

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, fair and helpful in the development of constructive community policy.

SPEAKING OF MANPOWER WOES

This is a very large war and a certain amount of waste and confusion must be expected. The armed forces still need men to the point of applying the draft to 446,000 post-Pearl Harbor Harbor poppa. War industries need men to the point of calling men out of occupations considered "less essential." It is a global war and its problems elude ordinary comprehension.

Nevertheless we encounter little incidents which make us wonder. Take the case of the 34-year old soldier who rode down the highway with us recently—an electrical engineer until a year ago employed in the war research of one of the nation's largest electrical concerns. Said he:

"They sent me out here to Oregon State to convert me into a chemical engineer. It's okay with me, very interesting, but I doubt if I'll ever be a famous soldier."

Now comes a note from the soldier, saying: "Goodbye and many thanks for the buggy-ride, and accept my regrets that I shall not be able to visit you in Eugene. I'm being drafted out of the army and back into civilian life as an engineer for a big company in New Jersey. It's okay with me although I know nothing about this new line of work. Only thing that still puzzles me is WHY have they wasted a year of my life and my small talents trying to make me a soldier only to turn me back to industry. I'm not kicking. I am in fine physical condition and I learned a lot, but I can't help wondering what it's all about."

Washington seems to be a place where the right hand makes a fine art of knowing not what the left hand is trying to do. There are innumerable instances of bungling in the distribution of manpower.

Some folks say:

"That's where the authoritarian powers get the jump on us in the democracies. The Dictator calls the shots and they avoid much of the confusion which bothers us."

We doubt that very much! We'll bet a nice new hat that the great bureaucracies of Germany and Japan (and Russia) do just as much bungling as ours. The Nazi regime especially has had a long history of intrigue and jealousy and conflict in high places. Its advantages of "command" over the lives of citizens have been offset by the inevitable penalties of centralization.

Most of our headaches grow out of efforts to centralize and the inability of high officials to delegate many decisions which ought to be delegated. The function of a national administration is to lay down basic principles and to coordinate widely separated activities.

We have too many "czars," assistant presidents, and what-you-may-all-ems but we have also the fundamental error of assuming that centralized wisdom can direct human activities on a global scale down to the last detail.

There is a hard-headed old construction man who commands our utmost admiration in these times. He has a habit of ignoring stupid regulations and producing little "accidents" which somehow get necessary things done. The war is being won by such men.

COUNTY'S POST-WAR ROADS

It is a huge program of post-war road improvements which our county court has listed tentatively at the request of the state highway commission. Even a casual study of this list will reveal why it is proposed to ask the voters of Lane county—not later than the primary election next May—to authorize special levies of at least 3 mills for 5 years for the county's share of this work. Those levies would bring in approximately \$150,000 a year on present valuations and would accumulate a total of close to \$750,000.

State and federal aid, under present laws, and "state-federal aid" roads which have been possible only to those primary and second-hand officially designated and accepted as such by the federal roads administration. Market roads are the county's own responsibility except that the state may and does offer engineering assistance which is very valuable. Nobody knows whether WPA will be recreated or whether some new federal agency will be created to cooperate in projects not classified in the federal-state road program.

For those who may think the proposal to levy 3 mills for county roads is too ambitious we repeat the figures on bond history: Road bonds issued at end last year \$1,743,500.00 Interest charges on those bonds . . . 1,175,822.80 Total cost . . . 2,919,322.80 Proportion for interest . . . 67.4% Even if we carry a 3 mill levy through 5 years before the post-war needs come and accumulate \$750,000 we shall not be able to do all of the projects which have been listed and no doubt many have not been listed which have real worth. It is going to be necessary to put "first things first" and to continue the program through several years till all war damage has been repaired and the entire county system brought up to modern standards.

There are those, mostly in other commun-

ities, who question the "pay-as-you-go" program so strongly emphasized by Judge Hurd. Among these is Charles A. Sprague, former governor, publisher of the Salem Statesman. He says:

"What's wrong with borrowing, especially in times like these when money is cheap? There is room for difference of opinion but we think the answer is found in the history of borrowing. Even if we paid only half as much interest as in the past the cost of \$1,000,000 would still be much too high. Besides we think it is time to establish some new and sound principles in public finance:

1. Substantial "down payment" on all public works which are not revenue producing or "self-financed."
 2. Save the borrowing power for real emergencies which are always possible, such as disastrous floods, fires, etc.

Anyhow we are laying our bets on Lane county to build a better program with lower taxes over the years of we BUILD WITH CASH. If Marion county wants a competition in the field we'll take the challenge.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PETER EDSON
 (Register-Guard Washington Correspondent)

Evidence piles up to show that more fuss has been made over the plight of small business, with less results, than almost any other part of the war production effort. The point is forcibly brought home by the seventh bi-monthly report of the Smaller War Plants Corporation, just released, covering the period from June 8 to July 30. The 100-page report boils down to one obvious fact: SWPC is just now beginning to get ready to start to commence to do things.

When you stop to consider that war production is now running at more than \$6 billion a month, the amount of SWPC aid to small business can be put in one eye. This may not be a fair picture of the situation, because all the war business which small business firms obtained directly from Army and Navy procurement services and by direct subcontracting without the aid of SWPC is not shown, and is undoubtedly much larger.

Anyway, the SWPC part of it sums up like this: 1. Five prime contracts taken for \$11.5 million worth of goods. These have been broken down into 104 sub-contracts to 98 firms for a total of \$8.3 million. Eighty-two of the sub-contracts were for furniture. 2. The total number of sub-contracts SWPC has obtained it doesn't attempt to estimate because in the early days reports were filed on such a variety of bases that it is impossible to tabulate them accurately. In the last four months, the total has been 3720 sub-contracts for a total of \$862 million.

Out of 935 applications for loans for a total of \$84 million, there have been granted 459 loans to 407 firms for a total of \$18 million, 337 of them being capital loans and 121 being equipment loans. Add these up and you get \$891 million worth of business transacted. This isn't everything, for reasons stated in item two, above. But call it \$1 billion, or call it even \$1.5 billion and it is still less than one week's war production at current rates of expenditure.

POOLING PRODUCTION

Now maybe it is expecting too much for small business to play any larger part in this big war. Maybe small business can't be geared up to the big jobs of mass production that have to be done. If this is the case, the sooner it is realized the better off everyone would be.

Back before Pearl Harbor, there was all kinds bits and pieces, "pooling," "York Plans" and the like. Today, the SWPC report reveals, there are of excitement, as you'll recall, about "production by just 24 pools in operation."

Congress has kicked around the political football of small business for all it was worth. Every politician is "for" small business, just as he is for home, mother, kiddies, and love of country. In the Senate, the Murray committee has championed small business and forced through the Smaller War Plants Act in May, 1942. In the House it has been the Patman committee.

The War Production Board and its forerunners have seen a succession of agencies and efforts and men ending with Brig-Gen. later just plain Mr. Robert W. Johnson. Now Johnson wants to resign.

Johnson had admittedly had his troubles. He inherited practically no organization and had to build up from scratch. He has just about completed an organization. The last of his 14 regional boards of governors was named last recently. He has obtained assurances of private bank, trade association and chamber of commerce co-operation. He has just announced a Research Advisory Service to give small business men the benefit of technical data.

OLIVE BARBER'S OBSERVATIONS

ABOUT DIVORCES

"I don't know what to make of it, Mother!" There was sincere dismay in the voice and face of my older son. "Seems as if half the young couples I know are getting divorces."

Now the older son has always been a laughing irrepressible and to see him so shocked was a surprise to me. But that's the trouble with having a long line of puritanical ancestors. Though dead and gone, when their right-living, God-fearing code is too flagrantly violated, they stir and rise and wag an admonishing finger.

So there in the little kitchen where we've talked over so many problems in past years, we discussed the rising tide of divorce. In reviewing individual cases, we were driven to conclude that there must be some deeper underlying cause for the separations than those the husbands and wives told the courts.

Certainly that old threadbare "Incompatibility" couldn't account for all of them. Oh, sure, they're all incompatible to start with. You can't take two people whose backgrounds have been different and whose ideas are already pretty set with adulthood and not have them be at odds over a lot of things. Yet millions of couples have surmounted these difficulties. They've taken the jig-saw pieces of their personalities and fitted them into place until these were no longer a jumbled puzzle but an assembled whole, making the picture that is marriage.

But now far too many seem unable to stay with the puzzle long enough to fit the pieces together. Why was this so? Could it be that the same spirit which has turned nation against nation also influenced the lives of men and women as individuals, turning husbands and wives against each other?

Personally, I think there is an unknown, unseen influence at work just now which disturbs all human relationships. You see the unwholesome fruits of this spirit in every phase of life. We know there will always be a certain amount of strife, but there is a norm for this and certainly we've gone beyond that. We've gone beyond it in the bitter contentions between employer and employees and in the lack of cooperation among political groups. These are but two instances. Every where there are signs and portents of the evil spirit now abroad in the world. It seems to me that if we can recognize this, we can more nearly defeat this saboteur. When a couple find they are becoming divided, it might help if they would say right out loud to each other, "It's not we who are angry. It's that something which is everywhere just now, shoving us toward separation. Let's take a united stand against it."

This morning I was pretty mad that Frank had left me no kindling. Come night, I'd tell him a thing or two. Then I remembered. Shaking my fist at the unknown, I said, "I see through you! To prove it I'll split my own kindling and make an apple pie." And do you know, I thought I heard the Unseen actually gnash its teeth as it retreated.

Breakfast For Student Soldiers

By MARIAN LOWRY

HONORING Catholic members among the student soldiers at the University of Oregon, members of the Catholic Military Mothers and Wives club are giving a breakfast Sunday morning in the St. Mary's Catholic school cafeteria.

The breakfast will follow the eight o'clock mass at the church. Many of a large number of the nearly two hundred Catholic young men taking the specialized army training on the campus are expected to attend.

Mrs. Carl Shirley is president of the club sponsoring the event.

NEWCOMERS HERE

Newcomers to Eugene from Kemmerer, Wyoming, are Mr. and Mrs. Morton Adams and daughters, Mary Jane and Shirley. They have been visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Hasselroth and staying at Glenwood until they find a home in Eugene.

TO ENTERTAIN CLUB

M.G.A. club members will be entertained Saturday evening at seven o'clock at the home of Mrs. H. H. Peters in honor of Mrs. Guy French.

PLAN POTLUCK

Auxiliary to the Railway Conductors will hold a potluck dinner Sunday evening at six o'clock, at the Knights of Pythias hall, with a business meeting to follow. The committee in charge is Mrs. H. A. West, Mrs. R. A. Rankin, and Mrs. E. A. Wood.

Spots on Furniture Can Be Removed

Ugly white marks often appear on furniture where water has been spilled or hot dishes have been placed without a pad to protect the surface. These can be easily removed by the homemaker according to Nellie Lyle, Lane county home demonstration agent.

Make two soft pads of cheesecloth or some other nonlinting cotton material, advises Miss Lyle. On one pour some spirits of camphor. Saturate the other with linseed oil or your favorite furniture polish. First pat the camphor on the spot with care, and as the white mark disappears apply the oil cloth immediately with a patting motion.

This process may need to be repeated until all trace of the white blemish has disappeared. Miss Lyle suggests that it is better to remove it slowly so as to not harm the finish. When the mark has been removed, clean the whole piece of furniture, apply a protective coat of wax and then polish by rubbing with a soft cloth.

Margie Robinson Editor Of Old Oregon 43-44

Margie Robinson, Eugene, will edit Old Oregon, University of Oregon alumni magazine, in 1943-44. Miss Doris Hack, alumni secretary, announced Thursday. Laurel Gilbertson of Eugene, alumni records clerk, will act as associate editor.

Miss Robinson, a senior in journalism at the university, has been acting as co-editor of the magazine since May. She is a member of Theta Sigma Phi, national women's journalistic fraternity, and treasurer of the Oregon chapter.

The monthly magazine will stress the military and civilian war activities of university alumni. Miss Robinson said. It will make a special attempt to maintain contact with members of the classes of '45 and '46 who are unable to remain in the university at this time but who do not wish to lose touch with university life. The alumni office is now working on an overseas news letter for alumni servicemen, to replace Old Oregon.

Wanted: Antiques, Jewelry, Furniture, and China. Dorothy Furber Shop.

MOM, LET'S HAVE SHREDDIES EVERY DAY!

The Spoonful of Fitness That's Fun to Eat!

Flavor-mellowed! Children go for Shreddies' delicious malt flavor!

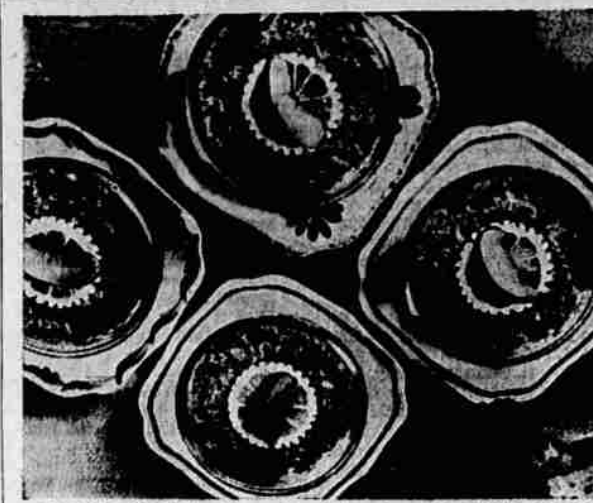
Spoon-size! Little mouths love this cereal because it's so easy to eat!

GET GOING RIGHT, EAT SHREDDIES! The energy-nourishment in this 100% whole wheat cereal is a "must" these days!

NO RATION POINTS NEEDED!

"SHREDDIES" is an exclusive product of NABISCO NATIONAL BISCUIT COMPANY

Flavored Whole Wheat Cereal from the Original Shredded Wheat Bakers



THERE'S NO TRICK to making this extra-good pudding but there is a secret and that is the rich flavor of these graham crackers you use. Wait until you taste those golden crumbs combined with fall tangy plums. Try this recipe for a quick dessert that is sure to win unanimous approval.

GRAHAM PLUM PUDDING

1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
 1-8 cup sugar
 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon
 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
 3 tablespoons softened butter
 2 1/2 cups sliced, pitted plums
 1/2 cup water

Mix together the crumbs, sugar, spices and butter. Add water to plums. Place alternate layers of plums and crumb mixture in 4 greased, individual baking dishes, starting with plums. Bake in moderate oven (375 degrees F.) 30 minutes. Serve warm with vanilla ice cream. Serves 4.

40 and 8 Party Held Saturday

THE Eugene Forty and Eight members and wives were entertained last Saturday evening at a supper at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Strong.

Forty attended. Roy S. Woodruff, immediate past commander of the American Legion post, and Mrs. Woodruff were guests.

Don Blanding to Appear At Russell's Oct. 18

Don Blanding, poet and artist, will again visit Eugene Oct. 18, and will be at the book department of Russell's, during the afternoon, to autograph copies of his books. His new volume of poems, "Pilot Balls Out" was issued recently. Blanding last visited in Eugene in April, 1942, when touring the northwest. He entered the army shortly after his return east at that time. His home is in Florida.

Women's Ambulance Enlistees Sought

The women's ambulance corps still encourages the applications of young women interested in becoming members of this active wartime organization. Staff Sergeant Doris Fegles said Thursday. Women of the corps recently started a class in motor mechanics at the Vocational school. Classes are held on Monday, Thursday and Friday nights at 7:45 and are open to anyone becoming a member of the corps.

Members are also taking military drill at the army under the instruction of army men, Sergeant Fegles said. During the air raid incident of Tuesday night the ambulance corps participated as part of the civilian defense setup.

PRECIOUS BONUS
 NEW YORK — Gasoline at a premium? Samuel Hazeltorn has given away 2,500 gallons this week and has a like amount still to dispense.

Hazeltorn, who operates a fleet of taxis, pumps five gallons of gasoline into the tanks of all motorists who buy a war bond from him.

The precious fluid is absolutely free—except for federal tax and ration coupons.

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Super Service Paint
LIGHTNING'S
 1151 Willamette Phone 1316

VLT Plans Program For Sunday

A PROGRAM under the direction of Sol Cornberg, technical director of the Cleveland Play House, will be presented for members of the Very Little Theatre in monthly meeting Sunday evening at eight o'clock at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Earl, 2263 University. Featured on the program will be Mrs. Arthur Hunter, Kenneth Griffith, Miss Roberta Quigley, Edwin Mickel, Miss Dorothy Parks, Mrs. Kenneth Shumaker, Mrs. Marvin Krenk.

City Club's Tea Event of Thursday

At the meeting of the Eugene Women's City club, Thursday, announcement was made the group has purchased a five hundred dollar war bond.

The Thursday gathering was a "pay your dues" tea at the home of the president, Mrs. Quirinus Breen.

The art section of the club has purchased a twenty-five dollar war bond through the leadership of Mrs. George P. Winchell and Mrs. T. S. Zimmerman. This bond and the club one go towards the national fund for hospital ships.

At the Thursday tea, Mrs. Breen gave a welcome to all and discussed purposes of the divisions of the club, the art, book, discussion, homecraft, painting, and drama groups.

Mrs. K. L. Carlisle, Mrs. J. Dalton, Mrs. A. M. Lovett were the social committee in charge of the tea. Mrs. Breen, Mrs. A. W. Herriman, Mrs. Roy B. Houser, Mrs.

Mr. Robinson Is Given Farewell

Honoring George D. Robinson, who leaves next week to join the marines, a group of friends gave a potluck dinner on Wednesday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ted C. Jones. Attending were Mr. and Mrs. George D. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. A. Meadows, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Bottorff, Mr. and Mrs. Russell Richmond, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Montandon, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Hoven, and Mr. and Mrs. Jones. Mr. Robinson was presented with gifts. Games were played.

Harry M. Lichty, the officer, stood in line. Pouring were Mrs. Winchell, Mrs. William H. Schroeder, Mrs. J. A. Hoffman, Mrs. Lichty, Mrs. J. E. Brunton.

Mrs. Arthur Ruhndorf received dues. Thirty-four new members were listed for the club.

Year books were passed out by Mrs. Harry L. Nebergall, chairman of the book section.

The first all-club event for the club will be a harvest luncheon on October 29.

FOR FOOT TROUBLES
 See Eugene's leading Foot Specialist—Dr. Handah, 374 Willamette, Ph. 368. 18 years in Eugene. Examination free.

SANTON'S CLEANING
 Electric Cleaners—Ph. 300

SELBY ARCH PRESERVER SHOPS
 Exclusively at **BURCH'S**
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 Phone 1172

2590 Willamette
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MOST SPECIALS GOOD 'TILL OCTOBER 8th

Money-Savers

We're Fast Becoming Known as Eugene's Money Saver Grocery Stores.

IF

You Haven't Found It Out—Try Us This Week.

Ration News

Blue Stamps U.V.W
 Good Thru Oct. 20th

Blue Stamps X, Y, Z
 Good Thru Nov. 20th

Red Stamps X, Y, Z
 Expire Sat. Nite

Brown Stamps A, B
 Expire Sat. Nite

Scripture Verse

He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.

—Rev. 3:13.

CAMPBELL'S TOMATO SOUP
3 Cans for 25c

Thrill Tomato Catsup 14 oz. bottles 2 for 25c

Tiny Green Limas 10 1/2 oz. Tin 14c

Lane County Beans 2 No. 2 Tins 27c

Lodi Fancy Tomatoes 2 No. 2 1/2 Tins 29c

NOBLE FRENCH Dried Prunes
 These Are Those Giant Sweet Prunes That Need No Sugar
While They Last .. 43c lb.

Kellogg's Gropup Lg. Pkg. 23c

Pheasant Peas No. 303 Tin 11c

Tasty Kernel Corn No. 303 Tin 13c

Kellogg's Pep 9c

Albers Flapjack Flour 9-8-10 Lb. 55c

HONEY! Nature's Sweetness—Not Rationed
This is TOP GRADE Honey
 8 oz. Jar 15c | 5-lb. Jar . . . \$1.19
 16 oz. Jar 27c | 60-lb. Tin . . \$13.20