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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.

COURTHOUSE AND ROAD LEVIES

Representative opinion as sampled by The Register-Guard in Eugene and Lane county, seems generally to favor the proposal submitted by the county court, that tax levies be set aside for the next five years to finance construction of a new courthouse, and expansion and rehabilitation of the county highway system.

Opinions expressed by community leadership indicate virtually complete accord on advisability of the roads and bridges levy, which over a five-year period would amass about $500,000 at the rate of two mills per year. Good reasons for the highway program are suggested, beyond the general recommendation that both the courthouse and highway levies would increase the stockpile of Lane county's post-war projects for "taking care of our own."

Attitudes toward the courthouse proposal differ, even as one member of the county court, while favoring the road levy, opposed the courthouse levy. The bulk of expression urged need of a new building, but some are inclined to shy away from the one-mill levy, which would raise approximately $250,000 in five years. Those who hesitate to increase county taxes apparently judge it best to eliminate the courthouse levy, though it is only half the size of the road levy. Others suggest that there is no object in drawing a line—that when the federal government finishes running its vacuum cleaner through the taxpayer's pocket, three mills of local taxes will not be noticed.

Whether the courthouse, if built, should be a joint city-county structure, is a subsidiary issue attached to the main question, one which is likely to bring spirited debate. If feasible from an operational standpoint, the joint project would seem to offer chance to save the taxpayers of both subdivisions some money.

Whatever decision may be reached on the two levy proposals, it is eminently proper that they should be submitted to the electorate at the May primary, so that the people can have them if they wish. In making such provision the county court has performed a constructive public service.—G.E.H.

American soldiers make the best of things—and are entitled to get the same. Buy more war bonds!

As you sow, so shall you eat—and a Victory Garden is the answer.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PETER EDSON
Register-Guard Washington Correspondent

JUVENILE SABOTAGE IN U. S.

Juvenile delinquency caused more sabotage in the United States last year than foreign-directed saboteurs, according to information from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Knocking on wood, Director John Edgar Hoover is again able to report, "There were no acts of foreign-directed sabotage to come to our attention in the past year." The report is even better than that. It is, "Since the start of the war there has been no evidence of successful foreign-directed sabotage against the American war effort."

This record of the FBI drive against foreign sabotage constitutes one of the most notable of the home front victories. It is also a tribute to shore and border patrols of the armed forces in keeping the foreign agent saboteur outside the United States.

Emphasis in these records is of course placed on the fact that it is the "foreign-directed" sabotage which has been checked. The record on domestic, made-in-America sabotage is something else again, and it is a sad confession that while foreign-directed sabotage has been so successfully prevented, home-made sabotage by Americans in their own country has not been checked.

"Technical" Sabotage

In the three years from Jan. 1, 1940, to Jan. 1, 1944, 13,672 cases of reported sabotage have been investigated by the G-men. Technical sabotage of some type was found in 1404 cases—a little over one out of every 10 cases, but in the vast majority the sabotage was motivated by juvenile delinquency, spite, carelessness, pranks or just plain ordinary dumbness.

There have been 508 convicitions for sabotage in these three years, with convictions totaling 1342 years, one life sentence and six executions, fines and recoveries of over $250,000.

Nearly half of the reported cases of sabotage—6723—were in 1943. And while no foreign-directed acts of sabotage were uncovered during the year, technical sabotage was discovered in 874 cases.

The pattern of these cases in the past year showed one notable change. A large number of the sabotage reports investigated by the FBI involved acts committed by juveniles.

In Alabama, a 12-foot length of green timber and a cast iron signpost were placed on a railroad track by a 16-year-old boy, who thought that by wrecking a train he might obtain canned goods and candy.

Three fires in a Boston shoe factory were traced to another 16-year-old boy who merely wanted to tease girl employes until they "blew their top."

Crane Crippled

More serious was the act of an 18-year-old boy who stuffed waste into the machinery of an overhead crane he was operating in a Pennsylvania steel mill. The crane broke down and a large portion of the plant had to be shut down as a result because the crane handled all the mill's raw materials. The boy's reason for the sabotage was that he had been out carousing the night before and needed sleep. He thought he'd catch up while the crane was being repaired.

This boy has a record of delinquency going back some five years, had trouble in school, was expelled for stealing from the church poor box, breaking showcase windows, hanging around taprooms. His greatest defenders were his parents, who, not realizing what they were doing, let the boy grow up to become a saboteur.

Desire to get off from work early so as to keep a date with a girl friend caused a youthful employe in a Los Angeles steel firm to commit an act of sabotage. He took a sledge hammer and beat on an electric furnace till the fire brick lining inside collapsed. Of course the plant had to shut down and the young man kept his date. Later, he threatened to kill anyone who reported the incident, but five employes willingly reported to the FBI just what had happened.

Activities of juvenile saboteurs are cited by FBI Director Hoover in issuing a sharp warning against complacency. "The war is now going our way," he says, "but it is reasonable to assume that as the noose tightens on the necks of the Axis tyrants, a still greater effort may be made to disturb production on the home front. Juvenile sabotage may be the worst danger now, but we should continue to guard against the foreign agent."

OLIVE BARBER'S OBSERVATIONS

ABOUT THE GRANDSON

The evening after we'd returned from visiting the grandson I said to Frank, "Let's go see the neighbors."

"You just want to brag to somebody about Scotty," he charged. "Now forget all that stuff about how much he weights and how good he is and how intelligent he looks. The truth is, his head's as flat as a board in the back and sometimes when he rolls his eyes up at you and wrinkles his forehead, he doesn't look like he's got good sense."

Then his face taking on a sort of goofily besotted look he said, "But I bet that kid can bounce higher than any other four month old in the whole United States. Why when he jumps his stomach up and down, you can actually see daylight under him between his heels and his head. But don't you go bragging; makes me feel embarrassed."

So up the hill we trudged and to the neighbors where we talked of the progress of the war though I was fair stuttering with eagerness to tell of the progress of the grandson. We talked of the increased cost of living. Of the increased weight of the grandson we said nothing.

I saw something had to be done so I said I wanted a drink of water. Then when my hostess went to the kitchen to get it, I casually followed. But before I could get started on Scotty, she got started on the scrap she'd nearly had with the boss at the plant where she worked. I listened intently, thus laying the ground work for the listening I'd soon expect from her, all the time slowly sipping the water I hadn't wanted.

But if I wasn't to be made to drink another glass, I'd have to get started on my own story pretty soon. So I just broke in with, "Not changing the subject, but before I forget I must tell you about the grandson." Oh, you'd have been ashamed at the duplicity in that "before I forget!"

So then I told her all about Scotty; about his increase in weight, about the dimple in his left buttock; most of all I told her about his bouncing ability and was a little disappointed that she gasped only once instead of at least the twice I'd expected.

We reentered the living room just in time to hear Frank saying, "Man! you should see the way that kid can bounce!" Then catching sight of me, he hastily went on, "Yes, that upper piece of timber is a mighty good loggin' show." Maybe I should have called for that second glass of water; maybe he hadn't got around to the seeing-daylight part.

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

By MARIAN LOWRY

YOUNG BUSINESS WOMEN TO INSTALL

Officers for 1944 will be installed by members of the Young Business Women's club at their meeting to be held Wednesday evening of this week.

The meeting will be at seven-thirty o'clock in the Eugene hotel mirror room. Misses Bette Hack and Elizabeth Rollins are hostesses for the meeting.

* * *

HOSPITALITY CLUB'S PARTY HELD MONDAY

Hospitality club's party was held Monday evening at the Osburn hotel, about thirty-five attending. Mrs. Agnes Smith and Miss Gertrude Bauer were the hostesses.

Honors at contract bridge went to Mrs. L. S. Hunter and Mrs. B. H. Bailey, and in auction, to Mrs. F. M. Spicer and Mrs. H. M. Brownell.

* * *

BOOK GROUP

The book study group of the Eugene branch, American Association of University Women, will meet at the home of Mrs. Everett E. Harpham, 1981 Elk drive, Tuesday evening. Mrs. V. N. Freeman is giving the report. Members are asked to bring needles and thread, also their completed sewing for Russian relief.

* * *

HOME NURSING CLASS COMPLETED

The home nursing class conducted by the Lincoln P-TA, having completed its course, met the past week for a party at the home of Mrs. Roy Hostick.

Mrs. Julia Green, teacher, was presented with a gift from the group.

Mrs. G. A. Harnden, general chairman of the home nursing department for the Lane county chapter of the American Red Cross, presented each with a pin for completing the course.

Those enrolled in the class were Mrs. Jack Van Duyn, Mrs. Carl Pfeiffer, Mrs. Helena Holmes, Mrs. H. H. Jeske, Mrs. O. W. Briggs, Mrs. Roy Hostick, Mrs. P. J. McHenry, Mrs. I. Brown.

* * *

MISS MARIETTA RUTH WEDS EDWARD WATSON

Miss Marietta Ruth and Edward Watson were married Sunday at the study of the First Christian church, Eugene, Dr. Victor P. Morris officiating.

The bride wore a light green wool suit with an orchid corsage.

The only attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Ruth, brother and sister-in-law of the bride.

Mrs. Watson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Ruth and is well known in the Springfield community. Mr. Watson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Watson of Springfield, Rt. 2, has recently returned from the south Pacific where he spent eighteen months in the U. S. army. The couple left for a short trip after a dinner given in their honor at the Del Ray cafe. They will make their home on Springfield, Rt. 2.

PRESIDENTS' COUNCIL PLANS MEETING

The recently organized Presidents' council, an organization made up of heads of various women's organizations of the city, will meet Thursday noon for luncheon at Newman's cafe.

A community clubhouse is the topic up for discussion at this meeting.

Vice-presidents of groups are invited as well as presidents.

* * *

MISS HOPSON IS ALTERNATE ON AWARD

Miss Ruth Hopson, teacher in the Eugene schools, has been named alternate for one of the $1500 fellowships granted by the national organization of the American Association of University Women. These awards are given to graduate women for advanced research and study.

Miss Hopson plans to receive her Ph.D. degree from Cornell and her study is on "Certain Phases of the Natural History of the McKenzie River Region."

Barrier Erected Against Axis Gold

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22—(AP)—The allies tossed a new economic noose around the necks of Germany, Japan and their satellites today, decreeing that they would not hereafter accept axis-tainted gold from neutral countries.

The U. S. treasury, acting in concert with England, and Russia, announced it would refuse to take such gold from any nation and Treasury Secretary Morgenthau stated the United States government would refuse to recognize sales of any gold looted by the axis.

Berlin in particular has been using gold resources to keep foreign supply sources open, and it was asserted at the treasury increasing amounts of so-called "German gold" has recently been finding its way into neutral gold markets, primarily in Turkey, Switzerland, Spain and Portugal.

Ansel F. Luxford, assistant general counsel of the treasury, said today's announcement "is for the purpose of letting the world know that the title which purchasers of looted axis gold are being given is not going to be recognized as good by the United States, the United Kindom or by Russia."

Said Secretary Morgenthau: "It will be the policy of the United States treasury not to buy any gold presently located outside of the territorial limits of the United States from any country which has not broken relations with the axis, or from any country which after the date of this announcement acquires gold from any country which has not broken relations with the axis, unless and until the United States treasury is fully satisfied that such gold is not gold which was acquired directly or indirectly from the axis powers or is not gold which any such country has been or is enabled to release as a result of the acquisition of gold directly or indirectly from the axis powers."

Luxford explained that while Germany was winning on all fronts, gold transfers were not a vital factor because Germany could obtain ample supplies on credit but, he added: "Since the shift of the war, however, we have been getting report after report of German embarrassment in trying to pay for her purchases."

This, he said, resulted from recognition by neutral countries that German credits will be useless when she is defeated.

Sentence For Robbing Salesman Pronounced

ROSEBURG, Ore., Feb. 22—(AP)—Harrell Lee Delcore, 19, was sentenced to 15 years in the state penitentiary Monday for beating and robbing E. A. Byers, Spokane salesman, near here last Nov. 19.

Delcore, recently extradited from Texas on a Douglas county warrant charging armed assault, pleaded guilty in circuit court.

District Attorney J. V. Long said Delcore was hitchhiking when Byers offered him a ride at Yoncalla. Delcore forced Byers at gun point to drive onto a side-road where Byers was hit over the head with the gun and left in the brush while Delcore drove the car to Roseburg, removed personal effects and abandoned the machine, Long said.

Jap Center to Close

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22—(AP)—Interior Secretary Ickes announced today that one of the 10 Japanese communities operated by the war relocation authority—the center at Jerome, Ark.—will be abandoned in June as an economy move. It will be the first center to be closed.

There are 6554 Japanese-American evacuees at Jerome. They will be moved to other centers, about 2000 going to the other Arkansas center at Rohwer and the rest to centers farther west.

Because of the WRA program of getting the Japanese-Americans out of the centers as fast as they could be given jobs—and so long as they were acceptable to the communities receiving them—the peak population of 107,000 in the centers has declined to 92,000.

Two-thirds of them are American citizens.

The bituminous coal industry's production goal for 1944 is 620,000,000 tons, a world record.

Survey On Making Whiskey Proposed

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22—(AP)—A re-examination of the industrial alcohol outlook with a view to determining whether small-scale whiskey manufacture may be resumed temporarily was advocated today by Sen. Ferguson, (R-Mich), a member of the senate's special liquor shortage investigating committee.

Ferguson said he would present the suggestion Thursday at the committee's first meeting under the chairmanship of Sen. McCarran (D-Nev) who succeeded to the post after the death of Sen. Van Nuys (D-Ind).

The Michigan republican said he thought the committee would seek first-hand information on the recently negotiated Cuban sugar agreement to find out whether it will alleviate the alcohol shortage, as some supporters of the foreign economic administration contend.

Ferguson said officials of state liquor monopoly systems have urged him to advocate the new inquiry in the belief that some domestic alcohol production can be diverted for use in blending whiskey now being withdrawn from government warehouses, thus spreading a dwindling supply.

Meanwhile, in New York The Times said that the government has under consideration a four-point program, including production of potable alcohol, for marketing 138,000,000 bushels of last year's record potato crop.

Shipments of surplus potatoes are being made to "only two small plants making potable alcohol," The Times quoted government spokesmen as saying.

Any drinking alcohol made from the potatoes, the paper said, would be "apparently the first potable alcohol distilled in this country for more than a year."

The marketing program also calls for shipping large quantities of potatoes to Canada, dehydration of part of the crop for the armed services and conversion into cattle feed, The Times said.

College Honors Hoyt

WALLA WALLA, Wash., Feb. 22—(U.P.)—Palmer Hoyt, publisher of the Portland Oregonian, has received the honorary degree of doctor of laws from President Winslow S. Anderson of Whitman college.

He received the honor after addressing mid-year graduates of Whitman. Hoyt told them the development of a war morality to cover the war and the peace was one of the most important parts of the total war that now engages the entire world.

Tear-Gas Pistol Fails

PORTLAND, Feb. 22.—(AP)—A negro fired a tear-gas pistol at a city detective last night in a futile effort to evade capture.

A shell slit detective Clifford Comisky's overcoat and set him to weeping. But it didn't stop him.

He jailed the negro on charges of tampering with an automobile and assault with a dangerous weapon. The negro identified himself as George Richardson, 30, an army deserter from Camp Lockett, Campo, Calif.

Spring Festival to Be Held April 29

The annual spring festival or homemakers' achievement day celebration will be resumed this year and the tentative date set is April 29. Plans for the affair were discussed at a meeting of the Lane county home extension committee, at the home of Mrs. A. W. Adams in Eugene Monday.

The spring festival or achievement day has been an annual event in Eugene for a number of years past, until last year. Speakers from the state extension service will be here April 29 to discuss different phases of homemaking and each home extension unit will make an exhibit of its work.

Water Facility Loans

Water facility loans as an aid to increased food production in the county are receiving the attention of Lane farmers, Mrs. Genevieve Nettleton, FSA supervisor, revealed Tuesday. Several loans to improve water facilities on Lane farms have already been completed by the FSA, she said.

Mrs. Nettleton announced that the farm security administration will extend loans for the purchase of irrigation equipment, installation of pumping systems, construction of dams, and other water facilities. These FSA loans are made at three per cent over a period of years and farmers generally are eligible, she said.

Further information can be obtained at the FSA office in the post office building.

Davidson New Agent

J. R. Davidson has been elected business agent of IWA-CIO local 5246 to succeed Max Gardner who has resigned to assume the duties of vice-president of the Columbia River district council.

Gardner, who has been agent for the local CIO woodworkers since 1942, in his new position will work out of the Portland office of the Columbia river district council and will have the lower part of the Willamette valley as his territory. He will maintain his home in Eugene.

The new Eugene CIO agent has been a logger in the Eugene area for 20 years. He was recently employed by the Fischer Lumber company at Marcola.

New Marcola Election Again Votes 'No Union'

Employes of the Mohawk Lumber company at Marcola, Monday, in an election to decide whether they would be represented by the CIO or no union, voted 19 in favor of the CIO and 22 in favor of no union. Monday's election was the second held by the company's employes to determine the issue of representation. In July the CIO lost in favor of no union by a vote of 19 to 23 and it appealed to the NLRB, which ordered another election.

The CIO International Woodworkers of America union today was named bargaining agent for road construction workers of the Booth Kelly Lumber company, Eugene.

The national labor relations board announced the CIO won 9 votes and the AFL 1 in an election early this month. Three votes were for no union.

To stretch its wheat supplies, Finland was forced to mix straw with bread flour during World War I.

ROBERT D. MACLAY

Maclay Added to Forest Staff Here

Announcing the addition of Robert D. Maclay to its Oregon staff at Eugene Tuesday, the West Coast Lumberman's association explained that the step was in preparation for the post-victory era, when "thousands of jobs await returning service men in the private forest lands of western Oregon, to rehabilitate burned and non-stocked cut-over lands, and in building a better forest fire protection system."

Maclay who has been with the U. S. forest service in the Pacific northwest for 19 years, will work under Walter Tilley, Oregon forester for the association, and will spend most of his time in the field working with private forest operators, to get full compliance with state forestry laws and to improve forest practices.

Examinations will be made of private forest lands throughout the western section of Oregon in the Douglas fir region to determine what must be done to bring these lands up to full production of commercial trees. In the post-victory period there will be a program for planting much of the burned and non-stocked forest lands. Snag falling will provide many jobs. All of this post-war forest development will be done with the ultimate objective in mind of creating permanent sustained yield areas in this state.

Maclay is a graduate of the school of forestry at University of California in 1923, and in addition to his 19 years with the forest service also has had experience in logging in the redwood region. He will make his home and headquarters in Eugene.

Sewage Plan Proposed

PORTLAND, Feb. 22—(AP)—Two hundred representative citizens formed an organization last night to work for a sewage disposal system that would stop pollution of the Willamette river.

The city council was urged to employ engineers immediately to draw plans for a disposal system. Feasibility of putting before the voters in the May election a proposal to issue $12,000,000 in bonds for the construction was discussed.

Post-War Slowdown On Timber Urged

PORTLAND, Feb. 22.—(AP)—Retrenchment in lumber operations in the Deschutes, Klamath, Burns, and Prineville areas will be necessary after the war to keep them on a permanent yield basis.

So says Lyle F. Watts, chief of the United States forest service and former regional forester here, in a statement of his plan for placing the nation's forests on a permanent yield basis.

Wartime timber cutting in the Deschutes plateau is triple its sustained yield capacity, Watts says.

The bulk of the readily accessible saw timber already has been removed from the older Douglas fir districts west of the Cascades, he adds.

The forest service chief's sustained-yield plan calls for federal acquisition of additional private forest lands, better protection of existing forests and public aids to facilitate good private forest management.

He urges public acquisition of forest lands where watershed or recreational values are so important or growth conditions so adverse private owners cannot give the management required by the public interest.

He estimates there are 150,000,000 acres of privately-owned forest land for which public acquisition is the only solution.

Ration Tokens To Of Market Meetin

Use of the new plastic ration rationing will be explained grocers and meat men of county at a meeting to Thursday at 8 p. m. in junior high auditorium.

Sponsored by the education department of vocational school and the OPA office, the meeting ture two short films, and "point-by-point" ting. Information will be vided by Willard Cass, rationing representative; Ferris, meat rationing Wendell McCargar, food price section, all of OPA. Local ration board also will be present to questions.

Dale Perry, EVS director, act as chairman. Forms taining tokens will be to all who have not yet a supply. The token plan into operation Sunday.

J. M. Lansinger of Oregon Merchants association will tribute ration calendars.

One auto manufacturer out heavy bomber engines ing nearly 30,000,000 horse in 1943.

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