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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.

Looks Like Good Choice for Manager

On the record of his performance, it looks as though the City Council of Eugene has made an excellent choice for city manager to replace Deane Seeger. We are not personally acquainted with Oren L. King who will come to us from Pendleton on or before April 1. (Seeger will be relieved to go to the League of Oregon Cities on Feb. 15 and Councilman Verne Hawn will fill the interim as "acting manager" with Recorder Henry Beistel actually doing the manager's work, as we explain farther down in this piece.) The data on Manager-elect King:

Oren L. King—age 39; height 5 feet 11 inches; robust health record; married; educated at University of Oklahoma and University of Colorado, graduating in civil engineering and business administration; registered engineer in Colorado, Oregon and Washington; post graduate work in engineering at Colorado and in municipal finance and related problems at University of Chicago; with Colorado state highway department 1931-40; U. S. Reclamation Bureau 1940-42; city manager of Montrose, Colo. 1942-47; city manager of Pendleton 1947 to present and getting \$7500 at Pendleton; attracted to Eugene because it's larger and presents wider opportunities; member of Rotary Club and American Legion; American Association of Civil Engineers, International City Managers' Association, American Municipal Association, League of Oregon Cities; has long list of accomplishments in various civic activities, apart from official duties, including chairman of a successful hospital building campaign at Montrose.

Eugene will pay Mr. King \$8500. Some may say this is too much. We were saying Seeger \$7630. He was offered liberal advances to remain, but salary had nothing to do with his change because he was attracted to his new work as consultant to all Oregon cities. Salem is paying \$9000, for a job which is really easier than Eugene's because Salem has not had such terrific growth impact. In general, salaries of city managers in Oregon are considerably below prevailing scales in California and many other states. In any business it is axiomatic:

"It is good economy to hire a first class man for a key job and pay him what he is worth."

As rapidly as possible the same principle must be applied in every rank of public service.

We are getting a manager who has youth, health, and an excellent experience record. We are glad to note that his training combines engineering with finance. We are in a construction period but none of our construction problems can be solved without realistic understanding of taxation and finance. Mr. King is admirably qualified to carry on the excellent work of Deane Seeger.

We are asked to give a brief explanation of the appointment of Councilman Hawn as acting manager till Mr. King arrives:

"In all but title, City Recorder Henry Beistel will be acting manager during the interim, but Beistel could not be relieved as recorder and treasurer without finding bond and qualifying his temporary replacement, nor could he sign warrants and meet other formal requirements without special bonding. Hawn can do these things without all the red tape."

It amounts to this—Hawn as senior councilman will keep an eye on things and sign necessary documents, but otherwise go about his own business. He will NOT draw any pay. Mayor Ed Johnson will also be on hand daily to help out, and the Mayor likewise will not draw any pay. Beistel will get an extra \$150 a month for the extra work (and he'll earn it). It's a very thrifty and sensible arrangement for the six weeks.

How're We Doin' on "Grid?"

It will probably require six months of operation, according to Police Chief Keith Jones, to get sufficient data to draw conclusions as to the efficiency of Eugene's "one-way traffic grid" compared with the old method of handling downtown traffic. The Chief tells us:

"December and January were bad months to use for comparisons on account of the snow and ice on the streets which complicated all traffic handling and undoubtedly caused many accidents in no way related to the grid system. Because we did not start the grid till December 6, we did not try to compare that month in detail with December of 1947.

"But for what it may be worth, in December, 1948, for the entire city we had 289 accidents compared with 224 in December, 1947, but injuries we cut from 27 to 20.

"For January, 1949, we had a total of 214 accidents compared with 175 in January, 1948. Of these 86 were in the grid in 1949, compared with 66 for the same area in January, 1948, but injury accidents for the city as a whole dropped from 13 to 7, and of these only 3 were in the grid area this year compared with 7 last year and the total of persons hurt in the area dropped from 8 to 4.

"But you can't prove anything on such short trial or under such extreme variance of the conditions. I think it will take at least six months to get a fair measure."

Everybody seems to be agreed that traffic is being moved much more easily and there has been surprisingly little confusion. The biggest surprise has been the almost total absence of complaints, either from residents of Eugene or people coming in from outside.

Prompt action by the police to check speeding on the grid streets has undoubtedly helped the injury figures. The meanest hazard is still at cross walks, and this will not be abated entirely even when we have complete light controls.

Many cities are watching Eugene's bold experiment in traffic handling. Even conservative Salem is now considering a par-

tial one-way system for routing highway traffic through town.

The real proof will come when the State Highway Department makes the counts on traffic flow which they have promised. They made their preliminary counts last fall before the grid was put into operation, and these included a lot of "timed runs" from "point to point." We think the recheck with the grid in operation will prove that "street capacity" has been almost doubled.

Students gain little by burning the candle at both ends, says a professor. Well, it certainly doesn't make the outlook any brighter.

School kids in an Ohio town are collecting rags in a library book drive. Dad better keep his eye on that other suit.

Trees cover one-fifth the earth's surface—and we'd like to have the income tax collector up every one of them.

It isn't the noise of the baby's crying at night—it's the upkeep.

Giving to the March of Dimes until it hurts means helping the hurts of others.

Reader Editorial

"WHO'S LIBERAL IN TRUE SENSE?"

SPRINGFIELD—(To the Editor)—That was a very nice letter that Mr. Quinn wrote in defense of the discharged Washington U. professors. Some people are going to label him a Red for defending those men, but he is not. Mr. Quinn belongs to a very valuable group of citizens, the real liberals. I admire liberals very much; in fact I used to be one myself until my hair got too gray for me to work at the trade.

The only trouble with being a liberal is that you have to sympathize with so many crack-pots. If you are a liberal in your Christianity you must defend the ridiculous and obscene tenets of the Hindus. After all, some intelligent people are Hindus. If we are liberal in our patriotism we must condone the treason of poor old Axis Sally—after all, there was only one of her.

This is the weakness of the "liberal" position, and the Communists have been quick to capitalize on it. They have fooled Mr. Quinn and too many other good Americans by calling themselves a Party. They are not a party in the sense that Republicans and Democrats are parties. They are a lodge, a secret society, a sort of international Ku Klux Klan in some respects, with membership cards and a fairly rugged type of party discipline. The Communist Party doesn't welcome the earnest seeker after truth whom Mr. Quinn rightly considers the finest kind of professor. When you carry a Red card you take orders; the Kremlin handles the reins.

No, Mr. Quinn, every man has a right to examine the theories and methods of the Communists—you can still find Marx's unreadable opus in the city library—but when a man JOINS the Party he has left liberalism and Americanism and Academic Freedom behind.

And the professors joined the Party. David J. Doran.

WASHINGTON LETTER

By PETER EDSON
NEA Washington Correspondent

Story of Eugene Dennis, Top Commie, Is Blurred by Aliases

WASHINGTON—(NEA)—Central figure in the New York trial of 11 U. S. Communist Party leaders on charges of teaching and advocating overthrow of the U. S. government, is General Secretary Eugene Dennis. William Z. Foster, Communist Party national chairman, may be considered the front man, but it is the general secretary who is boss. Foster was the 12th man indicted but is not on trial with the others because of illness.

Dennis' life story is clouded by many aliases. He became general secretary of the U. S. Communist Party in June, 1945, when Earl Browder was expelled. Foster had been in line for the job and wanted it. But Dennis had the nod from Moscow.

Began As Francis Eugene Waldron
The man now known as Eugene Dennis was born in Seattle, Wash., Aug. 19, 1905, as Francis Eugene Waldron. He was graduated from Seattle High School in 1923 and attended University of Washington for a few months in 1925-6.

In 1929 and 30 he built up a long police record in Los Angeles, with many arrests and releases on charges of violating the state's criminal syndicalism laws. There is one record of a sentence of \$500 fine and 180 days imprisonment.

In December, 1930, one Paul Eugene Walsh made application for passport to travel in Europe. He claimed birth in Austin, Pa., Feb. 18, 1904. There are no records of anyone by that name having been born in Austin. Ben Gitlow, one of the U. S. Communist Party founders who was later expelled, asserts in his new book, "The Whole of Their Lives," that Waldron, alias Dennis, obtained this passport by fraud. Anyway, he appeared before a U. S. consul at Johannesburg, South Africa, in 1932 to have it renewed.

In 1931 Regina Karasick Walsh applied for passport to go to Germany. In 1934 she applied for another passport in which she listed a son, Timothy Waldron, and declared she had been married to Francis Eugene Waldron in 1928. She declared she had lived in Moscow from 1931 to 1933.

Waldron, or Walsh's own record, indicates that he attended Lenin Institute in Moscow, where he was trained as an OGPU and Communist agent. He did party work in the Philippine Islands, China and the Near East. In August, 1935, he applied at the U. S. consulate in Moscow for a passport to return to the United States.

His first job after return to the U. S. was Communist Party secretary general for Wisconsin. He held this position two years under the name of Eugene Dennis. He is given credit for having built up Communist Party strength in Wisconsin and for having had a hand in wrecking the once-strong Milwaukee Socialist movement.

Keynote at Red Conventions
Dennis was made a member of the Communist Party national committee in 1938. He has been keynote at many Communist Party national conventions. He is a prolific writer and has been a regular contributor to "The Communist" magazine, more recently known as "Political Affairs." In the September and October, 1945, issues of this publication, Dennis laid down the lines for creation of a third party in the U. S., setting forth the task of the Communist Party in this effort.

Louis Francis Budenz in his book, "This Is My Story," makes a number of references to Dennis. Budenz was an editor on the Daily Worker until the near end of the war, when he broke away from the party and retained the Catholic church.

All through the Russian campaign against the Finns, Dennis was underground and did not frequent the ninth-floor party headquarters at 35 East 12th St., New York. When the Nazis attacked Russia and the United States was drawn into the war all this changed.

The U. S. Communist Party was theoretically dissolved and became the Communist Political Association, in full support of America's war effort. During this time, says Budenz, Eugene Dennis was one of Earl Browder's principal supporters.

The minute it was decided to give Browder the gate and elevate Foster to national chairmanship, Dennis turned. Budenz relates that at the last meeting of the Communist Party national committee over which Browder presided, Dennis was loud in praise of Browder's record. At the next meeting, after the French Communist leader had made known to the U. S. party leadership that Stalin had no more use for Browder, Dennis led the movement for the "liquidation of Browderism." Then Dennis himself became general secretary.

Editor's Mailbag—

CIVIC CENTER

EUGENE—(To The Editor)—After the enthusiastic reception of my suggestion to plow up Williamette Street and plant it to grass, I have the temerity to offer advice again. In fact I would be remiss in my responsibilities as a resident of this community and as a member of the planning profession if I were to remain silent while the city and county fathers discuss proposals for new local government structures.

Not many years ago we had the privilege of locating a new post office. Upon request of the editor of the Register Guard, I prepared a study showing how the post office could be located as a part of a future civic center development. The plan was not published because a property deal was made before any fancy notions in regard to a civic center could upset the applecart.

In the foreseeable future we will be faced with the problem of locating, either by political expediency or by plan, a number of government and quasi-governmental buildings. Perhaps it is reasonable to hope that sufficient community planning sense has been generated by the fine work of the Lane County Planning Commission and the highly commendable educational effort that the Register Guard has poured forth for several years in support of city, county and regional planning, so that some real thought will be given at this time to the formulation and adoption of a plan for a joint City-County-Federal government center.

Our city offices probably deserve better accommodations than the present obsolete structure provides and the present site is more valuable to the community for commercial uses. The county building is well located but it and its contents are a wee bit inadequate and out-moded. The jails certainly do little credit to the vaunted hospitality of our fair community. Our valued public library has struggled alone in quarters that have been utterly inadequate for the past 15 years. Some day the financing of a much needed public auditorium will be possible and some day we will need housing for such state and Federal offices as far appropriate to a metropolitan area such as ours is fast becoming. We might as well face it, because sooner or later all of these buildings will be built and perhaps others of a public use nature.

In my opinion, we should give much consideration to building a government center with the county park blocks as a nucleus because it is adjacent to the heart of our commercial section but not in line with future business expansion. Remove the bastle and extend the park blocks as open park space to be terminated by a government structure. Plan on acquiring necessary property to the east for other public buildings. Knock out a section of stores on Broadway to provide visual access to the civic center from this main street. Encourage the merchants to develop the park fronts of their business into a arcaded shopping ways with arcaded inter-block pedestrian access to Williamette Street. Within the scheme, provision could be made for an open air paved court, attractively planted and perhaps beautified by sculpture, where concerts, flower shows, meetings and other events could be held.

If plans for such a center are started quickly, they can be coordinated with highway plans for the Ferry Street bridge approach to the city. Other sites for a government center could be proposed, but don't forget: (a) the location value of this site; (b) the north Williamette business section is slipping and would be stabilized by such a development; (c) we now have the park blocks and a court house and federal armory in this area; (d) the present condition of structures in and about the area represent largely old houses and inexpensive commercial buildings; (e) a part of our downtown parking problem could be solved by the able design of such a project.

In any case, we should not miss this grand opportunity to make a start on a fine civic center of which Lane County and Eugene could be proud and which would prove its worth in increased government efficiency over any hit and miss scattering of the functions of government.

Very truly yours,
FRED A. CUTHBERT

MR. SHERMAN

EUGENE—(To the Editor)—The tirade of President Truman against Communism, the trial of the twelve communists in New York, and the dismissal of the professors of the Washington University has aroused the curiosity of the people as to what Communism is.

There is one thing certain. You cannot regulate men's ideas by passing laws or persecuting them for having such ideas. They tried that way and failed for thousands of years.

The old Czar government in Russia sent thousands of people as exiles to Siberia for advocating a democratic form of government. Now Russia has a socialist form of government which is a democracy of wealth.

The early Christian church had property in common. They persecuted the Christians but that did not stop the growth of Christianity.

After the inquisition in Spain in which thousands of people lost their lives, Emperor Charles the Tenth admitted that he could not make people think alike.

In the matter of Communism

Status Quo



then, how can you combat the ideas by punishing its exponents?

We may disfranchise the Communist Party. Then the Communists can join other political parties that run for office. Because Franklin D. Roosevelt had certain progressive ideas, by some he was called a Communist. And the Socialist Upton Sinclair obtained the nomination for governor of California on the Democratic ticket.

Oh, but some say "the Communists are opposed to Americanism." What is Americanism? Our chattel slavery was considered good Americanism.

Theodore Roosevelt once said,

"When our Constitution is not up to the demands of the age, it is the duty of the American people to change that Constitution." All that the Communists propose to do is to put in effect Theodore Roosevelt's proposition.

Charles W. Sherman
Eugene, Oregon

ZILCH-CHANG

EUGENE—(To the Editor)—I am not too young, bit of bad heart and to think I lived long enough to discover that there is a Mr. Zilch.

As I came into the room the canary had just finished eating

the cat and seemed quite smug and happy.

BLT or RHL of the Tribune Line-o-type would have called your apology the "Crawl Direct," but the real heading could have been "We Make the Rules."

We know what old Vinegar Stillwell called Kai-Shek and that his personal animus prevented Chinese aid but I must always remember Claire Chennault and Vinegar "The best 4-star battalion commander he ever knew, despite his antiquated Civil War methods."

FRED W. MATHEY,
1312 Mill.

Weed-Loving Geese Chase Berry

MOUNT VERNON, Wash.—Jim Hubert, a farmer, says he will lose in his cherry orchard this spring and summer because of the geese that are coming to the area. The geese will do a lot of damage to the cherry trees. Last year Hubert lost one month's income because of the geese. The geese will do a lot of damage to the cherry trees. Last year Hubert lost one month's income because of the geese. The geese will do a lot of damage to the cherry trees. Last year Hubert lost one month's income because of the geese.

One Man in Haul After Traffic

Ray Russell, 13-year-old boy, taken to the Eugene hospital today morning for treatment of injuries received in a car accident at First and Main.

Russell was a passenger in a panel truck driven by Keating, Jr., 35, 12th Ave. W., Saturday when it collided with a car by Ancil Everett, 1231 Lake Drive, N.E. Damage to the car was severe, and neither driver was injured, but after police investigation.

Man Charged for Less Operator's

A charge of driving an operator's permit was against Otto Kasten, 48, Ave. W., Saturday when he was involved in a car accident at Eighth and Lane. Kasten's sedan was damaged in the crash, but the car with which the city police reported the driver was D. W. Rt. 5, Eugene.

Army Chief Dies

SAN FRANCISCO—Gen. Richard Donovan, wartime head of the Eighth Service Command, died of a heart attack in his hotel room here today.

A native of Paducah, he was graduated from Military Academy in 1910 and will be in San Antonio Cemetery.

Your Valentine... a Blouse

From a large selection
You are able to choose
the blouse For wear with
Your new Spring suit for
Important date . . . or . . . with
that extra skirt for

FOR A VERY SPECIAL VALENTINE!

NYLON SLIPS

Extra fine quality
Nylon knit tailored
Slips in black
or white
Tailored by
Blue Swan and
so moderately
priced 5.95
Your nationally
advertised "Pandora"
for that extra
quality 6.95

SIZES — 34 to 42

"NEED NO IRONING"

Fine sheer batiste with
gorgeous dainty lingerie
lace trim 3.95 to 6.95

Selected crepes . . . dressy
or tailored in white and
colors . . . long or short
sleeves . . . 4.95 to 14.95

Gorgeous gay prints for
a colorful Spring season in
long or short sleeves . . . 10.95

Sizes . . . 32 to 44

HADLEY'S

EUGENE SPRINGFIELD