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The Eugene Register-Guard 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.

LANE COUNTY'S JUVENILE PROBLEM

Indicative of the wide demand for betterment of Lane county's handling of juvenile problems are the resolutions of Rotary and other service groups which have joined the P-T-A's, the Youth Council and organizations primarily interested in child welfare in support of "the court bills." Breaking over their ordinary rules against taking any part in "political issues," they have held that matters which concern child welfare are not really "political."

However, there still are some who ask:

"How will the transfer of probate and juvenile functions from the county court to the circuit court, and the creation of an additional judge for Lane county improve our situation? Don't we really need an adequate staff of trained probation officers and suitable facilities for detention and examination and follow-up where delinquency occurs?"

Lane county does need those improvements, and even if the legislature authorizes this additional judge, it will still be up to Lane county in its next budget to provide adequate staff and facilities for the new court. Those things, we believe, will follow quickly, if this new court is established.

In the opinion of the group of Lane county lawyers which drew the court bills, the elevation of this important branch of court work to CIRCUIT COURT LEVEL is an INDISPENSABLE first step toward these other improvements because:

1. Your county judge, who is a layman and primarily an administrative officer is SWAMPED with probate and juvenile duties. Any county judge would be.
2. Although juvenile courts are always friendly and informal, it is still vital that procedures follow rules of evidence so that findings rest on law.
3. Consolidation of divorces and all matters affecting children under one jurisdiction is exceedingly important.
4. Much depends on the character of the man who becomes judge, but with the dignity of the full-fledged court (and proper public diligence) there should be new direction and purpose and LEADERSHIP IN THESE MATTERS.

Marion, Klamath and Clackamas counties as well as Multnomah have all benefited by bringing these problems to CIRCUIT COURT LEVEL. Lane county which now has more population than Marion is the last of the larger and industrialized counties which is still struggling to handle these problems in the county court.

Records do not prove everything, but perhaps these facts may signify:

In the last biennium (to July 1) Lane county had 49 boys at Woodburn; Marion county only 28; at the moment we have 5 in Woodburn and 28 on parole. In Woodburn's normal population of 120, Lane is a very heavy factor. In the last year we have had 11 girls in and out of Hillcrest which has a normal of 70. In the last five weeks we have sent five boys under 18 to the pen. We have 98 insanity hearings a year, committed 78 last year, have 143 Lane people in the state hospital.

Lane county is one of the big items in operating cost at all state institutions. Wardens and superintendents all say they hope Lane county can improve its methods and reduce its contribution.

When these bills come up for hearing Thursday afternoon at Salem, our spokesmen cannot say that the creation of this additional judgeship will guarantee state savings to offset the \$6,000 salary of an added judge. They can say that Lane county is moving to do its share, that in moving to put this work at circuit court level, we are trying to get a sound judicial foundation on which the county can build with its own money, and intelligent public support, a proper department.

County Judge Clinton Hurd has led in urging constructive change; Circuit Judge G. F. Skipworth and his associates in the 2nd District have given their assent, stipulating only that the excellent district setup shall not be changed; some of the best lawyers at our bar have prepared the bills, and throughout the community there is a surge of demand that this new program be given at least "a try."

PROBLEM OF DENTAL EDUCATION

For several years the trustees of North Pacific Dental College, at Portland, a private professional school, have been trying to get the state to take over their institution and make it a department under the University of Oregon Medical School. At the present legislature they are offering the property as a gift, free of the debts which were an obstacle in other years, stipulating only that the school shall be operated in its present buildings on the east side of Portland (6th and Pacific) for five years, after which the property might be sold and the proceeds devoted to a new dental school in another location.

Chancellor Hunter, presumably speaking for the state board and for the Medical School faculty has not been cordial to the gift. He argues that the state would have to reduce fees and put in some \$300,000 for

the biennium to improve faculty and equipment, and that this money cannot be found now without crippling other departments of higher education. Oregon dentists generally, and the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association seem to think the state is not only spurning a generous offer but neglecting a very important branch of education.

It is difficult for John Citizen to form a sound opinion when experts differ, we think these facts need more attention than they have been getting:

1. Dental education is important, definitely.
2. It will be very bad for the public if it is neglected, or if this argument drifts to the point where it is not possible for men and women who want to be dentists to get first class training in this area.
3. If dental students are now "taking a beating" in the sense that they pay very high fees for courses which need university backing to hold national rating, then it is time for the state board to do something.

Laymen are not unaware that the fact that the dental profession has suffered somewhat from the fact that the medical profession everywhere has been inclined to "look down its nose" at dentistry. Nevertheless dentistry has achieved an important place not only in public service but in the healing arts and in the growing "science of public health."

Since 1898 North Pacific has done a job and held high rating, but the men who made it are getting old and times have changed, and if dental education for this state is the main issue (as it seems to be) then it should be taken over as part of the job of Oregon higher education, without too much quibbling.

The value and utility of the plant are not essential details. If it is going to cost the state some additional money to take over this function, then maybe this is one place where added expense is justified. The matter can hardly be shrugged off either by the legislature or by the high priests of Oregon higher education.

If you're interested, a toy manufacturer says the jumping rope is still No. 1 favorite with little girls. If you're not interested, skip it!

Sugar has again disappeared from some restaurant tables. XXXX marks the spot where they've cut down.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PETER EDSON
Register-Guard Washington Correspondent

A DEFINITE ECONOMIC POLICY
WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 6.—Piecing together steps that have already been taken by the Roosevelt administration in the fields of post-war international planning, it is possible to set down what amounts to a rather definite, American-foreign economic policy. And though the American political foreign policy of the administration may at times be regarded as a bit obscure on certain specific wartime issues, this economic policy can be boiled down to a six-point program that shapes up about like this:

One—Stabilize foreign exchange through the operation of the international monetary fund proposed at Bretton Woods.

Two—Facilitate the free flow of world capital for investment through the International Bank for reconstruction and development, likewise proposed at Bretton Woods. This would be supplemented by enlarging the activities of the export-import bank, now completing its 10th year of successful operation.

Three—Remove government barriers to the free flow of trade. This would be sought through the extension of Cordell Hull's pet reciprocal trade agreements program via the reduction of import tariffs, through progressive elimination of export embargos and quotas.

Four—Remove private barriers to the free flow of trade. This is specifically the anti-cartel policy, dear to the administration's heart for so long a time. It involves restrictions on any agreement between private business interests which tend to make any commodity less plentiful and higher priced than it would be otherwise.

Five—Put a floor under mass purchasing power, so as to increase the consumption of goods as a stimulus to trade. Unlimited competition as encouraged in the first four points of this program would lead to ruinous price-cutting and reduced standards of living throughout the world. The approach to offsetting this trend would be made through the international labor office, a 25-year-old holdover from the League of Nations, which through international agreement seeks to raise the standards of wages, working conditions, health and social security.

Six—Make commodity agreements with other governments to reduce the production of those raw materials which are in chronic surplus. This would apply particularly to the so-called "monoculture" countries—those whose economy depends to such a large extent upon one product—sugar in Cuba, coffee in Brazil, rubber in the Netherlands East Indies, etc. The effort would be made to shift these countries to the production of other commodities in shorter supply. It would be done through individual commodity agreement such as the petroleum and rubber agreements now in the process of negotiation or ratification, and through the international food and agriculture organization set up at Hot Springs.

There is nothing particularly new about any one of these half-dozen points. Each has been developing gradually over the past two years or more. But taken together they present a complete American-foreign economic policy, its various parts dovetailing to make one piece. Assistant Secretary of State Dean Acheson presented a general round-up of this program in his testimony before Congressman William M. Colmer's house post-war planning committee, but Acheson has now been shifted to other duties and the whole field of economic policy has been dumped into the lap of the new Assistant Secretary of State Will Clayton.

Most new dealers are now reconciled to Clayton. They are glad he isn't handling labor problems, but on international trade development, they think he will be hot stuff. It is noteworthy that there is a specific organization already proposed or actually set up to deal with all but the 3rd and 4th program outlined above. These might be left to the economic and social council in the United Nations organization proposed at Dumbarton Oaks.

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

By MARIAN LOWRY

GROUP'S LUNCHEON PLANNED ON FRIDAY

The monthly luncheon and meeting for the Council of Women's Organizations will be held Friday noon of this week at the Eugene hotel.

This group is made up of the president, or vice-president, or immediate past president of each women's organization joining the group.

Mrs. C. A. Huntington, president of Zonta club, is to give the talk this time, discussing some of the service work of the Zontians. Mrs. J. F. White is president of the council group.

ZONTA CLUB SPONSORS GIRL SCOUTS TROOP

Zonta club held its semi-monthly meeting Tuesday evening, Osburn hotel.

The group voted to sponsor Girl Scout troop No. 30. Some time ago the Zontians voted to sponsor a troop and at the Tuesday meeting decided to assist the work of troop No. 30. Mrs. Dorothy Metzger is chairman of the scout committee, and at the Tuesday session, Mrs. C. C. Carter was named co-chairman with her for the work.

Initiation was held at the Tuesday meeting for Mrs. Georgia Hawkins.

Next meeting for the club comes February 21 as a dessert and program at the Eugene hotel. The program will be on Great Britain. This will be a guest night event, too. Russell D. Evans heads the committee in charge and working with her are Dr. Margaret Tingle, Mrs. Frank Willis, and Mrs. Robert M. Fischer, Jr.

At the Tuesday meeting announcement was made the regular spring conference for the Oregon and Washington Zonta clubs has been cancelled as has the Zonta International's convention because of the directive from the office of defense transportation.

TWO HOSTESSES TO ALUMNAE GROUP

Mrs. Philip Semler was hostess to the Alpha Xi Delta Alumnae club at her home Monday evening. Mrs. C. E. Aldridge was co-hostess. A Valentine's day motif was carried out in the table decorations for the desert which was served by candle light.

A short business meeting followed the desert. Plans were made for service projects for the spring, including U.S.O. and hospital scrap books and a magazine drive for the children at Doernbecher hospital in Portland.

Those attending the meeting were Miss Ella Carrick, Mrs. Frances S. Newman, Mrs. Philip Semler, Mrs. Hazel Archibald, Mrs. C. H. Shaffer, Mrs. W. J. Gilmore, and Mrs. C. E. Aldridge.

ALUMNAE MEET

Alpha Delta Phi alumnae met Monday evening at the home of Mrs. George Webb.

Attending were Miss Vera Lamb, Mrs. Jerome Hooker, Mrs. W. A. Moore, Mrs. V. C. May, Mrs. Marshall Mendenhall, Mrs. Floyd Westerfield, Miss Dorothy Rowland, Mrs. Jess Hayden, Mrs. Douglas Kapsa, Miss Marie Ridings, Mrs. Richard Knight, Mrs. Robert Moody, and the hostess.

CITY CLUB GROUPS

Several activities are reported for the Women's City club and its different study groups.

The executive board met Sunday for luncheon at the home of Mrs. A. F. Holmer with Mrs. A. M. Lovett assisting. The group reported netting \$60.22 from the rummage sale.

The painting group met last

week at the home of Mrs. Harry M. Lichty, fourteen attending and one new member announced, Mrs. Truman Willis.

The book section met with Mrs. H. B. Houser, eighteen attending. Miss Jeanette Whitty was announced as a new member.

The discussion group of the club meets this Thursday, two-thirty o'clock, home of Mrs. J. E. Richmond, Prof. W. B. Merriam of the university to speak on carrels and free enterprise. All interested are invited to attend.

PROGRAM PLANNED

For the meeting of Mu Phi Epsilon alumnae, Thursday evening, seven-thirty o'clock, Gerlinger hall, a program is to be given. Mrs. Willis B. Merriam will sing and Mrs. Donald Alliton is to play the violin. Mrs. Rex Underwood and Mrs. Robert Wilson are to be accompanists.

N. O. W. MEETING

Neighbors of Woodcraft will meet Thursday evening at eight o'clock at the Knights of Pythias hall, holding nomination of officers. Mrs. B. J. Gillespie is chairman of the refreshment committee.

ALPHA CIRCLE

Mrs. Frank Harlow presented the White Cross program at the meeting of Alpha Circle of First Baptist church Tuesday afternoon, in the church parlors. Twenty-four members were in attendance.

Mrs. Floyd Travis led the singing for the day, and also sang a solo. Mrs. Lou M. Pope, who with Mrs. T. E. Smith served as hostess, presented the gift box program. Mrs. W. I. King led devotions.

AID EVENT

Mrs. Regina Christofferson will be the hostess for the Ladies' Aid society of Central Lutheran church which meets Thursday afternoon at two o'clock, at her home, 1656 Eleventh Avenue west.

Freed Civilians Pledged Speedy Repatriation

SANTO TOMAS INTERNMENT CAMP, MANILA.—(AP)—Speedy repatriation for all of the thousands of freed civilian internees who wish it is being arranged by American officials within this jubilant camp while gunfire is still ringing in Manila and artillery bursts sail over the campus.

Army rations are being distributed in this camp and to other freed civilians. Medical supplies are available for the first attempt to build up the run-down health of the 3,700 Santo Tomas internees.

Col. Howard Smith of the army medical corps has taken over hospitalization. Col. T. W. Grimm, an old time Manila and new camp commandant, is assisted by Lt. Col. Charles Smith, another long-time Philippines resident who escaped capture.

Food is being given sparingly at first as a health precaution for people whose stomachs shrank on protracted hand-out-size Japanese rations.

Menus will be built up gradually until persons who almost lost their taste for American food are receiving regular army fare.

Beginning of rehabilitation for Santo Tomas' internees was not hampered by the continuing spasmodic battle in Manila, where scattered fires and numerous demolitions erupted during the night.

Santo Tomas internees included approximately 2,780 Americans, 745 British, 100 Australians, 60 Canadians, and 50 Hollanders. The remainder were an assortment of other nationalities.

The handiwork of Santo Tomas internees, who made their camp the best in Asia by handling most of their own affairs including the purchase of food with their own funds, still remains, but the past year has been one of progressive increasing hardships. The Japanese army took over the camp from the Japanese civilians in February, 1943 and immediately established severe restrictions which led to starvation of some internees and a number of deaths from malnutrition and beri-beri.

Dr. Told Stevenson, New York, a Presbyterian missionary who became the camp doctor, was jailed by the Japanese two months ago because he refused to alter a death certificate stating that malnutrition caused recent deaths. The Japanese claimed this reflected discredit on the army. He has since been released.

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Plans Made To Draft New Veterans' Bill

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 7.—(AP)—After a hearing on the type of state veterans administration to be enacted by the legislature, representatives of veterans' organizations today had decided to "get together" on drafting of a piece of legislation which would be acceptable to all of them.

Chairman Harvey Wells, of the house military affairs committee, told veterans representatives at a public hearing today that the bill now under consideration (HB271) was only to "get the ball rolling."

"If you don't tell us what you want, how can we get it done for you?" he asked them, and referred to the criticism both for and against the measure he had received.

The bill, which calls for the appointment of a \$5,000-a-year director of veterans affairs, was objected to by Pete Fredrickson, state commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, largely because of the centralized authority, and because he said it would create a duplication of effort.

Officers of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Disabled American Veterans agreed to cooperate in drafting a new piece of legislation.

German Government Shakeup Plan Reported

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 7.—(AP)—The Stockholm newspaper Aftonbladet said today it believed that a reorganization of the German government under which Hitler would give up the title of fuhrer to become the relation's president, with Franz von Papen as chancellor, was imminent.

The report had the earmarks of a German trial balloon designed to sound out allied reaction to whether such a revamped government would have any chance of suing for armistice terms.

Fred Waring, Ozzie Nelson, Kay Kyser and Ted Weems, popular orchestra leaders, were Boy Scouts.

GUILD MEETING

Mrs. David Campbell spoke to members of the United Lutheran guild Tuesday afternoon, of her experiences in China and India, where she lived for many years and worked as a teacher and missionary. Devotions were led by Rev. J. L. Sawyer.

Committees for the year were announced, with the following named as chairmen: Program, Mrs. John Gragg; sewing, Mrs. Frank S. Beiste; projects, Mrs. Erwin Juif; church dinners, Mrs. Gus Helkison; hospitality, Mrs. Paul Snook. For the next meeting, a luncheon at the church, Mrs. J. L. Sawyer and Mrs. Gil Nordling are to be hostesses.

SANTA CLARA CLUB REPORTS MEETING

Santa Clara Women's club met last Friday at the home of Mrs. Roy Overgaard with Mrs. Anton Reinhold as assistant hostess.

Mrs. M. K. Emmons reported visiting the Children's Farm Home at Corvallis. A wool quilt is to be made as one of the gifts for the home shower which will be held later. Members also were reminded of the Alice Marie home shower to be held in April. Mrs. E. C. Hart gave out the usual Red Cross sewing which members do at home.

Mrs. C. P. Hart, who was one of eight members attending the January Federated club meeting at the River Road clubhouse, gave a report.

The next meeting of the club will be held March 2.

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