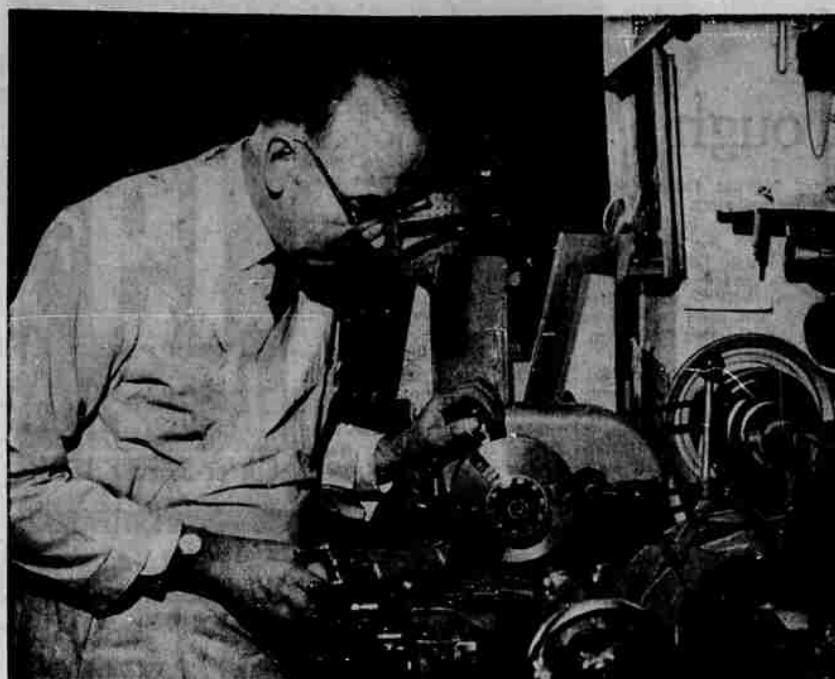




'SAFE CRACKER' CLIFFORD BAIRD
Locksmith Polishes a Combination Dial in Eugene Shop

Eugene Register-Guard

LANE COUNTY'S HOME NEWSPAPER

SECTION B EUGENE, OREGON, TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1963

Some Qualify Their Optimism

County's Businessmen Look for Another Good Year

By BOB NEWCOMB
Of the Register-Guard

Lane County's cash registers—which rang merrily throughout 1962—are expected to keep up their clatter over the next 12 months. Moreover, general business activity in the county likely will increase in 1963.

That, at least, appears to be the consensus of a cross-section of Eugene-area businessmen, most of whom admit they are optimistic about the coming year's prospects. Although in some cases the word optimism is modified by "guarded" or "qualified."

Retailers—many of them estimating their 1962 business activity anywhere from 7 to 10 per cent above 1961 figures—are predicting that their sales next year will continue to rise, perhaps by as much as 3 to 5 per cent above this year.

They cite Eugene's expectations for a continually rising population as their reason for optimism, coupled with an apparent continuation of high employment.

The county's major industry—lumber and plywood—is finishing up what spokesmen say has been a "satisfactory" year. But it is primarily this industry which is reluctant to use the word "optimistic" without a cautious modifier.

Retailers are quick to point out that their businesses cannot be considered separately from the woods-products industry. "When a plant lays off its workers," one Eugene retailer said last week, "we feel it right away."

Lane County's tourist industry, which in 1962 did an estimated \$21 million worth of business—an all-time high—will do even better in 1963, in the opinion of many.

Fred Brenne, manager of the Eugene Chamber of Commerce, points to a convention-attendance record expected next year and a revitalized promotional program to "sell" Lane County as reasons for confidence.

Eugene building permits over the past year continued on the increase. And bank debits—indicators of general business activity in the community—have been rising steadily over the past months. Eugene's total bank-debit value in the first 11 months of the year reached \$1.2 billion—12 per cent higher than for the same period of 1961, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

Implied confidence in Eugene's potential can be seen also in the fact that both banking and savings and loan firms are expanding here. A new \$200,000 building has been started at the northeast corner of Tenth Avenue and Lincoln Street to house the first Eugene branch of the Oregon Bank of Portland. Application has been made by a group of Eugene businessmen, headed by builder Kenneth Gilbert, to construct a new bank in north Eugene.

A new main Eugene branch of the First National Bank is to be started in downtown Eugene next spring. Equitable Savings & Loan Assn. recently occupied its new Eugene quarters—a \$306,000 building at Broadway and Willamette streets. Pacific First Federal Savings & Loan Assn. has opened a branch in Springfield. The list of new construction projects grows steadily.

What happens in the year ahead in the wood-products industry will depend in large measure on what happens in construction. Will construction throughout the country remain at its present level, or will it go up or down?

Predictions vary. W. F. Dodge Corp. of New York, a construction survey firm, predicts new building will drop slightly. That firm says new residential projects started in the next 12 months probably will reach no more than 1.37 million units. The U.S. Census Bureau predicts, however, it will hold steady at about 1.4 million.

Lumbermen throughout the state are "generally optimistic" about the upcoming year, according to Nat Giustina of Eugene, president of the National

Lumber Manufacturers Assn. "But that optimism must be qualified," he said.

There are many unpredictable factors facing the industry, he said, among them being the effect of President Kennedy's executive order concerning federal housing projects. And the type of new housing units built may help determine what next year's West Coast lumber industry will experience, he added.

Harry Ryback, manager of U. S. Plywood Co.'s West Coast purchasing office in Eugene, also used the term "cautiously optimistic" to describe his outlook for 1963.

He said that office, which handles an estimated 15 per cent of the total West Coast plywood production, looks forward to an increase of from 7 to 8 per cent in fir plywood sales next year, "and a substantial portion of it from our Oregon mills."

But he added: "Price levels continue to be a problem, with many mills operating close to the break-even point. And profit margins on standard grades of plywood have almost disappeared."

He added, however, that if housing starts throughout the country continue to hold at 1962 rates, "then I think it's reasonable to look for more stable prices at slightly higher levels."

The plywood marketing problem next year will be complicated, he said, due to increased capacity. According to the Douglas Fir Plywood Assn., the tendency on the part of the industry has been for steadily increasing production.

But plywood prices through 1962 were among the lowest since the end of World War II, due largely to "over capacity," according to industry spokesmen. Lumber production in the Douglas fir region in Oregon and Washington rose by 2.6 per cent over last year, and mills are approaching 1963 with unfilled order files 17.6 per cent greater than a year ago, they said.

From Safes to Freezers

All Doors Open to Locksmith

By MARVIN TIMS
Of the Register-Guard

Clifford Baird of Eugene picking locks for years, but has been cracking safes and he hasn't spent a day in jail yet.

This can be readily explained: Baird is a legitimate businessman providing a service that is much in demand.

Baird is a locksmith. During the past decade, he has opened an estimated 250 safes, freed numerous screaming children from locked bathrooms, picked locks on safety deposit boxes, opened inadvertently-locked freezers so people could have their Christmas turkeys in time, and performed a myriad of other tasks to retrieve locked-up articles.

On call 24 hours a day, Baird says he is busiest during the Christmas season. "People are always accidentally locking their Christmas packages in car trunks. I have to get them out—or else," he said with a smile.

A native of Oregon, Baird came with his family to Eugene in 1924. His father was in the locksmith and gunsmith business for many

years and got his son started in the business.

"Dad died during World War II. When I got out of the service, I went into the business on a full-time basis," Baird said during an interview last week at his shop on West Eighth Avenue.

A short five years ago, Baird had only 75 blank keys hanging on his office wall. Now he has more than 3,000 which can be made to fit virtually every conceivable type of lock.

He also has a number of antique keys, including one from an early Model T Ford and another that Baird said came from one of the first handcuffs. He is also proud of what he calls a "jug lock key," which was designed to open the old castiron locks used on prison cells in the deep South many decades ago.

There is only one kind of key that Baird can't manufacture. This is one to fit a U.S. Post Office mailbox. "It is a federal offense to make such a key," he said.

The locksmith says that safe manufacturers and lock makers are continually improving their products. Progress is fine, but it creates a problem



Baird's Hands Show Strength, Precision

for Baird when he has a request to open a safe that is jammed, for example.

"We have to keep figuring out new ways to get into safes," he said with a laugh.

He devised an ingenious method for opening certain types of safes. He made two T-shaped implements out of heavy iron. These are welded to the safe door with an electric welder. Then he uses hydraulic jacks to apply tremendous pressure against the iron T's, and the door can be ripped right off its hinges.

Often, Baird has to drill through concrete and heavy steel to open a safe, especially the types that are buried in a floor. On some of his toughest assignments, he has spent the better part of a day getting a safe open.

Baird is continually amazed at how few people can remember the combinations of their locks. "I find that not one in 20 can give me the combination when I ask for it. They always have to sit down in front of the safe and work it out first."

The newest safe combinations are made of a hard nylon-type material instead of metal, Baird said. This is so professional safe crackers can't use X-ray devices to check the position of the

tumblers inside the lock and thus learn the combination.

Most safes also contain "re-locking" equipment as an added safety precaution. If the tumblers are punched out, another portion of the lock takes hold and the safe still can't be opened. But Baird takes these obstacles in stride and says there hasn't been an occasion yet where he has been unable to get a safe open.

On some of the older locks, Baird can work the combination by merely listening as he turns the lock knob. He can hear a slight click when a tumbler drops into place. With a few spins of the knob and a few clicks, the safe door is opened.

Baird can open most padlocks and other simple locking devices by picking them with a probe. He has made a more sophisticated implement by fastening a probe to an old pair of barber shears. The probe, vibrating rapidly, will spring open a lock quickly.

Although Baird usually can fashion a key rather quickly to fit most locks, he was given a tough assignment a few days ago. A scooter's ignition key was missing so the vehicle couldn't be driven. It took Baird some time, but he finally fashioned a key to fit the lock.

Baird advises home owners to purchase good locks for their dwellings. "I've known people," he said, "who will spend \$30 for a lock for the front door and then install a \$1.50 lock on the rear door."

In addition to repairing safes and opening locks, Baird on occasion makes special scientific devices. Two years ago, for example, he made an intricate tool used by doctors to measure the interior of the ear following certain types of ear operations. The first device was so successful that Baird now has orders to make two more.

Although Baird can open a safe or lock with robot-like efficiency, he is still only human. He admits that he once locked himself out of his car three times in a single day. But he is more fortunate than most: He knew how to get back in quickly.

Classes Set On Survival

Two series of classes on individual and family survival are being offered by the Eugene Technical Vocational School for four weeks beginning in mid-January.

One series of 12 hours will start Jan. 15 in room 61 at South Eugene High School meeting four consecutive Tuesdays.

The second series will be held at the North Eugene High School cafeteria beginning Jan. 16 for four consecutive Wednesdays.

Both series run from 7 to 10 p.m.

Classes include local, state and national plans for survival, effects of nuclear weapons, and protective measures against disaster.

Registration and further information is available by calling DI 2-1151, Ext. 254.

Cuban Police Disperse Crowd

HAVANA, AP—Scattered violence broke out in Havana Monday after police dispersed an estimated 5,000 persons demonstrating in front of the Swiss Embassy for aid in leaving Havana.

Police did not use force to break up the huge crowd massed before the embassy, in suburban Vedago, but pro-Castro partisans met scattered groups of demonstrators as they left the scene and fist fights broke out.

Unconfirmed reports said some Castro militia units also had engaged in "head knocking" of demonstrators.



Springfield Schools Offer Adult Classes

Seventeen classes are being offered by the Springfield public schools adult education night program for the winter term beginning Jan. 7.

All classes meet in Springfield Senior High School at 7 p.m. for a 10-week term unless otherwise indicated. They begin on the day of the week shown below during the week of Jan. 7.

The classes with tuition are: Mondays—Advanced Tailoring, \$10; Combination Welding (Mondays and Wednesdays for five weeks), \$20; Electronics, \$18; Typing—(Mondays and Thursdays), \$20; French for Children (Mondays and Wednesdays from 4 to 5 p.m.), \$7.50; First Aid (five weeks), 75 cents.

Tuesdays—Advanced Sewing, \$10; Furniture Refinishing, \$10; Machine Shop (Tuesdays and Thursdays for five weeks), \$10; Civil Defense (Tuesdays and Thursdays for two weeks), no tuition charge; English for Foreign Born, \$10; Recreational Woodworking, \$10.

Wednesdays—Shorthand, 15 weeks, \$20.

Thursdays—Basic Sewing, \$10; Furniture Upholstery, \$10; Saturdays—Conversational Chinese, 9-11 a.m., \$10.

Driver training to be arranged at the convenience of the instructor and the student with a \$7.50 tuition charge for four lessons.

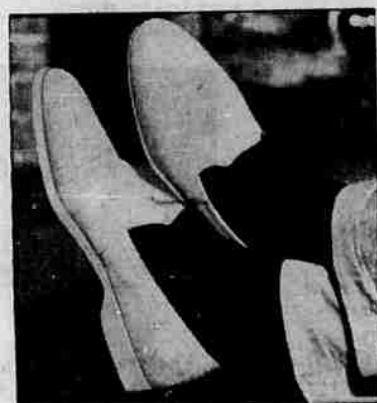
Further information can be obtained by calling RI 7-3331.

Sales Tax Reduced

LONDON (AP)—The British Treasury Monday cut the national sales tax on certain luxury goods to 25 per cent. It had been 45 per cent. Mainly affected are television sets, radios, records and cosmetics. A similar cut was made last month in the sales tax on motor cars.

BURCH'S SEMI-ANNUAL CLEARANCE SALE!

STORE WIDE REDUCTIONS ON SHOES FOR MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN



THIS STYLE ONLY
MEN'S HUSH PUPPIES
Reg. 8.95

6⁹⁰



OUR FAMOUS ENGLISH SHOES
SEVERAL STYLES ...

Reg. 15.95

12⁹⁰

ONE GROUP ... MEN'S FLORSHEIMS
TIES & SLIP-ONS
Reg. 21.95 to 24.95

18⁹⁰



ONE GROUP TIES & SLIP-ONS
Reg. 10.95

7⁹⁰



WOMEN'S SHOES ON SALE ... SAVE

Women's Palazzo Dress Heels Reg. 24.95 to 29.95	16⁹⁰
Women's Dress Shoes Reg. 13.95 to 19.95	9⁹⁰ and 12⁹⁰
Women's Wedgies and Casuals Reg. 11.95 to 16.95	8⁹⁰
Women's Flats Reg. 9.95 to 12.95	6⁹⁰
Women's Flats Reg. 8.98 to 10.95	4⁹⁰

CHILDREN'S SHOES ON SALE ... SAVE

BOYS' & GIRLS' DRESS AND SCHOOL SHOES	BIG BOYS' AND GIRLS' SHOES	ENTIRE STOCK OF EDWARDS SHOES ON SALE
Reg. 4.95 to 9.50	Reg. 8.95 to 12.95	10% to 55%
2⁹⁰ to 5⁹⁰	4⁹⁰ to 6⁹⁰	Corrective Shoes Included

ALL SALES FINAL ... NO EXCHANGES OR REFUNDS

