

Day's News Grist For Editorial Staff

(EDITOR'S NOTE. This is the sixth of a series of articles describing functions of the various newspaper departments. The series is written in conjunction with National Newspaper Week, Oct. 1 to 8.)

The editorial department of the newspaper is the one most familiar to the public. And rightly it should be, for the reporter, long glorified in history and romance, is the public contact for the newspaper.

Movies have built up a vision of the reporter, the city editor and the rest, so that the "news-side" of the paper seems to be made up of hard-drinking, gum chewing, swearing egotistic heroes. Only recently the trend has been to depict the newsman as a decent, everyday person.

That's the typical news man nowadays. He realizes his duty and knows that the words at his command can injure individuals or undermine institutions. He's serious, yet always possessing a keen sense of humor.

Publisher, editors, reporters, copy boys, on down the line are actually public figures. There's hardly a place for the recluse in the news room. Gathering, writing and editing the news demands inquisitiveness and stability, plus ability. A "nose for news" is a prime requisite.

The editorial department of the Register-Guard is divided into

Rhode Island Bonus Applications Due

The deadline for the Rhode Island veterans bonus is Oct. 31, 1949, the Lane County Red Cross chapter reminded veterans from that state this week. Blanks are available at the Red Cross office.

Other approaching deadlines include Louisiana, Oct. 1, 1949; Illinois, July, 1950; Connecticut, July 1, 1951.

The Red Cross also has a supply of displaced person application blanks.

State bonus forms for Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and North and South Dakota have also been sent the Red Cross.

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NEWS DEPARTMENT AT WORK: At top is the copy desk with, left to right, Alton Baker, Jr., Susan Bernhardt, Dan Sellard and Dan Wyant. At left is the women's news department, with Ann Connell and Dorris Bjorset. These are but two of the parts of the news room, with sports and the reportorial staff not photographed. (Staff photo, Wiltshire engraving.)



CHRISTMAS CHEER

The custom of sending cheery Christmas cards is only a little more than 100 years old. Today, more than 1,500,000,000 are exchanged in the United States alone.

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Sports Writer Shares Earnings With Active Club Polio Fund

The Eugene Active Club's polio fund was \$5 richer Thursday after a generous action on the part of Eddie Robison, Springfield, Register-Guard sports correspondent.

The club paid Eddie, a student at the University, \$7.50 for covering the recent hot rod races for them. Eddie figured out his regular space rates, and decided that he had actually earned only \$2.50 of the sum.

This week he sent \$5 back to the club, requesting that the sum be turned over to one of the club's many youth and welfare projects.

In his letter he suggested that the money be put in a polio fund.

FIRE VS. BLITZ

Fire losses in the United States in 1946 exceeded by almost 25 per cent the damage done by the German incendiary blitz on England during 1940 and 1941.

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Mill's 'Smink,' Pulp Problems, Occupy Meeting

The Weyerhaeuser "smink," what it is, where it comes from, and what can and cannot be done about it were explained Thursday noon to the board of directors of the Eugene Chamber of Commerce. Speakers were Marvin Jones, manager of the pulp division of the Weyerhaeuser Timber Co.'s Springfield plant, and H. B. Riley, the plant's technical director.

Declaring the smell of the sulphate (kraft) process is harmless, and that there is no appreciable river pollution resulting from the process, Riley outlined the four principal methods of making pulp, and explained why the sulphate process was used by the Springfield plant.

Odorless—But No Good
The mechanical method of grinding the wood into pulp is odorless, but unsatisfactory, he declared, because it yields a poor quality pulp.

The sulphate process, used in Oregon City, West Linn and Salem, yields a better quality pulp, but is not suitable for converting Douglas fir from wood to paper. Also, he said, it results in serious river pollution since half of the wood goes into the river. He described the sulphate smell as "pleasant."

The soda process is applicable to Douglas fir, but yields a low-strength pulp, and also creates a bad smell.

That leaves the sulphate process, known also as the "kraft" process. "Kraft" is a German word meaning strong.

The sulphate process yields a high-grade, strong pulp, and is especially adaptable to fir. In addition, he said, there is almost no river pollution. The waste is burned—all except the "smink."

Research Underway
But, as Jones told the chamber directors, Weyerhaeuser is doing everything possible to find methods of removing the odor, which results from a chemical reaction in the "cooking" process.

Riley told them it was possible that one process now in the experiment stage could relieve the odor. He stressed that it might relieve, not remove, the odor. It also might result in another odor, which would be similar to, but no worse than, the odor from a coal-burning power plant.

Can't Wash It
Attempts to wash the gas away with water have been futile, he revealed, because it is nearly insoluble in water. And if it could be washed out, he reminded the directors, it would stink up the McKenzie River.

Burning the gas, or storing it for release at one time, are not satisfactory solutions either, he said, because the gas is explosive when concentrated.

After the dinner and speeches in the Weyerhaeuser cafeteria, the directors were taken on a two-hour tour of the company's operation, and got to see the smell. But inside the building they couldn't smell it.



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