

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER
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The Register-Guard's policy is to present news and information 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.

Where Century Fund Fills A Need

In the campaign to raise \$50,000 for Century Fund Parks and Playgrounds, the suburban areas are giving wonderful cooperation but in some sections a question recurs which calls for an answer:

"How do we who live outside the city get any direct benefit out of a program for city parks and playgrounds?"

The answer is that Century Fund was created to do anything (so far as funds are available) which its 15 trustees (all heads of permanent institutions) may deem "for the benefit of the community", and the community is defined as "all the area within 12 miles of the foundation landmark at Skinner's Butte".

Springfield is not included in the present campaign although Springfield has representation in the board of trustees. That is because Springfield has its own Park District setup (although Springfield shared in the summer playground special funds two years ago—and will again).

The present campaign includes all of the area in the Eugene school district and Bethel, and that means that Santa Clara, River Road, Bethel, Bailey Hill, Willakenzie, Dunn, and Maglady are definitely "in".

And the most important point to remember is:

Century Fund's trustees can work through any of the agencies of government in the area—the school boards, the county court, the cities, or whatever agency is most appropriate.

For instance, in the present campaign, everything above the minimum needed to complete the purchase of the 120 acres in the Amazon (on which options expire June 1) can and will be used for immediate playground needs, and if the full \$50,000 is realized this will be a very substantial sum. The Century Fund can allocate this to school playgrounds or city playgrounds anywhere in the area according to their judgment of need.

And, those who know playground work say that LEADERSHIP for an AREA-WIDE program is quite as important as the physical improvement of the available open spaces. In other words there is need to supplement the operating budgets of the schools and city so that year-round programs can be established in every neighborhood, not in just a few as has been done in the past because funds were so limited.

Then there's that SWIMMING POOL on which a contract will probably be let this month. It will take all of the \$65,000 the Eugene city council has plus about \$35,000 scraped out of other city funds just to construct the pool, and there will be very little to improve the 10 acres of playground around the pool. But that will be for some time to come the ONLY pool in an area with 50,000 people. It will have to serve all of the Eugene-Springfield area willy nilly until more can be built.

Century Fund got its first \$15,000 without any kind of public drive and that pattern of purely spontaneous giving will go on year after year. This campaign is merely to give the program a first big push. If Century Fund had \$150,000 it could all be used to good advantage because the needs are so great. But this will be the first and last public campaign. The rest of the money will come week by week and month by month, over the years because in this campaign 1106 men and women are going to their neighbors to explain the idea and the needs.

Rural Area Zoning

In the not too distant future Lane County should have a chance to decide what it wants to do about zoning in rural areas, now that the state legislature has adopted a zoning bill.

Considerable misinformation has been tossed about concerning this measure. "Rugged individualism" asserted itself in the debates over zoning and a number of folks were heard to say that they didn't want any small group of planning officials dictating to them what kind of buildings they should put on their property.

The truth is that this is merely an enabling act. It makes it possible for a county or smaller area to establish zoning if it so desires. Farming, grazing and timber areas are excepted. If county-wide zoning is not adopted, a rural area containing two square miles or more may adopt zoning.

This is especially significant in fast-growing sections just outside cities. It is important in scenic areas like the McKenzie River region. Residents of that section, as well as lovers of the McKenzie everywhere, have watched helplessly in recent years as things happened up there which destroyed both the beauty and recreational value of certain spots. Now it will be possible to take steps to preserve these values.

Some developments in fringe areas have been especially deplorable. The man who built a home might wake up some day to find

a slaughter house going up next door. He was helpless to protect his investment. Intelligent zoning can provide proper and adequate space for slaughter houses, thus preserving investments in residential areas. In fact, rural areas can now look ahead, decide what their destiny should be and arrange orderly progress toward that end.

Cooperation with zoning commissions and acceptance of the American ideal of the greatest good for the greatest number should make it possible for every reasonable project to find a proper and profitable location. There may be some inconvenience at times, that is true. But in the end the benefits to the public as a whole should outweigh the inconvenience that may be caused for a few. Intelligent zoning preserves and enhances property values and, in fact, can help business to grow in a healthy, orderly manner.

Glenwood is a classic example of what can happen without zoning. This section, lying between the two fast-growing cities of Eugene and Springfield, is potentially one of the most valuable areas in this region. Because there was no way to prevent it, these values have now been destroyed for many years to come.

Without zoning, such things might have happened in Eugene, itself. Just outside Eugene and Springfield are other rapidly-growing sections. Although they are not legally cities, they are fast becoming as densely settled as city residential areas, with the same problems that exist in cities. There are large values in such sections to be protected. The zoning act will make it possible to preserve them.

Our Lumber Future

This is a queer world.

On one hand there is an insistent clamor all over the nation:

"Cut more lumber! Send us more housing material!"

On the other hand is the oft-repeated warning:

"You're cutting the timber too fast—faster than new growth will replace it."

What's the answer?

We don't pretend to know the complete answer.

Two facts stand out:

The economy of western Oregon is geared largely to lumber.

There are too many reports of timber being cut faster than growth replaces it.

Who's to blame? There's scant agreement on this point.

What can be done? Still no agreement.

We repeat we do not know the answer.

We must depend on the brains in government and industry for that, and on fair-minded cooperation to put the best program into operation.

We do know that the public, not only in Oregon but throughout the nation, has a stake in timber as a national resource. The future prosperity of Eugene is largely dependent on lumber. From the standpoint of the public it is highly essential that an answer be found—and found soon.

"Is this rain ever going to stop? I'm going to move to southern California as soon as I can!"

Yes, sir! And it was a real Oregonian talking!

You can't get away from weather. They have it everywhere you go.

Not long ago an "immigrant" from California was in the office. Oddly enough, he confessed that one of the things that drove him out of that country was the weather. No seasons there, he said.

"How can there be any spring if you don't have winter first?" he demanded.

Another thing that bothered him was southern California's desert winds.

"Very often after a rain these hot, dry, enervating winds will blow up and parch everything they touch. I'll take a couple of weeks of Oregon mist any time in preference to one of those scorches."

The "immigrant" admitted, however, that a long stretch of rain does get him down at times.

"After a couple of weeks of it," he confessed, "I sometimes get so low that I say to myself, 'Why do I stay in this soggy country, anyhow?' But you know, a queer thing always happens. Pretty soon the sun will come out—maybe just a few minutes. Then I look around and see again how beautiful everything is, and I say to myself, 'Gosh! What a lucky guy I am to be here!'"

Anyway, we don't think our Oregon friend who was tired of rain will really go to California. If he does, well, he'll be back.

For protection of our rights, the coo of the dove isn't in it with the call of the American eagle.

Fish never realize what a terrible time some folks have getting bait.

A lazy, impudent clerk is the worst combination in restraint of trade.

America is a country where people are elected to pass down the laws so other people can pass them up.

District Meeting Time Schedules For Park and Playground Drive

(Main Playground Story, Page 1)
(As Far as Completed)

MONDAY
7 p.m.—At Whiteaker school, an instruction rally. Mrs. Harold Whitney, chairman; co-chairmen, Nellie Lyle Myer and Mrs. Ray C. Smith, and (for men) Elmer Wells.

TUESDAY
1:30 p.m.—At Frances Willard an instruction rally. Mrs. H. J. Jones, chairman; co-chairmen, Mrs. Jessie Stewart and Mrs. Mary Stratton.
7:30 p.m.—At Woodrow Wilson Junior High, an instruction rally. Mrs. Duane Himber, chairman; co-chairman, Mrs. Clara Hall.
7:30 p.m.—At Condon School, an instruction rally. Mrs. Horace Robinson, chairman; co-chairman, Jack Beck.

School Schedule

(School Radio and Street Shows for Century Fund Parks and Playground).

SUNDAY
8:15-5:30 p.m.—KORE. Eugene High a cappella transcription.

MONDAY
Noon (At 10th and Willamette)—Wilson Band, Frances Willard. Kelly Junior High. Special feature will be presentation of check for \$1500 from Loyal Order of Moose.
1:30 p.m.—Town Crier—KUGN.

TUESDAY
10:30-10:40 a.m.—KORE. Whiteaker.
Noon (At 10th and Willamette)—Eugene High Band, Meglady, Edison. Special feature will be presentation of check for \$1000 from Eugene Fruit Growers by representatives of "Ton Club."
6:30-7:00 p.m.—KORE. Eugene High.
7:30-7:45 p.m.—KUGN. Kelly Junior High.

WEDNESDAY
Noon (At 10th and Willamette)—Wilson Band, River Road.
1:30 p.m.—Edison Playground Day.
8:15-8:30 p.m.—KUGN. River Road.

THURSDAY
Noon (At 10th and Willamette)—Eugene High, Lincoln, Condon.
4:45-5 p.m.—KORE. Condon.
1:30 p.m.—Lincoln Park and Playground Day.

FRIDAY
Noon (At 10th and Willamette)—Wilson Band, Washington, Roosevelt.

Century Fund Gifts Listed

Robert Cross, chairman of the Business Division in the \$50,000 campaign for Century Fund Parks and Playgrounds acknowledges the following gifts of \$50 or more and adds:

"I am told that newspaper space will not permit the listing of all of the gifts in my department, but we have many for smaller amounts for which we are deeply grateful because the spirit of this campaign is for every business concern and every family to give what it can, in proportion to its means and interest in our town."

The list:
Eugene Sand & Gravel Co. \$100
Russell's 250
O'Neill Lumber Co. 100
John L. and W. B. Mikeasell 50
Kennell-Ellis 50
Oldfield Electric 100
Maytag Washing Machine Service 100
Gustafson Fuel Co. 100
Smith's Women's Shop 100
Junior Chamber of Commerce Aux. 100
Dr. S. M. Richmond 50
Willamette Gardens 50
Garret Appliance Co. 100
Rodmans Realty 50
McCully Realty 50
B. P. O. E. No. 357 1500
Miller Mercantile Co. 100

Conciliation Service Called on Taxi Case

Federal conciliation service has been called in the case of Stan's Taxi and Teamsters' Local 87 (AFL), according to D. B. McFadyen, secretary of the union.

McFadyen said Saturday that Stan's Taxi is the only taxicab company in Eugene not covered by the union contract. The company employs approximately eight drivers. Louis Ziman, conciliator who was instrumental in helping the other four cab companies reach a contract agreement with the Teamsters, will probably be called in again this time, McFadyen said.

P. J. Hanns Co. 50
Williams Bakery 100
Miner Building 100
Eugene Mill Supply Co. 50
Mrs. E. C. Hall 50
Robertson Furniture Co. 50
Harold J. Wells 50
Frank B. Lamb 50
Dr. A. F. Sether 50
Baker's Pharmacy 50
Powell-Edblom Footwear 50
Joe Richard's Men Store 100
A. R. Quackenbush, Sr. 100
B. R. Andrus 150
Spicer Lumber Co. 50
With his gift of Joe Richards, Joe Richards sends a note stating that he is setting aside some of his choice camellias to make a start on a camellia garden which he thinks will some day mean more than his cash gift.

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Cancer, U.S.O. Funds Aided

Checks from the Community Chest were mailed this week to the American Cancer Society, Oregon Division, and U.S.O. headquarters at Seattle as Lane County's part in fund drives of these two organizations.

Because county quotas for these two drives were included in the over-all Community Chest quota, separate drives will not be held in Lane County.

A check for \$5119 went to the Cancer Society at Portland and a check for \$8800 to the U.S.O. executive at Seattle.

A meeting of the board of directors of the Eugene Community Chest has been scheduled for Tuesday noon at the Eugene Hotel.

The banana plant, resembling a tree, actually is an herb with tightly rolled leaves serving as stems.

Film on Submarines Available in Eugene

A 38-minute film, depicting the exploits of submarines during the past war, is available at Navy recruiting headquarters, basement of the post office building, to any group, organization or individual institution wishing to show it.

The film is entitled "Service" and those wishing to see it should call at the station for Vic Hays, in charge of Reserve recruiting.

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