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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.

BEGINNING OF THE FUTURE
Over the official radio at Moscow, comes the most significant news of the day, more significant by far than the smashing of German armies. The Soviet government announces that it is taking over permanently those parts of the former Polish republic (Western Ukraine and White Russia) which the Russians took in their 1939 temporary deal with Hitler.

The point is that Russia does not ask; she announces! And she is in position to announce, not ask!

It is suggested by Moscow that the Poles can be compensated for loss of area by taking from the Germans in East Prussia and by giving Poland a real opening on the Baltic instead of the late lamented "corridor".

Furthermore it is suggested that Poland join Czechoslovakia in a "mutual assistance and non-aggression pact," which means that these little nations henceforth will be oriented to Moscow, not to Paris and London.

The event has, we think, these meanings:

1. The crackup in Germany is very near.

2. Difficulties of peace are beginning.

Need the peace be so difficult? There will be loud yells from "professional Poles". However we need to remember that the line the Russians propose is practically the same as the line Lord Curzon suggested in 1919, which was set aside by the Riga treaty of 1921, which the Poles and the western powers forced on a Russia bled white by war and revolution. Russians have always claimed this western boundary.

The most serious difficulties will arise from putting large Germanic populations in East Prussia under Polish rule, but no matter where boundaries are laid in Europe there will always be the problem of "minorities".

It may be that a Poland under Russian tutelage will do a much better and more humane job of managing minorities than the Poland which was set up by Lloyd George and Clemenceau to "buffer" Russia as much as to buffer Germany. The old Poland was ruled by land owners and the military caste and it is quite likely the Poland which Russia will supervise will be something much nearer a people's republic, if not completely in the Russian pattern.

Soviet Russia IS a union of some 40 republics and part of its success has been due to the wise policy of permitting native languages and cultures and demanding only compliance with Russia's basic economic and social pattern.

There is an extremely important corollary of the Russian announcement which is not mentioned in the Moscow text:

If Russia is fixing her western boundary as stated, it means that she is not planning, at this time, to communize all of Western Europe.

This should bring relief to many minds. Russia is extending her western boundaries and what is more important she is enlarging her "area of influence," but apparently she intends to let Western Europe try to find its own answers.

What will be the ultimate result? Some will say that we have here the germ of World War III? Those germs are everywhere! A great deal will depend on how wisely the peace for Western Europe can be organized and administered. If the peace in Western Europe is dominated by the idea of setting up a fortress against Russia and Communism, then World War III will not be long coming.

The Russian philosophy is NOT democratic by our standards, but there is common ground upon which our ideal of "the rights of man" and theirs of the "welfare of the masses" can and must meet, if we are to find the road to peace.

We see no reason to be alarmed because Russia has asserted that in the new peace much of Central Europe shall be oriented to Moscow. Russia has been taking a "terrible beating" because the setup in that area was so badly bungled last time. If we had been through such an experience we would demand similar protection (and probably will in the Pacific).

The peace will not depend so much on where boundaries lie as on what happens within those boundaries, whether "a man can be a man for a' that", no matter where he happens to have been born.

If Russia means to leave us Western Europe to "pacify" she has left us a prize mess of headaches, but perhaps it might help us to remember that our aim should NOT be to "restore governments" but to restore PEOPLE so that they may create wise government, according to their lights. That is quite a task.

This is the time of month when you know what Dickens meant when he wrote about "the ghost of Christmas past."

The only happy politician in this state seems to be Edgar W. Smith who seems to have the Democratic nomination for senator all to himself and doesn't care who beats Rufus—yet.

Prophets say time is at hand when we will shudder to think we used sawdust for fuel, but Mr. McGurk will be willing to delay the shuddering if he could get a load or two at his house.

WASHINGTON LETTER
By PETER EDSON
Register-Guard Washington Correspondent

CAR TRANSPORTATION PROBLEM
(Second of two articles on the civilian auto outlook for 1944)

Whether or not passenger automobile transportation—now an essential part of the American economic system—will be seriously impaired or break down completely in 1944 will depend on five main factors:

1. The manpower supply for auto repair work. 2. The supply of auto repair parts. 3. The supply of tires, the adequacy of tire repair and particularly recapping. 4. The used car market and the possible requisitioning of cars from non-essential drivers. 5. The gasoline supply and the enforcement of gas rationing.

Take them one at a time. Many localities have already reported that the supply of garage mechanics has declined as much as 40 per cent since the war began. Approximately one man out of six lost is replaced. The army has taken many thousands, more thousands have gone into war industries where the pay scale is higher. The closing of thousands of filling stations and tire repair shops has meant that many of the service stations where the simplest jobs could be performed simply don't exist, and this has thrown a heavier burden on the shops that stayed in business. The number of garages is estimated at 8 per cent less than a year ago.

Manpower Lack Causes Delay
The fact that men in key positions in auto repair work are in one of the 35 industries considered essential occupations, and as such are entitled to consideration for deferment by Selective Service boards may have helped relieve the manpower shortage somewhat. Still, most of the delays which people experience in getting auto repair work done are caused by lack of manpower to clear the work as fast as it comes into the shop.

The supply of steel and other metals and alloys allocated for the manufacture of auto parts under the War Production Board's Controlled Materials Plan is now considered adequate for the repair parts demand. There is, however, a reluctance on the part of many auto parts manufacturers to make parts for old cars in any great quantity, first because there is a good chance of being stuck with them, second because parts are now under price ceilings which limit profits and make other manufacturing jobs more attractive.

Many parts are interchangeable as to light trucks and passenger cars, and as to various makes of cars. But expanding military requirements for heavy duty truck parts get higher priority than is given to the manufacture of parts for lighter civilian vehicles. The Truman Committee report on transportation recommended upgrading priority so as to develop a greater supply of parts. Many millions of usable parts were lost in the big scrap drive, though such scrapping is now prohibited. Distribution of what parts there are is poor.

Tire Shortage Serious
The one shortage which may develop first and most seriously, putting many cars off the road is a tire shortage. At the present time there is an estimated shortage of six million new tire casings. Production of new synthetic rubber tires cannot possibly keep up with the 1944 demand, for more tires are wearing out faster. By the end of 1944 there may be an accumulated shortage of 11 million tires. The only hope for avoiding a transportation breakdown is through more extensive recapping and the salvaging of every available carcass, even if it is used only a few hundred miles.

Office of Price Administration and Office of Defense Transportation have toyed with a plan to put ceiling prices on used cars, but at the present time have given up on this idea. First because the supply of used cars on the market is now good, second because prices are not too excessive, and third because the imposition of maximum prices below existing levels might stop all sales, which would be disastrous.

Similarly, there are no definite plans for forcing the sale of cars by non-essential drivers still on the road under an A gas ration. And only the gravest emergency would cause any effort to be made for government requisitioning of cars from non-essential drivers.

Gasoline rationing has definitely lengthened car and tire life by cutting down the average car mileage from 9000 to less than 5000 miles per year. But military demands for gasoline are still increasing, leaving less and less for civilian uses. There have been threats from Ickes, Bowles and others that gas rations might have to be further cut if a war emergency develops. Certainly gas rations will not be increased.

The gas ration system, in fact, offers the one most effective means for policing the entire transportation crisis, saving it from breakdown by limiting it to essentials.

OLIVE BARBER'S OBSERVATIONS

WOMEN AND THEIR COSTUMES

It is a matter of great confusion and embarrassment to me that having met a woman yesterday, I won't remember having done so today.

Yet this is her fault, not mine. For to all outward appearances, the woman I was introduced to yesterday is certainly not the one I met today, however much she may say to the contrary. Maybe the woman I was introduced to wore a smart little bonnet, or a tam. Maybe she had a frill of curls about her face; or had her hair done in a bun. But when next seen, she may have on slacks; or a tailored suit. Her hair will be in a horse shoe roll; or she may have what is known as a feather-cut. And as every one knows, women change their personality with their clothes.

So a woman is not just a single person. She's as many people as she has costumes. Yet this flock of creatures answers to the same name.

For too frequently for my own comfort, I hear of some woman who has been hurt by my lack of recognition. I could with equal justice, be hurt that the woman I first met and found so charming disappeared and was never seen again; at least by me.

When told that the Mrs. Black before me is the same Mrs. Black I met yesterday, I don't contradict, but I know better. The first one was gay and frothy and given to chatter. This one is sober, dignified and wants to discuss politics. If a month has elapsed between meetings, then I am sunk. For in the meantime, the lady has maybe gone on a diet and lost pounds. With the extra weight gone, I don't feel I know the rest of her. Or maybe she's gone off a diet and gained pounds. In that case, even she would have to admit there's a lot of her I really never did meet before.

I can remember men. They don't show up in skirts one day and pants the next. If they wear their hair parted on the left side, I know they'll still be wearing it that way ten years from now; that is, if they have any hair left to part.

Personally, I play fair. I wear the same costume the year round; sometimes several years at a time. And the only difference in my hair is that sometimes it's combed and sometimes it isn't. Nor do I go on diets, to confuse my friends. The expansibility of my structure is something they can count on. Never once have I turned into a Bette Davis or Deanna Durbin. I wouldn't do that to my friends. So why do you women do it to me? It isn't fair.

Dessert Is Planned By YBW Club

By MARIAN LOWRY
AMONG groups arranging meetings for the mid-week is the Young Business Women's club. The group will meet Wednesday evening, 7:30, at the Willa cafe, dessert to be at seven-thirty o'clock. Misses Alice Gallup and Patricia Colerick are the hostesses.

AMITIE CLUB
Amitie club is meeting Thursday afternoon, one-thirty o'clock, home of Mrs. Noble Bond.

DAUGHTER BORN
Announcement has been received by Mr. and Mrs. George Bromley, Crow Stage route, of the birth of a daughter, Janene Rae, to their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Bromley, Seattle, Wash., on Dec. 30. Mr. Bromley is a former student of Eugene schools and was graduated from Elmira high school. He has been in Seattle since 1940.

RETURN TO EUGENE
Mrs. Robert P. Booth and two sons are being welcomed back to Eugene after several months away. They returned directly here from Palm Springs. Captain Booth is now at Fort Dix, N.J.

MEETING WEDNESDAY
The recent graduate group of the Eugene branch, American Association of University Women, is meeting Wednesday evening at the home of Mrs. Virgil D. Earl, 1035 Twenty-second Avenue east, eight o'clock, this being a social gathering.

AUXILIARY EVENT
Auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen will meet Wednesday evening at the Knights of Pythias hall, at seven-thirty. Dessert will be served after the lodge meeting, by a committee consisting of Mrs. J. Ray Chapman, chairman, Mrs. A. W. Cole, Mrs. Glenn Marshall, and Mrs. V. M. Snodgrass.

PUBLIC INSTALLATION
Public installation will be held by Eugene Rebekahs and Spencer Butte lodge of Odd Fellows in joint session Tuesday evening at the I.O.O.F. hall, the ceremonies taking place at nine o'clock. Installing officers will be the staff of the I.O.O.F. lodge at Irving.

MISSIONARY GROUP
Women's Foreign Missionary society of the Church of the Nazarene will hold a public meeting at the church Thursday evening at seven-thirty o'clock. Mrs. C. C. Furtwangler will preside, and Mrs. Herman L. G. Smith will lead the study session.

WOMEN MOOSE
Women of the Moose and members of the men's lodge as well will meet for dinner Thursday evening at six-thirty o'clock, at Seymour's cafe, honoring Mrs. W. J. Leinweber, wife of the superintendent of Mooseheart.

SEWING CLUB
Sewing club of the Women of the Moose met Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Rosa Wood. The next meeting will be Feb. 14, at the home of Mrs. F. H. Gorsline.

CARD PARTY
Mrs. Jennie Farley and Mrs. Edna Allen held honors at bridge, and Mrs. Roy Fornbrook and Mrs. W. I. Main, at pinocle, at the card party given Monday afternoon by the Women of the Moose.

Theta Rhos Plan For Installation

Theta Rho Girls will hold a formal installation Wednesday evening at seven o'clock at the IOOF hall. Miss Margaret Kingman will be installed as president; Miss Adeline Bissell, vice president; Miss Bea Hall, secretary; and Miss Anne Cassidy, treasurer.

Suggestions from SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PAINT HEADQUARTERS

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Pi Lambda Theta Plans Initiation

Pi Lambda Theta, women's national education honorary, will hold formal initiation ceremonies on Friday evening of this week in Alumni hall of the Gerlinger building, seven-thirty o'clock.

For the program following, Dean J. R. Jewell of the school of education is to be guest speaker. The initiates are Miss Mary G. Alderson, Miss Emma Hoffmaster, Miss Grace Scully, Miss Betty Jean Walker.

Mexican Group Is Given Party

Harmony class of the First Baptist church entertained a group of fifteen Mexican round-house workers, with their interpreter and other guests, at a dinner Monday evening at the Baptist church. Dinner was served at tables decorated with Mexican jugs and pottery, sixty attending.

L. Clifton Culp acted as master of ceremonies, welcoming guests, Miguel Sanchez interpreting to his people. Mrs. Pauline Goldenstein, who teaches English to the group, introduced them. Following dinner, devotions and a short program of music were given, and colored moving pictures of Mexico City were shown by Miss Mabel A. Wood. Spanish-speaking guests were Mr. and Mrs. Miguel Sanchez and daughters, Linda and Mimi; Mariano Mendola, Cruz Peinado, Vicente Sanchez, Miguel Fouseca, Felipe Huerta, Teofilo Torres, Francisco Arrellano, Marcelina Suarez, Victor Ramirez, Teodoro Luis Arjola, Armando Chavez, Jesus Hara, Jacinto Rosales, Manuel Ramirez and Ignacio Gonzales. Other guests were Miss Wood, Mrs. Omar Fendall, P. Waldo Davis, Mr. and Mrs. Lester Reid and Mrs. F. J. Connell.

The committee in charge was Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Auferoth, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Korstad, Mrs. Andrew Weigant, Mrs. E. G. Lockhard, and Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Kerns. Mexican decorations were loaned by Mr. and Mrs. Merle Chase.

Initiation and Installation Held

Honoring Mrs. Edith Parks of Newberg, department president of the auxiliary, camp and auxiliary, United Spanish War Veterans, met for potluck dinner Sunday at the Knights of Pythias hall. Other department officers who were present included Mrs. Elsie McClung, Salem, vice president; Mrs. Sidona Quick, Portland, chaplain; Mrs. Harvey Veach, department historian, and Mrs. Allen Hart, department guard, both of Eugene.

Initiation was held for Mrs. E. Clark, and joint installation was held afterward with the comrades. The auxiliary installed the following: president, Mrs. R. E. Pearce; senior vice president, Mrs. John Gates; junior vice president, Mrs. David Mitchell; chaplain, Mrs. Colin MacKenzie; secretary, Mrs. R. C. Faust; treasurer, Mrs. Fred Wentworth; patriotic instructor, Mrs. A. E. Steele; historian, Mrs. Julia Kelly; conductor, Mrs. Horace Burnett; assistant conductor, Mrs. C. L. Curtis; guard, Mrs. Allen Hart; musician, Mrs. Harry E. Balle; colorbearers, Mrs. B. H. Strobel, Mrs. Theodore Forcier, Mrs. Fred Schweiteling and Mrs. Noah Heltbrand.

Miss Jean McMahan of McMinnville will act as installing officer; Mrs. Beverly Cleeton, installing marshal; Miss Eva Ward, installing chaplain; and Miss Margaret Adams, installing musician. The public is invited to attend the ceremony.

Installation practice for all new officers will be held at six thirty o'clock Wednesday evening.

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Miss Carlson Wed Here On January 1

ANNOUNCEMENT is made by Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Carlson of the marriage of their younger daughter, Miss Deloris Carlson, to Richard S. Herman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Herman of Portland, formerly of Eugene.

The wedding was an event of Saturday evening, January 1, at the Central Lutheran parsonage, Rev. H. J. Thorpe officiating. Mrs. William Compant was matron of honor for her sister, and Clarence Herman was best man for his brother.

The bride wore a blue silk dress with corsage of white orchids. Mrs. Compant wore a pink dress with corsage of gardenias.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents.

Santa Clara Women's Club Active

THE Santa Clara Women's club met Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. E. C. Hart. Mrs. Harry Cadore and Mrs. C. R. Rees assisted the hostess.

Mrs. Ray Bell, Mrs. B. Anderson, and Mrs. R. F. Yockey became members of the club. Visitors were Mrs. Jessie Williams, Miss Iona Risor, Mrs. Fred Brougher, and Mrs. H. J. Davis. Mrs. C. P. Hart, Doernbecher chairman, asked for old Christmas cards to be sent to the children for their scrap books.

Mrs. C. D. Chezem, Alice Marie home chairman, reported the reception was held at the home of the bride's parents.

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chase of unpainted she painted, three blackboards, and articles. Five dollars were Children's Farm Home.

Mrs. E. C. Hart, Red man, reported 34 letters had been made during three months; also and army kits.

The "country count" reveal themselves at the ment. Mrs. C. P. Hart, Chezem, and Mrs. Roy are to be hostesses.

Star Club

Star club of Evanston O.E.S., is to meet Wednesday noon at the downtown temple. A covered dish is to be served at one members and visiting members are invited.

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