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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.

PROMISE OF THE MILLENIUM

Just why the word "millenium" should have come to signify Utopian bliss is rather a mystery considering the word really means only a span of a thousand years. However, we sight "a millenium," not in the blusterings of world politicians but in the utterances of Dr. Arthur Merritt, president of the American Dental Association who says that it may be possible to prevent tooth decay and end all the horrors of toothache.

At convention in Baltimore he points to \$70,000 a year which his association is spending on research, to an additional \$600,000 a year which he hopes the federal government will put up. Dentists have discovered that a tiny amount of "fluorine" in water seems to check the dread germs of decay (though it darkens the teeth).

Just what this would mean in the world of toothpaste, and broadcasts is difficult to predict. Just what it would mean to the dental profession is not clear, but it is encouraging to note that the dentists are willing to take chances by pushing preventive research. A world without bad teeth would certainly be a healthier and happier world and who knows but what better health might produce better politics.

Comes to mind the story of an old Confederate who did heroic things at Chancellorsville.

"Hell," says he, "that wasn't heroism. Night before that battle I had an ulcerated tooth and I had my choice between old Doc Pemberton and the damn Yanks. Seemed to me, sir, I'd be safer with the Yanks, and that's the way it worked out."

"AGIN' BOW AN' ARROW POLITIX"

Oregon's governor, Charlie Sprague, asks the populace of this commonwealth to cooperate with the federal census takers—despite all intimate questions concerning income, debts, relatives, family troubles and the like. He says sniping at the federal census is a species of "bow and arrow" politix and to a degree he is right. This paper has stated several times that in spite of all irritations every citizen should do his best to cooperate.

Nevertheless, as we have also pointed out repeatedly, there is an obligation on the census takers to cooperate. In its passion for intimate facts, the Census Bureau at Washington has demanded a great deal of information which the average citizen, especially the average business man, cannot supply accurately on a moment's notice. It has made the serious blunder of displaying the club of authority and the threat of arrest when it would have been wiser to display patience and common sense.

For instance, one Eugene business man is asked to state promptly and accurately just what proportion of his transactions was spot cash and what ordinary or deferred credits. He could estimate with fair approximation; to get an accurate figure would require a costly combing of his books. What's to be done but use common sense.

The census takers are harvesting a large crop of grudges sown by the preceding governmental inquisitors and bureaucrats. There should be no "bow and arrow" sniping, but it

is not amiss to remind the enumerators that we don't work for them; they work for us, or better still that we might work together and avoid a lot of fuss.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By JOHN W. KELLY
 (Register-Guard Washington Reporter)

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 21.—Agriculture in the states of Oregon and Washington is in the role of the innocent bystander who is hurt. There is neither "cash" nor "carry" for the producers and processors as a result of the war in Europe. Of course, agriculture elsewhere has been hit, but in a special manner it has touched the Pacific Northwest.

The allies want nothing in the food line from the United States and are operating a blockade to prevent foodstuffs going to other nations—some of the latter being neutrals. First to feel the pinch of war were the growers of apples and winter pears in the two states, and their very best foreign market was cut off. This business brought a few million dollars into Oregon and Washington, all of which went into circulation. When the federal government at length realized what the war was doing to fresh apples and fresh winter pears the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation began purchasing some of the fruit which neither Great Britain nor France would buy.

Next to be hit in the pocketbook are the canneries, for the allies are not permitting the canned goods of the northwest to be imported. This, of course, reaches back to the farmers, the fishermen, FSCC will probably have to buy up trainloads of these goods and give them away under the food stamp program.

The allies are obtaining their supplies from the dominions—Canada, New Zealand, Australia, South Africa, etc., rather than from the United States. It is not generally known, however, that while rejecting American commodities the allies are making heavy purchases from countries which have been selling to Germany; that is to win friends (Uncle Sam is a friend already) and is part of Britain's economic warfare.

War has knocked Pacific Northwest shipping almost to the vanishing point. European trade is gone, or what little there remains is carried in foreign flag vessels. Between the administration's dislike of Soviet Russia and the British blockade, exports to Vladivostok are curbed.

England owes the United States \$4,368,000,000 on the principal of its war debt—interest is about \$1,130,000,000. Unpaid principal of France is \$3,863,650,000 with accrued interest of \$320,000,000. England and France said they were too poor to pay these debts. What they did was invest in American securities and these securities are now being returned to the United States to pay for airplanes, guns and ammunition.

The purchasing agents of the allies are choosy. They are insisting on obtaining the very best aircraft this country has produced, types so new that the army has not had more than one or two samples. Planes the allies crave are those babies which hurtle through the air at 400 mph. They have given astounding performances in the air over the national capital. Whispering confidentially army and navy officers say they do not like the idea of disposing of these aerial skyrockets to the foreigners. Creak-room gossip explains that pressure from a very high source is forcing army and navy to make statements that selling the newest types does not retard the national defense; that even better planes will be invented. Congress intends looking into this business.

From the Pacific Northwest comes the suggestion that with the allies placing a ban on agricultural products from that and other regions; with the British blockading trade routes, searching American vessels, seizing mail, it might be a good idea if congress objected to the sale of the newest planes and threatened an embargo on munitions generally. Business from the sale of aircraft and a few munitions is creating no general benefits and certainly none are flowing from this source to the farmers.

The war, if anything, is increasing the farm problem.

Governor Horner, of Illinois, is on the verge of a scandal. The governor is the man who had Secretary of Interior Ickes appoint Paul J. Raver as administrator for Bonneville. F. Lyndon Smith was found dead in a bathtub. It isn't known whether death was natural, a suicide or he was bumped off—an old Chicago custom. Mr. Smith was collector of the 2 per cent club of the Horner political machine; 2 per cent of compensation of jobholders; 10 cents a ton from coal men, etc.

To date the federal government has not looked into the Illinois 2 per cent club, but much will be heard about it during the coming campaign. Why the government is ignoring the Illinois outfit, but has been digging into the Indiana 2 per cent club to try to get something on Paul V. McNutt, is one of those peculiar things that occur in Washington; like Harry Hopkins whitewashing use of WPA to elect "Dear Albin" Barkley in Kentucky, but cracking down on the 59-year-old sister of Senator Chavez, of New Mexico, for having a political meeting of WPA workers in her home; or Mr. Roosevelt announcing that people must answer the census questions, as to their mortgages, yet refusing to answer questions of newsmen whether he has a mortgage on the White House.

Presbyterian C. E. Society Elects New Officers; Other Creswell News Reported

CRESWELL, March 21.—(Special)—At an executive meeting of the Christian Endeavor society of the First Presbyterian church held recently at the manse, all officers were re-elected for the new church year as follows: President, Watrine Spencer; vice president, Joan Hoagland; secretary-treasurer, Dorothea Gillespie; musician, Barbara Dorris; song leader, Naomi Marquart. A new constitution was drawn up based on the Christian Endeavor constitution. The secretary was instructed to make a copy and read at the next meeting. Committee chairmen were also re-elected as follows: prayer meeting, Naomi Marquart; missionary, Jimmy Dorris; lookout, Jeanette Geerds; social, Joan Hoagland. Staff for the church bulletin remained the same, with Joan and Billy Hoagland as typists and Jimmy Dorris and Everett Gile as mimeograph operators. Bulletin supplies of paper and stencils were reported ordered and the bill allowed. A special Easter bulletin was planned by the staff.

Plans for the Easter breakfast were made. It was decided to invite the members of the congregation. The breakfast will be served at the manse at 7:30 following the sunrise service. Barbara Dorris, Vera Danney and Florence will be in charge. The secretary was instructed to make a report of the social activities at the annual congregational meeting to be held at the church Monday evening, March 25.

Firm Changes Name

The locally owned and operated hatchery located in the business district, has entered its sixth year of service to not only this community but to the whole northwest. The name has been changed from the Vernon I. Cooke Hatchery to the Cooke-Reynolds Hatchery since Lieutenant Norman G. Reynolds has become a partner with his mother, Mrs. Cooke, in the concern. Three electric machines have been added to the equipment making the total capacity 82,000. This firm caters to every part of the business, both day old and started

chicks and turkeys and can supply 20 different breeds of chickens. Their specialty is in hatching turkey eggs and the handling of poults with quality produce, blood tested and disease free. A Japanese sexer is employed one day each week. Living quarters have been arranged on a mezzanine floor of the hatchery and an office with equipment has recently been installed. The company also owns a ranch one mile northwest of town where 1200 turkey hens are kept as breeders and 25 units of electric brooders are in operation. Representatives of the Oregon State college have visited the plant and have taken pictures for use in the poultry division of the school and consider the Cooke-Reynolds setup one of the most modern in the country.

The birthday anniversaries of N. E. Steele, W. H. Price and Mrs. G. N. Davidson were observed at a covered dish dinner recently at the Steele home. The guests were Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Davidson, Mrs. Elizabeth Snere, Edith Snere, Mrs. Elmer Williams, Irma Snere, W. H. Price, Mrs. Mary Jackson, Mrs. Hattie Groshong, Myrtle Groshong, Mrs. Anna Holliston, Mrs. E. H. Tryon, Elizabeth Tryon and Mr. and Mrs. Steele.

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