

The News-Review

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ECONOMY FORECASTS

By Charles V. Stanton

Now that Christmas has come and gone and we face the new year, the popular indoor sport seems to be the annual forecasting of economic conditions. One most satisfactory aspect of this annual sport is that you can always find some expert with a forecast conforming to your own opinions.

Reading predictions by the nation's economists, you can find everything from extreme pessimism to unlimited optimism. Economists apparently are as much influenced by emotions as are voters.

The vast majority of opinion, however, seems to center quite definitely upon the same general forecast: 1958 will be a good economic year, starting at the present somewhat depressed level and growing steadily better.

There is much difference of opinion as to the date, tempo and range of the upswing. Some contend economy will improve immediately and will rise rapidly. Others hold that it will be midway before any appreciable gains are observed and that the upward trend will be gradual throughout the remainder of the year.

Opinion that economy during 1958 will be below that of 1957 is a very definite minority.

Here in Douglas County we are, of course, vitally concerned with the coming year's economic promise.

Early Upswing Possible

Douglas County, because its economy is based upon one industry, an industry limited largely to the primary manufacturing stage, was one of the areas to suffer first from the economic slump. It also could be first to show recovery.

The large volume of our industrial production in this county is rough green lumber. Being used principally for framing and rough construction, our product is one of the first to suffer when construction is slowed. It also can be first to recover when construction resumes.

Inventories in retail yards throughout the country are low. They doubtless will remain low until after tax appraisals are made early in January. Buying is expected to start soon after the inventory period.

If buying reaches sufficient volume to bring about a firmness in the lumber market, it is expected that the price will improve immediately. Few buyers will buy on a declining market, hoping the price will go lower, but, once convinced that the price is moving upward, there will be a desire to speculate. Speculation could force the price up very rapidly.

Present expectations are that there will be no appreciable increase in number of new housing starts during the coming year. There will, however, be more heavy construction than usual. Heavy construction uses much form lumber and plywood, our best products.

Road Building To Help

One outlet I expect to have a decided favorable effect upon our local industry is the federal road program. I may be entirely wrong, but I believe our lumber industry can get a much-needed boost from the road program, particularly if it exerts some selling effort.

The federal road program means that hundreds of miles of superhighway will be built throughout the country this coming year. These roads will be multi-laned, limited access highways, requiring many more structures than the ordinary highway.

Forms will be needed to build concrete overhead and undergrade crossings, bridges, culverts, traffic exchangers, and other such structures. The light metals industry has invaded the field of forms for concrete—once the exclusive province of lumber. But lumber still is needed in large quantities and, at present prices, will be more attractive to the construction trade than formerly.

Many factors must be reviewed in arriving at any prediction for our local economy during the coming year, but it is my opinion that there will be a turn for the better in the very near future and that the year will show continuing improvement.

—Bruce Biossat—

A recent survey of opinion among American industrialists shows that the majority look forward to business levels in 1958 as good or better than 1957.

What this means is that they do not expect the current economic decline to get measurably worse. This mood of confidence can be of great benefit in preventing that very eventuality.

The fact of the decline is, of course, well established by now. When the Federal Reserve Board eased the interest rate members pay in borrowing funds, it gave a clear signal. Easier money for banks should mean easier money on down the line.

From other federal agencies have come other unmistakable signs. The current inflationary spiral is said to be at an end. Official forecasts of unemployment are up for the months immediately ahead. Many business markers have turned downward.

YET DESPITE all the men who make the nation's goods refuse to be pessimistic about the future. They see the economy holding and even thrusting upward a little. Their confidence can have many sources.

For one thing, within the past eight years they have been through two recessions. Both proved to be mild, and we went on to new highs.

For another, now thoroughly understood, government in this year will not sit idly by and watch a nation fall into severe depression. Many "floors" already have been put under the economy, and trouble would see the speedy placing of more and greater props.

NOR CAN businessmen forget for long the distant prospect of a steady expansion in consequence of our soaring population—which work.

may surpass 220 millions by 1975. Lastly, Russia's gains in missiles and satellites have stirred the nation into intensified defense efforts which most industrialists imagine will provide a sharp new stimulus to manufacturing next year and beyond.

It is good to find a healthy mood prevailing among the leaders of the business community. We can ill afford to have them in the psychological dumps at a time when the Federal Reserve Board requires that we approach with confidence and full spirit the tasks of assuring our well being and safety.

Mrs. Marie Seevering and son, Richard, of Tacoma, were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Holmquist.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard McCready of Klamath Falls arrived Christmas Eve to spend the holidays with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Nelson.

Miss Donna Sandberg of Portland and her brother, Donald, of Eugene spent Christmas with their parents Mr. and Mrs. George Sandberg. Miss Sandberg will leave for Portland on New Year's Day.

MRS. K. Miskar married Aug. 8, 1952 at Vancouver, Wash. Plaintiff charges cruelty, asks for custody of three minor children and \$30 per month support per child.

Separate Maintenance. TERRILL—Bertina E. vs. Benjamin Franklin Terrill. Married March 1, 1948, at Roseburg. Plaintiff charges cruelty, asks for custody of two minor children, \$75 per month support for children, \$20 per month support for plaintiff and property settlement.

DIVORCE DECREE. MACDONALD—Merwin G. from Margaret Louise MacDonald. Property settlement ratified and both parties restricted from marrying within six months.

ANNULMENT. HODGES—With Ella vs. William Seaton Hodges. Plaintiff awarded annulment and restoration of former name Melkon.

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"God Rest Ye, Merrie Gentlemen . . ."



NEA Service, Inc.

HOUSING MAY BOOM

Defense Orders Expected To Give Business A Boost

NEW YORK — Uncle Sam will be lending business a boosting hand as the new year starts. There are widespread doubts as to how effective it will be, but it signals a reversal of attitude in Washington from late summer's economy drive.

Now defense orders are being stepped up again. Wall Street is quick to take note—not only of the actual orders but also sometimes of mere rumors of orders.

The Federal Reserve Board lowered the discount rate—the interest it charges banks when it lends them money. This didn't

make money really easy, mainly because the banks weren't being pressed to lend funds to business and didn't step up their borrowing from the Federal Reserve. But the action put an official seal on the change from fearing inflation to worrying about recession.

Admitting Shift. Now the Department of Commerce is admitting the noticeable shift in business conditions showing up since September in the trend in industrial output, factory employment, personal income and retail sales, and the leveling off of prices and of demand for investment funds.

To counter this, Washington is trying two measures. The first is to ease up on the tight money that was aimed at holding inflation in check. How much of a cure this will be is yet to be seen. Just lowering interest rates doesn't make a business firm borrow to expand or to carry inventories or to speed up production.

The second measure is more direct. The Treasury is loosening its purse strings as much as it can without going beyond the federal debt limit.

Home Building May Increase. Millions of dollars will be spent to boost housing construction. With other forms of construction still riding high, an upturn in home building is expected to bolster the entire economy during the uncertain winter and spring months.

Defense orders are flowing again. This was expected after Sputnik knocked an expected drive into a cocked hat. But its timing is a happy one for some of the communities where unemployment had been rising because of previous cancellations of defense orders.

More funds also are to be made available to foreign borrowers so that they can order goods from American manufacturers.

Whether these first steps to counteract the business recession will be effective is debated in business circles.

Vital Statistics

PARKHURST—SCHWEPPE—David C. Parkhurst and Marjorie L. Schweppe, both of Roseburg.

McKENZIE—CONNOR—Gerald Duane McKenzie of Tiller and Judith Anne Connor of Canbyville.

McKEITHAN—OLSON—Eunice E. McKeithan and Justine L. Olson, both of Sutherlin.

HANSEN—McKENZIE—Martin Hansen III of Eugene and Alice McKenzie of Klamath Falls.

DYE—DuMONT—Dennis Owen Dye of Knappton, Mont. and Nova Yvonne DuMont of Myrtle Creek.

Divorce Complaints. ELDRED—Barbara vs. Floyd Eldred. Married May 16, 1932, at Canbyville. Plaintiff charges cruelty, asks for custody of two minor children and \$40 per month support per child.

MISKAR—Nellie Eunice vs. George Donald Miskar. Married Aug. 8, 1952 at Vancouver, Wash. Plaintiff charges cruelty, asks for custody of three minor children and \$30 per month support per child.

Separate Maintenance. TERRILL—Bertina E. vs. Benjamin Franklin Terrill. Married March 1, 1948, at Roseburg. Plaintiff charges cruelty, asks for custody of two minor children, \$75 per month support for children, \$20 per month support for plaintiff and property settlement.

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Community News Items

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Broadwater spent Christmas Day in Powers with relatives of the latter.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Quist and children, Gary and Greg, of the city, left Thursday for California to enjoy their vacation.

Miss Pat Carlock has returned to her home in Coquille following several days' visit here at the home of Mrs. Mary Kimball.

Miss Marilyn Neff is vacationing this week near Coos Bay at the home of her parents. She is expected to return to her work at Craig's Dress Shop Monday.

Mrs. Mary Ward of Portland is in Roseburg visiting at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Ward, and family.

Mrs. V. T. Jackson has been reported ill the last several days at her home at Winchester. She is the wife of Douglas County Judge V. T. Jackson.

Miss Joanne Richman of Portland arrived here Tuesday to spend the holiday week visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. O. V. Richman. She will return to Portland Monday.

Dr. and Mrs. Frank Bowler of Seattle have been spending the Christmas week in Roseburg visiting the former's brother-in-law and sister, Dr. and Mrs. James R. Finlay and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Sherman and children, Pamela and Johnny, of Grass Valley, Calif., are spending the week in Roseburg visiting the former's father, Charles Sherman, and Mrs. Sherman on SE Kane Street.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Carlson of Ilwaco, Wash., who came down last weekend to visit their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Rob Sullivan, have left for Aberdeen, Wash., where they were called by the sudden death of Mrs. Carlson's sister, Betty Nordloff.

Steve Oakley, who attends OTI in Klamath Falls and who spent last week here visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earle Oakley, on SE Glenn Street, left Friday for Days Creek to spend a few days at the home of his uncle, Hayden Laurence, before returning to school.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lundeen of Portland arrived in Roseburg this week to attend the wedding Friday of the former's nephew, L. Richard L. Jacobson, and Kay Emery, Mr. Lundeen's a brother.

W. E. (Terry) Hercher of Medford arrived here Friday to join his wife and their son, David, for the weekend and to take them home. Mrs. Hercher and David have spent the holiday week here visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Helweg, in Laurelwood, and her sister, Mrs. Richard Gerhart, in baby, Linda, who are here from Bend, Ore.

Cheryl Wright, 3, of San Rafael, Calif., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Laurence Wright, has been released from Douglas Community Hospital and has gone back to her family here to visit relatives. Cheryl was taken to the hospital after swallowing a penny which had lodged in the esophagus and which was removed by a local doctor.

Mr. and Mrs. Verlyn Hasbargen and daughter, Marjorie, of Medford, are in Roseburg, following a trip here to enjoy Christmas at the home of the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Hasbargen. Also coming for Christmas, but returning to their homes Thursday, were the Hasbargens' son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Simmy Crews, and daughters, Karen, Kristy and Kathryn, of Kennewick, Wash. Leaving Friday for their home in Medford, following the holiday visit here were the Hasbargens' son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Donald H. Hasbargen, and daughters, Susan, Judith and Linda.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Fenner and children of Portland spent Christmas here visiting relatives and friends. Mrs. Fenner's son, David Gordon, who accompanied them here, remained in Roseburg until today to visit relatives and friends. The family formerly made their home here.

Fred M. Van Horn of Milwaukee, Wis., has spent the week here visiting his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hamilton, on SE Kane Street. He will leave Monday for San Francisco and will sail New Year's Day on the Mariposa (Matson's luxury liner) for a South Seas cruise.

Jim and Bill Woodward, sons of Mr. and Mrs. James Woodward, left Friday following their U. S. Navy leave which they spent here with their parents. Both young men have just completed their boot camp training. Jim will go to New London, Conn., to enter U. S. Navy submarine school, and Bill will take aviation mechanic training at Hutchinson, Kans.

Special Services Set At Westside Church. Special services will be held Sunday night at the Westside Christian Church to meet and hear Evangelist Tom Courtney of Portland.

In March, Courtney will conduct a series of evangelistic meetings for the church. Colored movies of past church activities will also be shown at the meeting.

Sunday services will begin at the regular hour, 5:30, with a combined meeting of youth and adults. The young people will present the lesson, "Meet the Critics."

Following the lesson, refreshments will be served and there will be an informal discussion with Courtney. The evening will be concluded with an evangelistic message and challenge by Courtney.

Yoncalla Couple Buys Grocery At Sweet Home. By MRS. GEORGE EDES. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Weber of Yoncalla have purchased a grocery store in Sweet Home, and will take possession Jan. 1.

A trailer house owned by the Webers was taken over by the former store owners as part payment. The grocery store will be known as "Mom and Pa Weber's Grocery."

Weber is familiar with retail selling as he was employed more than ten years by the Drain Building Supply Hardware Store.

Early Christmas 'Girl' Dies From Leukemia. SPOKANE — Diane Kay Siler, the plucky, 8-year-old "early Christmas" girl from Lewiston, Idaho, lost her fight against acute leukemia Friday.

The girl's parents, friends and third-grade classmates at Lewiston arranged a special early Christmas party in her hospital room here Dec. 10 because it was feared she might not live to see this year's Christmas.

She was too ill to have a second Christmas party Wednesday.

Diane is survived by her parents, a twin sister and two brothers in Lewiston. Her father, William Siler, is a Lewiston police officer.

State Police Arrested 5,000 During November. SALEM — Oregon state police arrested 5,133 persons and warned 17,502 others during November for violating motor vehicle laws, state police Sgt. H. G. Maissen announced Friday.

There were 89 arrests for drunken driving, 31 for reckless driving, and 1,247 for violating the basic speed rule.

The officers also made 237 arrests for general crimes.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Kiss and family of this city have spent Christmas week in Washington visiting relatives and friends.

John Metzger, son of Mr. and Mrs. Donald Metzger, who has been ill, is reported to be much improved.

Carole Kimball of Portland spent several days here recently visiting her mother, Mrs. Mary Kimball, and her brother, Tom.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Broadwater made the trip to Amity Christmas Day to visit their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Broadwater, and family.

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Ricketts of this city visited over Christmas at Portland with the latter's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Katt.

Mr. and Mrs. William Mills and daughter, Julie, of Eugene, spent Christmas here visiting Mrs. Mills' parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Laurence.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Jarvis Robertson and son, Jimmy, of this city spent Christmas here. Portland as guests of Mr. and Mrs. Bud Cowin and family. The Cowins formerly made their home here.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl D. Brand, Berkeley, Calif., are visiting Mr. and Mrs. Brand's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Brand, Roseburg, for the Christmas holidays. The California Brands plan to leave for home Sunday.

Marvin Harris and Mrs. Ella Hecathorne and children, George and Jean, all of North Bend, were guests Tuesday and Wednesday of the former's brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Smith, and family.

Louis Schlierbach, assistant head supervisor for the California Youth Authority Clinic, Carmichael, Calif., arrived here to join the Rev. and Mrs. Nick Neufeld, and family, of Sacramento, Calif., at the home of Mrs. Neufeld's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Cloake.

Virgil Broadwater of Klamath Falls arrived here last weekend to join Mrs. Broadwater and son, Richard, who have been here visiting with Mrs. Broadwater's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Smith. They will return to Klamath Falls Jan. 6 as when Mrs. Broadwater will resume his studies at OTI.

Mr. and Mrs. James Woodward and sons, Bill and Jim, home from U. S. Navy leave from San Diego, returned to Roseburg Thursday following their three days' stay at Port Orford where they spent Christmas with the boys' grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. McLellan.

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Joyce Carley, employee of the Douglas County State Bank has been ill the last couple of days at her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Dole are expected to return Monday from California where they went to spend Christmas with relatives.

Clyde Speck, a former resident of Roseburg, now living in retirement in Portland, is spending the holiday season visiting in Roseburg with his sister, Mrs. Opal Smith.

Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Wood of Toledo, Ore., arrived in Roseburg Friday to enjoy the weekend visiting their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hercher.

Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Inman and family spent the last couple of days in Eugene visiting their respective families. Mr. Inman is telegraph editor for News-Review.

David Jackson, who is stationed at the U. S. Marine Base at El Toro, Calif., is expected to arrive here this weekend to spend a week on leave visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Elton Jackson.

Herbert Sylwester has left to report at the Long Beach, Calif., navy Air Base, following a 10-day leave spent in Roseburg visiting his parents, the Rev. and Mrs. W. A. Sylwester.

Lee Williams, 74, Sutherlin, was admitted to Douglas Community Hospital Thursday morning to receive a blood transfusion following a severe nosebleed. Williams was discovered in an unconscious condition at his home.

Mr. and Mrs. Roland Edie and daughter, Tari, are leaving Saturday for Cornelius, Ore., to spend several days at the home of Mrs. Edie's father, F. W. Sher. They will be celebrating his 80th birthday.

Mrs. E. J. (Orlena) Slatery of this city spent Christmas in Eugene visiting her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. George McBride, and their three small sons. Mrs. McBride is the former Marion Slatery of this city.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Garner and children, Scotty and Brad, are moving this week to Klamath Falls where the former will attend OTI. The Garners sold their Green district home this fall to Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Cummings of Camas Valley.

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