

SOUTHERN OREGON MINER

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WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE

By Ruth Taylor

The other day I heard a friend whose judgment I value, say "Most of our troubles, at home as well as abroad, stem from the fact that we don't like anything that is different."

Take the prosaic question of food - though as one who prides herself on her cooking, I resent the imputation that food is prosaic. We are set in our tastes by what is familiar. My little assistant can't understand my fondness for frogs legs - but doesn't see why anyone doubts that salt roe and scrambled eggs are the perfect breakfast dish. Remember the complaint of the British Tommy about caviar - "The bloody jam tastes of fish!"

So it is with people. For example, there is the famous story of the Englishman who lived in Paris for twenty years without learning a word of French - he wasn't going to encourage them in speaking their silly language. The poor man rails at the sins of the millionaire. The rich man looks at the poor as a weakling. Labor is suspicious of Capital. Capital fears the strength of Labor. You can carry this on indefinitely.

We are too apt to try to make ourselves big by belittling others. Instead of frankly and freely admitting that we have a lot to learn that other people might know, and remembering its correlative thought that maybe we know some things that it would do them good to learn, we shut ourselves up in a mirror lined room. We need to discard the mirrors, open the windows and see what is outside.

No group is perfect. No group has all the knowledge. This resentment of difference is not just a resentment by the majority. The minorities are just as quick to condemn or resent any difference on the part of the majority.

Let us face this problem of differences with some intelligence. None of us can know too much. None of us but who can learn from others. None of us but who has something to give in exchange.

How about it? The next time you run up against a "different" person, can't you say "Here is

my opportunity." You never can tell - maybe you'll teach him as much as he will teach you.

If you analyze the statement with which I started, you find it boils down to "We don't like what we don't know." In that lies the solution. Knowledge is the key to understanding. It's hard to dislike someone you know well.

OREGON REGISTRATION UP

Motor vehicle registration in Oregon continues to show a slight increase over the figures for the year 1943, Secretary of State Bob Farrell announced today in reporting September registration statistics.

There were 413,039 vehicles registered in the state at the end of September, an increase of 2,801 over the registration for the same month a year ago.

Of the total, 328,679 vehicles were private passenger cars. This type of vehicle showed a slight decrease from last September when there were 329,196 private passenger cars on the highways and streets of Oregon.

Buses continued to show an increase, with 1,176 reported this September, compared to 1,118 a year ago. Trucks also showed an increase with 45,063 vehicles registered now compared to 42,834 a year ago. This is an increase of about five percent, the largest increase shown by any type of vehicle.

Motor vehicle registration fees for the first nine months of the year amounted to \$3,438,683.37 compared to \$3,338,987.68 a year ago.

KOG Names Gold Beach Green Guard Winner in Contest

Arthur Hames, 14-year-old Gold Beach Green Guard, was named winner of the annual activity contest sponsored by the Keep Oregon Green Association, according to an announcement made public by Edmund Hayes, chairman of the Keep Oregon Green executive committee.

Margaret Starnes, twelve, of Shedd, and Erma Rea Gienger, thirteen, of Courtrock, were awarded second place prizes. Third place awards went to Winona Pugh, eleven, Junction City,

Lillion Cummings, thirteen, Richard; Colleen Moore, fourteen, Corvallis; Joyce Gienger, eleven, and Lloyd Gienger, twelve, both of Courtrock.

These youngsters, among the total of 38 prize winners, are representative of 20,000 Green Guards in Oregon who have taken the pledge to do their part in suppressing, detecting and reporting fires in our farms, fields and forests.

"We have always been cognizant of the value of our youth program," says Mr. Hayes, "but this year, with a doubled enrollment and a seemingly endless supply of interest and energy these young people have really surpassed our expectations."

These teen age youngsters have been responsible for the dissemination of 41,680 pieces of fire prevention literature. They have checked their own homes for fire hazards and have offered to check those of their neighbors. They have learned how and where to report all types of fires. One-hundred-ninety-two of our Guards have extinguished small blazes and 32 others have reported larger fires to the protective authorities.

To close the activity season these people were asked to submit an original essay of 500 words on the subject "A Tale from the Oregon Woods." The results of this request have been very gratifying. Stories of early pioneers, expressions of aesthetic appreciation of both plant and animal life and personal experiences of their own exciting adventures in the Oregon woods were among the hundreds of essays received at program headquarters.

Fourth place winners in this state-wide contest are: Betty Nave, Richland; Freda Swanson, Swisshome; Charles Hargitt, Molalla; Robert Pfeiffer, Eugene; Wesley Baird and Rebecca Freeman, Cave Junction; Joan Jackson, Linslaw; Lonnie Harris, Cottage Grove; Mary Jo Bean, Woodburn; and LeVerne Loree, Cove.

Fifth place prizes are being awarded to: Harold O'Leary, Grants Pass; Hugh Sterling, Donald Reed and Ruth Dygert, Estacada; Martha and Eileen Pratt, Swiss home; Donald Wilson, Tenmile; Wallace and Warren Mindler, Sherwood; John Hargitt, Molalla; Roger Nordlund, Astoria; Charlene Roe; Arago; Billy Dunstan, Jacksonville; Violet Biggs, Alesia; Lila Mae Isom, Roseburg; Lee Lafferty, Gold Beach; Jacqueline Zysset, Monroe; Marilyn Hall McCinnville; Donald Seibert, Dallas; and William Kergil, Gervais.

Navy Pushes In-Service Program of Education

Supplementing the Navy's long established vocational and trade training program, a broad system of voluntary in-service education through which ambitious young men may win high school diplomas or even college degrees, now is functioning wherever Naval activities exist, according to Herb Crain of the Medford Navy recruiting station.

There already have been instances, the Navy representative said, in which young Navy men actually have obtained college degrees through this program, fully accredited by the leading educational institutions of the country. Thousands are continuing their progress toward high school diplomas while serving their country.

The in-service educational program is in line with the Navy's policy of encouraging young men to further their education to the greatest extent possible. It urges young men to complete high school before entering service if at all possible.

At the same time, young men who have a Navy preference and who definitely will not be able

TEEN-AGE CLUBS - vs - GANG ESCAPADES

(Contributed)

Teen-age clubs - wise and happy thought translated into successful action - are springing up everywhere these days. They are boons, indeed to busy, weary parents who had begun to taste their own special anxieties as to where their children might be or what they might be doing at times.

And Ashland isn't behind the van in this youth movement, designed to ward off the growing menace of juvenile delinquency.

In an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, then the teen-age club is right on the beam. For it not only should provide a pleasant meeting place and adequate recreation for boys and girls whose parents have so far had no reason to consider them a problem but it also draws in of their own volition border cases of a more reckless, dissatisfied type of youth whose homes leave something to be desired in the way of loving discipline and care.

Could any cause challenge more completely and wholeheartedly the inspired co-operation of every citizen in a community? So little to give - ourselves, in any way we can, for the coming men and women who will take our places all too soon! Could such a cause be ignored or met reluctantly or half way by any of us?

If a building fortunately available for the meeting of these teen age groups needs work and money beyond that provided by the eager efforts of the youngsters, their friends and parents to make it comfortable, what a little price for community directors to pay! What an investment for us all to share as, taxpayers! and we stand ready, all of us, to back up a youth activity that a few far-seeing, courageous souls have set in motion.

Don't we, folks?

to graduate before reaching the age of 18 years, at which time they become subject to selective service are invited to consider voluntary enlistment in the Navy bearing in mind the new opportunities for continued educational progress in active service, the recruiter said.

In addition, the "G.I." bill of rights sets up liberal educational benefits for ex-service men who enlisted at the age of 25 or under.

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ing the winter months, Farrell declared. Another important factor is decreased visibility, due to heavy precipitation, fog and longer hours of darkness. Inattentive motorists often are caught napping by patches of frost on bridges or in shady places, after most of the road surface has been dried off by the sun.

"The alert motorists who anticipate such hazards as these, who reduces his speed during inclement weather and who checks his vehicle to make sure the equipment is in good operating order, is not likely to be involved in an accident," the secretary of state said. "However, the drivers who overlook these factors are the drivers involved in accidents due to winter hazards."

MEDFORD-Two hundred Mexican nationals, now engaged in fall harvest work at Newberg, Hillsboro and Hood River and other northwest farming areas, will be returned here for winter work in the pear orchards, County Agent Robert G. Fowler reports. A contract with the fruit growers' league has been signed for their employment. Fowler Fowler said. The workers will be used exclusively in tree pruning.

More than 500 of the Mexican nationals employed here during the pear harvest left Wednesday by train for the north.

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