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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.

SHADOWS OF COMING PEACE
Mystifying to most Americans are the methods of our Russian associate in this war, especially this latest incident, the publication in officially sponsored Pravda of the rumor that our British allies may have been holding some secret conferences with the Nazis on the proposition of a separate peace. London, of course denies—officially and with considerable heat. Moscow does not retract or apologize. Instead Moscow quotes and calls attention to a London Times story of January 16, which stated that German overtures were made some two months ago.
For us in the United States (and we are "babes in the woods" of European politics), we believe the only safe counsel is the short and slangy:

"Keep your shirt on!"
This latest Pravda incident cannot be divorced from the recent episode in which the same Moscow newspaper jumped all over Wendell Willkie for venturing a few (possibly vote-getting) remarks about the rights of minorities and the Polish border. In free translation Pravda said:
"Mind your own business!"
Nor can the Pravda outbreaks be dissociated from the blunt Russian statement a week ago ANNOUNCING what parts of Poland the Soviets intend to take.
We do not think that Americans need whip up any great alarm over what Russia may be "up to." Certainly it would be a disaster if we let ourselves give way to distrust of either Russia or Britain at this juncture.
But—
We do need to read these signs as a warning that the making of the peace is not going to be easy, and it is NOT going to be accomplished with any carnival of goodwill, glad-handing, and "blueprints."
These things are shadows of coming events!

Perhaps these episodes will do some good if they cause us to pause and consider where in the Russian approach to peace may differ from ours. Here are some problems to ponder:
In Britain and the United States, our contacts with occupied Europe are mainly through "governments in exile" and some of them are not very admirable or reliable.
In many parts of Europe, such as Yugoslavia, and most of the Balkans and Central Europe, Russia's contacts are much closer to the people and to actual resistance groups.
Russia's prime aim seems to be security against any repetition of assault from the west, and she probably has no intention to "communistize" Western Europe, but she does intend that large sections shall henceforth orient to Moscow instead of Paris or London, and to that end, she may influence the character of "people's governments" in Central Europe. Russia has little interest in restoring the "governments in exile" and views some of them with open distrust.
In Britain and the United States, our leaders listen to "governments in exile" and a great deal of their thinking seems to tend toward "restoration of status quo."
Further, we need to face that fact that in both Britain and the United States we have many persons both in and out of government whose notions regarding the post-war might be called "reactionary", if not actually fascist.
(The collaboration with the notorious Darlan may have got us into Africa at a bargain price, but it has left a very bad taste. There have been indications that the long expected "thrust into the Balkans" has been delayed because American and British brass hats at Cairo have tried to deal with the debunked Mikhalovitch or the qualling Nedrich rather than recognize the tough Tito whose guerrillas have fought the Axis to a standstill.)
The problem has probably been complicated by the fact that among official British and Americans there has been considerable loose talking about getting into Western Europe and "holding it" (presumably as a frontier against Russia). There is a vast difference between "holding" and "policing", and our job needs to be defined clearly as "policing" such areas as we may occupy until such time as people can take over their own governments. It is not going to be our business to dominate their choice.
There is a final complication which needs to be foreseen and met—if Germany has not already tried to patch up some kind of separate peace on the Western Front she will try it. It has long been the dream of Nazi crackpots to unite the "western world" in a sort of holy war against Russia. That is why Rudolf Hess was sent on his fantastic flight to Britain a few years back, just before Hitler barged into Russia, his fatal blunder.

It is fairly plain that in spite of all the kind things that may have been uttered at Tehran by our Frankie and Britain's Winnie, shrewd old Uncle Joe is uneasy and he is making some violent "high signs" (Russian style). He does not like the way so many of our state department and military bigwigs have been dickering with shabby and discredited "governments in exile" (with

minds on post-war loot). And there was one Eugenean at yesterday's session of the "Board of Strategy" who said a mouthful: "Uncle Joe wants that second front!"
UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER!
We feel quite sure that President Roosevelt and Premier Churchill meant just that and nothing less, and we feel even surer that the people of the United Nations who are giving their blood in this struggle would rise in wrath against any compromise.
Uncle Joe needs some very blunt telling on that point!
But, our policy for the difficult years of occupation and for the approaches to peace making is a complete mess and we have quite a few "squirrels" running loose in high places. We need some prompt and sharp definitions of the policy which will follow our invaders:

1. Maintain order and prevent chaos, the policing job.
2. Feed the starved and psycho-neurotic multitudes IMPARTIALLY and without using food to influence political trends as we did last time in most of Eastern Europe.
3. Assist the peoples of Europe to restore self-government as fast as they can, but let the people decide what they want and not the "refugee governments".

In this country we need to get rid of the illusion that there can be any quick or easy plan for peace. We owe it to the men who are doing the fighting not to fall into any of the traps of ignorance or prejudice or suspicion. An intelligent basis for working with Russia can and MUST be worked out, for our safety as much as theirs.

Our job is to get into Europe, smash Hitlerism to smithereens and see that the plain people—not the politicians and potentates and overlords—of every land we occupy get a chance they've never had before. We can't "restore" and we shouldn't try it. We can help the people who live there to rebuild, and maybe if we do this we can get a Europe that we can live and work with.
The groundwork for peace will not be made by listening to the clamors of ex-Poles, Dutchmen, Lithuanians or whatnot now living in America with a sentimental "yen" for the old country but by intelligent work with men and women in those countries.
It must be made plain that there is no compromise on UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER, and it must be made equally clear that our aim is not to "restore governments" but to help people build them — of the people, by them and for them.
The men who are up there fighting are doing it for people and not for politicians.

Our old buddy Hoke Smith (the Three Trees, there, there and there!) is back from a long tour in Corvallis, and he has some enlightening and entertaining observations on "the state of public morals" in a cantonment city. Rosybeak suggests putting Hoke on speaking tour as a "returned explorer." An idea! But Claudius Ingalls would call it an unfriendly act.

The flu is no laughing matter, but we can't help wondering if the Route F variety isn't just a bit super and we are waiting eagerly for Bill Maddaugh's report.

Some of the Elders who have been talking about "Eugene's growing pains" are going to find out what they meant when these earnest "Teen Canteeners" camp on their steps

Adrian Fuddle (who ought to know) suggests that we ask the alert Teeners (when they get through with their own bunch) to find out where all the parents go at night.

OLIVE BARBER'S OBSERVATIONS

BIRDS AND THEIR HEARING

"Hammer, anvil and stirrup!" Glibly I rattled off the names of the three little bones in the inner ear when, as a fourth grader, I was made to memorize the bones of the body.

Well, I suppose if it's laudible for man to make three blades of grass where but one grew before, then Nature may be pardoned for doing the same with bones. And that's just what she did when, having given a bird but one bone in its inner ear, she trebled this in the ear of man. Instead of the hammer-anvil-stirrup trio, a bird has a chum-dasher bone which sound affects when the ear fluid vibrates.

Yet a bird can hear sounds which we cannot for all our more intricate equipment. During the last world war parrots heard, and gave warning of, approaching planes long before they could either be seen or heard by human beings. Too, birds will act greatly disturbed some time before we can hear the report of an explosion. Of course it could be that they feel the vibrations of the explosion rather than really hear it. There are so many things to be taken into consideration when trying to interpret bird behaviour by a comparison with our own.

Most birds have no outer ear shell, such as we have, though some owls have an ear flap which they can raise or lower at will. This should be mighty convenient when an owl wife goes in for a bit of heckling; or when a lecture or sermon is dull or long. He can just let down the flap and shut out the unpleasantness.

Also some birds have a resonance chamber. Passing through this enlarged cavity in the skull, sounds are greatly magnified. Nature was kind that she did not so equip us. We hear far too much as it is. What we need is a filtering attachment for our ears, a something which would sift out the vain babblings, the gossip and unkind remarks which we often hear only too well. I suggest such a gadget as an evolutionary goal for us to work toward. Just as birds need to have acute hearing for their physical protection, it has sometimes seemed to me that a little deafness would contribute to our emotional protection.

A peculiar thing about owl ear flaps is that some close from one side and some from another. Scientists are at a loss to explain the reason for this. And reason there must be, for Nature does nothing for pure whimsy. You figure it out as your contribution to the scientific world.

Quota Ends Year With Annual Meet

By MARIAN LOWRY
QUOTA club held its final business meeting to close the 1943 club year, Monday evening, Osburn hotel, annual reports and activities for the year being highlighted.

The installation banquet honoring new officers is announced for Saturday evening, Feb. 5, the event also marking the twenty-fifth anniversary of Quota International. The committee in charge of arrangements for the banquet includes: Miss Mardelle Edwards, Mrs. Perry H. Walbridge, Mrs. J. F. White, Mrs. Ray C. Smith, Miss Marjory Stewart, Mrs. Gene Gibson, Mrs. Clarence Elkins, Mrs. A. J. Sundahl, Miss Emilie Hedblum, Mrs. Anne Gaveney.

Reports Read
Committee reports were read by the chairman of each committee as follows: Mrs. Earl Byrom, budget and finance; Miss Mardelle Edwards, friendly relations; Mrs. Clarence A. Elkins, ways and means; Mrs. Gene C. Gibson, recognition of achievements of women; Miss Emilie Hedblum, international relations; Mrs. Harold B. Jensen, service; Miss Thelma Neaville, membership; Miss Thelma Schaeffer, Americanization project; Miss Marjory Stewart, neophytes; and Mrs. J. F. White, program.

Aid War Loan
The principal business of the evening was the laying of definite plans and making assignments for the manning of the McDonald theater every night, beginning Tuesday, through February 15, in the fourth war loan bond drive. Application forms for bonds were issued to each member in an all out effort to make the women's division of this drive an outstanding success.

There was a lively open panel discussion of current events, arranged by the international relations committee, in charge of the meeting, after which the "Secret Pal," assigned to every Quotarian at the beginning of the year, was revealed in a tiny note at the end of a long red ribbon attached to the place cards; and gifts were exchanged.

The next board meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Earl Byrom on Jan. 28, and this is to be a joint meeting with new board members.

INITIATE FOUR

Four candidates initiated in the Women of the Moose at a recent meeting were Mrs. A. C. Winther, Mrs. F. E. White, Mrs. D. W. Taylor and Mrs. Nicholas Cerkoney. The Hamblins, entertainers in a magic act, were featured on the program. The Friendship chapter night program was held, with Mrs. Cora Parker as chairman. Mrs. Naomi Worman gave a talk on friendship, Mrs. Jewel Mann played a piano solo and Mrs. William M. Bricker gave a reading. Refreshments were served.

IOTA SIGMA

Iota Sigma members held a "penny dinner," with their husbands as special guests, Monday evening at the home of Mrs. William Walters. Games and entertainment filled the evening after dinner.

CIRCLE FIVE

Circle Five of the Women's League of the First Congregational church was hostess at the general league meeting Tuesday afternoon. Rev. Wesley Goodson Nicholson was the speaker, on the topic: "Congregationalism Does Its Part in Social Action." Mrs. Wilbur Dutton led devotions, and Miss Jean Carlin gave vocal solos. Mrs. Thomas Wells was chairman of the serving committee.

ILLAHEE DIVISION

Illahee Division, railway auxiliary, met Tuesday for one-thirty luncheon and social session, at the home of Mrs. A. C. Goettsche. Plans were made for the regular meeting to be held Saturday.

Milk Price Change Held Unnecessary

PORTLAND, Jan. 19. — (U.P.) — The district OPA sees no immediate need to act under the new authorization to make adjustment in wholesale milk prices. Earl C. Half, district price executive, said today.

The new ruling would permit the regional office to make changes in larger cities providing no retail price increase resulted. Half said adjustments would be contingent upon existence of a serious threat to the milk supply.

MEDICATED POWDER 40 YEAR FAVORITE

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Eugene Man Wed In New Orleans

Announcement is made of the marriage of Miss Barbara Rampe of San Jose, Calif., to Lt. Jerry J. Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Joe R. Thompson of Eugene.

The wedding was an event of January 12 at New Orleans. The couple are living at Harrisburg, Miss., for the present.
Lt. Thompson was graduated from officers' training with the senior ROTC group on January 7, receiving his commission then. He is a graduate of the University of Oregon and is a member of Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity on the campus. The bride also attended the university here and is a member of Alpha Omicron Pi sorority.

Miss Barthelmy Enlists in WAVES

Keeping pace with her four brothers in the armed services, Miss Dorothy Anne Barthelmy, a graduate of St. Mary's high school, Eugene, has enlisted in the WAVES, women's service of the U. S. navy. It is reported by Chief William E. Bell, in charge of the U. S. navy recruiting substation at Eugene, which handles WAVES applications for this area.

Fifth member of her family to sign up for a full-time war job is Miss Barthelmy. Her four brothers are in the U. S. army. Edward Nicholas Barthelmy, a cadet in the air force, stationed at Twenty Nine Palms, Calif.; Richard Edward Barthelmy, a staff sergeant in the glider corps, stationed at Sheppard Field, Tex.; Peter Edward Barthelmy, technician, fifth grade, in the engineers corps, stationed somewhere in Alaska; and Paul Edward Barthelmy, lieutenant in the field artillery, stationed at Fort Ord, Calif.

Miss Barthelmy was graduated from St. Mary's high school in 1939. She was secretary of her class during freshman, sophomore, and junior years; and secretary of student body during senior year.

Since April, 1943, Miss Barthelmy has been a secretary with Multnomah County chapter, American Red Cross, Portland. Previous to this, she was a secretary with Lane County chapter, American Red Cross, Eugene, for seven months; and she was secretary to the city recorder, Eugene, for five months.

Blood Test May Help Decide Custody Case

OREGON CITY, Jan. 19. — (U.P.) — The custody of a four-year-old boy, central figure in a divorce action, may be determined by a blood test.

Circuit Judge Earl C. Latourette ordered the test after three days of testimony and photograph comparisons failed to satisfy him as to which litigant was entitled to custody of the child.

Francis Lee Elkins says he is the boy's father. Mrs. Elkins, who seeks a divorce on grounds of cruelty, claims the child is the son of her former husband.

PICTURES Picture Framing Ruth Wheeler's, 122 E. Broadway

Eugeneans Are Wed In Arkansas

THE marriage of Miss Norma Schrenk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harry M. Schrenk of Eugene, to Richard Backberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Backberg, also of this city, was solemnized Sunday, January 9, at the Presbyterian parsonage in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, the service being at nine o'clock in the evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Sanborn, brother-in-law and sister of the bride, who went east with her for the wedding, attended the couple.

The bride wore a two-piece, ice-blue dress with black hat and accessories, and corsage of orchids. Mrs. Sanborn wore a brown dress-maker suit with brown accessories and a corsage of red roses.

Mr. and Mrs. Backberg are at home in Pine Bluff, Mr. Backberg being a flight instructor there. Both are former students of the University of Oregon and the bride is a member of Delta Delta Delta sorority on the campus.

School Salvage Contest Still Going

Although awards have been announced, the salvage contest arranged among schools of the county by E. A. Danielson, county 4-H club leader, still is in progress, it is stated. The contest is organized on a point basis. Ten points are given for two tin cans; 2000 points for one pound of waste fat; 6600 points for 330 pounds of scrap iron or steel. The total number of points earned by the students is divided by the number of pupils enrolled in the fourth to eighth grades, and the school's score is determined.

The Fiddle Creek school, near Ada, which won first place, had only three students enrolled in the eighth grade. The prize was to be the showing of the film, "Lives of a Bengal Lancer," but it could not be shown as the school is not wired for electricity.

Mount View school, near Cottage Grove, and Pleasant Hill school won second and third places. The picture will be shown to these schools the last week in January.

Since the official end of the contest isn't until April 29, the Pleasant Hill school has invited members of the community to see the picture—provided they bring scrap salvage. The students hope to enlarge their scrap salvage score for the final contest in April.

Nearly one million American servicemen are learning to speak in one or more foreign languages.

During a hard, prolonged rain, a cultivated field may lose two inches of topsoil.

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Charge and Budget Accounts

Past Matrons of Amaranth Elect

At Monday evening's meeting of the Past Matrons club of Willamette court, Order of the Amaranth, new officers were elected. Mrs. Elmer Stone was named president; Mrs. J. J. Godlove, vice-president; Mrs. Howard Stenschoel, secretary - treasurer. Mrs. Edith Thornton was the retiring vice-president. Mrs. Jay B. Hewitt the retiring secretary-treasurer. The Monday meeting was held at the home of Mrs. A. D. Sickafosse.

On February 21, the group will sponsor its annual dinner for past matrons and past patrons at the Del Rey cafe.

Birthday Party

A group of high school students gathered Saturday evening to honor Wayne Clark, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Clark, on the occasion of his birthday. The evening was spent with dancing and games. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Clark, assisted by Mrs. Ella C. Petersen. Those attending were Mona Hankin, Jean Honey, Lloyd Albright, Pat Dodge, Dale Curfman, Dorothy McClintic, Glenn Reed, Betty Hebard, Bill Halderman, Barbara Jean Drago, and Wayne Clark.

Around Oregon

By The Associated Press
The Marshfield city council advised backers of a city-manager form of government they would have to circulate initiative petitions and present them through regular channels if they wished to bring the proposal to a vote in the May primary election.

Mrs. Emil F. Edson, democratic national committeewoman for Oregon, was en route to Washington, D. C., to help elect a national chairman and select a national convention site. Dr. Paul Hutchinson, Chicago, managing editor of Christian Century, warned at Portland that a peace based on control of the world by the white race would have serious implications for the future. Coos bay crab fishermen completed preparations for the new season and awaited good weather. Mr. and Mrs. Harry S. Madison, Gaston, were notified by the war department their son, Sgt. Louis B. Madison, Flying Fortress ball turret gunner previously reported missing, was killed over Germany December 1. At Portland, an army official presented W. H.

Orides Mothers List Officers

NEW officers for the Orides Mothers' club were elected at the meeting of the group last afternoon at Gerling's hall.

Mrs. M. N. Peters was president; Mrs. C. A. Baker, treasurer; Mrs. D. R. Baker, secretary.

Twelve attended the meeting, Mrs. Sidney G. Baker, hostess. The group is made up of mothers of members of Orides independent women's club.

At the business meeting, a contribution was made to fight infantile paralysis.

Baughn with seven children, including the distinguished cross, in behalf of the war effort, was held Wednesday at Portland for William A. Gladstone World War I hero who died Tuesday.

When an army soldier from one war theater to another it is thoroughly important it does not transport disease-carrying insects.

Mexican Imports

An attractive new pottery... glassware novelties... baskets

Quackenbush
Downstairs Room

Midnight Wagon Can Be Cured
SAVE and HAVE A HOME

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