

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 editor of the Register-Guard offers his 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.

PLAYGROUNDS MODERN UTILITY

NEARLY every youngster in Eugene has taken some part in playground work this summer, and the response to the very limited program indicates plainly the need for a much more comprehensive plan for the future. Although parks and playgrounds in Eugene are operated by two different commissions, the need for the coordination of the two movements is obvious.

Eugene has some remarkable scenic parks but far too little space suitable for intensive recreational activities. The use of school playgrounds makes up somewhat for the lack of park playgrounds, and this development is logical because it gets the work into neighborhoods where children live. In this connection the school board's decision to purchase the Kincaid tract adjacent to the Willard school is very wise.

But when all is said and done, the summer playground achievements are the more remarkable because of the facilities which are lacking than because of those available.

There is no really decent public swimming tank and as river pollution increases the use of the old hole in the Willamette back of Skinner park becomes more and more dangerous.

There are very few large playing fields suitable for baseball, tennis and the games which would feature an adult program.

The mutilated playground levy yields only about \$3,600 a year and this sum is increasingly inadequate.

The city council is pledged to acquire the Amazon tract for park and playground purposes, some budget time, when the transfer of proper credits to the special assessment sinking fund can be carried out in proper order.

Before another summer comes, however, Eugene needs a progressive park and playground plan for the future. It would be a good idea for the city council to call a general meeting of the park board, playground commission, school officials and all interested in the situation while this summer's experiences are fresh in mind. The city is still "poor." It is still bound to the wheel of its debt payment program. But there is reason to believe the public would give special support to any well made park and playground plan, building toward the future.

NEW "OPERATION" IS NEEDED

EVERY now and then Ajax McGurk has been heard to remark that a new operation is needed, for McGurk would have his friends do something about the weird manifestations of conscience which appear now and then. No doubt Mr. McGurk would advocate a surgical treatment for the Medford lady who has just served 30 days in jail rather than give the vital statistics of her age to the state authorities who issue drivers' licenses.

But the Medford lady's strange exhibition of pride is not much more remarkable than other instances of exaggerated devotion to "principle." After all a woman may have reasons to be touchy about her age. Consider the gent who gets all lathered up over a 23 cent difference in the light bill or the fellow who becomes violent over a parking tag. Not long ago there was the case of the chap who cut down a beautiful tree just to spite neighbors who begged him not to do it—because as soon as he was opposed it became a matter of principle. The buttinsky and the meddler and the malicious gossip too often kid themselves that their activities are motivated by "principle."

The firm stand in a real crisis is always admirable, but the world would be a much pleasanter and easier place in which to dwell and perhaps there would be less war and more if men and nations looked a little more to reason and less to those various phases of self-justification which are glorified and sanctified in the name of principle.

CONGRESS ENDS ITS LABORS

THOUGH its record of constructive accomplishment has been sadly limited by purely political conflicts, the Congress now dragging to a weary close deserves great honor for what it did not do. It did not submit to President Roosevelt's demands to control the federal courts and to concentrate virtually all executive power in his own hands. Thereby the Congress saved the forms and methods of traditional American democracy and rescued itself from impotence as an agency of government.

The burial of the wage-hour bill indicates revolt against Mr. Roosevelt in the erstwhile Solid South. It was southern members who blocked the enactment of this measure even after many of its most objectionable features had been eliminated. This is a circumstance of deep significance. If Mr. Roosevelt hopes to carry the Democratic party with him on the long trek to the left, he will have to do so without the South. The realignment in American politics, so long predicted, is plainly indicated in this split. As party men, the Southerners have tolerated much but they are now unmoved by disciplinary threats.

It is regrettable that so little was accomplished in the way of economic and social legislation needed to assist the process of natural adjustment, but for this the blame must rest with the president rather than with Congress. Had Mr. Roosevelt gone to the Congress with a program of reasonable legislation designed to correct obvious ills rather than to confer more power on himself there is little doubt he would have had cordial support. He misinterpreted completely "the mandate" of the last election results, and his prestige not only in Congress but with the people has suffered as a consequence.

Mr. Roosevelt's first term was characterized by many mistakes but it was characterized also by a sincere effort to find remedies for specific maladies in the national system. In his first term there was little of the arrogance which has characterized the second term's dealing both with Congress and the courts. When Mr. Roosevelt chose to consider sincere differences of opinion in the light of disloyalty, he inflicted wounds which a dozen Jefferson island picnics could not laugh off.

Under the circumstances it is better that little

has been done than that much should be put through at a late hour in haste. During the interval between adjournment and the next session, there should be time to recapture perspective. If Mr. Roosevelt is still the shrewd politician he was in the beginning he will not rely too much on that small Praetorian guard of ambitious intellectuals who encircle him in the White House. The second term is still young and there is still time for more reasonable and rational understanding of "the mandate."

ZEAL CHINA'S BEST WEAPON

IT IS no secret that the people of Japan were about to try to restrain the extravagances of their military government when the Chinese crisis was provoked. The fierce uprising of the Chinese nation after so many years of indignity and outrage at the hands of the Japanese will probably have the usual effect of rousing a similar patriotic fervor in Japan. As the dead are reported, as the maimed and injured are brought home, the pride of the Japanese people will assert itself. There also will be the fear that all the previous sacrifices of mainland conquest will be lost. There is the ultimate dread of the Russian menace. And there is the terribly important Oriental fear of losing face.

No doubt it will be possible to whip the Japanese people to wartime fury, but in spite of all the preparations the structure on which the great drive for Asiatic control must rest is weak. The people of Japan have been bleeding themselves with taxes to support the follies of the military government, and they have received very few if any of the promised benefits. Their fighting forces have every advantage of discipline and training and equipment, but the reports from the battlefronts so far fail to show anything like the flaming zeal which has been aroused in the Chinese.

The Japanese are in a mighty tough spot. Flouting world opinion may prove the ultimate mistake. Using the International settlement at Shanghai as a base for operations of military conquest has endangered every friendly relationship. The Chinese have been quite within their rights in carrying the fight to the Japanese in the settlement and that is why, though many foreigners have been killed or hurt, no power has made any serious protest. No power wants war with Japan, and the efforts to remove nationals from Shanghai are entirely sensible, but the attitude of the major powers is ominous, if the Japanese command has sense enough to recognize it.

It is desirable to remember that the people of Japan have literally been dragged into this mess. As a people they do not deserve the ill will which will surely come out of it.

ANOTHER ARMY UNIT VISITS

TWENTY years ago there was an axiom in the army to the effect that the efficiency of an outfit could be estimated at a glance by its neatness. When Lieut. Col. C. M. Thiele rolled his 63rd Coast Artillery into Eugene late Thursday after the long hot march over the mountains from Grants Pass with their heavy guns and trucks they gave a little demonstration which was quite as interesting to those who know military ways as the anti-aircraft show Thursday night.

Not an officer or man appeared on the streets of Eugene except he was as clean and trim as if the command had been preparing for an inspection by the commanding general instead of an overnight camp. The artilleryman has always been a very proud soldier. Times have changed. The artillery has been motorized, and the modern artilleryman has hundreds of marvellous electrical and mechanical gadgets the old timer never dreamed about, but he "keeps those caissons rolling" with the same feeling the old timer had when the guidons went forward and the sections rolled down the line with lead, swing and wheel traces taut.

Courtesy was another very noticeable attribute of the 63rd. The thousands of people who visited the camp at the fair grounds were made to feel entirely welcome everywhere in the camp. The officers and men on duty with the big anti-aircraft guns and the searchlights and the machine gun units and the rolling kitchens did their best to answer the barrage of questions their guests laid down.

This anti-aircraft regiment is unique. There are only four in the entire country and the 63rd is the only one assigned to the Pacific Coast. But it was here to come to the United States, this type of fighter would be one of the most important elements of defense. Efficient anti-aircraft artillery is something few armies have been able to develop, but some of the best brains in the American service are being devoted to this exacting and unglamorous work. Upon the officers and men trained in this service would fall a tremendous job of training and leading this branch of service in any war which might develop.

The Eugene Chamber, the Reserve Officers Association, the Elks Club and citizens generally cooperated to give the artillerymen a cordial welcome. With China as a fresh and rather horrible example of unpreparedness, there seems to be new and rational interest in defense. These regular army units making test marches between California and Washington are reminders that 400 miles of Oregon coast have so far been omitted from any comprehensive program of defense.

War is not wanted and should be utterly remote, but in a world of mad men and mad nations, an efficient defense is still the best insurance for peace.

There wasn't a single case of mistaken identity in the WPA statue cleaning project. The statues didn't knock off for lunch.

German leaders propose to shorten each shirt-tail two inches. A Nazi will be happy if he has somewhere to tuck it, the government presumes.

Michigan proposed selling eggs by the pound and then abandoned the idea. Hens still laid on a unit basis.

Some people might say that tackling the anti-lynching rider to a freight car bill was an attempt to railroad it.

It would take a prodigal son indeed to expect a fattened calf at these prices.

You can vote for one candidate in the New York majority race and still be true to three tickets.



IN THE EDITOR'S MAIL BAG

PARTIES
EUGENE, Ore., (To the Editor)—I wish to compliment you on your summation of the political situation on your KORE program. I believe it was August 8. You were absolutely correct. The issue is not so much party politics, it is group politics, or should be. We need both the progressive and the reactionary conservative parties, one to keep a check on the other, as either one would go hog wild if it were not for the criticism of the other and maybe a small, what it called radical group, to edge the others on.

But what we should not have is two major parties that claim that they are both—both conservative and liberal at the same time. I would suggest that the time has come when the democrats should take the lead as they are at the present time in the majority, and declare themselves and get behind their party leadership and their platform, as it must be plain to every intelligent citizen that it is impossible to be a Roosevelt democrat and a Martin democrat at the same time. Let the reactionaries in the democratic party go over to the republicans and the progressive liberals in the republican party come into the democratic party where they belong.

It is my opinion that you will see the greatest gain in registration for the democrats at the coming primary election, especially in Lane county, that you have seen in many years. The conservatives will register with the democrats in an attempt to nominate Governor Martin and the conservative members of our county court, while on the other hand the liberals should realize that their only hope of defeating this group of conservatives is in the primary, and that it is imperative that they also must register democratic in the primaries if they hope to have any liberal candidates to vote for in the general election. Of course, if the voters would all do this it would mean a lot of fence straddling, hand shaking, scheming and double crossing politicians. Oh boy! Wouldn't that be just too bad! There is a great deal of complaint about crooked politics. What about it? Who is to blame? Isn't the real fault with the people who do the most complaining on the street corners, but have not enough nerve to do or say anything about it in public? Let all the good people come forward and take an active part in politics if they are really sincere in their desire to clean up politics. Are you for it? Alright, come on everybody; let's go.

HARRY H. JOHNSON,
121 N. Washington St.

Shower Is Given For Marcola Woman
MARCOLA, Aug. 21.—(Special)—A shower was given honoring Mrs. Eda Jaques at the home of her mother, Mrs. Bessie Rogers, Tuesday afternoon with Mrs. Edith Hynes, Mrs. Orval Robinson, Mrs. Mary Wright, Mrs. Kenneth Werner, Miss Elton Mars and Mrs. Walter Rogers the committee. A program consisting of a song by the Tinseltown; two tap dances, Wanda Wilkins; reading, Mrs. Tinseltown; song, Edith Hynes. Mrs. Wright played "Roll Along Covered Wagon" as a small covered wagon filled with presents was brought in by Mrs. Jaques' son, Walter Jaques. Refreshments of ice cream, cake and punch was served to the following: Mrs. James Merwin, Mrs. Hattie Cornwell, Mrs. Vada Mills, Mrs. Nellie Scott, Mrs. Frances Bennett, Mrs. Mable Simmons, Mrs. Dora Boas, Mrs. Ethel Perry, Mrs. James Woodham, Mrs. A. K. Peterson, Mrs. Rose Tinseltown and sons, Donald and Stanley, Mrs. Orval Tall and daughter, Ray.

Highway Improved In Shedd District
SHEDD, Aug. 21.—(Special)—Each side of the highway through town has been covered with coarse rock and the fine rock is being put on. Trucks and cars are busy hauling and smoothing down the rock. There is a drop of about a foot from the center of the highway. Flare pots are lighted at night to warn cars from running off. The dust has caused some inconvenience to those living along the highway.

Miss Florence Clark, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Clark is seriously ill at the Lebanon hospital with heart trouble, following a major operation. Miss Clark was formerly a teacher in the Shedd grade school.

Miss Ann McConne of Mill City has been visiting her aunts, Misses Mary, Amelia, and Kate McConne and uncle, Joe McConne.

Rev. Mr. Kimball of Des Moines, Iowa was making calls in the Shedd vicinity Thursday. He is a guest at the W. H. McConne home.

Mrs. J. A. Blankenship and Miss Helen Davis went to Albany on business Thursday.

Mrs. Marie Gibbons and Mrs. Harold Pugh spent Wednesday in Portland returning home that evening.

Mr. Oland and family of Hillsdale, visited recently with Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Shedd and Mrs. Pearl Shedd. Mr. Oland and Mr. Shedd are cousins.

Miss Ada Post of San Bernardino, Cal., is here visiting relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Willis Clark of Portland and Mrs. William Falcon of Corvallis spent the weekend at the Jensen home. Mrs. Fellen recently returned from a two weeks vacation at Sacramento, Cal. where her husband is employed.

Miss Helen Blankenship of Eugene is here spending a few days with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Blankenship.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Starnes and daughters, Evelyn and Donna, of Walnut Grove, Minn. who have been spending a few days at the Leroy Starnes home went to Halsey Thursday to visit Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Starnes and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Starnes before starting on their return trip to their home.

Miss Elsa Graf who is employed in Portland spent the weekend with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Graf.

C. L. Kahl and party of Maywood, Neb. spent Thursday night in one of the Gardner tourist cabins. Mr. Kahl made inquiries about the Willamette valley and was somewhat surprised when informed that he was in it.

Mrs. Edith Rogers arrived from Portland Thursday to visit Mrs. Theodore Jensen.

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Aberdeen Woman Is Visiting Thurston

THURSTON, Aug. 21.—(Special)—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Bricker and children, Ruth, Glendon and Ardeth, motored to Aberdeen, Washington recently to attend the N. W. convention of the Moose lodge of which Mr. Bricker is a member. While in Washington they visited at Aberdeen and Hoquiam, and were at the home of Mr. Bricker's great aunt, Mrs. Tilda Atwood who returned home with them for a visit and who plans to remain until Labor Day when her son and family, Mr. and Mrs. Bricker and Mrs. Floyd Atwood, and daughter of Tenino, Wash. expect to motor down for her. While Mrs. Atwood is here several things have been planned for her entertainment and last Sunday Mr. and Mrs. John Ferguson, Irvin Ferguson and Miss Arlyn Eastman all of Cottage Grove were at the Bricker home for a family dinner. Next Sunday Mr. and Mrs. Bricker and family and Mrs. Atwood expect to drive to Dexter to visit Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Bricker.

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Walterville People In Swimming Event

WALTERVILLE, Aug. 21.—(Special)—The swimmers from Walterville who have been taking lessons attended the demonstration and swimming picnic and pot luck supper at six o'clock Friday. The demonstration was held Friday afternoon. Several from Walterville have been taking the lessons, the past two weeks.

The lower fish racks and fish pens have been installed the past week or more at Hendricks bridge.

Scratch Pads

Shelton-Turnbull-Fuller Company
Phone 1663 44 West 10th

by the workmen and things are being made ready for taking the eggs when the season is right.

Word of the marriage of Miss Mildred McNoun to Mr. Kelley was received Wednesday at Walterville. Miss McNoun has many friends in this vicinity who are interested in her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Kelley expect to live in California. She is one of Lane county's successful teachers and has many years experience in different vicinities in which she has taught.

The Walterville community club met Thursday for their regular meeting at the upper N. O. W. hall. Mrs. Joe Youkum and son Joe, were in attendance for the day's quilting and needlework and visiting. Her mother, Mrs. Joe O'Dell of Des Moines was her guest for the day at the club.

George Momb started his threshing machine Friday morning with a crew of men from the vicinity who will help through the threshing work. Most of the farmers will thresh out of the shock this year in preference to stacking it. Lateness of the threshing season is making them do the shock threshing.

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Mrs. Lottie Mitchell and Elva have returned home from the Howell ranch near Eugene where they have been picking beans.

Oris Lynch and Russell Hensley went to Yakima last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Vaughn have returned to their home in California after a visit with Mr. Vaughn's sister, Mrs. E. H. Gowing and family.

Helen Howard of Glendale is visiting friends here.

Men Injured
Alfred Herendeen injured his back while working at the Addison Lumber company mill Tuesday. John Dunn has infection in his hands and Ed Mitchell has been in the hospital with infection in a leg caused by a cut with an axe.

Mrs. E. C. Herendeen has returned from a two weeks visit with relatives at Lena, Ore.

Merle Alder broke his arm while logging for W. T. Moore north of Lorane.

Mr. and Mrs. George Furrough of Monrovia, Calif., visited here Wednesday on their way home from a visit in Idaho.

Mrs. Gladys Perry has returned from a visit with Mr. and Mrs. George Damewood at Rhinda.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Arthur were fishing at Winchester Bay last week.

Clark Coffelt is hauling lumber for the Hyland mill since the railroad has been completed here.

Church Picnic Is Held Near Lorane

LORANE, Aug. 21.—(Special)—Members of the Fairmount Christian church in Eugene and members of the church here held a picnic at the home of Rev. J. M. Shelley north of Lorane Friday evening. Outdoor games were played in the afternoon and evening and a potluck supper was served.

Mrs. Wiley of Fullerton, Neb., and Mr. and Mrs. Don Bryant of Ft. Collins, Colo., visited Friday with Melvin Wiley at the John Skelton home. Mrs. Wiley is the mother and Mrs. Bryant a sister of Melvin.

Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Herendeen and son Fay left Wednesday for Medford where they will make their home. Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Mitchell accompanied them with a truck load of furniture. Mr. and Mrs. Herendeen have been residents of the Lorane community for about 18 years.

The Roy Ross family moved Tuesday from the Sanderson ranch to Eugene. Mr. Ross is logging at Fall Creek.

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