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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.

SIDELIGHTS FROM WASHINGTON
 From time to time we have regaled the readers with some of the shrewd comments of that former Eugenean, now retired from a long and useful career, who is now "on the sidelines" in Washington, D. C. A recent letter bears these observations which may explain some of the weird manifestations in Congress:

"Unlike Senator Capper, who is 80, I don't believe I am as good as I ever was. Senator Hart said yesterday, to the anger of a number of his colleagues with ages as high as 88, that the senators bring declining physical powers. Hart is 88, and gave that as a reason for not trying for another term. With his seafaring blindness, he said there are men of 'too advanced age' in the Senate. Capper happens to be very feeble, and looks it. But with his own correspondents in Washington writing back to his Kansas papers, he loses nothing in build-up. All a smart reporter has to do is to frame up an interview showing his keen and intelligent interest in the events of the hour and get his OK on it. Hart of course was elected after his retirement from the navy. Of course, the real menace of the old men in Congress is not their age but the absurd seniority rule, which is supported by both parties. Being re-elected comes especially easy in the poll-tax States. There is McKellar as President of the Senate—a small-minded spoilsman who truckles to Boss Crump but makes amends for his servility by abusing and insulting every civil service employee who appears as a witness in a committee hearing. Truman, however, has bought him off by inviting him to sit in at cabinet meetings. The key to McKellar is the Money Law. He is the representative of monkey-law mentalities. Yet he owes his present job to GOP help by Taff."

"And then our distinguished friend has some remarks about 'the pride of Eugene,' the Hon. Senator Wayne L. Morse:

"If you would ask me offhand who Wayne Morse's colleague from Oregon is, I couldn't tell you, for his name is never in the papers. Morse gets in, all the time. Yet Morse is an entirely different class, for instance, from Johnson of Colorado. Morse's criticisms are penetrating, and his comments are at least intelligent. Johnson is just a publicity hound who will say anything to get his name in the papers, and he gets boosts from political writers in payment for tip-offs. He is essentially a coarse-grained, thick-skinned fellow, with plenty of mental energy but of mediocre quality."

"I forgot to say, an editorial writer on the Wash. Post made inquiries about Morse for me, and says Morse is steadily gaining in authority and influence on the Hill. He is regarded as spokesman for Stassen. He must have some quality other than ability as a legislator to win such leadership."

"These conclusions have some local bearing."

"It seems to me that Eugene's growth during the war was too fast to be healthy. There is such a chance of real-estate boosters with publicity men causing the kind of boom that has made Southern California a mess. Soon, the lumbermen will be dismantling mills in Oregon, with the world's last stand of timber gone. Development is one thing, and exploitation another, as I have seen in California. So I hope that the Oregonians will keep their cool over these newcomers."

"There seems to be a curious mixture of confidence and uncertainty in the air. The uncertainty is not all political, by any means. Investors fear the overruns by industrial science. For instance, synthetics have the cotton growers badly worried. People who thought splitting the atom, a few years ago, was only a piece of monkey business to amuse scientific theorists, now think it may at any time knock the gas motor, and the electric power, oil and coal industries out of business. Plastics are replacing historic materials. The preachers don't know it yet, but when the atomic bomb turned solid matter into energy, it hit some theological concepts. Perhaps because we have been so fortunately placed during the war, we seem much more excited over labor and the international situation than the countries that were hard hit, so returning Americans say, Europe is working hard to rebuild, and has too much trouble keeping warm and getting enough to eat to let its worries wander afar."

"Our venerable friend sees many things that seem to elude some of the astute Washington correspondents. Somehow we always find his comments reassuring. For a man who has been in and out of Washington for half a century he is singularly unperturbed. And most of his quips have a certain relish."

"Silly syllogism: (1) The man who can smile is the man that's worth while; (2) several people are still smiling; (3) that proves something."

"We're beginning to wonder—are we swinging into a new era or a new error?"

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WASHINGTON LETTER
 BY PETER EDSON
 Register-Guard Washington Correspondent

THE DOG HAS BAD NAMES
 WASHINGTON, Jan. 29.—Unthinking political opposition to the State Department's proposals for peace-time international information and cultural relations programs is already beginning to pile up. Main trouble is that the pup has inherited several bad names. "Cultural relations" sounds too lap-dogish to suit some who don't know what it means. Furthermore, the Office of International Information and Cultural Relations—called OIC for short—has in its pedigree such sires as OWI—the Office of War Information, OSS—the Office of Strategic Office of Inter-American Affairs. To many sensitives, and OIAA, or Nelson Rockefeller's old time noses, these old dogs of war smell only of propaganda, cloak-and-dagger and spy stuff. Therefore their whelp gets kicked around.

The job handed to William Benton, the still comparatively new assistant Secretary of State in charge of Public Affairs, has been to wean OIC, wash it, brush it, teach it good manners and raise it up fit to bring into the house. At their peaks, OWI had about 10,000 employees, OSS had 2500 and Rockefeller had 1200—a total of 13,700.

To take their place, Benton is proposing an organization of 2000. Less than 600 would be stationed abroad, from four to 200 information officers being assigned to each of 62 principal embassies and consular offices, with part-time work going on in 22 more. About 900 would be necessary to keep the radio programs going, 500 would be on temporary duty with the occupation forces in Japan and Germany, perhaps 100 could supervise the cultural relations program, and another 500 would be needed to prepare and edit publications and information programs in Washington.

Can't Estimate Cost of Program
 In addition to these would be some four or five hundred analysts in NIA, the proposed National Intelligence Authority now being organized from OSS remains by Col. Alfred McCormack. Contrary to common belief, NIA isn't going to do any spy work itself. The cloak-and-dagger activities have been transferred to the War Department. All USA will do is analyze the intelligence obtained by others—Army's G-2, Navy's ONI, FBI, and Commerce and State Department Foreign Service Offices.

Colonel McCormack has estimated that the intelligence end of the business may cost six million dollars a year. But no one can estimate what the information and cultural relations programs in OIC will cost, till Congress gets through with it. For the first six months of this year, OIC will operate on a budget of about 13 million dollars.

They justify this expenditure by the now familiar device of comparing it to war costs. **Conflict With Private Agencies Denied**
 One of the stock arguments against this government information stuff is that the job can be done by private news, radio and movie business. Benton insists this isn't so. All he's trying to do is set up a service that will fill in the gaps of service private enterprise can't afford to furnish, and go where private agencies don't reach.

To take the "cultural relations" name curse off the program, new legislation has been introduced in Congress by Chairman Sol Bloom of the House Foreign Affairs committee. He calls it "An Act for the International Interchange of Persons, Knowledge and Skills." That long-winded title may be worse than culture, but it's the best name they have now for this most important job.

It involves sending U. S. technical experts in farming, engineering, health or what-have-you to foreign countries and bringing foreign students to the United States for specialized training. Some 10,000 of these exchange students are expected this year, perhaps 20,000 in 1947. Incidentally, these students pay their own way. Learning how to build dams or autos, how to dip sheep or kill off mosquitoes all come under the heading of this much abused "cultural" relations.

READER EDITORIAL
GIVE THE LADS A HAND

EUGENE—(To the Editor)—Unlike our mutual friend Otto Gilstrap, I have never written to you before, but at this time the urge is very definite. Mr. Editor, why don't you at this time lay down your political pen, or current clouds over Europe pen, or whatever one you are at this time using, and tell the good people of Eugene what a wonderful town they are living in.

As you no doubt know our local Active Club is having an Ice Show and Hockey match this week for the Polio Fund. As one of the workers I have had charge of the "Lending Citizens' Race." This thing started out more or less as a gag and has grown to such a proportion that it is time it was recognized for what it is. This thing was supposed to hit the funny bone but I now find it hitting closer to a much more vital organ—namely the heart.

Sure it is still fun but, when a group of lending citizens, and you note no quotes this time, lay \$162 on the line to see other lending citizens down ice skates for the first time in 20 or 30 years and these same skaters—? are willing to appear, it does do your heart good to find such co-operation ready to back up a swell cause like the Polio Fund.

This kind of a thing could only happen in the good old U. S. A. Where else could the ordinary citizen call upon the Mayor, or the City Manager to race their man? Where else would a county group of employees get together a donation to race the Sheriff, and where else would a group of Business and Professional women even dare to race the Editor of Register-Guard, and where else would a guy walk up to the writer, hand him \$20 and say, "I want to give this to the crippled children if Joe Gordon will race all these other guys?"

Yes, this is the kind of thing that makes other countries think we are nuts, but when the squeeze is on we always come through and have a good time doing it.

Eugene should be proud of this little bit of horse-play. Crippled kids will be helped, the audience will be helped, and the participants will probably have to be helped—home.

You are at liberty to print this letter in the paper if you wish but the main reason I wrote it was to move you to acknowledge the fine work of the citizens' effort. As long as this spirit remains here there is nothing that cannot be done along any line of endeavor which will benefit our town.

ART CAMPBELL,
 Chairman, Active Club Polio Benefit.

hibition will be given by Jerry Proctor and Betty Brown, as part of the program, and a movie, "Tomorrow," dealing with activities and problems of a teacher, will be shown.

All patrons of Woodrow Wilson and Collin Kelly schools are invited to attend the meeting. Mothers of the eighth grade pupils will serve as hostesses.

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS
 By ANN CONNELL

VALENTINE MOTIF FOLLOWED AT DINNER

Red hearts and cut-outs of cupid decks the banquet table for the meeting of the Eugene Business and Professional Women's club Friday evening, held at the Osburn hotel. Potted plants and candles were added decoration, and valentine place-mats marked each place.

E. A. Britton, Lane county juvenile adviser, discussed the new juvenile setup in the county, by which delinquent minors come under the circuit court. He cited several cases and described their disposition and stressed the need of a detention home for juveniles. Open discussion followed his talk.

A trio from the club, Mrs. E. C. Hall, Miss Ella Carrick and Mrs. Lucile Lawson, sang two numbers, "I Dream of Jeanie" and "Down the Open Road."

Miss Clair Rhea Hines was chairman of the committee in charge of the dinner and program. Miss Evelyn Raymond, club president, conducted the introductory meeting.

MUSIC GROUP TO MEET; DRAMA GROUP TELLS PLANS

Music section of the City club will meet Tuesday evening at seven-thirty o'clock at the home of Mrs. Nellie Griswold, 468 Tenth Avenue west. Mrs. Patricia Edwards will have charge of the program on South American music, and Mrs. Fred Gatchell and Mrs. Clara Schofield will be hostesses. Any Eugene woman interested may attend.

The poetry and drama group met Saturday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Mary B. Wheeler with Mrs. Ralph Crow assisting. Mrs. Nellie Griswold reviewed the life of Percy Bysshe Shelley, and his poems were given by Mrs. Elizabeth Page and Mrs. Crow.

Next meeting of the group will be Feb. 28, when Mrs. Crow will review the poem, "John Brown's Body" by Stephen Vincent Benet. Hostesses will be Mrs. Page, Mrs. Herbert Smeed and Mrs. Dan Wynn.

For the benefit of the club-house fund, the group will hold an auction sale of white elephant goods. Auctioneer will be Mrs. George P. Winchell and Mrs. H. E. Cully. Clerks will be Mrs. H. L. Hansen and Miss M. Ethel Taylor. Members are asked to mark this date and to invite their friends to attend.

MISS NANCY BELTZ PLAYS WITH ORCHESTRA

COLUMBIA, Mo.—Miss Nancy Naomi Beltz, Eugene, is a member of the Burrall Symphony orchestra at Stephens college, Columbia, Mo. Under the baton of Edward Murphy, the orchestra presents a winter concert series and also plays at the weekly meeting of the Burrall Bible class, the largest young peoples class of its kind in the world.

Miss Beltz, who plays the violin, participated in two concerts last week at the Stephens College auditorium featuring Harry Farberman, violinist, guest artist. Percy Grainger and Raya Garbousova appeared with the orchestra earlier in the season. Future guest stars will include Hugh Thompson, baritone, Basil D. Gauntlett, pianist, William Primrose, violinist, and Annette Burford and Genn Greenwell, renowned stars of the opera.

The Eugene girl is a junior student and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick A. Beltz, 1893 Alder street.

SIGMA KAPPA HONOR NINE NEW MEMBERS

Twenty-six alumna and active members of Sigma Kappa sorority attended a smorgasbord held Sunday evening at the home of Mrs. Tom Kaarhus, honoring new members of the active chapter. The guests of honor were Misses Jeannette Larson, Arline Johnson, Elsie Bennett, Patricia Mathieson, Barbara Wells, Maryellen Wright, Patricia Nordgren, Muriel Spear and Velma Harms.

Special guests for the evening were Mrs. F. E. Smith, house-mother; Miss Bernice Granguist, president of the actives, and Miss Marjorie Johnson, resident councilor.

The alumnae present were: Mrs. A. Lomax, Mrs. Milo Marlatt, Mrs. Kenneth Drew, Mrs. Fred Miller, Mrs. Roy Sanborn, Mrs. G. J. Johnson, Mrs. Pat Fury, Mrs. T. Metzger, Mrs. T. Robinson, Mrs. B. Slattery, Miss Pauline Conradt and Mrs. Kaarhus.

FIVE GUEST ATTEND ALPHA IOTA MEETING

Guests of Alpha Iota alumnae at a meeting held Monday evening at the home of Miss Audrey Llewellyn were Mrs. William Stewart, Miss Gloria Fandrem, Miss Marian Busick, Miss Ann Wilkins and Mrs. Leone Grant. The evening was spent at card games, with awards for high scores.

A business meeting will be held February 11, it is announced.



Mrs. Houghton

EUGENE WOMAN FLIES TO CENTRAL AMERICA

Mrs. Jessie M. Houghton, 1669 Thirteenth Avenue east, well-known Eugene woman and recently teacher in the Crow school, left Sunday afternoon on a 5000-mile plane flight to Guatemala in Central America. She will be away for several months, and will visit at the home of her son, Capt. Orest I. Houghton, at Guatemala City.

It is Mrs. Houghton's first trip in an airplane, and she admitted to being "both fearful and thrilled, but more thrilled than afraid."

AAUW BOOK GROUP TO HEAR BOOK REVIEW

The evening book group of the Eugene branch of American Association of University Women will meet at the home of Miss Bertha Comings, 968 Hilyard street, Wednesday evening, at seven-forty-five o'clock. Mrs. Carl Webb will give a review of the book, "These are the Russians," by Lauterbach.

SON IS BORN

A son, John Leslie Thomas, was born Monday, January 28, to Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd C. Thomas at Sacred Heart hospital. The baby is the third grandchild of Mr. and Mrs. Marvin T. Warlick, as Mrs. Thomas is the former Jane Warlick.



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ALTAR SOCIETY TO ELECT OFFICERS

St. Mary's Catholic Altar society will hold its general meeting Wednesday at St. Joseph's hall, the first division serving as the hostess group. Chairman of the committee is Mrs. John Rissberger, and she will be assisted by Mrs. Carl Shirey and Mrs. John Cordell.

Nomination and election of officers is slated for the business meeting.

MEETING THURSDAY

Illahee Division, auxiliary to the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, will meet Thursday afternoon at twelve-thirty o'clock at the home of Mrs. O. P. Troxel. Mrs. B. F. Ryan will be co-hostess. After the luncheon, members will play cards and sew.

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