

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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The Register-Guard's policy is to provide complete and impartial publication of the news pages of all news and commentaries 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.

THE YEAR 1942 IN HISTORY

Selecting the events of most interest or importance during any year is something like choosing an "all-American" football team. It is a grand old all-American custom, and the result depends pretty much on who does the selecting.

Sixteen well-informed Eugeneans offered these nominations New Year's Eve while waiting for the clock to reach midnight:

1. American invasion of North Africa.
2. German saboteurs captured and executed.
3. Churchill's June visit.
4. Kaiser's 4-day ship building record.
5. The teen-age draft.
6. Conviction of saboteur's parents.
7. Daxler.
8. Miss Chiang Kai-Shek's visit.
9. Eddie Rickenbacker saga.
10. Bataan.
11. Midway.
12. Oregon beats UCLA (a minor "miracle").
13. Stalingrad.
14. Guadalcanal.
15. Coral Sea.
16. America accepts rationing.

Of course, a great many other events might be listed. A good many newspaper lists include the Republican gains in the congressional elections, the Beveridge report on the social reconstruction of Britain, the Doolittle raid on Tokyo, the conversion of American mass industry to war purposes, the creation of the overall manpower commission, or the "downfall of the New York Yankees," and the downfall of Rommel among the stories of "the stories of the year."

No 12 months in human history have been richer in competitive materials than in 1942. Yet all of these events are only among "the stories of the year."

—the rebirth of faith in a democratic world!

A year ago today there was still a question as to how this great and unwieldy nation would respond to the challenge of Pearl Harbor. The tragedy of Bataan was still being written, and we were bracing for the disasters at Singapore and in the Dutch Indies and Burma. June was to bring the fall of Tobruk with Rommel at the gates of Suez and mid-summer the German sweep to the Caucasus and the Volga.

Today the Axis powers are not only "contained" on every front, but the United Nations have seized the offensive. The year 1942 has seen the life of 130,000,000 people completely reorganized, their thinking changed. Back of every material accomplishment such as the restoration of the fleet sunk at Pearl Harbor lies this miracle of a nation's will.

The warlords of Germany and Japan were well posted on our unpreparedness, but they made one very serious miscalculation. They underestimated (and so did some of our own leaders) the spirit of the American people.

It is not minimizing the enormous contributions of any of our allies to say that in 1942 the United States has made a contribution greater than can be expressed in "lend-lease" or numbers of fighting men. That contribution is faith in the cause which makes the will to win.

The "story of the year" is—the United States of America—this turbulent polyglot of 130,000,000 saints and sinners (mostly sinners), this vast republic of the self-indulgent, the undisciplined, the irreverent, where no two people ever quite agree about anything, not even Mr. Roosevelt. We have gone on world crusade!

The nation which built the Empire State building and the Panama canal and Grand Coulee is quite confident that it can take on the whole cock-eyed world. After the war? Pooh! Our Mr. Wallace is already devising an international WPA. Our Mr. Willkie knows just what Great Britain ought to do about India. Our Mr. Roosevelt, well, you know him. Private Buck feels that the date with Hitler is personal and Old Man Buck back home feels that the decisive bomb is being built with his bonds. This game is "table stakes" but grandpa played that on many a frontier.

The big story of 1942 is the United States of America. About the only thing we haven't produced yet is a first class war song.

NEW YORK'S LESSON

Mayor La Guardia long has carried on a one-sided feud with New York newspapers so bitter that recently he has refused to talk with reporters and has used the radio for one-way contacts with the citizenry.

There was a three-day delivery strike during which no newspaper of general circulation reached the stands. At its end Hinzoner conceded:

"We can't get along without the newspapers. We have learned that. I'm glad it's over. Now we can read the funnies."

Mr. La Guardia's secretary who keeps the clipping books will testify that they are not filled with funnies.

AND SPEAKING OF AMERICANS

It has often been observed by foreigners that Americans are lacking in personal dignity, but perhaps that is a good thing. History has recorded only one or two consistently dignified Americans. They were not very great men.

Not long ago we saw Carleton E. Spencer, formerly a professor in the University of Oregon Law School, all dressed up like Mrs. Astor's horse and wearing the shiny new leaves of a lieutenant colonel in Uncle Sam's army. Now we don't know what could have inspired this New Year outburst, unless it is long incarceration with Selective Service HQ at Salem.

SELECTIVE SERVICE
OREGON STATE HEADQUARTERS
Salem, OregonCES/vb
December 29, 1942

CIRCULAR LETTER

Subject: Happy New Year

No. 7412-1-42

As John Doe sat before his fire, a stranger appeared before him. Said the stranger, "Three wishes shall you have. Say what it is you want and it shall be yours," and disappeared. "Well," said John, "no harm to try. I want twenty suits of fine clothes." An impulse caused him to open the door where ordinarily hung his one suit and, lo and behold, there hung twenty suits of the finest cut and texture. "Now," said John, "I want a trunk full of money." He raised the lid and beheld money running over. "There's nothing more that I want," said he to himself, "as well fixed as I am. I'd like to do something for the good of humanity. It wish I could bump-off that guy Hitler." Just then the telephone rang. "Hello," said a voice, "do you want to kill Hitler?" "Sure," said John, not knowing how lucky he really was. "O. K. This is your draft board, you're in I-A."

CARLTON E. SPENCER,
Lt. Colonel, J.A.G.D.

We are mystified! Of course (having seen something of the last war) we can understand that Private John Doe will have need of that "trunk full of money" first time he gets into the company crap game. But what's he going to do with the "twenty suits of fine clothes." We wish Col. Spencer (in proper military form) would reply by indorsement hereon.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By JOHN W. KELLY

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 1.—There are some excellent sites for a plant to distill alcohol from wheat in the Washington-Oregon area, explain high government officials. They admit that the region has been looked over carefully and it is almost a certainty that one, if not two, of these plants will be authorized in the northwest. Beyond this the officials decline to commit themselves. There are a few definite requirements, however, in respect to all of these alcohol plants, and a principal one is that the distillery shall be located on water, where it is accessible by navigation. For this reason Baker, Ore., despite its plea, is not in the running.

The distillery, it is assumed, will be located at a point where the grain can be shipped—where there is a surplus of grain. It could be at The Dalles, Pendleton, Longview, Astoria or three or four likely spots in the Puget sound country. The alcohol from farm products is to be used in the production of synthetic rubber.

(A government scientist in the department of agriculture says that the best prospect for synthetic rubber is from the goldenrod plant, which is the state flower of Oregon.)

MOST knowledge available of the Indians of the northwest coast, from Vancouver Island south through Washington and Oregon, was gathered in the early 1880s and published by the Smithsonian Institution. The man who collected much of the material and edited the reports of other scientists was Dr. Franz Boas, who passed away last week. Practically all that is known of the myriad Indian tongues of the northwest was preserved by this famous anthropologist. Dr. Boas was German born and educated in the universities of Kiel, Bonn and Heidelberg. In 1933 his books were burned by the Nazis, as they were regarded as "Marxistic works." The scientist made his studies of the northwest Indians just in time, for the aborigines were then on their way to the happy hunting grounds.

SPECIAL labor-management committees are to be set up in 25 cities to recruit 65,000 new workers in the trucking industry by June. Three of the 25 cities are Seattle, Portland and San Francisco. These committees will consist of six men, three representing trucking companies and three from the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, which is the Dave Beck organization. One of the purposes of these committees is to keep the recruiting of truck drivers in the immediate vicinity and not bring in outsiders.

THEY are now sending up a balloon on a plan revealed in this column months ago. This is the proposed new style installment buying. The idea is that if you want an automobile, piano, refrigerator, or any other of the durable goods not now obtainable, you can make a deposit and begin the paying of installments. When the war is over and these articles are once more manufactured the article will be delivered in the order of your priority. The plan has several angles: It would take money of the public which otherwise might cause inflation; it would save manufacturers from folding up, and the dealer would receive six per cent commission and the finance company one per cent for collection. The collections would be deposited with the U. S. treasury to pay the manufacturer after the war. The rub of the scheme is to remove the money from circulation.

ONE of the cherished ideas of office of price administration has been discarded. This was the subsidy proposal, under which the federal government would pay a subsidy to maintain ceiling prices of food and thus save the consumer from being gouged. A few subsidies have been paid, but the new rule will permit ceilings to be increased rather than kept them in line by payment of a subsidy. Subsidies have never been popular, for they mean assuaging all the people for the benefit of a selected group.

In the coming month the housewife may expect an upward bulge in many items on shelves of the corner grocery for OPA is expected to put into effect a new ceiling plan within a few weeks and all the questionnaires which have scared the wholesalers and retailers will be "out." The supermarket, the chain grocery and the small independent will have their dealing with the local branch of OPA and the latter will advise on the mark-ups. The small store will be permitted the largest increase, the chain store less and the supermarket the smallest increase. Under this arrangement no dealer will be compelled to sell for less than cost.

Installation
Postponed
By Star

By MARIAN LOWRY
 BECAUSE of the flood conditions, Evangelical chapter, Order of Eastern Star announces its installation ceremonies planned for Friday evening have been postponed.

The installation will be held instead on next Thursday evening, January 1.

The chapter will meet at eight o'clock. The open installation for members and invited guests will be at nine-thirty o'clock.

Potluck
For Lodge
On Friday

WIMAWHALA encampment will hold a potluck dinner Friday evening, Jan. 1, at six-thirty-five in the I.O.O.F. hall dining room for all members and their families. Following the eight o'clock business meeting an entertainment will be given to which all Odd Fellows and their families are invited.

Due to the holiday installation of officers will be postponed until Jan. 15.

Recipes

(By NEA Service)

MORE and more stores are carrying fish throughout the week. It is so important as an alternate for meat, which is restricted for war needs, that it deserves to be more than a once-a-week food.

Remember that fish is rich in proteins and minerals. But for safety's sake, include vitamin-rich foods in the menu when fish is used in place of meat, in order to supply the complete proteins.

POLLOCK STEAK MEAL

(serves 4 to 6)

Two lbs. butter or margarine, 4 to 5 medium potatoes, diced, 1 large onion, chopped, 1 green pepper, minced, 1 tsp. salt, 1/4 tsp. pepper, 1 No. 2 can (2 cups) tomatoes, 1 1/2 lbs. pollock steaks, 1 tsp. celery salt.

Melt butter or margarine in deep skillet; add potatoes and cook until delicately brown on all side. Add onion, minced pepper, seasonings and tomatoes; heat to boiling point. Place pollock steaks on top of vegetables; cover and cook over low heat 10 to 20 minutes, or until fish is tender. Remove to hot platter and serve at once.

BROILED BLUE PIKE
WITH LEMON BUTTER

(serves 4)

Four blue pike, split (2 lbs.), salt, pepper, butter, 1 the lemon juice, 2 the finely chopped parsley, 1/4 tsp. paprika.

Sprinkle fish on both sides with salt and pepper. Place on well-greased broiler rack, flesh side up, dot with butter. Broil under a low flame about 10 minutes or until brown. Remove fish to platter. Melt 2 the butter, add lemon juice, parsley and paprika; heat and pour over fish. Allow 1 lb. or more fish per serving.

Infant Daughter Dies
In Eugene Wednesday

Judith Pauline Johnson, the infant daughter of Sgt. and Mrs. Paul Johnson of 375 Adams, died in Eugene Wednesday, Dec. 30, at the age of two years and 17 days. She was born Oct. 13, 1942, in Eugene and was baptized in the Emmanuel Lutheran church.

Besides her parents she is survived by her twin brother, James Paul; grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Hoyt of Arlington, Calif., and Mr. and Mrs. Chris Johnson of Eugene; a great grandmother, Mrs. L. C. Hansen of Eugene. Funeral services will be held Saturday, Jan. 2, at 2 p. m., at the Branstetter-Simon chapel. Rev. K. Nyegaard will officiate and interment will take place in the Danabo cemetery.

SEAT COVERS FOR JEEPS

CAMP BLANDING, Fla.—AM—Flour sacks from the quartermaster bakery here are being put to a new use by at least one officer. Lt. James W. Bogbie, Jr., salvage officer, is using the sacks as seat covers on jeep cars.

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IS THIS THE HERALD OF REVIVED EMPIRE STYLES? Above, the artist has sketched Valentina's ideas of how the revealing silhouette of the Empire gown could be used in ultra-modern daytime costumes. The afternoon dress, left, has a flat lace edging to emphasize the striking corsetage; and a four-gore "skirt" cut bosom-high and close. At right: white linen shirt and Empire-high skirt with string tie to indicate normal waistline. Keys on a chain are slipped into a slit pocket.

Recorded
Concert
On Sunday

FIRST of the recorded concerts planned by patrons of the Music Epiphany for University of Oregon students will be conducted next Sunday afternoon from four until five o'clock in the browsing room at the campus library. These concerts are being made

KNITS 98 SWEATERS

RAVENNA, O.—UP—Mr. Bert Shipley has used up all miles of yarn in the last knitting sweaters for 98 of the armed services of the States and Great Britain.



With the deepest appreciation to all our friends who made 1942 one long to be remembered in our history, we extend

OUR BEST WISHES FOR

1943

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