

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
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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.

RAISE RATES? SHOW NECESSITY

"Any diversion of funds from the utilities to other city uses will have a certain and direct effect upon your water and light bills. It will result in either a rise in rates or interference with rate reductions in the future."

—Water Board's official statement

During the year 1937, by the Water Board's own report, our utilities had gross receipts of \$659,974.62. The electric utility netted \$253,167.66; the water utility, \$63,639.17—a very fine showing.

In sinking fund investments, depreciation reserves and cash, the electric utility has on hand \$863,285.47 to cover only \$760,000 of long term bonds outstanding; the water utility has on hand \$480,815.08 against \$581,659.55 in long term bonds outstanding. The two departments combined have \$1,344,100.55 against combined bonds of \$1,431,659.55.

When the Water Board says it can't find the \$30,000 which would be required to take over street lighting and municipal water supply without dipping into your pocketbook, it is being a bit absurd—especially at the moment when it is proposing to shoot another \$600,000 into another steam plant—if Bonneville won't offer suitable peak load terms.

Your Water Board is your only agency free to spend as it pleases; and though, on the whole, its record has been admirable, its unusual financial freedom has covered some costly mistakes:

Leaburg—designed for two turbines, limited to partial development because of too optimistic estimates of average flow in the McKenzie river.

Rennie Rapids—elaborate borings and tests over a long period, far-sighted perhaps but possibly impractical.

Promotions—such as the venture a few years back into buying wholesale lots of electrical merchandise and financing dealers and customers.

Expansions—it is a question whether the surcharges on rural and suburban service really cover added expense of such service.

Because of the pride of Eugene people in these enterprises—a pride which we share—there has grown up a certain myth of efficiency and infallibility. This attempt to scare voters calls for calm and candid study of what the record really is.

Can the Water Board make ECONOMIES which will enable it to save this \$30,000 annually for the taxpayers? Can it find approximately 4.4 per cent of savings on a gross business of \$659,000 a year?

We say YES!

TO REQUIRE FITNESS FOR MARRIAGE

It would seem to be only common sense to say that the state of Oregon should require all persons who intend to marry to show that they are physically and mentally fit to wed. So delicate is the question, however, that the legislature after enacting such a law, saw fit to refer it to the voters.

There is a provision in the law that those who are rejected on examination may appeal to the circuit court. All examinations will be under the direction of the state board of eugenics; they will be free; the records will be confidential.

We believe that many tragedies can be prevented by such a law, wisely enforced. We realize that no law can prevent entirely "lovers' mistakes." So long as the requirements of all states are not uniform, evasions will be easy. But a certain amount of the crime and disease and distress which come from the mating of the unfit can be prevented.

We recommend: VOTE 306 YES.

PARKING NEEDED AT NEW FIELD

Dedication of the new athletic field on South Willamette street brings the reminder that before it is too late some provision should be made for the parking of cars and the handling of traffic at the time of big games and other events. South Willamette street will not carry the load and the hillside streets to the west are not suitable. If possible, some provision should be made for handling motor traffic on open ground adjoining the field.

One possibility which has been suggested is the opening up of a street from East Nineteenth and the building of a parking yard to the north or east of the playing field. This would require more money than is available now, but if the engineering plans were made now, the space could be re-

served for development when funds are available.

There is reason to believe the new field will be very widely used not only for athletics but for other events. The location is advantageous. But a thought in time will save many a bad moment with traffic problems.

REPEAL DOUBLE LIABILITY—YES

Second on the list of changes in the Oregon constitution which the legislature has referred to the people is one to remove "double liability" from stockholders in state banks. The federal system of deposit insurance is open to state banks and removed the necessity for "double liability" which never protected anybody anyhow. Congress long since removed "double liability" from national banks. State banks (we have none left in Eugene) should have the same status. This change is desirable for uniformity and safety in our entire banking system.

We recommend: VOTE 302—YES.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By RODNEY DUTCHER
 (Register-Guard Washington Correspondent)

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—In 1639 the Pilgrim Fathers of the Massachusetts colony, faced with a labor shortage, passed a law providing that "carpenters, joiners, bricklayers, sawyers and thatchers shall not take above two shillings a day."

In 1938, on October 24, in a period of great unemployment, a federal law will go into effect which sets a minimum hourly wage rate of 25 cents and a maximum work week of 44 hours, with time and one-half for overtime.

The law is the Fair Labor Standards Act. Its administrator is Elmer F. Andrews, head of the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor. The act also bars from interstate commerce goods produced by "oppressive child labor." That part of it is under Chief Katherine F. Pennington of the Children's Bureau.

Plenty Of Questions

Employers and employees still are asking which workers are covered and which are not. Aside from certain exemptions made in the law—chiefly of agricultural workers, seamen, street car employees, executives, retail workers and most employees in the fishing, canning and dairy industries, the Wage and Hour Division in general classifies those covered as:

"1.—Employees engaged in producing, manufacturing, mining, handling, transporting or in any manner working on goods moving in interstate commerce.

"2.—Employees engaged in any process or occupation necessary to the production of such goods.

"3.—Employees engaged in interstate transportation, transmission or communication."

Further interpretation by the division's general counsel says that except for the stated exemptions, "all the employees, in a place of employment where goods shipped or sold in interstate commerce were produced, are included in the coverage. . . . This goes for watchmen, clerks, stenographers, maintenance workers and messengers, among others."

Employees in manufacturing, processing or distributing plants, "a part of whose goods moves in commerce out of the state in which the plant is located," are covered. But a plant none of whose products leave the state is not covered, even though its employees work on raw materials from outside the state. Employees working at home, as well as those in factories, are covered.

Where workers are paid on a piece-work basis or on a weekly or monthly rate, they must receive at least the equivalent of the minimum hourly rate.

40-Cent Minimum In 1945

Beginning October 24, 1939, the statutory work week will be 42 hours and after the second year of the act, only 40 hours. The minimum hourly wage rate will be raised from 25 to 30 cents, a year from now, and will be pushed to 40 cents on October 24, 1945.

Due to meager funds, less than half the division's 12 regional offices will be opened this fall. (The 12 cities are Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Richmond, Cleveland, Birmingham, Chicago, Minneapolis, Kansas City, Houston, Denver, and San Francisco.) So there will be few inspectors available to check the records which employers are required to keep of persons employed, their wages and hours worked. There's a multiple system of enforcement, however, which tends to discourage any willful violations. Andrews urges all employers and employees to report such violations, assuring the latter that the act specifically protects them from discharge or discrimination.

Employees May Sue

Employees may bring suit for unpaid minimum wages or unpaid overtime, and employers violating wage and hour requirements are liable for such sums plus an equal amount to cover damages, court costs and attorney fees.

It will be unlawful to ship or sell in interstate commerce any goods produced where a person was employed in violation of the wage or hour sections, to discriminate against any complaining employee, to fail to keep the required records or to falsify any required record.

Penalties are a fine up to \$10,000 and imprisonment for up to six months, the latter for second offenders only.

"Oppressive child labor" is defined as employment of children under 16 in any occupation except where the Children's Bureau determines employment of children of 14 or 15 won't interfere with schooling, health, or well-being, and employment of children under 18 in occupations determined as hazardous or detrimental.

Specifically exempted from both wage and hour provisions are agricultural workers, seamen, employees of airplanes, street car, motor bus, interurban railways and of weekly or semi-weekly newspapers of less than 3000 circulation; persons in bona fide executive, professional or local retailing capacity, or outside salesmen; employees of any retail or service establishment, most of whose selling or servicing is in interstate commerce; those engaged in fishing and the fishing industry; persons employed in the area of production to handle, prepare or can agricultural, dairy or horticultural products for market.

Employees of railway, motor bus and truck carriers regulated by the I. C. C. are exempt from the hour rules, as are workers in the first processing of milk or cream into dairy products, in ginning and compressing cotton, the processing of cotton seed and the processing of agricultural products into sugar or syrup.

In industries designated by Andrews as "seasonal" employees may work up to 12 hours a day or 56 hours a week for not more than 14 weeks each year, the overtime rate applying for hours in excess. Workers engaged in canning or packing fresh fruits and vegetables in the production area or in dressing poultry or slaughtering livestock are exempt from all hour provisions for up to 14 weeks. Learners, apprentices and handicapped workers may be employed below the minimum wage under individual certificates issued by the administrator.

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PLEASANT HILL NEWS

PLEASANT HILL, Oct. 21.—(Special)—Mr. Khanober and family have arrived at the Hazelton home. They drove from Webster, S. D., and have rented the Charles Walker farm.

P. Jackson and family have moved to the Will Miller farm where Mr. Jackson is assisting with the farm work.

Louisa Alcott's famous story, "Little Men" will be shown in picture and sound at the Pleasant Hill gymnasium Friday morning, Oct. 28, at 10:30. All School children and residents of the community are invited to see the production. There will be a small charge.

SHOWER GIVEN

OAKRIDGE, Oct. 21.—(Special)—Mrs. Louis Ryker (Margie Edwards) was the guest of honor at a miscellaneous shower given recently at the A. V. Ryker home by Miss Marjorie Wilkenson and Mrs. John Mojick. The afternoon

was spent visiting and seeing the many gifts received by the honor guest. Refreshments were served at the close of the afternoon by the hostesses to Mrs. Louis Ryker, Mrs. Daisy Hebert, Mrs. John Miller, Mrs. Claude Miller, Mrs. Glen Good, Mrs. Walter Wilkenson, Mrs. Earl Walker, Mrs. Nellie Edwards, Mrs. Mary Archer, Mrs. George Greer, Mrs. A. V. Ryker, Miss Mary Ryker, Mrs. Ida Holt, Mrs. Roy Temple, Mrs. John McGilvrey, Mrs. Hobart Clark, Mrs. Addie Williams, Mrs. John Wójcik and Miss Wilkenson. Those sending gifts and unable to attend were Mrs. Robert Dunning, Mrs. Charles Croner, Mrs. C. B. McFarland, Mrs. Grant J. Gray, Mrs. E. E. Wert, Miss June Curtiss, Mrs. Viola Flock, Mrs. Frank Singletary, Mrs. R. Twitty, Mrs. Percy Steele, Mrs. Roy Todd, Mrs. Teresa Gray, and Mrs. J. E. Paddock.

HALLOWEEN PARTY SUPPLIES, Valley Printing Co.

GIRL SCOUTS MEET

WENDLING, Oct. 21.—(Special)—The Older Girl Scout troop sold cookies after school recently and a sum of \$2.70 was realized from the sale. Friday afternoon after school the girl scouts are going to paint the outside of their cottage, which is rapidly nearing completion. Work on a quilt was begun at the regular meeting this week.

GIVE PARTIES

HARRISBURG, Oct. 21.—(Special)—A birthday party at the F. S. McEldowney home last week was given in honor of Mr. McEldowney and Mrs. Paul Hathaway, whose birthdays came on that day. The evening was spent in playing "500." Prizes were won by Mrs. Hathaway, ladies' first; Earl Brock, men's first; Mrs. Irvin Cain, ladies' consolation and Glenn Huston, men's consolation. Later in the evening refreshments were served to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hath-

away, Mr. and Mrs. T. I. Cain, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Brock, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Sommerville, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Huston and Mr. and Mrs. F. S. McEldowney.

Mayor Harold Stevenson celebrated his birthday this week by giving a card party for a number of his friends. Those present were Ralph Danner of Brownsville, Roy Farmer of Sheild, Lou Siegman of Junction City, W. A. Howe of Monroe, Alden Potter of Harrisburg and the host.

AT THORNTON CORNERS

THORNTON CORNERS, Oct. 21.—(Special)—Mr. and Mrs. George Foster were business visitors recently at Oakland and Roseburg. Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Starnier who had visited the past two weeks with Mrs. Starnier's brother, R. B. Dixon and other relatives, have left to visit a daughter at Toledo, Wash.

AT UPPER SPENCER CORNERS
 UPPER SPENCER CORNERS, Oct. 21.—(Special)—Dale Williams visited recently at his home returning to Oregon State School this week.

DEXTER ITEMS

DEXTER, Oct. 21.—(Special)—The 46 club met this week at the home of Mrs. Myrtle Williams. Twelve ladies were present. The next meeting will be on November 8 with Mrs. Williams.

NATRON ITEMS

NATRON, Oct. 21.—(Special)—Mrs. Harris and son Carl have returned home from California where they have been the last months.

Here's Value . . . in KNOWN Brands

It is our policy to feature brands that are nationally known and nationally advertised. Brands that you know and will buy with assurance of quality . . . and you can buy them here for less!

C. O. D. FREE DELIVERIES

WESSON OIL

Quart Can 39c
 1/2 Gallon Can 69c

NUCOA 33c
 2 POUND PACKAGE

MUSHROOMS 2 for 15c
 Pieces and Stems 2 Oz. Tins

FLEISCHMAN'S YEAST 2 for 5c

COFFEE 25c
 Hills Bros. 1, 2 and 4 Lbs. in Red Cans

JELLO 14c
 3 Packages

SYRUP 5 Lb. Tin 39c
 Nalley's Lumberjack

Salad Dressing Big Value, quart... 19c

TOMATOES Three Sisters 3 for 25c
 No. 2 1/2 tins

CORN Great Northern 3 for 25c
 No. 300 tins

WHEATIES 2 pkgs. 21c
 "Breakfast for Champions"
 —TOUCHDOWN SPECIAL—
 See us about our big offer on a Football and Helmet.

Drifted Snow Flour 49 lb. sack \$1.35
 98 Lb. Sack \$2.65 24 1/2 Lb. Sack 79c

• Enter the \$5,700.00 contest today. Win \$600.00 worth of groceries—a year's supply.
 • Get Martha Meade's New Recipes for Football Party Dishes.

CORNKIX 2 pkgs. 25c
 Try this, the latest breakfast food sensation. Cereal Bowl with 2 packages.

RICE Fancy Blue Rose 4 Lb. Cello Bag 19c

MACARONI 3 Lb. Cello Bag 19c

BEANS Small White or Red Mexican 4 Lbs. 19c

Toilet Tissue Velvet 1000 sheet 6 Rolls 25c

P. & G. SOAP Giant Bars 6 for 23c

FARINA 5 Lb. Sack 25c

SILVER SLICE Grapefruit 3 FOR 25c
 Fancy Florida No. 300 Tins

BORENE Large Package 27c
 Giant Package 49c

GOLD MEDAL FLOUR 49 Lb. Sack \$1.49
 24 1/2 pound sack 89c

Hillcrest FLOUR Hardwheat. We guarantee satisfaction or your money back
 49 Lb. Sack 1.19
 24 1/2 Lb. Sack 69c

PILLSBURY'S BEST FLOUR 49 LB. SACK 1.35
 24 1/2 pound sack 79c

WAXTEX 125 Foot Rolls, each 19c

HOMINY Van Camp's No. 2 1/2 tins 3 for 25c

PINEAPPLE Dole's Sliced No. 1 1/4 tins, each 10c

MILK Oregon or Morning 6c Per Case \$2.79
 Can

IVORY SOAP Med. Bars. 4 for 19c

CORN MEAL 2 lb. Cello Bag 13c

PRODUCE SPECIALS

Potatoes Klamath 50 Lbs. 35c
 Netted Gems

Lemons Size 442 2 dozen 19c

Oranges Size 344, for juice 3 Doz. 23c

Squash Hubbard or Banana 1c

ONIONS . . . 10 pounds for 15c

DATES, Hydrated (fresh) 2 lbs. 29c

Celery Fancy Utah Large heads 2 for 15c

Prices Effective Saturday and Monday

SAVE ON U. S. GOV'T INSPECTED MEATS

HAM Rath's Blackhawk Tend'r Hams. A special process gives this ham tenderness and a mild delightful flavor. 1/2 or whole. Lb. 25c

PURE LARD, 4 pound pkg. 39c

POT ROAST Center cuts Fancy Steer Beef—Lb. 12 1/2c

STEAK, Round or Swiss, Lb. 19c

ROAST, Boneless Rump, Lb. 17c

BACON, Fancy, 1/2 lb. pkg. 15c

For Quality and Service—"Ask for Mac"
 Prices Effective Saturday and Monday

FOUR FREE DELIVERIES DAILY

Percy Edwards GRAY'S 10th & OLIVE PHONE 2600