

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.

ROOSEVELT ON STATE OF NATION

President Roosevelt's message on "the state of the nation" does not add much to his earlier "fireside talk" to the people of the United States—except the promise that "a greater portion" of our defense expenditures will be financed with additional taxes, less with borrowing.

We are to provide arms and supplies for Britain, China, Greece and such other democracies as may elect to resist the Axis powers. We will not declare war, and if Hitler or any other dictator sees fit to declare war it will be "unilateral"—his war, and, we hope, "his funeral."

We will not "give" to our friends and allies; we will loan or lease and Mr. Roosevelt suggests they be allowed to pay us in kind or in other good at later date. The Congress is asked to provide Mr. Roosevelt with authority and funds to go ahead with this program which amounts to this:

Win the war before it comes to our shores; figure out the details later!

A man on Willamette street was asking if Mr. Roosevelt weren't exaggerating the "physical danger" to the United States.

There is, of course, the possibility that the collapse which now seems imminent in Italy might spread to Germany. There is the possibility that Germany will fail in this spring's tremendous drive and nobody can tell yet whether it will be aimed at Suez, Gibraltar or London.

There is the possibility of disintegration in Germany, once it dawns on the German people that this war is not to be won quickly.

But there is still the possibility that Germany will be the victor in this summer's campaigns, that the coming fall will find them astride the British "life line" at Suez or Gibraltar or even in London, and if that should happen, there is a CERTAINTY.

That CERTAINTY is that with the Axis powers in control of Europe, Africa and a large part of Asia, it would be only a question of HOW SOON for us in this hemisphere. So long as the British Empire stands we have on our side what Dr. Warren D. Smith calls "the Mineral Axis" of the world; we have available most of the world's raw materials and supplies.

As Mr. Roosevelt pointed out in his little lesson in history and economics, the collapse of Britain would put into Hitler's hands the materials for world conquest. He has the man power, the techniques. We know what his aims are.

No, we regard the early end of this war as something to pray for (despite the economic reactions which will be terrific) but it is not to be counted on. Our position is not very heroic, and we still think Mr. Roosevelt has been pretty tardy in putting out facts and shaping policy; there is even a certain irony in his use of the epithet "appeaser."

However, the message to Congress is a fairly accurate statement of our danger. The future, if Hitler wins, is entirely predictable; the future, even if we win is not rosy, but our choice must be what it is—to try to save another chance for democracy.

EUGENE'S SAFETY RECORD BAD

It is not flattering to Eugene to talk to Stanley Church, the Oregon state safety director, and Sid King, his assistant. In the last year, among Oregon cities in the bracket between 10,000 and 25,000 population, Eugene has made the least progress in traffic safety.

In 1939, we had 857 accidents (reported); 121 injuries; 3 killings. In 1940, we had 1,095 accidents; 153 injuries, 3 killings. We produced a 23 per cent increase in accidents, and if injuries and killings have not risen in the same proportion that is only luck.

"In most cases," says Mr. Church, "the only difference between a smash in which only a fender is torn loose and one in which somebody goes to the morgue or the hospital is one of inches and seconds."

The Eugene traffic accident record is the reason why Dr. Grant Beardsley has called together representatives of all civic groups to form a Safety Council. In the last year we had energetic safety campaigns under the auspices of Kiwanis, the Junior Chamber, the American Legion but something more is needed.

Church and King have suggested a co-ordinated safety movement along three lines:

- 1.—Engineering—that is the constant improvement of street construction and street signing and lighting at points known to be dangerous.
- 2.—Education—that implies the constant warning to all of us who drive that we are responsible for public safety.
- 3.—Enforcement—and here there seems

to be room for considerable bracing.

It will be suggested to Chief Bergman and the city council that even though our police force is small, its effectiveness can be multiplied by "selective patrolling." This means simply that instead of trying to cover the whole city at random, the motor patrols will appear unannounced at various strategic points each day to round up the speed kings, the lucky and unlucky dodgers, the operators of rattletraps and all others who add to traffic menace.

It means that in the courts which have to do with traffic law enforcement there will be completely impersonal but relentless punishment of offenders. So far as we know there is very little "ticket fixing" now, and the prosecution of such cases as force themselves into court is pretty good, but there are too many cases which are covered by an easy going tolerance, merely because "nobody was hurt very bad."

It will be helpful in Eugene and elsewhere if the coming legislature permits cities to set definite and enforceable speed limits to replace the difficult "basic rule"; the new super-highway will eventually relieve some of the downtown congestion, but the problem of traffic safety will not solve itself by waiting for outside help. It's "our baby."

Italian press says Mussolini's soldiers have not lost sight of their goal. Must be looking over their shoulders.

Times are so bad right now that more people are having to go to work.

You ought to see the autos at busy intersections! Especially before you cross the street.

Some lectures we pay to hear make us stronger than ever for free speech.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By JOHN W. KELLY
 Register-Guard Washington Reporter
 WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 7.—FOR protection of the Pacific northwest the United States is preparing to build up a great military establishment in Alaska. The troops now in the territory are only a few hundred, but the plans call for thousands. Ultimately Alaska will be fortified with the strength of the Hawaiian Islands. The territory is one of immense strategic importance and will be developed with this in view.

From Fort Lewis troops are to be sent to Alaska, reinforcing those already on the scene. There is a possibility that some of the guardsmen of the 41st division, now located at Camp Murray, may be assigned to northern duty. What is known definitely, however, is that the movement of troops will start for Alaska as quickly as contingents are prepared and these will be followed by the engineers erecting permanent improvements.

Both Civilian Aeronautics Authority and the army air corps have arranged for development of airports. It has been demonstrated that fliers can swoop down to Seattle, Tacoma, Portland, through the Willamette valley to Medford in a few hours. The cross-the-pole Russian fliers did so. From Alaska it is only a jump to the east—to New York, a trip performed by Wiley Post. The airports being advanced by the army extend from the Aleutian Islands to the mainland and at Kodiak island. These have been selected with a view to their availability in wartime; they have been chosen for no other reason.

ALL this winter army fliers have been practicing in Alaska, familiarizing themselves with flying conditions which do not exist elsewhere in the United States. They encounter fog, snow, sleet and bitter cold. The experimenters are seeking to overcome these natural conditions by devices on their planes, such as de-frosters. Army fliers must be ready to take the air in good, bad or indifferent weather. For almost 24 months experiments have been conducted in the north, but only for the past year has the subject received serious attention. The army is steadily building up a force of fliers which will be without equal in the world and the force will be increased as rapidly as possible.

Not all of the preparations are for fliers. War department is specializing in equipment and training for troops. Mosquito nets, parkas, skits, white covering for camouflage, rubber boots, etc. The troops sking on Rainier are destined for the far north, but they do not know it yet. Contingents are now being erected, under difficulties, and when completed troops will be sent to occupy them, properly equipped.

DISHING out \$2,165,000 for Oregon and \$2,161,000 for Washington for the federal aid system of highways will not quell the insistence of westerners for the construction of military roads. Federal Works Administrator John M. Carmody, who made the apportionment a few days ago, made a great-to-do about states using the funds to build access roads to encampments and the sites of new plants; pointed out that the need for these roads gave them first priority.

Military highway construction in Oregon, particularly, is a live subject and the highway commission and various county courts are waiting for the next step. The break-down for Oregon is \$1,647,906 for regular aid, \$288,383 for secondary or feeder roads, and \$228,715 for grade crossings. As a side dish Oregon is given \$96,839 to construct roads on public lands, with Washington receiving \$27,653.

ON January 1, 1940, the nearby Alexandria plant was to be producing torpedoes at capacity; on January 1, 1941, two sample torpedoes had been dumped on the transmission belt. Now employed at the plant are 937 men, to be expanded to 2400 in the near future. When and if the Alexandria establishment (which is government owned and operated by the navy) attains full capacity it will be turning torpedoes out at the rate of three a day. Only other navy torpedo plant delivers four a day.

Admiral Furlong testified in 1937, when asking for funds to reopen the Alexandria plant, that a serious shortage existed in torpedoes. The admiral informed the house committee that with the two navy plants working to capacity and not another destroyer laid down after 1939, the present requirements for torpedoes would not be met until 1944. Torpedoes are used by destroyers and submarines. Two months ago there were 103 submarines on hand, 39 being built and 45 "on order." There were 128 destroyers, with 55 under contract. When Admiral Furlong testified he declared that if any great demand arose for torpedoes, a new plant should be erected on the Pacific coast.

City P.-T. A. Council Has Meeting

By MARIAN LOWRY
 PLANS for founders day were discussed at the meeting of the City P.-T. A. council, Monday afternoon. The group decided that the observance this year be held through the individual P.-T. A. units.

Mrs. Paul Latham talked to the group on parliamentary procedure. Mrs. Glen Hastings, president, introduced the new treasurer, Mrs. W. L. May.

VISITING HERE
 Mrs. Irvin A. McCoy of Seattle is visiting here for a few days with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. M. R. Thompson.

TO MEET THURSDAY
 Little Club Around the Corner members are to meet Thursday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred C. Walters, 485 Seventh avenue west, at seven-thirty o'clock.

EASTSIDE CLUB
 Eastside Neighborhood club members were entertained by Mrs. N. P. Larsen Monday afternoon. Mrs. T. H. Garrett and Mrs. J. C. Guthrie sang duets. Twelve members and two guests, Mrs. Guthrie and Mrs. J. C. Merrill, attended. A paper on New Year's observance in other countries, prepared by Mrs. A. A. Stewart, was read by Mrs. F. M. Spicer.

Announcement was made several of the club membership would go to Junction City Friday to attend the County Federation of Women's clubs' meeting. Mrs. Perry Walbridge acted as secretary pro tem. The next meeting will be with Mrs. John Hensen, Mrs. Carl Newbill to have the music, Mrs. Walbridge to give a paper on Sumatra, and roll call to be quotations from Vachel Lindsay.

CLUB MEETING
 Loyal Star club is meeting Thursday at one-thirty o'clock at the home of Mrs. H. L. Barton, 1160 Jackson street.

DINNER GIVEN
 About eighty-five persons, including guests from Klamath Falls and Oakridge, attended the dinner given Monday evening for Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Shaduck by the B. of L. F. and E. and Oregon Rose lodge, No. 228. Mr. Shaduck is retiring after serving twenty-four years as chairman of the grievance committee. Gifts were presented to the honor guests by M. T. Crawford, retiring president of the Brotherhood. A dance followed the dinner. The next business meeting will be January 20.

John L. Good was elected president at the meeting of Wisconsin club Monday evening at the W. O. W. hall. W. A. Cummings is vice-president, and Mrs. W. H. Swanson, secretary-treasurer.

COMMITTEE NAMED
 The committee for the dinner Thursday, January 16, was appointed at the meeting of Ilahoe division, G. I. A. of the B. of L. F., Monday afternoon. Mrs. Howard Chandler, Mrs. Otto Trexel and Mrs. Frank Weichlein will be in charge. The next afternoon party will be January 21, the place and committees to be announced.

WEDNESDAY EVENTS
 Daughters of Union Veterans will hold installation of officers Wednesday evening at the armory. A no-hostess dinner will be held at six o'clock at McCrady's cafe. Those who wish to attend may call 1158 for information. Mrs. Esta Bier will be installing officer.

The O. R. C. auxiliary will meet Wednesday at eight o'clock at Moose hall.

Alpha Iota sorority will meet Wednesday at eight o'clock in the blue room at the Osburn hotel.

The Ladies' Auxiliary to the Fraternal Order of Eagles will meet Wednesday at eight o'clock at the hall.

FOR WEDNESDAY
 The Women's Council of the First Christian church meets Wednesday all day at the church.

Ladies' Aid of Central Lutheran church will meet Wednesday at two-thirty o'clock at the church.

East Eugene W. C. T. U. will meet Wednesday at two o'clock with Mrs. S. M. Day.

Bethesda (Danbo) Lutheran Ladies' Aid will meet Wednesday at one-thirty o'clock in the church parlor. Officers will be elected.

West W. C. T. U. will meet Wednesday at two o'clock at the Church of God.

Twentieth Century club will hold its monthly potluck dinner Wednesday at six-thirty o'clock at the church.

OTHER MEETINGS SET
 Dorcas society of the First Christian church will meet Wednesday.

MADE FROM A TREASURED HOME RECIPE
 Italian Poppy Seed Cake
 Try one from the
 Rose's & Bud's BAKERY
 56 W. Broadway Phone 145

Calendar

Tuesday
 7:30 p. m.—Job's Daughters meet at McKenzie River Masonic temple.
 7:30 p. m.—Junior American Legion auxiliary meets with Mrs. C. E. Williamson.
 7:30 p. m.—Mu Phi Epsilon music group meeting, home of Miss Celeste Campbell.
 7:45 p. m.—Book group of Business and Professional Women's club, meeting at home of Miss Alma Kaser.
 Tuesday evening—Sorority alumnae club meetings as listed in this section.
 7:45 p. m.—Pi Lambda Theta meets with Miss Marie Tinker.
 7:45 p. m.—Victory circle meeting, home of Mrs. Frank Bennett.
 8 p. m.—V. F. W. auxiliary meets at Moose hall.
 8 p. m.—Pythian Sisters meet at K. P. hall.

Wednesday
 All-day meeting, Women's Council, First Christian church.
 All-day meeting of St. Mary's guild, St. Mary's Episcopal church parish hall.
 11 a. m. to 1:30 p. m.—Young Business Women's club meeting, Del Rey cafe.
 1 p. m.—Crescent club of Gamma Phi Beta mothers meets for dessert with Mrs. C. L. Huffaker.
 1 p. m.—Chapter AY of P. E. O. meeting at home of Mrs. J. W. Silva.
 1 p. m.—Chapter AM of P. E. O. meeting at home of Mrs. John Jay Rogers.
 1:15 p. m.—Sigma Kappa Mothers club meeting, home of Mrs. W. S. Jost.
 1:30 p. m.—Bethesda Lutheran Aid meets at the church.
 Wednesday afternoon—Iowa club meeting, home of Mrs. M. L. Handshuh.
 2 p. m.—West W. C. T. U. meets at Church of God.
 2 p. m.—East Eugene W. C. T. U. meets with Mrs. S. M. Day.
 2 p. m.—Whiteaker P.-T. A. meeting, school building.
 2 p. m.—Wednesday Bridge club meeting, home of Mrs. S. B. Strawn.
 2:30 p. m.—Central Lutheran Aid meets in church parlor.
 2:30 p. m.—Whiteaker's P.-T. A. meets at schoolhouse.
 3 p. m.—Lincoln P.-T. A. meeting, school building.
 3:30-5:30 p. m.—University of Oregon Women's Faculty club tea, Gerlinger hall.
 4 p. m.—Y. W. C. A. assembly, Y. W. bungalow.
 6 p. m.—Episcopal church supper, parish hall.
 6:30 p. m.—Twentieth Century club dinner, First Methodist church.
 7:30 p. m.—D. U. V. meets at armory.
 7:30 p. m.—Dorcas society of First Christian church meets with Mrs. Hal Young.
 8 p. m.—Dorcas Needle club of Emmaus Lutheran church meets with Misses Dorothy and Margaret Christensen.
 8 p. m.—Alpha Iota meets at Osburn hotel.
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Sorority Groups Meet On Monday

MEETINGS were held by several of the Eugene sorority alumnae clubs Monday evening.
 Mrs. Gail D. Elliott entertained for the Alpha Omicron Pi alumnae. Attending were Mrs. Frank B. Reid, Miss Marie Wetterstrom, Mrs. Keith McMillan, Mrs. Carroll Williams, Miss Margaret Hamerbacker, Mrs. Dale Wyatt, Mrs. Ed Siegmund, Mrs. Elmer Farnett, and the hostess. A special meeting is called in two weeks at the home of Miss Jo Skene.

Kappa Alpha Theta alumnae were entertained by Mrs. John Walker and Miss Martha Goodrich at the home of Mrs. Walker's mother, Mrs. Charles A. Hardy. Attending were Mrs. Mary C. Brockelbank, Mrs. L. W. Brookshier, Mrs. Timothy Brownhill, Mrs. William M. Tugman, Mrs. Howard A. Hall, Mrs. William Barker, Mrs. Harry Gordon, Mrs. Don Chapman, and the two hostesses.

Mrs. Gordon Orput and Mrs. Ned Johns entertained at the home of the former for Delta Gamma alumnae. Present were Mrs. Hugh P. Ford, Mrs. Joe Richards, Mrs. R. C. Romig, Mrs. Grover Cordz, Mrs. Fred Grant, Mrs. John P. MacKinnon, Mrs. Rex Underwood, Mrs. Roy Glick, Mrs. A. Hurney, Mrs. John Deasy, Mrs. Gordon Byrnes, Mrs. Ralph Broume, Miss Euphemia Laraway, Miss Madalena Glustina, Mrs. Ivan Traynor, Mrs. Nathan E. Barrett, and the two hostesses. A committee was named for the national sorority's blind project, Mrs. Traynor, Mrs. H. M. Peery and Miss Laraway being named on the group.

Sixteen were present for the meeting of Pi Beta Phi alumnae at the home of Mrs. H. W. Allen, Mrs. Joe Gordon being assistant hostess.

Chi Omega alumnae met at the chapter house, Mrs. Ray Hendrickson and Miss Marian Smith as hostesses. Ann Safford of Stamford, Conn., guest of Miss Smith, was a visitor at the meeting. Mrs. Herbert Roome is to entertain for the February meeting.

Mrs. Joseph Toole entertained for Phi Mu alumnae at dessert and bridge. Attending were Mrs. Calvin Bryan, Mrs. Richard Guske, Mrs. Alvan Parker, Miss Bertha DeVaney, Miss Helga Myrmo, Mrs. Chester Jamison, Mrs. Robert M. Fischer, Jr., and the hostess.

Lorane Club Meets

LORANE, Jan. 7.—(Special)—The Ugo Igo club was entertained at the home of Mrs. Verna Mauney, Friday afternoon. The afternoon was spent sewing and playing games. Ethel Lynch was prize winner. Roll call was answered with New Year's resolutions. The next meeting will be with Mrs. Zora Franklin, Jan. 17. Refreshments were served to Eva Hayes, Ethel Lynch, Mabel Horang, Zora Franklin, Elma Davis, Bertha Rulon, Nettie Moore, Candis Foster, Dolly Coffelt, Winniford Zellar, Elva Ashley, Hazel Kelly, Mary Barker and Jimmy, Carmen Damewood and Verna Mauney.

New officers of Lorane Sunday school are superintendent, Mrs. Lottie Mitchell; assistant superintendent, Avery Lohrey; and Ruby Dunn; secretary, Winnie Lohrey; assistant secretary, Irene Briggs.

Lorane Parent Teachers meeting to have been held Jan. 2 was cancelled.

Mrs. Mary Dey has returned from a visit with relatives at Coquille, Ore.

GRANGE NEWS

SPENCER CREEK, Jan. 7.—(Special)—The Spencer Creek grange met last week with the worthy master, Henry Schnorenberg in the chair. There were 27 members present. Fred Knox reported on the wheat supply as the agriculture committee's report. The past master, Fred Knox, gave the first and second degree obligation to Mr. and Mrs. Buford. It was decided to enter the one-act play festival. The lecturer, Ruth Defoe being in charge. The building committee asked several men to help put ceiling in the hall.