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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, fair and helpful in the development of constructive community policy.

SUBURBAN SCHOOL PROBLEMS

Two very important steps have been initiated during the last few days by suburban school districts:

1. Twelve districts immediately adjacent to Eugene have joined with Eugene to get Dr. Carl Huffaker, of the University of Oregon to survey building needs.

2. Coburg, which is a bit farther out, has decided to look into the advisability of closing its high school and getting busses to carry its 53 high schoolers to Eugene.

Both of these movements are proceeding on the basis of getting the facts on which to make decisions. There is no substitute for facts as a guide to common sense.

Swift action is needed on all these problems. Eugene and all the adjacent districts are overcrowded, and the indications are that growth of school population will be greater before it becomes less.

Dr. Huffaker has promised to complete his studies and recommendations by January 1—if he can get enough help. On getting some of the facts and figures for his report he has asked teachers and pupils in all the districts to help, and this help will be granted cheerfully. He has also promised that he is not going to "pull any punches." He is going to show where the school needs have become most urgent, and he has promised to make his recommendations in accord with those facts.

In a general way we know from the preliminary discussions that if Eugene and the 12 adjacent districts can work together, it may be possible to solve the immediate problems with two or three well placed and well designed new buildings instead of some twelve or fourteen unrelated building projects.

But none of us can afford guess work. There are two main objectives:

1. What is best for the kids.
2. What is best in the long run for the taxpayers and the entire area community.

Speed is urgent because between now and the opening of the next school year next September, some additional accommodations will have to be provided, especially if Eugene's high schools and junior highs are to take on a larger share of the pupil load.

New buildings cannot and should not be rushed too fast. They need to be very carefully planned and built to serve for many years. Fortunately most of the present grade schools of the area seem to be well located and usable while high and junior high problems are being worked out.

The friendly progress which is being made on these school problems sets a pattern for approaching the many other area problems to which the Central Lane Planning Council has directed attention. We have become in the last few years a community of more than 43,000 people. Rapid growth has created some real problems, but none of these problems seems so difficult when people sit down with facts.

NURSES' AIDS GUARD HEALTH

Ten more young women who have completed the course for Nurses' Aids are being "capped" Friday evening at Gerlinger hall. They will bring to more than 200 the total of women in this community who have completed this course, according to veteran Nurse Grace Robertson, who is supervising this training for Red Cross and OCD.

A good many people still do not know what a Nurses' Aid is, or why. It is important that everybody should know because if we have any serious disease outbreak during this war (such as the flu during the last war) these women will be in the front lines of home defense.

These women are not "trained nurses." It requires four years of rigorous training to make a registered nurse, and the Army, the Navy and the major hospitals are absorbing all the "RN's" they can get. There is a big shortage of "RN's." That's why you see calls for young women to enlist as "cadet nurses" and take the full nurse training course. For young women who want to make nursing a profession, there is unusual opportunity—and need—in that field.

But the Nurses' Aids are different. They are a body of trained helpers, volunteers. They are filling in all the gaps in the regular nursing force at all the great hospitals and health centers in this country. They are ready and standing by for any great health emergency which may occur. Here are requirements they must fulfill:

Age—between 18 and 30, and in good health.
Preparation—at least 80 hours of basic training under the supervision of professional nurses; of this 35 hours is book work; 45 hours actual waiting on the sick.
Schedules—they put in approximately 8 hours each week at the hospital, with the total training time evenly divided between morning, afternoon and night work up to 10 p. m.

Follow-up—A Nurses' Aid is not through when she gets her cap; she is required to give

—50 hours per year to hospital duty to maintain her standing.

To date about half of the 200 women who have completed the Nurses' Aid training at Sacred Heart hospital have been University students and most of the rest have been women in business, mostly. Now there is a call for the "homebodies"—especially those who are not "tied down with small kids."

The work is interesting and it is not too strenuous or too difficult. Really it is a type of training which every woman should have, especially those who are contemplating marriage and families of their own.

A Nurses' Aid is very far from being a professional nurse. She is not expected to learn any of the intricate techniques of operating room or professional care of patients. But she does get the fundamentals of caring for the sick and injured and these are extremely important. And she gets some understanding of the facts of health and life. We heard a young Nurses' Aid saying yesterday, after a tour of duty in "OB":

"You sure get some new ideas on what it means to bring children into this world."

Ten more young women are being "capped" as Nurses' Aids tonight. There is a peculiarly valuable service for war or peace.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PETER EDSON
Register-Guard Washington Correspondent

HOW MANY FAGS GO ABROAD?

ONE Washington newspaperman became so exasperated about the Great Cigaret Mystery that he made 121 telephone calls, mostly to government agencies, in an attempt to get the real facts.

I'm going to dwell today on what he was told about exports, largely to service men, because this illustrates why it seems impossible to find out what is happening.

During July, August and September, this inquisitive reporter was told, the Army shipped overseas 609,435,000 packs of cigarettes. The Red Cross bought 55,331,000 packs for kit bags, service men overseas, service patients in hospitals on both sides, and prisoners of war.

Multiply each of these by four and it would appear that the Army and the Red Cross together are using 2,659,664,000 packs this year, mostly but not exclusively overseas.

The Navy estimated a round figure of 800,000,000 packs for its personnel outside the United States.

Add these together, and you don't need the Einstein theory, or even integral calculus to figure that about 3,459,664,000 packs are being taken off the civilian market this year for the use of soldiers, sailors, Marines, WAC, WAVES, Spars, Nurses, Seabees, officers and gentlemen in uniform.

This would give each service man and woman 38 cigarettes a day, the year around, if there are five millions among whom to divide them. It is doubtful if the average GI smokes that many, or gets them to smoke.

Probably There's A Backlog In Transit

BUT it should be remembered that these smokes have to travel long sea lanes in competition with other essential supplies and materiel, and then go through a complicated distribution routine, so that there probably is a huge backlog in transit and in process of distribution at all times.

(Editor's Note: You're going great, Mr. Heath, but dispatches from Paris say there aren't any American cigarettes in Europe, either.)

In addition to these service supplies for Americans, lend-lease sent 180,000,000 packs overseas for British fighting men through Sept. 30. This is at the rate of 20 millions a month or 240 millions for the year. And our persevering reporter assumed, in the absence of contrary evidence, that exports for cash, to friendly nations, will be the same this year as last year's 133,518,600 packs.

Now add everything—shipments to our own service people, to Britain under lend-lease, to foreign purchasers for cash. The drain on manufacturers' output would appear to total 3,832,585,000 packs this year.

But the Office of War Information, on the basis of data from the War Foods Administration's tobacco branch and the Bureau of Internal Revenue, says that 4,590,000,000 packs will go abroad this year.

That is 757,415,000 more than the inquiring reporter can account for. Where are they going? Who knows?

It Seems A Few Packs Are Missing

NOW, probably you've been told that more than one-third of our cigarettes are going overseas. OWI is one authority for that statement. OWI says that on the basis of the first seven months' experience, about 16,450,000,000 packs will be produced in 1944 and about 4,590,000,000 of them will be tax-free for overseas shipment.

"These tax-free cigarettes," says OWI, "would represent a percentage in excess of one-third of our total cigaret withdrawals for 1944."

OLIVE BARBER'S OBSERVATIONS

IT WAS TIME FOR LUNCH

It was mighty hard to keep a straight face through it all but I managed, I hope.

A friend of mine is bookkeeper for a certain business firm. I was to call for her at noon and we'd have lunch together. I arrived on time.

Now my friend is a small woman; a sparrow-like woman, high strung, rapid of speech. She's content when they are she becomes sputtering belligerent. Which she did when the owner of the store told her she must postpone her lunch until an absent member of the office force returned.

The proprietor was an elderly, thickest, mild mannered man. There was apprehension in his face and voice when he told her she'd have to wait; an apprehension founded, no doubt, on previous encounters with her. The deference of employee to employer isn't what it used to be. So now my friend, her eyes snapping, little body vibrant with indignation, stuck her sharp featured face as close to the bespectacled one as she could and not rub noses with him, and let loose such a blast of shrill protest I thought the old gentleman might well be blown over.

He tried to retreat but she followed after and further sounded the pibroch. This was always her time off! He'd said so himself! Who did he think he was anyway to push her lunch hour all over the clock! She'd had only coffee and toast for breakfast; her friend had had only coffee and toast for breakfast. Did he want women fainting right there before him from hunger?

At this the man's badgered expression gave way to one of whimsical amusement as he looked at my buxom self. As a prospective fainter from undernourishment I did not alarm him. But the close range verbal barrage went on. It was her lunch hour! She was being put upon! This was a democracy! Look at the clock! Ten minutes late already! All this delivered with machine gun rapidity and in a voice crackling with electricity.

With an outflanking of arms in acknowledged defeat the old gentleman told her for Pete's sake to go to lunch. We did, leaving him wagging his head in weak bewilderment. I could almost hear his thoughts: was he the boss or was she? A man's world? Phooey!

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

By MARIAN LOWRY

SIGMA KAPPA OFFICER VISITS ON WARREN

Mrs. Virgil Warren of Spokane, Wash., province president of Sigma Kappa sorority, is a visitor at the University of Oregon chapter of the sorority.

She was honored at a fire-side given late Wednesday evening by the active chapter and alumnae. A banquet was given earlier the same evening by Eugene alumnae.

Mrs. Warren was to leave the campus here Friday. Her husband, Virgil Warren, is a state senator in the Washington legislature.

ORIDES MOTHERS MEET FOR PARTY

Orides Mothers club was entertained at the home of Miss Janet Smith on Wednesday evening, Mrs. L. E. Calder assisting. Twenty-one attended.

The group voted to give a sum to the memorial Hazel P. Schwerling fund, the money to be used for scholarships for deserving University of Oregon students.

The club decided to change its meetings from the fourth Wednesday afternoon of each month to the fourth Wednesday evening.

RNA EVENT

Getchell club of the Royal Neighbors met for one o'clock dinner Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Lloyd E. Johnson. Mrs. J. P. Kuni received the club prize for the day. Plans were made for a Christmas party to be held December 28 at the home of Mrs. Allie Clarke, when gifts will be exchanged among club members and also between "silent sisters."

BUSINESS WOMEN'S DINNER ON THURSDAY

Fifty-five attended the monthly social and dinner of the Eugene Business and Professional Women's club Thursday evening at the Osburn hotel.

Miss Jacqueline Judd of the Girl Scouts office talked to the group on scout work. Miss Kay Godley sang.

Judge Lawrence T. Harris was guest speaker for the evening, his topic being "Are We Politically Minded?"

Mrs. J. Don Smith from the women's division of the war finance committee was at the meeting to present citations won by the Business Women's club in the fifth war loan drive.

In December the club is to have but one meeting, a formal Christmas party on the evening of December 14.

LUTHERAN DAUGHTERS ELECT NEW OFFICERS

Lutheran Daughters of Central Lutheran church held election of officers at the meeting of the society Thursday evening, at the home of Mrs. Harold Berg. Those chosen were: President, Mrs. Harold Berg; vice president, Mrs. Elmer Johnson; treasurer, Mrs. Emil Johnson; secretary, Mrs. Erwin Johnson; scrapbook chairman, Mrs. Munn T. Berg.

Plans were discussed for the annual Christmas program for Sun-set Home, which will be held Sunday afternoon, Dec. 10. Mrs. Henry Bloch is chairman of this event.

A Christmas party Dec. 14 will be the next meeting, at the home of Mrs. Adolph Potampa on Harlow road.

EXECUTIVE GROUP OF P-TA MEETS

The executive board of the Eugene high school P-TA met Thursday afternoon at the high school.

Plans were made for the P-TA meeting in January.

Mrs. George Graves read the revised by-laws, one of which was to raise the P-TA dues to fifty cents for next year.

The proposed budget was read by Mrs. E. H. Lorence and approved by the board.

Mrs. V. M. Cameron, Red Cross chairman, stressed the need of mothers and high school girls taking the home nursing and nutrition courses offered by the Red Cross. She also described the activities of the Junior Red Cross art class.

Mrs. John Marines gave a report on the P-TA magazine, suggesting that subscriptions might be increased through Christmas gifts.

Mrs. W. S. Love called the attention of the group to two interesting radio programs. One is the Family Life series sponsored by Oregon P-TA over KOAC each Wednesday at two o'clock. Teen-age subjects will be discussed beginning in January over this station.

C.L. AID

Central Lutheran Ladies Aid society made plans for holding a smorgasbord at the church on Friday, Dec. 15, when it met at the church parlors Thursday afternoon with Mrs. Fritz Larson as hostess. The group voted to send money to a children's home in Everett, Wash., and to a seamen's mission in Seattle. Plans also were made for holding a rummage sale Jan. 6.

The next meeting of the society will be Dec. 14, the day before the smorgasbord event, a no-hostess session at the church.

AUXILIARY EVENT

Auxiliary to the railway conductors will meet for covered-dish dinner at the Knights of Pythias hall, Sunday evening at six o'clock. Mrs. H. A. West, Mrs. A. B. Wilson and Mrs. E. A. Wood in charge. A business meeting will follow.

I saw a lad slap a big, ugly-snouted projectile affectionately and say, "On your way, baby, and give the slant-eyes pappy's regards."

I went topside as the cease firing order was given and the task force wheeled back to sea.

Astern over the towering wave crests, the fires in the shell-rocked Matsuwa garrison were burning brightly. It was a beautiful sight.

Portland To Open 'Stage Door Canteen'

PORTLAND—(AP)—Sponsored by night club owners here, Portland's "stage door canteen" for service people will open next Sunday afternoon.

Members of the armed forces will be given free food and entertained by acts from the night club shows. The canteen will be open every Sunday.

Gov. Earl Snell has accepted an invitation to attend the opening.

ENVOY NOMINATED

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1—(AP)—Alexander C. Kirk of Illinois was nominated by President Roosevelt today to be American ambassador to Italy.

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Snell To Aid Move For Milk Legislation

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 1—(AP)—

Gov. Earl Snell will lend his support to the movement for improvement of the sanitary standards in Oregon's dairy industry he said today. Specific recommendations, he said, will await a conference with his director of agriculture,

E. L. Peterson, now in the state's association and the Oregon Dairymen's association are sponsoring legislation requiring compulsory pasteurization of dairy products including milk, cheese and ice cream, in an effort to combat undulant fever which is said to be highly prevalent throughout the nation.

MILLER'S

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