

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
(Published Every Evening and Sunday)
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER: Alton F. Baker
MANAGING EDITOR: William M. Tugman
NEWS SERVICE: Associated Press, United Press
MEMBER: Audit Bureau of Circulation
Entered at the Post Office at Eugene, Oregon, as second-class matter.
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.

Nature of a City Business

In the tax valuation figures which are now issuing from the County Assessors' office, there is matter for serious thought—on the nature of municipal business. This is a period of boom and growth. Nevertheless, the amount of increase in the taxable values of Eugene and Springfield is surprisingly small. Comparisons:

	Last Year	Coming Year	Increase
Eugene	\$15,428,724	\$15,746,148	\$317,424
Springfield	1,702,198	1,816,381	114,183

We have been told that the increase in both Eugene and Springfield comes mainly from residential construction. Considerable business construction is under way in both towns, but very little of it has been completed and the full effect of increased business values will not appear for another year at least.

But, it is interesting to note that four of the larger business structures in downtown Eugene carry MORE VALUATION than all of the new construction in Eugene in the last year, and almost as much as the total of new construction on both sides of the river.

Eugene Hotel	\$125,030
First National Bank	56,410
Montgomery Ward Block	107,000
Pennney Block	128,495
TOTAL	416,935

The total increase of valuation on both sides of the river is only \$431,587.

So what? Some years ago we ran a tabulation of all the assessed valuations in the downtown business area of Eugene—from the Southern Pacific tracks to Thirteenth avenue and from High street to Lincoln. At that time, the property in that area showed an aggregate valuation of approximately \$7,500,000, very nearly half of the total valuation of Eugene. Or, if you assume an "urban area" approximately six miles square, with a total taxable value of \$25,000,000, that relatively small, compact "business core" would still account for nearly one-third of all property taxes.

This leads to some conclusions about the nature of municipal business:

Residential development, taken by itself, does not "pay its way" in terms of the cost of all the public services which must be rendered. The central "business core" is the "profitable part" of the community tax structure. Or, putting it another way, a community to have a sound tax structure must have a proper balance of residential and business values in its structure. Take either one away, and the whole structure would fall; the suburban and residential fringes are necessary to maintain the trade which maintains the values of the business core, but when suburban areas reach that point of growth where extensive city services are necessary they cannot support themselves apart from the high value core.

You find the same principle in many lines of business. Take telephones. The telephone company would soon go broke if it had to depend on the rates it can get for residence connections. Its main revenues come from the close-in business connections. Nevertheless the telephone company must have as complete coverage as possible and its rate structures must reflect the effort to balance the operation as a whole.

There is nothing very mysterious about it. A downtown hotel or office building requires only a relatively few feet of pavement, sewer, street lights and a relative minimum of policing and fire protection. Three hundred new houses, scattered widely over the city, will require miles of additional services, and it might almost be said that this type of city business is carried at an "operating loss," at least in development years.

Some other lessons are to be drawn from study of these figures:

1. Protection of this "valuation core" is a very important problem for every growing city.
2. It must guard against "hardening of the traffic arteries" which keep trade flowing to and through this center.
3. It must find the answers to parking and traffic management problems.
4. Its building codes and zoning laws must be intelligently made so that step by step a healthy industrial and residential development can be woven around this core.

With good management and intelligent planning, annexation of suburban fringes and expansion of city boundaries ceases to be a "political problem" or a matter for silly "boosterism." There is a point at which suburban areas will SEEK consolidation because the arithmetic is so very plain. A single mill of taxation levied against a consolidated valuation will produce five or six times the revenue possible for a detached low-valuation unit.

In the Eugene-Springfield urban area we are passing through a very difficult period—rapid growth, tremendous demands for increased municipal services of all kinds, high tax rates, financing problems. But the difficulties may not be so great if some of the fundamentals are made very clear. Every city is dependent on that "high value tax core." Ours is no exception.

There's nothing like a nice, quiet evening at home to make a girl wish she weren't.

Lane County Needs Health Service

Thanks to the enterprise and generosity of the Lane County Public Health Association, we shall not have to go through the year with no full time health officer in this community. It was a small sum and a rather small matter of "policy" which prevented the budgeting of the entire \$6000 a year salary from county funds.

(It was necessary to increase county pay generally and there was a question whether the increase for the county doctor should exceed the general percentage. We did not quarrel with that decision, knowing the severe demands on the county and the importance of avoiding overstepping the 6 per cent limitation.)

So the Public Health Association will advance from its funds some \$580 to supplement the \$410 a month allowed by the county, and Dr. Anthony Triolo, an experienced and highly recommended professional, will come to Eugene from South Dakota.

But—we shall need a new understanding of what a public health officer really is, or should be, if any real progress is to be made in this line.

What is a public health officer? Theoretically any MD could be a public health officer, but actually very few MD's are qualified to serve in this capacity. It is a very special field of medical practice, recognized by every first class medical school in the United States, and doctors who go into that field receive special training in the problems of public health, just as do specialists in any other branch of surgery or medicine.

What do they do that is different from ordinary practice? Well, one of the first jobs of a trained public health officer is to run down the sources of every public disease as fast as it appears. The office of a trained public health officer usually looks something like a field general's post of command. He usually has large wall maps of "the battle area." He has district nurses working under his command and school nurses and school doctors, but actually all the doctors and nurses of the community are under his general direction.

If there is an outbreak of infantile paralysis, or scarlet fever or diphtheria, or small pox, the focal points are spotted on the map and as a rule the causes are traced—usually to bad housing, bad water, improper sewage, inadequate sanitation. His reports go to county officials, city councils, school boards, and although he cannot always command action, he usually gets it by sheer weight of the facts and records.

In Lane county we have usually overburdened our public health officers with the care of county patients and a great deal of hospital and clinical detail which should be left either to assistants or to regular practitioners. Properly set up, the job of the health officer is to PREVENT those conditions which breed disease and to direct an endless campaign of common sense health education.

It is no secret that in the last few weeks we have had some typhoid in Lane county. That means infected water supply somewhere! So far we have been remarkably lucky in the matter of polio, but there is no guarantee that our luck will continue because we have shocking sewage conditions in many parts of the community.

The money expended on a proper public health setup is good business and sound economy (if you remember the howls to close schools, stores and theaters which always go up when there is a serious outbreak).

The great drawback in public health work all over the United States is the unwillingness of public bodies to pay what the service is really worth. Nevertheless this branch of medicine has attracted a great many devoted men. They do not expect to make as much money as their colleagues in private practice. But they are entitled to a fair professional salary and to enough budget to carry on their studies of the health of the community.

With his specialized training and experience Dr. Triolo should be the man to give Lane county an effective public health service. It is not a job for a young doctor "getting started." It is an important career for a man with special talent for this field of public service.

Officials of an Oregon town have been spraying parking meters with DDT dust to keep the coin slot clear. The meters have been taken for a buggy ride.

How to drive an auto may be taught to ninth and 10th grade pupils of Galesburg, Ill., public schools. Will there be room in the class for lots of grown-ups we know?

Summer is when the corn crops out—if you wear tight shoes.

Most people who are itching to go on vacation will keep it up after they get there.

Gals shouldn't worry about getting tanned. Some gentlemen prefer bonze.

Pickle packers predict the 1946 crop will be the largest in 15 years. That's a dilly!

Door Factory Changes Hands

TACOMA, Wash.—(U.P.)—One of the largest transactions in the Northwest in recent years was negotiated Wednesday when five of its management officials purchased the Wheeler-Osgood Plywood Co., for a reported \$1,300,000.

The sale placed ownership of the firm in the hands of N. O. Cruver, W. M. MacArthur, Lionel J. Phillips, Paul M. Smith and L. J. Woodson, all of Tacoma.

Cruver said the company, the world's largest manufacturer of doors, was producing more products than in the firm's 57-year-old history in line with the demand for doors for the millions of homes to be constructed in the next 10 years.

Cruver, former vice president and general manager of the company, is president and treasurer of the new organization. MacArthur and Phillips are vice presidents and Smith is secretary. Woodson is president of the Nicolai Door Sales Co., a subsidiary of the Wheeler-Osgood firm.

The organization was founded here in 1889 and currently employs approximately 700 workers.

Dock Foremen Return to Jobs

SAN FRANCISCO—(U.P.)—Longshore foremen were to return to work at all Pacific Coast ports except San Pedro Thursday. They voted to postpone a strike called to obtain recognition of the CIO International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union as their bargaining agent.

The foremen called "stop-work" meetings Wednesday to discuss the postponement. The meetings halted work on almost all West Coast ships except relief and troop ships.

The postponement was asked by Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Swellessbach who promised that the National Labor Relations Board would rule on the dispute. The waterfront employers' Assn. has refused to bargain with the ILWU on behalf of the bosses until the NLRB makes a decision.

In San Pedro, 300 cargo and ship foremen, called off the strike but continued their work "recess" for another day. An estimated 3000 longshoremen, who could not work without supervision, were idled.

The work recess halted unloading of 21 ships in Los Angeles-Long Beach harbor and delayed work on 14 others. In San Francisco, work was halted on 22 ships Wednesday.

BERRY PRICE SET

SALEM—(U.P.)—The Cane Fruits Control Board Thursday set at 18 cents the price-per-pound minimum to canners for evergreen and Himalaya blackberries. The minimum is four cents higher than the established OPA price but four cents less than the minimum for other cane fruits.

SHERWOOD MAN DROWNS

ELK LAKE, Ore.—(U.P.)—Walter Suhrer of Sherwood drowned here Wednesday when a sailboat in which he was riding capsized. Three other occupants of the boat were rescued.

Beethoven began violin lessons at the age of five.

BUNIONS
Get this quick relief. Lifts shoe pressure, soothes, cushions the sensitive spot. Costs but a trifle.
Dr. Scholl's Zino-pads

"BETTER BAKED!"
KORN'S BREAD

CAMERAS
Highest prices paid
Used Cameras
BELL STUDIO
1032 Willamette

RADIO DEAD CALL *Modern*
PHONE *Modern* 875
4507 **Appliance Co.** OLIVE

Veteran Owned and Operated
Williams Transfer Co.
Furniture Moving
a Specialty.
Packing, Crating and Storage.
Local and Long Distance Hauling.
Ph. 1620 Night ph. 5718-WX

Worship God
In His appointed way
at
Townsend Hall Basement
8th & Lincoln, Eugene
Every Saturday
2 P.M.

THE TIME to buy "Back-to-School" Clothes is NOW!

APRIL • MAY • JUNE • JULY • AUGUST • SEPT • OCT • NOV • DEC • JAN • FEB • MARCH



Boys' Cords
\$3.98

The old reliable cords that look good longer, wash easier and wear like iron. Big selection of colors including green, blue, gray, brown and tan. Stock up now. Sizes 6 to 16.

"The Store Full of Things Boys Like"

POLO SHIRTS
\$1.29

Stripes and fancy patterns for year round school and play wear. Built to take hundreds of washings. All sizes.

FLANNEL SHIRTS
\$1.49

The famous Reliance Big Yank, Jr. value shirt, built of bright flannel. Get a couple for now and all through the school year.

WAIST O'ALLS
\$2.39

Western style denim jeans, reinforced from waist to cuff to stand all the beating a young roughneck will give them. Sizes 6 to 16.

KNITTED BRIEFS
48¢

With full elastic tops! Fine cotton knitted briefs, like Dad's, that have been so hard to find. All sizes on hand now.

CREW SOCKS
39¢

With elastic tops! Bright colors and patterns in the kind of school socks the fellows like. Sizes 8½ to 10½.

WASH SLACKS
\$3.98

Made like a dress slacks, with zipper front, pleats and cuffs! But this is washable, so perfect for school wear. Sizes 8 to 14.



Eugene's Outdoor Store
Formerly Army and Navy Goods Store
716 WILLAMETTE