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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.

AND ON THE OTHER HAND—

Lo the poor banker! He is not much like "the poor Indian" of whom Alexander Pope wrote, because the banker does not have an "untutored mind" nor is it likely that he:

"Sees God in clouds or hears him in the wind . . ."

The banker is inclined to be "earthy," and that leads to complaints such as the one we have received from a lady in Springfield. Her husband, eager to help relieve the housing shortage, built a house (after innumerable delays and difficulties). Along came a GI who wanted the house very much and was not inclined to quibble. So:

"The final blow. A trip to the bank with the anxious GI. Introductions all around, discussion. Then the banker looks the GI in the eye and says, 'Now really, you don't think you want to go that steep for a home, do you? . . . etc."

The GI didn't get the loan. The owner did not make the sale. It was no deal, not even with generous government underwriting under the GI bill. And the lady concludes:

"So, the government thought they were able to trust the GI's with guns, sent them overseas. Here they come back. They can't be trusted to work hard enough to have a home that will be theirs after a period of years. The bank is full of money . . . people's money . . . they trust the banks. It's a game, a vicious circle. They're laughing at us little people . . . we're holding the bag right along with the boys . . ."

Ordinarily we do not waste sympathy on bankers. Sometimes, we too have wondered "which is the glass eye." But there is something to be said for the bankers, and for a certain amount of CAUTION in the spiraling real estate boom which has hit this area. To GI's or anybody else we would state this warning:

"A collapse of real estate values in this area is almost certain to happen."

Nobody, unless he is a rich man with surplus cash, can afford to pay $10,000 for a $5,000 value. Even the man who can and does pay cash in full at inflated prices must expect to take a substantial loss when prices recede. Maybe they will not recede to prewar levels in this area, but they are almost certain to take a big drop from present levels.

For the man who has to BORROW all or even a substantial part of his investment in the overpriced article, it can be a disaster—even though Uncle Sam may be standing good half the loss. Let's suppose a case:

"GI Joe is home again with wife and kids, needs a decent home. Hasn't any savings, but he has a good job—say $60 a week (better than average). Finds 'a bargain' at $6,500. Payments will run just about $65 a month for interest and principal for 10 years and the budgeteers tell you a family should pay about one fourth of its income for housing. Swell!

"But about two, three years hence, Joe has a long layoff, or an illness or any of the troubles that come. Can't meet his payments. Can't get more than two-thirds the 'original value' of his house. The mortgage is foreclosed. Uncle Sam and Joe both take a beating."

And that brings us back to the hard-eyed banker! After all, as our Springfield friend says, it is PEOPLE'S MONEY in these banks. The banker has to keep that in mind, all the time. One of the big factors in the last great depression was "frozen real estate loans." Even with government "guarantee of bank deposits" under FDIC, even with government offering to absorb half the loss on GI home loans, it is prudent to avoid loans which may become frozen—because that is our money, people's money.

Till yesterday when a new regulation was issued a bank could not loan more than 60 per cent of appraised value on a home. Now a bank may make a veteran home loan up to 80 per cent, same as a home loan company. In any case there is the presupposition that the home buyer or builder has at least 20 per cent of the price in his own cash.

"Should appraisals for home loan purposes be hiked up to cover inflation prices?"

What do you think? It's PUBLIC MONEY! Is it not much better for the community for its banks and loan companies to be reasonably conservative, looking a few years ahead to what can and probably will happen to values? Is it not wise for them to be considering as they study each loan application:

"Is this applicant a good steady character? Is he in a line of work where he will be reasonably stable? Is he in an occupation where wages are high but employment irregular? Is he 'biting off more than he can chew'?"

Perhaps symathy is too much to expect in those glassy banker eyes, but sometimes it is a great blessing to be unable to borrow. Credit as well as cash can be saved. The GI who holes up even in a trailer house till he gets a little cash of his own to use with Uncle Sam's loans is likely to deserve the title "smart fellow" a few years hence when more impetuous comrades are fighting to pay off "impossible loans."

A great many home loans have been and are being made daily, to GI's and others, by banks and home loan companies. Those are mostly cases where the borrower has some cash of his own, or where he has hunted up a piece of property that seems to have a future. Don't get the idea that we are knocking all real estate business or the old home town.

But there is "a boom on." For a fellow with little or no cash of his own it's like trying to crash a table stakes poker game with ten cents. GI's will know what we mean.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PETER EDSON
Register-Guard Washington Correspondent

THAT'S WHERE THE MONEY GOES

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8 — (NEA) — Economy-minded people in Washington are expressing considerable concern over a vague item in the President's budget message. It is an estimate of $1,500,000,000 for Expenditures based on proposed legislation."

While the Bureau of the Budget has given no breakdown, a number of items calling for increased expenditures are outlined in the President's message.

They include the increased health and medical care programs, increased unemployment compensation, social security coverage for veterans, extension of crop insurance, scientific research and atomic energy development, and Columbia, Missouri and St. Lawrence river valley projects.

The President has also asked for authority to continue subsidy payments on food products beyond June 30. And floating around loosely is a new cloud of an idea for housing subsidies to help relieve the present shelter shortage.

All such items as these are increases in what might be called the "non-operating" expenses of the federal government. They have nothing to do with running any department of government, though bureaus would have to be set up or enlarged to administer the added appropriations.

Non-Operating Costs High

What most people don't realize is that these non-operating expenses of government now amount to one-fourth of all gverment expenses. That is, for the fiscal year ending next June 30, non-operating expenses of government are approximately 16 billions a year. If outstanding government loans and loan guarantees of 12 billions are added to this, the total becomes 28 billions. But its' safe to assume the loans will be largely repaid.

These figures come from a report prepared by the Budget Bureau at the request of Sen. James M. Murray of Montana. What Senator Murray was trying to get at was some indication of how big a contribution to full employment the federal government was already making. Figures for the current fiscal year aren't really representative. They include a number of big items connected with the war effort and the setting up of new international organizations. Such items won't be repeated in the budget for 1947.

As an indication of where the money is now going for these non-operating expenses, however, Senator Murray's report is worth a look. It includes such things as these:

1. Federal grants to state and local governments, $971,000,000 for the year.
2. Payments to needy individuals—veteran and social security benefits—five and a half billion.
3. Subsidy payments to business and farmers, two and a quarter billion.
4. Payments to foreign governments and individuals—the windup of the lend-lease program and contributions to United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration—four and a third billion.
5. Subscriptions to international organizations—the capital stock of the Bretton Woods plan, International Bank and Monetary fund—three billion.

Total, 16 billion, or 10 per cent of the national income on a $160 billion a year basis.

Payments to individuals in connection with the war effort, including mustering out pay, death gratuities and readjustment allowances will hit a peak this year.

Federal grants to state and local governments will increase next year. Included here are payments on public road programs, health and education assists, old age pensions and similar social security benefits shared with the states, a new airport program, housing and public works.

That's where the money goes.

Spring is at hand. Adrian Fuddle went out to trim a hedge and the Mortgage Ridge Neighborhood Advice Club immediately gathered.

From the arguments over flood control, it is apparent that the fishermen do not count the dams among their blessings. Not that kind of dam, anyhow.

For a nation which is supposed to "lead the way to world peace," we seem to have an unusual amount of "home work" on which to get some practice.

Some of the noisier jazz music is nerve-racking, says a critic. Maybe it will stop—when boiler making pays better.

An Ohio farmer was arrested charged with selling chickens for three times the ceiling price. The last word in fowl play!

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

By ANN CONNELL

PAINTING DISPLAY HIGHLY COMMENDED

The hobby display which was put on by the painting group of the City club at the meeting of the Newcomers group of the Garden club early this week even exceeded expectations, according to reports. The pictures shown all were the work of the members of the local group.

Mrs. Harry M. Lichty, president of City club; Mrs. H. E. Cully, Mrs. Myrtle Kidwell, Mrs. Martin Durbin and Mrs. Bertha Reynolds told the stories of their paintings, their sketching jaunts and materials used. Mrs. C. L. Lamont showed painting on fabrics and Mrs. D. W. Crabtree talked on methods of tinting photographs.

Mrs. Frank Boyer, state chairman of horticulture, led the discussion on seeds, soils and fertilizers. Mrs. R. L. Cooper explained the use of mulches for growing more and better berries.

Tea was served to seventy-five persons at the close of the meeting, Mrs. W. P. Riddlesbarger and Mrs. Ernest Brunton pouring.

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ADVISOR SPEAKS

Victory Circle, First Baptist church, met recently at the home of Mrs. Harold W. Titus. Mrs. Otto Skersies and Mrs. W. E. Schick assisted the hostess.

A. E. Britton, of the Lane County juvenile department of the circuit court spoke on "Juvenile Delinquency Begins at Home." Guests present included Mrs. Wanda Casperson, Mrs. Florence Dugan and Mrs. A. L. Williamson.

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REPORTS ARE HEARD AT LEAGUE MEETING

Welfare League, at a recent meeting, contributed to the polio fund, by vote of the membership. Mrs. Theodore Kratt presided in the absence of Mrs. C. L. Sampson, president.

The league reported having chaperoned young folk at the "Y" canteen in the Community Center during the month of January. A gift of two magazine subscriptions was made by the group to the canteen. Mrs. Anson Cornell reported progress on the cook book project.

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WRC REPORTS WORK

Women's Relief Corps met Thursday afternoon at the armory. Thirty hours of relief work was reported for the past two weeks, as well as a large amount of clothing collected, four dollars given for relief work, and five and a half pounds of fat collected.

An invitation was received and accepted to attend a silver tea Feb. 22 at the armory, which will be given by the auxiliary to the Sons of Union Veterans.

The corps also voted to assist in sponsoring the Gleemen in the May concert for the benefit of the Veterans' Memorial Building fund.

The next meeting will be February 21 in the armory.

HIP DRAPE—Another example of hip emphasis in trimming is the gray alpaca suit with the Polonaise drape, above, designed by Jo Copeland, who uses the swathing device to accent a long torso jacket.

SEVERAL WIN AWARDS AT LOE CARD PORTY

Six tables were formed at auction bridge and three at contract, at the Thursday afternoon card party of the Ladies of the Elks, held at the temple. Awards at contract went to Mrs. Edwin Peterson, high, and Mrs. Howard Ormiston, low; at auction to Mrs. Clarence Hyde, high; Mrs. G. F. Skipworth, average, and Mrs. Emma C. Preston, low.

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MISS ELGAARD HOSTESS

Miss Elsie Elgaard was hostess Thursday at a meeting of Emmaus Lutheran Ladies' Aid society. About twenty-five members were present.

Miss Elgaard and Mrs. Jens Lund were appointed to the flower comimttee, and on the serving committee for the month will be Mrs. A. M. Anderson, Mrs. Gertrude Mikkelsen, Mrs. Lund, Mrs. Chris Christensen, and Mrs. H. C. Worden.

PORTLAND WOMAN TALKS

Fairmount Presbyterian Women's Union met Thursday, with Mrs. Glen Sanders of Portland, secretary of the synodical stewardship, as speaker. Fifteen members were present.

A report was given on the Presbyterial meeting held Wednesday in Corvallis.

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AID SOCIETY MEETS

Bethesda Lutheran Ladies Aid society was entertained by Mrs. M. C. Madsen and Mrs. Sam Sorensen Wednesday evening at its meeting in the church parlor. Theme of the meeting was "Home Missions" and Rev. Ingward Olsen spoke on the topic: "Come Before Winter." Mrs. Herendeen was welcomed as a new member of the society.

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Westway club met Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Fred Gibons. Refreshments were served, and cards were played with Mrs. Mary Dunn and Mrs. Bayard Merrill taking prizes.

The birthdays of Mrs. Eric Ericson and Mrs. George Bauer were celebrated. Mrs. J. F. Grimes will be hostess at the next meeting on February 21.

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PARTY PLANNED

A Valentine party for their husbands was planned by members of the Fairmount Guild who met Thursday at the home of Mrs. Glen Hall. The party will be held Sunday afternoon at five o'clock in the Skinner butte cottage.

Two new members were taken in at this meeting, Mrs. Lloyd Sims, and Mrs. Briggs.

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APPOINTMENTS MADE

Mrs. Paul Ziniker was appointed to the Christian knowledge committee and Mrs. Erwin Libke to the Christian service committee at a meeting of the Grace Lutheran Ladies Aid society held Thursday at the church.

Plans for the pastoral conference to be held in Eugene February 19 to 21 were completed, and the book of Esther was studied.

Five layettes and several wardrobes for children in a European orphanage were completed.

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PAST PRESIDENTS PERFORM

Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliary met Thursday evening in the Knights of Pythias hall, with the past presidents putting on the work. Each was given a corsage by Mrs. F. R. Beeson, president of the auxiliary.

Initiated were Mrs. Alford Smith, Mrs. Bertha Clemont, Mrs. Grace Winkelman, and Mrs. C. A. Mahany. Mrs. Lena McIntyre, district president from Florence, was a visitor.

The group will have a social meeting February 21 in the parish hall of St. Mary's Episcopal church.

Sun Spots Continue Radio Interference

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(U.P.)—Sun spots hampered communications throughout the United States and Canada and interfered with radio reception from the far east today.

A spokesman from the Western Union Telegraph Co. said "considerable" difficulty was experienced clear across the continent. Many circuits were "almost unworkable," he said, and a lot of traffic had to be rerouted over other wires.

The American Telephone and Telegraph Co. reported the effects of the disturbance was felt on wires running along the Atlantic seaboard and as far inland as Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Similar disturbances were reported in Canada by the Canadian National Telegraph Co. Communications were disrupted throughout the maritime provinces and as far west as Toronto, a spokesman for the company said.

Radio listening posts along the west coast reported that reception from the far east was "buzzy," indicating strong interference.

The disturbance is believed caused by magnetic rays emanating from the sun spots which boosts the current on the wires.

It is estimated that seven times as many people in the United States own life insurance now as in 1900.

Kaiser Returning To The City Where He Got His Start

SPOKANE, Feb. 8 — (U.P.) — Henry J. Kaiser is coming back to the city where he began his career and more than 3,500 workers and their families were expected to join him in a job-rush to man his new $70,000,000 aluminum plants.

Kaiser, who came west and got a job in a Spokane hardware store and later began his road contract business, is adding two of the most modern metal plants in the world to his industrial empire. The plants have been kept "warm" by a government maintenance crew at a cost of $40,000 per month since their abandonment by the Aluminum Company of America at the end of last year. They were reported to be ready to give Kaiser the aluminum he needs for automobiles and prefabricated homes.

The Trentwood rolling mill, largest sheet-metal producer for U. S. aircraft during the war, turned out enough aluminum to build 1,000 B-29 superfortresses each month. It has a production capacity of 120,000 tons annually. The mill contains nearly 50 buildings on 515 acres of land located 12 miles east of Spokane and cost the government nearly $48,000,000 to build.

The Mead plant, also one of the largest in the nation, produces primary aluminum from raw materials—principally bauxite. The ingots of pig aluminum produced on the 242-acre plant are hauled eight miles to the rolling mill where the metal is converted into sheet. The plant has a capacity of 60,000 tons annually and was constructed at a cost of more than $22,000,000.

The two aluminum plants in one day will draw more electrical current than all of Spokane's homes consume in a year. The power will be supplied by Grand Coulee dam, the world's largest man-made structure, which Kaiser helped to build.

Recipe

Pumpkin Tarts with Ice Cream

½ recipe plain pastry
1½ cups cooked, strained pumpkin
½ cup granulated sugar
¼ cup dark corn syrup
1 tablespoon flour
½ teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon cinnamon
½ teaspoon ginger
½ teaspoon nutmeg
1½ cups milk
2 eggs, well beaten
½ cup chopped nuts
1 quart vanilla ice cream

Roll out pastry to ⅛ inch thickness. Cut into 4½ inch circles. Line individual pie pans with pastry, fluting edges and trimming to fit. Heat pumpkin in saucepan over medium heat for 10 minutes stirring frequently. Combine sugar, flour, salt, spices and syrup. Stir into heated pumpkin, add milk and blend. Add beaten eggs and chopped nuts, beating until smooth. Pour into tart shells, bake in a hot oven, 450 degrees F., for 10 minutes, then reduce oven to 350 degrees F., for about 20 to 25 minutes, or until a clean knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Top with ice cream and serve. Makes 6 individual tarts.

Liquor Rationing Deemed Unlikely

PORTLAND, Feb. 8 — (AP) — Chairman George P. Lilley of the liquor control commission said today he did not expect a return to liquor rationing in this state.

Despite the ban on wheat for whisky-making and a liquor shortage on store shelves, there has been no indication that this state's supplies will dwindle, he reported. Rationing will not be imposed until stocks are reduced, he said.

Will Rogers, Jr. To Run For Senate

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif., Feb. 8.—(AP)—His army service over, Will Rogers, Jr., son of the famed humorist, is planning another excursion into politics.

He said yesterday he is a candidate for the democratic nomination for the junior senatorship from California. Incumbent is William F. Knowland, republican, appointed to fill the term of the late Hiram Johnson.

Young Rogers was elected representative from the 16th district while he was in the army, but resigned in 1943 to resume military service. Rep. Ellis E. Patterson, who succeeded Rogers in the house of representatives, also is a candidate for the democratic senatorial nomination.

Navy Making Island Search For Missing

WASHINGTON — (U.P.) — The navy is conducting an island-by-island search of the Pacific for missing personnel.

Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, chief of naval operations, said the search already has covered more than 350 islands. It will continue until all Pacific-Asiatic islands have been canvassed.

Nimitz said the search had failed to turn up any living navy personnel so far but that several graves of allied military personnel had been found.

ATTENTION, FLORIDA

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—(AP)—Snow in Los Angeles? Ridiculous, but—five youths were detained yesterday by sheriff's deputies for allegedly violating a state law which prohibits throwing—of all things—snowballs at automobiles. Mrs. Dorothea Dalton, who complained, said furthermore, that the snowballs were real enough to break her windshield. The chamber of commerce hasn't been heard from yet.

Ouija Board Shunned As Modern Police Aid

SAN DIEGO, Calif.—(AP)—Police patrolmen Athos Sada and Howard Holway are willing to rely hereafter on standard equipment rather than occult facilities.

A call from an anxious San Diego parent last night sent them to a Brighton street house for a missing son. An aunt provided the address.

The officers, finding no such address, whisked back to the aunt's house to tell her so.

"Why, that must be the right address," she said confidently. "I got it from my ouija board."

The son voluntarily reappeared.