

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
(Published every evening and Sunday)
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MANAGING EDITOR - - - - - William M. Tugman
NEWS SERVICE - - - - - Associated Press, United Press
MEMBER - - - - - Audit Bureau of Circulations
Entered at the Post Office at Eugene, Oregon as second class matter.
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"

HOW DO THEY DO IT "DOWN UNDER"

There is much that we can learn from that interesting comparison of Oregon schools with the schools of Australia and New Zealand with which Superintendent John F. Cramer entertained the Round Table the other evening.

With their equalized school funds and their uniform administration and supervision, they undoubtedly can teach us lessons in efficiency and economy, but the impressive difference is not in finance but in philosophy of education.

They make no effort to take every child through high school as we do. From the seventh grade on, they "weed 'em out" ruthlessly by stiff examinations.

Their higher education is open to all who can qualify but accepts no obligation to dullards or lazybones.

Are we in this country coddling those youngsters beyond the age of 14 who are either backward mentally or unwilling to apply themselves?

Are we right when we say that the schools must adapt themselves to the needs of every child, regardless of his ability?

Have the Australians and New Zealanders achieved "equality of opportunity" in city and country at a loss of essential democracy?

Is it better to have an efficient system, in which the average citizen takes little personal interest, leaving everything to the experts, or our plan, under which, as Mr. Cramer says, everybody who is of age and out of jail can mess into school affairs?

Is there some plan which will give us what is best in the "Down Under" method and retain what is finest in ours?

Mr. Cramer thinks we should cling to our democratic ideals, copying only what is best in Australian and New Zealand financial and administrative methods. He points out that it is not easy to leap over differences which are due to totally different customs and traditions.

Trade unions in Australia and New Zealand through an effective apprentice system are playing a role in education which our unions have never played. Widespread public ownership in the states "Down Under" has made possible an entirely different approach to economic adjustments. They have cut uniformly on all public and private salaries, interest rates, incomes to avert unemployment problems; they have no depression debt; no WPA.

But even under Labor party government, their social ideology has remained different from ours. They still accept an "intellectual class," look to it for leadership; they do not hold with out Jacksonian theory, that potentially every citizen, however poor or ignorant, is "just as good as the president." They lack that fine quality of American arrogance which Mr. Cramer would retain.

Whether we approve or not 70 out of every 100 American boys and girls go on through high school. Vocational training? Vital to any such program. To set no class above another, to create no intellectual snobs, to teach all to work with either head or hands—this, Mr. Cramer thinks, should be the aim, after much travel and study of the admirable cousins "Down Under."

"COURTESY WARNINGS" FOR VISITORS

In a good many cities, the police are issuing special "courtesy tickets" to out-of-state drivers who happen to violate some traffic law. Roy More calls our attention to the polite reminders which tourists are getting in Spokane. Spokane says:

"Welcome to the friendly city of Spokane. We hope that your visit has been pleasant and that you will return. Doubtless you are unaware that you have violated Traffic Ordinance No. by . . . We excuse you this time, but suggest that you familiarize yourself with our Traffic Regulations and thus assist in preventing accidents. The nearest police officer is your friend. Do not hesitate to consult and avail yourself of his services."

Eugene could afford to stock up some courtesy tags for the summer season. Or better still, Herman Kehrl's League of Oregon Cities might work out a standard courtesy tag which could be used by state, county or city officers anywhere in Oregon. And citizens of Oregon can set a pattern for visitors by driving with courtesy and care.

G-Man Hoover met John Garner in Washington for the first time the other day. If Hoover can remember who this vice president was 20 years from now, he'll be a real detective.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By BRUCE CATTON

Register-Guard Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, April 13.—On duty in his lofty rostrum, Speaker of the House William B. Bankhead is stern, efficient. Off duty, he is "just folks"—a man who likes to put on overalls and putter around in the garden, a collector of odd items ranging from gavel to pieces of string, a devoted reader of detective stories and a solver of crossword puzzles.

The attic of his home in Jasper, Ala., is a sort of museum. There are ranged all sorts of mementoes—dozens of gavel which have been presented to him, walking sticks that he has acquired, and lucky pieces of all kinds.

For the speaker is a mite superstitious. One Easter Sunday on the way to church he ordered his car stopped so that he could pick up a rabbit's foot he saw by the road. He considered the day especially lucky because, on his return from church, he found a buckeye on the sidewalk. One time, walking with Mrs. Bankhead, he saw a playing card lying face-down by the curb.

"If it's a diamond, it's lucky," he said, picking it up. It was a diamond, and the seven to boot.

Hangs On To Old Suits

Mr. Bankhead hates to buy new clothes and hates to give up his old ones. At one time the Bankhead home in Jasper was fairly overflowing with old clothing which he refused to part with.

Mrs. Bankhead solved the problem when a tramp visited the house during the Speaker's absence and asked for a handout. To the tramp's amazed delight, she outfitted him completely from head to toe with Mr. Bankhead's old suits, sweaters, hats and overcoats. Then, to ensure a safe getaway, she drove him down the road in her car and got him out of sight before the Speaker should return.

Mr. Bankhead makes himself personally responsible for his collection of string. When a package is delivered at his home he takes charge of the string, and will contentedly spend an entire evening unravelling the complicated and haphazard knots in it. He usually reads himself to sleep with a detective story, and right now is putting in hours trying to win a popular crossword puzzle contest.

He would have been an actor if his father had not objected. The theatrical success attained by his famous daughter, Tallulah, is the pride of his heart. His own theatrical ambitions find their outlet when he takes his morning shower; instead of singing tunelessly, like most males, he recites Shakespeare.

In Washington, the Bankheads occupy a hotel apartment, so his passion for gardening is confined to his Alabama home. There, indisputably dressed, he spends hours in his garden—and vociferously to any member of the household who borrows and fails to replace any of his innumerable garden tools.

Puts Reins To Work

In his back yard he has a little house for the redbirds to nest in, and he raises sunflowers to provide seeds for them to eat.

One summer he worried a good deal because the sparrows were musing in and stealing the seeds. His health was poor that summer and he spent much of his time on a cot under a tree in the yard; and he fixed a string so that he could give the bird house a little jerk whenever a sparrow flew up to get some seeds.

This didn't work so well, so he bought an expensive sparrow trap, baited it and set it out. It worked fine, and presently a whole flock of sparrows was trapped. Mr. Bankhead picked up the trap and set off to slay the thieving inmates.

But when he actually got down to it, he found he didn't have the heart. So he set all the sparrows loose and threw the trap away.

He loves horses and horse races. Equipped with rabbit's feet, buckeyes and other lucky charms, he can almost invariably pick a winner. He is also a football enthusiast; used to be a University of Alabama fullback himself, and can't go to a game even now without getting all trembly with excitement.

He is also a confirmed and skillful fisherman. In vacations, he usually goes to a Canadian island owned by his brother and fishes.

In Washington, he and Mrs. Bankhead live very quietly. He hates to put on tails and white tie for formal functions. He also hates having the furniture in his house rearranged, which makes it rather tough because Mrs. Bankhead is a confirmed furniture-shifter.

The Speaker's one vice is smoking too many frequently resolves to cut down on it. But the cigarettes. The habit worries him a little, and he lution never lasts more than a day or so. Mrs. Bankhead remarks that "he takes it out in talking, mostly."

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AN EDITORIAL ON HEALTH

By DR. MORRIS FISHEIN

Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association, and of Hygiene, the Health Magazine.
Most significant among recent developments in use of drugs is the widespread and promiscuous employment of derivatives of a sleep-producing medicine known as barbituric acid.

So important is the trend that the House of Delegates of the American Medical Association decided in 1937 to make a study of the situation and to see what ought to be done in the way of protecting people under the circumstances.

The evils of these drugs include the formation of habits and the fact that their poisonous effect tends to cumulate in some instances in the human body. They are sometimes substituted for alcoholic drinks in producing a strange form of intoxication.

Apparently their use in attempts at suicide has increased. Some of the sleep-producing drugs are found to be the basis of motor poisons. In the perpetration of crime, they are employed by criminals to lower the resistance of their victims.

Now the investigation has been completed, and some extraordinary facts and figures have become available. In the United States, apparently, our people take more than 810,000,000 doses a year of such preparations, which means more than 2,200,000 doses every day. Up to 1934, the deaths of 408 people from the use of such drugs were recorded in medical literature.

An analysis of figures available in hospital files revealed 1185 cases of poisoning with such drugs and 124 deaths during the same period. There were 139 cases of poisoning and 17 deaths from the coal tar, pain-relieving drugs like acetanilid.

In Germany where the barbituric acid derivatives are much more widely used than in the United States, the percentage of suicides employing such drugs has been far greater than in the United States until recent years.

In the records of the census department and in the statistics of the various health departments, these deaths are usually classified as accidental deaths due to over-doses of sleeping powders or as accidental deaths by poisoning.

The number of suicides seems to be increasing with a fair degree of rapidity, so that apparently there were 300 such deaths in 1936 and about 400 in 1937.

The survey shows that more than 1,200,000,000 grains of such derivatives were sold in the United States in 1936, that the incidence of suicides during the period 1932-1936 represented 4.2 per cent of all persons, and that during the years from 1928-1937 the figures for seven large cities showed that the use of the drug represented 8.1 per cent of suicides by poison.

The rates for the large cities are twice as high as for the country as a whole. The trend is definitely upward and the situation is reaching the point where some action will have to be taken.

Eugene Teachers Named For 1939-40

All teachers who were on the payroll of the Eugene school system for the year 1938-39 have been re-elected, with the exception of three who resigned and are being replaced by teachers on leave of absence last year. Superintendent J. F. Cramer announced Wednesday morning.

Final assignments have not been made for the staff for next year. Mr. Cramer said, and there is a possibility that a few resignations at the end of the school term will necessitate some shifting of the teaching forces at the various schools.

The following is the list of teachers who were re-elected, with their schools at present, but Mr. Cramer stressed the fact that some reorganization and transfers are contemplated:

Lincoln: Ada R. Shuey, Florence Armsworthy, Clara F. Bellet, Vera Collins, Bertha I. Dunlap, Florence Fulton, Alice M. Jenkins, Jessie M. Kinney, Lenora H. Pyburn, Wilhelmina Schmidt, Lila Schumacher, Opal L. Thorpe, Frederica Weatherly.

Washington: Fay H. Robertson, Alice Guiley, Edna S. Huff, Mabel Lusby, Vera Mannel, Mabel A. Masterson.

Whiteaker: Dallas W. Norton, Edith Cummins, Tillie Dorflier, Viva Green, Louise Hallyburton, Elizabeth Anne Jones, Betty Mahany.

Roosevelt Junior: Viron A. Moore, Hazel Archibald, Nina Boesen, Rufus M. Franz, Bruce Hahn, Margaret Hammerbacher, Orest Houghton, Paul Hughes, Laverne Lamb, Dave Marshall, Max McKinney, Gertrude Sears, Mildred Williams.

Condon-Gaile H. Goode, Rayma Beerman, Sadie Kaser, Selma S. Nelson, Alma Sarpola, Hazel Stephenson.

Edison-Gaile H. Good, Edna E. Brockman, Lorene C. Herman, Lola Houghton, Mildred Martinson, Anna Moses, Margaret Rice, Marie Tinker.

Frances-Joyce—Victor N. Phelps, Willard A. Atkinson, Frances E. Baker, Edith Coleman, Beryl Deford, Mabel E. Getting, Josephine Hayes, Edith Hays, Blanche Heflin, Blanche Jackson, Vera R. Lee, Mary Magers, Merle Nimmo.

Supervisors—Anne Landsbury Beck, Wilbur H. Dutton, Hazel G. Fishwood, Alta Frazier, Mabel Kirschman, Douglas W. Orme, Alice Rudd, J. N. Wray.

Eugene high school—Harry B. Johnson, Harold W. Allison, Earle F. Arrell, Dorothy Ball, Clara M. Blais, Maurice C. Buchanan, Ethel C. Christie, Clifford A. Coulter, Iva R. Curtis, Gertrude M. Deleerlein, Clarence E. Diebel, Hazel C. Fishwood, Juliette C. Gibson, Edgar A. Goodenough, Ruth E. Graham, Glenn Griffith, Russell G. Hendricks, Barbara E. Hollis, Martin F. Johnson, Bert C. Kerns, Will M. Kidwell, K. I. Kienzie, Mae D. Kinsey, Fred Kramer, Ola McDermott, Odine N. Mickelson, Kathryn M. Mitchell, J. Ladrew Moschberger, Rita Norris, Marian Notredt, Douglas W. Orme, Philip B. Park, Paul J. Ryan, Lyle L. Small, Mildred P. Warren, Carolyn L. Woods, Leola Gates Hilles.

University high—Ralph U. Moore, Howard P. Backus, Mary Elizabeth Costello, Raymond C. Hendrickson, Jos. A. Holaday, Vernon Kerley, Audrey May, Martha Lois Smith, Stanley Williamson, Viola P. Wilmet.

Woodrow Wilson Junior—Stanley D. Eaton, Mildred Baker, Dorothy Bergstrom, Kenneth C. Dart, Josephine Knight, Delbert Edwards, Marie Groves, Nettie Mae Haugen, Maxine Hill, Veri L. Hoover, Ruth Hopson, Gertrude Larsen, Louise Nimmo, Sylvan C. Osmundson, Pauline Pearce, Robert L. Phillips, Pearl Beam, Alta Schneider, Eleanor Schroeder, Ruth Buck, Edith Thornton, Maurice Weiss, Ruth Wolenberg, L. A. Wright, Mary Trotter.

Mrs. Patterson Gets P-T. A. Nomination

KLAMATH FALLS, April 13.—(AP)—When the convention of the Oregon congress of Parents and Teachers accepted the nominating

committee's report without dissent yesterday, Mrs. Clarence W. Walls of Portland became almost certain of re-election as president.

Other nominees offered by the committee were: Mrs. F. W. Blum, Portland; Mrs. Ralph Leonnig, Haines; Mrs. A. B. Clough, Arlington; Mrs. Frank Pattison, Eugene; Mrs. Lief Bergsvik, Salem; Mrs. B. C. Forsythe, Ashland; Mrs. B. C. Johnston, Klamath

Falls; Mrs. Charles B. Anderson, Astoria, vice-presidents; Mrs. Gwendolyn Kohns, Portland, recording secretary; Mrs. C. I. Landsverk, Oak Grove, treasurer.

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Oregon Merchants Meet Here Monday

Busy merchants from every section of Oregon will lay aside their current business next Monday and Tuesday and spend two days seeking, through advice from experts and from discussions, ways and means of progressing in the future, when they meet at the University of Oregon school of business for the third

annual Oregon Retail Institute. "Shop" will open at nine o'clock Monday, following registration, D. Morris, dean of the business, will deliver address. His talk will be by the presidential Eric M. Stanford, Portion of officers will to

In Europe, charcoal popular. Native European after meals to elixir gases.

Don't drug your intestinal tract with harsh cathartics—don't pamper it with oil. Put it to work! Feed and not make those lazy nerves and muscles with the help of Natural Vitamin B, as provided by WHEATAMIN EXTRACT. And listen once you get enough Vitamin B, you'll work better, sleep sounder and feel years younger! Ask TODAY for Wheatamin!

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Regardless of how much you have been paying, or, what tires you have preferred in the past, here's one tire you should see. You'll be instantly impressed by its simple dignity, its sleek streamlining and its substantial appearance. The quality impression you get from the appearance is Real, and it is carried on to the smallest detail of construction.

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"Western Auto" is able to offer this De Luxe quality tire for less because we have no intermediate expense. We buy our tires direct from the factory—they come to you with the minimum of handling cost—and we share our savings with you in lower prices . . .

• Ask for LOW Prices—Save up to 40% •

Ten Other Famous Western Giants

Offer Longer, Safer Low Cost Mileage For Your Car or Truck . . . Bus or Tractor!

No matter