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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.

Real Feat of "Show Business"

Never did Eugene's Very Little Theatre give a more convincing demonstration of the value of their 18 years of self-support than at Saturday night's opening performance of "Blithe Spirit," the excellent Noel Coward comedy-satire on "the spirit world." VLT gave one of the finest performances of its history—one that should mean top-flight performances and sell-out houses for the rest of this week. Just before the opening curtain, Dorothy Parks Scott stepped out to say quietly:

"On account of illness, Laura Nidver will not appear as 'Ruth'. On 24 hours notice, Gerda Brown is playing the part. We beg your indulgence."

Several times, on Broadway, we have seen a substitute step into a star's role, but in the professional theatre substitutes are paid to stand by and they are always fairly well prepared on lines and business. At 7:30 Friday evening Mrs. Brown was asked to take over. At 8:15 Saturday evening she stepped before the lights to give a brilliant performance in one of the longest and most "rapid-fire" parts in show business. It is doubtful if the professional stage has any actress who could have done as well on such short notice. Only in the second act was Mrs. Brown reading from script, but so skillfully that the book seemed to be merely a "hand prop," part of the normal business of the play.

But that isn't the whole story of this production. As sometimes occurs in theatre, "everything happened" during rehearsals. Grace Sikes ended up as director as well as "Mrs. Bradman" in the show. Ethan Newman who hadn't expected to play, took over the male lead. Mary Krenk and her sister Ruth Fischer, both talented actresses, ended up in coveralls as production manager and "stage furnishings," respectively. It would be necessary to call the roll of VLT to name all the members who "batted in any position" to overcome the repeated setbacks.

And the result is one of the BEST entertainments VLT ever offered. It should earn in this week's run a substantial net to add to VLT's Building Fund—now passing \$4000.

Numerous unsolicited gifts have been coming in for the Building Fund, but VLT sticks doggedly to its main program as "the only entirely self-supporting civic theatre in the United States." It has no paid directors, scenery builders, light technicians, stage hands or floor sweepers. Its people are all busy workaday people.

The troubles are over and for the rest of the week the audiences will never realize that there were any troubles. They will revel in Gretchen Parker's "Mme. Arcati" and in Adel Griffith's "jealous ghost," in Vera Scott's jittering "maid," Gene Herlocker's "skeptical doctor." And we hope they will give not only the players, but even the grimy stage crew "a hand." As for Gerda Brown, she has shown that courage and skill which

makes great moments in the game called theatre. It must be "a game" or VLT could never have survived so many years making fun for themselves and others.

WASHINGTON LETTER

BY PETER EDSON
Register-Guard Washington Correspondent

Fulbright's Bright Idea

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—(NEA) — Arkansas Sen. J. William Fulbright's startling suggestion that President Truman resign—after appointing Republican Sen. Arthur H. Vandenberg Secretary of State—may be worth kicking around a little, before kicking out.

Fulbright's dodge would, of course, permit Vandenberg to succeed to the Presidency. That would give the Republicans control over both executive and legislative ends of the government, in sweet unity. The purpose would be to avoid the two years of confusion which most prophets of doom see ahead, with both Houses of the new Congress Republican and the President a Democrat.

Senator Fulbright is planning to introduce in the next Congress a bill which would seek to accomplish this same result by different means. His idea is a constitutional amendment which would permit the election of the Congress and the President at the same time. All would serve six-year terms concurrently, instead of the present system of two years terms for congressmen, four years for the President, and six years for senators.

Thomas K. Finletter, in his book "Can Representative Government Do the Job?" went at the problem in a still different way. What he proposed was that the President be granted power to dissolve Congress and have a new one elected any time the White House and the Capitol were deadlocked on a question of major policy.

It's Nothing New
All these proposals are, of course, modifications of the European parliamentary system of government. Under this system an administration can be forced to resign if it fails to win a majority vote of confidence in the parliament, or the head of the state may dissolve the parliament and call for new elections.

Senator Fulbright's idea, therefore, isn't exactly new. But, strangely enough, no proposal of this kind was presented when Congress went through its reorganization pains last year.

In passing, it should be mentioned that Fulbright was a Rhodes scholar, receiving his degree at Oxford in 1923, so he had a chance to observe the British form of government in operation. His idea, however, suggests that, instead of being completed, the reorganization of Congress is just beginning.

As a matter of American history, it is nothing unusual for a President to have one or both Houses of Congress controlled by the opposition party. Of the 79 sessions of Congress held thus far, 29 have had this political split. Somehow the country has survived.

In recent years it has happened three times. In Taft's last two years the Democrats controlled the House. In Wilson's last two years the Republicans controlled both Houses. In Hoover's last two years the Democrats were able to control the House because a number of Republicans died between the 1930 election and the convening of Congress.

In opposition to the Fulbright and other similar schemes, it can be argued that this kind of political division isn't necessarily a bad thing. It is part of the American constitutional system of checks and balances.

Not Much Change
When the country is going through a mid-term swing from Democratic to Republican or vice versa, it may be a good thing to have one branch of the government slowing up the transition. When one party or the other sweeps into control of both the Capitol and the White House at the same time, it is apt to go too far in its reform program. And too fast. What happened when Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Democrats landed in office in 1932 may be cited as an example.

It is, of course, too early to tell how much of a deadlock President Truman and the newly-elected Republican Congress will get into. Republican National Committee Chairman B. Carroll Reece has issued a conciliatory statement of victory saying that the Republicans will co-operate with the President and hope he'll reciprocate. It's a nice gesture, but it may not mean much.

Where Truman will have to make his first test will be on his appointments. With a Republican majority in the Senate, he may encounter strong opposition on any Democratic appointment. The trouble will go on from there.

But as a matter of practical politics, there isn't much chance of Truman's resigning, just to please the Republicans or to please Senator Fulbright. The men around the President won't let him. It's their jobs that are important—not his.

Couple to Observe 40th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Irving J. Koupal, 1350 1/2 Lincoln Street, will celebrate their fortieth wedding anniversary Thursday, November 14. They have been residents of Eugene all their married life.

The couple has one daughter, now married and living at Sacramento, Calif., as Mrs. Wayne Watrous, and one grandson, Gary Watrous.

Mrs. Koupal treasures a linen towel which her husband gave her on the first Christmas after their marriage. She states it was bought at Dunn's store on Wilamette Street for eighty-nine cents, and it has been in use for thirty-five years and is "not bad yet."

Alumnae Group Meet For Dessert Lunch

Alpha Delta Pi alumnae met for dessert Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Duane Humber. A surprise feature of the evening was a kitchen shower for Mrs. Marvin Mason (Marie Ridings). Another member, Mrs. Jess Hayden (Gwendolen Lampshire Hayden), showed the original sketches for her new book, "Muslin Town," co-authored with Mrs. Reuben Gischler.

The pledge party given in October was reported a success.

New officers for the group were announced as follows: President, Mrs. O. K. Burrell; vice-president, Mrs. Jerry Hooker; secretary, Mrs. Lloyd Staples; treasurer, Miss Murrie Brown; reporter, Mrs. Duane Humber.

Those attending were: Mrs. Douglas Kapsa, Mrs. Lloyd Staples, Miss Murrie Brown, Mrs. Jess Hayden, Mrs. George Webb, Mrs. Robert Moody, Mrs. M. E. Mendenhall, Mrs. George Varney, Miss Vera Mae Lamb, Mrs. Floyd Westerfield, Mrs. Marvin Mason, Mrs. O. K. Burrell and Mrs. Humber.

The December meeting will be with Miss Lamb.

CHOIR ENTERTAINED AT McMillan HOME

Dr. and Mrs. Keith McMillan recently were hosts at a reception for the choir of Central Presbyterian Church, following a rehearsal. Forty-eight were in attendance. Dr. McMillan heads the group as president, and other officers are Wilfred Cook, vice-president; Mrs. Leslie Mack, secretary; Mrs. Robert Sabin, treasurer; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Lamb, sponsors; Mrs. S. E. Stevens, organist, and Edna Leslie Pearson, director.

Assisting in serving were Mrs. Marjorie Heaton and Miss Evelyn Paeschke. Mrs. Walter Bealstro had charge of the dining room.

The choir is preparing to present a Thanksgiving concert on the Sunday preceding the holiday, November 24. The program will consist of choruses and numbers by the members.

Recipe

Pear Salads

Oregon pears are in the market again, and here are a number of fresh pear-and-cheese combinations that will add sparkle to menus:

Fresh pear halves, grated American cheese and mayonnaise, a familiar salad combination. Pear and cottage cheese salad, another old favorite, but for variety try mixing cottage cheese with chopped nuts or raisins, or chopped celery and a hint of onion.

A luncheon salad is made of fresh pear halves, orange slices and cottage cheese mixed with raisins. Garnish with walnut halves.

Here's a tasty combination: Fresh pears, oranges and avocados with Roquefort French dressing. (For Roquefort French dressing, crumble 1/4 cup Roquefort cheese and shake well with 1/4 cup French dressing.)

Children go for a salad of cream cheese balls rolled in chopped nuts on fresh or canned pear halves.

For bridge luncheon, try cream cheese squares and pear halves molded in lime jelly.

For dessert, fresh pear pie served with a wedge of nippy American cheese. (Make as you do apple only using less sugar.)

The sophisticated will like nothing better than fresh Anjou pears served with cheddar, Camembert or Roquefort cheese and crisp crackers.

For something a little different, try fresh sliced pears, sprinkled with lemon juice and spread with softened or Roquefort cheese, and garnished with a salted nutmeat. Serve chilled.

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

By ANN CONNELL

Club Calendar

Thursday
Central Lutheran Ladies Aid, parish hall, 2 p.m.
Independent Mission Group, First Christian Church annex, 2 p.m.

Friendly Bible Class, at the church, 7:30 p.m.
Chapter BV, P.E.O. Sisterhood, with Mrs. H. E. Harry, 1 p.m.
Amity Bridge Club with Mrs. C. M. Urey, 1:30 p.m.

League of Women Voters, Y.W.C.A. and City Club Discussion Group, Community Center, 2 p.m.
Friday
Loyal Workers Class, bazaar and tea, at First Christian Church annex.

Co-Workers Class, First Baptist, with Mrs. C. F. Caley, 2 p.m.
Evangeline Chapter, O.E.S., Masonic Temple, 8 p.m.

Post Office Clerks and Auxiliary, at Walter Cole residence, 7 p.m.
Central Presbyterian Women's rummage sale, at Fellowship Hall, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PORTLAND GUESTS, NEW MEMBERS, ATTEND AT DINNER

Four guests from Portland attended the meeting of the auxiliary to United Commercial Travelers, held recently at the Knights of Pythias Hall. Guests were Mrs. A. A. Jacobson, Mrs. T. D. Harmon, Mrs. Ted Leahy and Mrs. Fred Cavanaugh.

A potluck turkey dinner preceded the business meeting, seventy-six attending. New members at the session were Mrs. E. N. Hathaway, Mrs. A. C. Deardorff, Mrs. Ray Albee, Mrs. J. E. Morehouse, Mrs. George Mast, Mrs. W. A. Tuckett, Mrs. J. C. Williams, Mrs. Ralph Bomholz and Mrs. Harold Peterson. Dancing followed the meeting.

The November card party of the group will be held Thursday evening, November 21, at the Osburn Hotel, it was announced. Announcement also was made that Mrs. David Harber has accepted the general chairmanship for the convention to be held in Eugene next May.

BRIDAL SHOWER FOR REEDSPORT GIRL

REEDSPORT — Mrs. Tom Lilley, Mrs. O. B. Walker and Mrs. Roy Cairns were hostesses recently at the Lillebo home for a miscellaneous shower honoring Miss Dolores Boisvert, bride-elect of James Carroll McCulloch. Their marriage is planned for November 24, and they will live at Gardiner. Mr. McCulloch is employed in the office of the Gardiner Lumber Company and Miss Boisvert at the First National Bank.

SHOWER REPORTED FROM BELLFOUNTAIN

Mrs. Clair Stahl of Portland was honored recently with a miscellaneous bridal shower, held at the Bellfountain schoolhouse. The bride was presented with gifts by those assembled. Ices were served at the close of the afternoon.

MISSIONARY TO SPEAK

Beta Iota Sigma Chapter of the WCTU will meet Friday evening at the home of Mrs. B. F. Gray, 822 Tenth Avenue West, at eight o'clock. The Rev. Alexander Mersdorf of First Baptist Church, former missionary, will be guest speaker.

Mrs. Erma Ward will lead devotions. Reports from the state WCTU convention held in Pendleton recently will be given.



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Netherland Village 'Adopted' by Sorority

Noordwark, a little fishing village in the Netherlands, became a topic of interest to Alpha Xi Delta alumnae Monday evening as Mrs. Lester Beck, president, told about the sorority's adoption of the town. Mrs. Beck said Alpha Xi Delta literally has adopted the town in the hope that they may do something to alleviate the misery that the war has brought and help the people to rebuild Noordwark, which was centuries old when our own Pilgrim fathers found a haven in the Netherlands before coming to America.

The alumnae group met at the Beck home for a business and social session. Members discussed plans for raising \$5000 to help in the rehabilitation of the Netherlands town. The money will be used to provide necessities of life for the men, women and children of the town who have begun the process of rebuilding. Mrs. Beck reminded the group that Alpha Xi Delta had raised \$20,000 during the war for different projects assigned to the group by the American Red Cross but that the sorority did not feel that its work was ended and had decided on the Noordwark project as its philanthropy for the coming year.

Prior to the dessert and social hour committee reports were given and a report was made on the rummage sale held last week. The hostesses for the December 2 meeting, which will be a Christmas party, will be Mrs. R. H. Lemon and Mrs. Del Thorsland.

Present at Monday evening's meeting were Mrs. R. W. Archibald, Mrs. Beck, Mrs. Keith Fennell, Miss Lois Greenwood, Mrs. R. H. Lemon, Mrs. C. E. Aldridge, Mrs. Frances S. Newsom, Mrs. O. P. Nordling, Mrs. Vivian Harper Pitman, Mrs. John Laurin Reynolds, Mrs. C. H. Shaffer, Mrs. H. E. Snyder, Mrs. Thomas S. Wells and Mrs. Georg Bjorset.

SORORITY NOTES WEEKEND EVENTS

Nu chapter of Gamma Phi Beta held its annual Founders Day banquet Monday evening, honoring the four women who founded the national sorority in 1874. Mrs. Helen M. Dodge, Miss Frances E. Haven, Miss E. Adeline Curtis and Miss Mary A. Bingham.

Nu chapter also entertained at a reception from three to five o'clock Sunday afternoon in honor of its new house mother, Mrs. Mary D. Fields. Members of the university faculty, other sorority housemothers and alumnae of Gamma Phi Beta were invited.

SHOWER EVENTS HONOR TWO

MOHAWK — Two well known girls of Mohawk valley have been honored with bridal showers recently. Mrs. Bud Hall (Charlotte McGinnis), was honored by Miss Lova Denker at her parents' home, and Miss Irene Shafer who will be married to Walter Black about Thanksgiving, was honored by Mrs. Will Scott.

WOMEN OF MOOSE INITIATE THREE

Women of the Moose initiated Miss Betty J. Fenner, Mrs. C. J. Arneberg, and Mrs. Hugh Stevens at a recent meeting. It was announced that a card party will be held November 25 at 8 p. m. at the Moose Hall, and that there will be an escort practice drill this Friday at eight o'clock at the hall.

Monday, November 18, Graduate Regents will meet with Mrs. Rosa Wood, 532 Lincoln Street, at eight o'clock. On November 21 another chapter meeting and initiation will be held at the hall. Winners at the Monday card party were Mrs. C. P. Richards, bridge, and Mrs. Jeanette Bates, pinocle. Low were Mrs. Orpha Poindexter and Mrs. Bertha Westrope.

SPANISH WAR VETS HONOR MRS. QUICK

United Spanish War Veterans and auxiliary held a dinner Monday evening honoring Mrs. Zidonia Quick, department president of the auxiliary. Also present were Flora Field, department conductor, Sarah Bodly, past department president, and F. M. Rich, senior vice department commander, all of Portland.

A meeting followed, at which Mrs. Quick, Mrs. Field and Mrs. Bodly spoke. The next meeting November 25 will be a card party at seven-thirty o'clock at the armory.

Past Presidents will meet Thursday at two o'clock with Mrs. Allen Hart.

DEAN AND MRS. JEWELL HAVE NEW GRANDSON

Announcement cards have reached friends in Eugene telling of the birth on Saturday, November 9, of their first child, James Ralph III, to Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Jewell, Jr., of Oroville, Calif. This is the first grandchild of Dean and Mrs. J. R. Jewell, of 2260 University St.

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WHY A SOAP SHORTAGE?

You've Heard Rumors. Here Are the Facts!

1. There is a world-wide shortage of animal fats and of vegetable oils. This shortage affects all of us. For instance, this year soapmakers have been able to obtain only one fifth of the imported oils they used in 1941—far less domestic fats, too.

2. Because of the world-wide shortage, manufacturers are unable to get the amount of fats and oils they need to make not only soaps, but also paints, textiles, tires, leather goods, floor coverings, electrical appliances, etc.

3. In the face of these conditions, American soap manufacturers have done their utmost. They have turned all the fats and oils they have been able to obtain into soap just as quickly as possible.

4. But for the help of American housewives, the shortage of soap would have been far more serious. Last year, more than one out of every nine packages of soap sold was made from used fats saved in America's kitchens.

5. Don't blame your grocer. He is doing his best, like the soapmakers, to get more soap for you. Won't you do your best by saving and turning in every drop of used fats.

YOU CAN HELP!... SAVE USED FATS!

American Fat Salvage Committee
247 Park Avenue, New York 17, N. Y.

SON IS BORN TO PORTLAND PAIR

A son, Harold Edwin, was born November 6 at Emmanuel Hospital in Portland to Mr. and Mrs. Richard Bryson of Eugene. Maternal grandmother is Mrs. H. J. Roberts of Portland, and the paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Bryson of Eugene.

CHIP OFF THE OLD BLOCK

BARRINGTON, R. I.—(UPI)—To prove he was as good a man as his father, seven-year-old Robert Eddy, Jr., had to swim the half-mile wide Warren River, a feat which his father had performed at the same age. Robert duplicated his father's swim, while the older Eddy, who had rowed a boat beside him all the way, collected bets from disbelieving neighbors.

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No Soap? It's in Need of Supply, Here's How To Make It—But We Say: No Soap!

Soap shortage has created an anachronism—in this age of luxury—that was, the making of soap at home again is advocated! Time was when grandmother saved the waste fats at the time of hog-killing, and combined it with lye water leached from the barrel of ashes, to make her own variety of soap, hard or soft. But that was back in the days when she saved tallow to make "dips"—candles to you—and all the patches were utilized in quilts; wool was carded and spun and woven into clothing, she ground her own coffee, if not also her own corn meal; she scoured the tin table knives with ashes from the hearth; cooked in iron pots, and baked, not earned, her bread.

Well, it's an ill wind, etc.—the lye-makers are responsible for this advice on soap-making. (They offer at least the prepared lye, in place of leaching it from wood ashes, which would present a problem to the homemaker who cooks by electricity or gas!) Here is the recipe, which they say—THEY SAY—is easy:

"Fat and grease must first be cleaned of salt and other impurities. This is done by putting it in a vessel with twice as much water and allowing to come to a boil. Remove from the fire, add a quart of cold water, and let cool. The clean grease will settle on the surface and may be skimmed off."

"To start the soap-making, empty one 13-ounce can of lye

into a vessel (NOT ALUMINUM) containing 2 1/2 pints of cold water and stir with a spoon. The water will become hot... allow it to become lukewarm. Then take 6 POUNDS OF CLEAN GREASE OR FAT, (don't ask us where you get it) melt in an ordinary kettle, and cool until warm to the hand. Then pour the lukewarm lye slowly into the melted grease (NOT THE GREASE INTO THE LYE), stirring constantly in one direction until they are thoroughly mixed into the thickness of honey. It takes from a quarter to half an hour. Then pour into metal mould or wooden box. Cover the soap and set in warm place for a day or two, at which time it can be cut for use.

"The soap can be perfumed by adding either 2 teaspoonsful cit. ronnella, 1 spoonful lemon, 4 spoonfuls sassafras, or 1 spoonful cloves (Phooey! Bet it will still smell!)"

"Best fats for soap-making are mutton fat, beef suet, tallow, lard trimmings, rinds, meat fryings, and cracklings. Lard, ham fat, chicken grease and vegetable oils alone are not very satisfactory, but good results can be obtained by mixing them with other hard-bodied animal fats."

P. S.—This is supposed to be economical.

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