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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.

"THE LITTLE TOWNSEND PLAN"
From the earliest days of the Townsend movement this newspaper has been quite frank in its opposition to the whole Townsend theory. For the people who believe so sincerely in this program we have complete respect, and indeed, we have often had occasion to be grateful for their fairness. We have our opinion. They have theirs. It is an American way.

We cannot favor the constitutional amendment, which they have initiated and are submitting to the people, under the popular slogan of "Sixty at Sixty." Its requirements follow the basic Townsend pattern, except that "transaction tax" is called "gross income tax." It would require our legislature to impose:

1. A tax of 3 to 5 percent on the gross cash receipts of all individuals and corporations except lodges, churches, business and labor associations and public functions).
 2. Beginning next March 15, the state would be required to pay to every person over 60, not actually working at gainful occupation, a pension of \$60 a month—with no property qualification or deduction for invested income.
 3. Beneficiaries would be required to spend the \$60 within 30 days.
- It is interesting to note that in the Voters' Pamphlet the chief protest against this measure is signed by the Oregon State Federation of Labor—which argues that this is not only another form of sales tax but SALES TAX MULTIPLIED. We believe in specific sales taxes. Nobody, we think, can subscribe to unlimited and duplicated and repeated sales tax. The effects on the cost of living and on business generally would be disastrous.

There are other serious objections to this measure:

1. Oregon could not afford to adopt such a program as this with the rest of the country out of the program.
2. Such a program is almost impossible of equitable enforcement.
3. The danger of killing "the goose that lays the golden eggs" is very real.
4. However, our main objection is not to the form of tax but to the line of alleged economic reasoning which is absolutely unsound. No nation or state can ever make itself prosperous by singling out any single group or class of people and paying them any lump sum of money whether it be \$60 a month or \$200 and directing them to spend.
5. Our aged and our disabled and all those incapable of making a normal living must be cared for decently. To a progressive program of old age and disability pensions we have always subscribed. But we have never felt that the problem could be met by any such scheme as this, which makes flat payments, regardless of need, which assumes that multitudes of beneficiaries can be forced to spend, that lazy relatives will not "mooch," which ignores so much of human fact.
6. We shall not indulge in some of the bitter comments which have been directed toward organizers and promoters in the Townsend movement. That movement, like all others, has attracted its quota of professional promoters and highbinders. These are only a few. The many are quite sincere. This plan is their dream. We think it is just that—a dream, and we are quite sincere when we say:

VOTE 17 NO!

QUESTION BEFORE THE PEOPLE

A rather curious story is related on Page 1 of Sunday's Register-Guard. A working man, with a large family, was before Judge Skipworth, under indictment for forgery—a felony which could carry long penitentiary sentence. He had been gambling over a period of years in a professional gambling house in downtown Eugene. A heavy loser, he became desperate. He took some checks of the man who runs the gambling house, and forged the gamster's signature. He got caught, of course.

So did the gambling house proprietor. There are indications that the gamster would have been glad to "forget it." District Attorney Bill Fort and Sheriff Crowe did not see it that way. They did not let the gamster's lawyer see the forger at the jail. They levelled a separate charge against the gamster. They hauled him into justice court and the court fined him \$75.

Under our peculiar laws conducting a gambling den is only a misdemeanor. Forgery? That's a felony, a major crime. We think most people will approve Judge Skipworth's decision in this case to parole "the sucker." And we think a very large section of the public is going to ask:

"What goes on here?"

There will always be trouble with gambling and commercial prostitution. This paper has never "crusaded." But there are plenty of indications that slot machines, pinballs, punch boards and professional gambling

joints in this state are approaching "racket" proportions. This mess needs probing from bottom to top, especially top places.

One of our Springfield friends has a bright slogan on Area Planning—we must pool our brains or we will have a pool of headaches.

Right now, what you stand for isn't as important as what you help with. Buy more War Bonds!

Western Canada had a record wheat crop. More power to our well bread Canadian cousins.

WASHINGTON LETTER
By PETER EDSON
Register-Guard Washington Correspondent

20 \$64 ELECTION QUESTIONS

Now is the time for all self-appointed political experts to make their predictions on the outcome of the election, writing the expected results on a piece of paper, carefully putting it away, and then dragging it out on the morning after to show what smart forecasters they really were.

President Roosevelt does this, only he admits that he has never been right on his predictions. But you, too, can play this kind of political solitaire, and as a convenience to those who care to indulge in this harmless pastime, there is presented here a check list of questions on the outcome of this election. Write your own answers and file for future reference:

1. Will Roosevelt run up a greater Electoral College vote than that by which he beat Willkie in 1940, when the count was 449 to 827? He beat Hoover 472 to 59 and he beat Landon 523 to 8.
2. How many more states will Dewey carry in 1944 than the 10 states Willkie carried in 1940?
3. The total number of votes cast in the presidential election of 1940 was 49,815,312. How much bigger will the popular vote be in 1944?
4. The 1940 popular vote was divided roughly 27,000,000 for Roosevelt, 22,000,000 for Willkie. Roosevelt winning by 5,000,000. What will the difference be in 1944 and which way?
5. What Say About Division of Popular Vote?
6. The 1940 popular vote was 44.7 per cent Republican, 54.8 per cent Democratic. What will be the percentages this year?
7. Will Dewey carry New York?
8. Will Roosevelt carry Pennsylvania?
9. Will Dewey break the solid south, and if so, which states will he carry?
10. Will Dewey carry any of the border states of Maryland, West Virginia, Kentucky?
11. Will Truman carry Missouri, a "doubtful" state, for Roosevelt and Truman?
12. The middle west has been claimed by and conceded to Dewey, including Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, the Dakotas, Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado and Wyoming. Will Roosevelt carry any of those states, and if so, which ones?
13. Will Dewey carry any of the Pacific coast states of California, Oregon and Washington?
14. Of the three Gallup poll doubtful states of Pennsylvania, Missouri, and Oregon, will the soldier vote decide the issue?
15. The present U. S. Senate is 58 Democrats, 37 Republicans, 1 Progressive. The terms of 11 Republicans and 21 Democrats expire this year, meaning that 32 new senators are to be elected. What will be the division of the new Senate, by party, 37 Democrats and 26 Republicans being holdovers?
16. Present composition of the House of Representatives is 214 Democrats, 210 Republicans, 10 seats being scattered and vacant. How will the new House be divided by party?
17. Will the House go Republican, even if Roosevelt is re-elected to the presidency?
18. If Dewey wins, will both the Senate and House go Republican?
19. How Will the Senators Come Out?
20. Which of these 12 prominent senators running for re-election will be defeated: Democrats Downey of California, Gillette of Iowa, Barkley of Kentucky, Wagner of New York, Lucas of Illinois, Thomas of Utah; Republicans Danaher of Connecticut, Nye of North Dakota, Taft of Ohio, Davis of Pennsylvania Aiken of Vermont, Wiley of Wisconsin?
21. Will a record popular vote—say 55,000,000 as against 49,000,000 in 1940—work to give Roosevelt a larger or smaller popular vote than his previous high of 27,751,612 in 1936 against Alf Landon?
22. Eleven states do not count their soldier vote until after the regular Nov. 7 election. They are Missouri Nov. 10, California Nov. 24, Pennsylvania and Colorado Nov. 22, Delaware Nov. 9, Florida Nov. 17, Rhode Island Dec. 4, North Dakota Dec. 5, Utah and Washington Nov. 27, Nebraska Dec. 7. Will the soldier vote in these states, with a total of 116 electoral votes, change the result of the election?

OLIVE BARBER'S OBSERVATIONS

THE NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY

Last night some thirty-odd people gathered at Hillside for our bi-monthly funfest. With so small a house, it takes some convincing to make room for that many. But I convinced: I took down the bed. Only to recall too late that there would be a number of babies. If we put them to bed in the attic, they might wake up and tumble down stairs. If parked in the cars outside, they could scream themselves hoarse without being heard above the din of card players and clatter of women enumerating their cunning feats of the summer.

We solved the matter by taking turning holding the little tykes in our laps. Which didn't add to my popularity for I was too prone to heft the sleeping infant, then casually remark it was no job at all, my own grandson, the same age, or even younger, being so much heavier. And only four teeth! My goodness! Scotty had eight at this baby's age. Well I waited long enough, they should remember, before I got a grandchild to boast about. I had some catching-up to do.

Maybe I'm a natural boaster and that's why I feel there are few communities which can mix a group with such a wide age range as successfully as our neighborhood can. Our young people keep the dates of our neighborhood parties free and each meeting finds them with us, not leaving until compelled to by their parents or hinted to do so by their hostess. Always, I find myself amazed that this is so.

At least half our group is made up of young people between the ages of 14 and 18. This is considered a hard age to entertain. Maybe part of our success in holding them is that we make no effort to entertain them. Rather do they entertain us. They can be as beguilingly crazy as a bunch of colts.

Last night I remembered how much is said about juvenile delinquency and of the counter charge that there is even more adult delinquency. So it could be that in our complacency at holding our young people we are deceiving ourselves. Maybe they feel the need to be present to keep us in line! Well as long as they attend, so will I. Though I did think it a little undignified of us to clap our hands to some of the songs just because they told us to. But I clapped.

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

By MARIAN LOWRY

EPISCOPAL PARISH SUPPER ON WEDNESDAY

The monthly parish covered dish dinner of St. Mary's Episcopal church will be held Wednesday evening of this week at the parish hall, six-thirty o'clock. All of the church are invited. Henry D. Fehly will show some of his motion pictures for entertainment.

CLUB MEETS

The Cheerful Bridge club met the past Friday evening with Miss Elda Ridgeway. Honors went to Miss Ruple Ross and Mrs. Harry McAdams. Halloween decorations were featured.

EUGENE GIRLS IN COLLEGE WOMEN'S CHOIR

Five Eugene girls have been chosen to sing in the Women's choir at the Oregon College of Education, Monmouth, under the direction of Mrs. Florence Hutchinson. They are: Misses Rue A. Crooks, Betty June Bierbower, Audrey Ames, Luella Furrow, and Lorraine Burton.

TWO LANE GIRLS NAMED FOR CLASS

Miss Bernice Granquist of Eugene has been appointed secretary of the junior class at the University of Oregon. It is announced by Miss Marilyn Holden, McMinnville, class president. Miss Janet Douglas of Junction City was named vice-president. The vacancies in class offices were created when officers elected in the regular spring term election failed to return to school.

GOLDEN WEDDING IS RECENT EVENT

The fiftieth wedding anniversary for Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Backus was observed October 17. The couple were married in Ontario province, Canada. They have been residing here the past few months at the home of their son, Clarence C. Backus. They lived in Detroit, Mich., and in San Diego, Cal., for twenty-three years coming here from California.

In their family are the one son and three grandchildren.

PARTY AT EIGHT

The party of Hospitality club planned for Monday evening at the home of Mrs. A. F. Richards will be at eight o'clock.

MEETING PLACE CHANGED

The meeting of the executive board of the Women's City club on Saturday will be held at the home of Mrs. H. E. Cully instead of at the home of Mrs. Harry M. Lichty. This is the monthly meeting for the executive group and it will be held at one o'clock.

OPA To Train Price Panel Volunteers

A training program for price panel volunteers will be held in Eugene Friday, Nov. 3, at the Osburn hotel, starting at 1:30 p. m. McDannell Brown, district OPA director, announced Monday.

Norman R. Grimm, chairman of the local OPA war price and rationing board, will talk on the general OPA program and Pauline Scheer, assistant volunteer specialist from Portland will discuss the volunteer program in the Eugene board area.

A film, "Your job as a price panel assistant" will be shown and Mrs. Connie H. James, volunteer specialist from the Portland OPA office, will speak on the orientation of the volunteer price panel assistant. Dale Lind-say, OPA price executive, will discuss the price program.

All persons interested in doing volunteer work with the local board are invited to attend this meeting. Price control during the reconversion period is going to be imperative to prevent the inflation which occurred following the last war, Brown emphasized.

Doctor Gets Leave For Racial Studies

Dr. Elton H. Moore, head of the department of sociology, will take a leave of absence winter term to complete a study on the net white population mobility between states and counties for the decade between 1930 and 1940.

Dr. Moore has been gathering material and compiling statistical records on this study for four years, and when completed it will be the first complete coverage of interstate and intercounty mobility. Leave of absence is for the winter term only and Dr. Moore will remain in Eugene.

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MR. AND MRS. W. S. BACKUS
Willsboro photo and engraving.

LARGE GROUP IS INITIATED BY LODGE

A large class of new members was initiated by Women of the Moose recently, as the "James Davis class" of Mooseheart day. Those included were: Miss Nonie McCrae, Mrs. Paul Keck, Miss Lois Cunningham, Mrs. L. L. Salisbury, Mrs. Ethel Bayles, Mrs. Pearl Lowling, Miss Violet Schuldt, Miss Bilda B. Blanton, Mrs. Vivian L. Hustel, Mrs. E. M. Rue, Miss Margaret Stinson, Mrs. Esther Newcomb, Mrs. B. Earl Backman, Mrs. L. G. Thompson, Miss Hope L. Crone, Mrs. R. I. Johnson, Mrs. Charles Thompson, Mrs. W. B. McClendon, Mrs. C. H. Rogers, Miss Hazel V. Rice, Mrs. Gus Hamilton, Mrs. Letith Price, Miss Florence Livingston, Miss Dora Anna Phillip, Mrs. Lewis Montgomery.

Mrs. R. T. Thomas, Mooseheart alumnae chairman, was in charge of the program, which included a talk on Mooseheart by Lonnie Crawford, a song by Miss Ida Mae Thomas, and a reading by Artie Lee Thomas. Seventy were present. The sum of \$20 was voted as a contribution to the war fund.

Housing Shortage Mentioned in Digest

Eugene's housing shortage received national recognition in the November Reader's Digest "Signs of the Times" column, with the following item, signed by Maxine E. Tuckett:

"This spring, proof of the housing shortage in Eugene, Ore., was seen in the terse comment on a large sign in front of a white bungalow. The curtains were down, and it was 'being cleaned and painted. The sign read, 'This house is not for rent!'"

For washing windows use chamomile or a soft lintless cloth which will absorb moisture readily and leave no ring.

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Eagles Plan Party For President Campbell

A Halloween party, honoring President LeRoy Campbell, will be held by Eagles and auxiliary Tuesday evening at the lodge hall, the program including dancing from 10 p. m. Mrs. Chester Elpas of the auxiliary drill team is chairman. State officials are expected to be guests.

A membership drive will be held by the Eagles lodge during November, in preparation for its annual birthday party, Nov. 10, 11 and 12, when a large class will be initiated. All orders of the state and state officers have been invited to attend the annual birthday celebration here.

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