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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. A newspaper is a CITIZEN OF ITS COMMUNITY.
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Future of Eugene's Waterfront

It would not require any very staggering sum of money to acquire for future park and boulevard development all of the waterfront along the Willamette River's left bank from the Water Board's holdings at the end of 4th Avenue, past Polk Street into the River Road area. Out of approximately 9,200 feet of frontage (1.7 mile) more than 4,400 feet of frontage is already in public ownership, not counting the Water Board's holdings east of 4th to the foot of 8th, distributed as follows:

Frontage	Ownership
Old county barns	300 County
Skinner Park (Pearl 2,200)	City of Eugene
George Owens Park (foot of Jefferson)	600 City of Eugene
Riverwood Park (foot of Adams)	400 City of Eugene
Old sewage disposal site (foot of Polk)	900 City of Eugene
TOTAL	4,400 City and County

NOTE: Out of balances in its Century Fund Gateways account, the Gateways Association has purchased one property adjacent to the county property adjacent to the new Ferry Street bridge. This has been deeded to the city. The county has agreed to hold its property for park use, if the city will seed and plant it.

In the 3,800 feet of intervening private ownerships, the number of individual ownerships is small. Mr. Owens, who gave the city the large tract which bears his name (it is under development as a municipal rose garden), has suggested that he might himself buy the tract with about 600 feet of river frontage which lies between the Owens Park and the Riverview Park.

So near and yet so far. Out of existing park funds, the City of Eugene has only about \$1,000 which it could expend for riverfront acquisitions without seriously delaying development programs in existing parks and playgrounds. Century Fund's Gateway's account and its Parks and Playgrounds account have both been almost ex-

hausted with previous programs. This is the situation that is to be put before the meeting of Gateways people and Century Fund people Tuesday evening in Howard Buford's planning office at city hall—as OPPORTUNITY and as PROBLEM.

"Why should we tax ourselves to raise more money to buy more lands for future park uses when we haven't enough money to make full use of what we have now?"

That question is asked frequently. We are going to answer with the voice of a very tough minded gent, a frequent antagonist of ours, James A. Rodman, Senior, who asked us several years ago:

"When is this Century Fund outfit going to get smart and start clearing up these river fronts before it's too late?"

Highway engineers have also been looking at these river frontages, both sides, in terms of arterial boulevards, bridge approaches, additional bridges. The time is not far distant when flood control will be followed by systematic bank controls. Traffic uses and park uses can often be shrewdly combined.

"What about river navigation at some future day?"

We have pictures of steamboats tied up at the foot of High Street. They used to come to Eugene on flood stages. We have a clipping from the old Guard which explained that a week's issue had been delayed because the boats couldn't get up river with paper. Engineers say modern navigation beyond Harrisburg is quite unlikely.

In today's economy, the riverfront attracts gravel plants and kindred enterprises. We are among those who think that it has greater value for park and boulevard uses. We have stated the situation. If the City and Century Fund and Gateways people can devise any practical program for conserving these riverfronts, we will support it. We think public ownership of the river frontages would pay out in many ways.

'Oh Don't Go Near Them Lions' Cage'

You never can tell when those boys from up around Oakridge are really serious—especially if they happen to be Lions. Thus it is difficult to tell just how serious our good friend Bill Cash is when he suggests that Lane County be split right down the middle of the Willamette River between Eugene and Springfield and a new county formed (Lions County, no doubt) on the theory that the eastern half pays more than its share of taxes.

Along with the many interesting possibilities under such a split (such as who inherits which commissioners) (and does Lowell or Westfir become the county seat) we might suggest that Bill take one of those Tax Sheets the county assessor publishes every year and add up all the valuations east of the Willamette. It can be done by school districts, and going clear over to the Coast Fork and throwing in Creswell just to be generous we get this result:

No. 1—Pleasant Hill	\$ 2,105,659
No. 19—Springfield	21,683,504
No. 40—Creswell	2,327,893
No. 43—Coburg	1,075,575
No. 49—Deadmond's Ferry	86,933
No. 55—Ward	387,269
No. 57—Fall Creek	872,332
No. 68—McKenzie	2,799,283
No. 71—Lowell	2,601,311
No. 76—Oakridge	6,628,066
No. 79—Marcola	1,189,334
TOTAL	41,761,189
County Valuation	126,262,802
PER CENT EAST	33%

NOTE: You could add \$10,226,591 by throwing in the territory of Cottage Grove Union High District 14-J, but much of that lies west of the Coast Fork or taps Douglas County. You might rake up \$4,000,000 out of that part of the Eugene School District No. 4 which lies between the Willamette and the McKenzie, the old Willagillespie, Willakenzie and Chase Gardens districts. But part of Springfield No. 19 (the Goshen section) is west of the Coast Fork and so's the most valuable part of Creswell. Maybe you could

There is a lot of good in most people, says a writer. Now is a good time to let it come out.

Ever notice how many people tell time simply by a twist of the wrist?

When it has to do with money, what the average wife says goes.

Many women let collectors think they are out, because if they're in they'll be out, anyway.

If you want to spread dirt, wait until spring and do it in your own garden.

Moths can't swim but a lot of them will be in bathing suits this winter.

Governor Loses Right-Hand Man

By WILLIAM WARREN
 United Press Staff Correspondent
 SALEM — (U.P.) — Shortly after Thomas Lawson McCall became executive assistant to Gov. Douglas McKay in July, 1949, State Sen. Angus Gibson of Junction City paid a visit to the governor's office. The jovial Scot took one look at McCall, towering there 6 feet 6 inches tall, then turned to Gov. McKay and smiled: "Did you hire him as an assistant or as a body guard?"

That turned out to be a canner question than Angus had considered. McCall did, in fact, develop the job to a stature as lofty as his own 6 feet and a half, until his resignation this month to return to radio-casting. He became a triple-threat assistant, with two of the triple being body-guard in nature if not in fact.

FIRST AND MOST apparent, Tom was a link between the governor's office and the press — and because of his previous newspaper and radio experience he was invaluable to the lads in the press room. So this is by way of a "thank you" to Tom for the "above and beyond the call of duty" service he gave us before he was succeeded by able and affable Ed Armstrong.

Now the bodyguard side of it. People are daily coming to the governor's office in person to ask about this and that. Tom took a great part of this load off the governor's shoulders, seeing many of the visitors on the chief executive's behalf, satisfying them with his answers and sending them away happy. His third threat of the triple was to speak in place of Gov. McKay. The governor has made many a speech in all parts of Oregon. But for every one he has made, he has had to turn down ten. Tom reduced this ratio by making many addresses himself as personal representative of the governor.

Tom McCall was born in Egypt, No. not a follower of Farouk. It was Egypt, Mass. He went to schools around Boston long enough to develop a Boston accent. Then he came to central Oregon and continued his education, during the process of which he polished his Boston accent with a western twang. So now, if you listen in to Tom's new series of commentaries on the state of our state (KUGW, Portland, 5:30 p.m. daily Tuesday through Saturday) you will hear the only Boston accent with a Western twang extant. What you might call the McCall call.

TOM ATTENDED rural school near the family ranch in Crook County, Ore., about 12 miles down Crooked River from Prineville, and you can judge the immensity of the institution when you learn Tom was the only pupil in his 7th and 8th grades—which enabled him to graduate at the head of his class.

Tom, his brother Harry (now a Portland insurance executive) and sister, Dorothy (now Mrs. George E. Chamberlain of Portland) started a newspaper called the Westernworld World (their dad had named the ranch Westernworld) back in those grade school days. The hustling news neophytes ran the circulation up to 100 in that sparsely settled area, and in recognition of their achievement, Aunt Mary sent them \$100 from Massachusetts. That was supposed to cover, also, a year's subscription. But flushed with all that wealth, the three McCall's promptly suspended publication and went on a spending spree. End of the Westernworld World.

After graduating from Redmond High School, Tom went to University of Oregon, where he was sports editor of the Daily Emerald and from which he graduated in journalism in 1936. He worked on the Bend Bulletin, the Moscow Idahoan and the Portland Oregonian. Then he became head news editor of KGW-KEX—The Oregonian, until he joined the Navy and saw the world (the Pacific Theater of it) as a World War II correspondent in 1944-46. Among others, he covered the return to the Philippines, the Okinawa campaign and the strikes against Japan. And through all this toil and typewriting he rose magnificently from the rank of apprentice seaman to—seaman first class.

ON HIS RETURN to civvies, he found KGW and KEX had separated, with Westinghouse now operating KEX. He became night news editor of KEX until he took over as governor's assistant — McKay's McCall. Then this month he went back to the jaw-wearying work of radio commentator.

McCall's idea, as you probably have divined from listening to him, is to comment at the state level the way Washington, D. C., commentators like Drew Pearson and H. C. Kallenborn comment at the national level.

Some day, indications are, Tom hopes to get into politics himself. He is interested in good government. And friends of his here in your Oregon capital say he would be a politician in the best and first sense Webster gives it, which is:

"One versed or experienced in the science of government; one devoted to politics; a statesman."

But with the scope of this great tragedy, this will have to be more than just a routine check—Sen. Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) on West Frankfort, Ill., mine disaster.

The Shepherd
 DRAMA
 "Provide me now a man who can play well."
 I Sam. 16:17
 The curtain rises on my play... The scene is set for this bright day... A gripping drama faces me... By clever acting, it may be... A hit, for I am well equipped... With plot, A Master wrote the script... If I with Faith will act the part... With Hope and Courage in my heart... Let God direct each episode... I'll get my show upon the road.

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Another Rescue by Helicopter



In The Editor's Mailbag

LET OBR DO IT!

EUGENE—(To the Editor)—As you well know, the Order of the Buggy Ride is the outgrowth of a vigilance committee organized many years ago for the oversight and protection of our community civic interests, and to prepare and adopt a categorical classification of certain denizens of this community. Upon them was conferred the degree of the "Order of the Ringers," and they were invested with "First Class," "Second Class," or "Third Class" ratings to designate the magnitude of their individual achievements—or blunders. And our entry into the now long era of the "New Deal" resulted in Order of the Buggy Ride affiliation with the recognized groups of "S.O.B.'s," "State and National."

To this noble and illustrious Order of the Buggy Ride all men are equalized. Membership cannot be obtained by individual application, influence or bribery. This honor is bestowed in the discretion of any member, or by any member group that such member can persuade to assemble for that specific purpose. The Order operates without By-laws, it requires no membership dues, and it has no regulatory meetings.

Inasmuch as any member can create and hold any office and title of his own choosing, or commandeer the office of another, and in view of the apparent "feuding, fussin' and fitten," at the County level, I, as a self-ordained officer of the Order of the Buggy Ride, hereby induct into membership all County dependent officials of the County of Lane, and confer upon them, individually and collectively, the "Order of the Ringers," with a "First Class" rating.

In recognition of this high honor I now implore them to temporarily step aside while the Order of the Buggy Ride restores to equilibrium the "Affairs of State" insofar as they apply to Lane County government.

Under the prerogative of Order of the Buggy Ride membership it is easy to visualize Earl McNutt flitting from the job of County Commissioner to that of county Surveyor; John Orlando Hollis holding forth as County Judge; C. E. "Sandy" McLean as Treasurer; Fred Brenne doing a little County Clerk; dignified Ed Turnbull as Sheriff, Ben Dorris in one of the County Commissioner spots; Ed Boehnke as Constable, and the editor himself as coroner. And their tenure of office limited to the pleasure and will of other aspiring members of the Order of the Buggy Ride.

In addition to the local "experts," the Washington, D. C. Chapter of the Order of the Buggy Ride can be ordered to send en masse, or individually, the titled gentry of our Order to assist in this important effort. Among them being the Honorable Harris Ellis-fussin' and fitten," at the County

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ator Wayne Morse, Governor Tom Dewey, and President Harry Truman.

This problem of confidence, cooperation and efficiency in government, (County, State or National), is a "natural" for the Order of the Buggy Ride to handle; for them the task is light and the solution easy.

The Yours in the Faith!
 H. J. THE COX, Stable Pilot.

PLENTY OF WEATHER
 EAST HAMPTON, Conn.—(U.P.)—Mrs. Sarah O'Connell says New Englanders don't have to go to the South Seas for hurricane weather or out west for tornadoes. She's seen both right here. The 88-year-old woman has seen three hurricanes, one tornado, two floods and several blizzards, including the famous blizzard of '88.

I'm sure you can't tell me how many times you've seen a picture of the "Soft" newspaper heart who know the cause of the age of the identity is with

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