

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
Published Every Evening and Sunday
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER: Alvin F. Hahn

"ALL ISS OXZITEMENT, YESS!"
One of the newspaper classics of the year is Henry J. Taylor's amusing account of his efforts to influence the German ambassador, Dr. Hans Heinrich Dieckhoff, on so-called neutral ground in Spain.

Nobody but an American reporter would have thought of attempting to see Dr. Dieckhoff. Nobody but an American (or perhaps one of the British cousins) could have seen the immense humor of the situation created by this unconventional call on the representative of a nation with which we are at war.

What would happen if a German reporter in Madrid were to try to see our American ambassador?

We think either one of two results equally probable:
1. The Nazi would be thrown out on his ear by the first guy he met, or
2. The American ambassador would invite him in for dinner (depends a good deal on who's ambassador).

Anyhow when it comes to ACTION, you can usually get it fast out of those who have grown up in the good old democratic way, which Adolf Hitler used to denounce as so inefficient. A German has to wait for Hitler to think. A Yank will usually start swingin'.

During the last war (1915) there was a wild-eyed Irishman working for one of the Hearst papers. On a dare, Tom went into the British Club of Rhode Island (textile workers) and yelled (just to see what would happen):

"Hoch der Kaiser!"
Tom said he never knew what hit him. Of course only a wild Irishman would do a thing like that. (Wait till we get to Tokyo!) A Free Press has many faults. It commits many sins. It is impertinent. It doesn't know the meaning of "less majeste." It is a very good thing!

WRONG WAY PROTEST
Developments suggest some elaboration of the recent criticism against the way news about the Cairo conference was handled by American authorities.

OWI Chief Elmer Davis is indignant because Reuters, the British agency, broke the story "prematurely," thus "scooping" the American press. He has, accordingly, sent a note of protest to Brendan Bracken, British minister of information.

In our opinion Mr. Davis is off on the wrong track. The way to protect the American press against being "scooped" is not to reprove the press of other nations. It is to permit American newspapers to print news.

It appears that when Reuters did report the Cairo conference, without interference by British or other censorship, Mr. Davis was powerless to move ahead the release time on the American announcement. His hands were tied by orders. From whom? Only one man can give such binding orders to Mr. Davis. That is Franklin Roosevelt.

So Mr. Roosevelt, having hired a news expert to hold the bag, gives hard and fast orders and then goes off, leaving the expert all the discretion of a grade-four clerk in a minor city government.

The fault was not with the British for telling their people the story. It was with the Americans for playing with the news like an old-time theatrical press agent staging a stunt.

There will be much argument about the Bayonne (N.J.) Times' action in deliberately violating the release time on the OWI announcement. We think that a strong case can be made for the Times. The paper's action was unorthodox, but in logic and in lay ethics it was justified by all the circumstances.

American newspapers have submitted themselves to what is laughingly known as "voluntary" censorship. It is voluntary on the "or else" basis. The Bayonne Times may

have helped to bring the problem to a head. Sooner or later, editors and publishers are going to have to decide how far they shall permit amateurs in political office to control their news columns, to make fools of them with their readers, to stifle the workings of enlightened democracy.

Co-operation is fine. Newspapers will continue to co-operate. But they don't have to co-operate blindly, slavishly, supinely.

Even in wartime the most expensive thing about an auto is a speed cop.

WASHINGTON LETTER
By PETER EDSON
Register-Guard Washington Correspondent

WARTIME RAILROAD PROBLEMS
(Second of two articles on the railroad pay situation)
Just as in the present war, there were numerous demands by railway labor groups for wage increases all through the first year of World War I.

On Nov. 1, officials of the four brotherhoods and the switchmen threatened strikes, and on Dec. 28, 1917, the government took over the railroads anyway, Secretary of the Treasury William G. McAdoo becoming head of the U. S. Railroad Administration.

Increases Granted
On April 30, 1918, the Lane commission reported, recommending flat increases of \$20 per month for all employees making less than \$48 a month and sliding scale increases of from 43 per cent for those making \$47 per month to no increase at all for those making more than \$250 a month.

The railway unions yelled because the 1915 wage base meant that some of the workers would get less of an increase than they had already been promised—which is the case today.

But the Lane Commission's work was done, and the next step was to create another mediation outfit—also similar to the present wheels within wheels duplication. This new body was the Board of Railway Wage and Working Conditions, organized in January, 1918. It made various adjustments bringing the average railway wage of \$78.06 per month in December, 1917, up to \$115.78 per month by January, 1920.

All through the latter part of 1919, labor groups made additional demands, but on Dec. 24, 1919, President Wilson announced the roads would be returned to private hands on March 1, 1920, thus passing all wage disputes back to the railroad managements.

Before the transfer was made, however, Congress, under pressure from the unions, created a nine-man Railway Labor Board. This board in July granted about 60 per cent of the wage demands, gave an average wage increase of \$25.78 per month per employe and brought the average rail wage to \$141.56 per month.

Rates Raised
These wage increases and other increased operating costs brought a demand from the railroads for rate increases, which were finally granted to the tune of over \$1.5 billion a year. But then towards the end of 1920, after a year of temporary boom, numerous strikes and much uncertainty, deflation set in. Many railway workers discharged, the operators demanded wage reductions.

The railroads combined revenue picture for the six-year period was thus made to look like this:

Table with 4 columns: Year, Number of Employees, Pay, Gross Income, Net Profit. Rows for years 1916-1922.

In June, 1921, the Railway Labor Board made its famous Decision No. 147 which reduced rail wages by an average of \$17.29 per month, saving the roads \$378 million per year. In October the board made a further cut of approximately 5 per cent, bringing the average monthly pay back to \$118 for 1923.

The parallels of today's situation with that of World War I are that existing mediation machinery repeatedly failed to bring about agreements. Whether or not there will be a similar post-war deflationary movement is, of course, something for the future.

OLIVE BARBER'S OBSERVATIONS
ABOUT THE BLACKBERRY

Locally, the wild blackberry is our blessing and our affliction. In early summer, the people turn out en masse to pick the fruit. Yet all year long, they do their best to destroy the vines. They chop and dig and burn, though to do so is as futile as would be efforts to hold back the tide.

This morning I had it in mind to deal violently with a clump growing in the corner of the yard. Arriving at the spot, I nearly changed my mind. For you should have seen those vines! The sun was just up and dew-spangled spider webs were a scarf of silver chiffon thrown over the entanglement.

Some of the leaves were still green; some deep red and some an earthy brown. A little breeze came along, puffing out the more tightly woven webs like fairy sails. The pendant drops of moisture scintillated in the sun, little flames of red and blue and gold.

Even the vines themselves had claim to beauty. Wine-red and chocolate-brown, they were, swirling and sweeping over and about each other in wide arcs of infinite grace.

Right in the midst grew a sword fern. The vines had not only protected it but their shade had kept the ground moist. Falling leaves had enriched the soil. So the fern had grown larger than most of its kind and now rose above the blackberry thicket, the delicacy of its plumes a direct contrast to its briary host.

A trio of song sparrows fluttered out, bright-eyed with alarm at my presence. I was not surprised to find a nest at the base of the vines. It had been many weeks deserted, but I doubt not had once held the three still loitering about the home site.

All this I saw and considered turning back but I had vowed to Frank at breakfast time that this day I'd deal with that bit of briar patch. Yet I remembered they'd given me several pies in July; they'd protected the song sparrow family and made possible the fern sword. And then the webs of silver to grasp with fairy threads at the passing breeze. They'd imprisoned the fire of the sun and given it back to me in multicolored drops of dew. I had little heart for the task before me.

But now my fence corner is as I'm told a fence corner should be, a tidy, lifeless corner; a trim and silent corner. I should pleasure in the change. Funny, but I don't.

Notices
Out For
Club Dance

By MARIAN LOWRY
NOTICES are out to Assembly club members regarding the annual New Year's eve dance.

The party, to be given at the Eugene hotel, starts at ten o'clock, and a supper will be served at one o'clock. The notices out warn members to have their reservations for the supper mailed in Thursday of this week to Rogers W. Kimberling.

On the committee for the party are Mr. and Mrs. Kimberling, Mr. and Mrs. Lynn S. McCready, Dr. and Mrs. Melville Jones.

VISITORS HERE
Mrs. Charles Lynn Clarke of Seattle, Wn., is here for over the Christmas holidays as guest of Mrs. Peggy Averill. She stopped here from a trip to the south. Her husband, Lt. Charles Lynn Clarke, is with the American forces in Italy.

Other guests of Mrs. Averill recently were her son, Rex E. DeLong of Portland; and Mr. and Mrs. J. Stuart Lowery of Whittier, Cal., all of whom visited here last week.

FROM SOUTH
Mr. and Mrs. Paul T. Williamson of Eureka, Cal. are guests of Mr. and Mrs. Perry H. Walbridge, Sunnyside Drive, having come at the week-end and will remain here until Wednesday when they will leave for Tacoma, Wash., to spend Christmas with Mrs. Williamson's sister, Miss Alice Harris.

GETTCELL CLUB
Gettcell club of the Royal Neighbors of America met recently at the home of Mrs. J. Kuni in Creswell, with Mrs. G. N. Donnan as assistant hostess. Christmas games and carols marked the season. Names of "silent sisters" were revealed, and new names drawn for the year. Next meeting of the club will be January 21 with Mrs. Leonard Oswald, 1325 Olive street.

EXCHANGE GIFTS
Gifts were exchanged by twenty-six members of the Women of the Moose, who met Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Allie Clarke for a Christmas dinner and party. Games were played.

250 Attend P-TA
Program Friday

Frances Willard P-TA held its meeting Friday evening, two hundred and fifty parents and friends attending.

Winifred Atkinson, principal, thanked the parents for the co-operation given him. He is leaving for military service. Mr. Atkinson introduced Erwin Juliff, who will serve as principal, also Mrs. Juliff.

Children of the first, second, and third grades presented a toyland play. The fourth, fifth, and sixth grades gave "The Christmas Story." The Willard choir sang carols. Third grade mothers served as hostesses for the social hour.

RNA Election Is
Held Recently

Royal Neighbors of America have elected officers for the new year, as follows: oracle, Mrs. Frank Bowers; vice oracle, Mrs. C. A. Bonney; chancellor, Mrs. Lester Read; recorder, Mrs. Allie Clarke; receiver, Mrs. R. A. Denney; marshal, Mrs. H. H. Peters; inner sentinel, Mrs. Ross Godard; outer sentinel, Miss Laura Tryon; manager, Mrs. W. E. Barker; physician, Dr. Harry G. Talbot.

The appointive officers are: flag-bearer, Mrs. Lottie Meek; musician, Mrs. Frank Hyland; faith, Mrs. Charles E. Smith; courage, Miss Joann Parsons; modesty, Mrs. Herbert Jackson; unselfishness, Mrs. John Parsons; endurance, Mrs. Leonard Oswald; special auditor, Frank Bowers.

Installation of officers will take place at a public ceremony in January, Mrs. E. C. McPherson serving as installing officer. Men of the order will form the entertainment committee for the next meeting.

EFG Board Gives
Added Filbert Money

Board of directors of the Eugene Fruit Growers association has ordered an additional payment of 10 cents per pound to be made to filbert growers at this time, this payment in addition to the 12 cents received by the growers at harvest time. It is estimated now that when the final payment is made, returns to growers will be better than 25 cents per pound, an exceptionally fine return on filberts. For several seasons, filberts brought 12 or 13 cents to growers.

FLOWERING Camellia plants for Christmas at Tommy Williams Flower Shop at 2086 East 15th.

DREAM CASTLES
Are Built By Savings!

SAVE and HAVE
A Home

EUGENE'S
FIRST FEDERAL
SAVINGS and LOAN ASSN.
248 6th Bldg. Phone 1217

Today's Recipe
(By NEA Service)

AT your "homey" Christmas dinner there will of course be nuts and raisins, crackers and cheese, some kind of candies—all as part of the dessert. But try to include an old-fashioned plum pudding, if possible. Here is a recipe from our old friend Edith Barber, noted for her good American recipes.

Christmas Plum Pudding

One cup sifted flour, 2 teaspoons salt, 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1 teaspoon baking soda, 1 teaspoon cinnamon, 1 teaspoon allspice, 1 teaspoon nutmeg, 1 pound raisins, 2 cups sliced figs, 1 cup ground carrots, 1/2 cup ground orange peel, 1 cup ground citron, 1 cup ground suet, 1 cup brown sugar, 3 eggs, well beaten, 1 1/2 cups coffee, 1/2 cup orange juice, 2 cups fine dry bread crumbs.

Mix and sift flour, salt, baking powder, soda and spices. Add fruit and orange peel to flour mixture. Mix suet and brown sugar. Add beaten eggs. Add coffee and orange juice to bread crumbs, combine with suet, sugar and eggs. Add flour and fruit mixture. Blend well. For 1 large pudding, fill a 2-quart mold within 1 inch of top. Cover and steam 5 hours. Mixture may be placed in 5 or 6 small bowls, covered tightly and steamed for 2 1/2 to 3 hours.

At the end of steaming period, remove covers and allow to remain in uncovered steamer 10 to 15 minutes until tops are dry. Remove from molds, cool thoroughly, return to molds, recover and place in refrigerator until ready to use. Yield: About 5 puddings.

NOTE: The puddings will keep a number of weeks without refrigeration. If a layer of paraffin is placed over the puddings, they will be protected from mold. Drenching with brandy will also prevent molding.

Any proportion of sliced figs and raisins desired may be used. Suet is an inexpensive form of shortening. Use carrots to replace some of the fruit usually used. Figs unrationed. Use orange rind for thrifty pudding.

Guests of the Quotarians were as follows: Earl Blackburn, Walter Erickson, Mrs. Walter Erickson, Miss Eva Smith, Mrs. Leone Lefebvre, Miss Pat Gaveny, Mrs. Greta Buckingham, Frank Hill, Harold Jensen, John C. Lamb, Mrs. Rachel Ward, Dr. and Mrs. T. M. Lundy, Dr. Fred M. Miller, Sam Mikkelsen, Miss Ruth Murtha, Mr. and Mrs. George Todd, Perry Walbridge, John F. White, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Newland, Mr. and Mrs. Paul T. Williamson, Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Michel, Miss Odellia Jungers, Mr. and Mrs. John Simonet, Mrs. John T. Murray, and Miss Bethene Hopson.

Alleged Draft Evader
Taken at Mapleton

Lawrence Robert Mason, 34, of Blachly, but lately from California, was arrested at Mapleton Monday on a draft evasion charge. He was brought to Eugene and placed in the county jail, awaiting the arrival of a deputy U. S. marshal from Portland.

The arrest was made by Deputy Sheriff Claude Romaine and a FBI officer at the mill where Mason was employed.

GIFTS GO TO PRISONERS

LISBON, Dec. 21 (AP)—The Swedish steamer Embla left here for Marseille today with a cargo of Christmas mail for allied war prisoners in German prison camps.

Paracra, a new type of synthetic rubber, can be used in gaskets, hoses, for molding into intricate shapes, and to rubberize fabrics. Its heat resistance is said to be exceptionally high.



PURE GOLD
Truly a womanly gown is this gold crepe New York creation. The simple dignity of this dinner dress with its gold beading on the high revers and buttons make it perfect for at home or during dining out during the coming holidays.

COUNTRYMAN & WEBB
PRODUCE
Producers Public Market Bldg.
PHONE 2765
SPECIAL PRICES
WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY
LETTUCE... 2 HEADS... 19c
AVOCADOS Ripe EACH... 10c
ALMONDS... Fancy 1-lb. bag... 55c
TANGERINES Florida 1-lb. bag... 5c
ONIONS... 10 lb. bag... 65c
GRAPEFRUIT Arizona 1 for... 19c
ORANGES... Large Size 1/2 Case... 2.45
CRANBERRIES
WALNUTS - PEANUTS - FILBERTS - PECANS
MIXED NUTS - DATES - SWEET POTATOES AND YAMS

Quotarians'
Party Event
Of Sunday

SEVENTY-FIVE Quotarians and their guests assembled for the club's formal dinner and traditional Christmas party Sunday evening at the Osburn hotel. Chinese red and snowy white appointments made an effective background for the party.

Mrs. Paul T. Williamson of Eureka, Calif., Quota club's governor for the fourteenth district, was a visitor and brought greetings from the international, and gave the Christmas message for the evening. Mrs. Williamson is a past president of the local club.

Mrs. James V. Danielson, club president, gave the greeting to members and guests. Miss Marjorie Stewart, general chairman for the festivities, and Mrs. Anne Gave-members and guests.

Strolling carolers—a group of enthusiastic Girl Scouts—brought the Christmas atmosphere, with the carols which they sang as a tribute to their leader, Mrs. Stewart. Miss Patricia Colerick gave a reading entitled "The Waltz." Mrs. E. A. Lundy and Perry H. Walbridge staged a debate on the subject: "There Ain't No Santa Claus," which was speedily interrupted by the presence of not only the old gentleman himself, but "Mrs. Santa Claus" and "Santa Claus, Junior," impersonated by Mrs. J. C. Lamb, Mrs. Earl Blackburn, and little Frances Nettleton, Quotarian daughter.

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What better Christmas spirit," the special Christmas issue of the Wallamet Scouter, bulletin of the Wallamet council, Boy Scouts of America, delivered this week, featured a special message to the 450 scouts and cubbers in the council.

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MAKE a record of your voice. Clay Pomeroy Phone 3810-J.

RUGS CLEANED
Piano Tuning. Phone 4256-W.

Miss Sether Now
At Quantico, Va.

One of the women marines recently assigned to duty at Quantico, Virginia, was Private Elizabeth A. Sether, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. A. F. Sether, Eugene. Transferred to the Quantico base following completion of her indoctrination training at Camp Lejeune, New River, North Carolina, she is now a stenographer at the marine corps schools.

The local woman is a graduate of University high school, Eugene. She attended the University of Oregon, majoring in business administration.

Garden Club

Sprays for trays for the soldiers, who must spend Christmas in the hospital, at Camp Adair, will be made by members of the Eugene Garden club, Wednesday, Dec. 22, in an all-day session at the clubhouse.

As five hundred of the sprays must be made, all members are urged to be present, each to bring her lunch. Coffee will be served.

Scout Bulletin Has
Good Will Message

Addressed to "men of good will," the special Christmas issue of the Wallamet Scouter, bulletin of the Wallamet council, Boy Scouts of America, delivered this week, featured a special message to the 450 scouts and cubbers in the council.

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"To you—to all scouts and cubbers—may the new year bring its deep rewards and may you be secure in the knowledge that through scouting you are doing your duty to God and your country."

The bulletin also included suggestions for troop and pack activities during 1944.

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CWB Club's
Program
On Tuesday

CHRISTMAS customs in the lands were told to members of the Credit Women's Breakfast as a feature of the group's meeting Tuesday morning. Miss Madeline Edwards, Miss Sara Hahn and Miss Frances Travis discussed the customs of holiday time.

Miss Nymphia Lam gave a special music. Miss Lam is in Eugene in January, having joined WAVES.

Next meeting comes January at the Osburn hotel, Miss Winifred Marshall in charge of the program.

Santa Clara Club

SANTA CLARA—The Santa Clara Thrift club met last week at the home of Mrs. E. G. White with a pot luck luncheon at 1 o'clock, it being the Christmas party with exchange of gifts. The business meeting was short. There were fifteen members present. Visitors were Mrs. Bertie Kellie, Mrs. Dohney of Montana, and Mrs. E. H. Vogt.

Mrs. George Robinson and Mrs. L. Drake will be joint hostesses to the group on Jan. 19.

Special Meeting of
O. E. S. on Dec. 28

Special meeting for Blue Chapter, O.E.S. is to be held on Tuesday evening, Dec. 28, at 8:00 p.m. as announced in Sunday paper. The meeting is called by initiation.

GIFTS!

Special for the Holidays
Give her a creme of moment... a delightfully soft wave that white the hair radiantly lovely.

CHARM
BEAUTY SALON
IN PAYLESS DRUG
856 Williamette Phone 24

BLUE BIRD

629 OAK—The Busy Little Store—Phone 1623

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WISHING YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Eugene's Finest Selection of Fresh and Smoked Meats and Fresh-Dressed Poultry

SUGGESTIONS FOR YOUR HOLIDAY DINNER

POULTRY
Choice Hen Turkeys Lb. 52c
Choice Tom Turkeys Lb. 47c
Fancy Ducks Lb. 36c
Fancy Geese Lb. 38c
Choice Colored Roasting Hens Lb. 40c
Choice Colored Fryers Lb. 44c

BAKE A CHOICE
Bluebird HAM
for that Christmas Dinner
Per Lb. 35c
NO LIMIT.

Fancy Bluebird Bacon
A real treat
Lb. 34c
Canadian Bacon Lb. 45c
Sugar-Cured Bacon Squares Lb. 26c
NO LIMIT.

BABY BEEF
Roasts & Steaks
Our Specialty
TRY THEM!

Fresh Ground Beef Lb. 30c
Fresh Pure Pork Sausage 35c
Pure Pork Link Sausage 40c

Pure Lard Rendered Fresh Daily in our Own Kitchen

We have a few nice calendars for you

We make our own lunch meats right here at 629 Oak St. Processed by skilled men who have had years of experience. We also cure our own hams and bacon—best. Give them a try.

A few lunch-meat suggestions
Minced Ham — Spiced Ham — Tongue Loaf — Sliced Pork Loaf — Roast Beef — Head Cheese — Thuringer Liver Sausage — Braunschweiger — Polish Sausage — Blood-Sausage — Genuine Chicken Loaf — Wiener Veal Loaf — Bologna — Pickled Pigs Feet — Wiener Frankfurters — No-Jax Wieners — Home Style Sausage

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BUY BONDS! THE FINEST WAY TO MAKE PEACE-ON-EARTH