stams were captured.

# DINNER AT CHURCH

The women's council of the First Christian church is sponsoring a dinner Friday evening at 6 o'clock at the church. A program will be given by the male quartet of the Northwestern Christian college and both the program and dinner will be given for the single price of admission.

# BUTTERFAT UP

The Eugene Farmer's Creamery reported a one cent rise in butterfat prices late Thursday afternoon, with "A" grade cream listed at 31c and "B" grade at 29c.

# CHILDREN BURNED

BEDFORD, Va., Dec. 13.—(AP)—Hazel, 19, and three younger daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Luther Nichols were burned to death early today when fire destroyed their farm home near here.

# CHILDREN'S BODIES FOUND

HULL, Que., Dec. 13.—(AP)—The bodies of three children, missing from their homes for 24 hours, were found today in Brewery Creek. The dead were Pauline-Pilon, 5, Robert Jean 5, and Roger Gravelle, 4.

# CROSSING DANGER STORY

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

way, where the highway crosses the railroad tracks. Since the widening of Franklin boulevard and the installation of three traffic lanes, state highway commission experts point to a dangerous situation existing at the street near the tracks, Chief Bergman said.

With traffic required by state law to keep to the right lane except when passing another machine, traffic has been swung over to the right and now passes too close to the loading platform of the ice plant, officials of the commission declare. With the traffic stream flowing so close to these platforms, it is believed serious accidents may result.

At present a rather makeshift arrangement is in force, whereby a car is parked on the right hand lane, forcing cars to swing out into the center of the street as they pass the platform, and it is this feature that the highway commission officials especially object to, Bergman said.

Installation of a warning sign of some sort is being considered and the police committee probably will make a recommendation Friday evening.

"This situation holds great danger because autos usually go at considerable speed at this point and the additional hazard of the railroad crossing makes the spot a serious problem in traffic control," the chief said Thursday. "Within the past two weeks a car struck a guard post at this intersection. The problem is complicated due to the fact that any warning placed might tend to confuse motorists as there already is a railroad crossing warning signal there."

Two accidents, in which cars, starting to make turns, were struck by autos following them, were reported

to city police. The machine driven east on Sixth by S. Collis Massey, was hit by a car driven by Mrs. Hazel Archibald at the Charnelton street intersection. A car driven west on Sixth by Fred Fredericksen, was struck by a car driven by Oscar Snow when Fredericksen started to turn into Lawrence street.

The third accident was a crash at Tenth and Charnelton where cars driven by Orman Weaver and Lester Peterson crashed.

# BREVITIES

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

roads during the current week, to be published tomorrow by the Association of American Railroads, are estimated at 555,000 cars, an increase of 13 per cent over the preceding week which included the Thanksgiving day holiday, and 3.3 per cent ahead of the same week last year.

SALEM, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Hatcherymen and poultry breeders of the state will meet here Saturday for the second statewide code meeting of the group. The initial meeting was held at Portland last year. A. Hannah, Kansas City, national poultry code supervisor, and M. W. Buster, Berkeley, code supervisor for the coast states, are to be present as speakers.

HAVANA, Dec. 13.—(AP)—For the first time in history, Cuba today

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recorded a death from cold. An unidentified beggar was picked up while sleeping in the open air last night and died in a hospital where by cold and exposure. The temperature fell as low as 50 degrees Fahrenheit last night.

CONSHOHOCKEN, Pa., Dec. 13.—(AP)—Three boys drowned in the Schuylkill river today as ten men stood on the river bank unable to help them. They sank beneath a crust of ice after a rowboat in which they were going across the river was upset by a large piece of ice.

# SPORT

MIAMI, Fla., Dec. 13.—(AP)—Slightly injured in the crash of a bridge that threw a dozen spectators into five feet of water in a canal at the 71st green, Olin Dutra, national open champion, came back to sink a 45 foot putt for a birdie four on the last hole and win the

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