

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
(Published Every Evening and Sunday)
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NEWS SERVICE: Associated Press, United Press
MEMBERSHIP: 1000
Entered at the Post Office at Eugene, Oregon, as second-class matter.
The Register-Guard's policy is to be complete and impartial 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.

SPRAGUE LOOKS AT LAND BOOM
With his usual calm detachment, former Governor Charles A. Sprague looks at the present "land boom" in Oregon from his editorial desk at the Salem Statesman. Mr. Sprague sees "real danger," if wise counsel does not prevail. In view of the recent "storm of argument" over the stringent recommendations of the Lane County Agricultural Council, Mr. Sprague's observations should be interesting:

Authorities confess to be quite a little disturbed over the increase in prices of farm lands. They fear a period of deflation with disastrous effects. Memories of what happened after the first World War are still vivid. The danger is real. However, the situation is not just the same as in 1917-1920. For one thing the buying done is done less on contract or option. In the former period much of the dealing was merely trading paper. A man took an option on a farm, or bought it on contract with a small payment down. He didn't want the land for himself. He merely hoped to sell the paper claim to it at a quick and large profit. The paper turned counterfeited when land values slumped and the holder could find no takers. Even now land prices are by no means as high as they were in 1920.

Now more real cash is paid on land deals. The land is not bought for speculation with the hope of an early sale to some sucker, but for permanent holding. Many workers are buying small tracts for homes. They are selling down their earnings, feeling that though their jobs in industry may be gone when the fighting stops they will have a home of their own at least. Other city folk for the most part are buying farms as investments. They are afraid of inflation in currency, and prefer to have solid ground under their financial feet. They think land values will be more stable.

Another saving factor in the current situation is this: The increases reported are from rather low bases. Land prices slumped during the '30's to almost unbelievably low levels. They had a long way to go to get up to the levels of 1914 or of 1920. Even now land prices are by no means as high as they were in 1920. Land prices eventually work to a capitalization on the basis of from four to six per cent interest on the investment. But the increase is slow. Land became too cheap in the '30's, just as it was too high in 1919-1920. But as interest rates decline land values should go up. Conversely, as farm prices go down prices of farm lands should decline.

Clearly the situation is one which will stand close watching. This is still a "free country" and a man can pay what price he is willing to for land; but if too many get to speculating in land at inflated prices the repercussions injure the whole economy, so the general public has a stake in land prices, too. But so long as land sales are made on a "cash and carry" basis, with only sparing use of credit, then the chances of general catastrophe are slight.

Lane county is much larger than Marion county and has a much larger amount of the "marginal land" which makes "soft pickins" for unscrupulous promoters, and we have had a number of promotions in this area which make it impossible for us to view the situation quite so calmly as the former governor.

Once more we urge wide publicity to the recommendations of the Lane County Agricultural Council, especially on these points:

1. Talk to the county agent or established farmers who know our soils and crops; make sure what you are getting.
2. Don't venture into farming on a "shoe-string."

Some of the promotions are getting over the danger line, and there is need for emphatic warnings!

DOUBLING IN DIPLOMACY

Two London newspapers, The Times and Lord Beaverbrook's Express, have been moved to editorials of enthusiastic and rather remarkable praise by the American capture of Cherbourg. The cautious and conservative Times quite bubbles over, while the Express hastens to refute any suggestion that the American part in the invasion has been played up unduly.

"Suggestions have been made," the Express editorial says, "that American armies are getting more than their due credit in this war. Nothing more ungenerous could be said or written. Americans have proved themselves to be a race of great fighters in the very front rank of men at arms."

Says The Times, "While every section of the Allied force made its contribution, the most immediate credit is due the gallant American troops who have driven a path up to some of the most formidable prepared positions in Europe and smashed their way into Cherbourg with unsurpassable dash and vigor."

These well-deserved appreciations undoubtedly reflect the popular sentiment. They sound spontaneous as well as sincere, in contrast to official statements which sometimes seem to spring from a sense of diplomatic etiquette as well as from the heart.

The American GI isn't alone in the successful accomplishment of this added task. The average Englishman's admiration of him is reciprocated over here by our high regard for the British soldier.

Relations among the governments of the fighting Allies, while good, haven't always been a honeymoon. Plain Main Street citizens of all these countries, too, have been confused and disappointed at times by the policies of Washington, Downing Street, the Kremlin or Chungking. But they just can't be distrustful or jealous of the heroes of Guadalcanal and Stalingrad and Alamein.

The men who do the fighting, one suspects, are doing more than all the diplomats and heads of governments to weld the spirit of allied peoples into a common bond of purpose, understanding and trust. And up to now, they seem to be doing as well as the diplomats in solving the touchy problem of French friendship and co-operation.

The blackout in Jerusalem has been lifted for the first time since 1940. A prelude to the lights going on again all over the world.

Don't let any idea that will help the war effort die! Execute it!

OUT OF THE WOODS

By JAMES STEVENS

The Cloquet Pattern

In Stewart H. Holbrook's great book on the history of American Forest fires, "Burning an Empire," there is a thrilling account of how the industrial leaders and the people of Cloquet, Minnesota, not only made a comeback after a disastrous fire but built a forest future from the ashes more glorious and fruitful than had been dreamed of before the fire struck the community and its forest resource.

"The Story of Cloquet" provides a pattern for community enterprise in the Douglas fir region—for progress into a future which shall see less forest cutting and more forest employment year after year.

But now—Stewart Holbrook: "How many years of life remained to Cloquet as a sawdust town in 1918 was in doubt. It had been making lumber in large quantities since 1882. Its combined mills could and often did cut more than one million board feet of lumber in a day. Timber of sawmill size had receded year by year from the mills, and the stump land had been bought by thousands of small farmers, who worked winters in the logging camps, summers on their little places."

So the stage was set for the big fire that broke over the land on October 12, 1918—a fire that burned more than 500 to death and laid waste 750,000 acres of Minnesota's forest land. Cloquet's pulp and paper plant, three of its five sawmills, and all of its saloons survived.

Two men, Rudolph M. Weyerhaeuser and Harry C. Hornby, heads of two timber companies, decided Cloquet's future. "Both men had come to love the town," says Holbrook; "they thought of themselves as citizens first and as sawmill operators afterward." The two talked the stockholders and directors of their companies into supporting efforts to rebuild Cloquet and to make it into a permanent city.

"Messrs. Hornby and Weyerhaeuser knew, in the manner of woodsmen, that a burned pine forest is never followed by another pine forest," Holbrook tells. "They knew that in the wake of the great 1918 fire would come the so-called weed trees—aspens, balsams, Jack pines. These are not lumber species, for they are too small. So, the founding fathers of the new Cloquet secured the services of two of the best known wood chemists in the United States—Dr. A. W. Schorger and the late Howard F. Weis. They gave these scientists a generous appropriation and asked them to find out what could be made from the small weed trees, other than pulp and paper."

Wood Conversion
Eventually the wood research men came through with the "daddy of all the new commonly known and accepted low-density insulating materials" and a synthetic lumber that could be formed in the board, plank, waisting, lath and sheathing, and which could be manufactured in any color, and sawed, nailed, clipped into place, or glued. "Wood conversion" was the keynote of the new Cloquet. "Conversion," says Holbrook, "instead of sawing, has resulted in much greater utilization of the tree—approximately 90 per cent. Moreover, in former times a thousand board feet provided but one day's work for two men. Conversion of one thousand board feet into the new types of forest products provides one day's work for 23 men! That is, 13 times as many man hours per board feet."

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PETER EDSON
(Register-Guard Washington Correspondent)

NO CONVERSATION, NO COAL

By S. BURTON HEATH
Substituting for Peter Edson

In his capacity as Solid Fuels Administrator for War, Harold L. Ickes wants \$375,000 with which to telephone and telegraph in the coming fiscal year. An economy-minded congressional committee thinks that he can get by with very well with only \$40,000. Honest Harold, who likes his own way, warns that if Congress tries paring his word-ary, he may ask OPA to ration coal by coupon. That, he says, would cost \$8,000,000 instead of the measly \$375,000 with which Harold purposes to finance distribution of his verbal pearls.

To which an anonymous OPAer remarks that Mr. Ickes' excuse for rationing coal would be the most novel one ever offered to that agency.

Even in highly articulate Washington, poohbah Ickes' gift of gab is outstanding. It is conceded that he can swing a wicked phrase, clause or epithet to deadly effect. But nobody can figure how even he would overcome a real coal shortage with \$375,000 worth of curmudgeonry.

The fact is, in the opinion of many who ought to know, that there isn't going to be any need for rationing coal this winter, and that Mr. Ickes' SFAW is only scare mongering when it talks about a 20-million ton shortage and the worst coal crisis in American history.

Do We Need More or Don't We?
Originally the nation's coal operators were told that they should produce 620 million tons of bituminous coal this year. Then the ante was raised to 626 million tons. There it rests. If there is need for any more, nobody has troubled to tell the men who must provide it.

Through June 17 output totaled 297,187,000 tons, which by quick division appears to be at the rate of 54 million tons a month. Projected through the remainder of June, that production rate would indicate a six-month output, in fat round figures, of 320 million tons—which is what the Bituminous Coal Institute estimates as the answer.

"The first six months' production," says the Institute, "will apparently be about 320 million tons, which is considerably over half of the industrial coal needs forecast by the SFAW—enough more to fulfill the publicized needs for occupied Europe from American bituminous mines."

There is absolutely no reason to suppose that the current production rate will not hold throughout the year and yield 640 million tons—15 millions above the SFAW's quota for the industry.

This does not suggest that coupon rationing of coal is going to be necessary even if Honest Harold broadcasts only \$40,000 worth of verbiage instead of the \$375,000 he has in mind.

Keep Mum, Old Boy
There really seems very little for Ickes to do about coal right now except to keep his eyes open and his dictating machine closed.

Last year there were three disastrous strikes that cost us 40 million tons of coal and kept the SFAW hopping like a highly articulate Mexican jumping bean. But there is no reason to anticipate strikes this year. John Lewis has contracts with all the companies except one that was omitted deliberately so that it could carry a test case on the portal-to-portal issue to the Supreme Court.

The problem now is getting coal out of the ground—which miners and companies are doing faster than Ickes asked—and hauling it around the country, which the railroads and the Office of Defense Transportation know about without reminders from the SFAW.

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

By MARIAN LOWRY

BUSINESS WOMEN MEET FOR LUNCHEON

Forty-five attended the monthly luncheon meeting for the Eugene Business and Professional Women's club, Thursday noon, Seymour cafe. This was a "Fourth of July picnic luncheon," favors and decorations carrying out the holiday theme. Mrs. Frank J. Connell in charge. Miss Rose Zena Latta sang, accompanied by Mrs. F. T. Kellis. Announcement was made the fourth Thursday evening social meeting will be a picnic, Mrs. Josephine Hayes as chairman, the place to be announced later.

Aid Surgical Dressings

The club is trying to organize groups within the membership to carry on in the surgical dressings work at the Red Cross rooms, the business women to supplement regular workers during the summer months when harvesting of crops and other similar work will take many of the regular surgical dressing workers.

Each member of the Business and Professional Women's club is asked to give one night a month, with choice of either Tuesday or Wednesday evenings. Temporarily, members have been assigned alphabetically as follows: First week, A through E; second week, F through K; third week, L through R; fourth week, Q through Z.

Preference in nights of service may be followed by arranging with Mrs. Connell, who is chairman of this work from the club.

SON IN BORN

A son, James Wilfred, Jr., was born July 4 at Sacred Heart general hospital to Pvt. and Mrs. James W. Phillips of Eugene. Mrs. Phillips is the former Clara Lund. Private Phillips is attending clerical school at Camp Robinson, Ark. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold K. Phillips of Blue River and Jesse Lund of the River Road.

VISIT AT VIDA

VIDA—Visitors recently at the homes of their brothers, Elmer and Weldon Keller, were Mrs. T. A. Lowe and daughter, Bette, of So. St. Paul, Minn., and Mrs. William Tesmer, of Canton, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Weldon Keller also have had as visitors, Mrs. Keller's sister, Mrs. Edward Peterson, and son, Niles from Ashland, Wis.

IOWA CLUB

Iowa club met Wednesday with Mrs. M. L. Handshuf, twenty-five attending. The group enjoyed Mrs. Handshuf's collection of pictures from all parts of the world. Following the business session, a lawn party was held. Mrs. Handshuf gave a talk on her trip east and presented each member with a souvenir from the Little Brown church in the Vale.

CONER CLUB

Coner club met this week with Mrs. J. A. Morrison. Mrs. Elmer Geiger was welcomed as a new member. Mrs. Leon Player was a guest. Others attending were Mrs. Darrel Renfro, Mrs. Robert Burley, Mrs. C. W. Funderburg, Mrs. Mae Palmer, Mrs. Russell Burley, Mrs. W. L. Christensen, Mrs. C. E. Sawyer, Mrs. Cal Eaton, Mrs. L. J. Christensen, Mrs. Morrison. Knitting and sewing were done for the Red Cross.

Cooperatives Planned To Obtain Limestone

CORVALLIS (AP)—Extension specialists in soils and marketing are drafting a system of farmer cooperatives in western Oregon to enable growers to obtain increased supplies of ground limestone at reasonable prices.

The proposal was made at a meeting of western Oregon county agents. Reports showed that the farmers this year obtained less than a third of requested limestone supplies.

The tentative cooperative plan would establish more adequate storage facilities to build up stockpiles.

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MRS. MOORE NAMED CHAIRMAN FOR SALE

Mrs. Lee Moore has been appointed chairman of the annual forget-me-not sale which will be conducted August 4 and 5 by the auxiliary to Disabled American Veterans in Eugene. Assisting her will be Mrs. Glennie Frost, Mrs. Henry Halverson, Mrs. Alfred Brooks and Mrs. John P. Kaik-hoven.

Mrs. Moore, past department commander, and Mrs. Elgin Ballor, local auxiliary commander, represented the auxiliary, state and local, at the convention of the auxiliary to United Spanish War Veterans this week.

Reports of the recent convention at Roseburg were heard from Mrs. Algot Sandahl, Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Ballor, at the meeting of the auxiliary Tuesday evening at the WOW hall. Refreshments were served to both chapter and auxiliary following their separate business meetings.

STUDY GROUP

Work among the natives of Jamaica and South Africa was the subject of study at the meeting of Independent Missionary study club of the First Christian church. A potluck luncheon at the church annex Thursday preceded the afternoon meeting. Mrs. Belle Williams led the study.

Plans were made to hold an evening meeting in August, when the speaker will be Juan Barona, Filipino and president of the Philippine Bible college, who now is working as a teacher among Mexicans at McMinville.

AID SOCIETY

Mrs. J. I. Fischer and Mrs. Edward Jensen gave reports of the convention of the Women's Missionary society at Medicine Lake, Minn., at the meeting Wednesday afternoon of Bethesda Lutheran Ladies Aid society. A vote of thanks was given the committee which worked on Danish relief. The missionary theme was followed in devotions, led by Rev. Ingward Olsen. Mrs. Marius Anderson and Mrs. Ole Mikkelsen, hostesses, served refreshments. The August meeting will be a picnic at Skinner Butte park, with Mrs. Ferdinand Hansen serving as committee chairman.

MISS SMITH SIGNS UP FOR WAVES SERVICE

On her way to wear navy blue with her two brothers is Miss Pauline Mae Smith, Eugene, who has enlisted in the Waves, announces Chief William E. Bell, recruiter-in-charge of the Eugene U. S. navy recruiting substation, which handles Waves applications in this area.

Miss Smith is the third member of her family to volunteer for the U. S. navy. One brother, Kenneth L. Smith, is a quartermaster, second class, now serving overseas. Another brother, Harold L. Smith, is an apprentice seaman, now in training as a V-12 student at the University of Washington, Seattle.

She graduated from Springfield union high school, where she was vice-president of the Journalism club, treasurer of National Honor society, associate editor of the newspaper, and a member of Girls' Athletic association. Miss Smith attended University of Oregon. Miss Smith is a member of the Eugene First Baptist church. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Milo C. Smith, Leaburg.

Tsutsugamushi fever, characterized by headache, chills, malaise, fever, rash, deafness, drowsiness, coughing spells, loss of appetite, pain in the joints and sometimes serious mental disturbances, is prevalent in Japan during the summer months.



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MILLER'S
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MAIN FLOOR

GARDEN CLUB PICNIC EVENT OF WEEK

The garden of Miss Lulu Gell, River avenue, made a beautiful setting with its background of large trees, interesting walks, and many varieties of flowers, for the annual picnic of the Eugene Garden club, held this week. The potluck lunch was served buffet style from the arbor, covered with climbing roses and Clematis, Jackmanii. Members and their guests numbered about forty with Mrs. M. C. Bennett, Mrs. Lawrence Drake, and Mrs. K. R. Allan becoming new members of the club.

After lunch, the program was presented under a huge tree on the front lawn. "Questions and Answers" on humorous gardening subjects, with demonstrations by the members, furnished amusement. The demonstration of "How to Treat a Judge" by Mrs. K. R. Allan was voted the "most amusingly instructive one" of the features.

Another feature of the program was the auction sale of the plants brought for the plant exchange. Mrs. Karl Kruger was auctioneer. Mrs. Fred Broders acted as clerk of the sale. The funds, thus raised, are to purchase books on wild flowers, birds or trees, which are studied in the nature study group. Mrs. Kruger is chairman of this study group.

Plans for the Christmas bazaar were discussed and members are urged to dry larkspur, delphinium, and rose petals, as well as the various herbs. Mrs. J. C. Bantz, president, told of the need for emergency workers to harvest crops and outlined the organization of the women's land army. Mrs. T. C. Anderson was appointed war activities chairman. Members are asked to assist Mrs. Anderson by reporting to her the hours they have put in on Red Cross work, bond selling, or any other war activity.

The gathering came to a close, with a vote of appreciation to the hostess, Miss Lulu Gell and the committee, Mrs. Karl Kruger and Mrs. Fred Broders for a most entertaining picnic.

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GOD'S WORD

Paul, an apostle, (not of men, neither by man, but by Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead); 2. And all the brethren which are with me, unto the churches of Galatia. Gal. 1:1-2

READ: GALATIANS THE FIRST CHAPTER

19¢

Suggestions On Beets For Canning Told

EDITOR'S NOTE: Below is another of the series of articles prepared by Miss Jean Starker, emergency assistant, food preservation work, Lane county, on articles to be preserved and methods in handling them.

Fresh young baby beets may be preserved for your winter use in several different ways. They may be canned by packing hot in jars and processing at 10 pounds pressure for 35 minutes for pints and 40 minutes for quarts in the pressure cooker.

Beets may be frozen by cutting off the tops and scalding them in boiling water 1½ minutes and cooling quickly for easy peeling. Slice or dice into ¼ inch cubes. Blanch slices or cubes in boiling water for 2 to 3 minutes and then plunge into cold water and drain and pack into locker cartons. These tender young beets are nice to use as a fresh vegetable and for salad.

They may also be pickled frozen or fresh.

Combine 1-3 cup each water and vinegar.

1/8 t. salt.
1 t. sugar.

Pour over 3 cups sliced hot beets and let stand until cool.

Directions for storage of beets in pits or banks of soil may be found in the food for victory pamphlet extension bulletin #61 which is available at the home demonstration agent's office in the public market building in Eugene.

Deschutes Forest Areas Ordered Closed

MEDFORD July 14.—Fourteen areas in the Deschutes national forest and in state forest areas of Jackson county were closed today as the onset of hot weather increased fire hazards. The barred Deschutes forest re-



gions are Green ridge, Metolius river, Wickiup, butte, Walker mountain, butte, Trout creek, Royce mountain and Ashland.

In Jackson county closed the Medford creek logging area, lower north the Rogue in the Umatilla area, Deadwood area in Jackson county and the canyon-McDonald creek area in Ashland.

Diet was linked to the discovery that ducks deficient in the biotin develop a more type of malaria than do a normal diet.

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2 lbs. for 25¢

S & W Coffee 59¢

2 lb. Jars 59¢

Wheaties . . . Reg. Pkg. 9¢

Swansdown FLOUR 50 lb. Sack 1.99

IVORY SOAP Med. Bars 3 for Large bars

ZEE TISSU 4 Rolls 17¢

Comfort TISSU 1000 Sheet Roll 33¢

4 Rolls 33¢