

## Knowledge Imperative In Today's Complex Society

By Bruce Hitt  
American Education Week Committee

In our day, there is more need for knowledge than ever before in the history of mankind. Not too long ago there were enough mental tasks to keep the illiterate man or woman occupied in some form of livelihood through wage earning. However, in this day and age of specialization, machinery, complex society, etc., there seems to be no task or place for an illiterate. (We mean by an illiterate, one who has not progressed beyond the fourth level in education.)

We have heard people often remark: "He can always dig ditches." But can he? Even ditch digging has become a semi-engineering position. He must be able to figure mathematical problems involving grades of elevation, volumes of excavations, understand and operate complex machinery, read complex engineering diagrams and plans; he must possess a knowledge of machinery and construction that even a college professor skilled in some other field might not understand at all. Yet, at these extremes the basic knowledge in most cases has been gained in the public schools.

Not so long ago, Granny's remedies seemed to suffice satisfactorily in most cases of illness; however, the expected life span was much shorter than it is now, and people died natural deaths of many undiagnosed ills. Superstition reigned in many households, as it continues to do. Even today, the sick of people placing their sick minds and bodies in the care of faith healers and witch doctors is appalling. This illustrates in some way the need for our younger people to be better schooled in the empirical

or scientific method of research and studying the findings of research.

Another need that is becoming more and more apparent is the necessity for a child to learn to study and distinguish the types of propaganda. Teachers and parents — here there is drastic need. Children are exposed to advertising campaigns that lead them to believe that a successful man drinks a certain brand of whiskey; or in order to be "the man," one must have anchors tattooed upon his hands and smoke a certain brand of cigarettes. In other words, a child should be able to learn to distinguish the intrinsic values in life from the material. He should be able to distinguish true and slanted propaganda. He should be aware of the pressures pushing him towards a pseudo-sophistication.

I say a child should learn these things in addition to the three R's of Grandpa's school days because society itself is making it imperative that he does learn more than the basic fundamentals of reading. If the child leaves school without this other knowledge, there is a good chance that he won't learn it. Many have left school without these understandings and have become easy prey for smooth talkers, hucksters, and even dictators.

Wordsworth expresses the importance of childhood in poetry as follows:

"The child is father of the man,  
"And I could wish my days to be  
"Bound each to each in natural piety."

Jefferson once expressed the need of education in another way:

"I know no safe depository of the ultimate powers of society but the people themselves; and if we think them not enlightened enough to exercise their control with a wholesome discretion, the remedy is not to take it from them, but to inform their discretion by education."

Roxy Ann Gem and Mineral club will meet at the Redman's Hall, Fourth and Apple streets, Wednesday, November 13, at 7:30 p.m.  
The display will be new "bragging" rocks.

## OEA Unit Cooperates On Week

Jackson County division of the Oregon Education association is one of 37 such organizations in the state (31 counties and the city of Portland) directing its activities toward the continual improvement of our society through education and the advancement of teaching as a profession. The main concern and objective of the professional organization is the youth's welfare and community betterment and enrichment, according to De Vere Taylor, Medford Senior High school, head of the county unit.

The executive committee of the county unit is charged with the responsibility of putting into action the professional wishes of over 600 OEA members in Jackson County. In addition, it serves as an agency for interpreting OEA and National Education association activities to parents and local teachers. It is also instrumental in enlisting the ever-increasing assistance of Parent-Teachers associations, school boards, legislators, civic groups, and other interested citizens. Each county association serves as an intermediate link between the state organization and the local school district associations.

During American Education Week, teachers of Jackson county hope to use their local associations and the county division to focus the attention of everyone on the schools. "This special week provides an excellent opportunity for all to center our interests on 'Schools for a Strong America,'" Mr. Taylor states.

## McLoughlin Plans Parents Program

McLoughlin Junior high school will observe National Education Week with the traditional parents' night Tuesday, November 13. Each parent will report to a home room and receive the class schedule of his son or daughter. He will then attend the classes in which the student is enrolled.

School for parents will start at 7:30 p.m. with an assembly program featuring the school orchestra and vocal groups. Classes will be seven minutes in length, and all teachers will explain their class work. The evening will close with refreshments served in the cafeteria.

All parents with students attending McLoughlin school are invited to attend this evening of school.

## Neivita Chapter Plans Meeting on Tuesday

Central Point — Neivita chapter Order of Eastern Star, will hold a stated meeting Tuesday, November 13, 8 p.m. at Masonic temple, Central Point. Members having birthdays in July, August and Sept. will be honored. Mrs. Melvin McGrew, worthy matron will preside. Decorations are in charge of Mrs. Harvey Dressler and refreshments chairman will be Mrs. Victor Noel.

For variations on the cranberry-orange relish theme, combine 2 parts cranberry sauce with 1 part orange marmalade. Wonderful when served with roast chicken, turkey or duck.

## Committee Coordinates American Education Week

A Jackson County American Education Week committee composed of educators from schools throughout the county and members of the Jackson county school superintendent's office, coordinated planning for American Education Week, which opens today.

Theme for this year's observance is "Schools for a Strong America." Planned for Education Week are open house at the individual schools (check for time and date of your school's open house). Several television programs have been prepared on grade school science and high school physics and another on the need for a sound physical education program in school.

Numerous displays have been arranged for store windows in the various communities which will depict different educational projects currently being carried on by the schools of this county.



V. J. Robinson, senior partner of the insurance firm of Robinson, Potter and Ripley, was named "Boss of the Year" by Rogue River chapter, National Secretaries association, at the annual Boss Night dinner. Mrs. Robinson received a bronze statuette from his secretary, Mrs. Gwenn Caster. Secretaries of the chapter nominate their employers for the honor, setting forth their reasons in a letter which is judged by a committee.

## Boss of the Year Named By National Secretaries

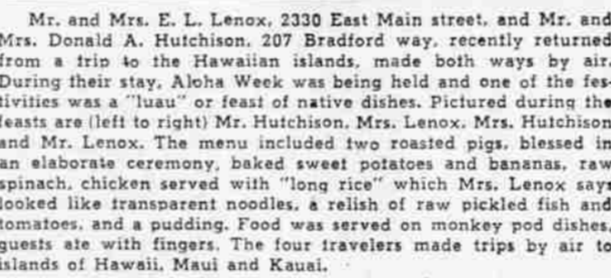
V. J. Robinson was named "Boss of the Year" at the seventh annual Boss Night dinner of Rogue River chapter National Secretaries association, International, held November 2, at the Rogue Valley Country club. Forty-two members and guests attended.

A bronze statuette was presented to Mr. Robinson, of Robinson, Potter and Ripley. In announcing the award, Mrs. Darlyne Rudd, chapter president, stressed that the statuette was given yearly to the employer who had done the most for the chapter during the preceding year.

The actual presentation was made by Mrs. Gwenn Caster, secretary to Mr. Robinson. This award has been made four times previously, going to Glenn Jackson of Copco in 1952, Walter Garner of Cal-Ore Machinery in 1953, Robert A. Shaw, Teamsters' Local 962 in 1954 and to John M. Garner, also of Cal-Ore Machinery in 1955.

Other entertainment during the evening consisted of a brief talk by Mrs. Kathryn Thomas, Oregon Division president of NSA on what NSA can mean to management. Mrs. Thomas particularly stressed the advantages of the certified professional secretary program.

A skit showing the "pitfalls" of the secretarial profession was presented by Mrs. Gloria Smith, Mrs. Virginia Schuster, Mrs. Kay Thomas, Mrs. Gwenn Caster assisted by Sam Harbison of the legal firm of Harbison and Piazza, as the typical employer. Vocal selections were given by Mrs. Naomi Hammond and two numbers were presented by the Thurston of the Thurston School of Dance. Russ Jamison was master of ceremonies.



Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Lenox, 2330 East Main street, and Mr. and Mrs. Donald A. Hutchison, 207 Bradford way, recently returned from a trip to the Hawaiian islands, made both ways by air. During their stay, Aloha Week was being held and one of the festivities was a "luau" or feast of native dishes. Pictured during the feasts are (left to right) Mr. Hutchison, Mrs. Lenox, Mrs. Hutchison and Mr. Lenox. The menu included two roasted pigs, blessed in an elaborate ceremony, baked sweet potatoes and bananas, raw spinach, chicken served with "long rice" which Mrs. Lenox says looked like transparent noodles, a relish of raw pickled fish and tomatoes, and a pudding. Food was served on monkey pod dishes, guests ate with fingers. The four travelers made trips by air to islands of Hawaii, Maui and Kauai.

## Eagle Point Camp Fire Girl Leaders Form Districtship

Eagle Point — A districtship of its own is in the formation stages for the Eagle Point Campfire Girls organization. Plans toward this goal were discussed last week at a meeting of the Campfire Leaders-Sponsors association held in the new Eagle Point school cafeteria.

Mrs. Tom Gerety, Rogue Council executive director from Medford, was present in an advisory capacity. Presiding officers were: Mrs. LeRoy Bedinfield, chairman, who is also a Campfire guardian; and Mrs. Arnold Bluebird group, Mrs. Walter Lee, a Bluebird leader in White City, was appointed liaison officer, and Mrs. Arnold Arens will assume the ways and means chairmanship in connection with her secretary's duties.

Others attending were, Campfire Girl guardian, Mrs. Dale Ackerman; Bluebird leaders, who are new to the organization, Mrs. Miriam Stanley, Mrs. Hoyle Jordan, sponsor from the Lady Lions; and Mrs. Merle McGraw, district public relations chairman.

A regular meeting time and place has been set for the third Thursday of each month at 1 p.m. A date has been set aside

## St. Ann's Society To Hear Reports On Parish Carnival

Reports on plans for the parish carnival to be held on December 1 will be given at the November meeting of St. Ann's Altar society at 1 p.m. Tuesday, November 13, in the Parish hall.

Altar society chairmen for the all-parish carnival are Mrs. Frank Roelandt, Mrs. John Snider, and Mrs. Arnold Paradis. Chairmen for Altar society sponsored booths at the carnival are Mrs. M. H. Scott and Mrs. John Strobel, gifts and decorations; Mrs. James Finegan and Mrs. Paul Newcomb, grab bag; Mrs. Edward Whinitan and Mrs. Roy Norcross, food sale; and Mrs. James McGowan, hot dogs.

The program for the meeting will be on holiday decorations and will be given by Mrs. Edgar Sims.

## Mrs. Matilda Dietrich To Be Lodge Hostess

A potluck supper for all members of Degree of Honor lodge 105 will be held at the home of Mrs. Matilda Dietrich, 939 North Central avenue, Monday, November 12, at 6:30 p.m.

A short meeting will be held after the dinner. Those planning to attend are asked to bring a covered dish.

for Bluebird singing on the third Tuesday of each month at 3 p.m. Mrs. Roy Chamberlain will be in charge as music director.

A training session will be led by Mrs. Gerety at 1 p.m. Thursday, November 15, for all interested leaders. All these meetings will take place in the new elementary gym.

Possibilities of a summer day camp in Eagle Point were considered. The responsibilities and duties of the necessary district chairmen were outlined by Mrs. Gerety. The Leaders-Sponsors association and its advantages in relation to the area council was also explained.

Local membership has grown to include two Campfire Girl groups and four Bluebird groups. Anyone interested in working with the organization is invited to contact any of the adult members for information.

## Work Displayed By Hobby Artist

Six paintings by Harry Marx, 309 Portland avenue, Ashland, are on display at Frake and Smith Paint and Art store, 315 East Main street, Medford.

Mr. Marx, who is a retired

building contractor, was awarded the sweepstakes ribbon at Grand Pass last July for his painting "Sunset Over the Grand Canyon."

A member of the Southern Oregon Society of Artists, Mr. Marx paints for a hobby.

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