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The Register-Guard's editor is the complete and impartial publication in its every page of all news and statements as shown. 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.

Pliny E. Snodgrass

There are a good many older people in Lane county who date this and that from "when Pliny Snodgrass was president of the First National Bank". Throughout his long life Mr. Snodgrass was identified with Eugene and Lane county (though born in Harrisburg just across the river in Linn county).

"From janitor to president" runs the story, although we have an idea that when T. G. Hendricks and S. A. Eakin hired young Snodgrass at age 19, they were hiring more than a man to sweep and clean. They were hiring ambition, thrift, and character. They were hiring willingness to learn.

However, Mr. Snodgrass was not the typical hero of the "success story". He was proud of having worked his way up, but he was not one to brag about it. He took that as a matter of course and a rule of life and he wore his success with modest dignity. His home town, his family, his friends were his great interests.

It is often said that "times have changed", that the young man starting out today has less chance to "work up" than in the good old days when business was relatively small and much more intimate. That is only partly true. It is possible for great merit to be lost in the coils of modern "organization", but it is not necessary for it to be lost. Nor is it true that opportunity must be sought far from home.

The willingness to learn is still rather rare, and the ability to see opportunity is even rarer. With these simple talents Pliny Snodgrass built himself a place of leadership and distinction. For many years he has been retired, living quietly at his home in Fairmount, making only occasional "visits" to the downtown arena. But there is a tribute to his citizenship from the many old timers who date events from "when Pliny was president".

Fisheries vs. River Dams

Report of the Oregon Legislature's interim committee on fisheries is another blast against the creation of additional power dams on the Columbia and flood control dams on the Willamette and its tributaries. This was to be expected of a fisheries committee, most of whose members are concerned directly or indirectly with commercial fishing. We doubt if the report will be considered as more than another demand that fish preservation must be recognized in the planning of flood control and power.

There is no reason to believe that the interests of the fisheries people and the needs for power and flood control are irreconcilable. Indeed the U. S. Army Engineers, whose job it is to build the dams, have shown every willingness to plan those structures so that there will be a minimum of interference with fish and wild life propagation. The farmers who demand flood control, all of the people who are supporting the expansion of power facilities CONCEDE that fisheries and wild life must be protected. The attitudes of the two groups are in marked contrast. The fisheries people seem to say:

"Our interests must be preserved no matter what disasters come to other people."

The farmers of the Willamette valley and the power advocates say:

"Live and let live."

The directors of the Eugene Chamber of Commerce went on record Monday supporting the request for Congress to appropriate money for the McNary dam and such other power sources on the Columbia as will be needed to meet our industrial and domestic needs for power. It is a sound position.

The Bonneville Power Administration has been warning of power shortage in the Northwest for some time. Its estimates of the situation are confirmed by the following statement to which the heads of all the major private power companies in the Northwest put their signatures at a recent meeting in Tacoma:

> As a result of these extended deliberations, and detailed load studies, it is determined and agreed that new federal generating capacity in the amount of 318,000 kilowatts, over and above the 746,000 kilowatts of generating units now on order, will be required between now and November 1, 1949, to meet the present critical power supply problem—and 1,065,000 kilowatts will be required by November 1, 1953, as set forth in detail in the attached memorandum to meet these requirements. It is urged that the necessary appropriations be made available as rapidly as possible to the Corps of Engineers and to the Bureau of Reclamation.
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> Inasmuch as these federal generating plants are located a considerable distance from the region's load centers, and inasmuch as present transmission facilities of the Bonneville Power Administration are already approaching conditions of full load, it is agreed as essential that appropriations for backbone transmission facilities be made available to the Bonneville Power Administration on an annual and continuing basis adequate to provide a means for the delivery of power to load centers.

Commercial fishing is a very important industry and it should be safeguarded. But its "dog-in-manger" tactics (and some of its lobbying tactics) are inexcusable. Flood control is even more important than power for the future of Oregon. The rich soils of the Willamette valley which are being carried off by recurrent floods of ever increasing velocity can never be replaced. They can be saved by flood control dams. The danger to the fishing industries is relatively small.

Oregon needs a united front on all problems of conservation, but the fishermen merely seek to serve their own selfish ends by creating confusion.

An Ohio poker club has barred married men. Perhaps because they know how to bluff too well.

All men are born equal—and some men equal to a lot more than others.

READER EDITORIAL

Credit for All Diebel's Plea

EUGENE — (To the Editor) — The prominent mention of my name in the news story of last Thursday concerning Dorothy Christensen being one of the forty Washington Trip Winners in the Sixth Annual Science Talent Search, and again in your editorial Sunday, calls for comment. Norman, Alice and Dorothy—in fact, all students who graduate from Eugene High School—have had during their school career about thirty teachers and I'm only one of them.

Naturally, I am more than pleased to be one of Dorothy Christensen's science teachers. It is one of the satisfactions and privileges of teaching to be instrumental in recognizing and directing the abilities of such fine students. More Norman Diebels, Alice Kingmans and Dorothy Christensens are needed, and in fields other than science. They are in our school today but we are able to do little for them under the present "working conditions" of teachers. The burden of over-large classes, inadequate equipment and continual financial strain make it impossible to even try to develop the latent talents of many more students. To one who enjoys teaching this is a bitter disappointment.

The public enthusiasm that is displayed when such honors come to our schools is heartening. I hope such enthusiasm will mean that more serious thought will be given to the rights of every boy and girl in our schools. Experts insist that crime and delinquency which now cost us, annually, at least six times what the nation pays for its school, could be sharply reduced if teachers knew enough about their pupils and did the right things for them. The disposition of society toward the cost of educating for living in a peaceful world presents a sharp contrast with the attitude toward the expense of training for combat. Society must assume its responsibility of giving education the opportunity to function effectively by providing the necessary adequate financial support and it is unwittingly paying a devastating penalty when this responsibility is shirked.

—Clarence E. Diebel,
Eugene High School.

SOCIETY, WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

By ANN CONNELL

Contralto Due This Week

One of America's most outstanding careers is that of Marian Anderson, whose splendid contralto will be heard Thursday evening at McArthur Court, by members of Civic Music Association in Eugene.

Born in Philadelphia in humble circumstances, the artist performed menial tasks to pay for her first music lessons, continuing her studies with funds collected by members of her neighborhood church and scholarships from teachers who foresaw her brilliant future. Success first came to her in Europe, and in the twelve years since her return to her native land Miss Anderson has risen to the heights of song and is one of the five highest-paid artists in the world.

There is at least one couple in Eugene who will hear Miss Anderson Thursday who heard her in Europe at the start of her career: Dr. and Mrs. Robert D. Horn.

The world-famous Negro singer has broken attendance records in America's principal cities.

This will be her first appearance in Eugene. The concert is at eight-fifteen o'clock, and admission is by membership card.

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Shower Honors Betty Jean Busch

A miscellaneous shower was given recently in honor of Miss Betty Jean Busch, bride-to-be, by Miss Shirlee Higgins, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Higgins. The affair was a surprise reunion of college friends.

Those present were: Miss Jeanne Smith, Miss Lucille Bryant, Miss Shirlee Higgins, Miss Janette Carpenter, Miss Georgia Adams, Miss Elouise Williams, Mrs. R. N. Higgins, Mrs. Ted Rutledge, Mrs. Ted Busch, Mrs. Richard Hill, Miss Dorothy Speck, Mrs. Bletke and Mrs. Robert Sabin.

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Bellfountain Rite To Be Said Sunday

BELLFOUNTAIN — The wedding of Miss Patsy Marie Larkin, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Delmar F. Larkin of Lebanon, to Floyd Trask, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Trask of Monroe, will be an event of Sunday afternoon, February 2, at the Bellfountain Community Church. H. F. Irvin, pastor of hte local church, will read the ceremony in the presence of invited guests and relatives of the young couple.

Miss Larkin is a local girl, having resided in the Bellfountain and Monroe communities until the past year, when the family moved to Lebanon.

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POTLUCK SCHEDULED

McKenzie River Lodge and Blue River Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star have scheduled a joint potluck dinner to be held Tuesday evening, (tonight) at six-thirty o'clock at the McKenzie River Temple.

The committee is Mr. and Mrs. Merle Saunders, chairman; Mr. and Mrs. V. Edwin Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Saunders, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Gustafson, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Ramstedt, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Mannell, Mr. and Mrs. John Cochrane, Mr. and Mrs. Pascal Peek, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Walker and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Roadman.

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Recipe

Brown Beef Ragout

- 3 pounds beef flank, chuck or round
- 2 teaspoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons lard
- ¼ cup sliced onion
- 3 cups water
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 3 whole black peppers
- 2 tablespoons flour
- 2 tablespoons cold water
- ½ cup sour cream

Cut beef in cubes. Heat sugar in heavy skillet slowly until melted. Add lard. Brown meat and onion well in the melted lard. Add water, salt and pepper, cover tightly and simmer until tender (about 1½ hours). Add flour blended with cold water and cook until thickened, stirring constantly. Stir in sour cream and serve hot with rice or noodles. Makes six servings.

MISS ANDERSON
Appearing at McArthur Court Thursday evening, sponsored by Civic Music Association, is Marian Anderson, noted contralto.

Community Club To Have Party

The January meeting of the College Crest Community Club will be held Friday evening at eight o'clock as an evening party, instead of the usual potluck dinner. After the program, there will be games and dancing and refreshments will be served.

All residents of the community are invited to participate, and each family is asked to bring sandwiches.

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AAUW Writing Group to Gather

The creative writing group of the American Association of University Women will meet at seven-forty-five o'clock Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. H. V. Alward, Jr., 1640 Walnut Street. All members are welcome to attend and are asked to phone 2849M if they decide to participate.

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ANNIVERSARY IS MARKED

While visiting at the home of their son, Robert E. Lochner, in Eugene, Mr. and Mrs. William Lochner of Albany, celebrated their sixtieth wedding anniversary, January 1. The couple was married at Moquoketa, Iowa, in 1886, coming to Oregon in 1903. They settled on a farm near Albany, which is their present home.

The couple has eight children, six now living. One daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Griggs of Albany, was with them here.

Club Calendar

Wednesday

Hospitality Club card benefit, Osburn Hotel.

St. Mary's Episcopal Guild at parish hall, all day.

Thursday

Helmetta Club of Pythian Sisters, Knights of Pythias Hall, 6:30 p. m. potluck dinner.

Central Lutheran Ladies Aid society, with Mrs. Albert Vik, 2 p. m.

Cornelian Club with Mrs. Wendell Kaufman, 8 p.m.

Friday

Eugene Rose Society, Garden Clubhouse, 8 p. m.

Two Town Club, with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dalton, 6:30 p. m. dinner.

Dakota Club, WOW Hall, 6:30 p. m. dinner.

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Altar Society Sets Monthly Session

Altar Society of St. Mary's Catholic Church will meet Wednesday, January 29, at two o'clock in the Cafeteria of St. Mary's School, Eleventh and Lincoln.

There will be election of officers. Third and fourth divisions will entertain.

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SORORITY OFFICER IS RECENT VISITOR

Mrs. Claudia B. Hartung of Portland, northwest province president of Alpha Chi Omega sorority, spent several days with members of the Eugene chapter on the campus. Initiation was held while she was here, and several conferences were arranged. Mrs. Hartung left Sunday for her home.

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P-TA ANNOUNCES SUPPER AND SALE

Santa Clara P-TA will meet for a cafeteria supper Friday evening at six o'clock, at the schoolhouse. After the dinner, there will be a white elephant sale.

All residents of the community are invited.

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CORNELIAN CLUB LISTS MEETING

Cornelian Club will meet Thursday evening at eight o'clock at the home of Mrs. Wendell Kaufman, 1743 Lawrence Street, for a business session.

MR. MRS. LOCHNER
Their 60th wedding anniversary was celebrated here early this month by Mr. and Mrs. William Lochner of Albany, who were visiting at the home of their son, Robert E. Lochner.

SOCIAL CLUB

Social Club of Sons of Union Veterans Auxiliary met recently at the home of Mrs. Belle Lammers. Mrs. B. E. Rogers was cohostess. Mrs. Maxia O'Neil, president, presided over the business meeting.

Mrs. Eugene Slattery gave a talk about Pearl Harbor, where she and Colonel Slattery were living at the time of the Japanese attack.

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting. Seventeen were present.

Weekly Paper Begins Publication at Creswell

The first edition of "Creswell New Era," Lane County's newest weekly newspaper, was published and made available to the citizens of Creswell last week. Its appearance raises the total of weekly papers in the county to five.

Edited and published by Earl L. Wilson, the paper consisted of four pages of news items, the feature article of which was devoted to a story on the Benter Farms near Creswell.

SANTA CLARA FIRE

The Santa Clara volunteer fire department has announced that in case of fire, residents of the area are to telephone 12-F-21 or 20-F-13. A fire truck has been obtained from Portland, and ten residents of the community are serving as volunteer firemen.

There were about 227,000 miles of railroad in the United States in 1945.

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Book Review

"Driftwood Valley," by Theodora C. Stanwell-Fletcher; Little, Brown and Company, 1946. $2.00.

By MARIE FLETCHER

Before her future husband and Theodora Stanwell had become acquainted, each of them had dreamed separately of living somewhere in the wilds of British Columbia. Later, they dreamed together and then they made their dreams come true—in the Driftwood Valley of North Central British Columbia during the years 1937-1940; their days filled with adventure and strenuous activity to keep their larder full by hunting and fishing.

The husband—"J" in the text—had a background of old English public schools; seven years in India with the British Army as physical training master; teacher of several subjects in his regiment; nine years in Arctic and Sub-Arctic Canada; trapper, traveler, explorer, member of the Royal-Canadian Mounted Police. His wife, the author, has a university background and has lived at times in New Zealand, the Dutch East Indiese, Asia, the British Isles, in Sub-Arctic Canada, also. Their outlook was congenial; each had acquired or inherited a longing to know out-of-the-way places and peoples, living animals also. Besides they had a similar feeling about fundamentals and "a mutual desire to live in and study the wilderness of British Columbia, a district larger by almost 40,000 square miles than the combined areas of Washington, Oregon and California." It is "a land of infinite variety; mighty mountain ranges with lofty snow peaks; vast virgin forests; great lakes and rivers and a wealth of minerals, furs and other natural products."

Except for portions of Alaska and the Northwest Territories they found that the flora and fauna in the spacious uninhabited sections of the country approximate more truly than elsewhere on the North American continent in undisturbed condition. Their life in the wilderness called from the natives the statement: "You live like us, see? All time you do same like we do. You know, other white man he not live like us. He not know, see?"

The book is full of incidents, amusing and near tragic. One reader is fascinated by the story of wolf concerts—common occurrences—and would be thrilled with the opportunity, especially when wooing time arrives, to be within hearing distance of the concert.

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