

## 1964 Looks Good Economically

With 1964 just a few days away, the predictions for the new year are coming thick and fast—and all predictions indicate a continued buoyancy of the present economic surge.

An anticipated consumer spending spree is credited for the continuing improvement of the economy in the latest reports from the U. S. departments of commerce, agriculture and labor.

Since consumer purchases account for two-thirds of the total sales of goods and services in the U.S., these forecasts give a good indication of business trends.

For the six months immediately ahead, the Department of Commerce reports high consumer buying intentions on autos, houses and household appliances.

Reporting a record personal income at the annual rate of \$470 billion for October, the Department of Commerce credits the recent pay raise granted U.S. armed forces for one-third of the \$3 billion increase over September.

Principal focus of the Department of Agriculture's Outlook Conference, held at this time every year, is on the prospects for farm production, prices and marketing.

Farm output this year will be about 10 per cent above the 1957-59 average, establishing a new record high of \$41 billion. With higher farm costs, however, the net may be below 1962's \$12.6 billion, and a little lower in 1964.

Along with the commodity forecasts, the Outlook Conference holds four half-day sessions on family living. This year analysts from Agriculture's Bureau of Family Economics and the Bureau of Labor Statistics

have come up with new material to show changing trends in consumer budgets.

Preliminary data indicate average spending by city families has risen from \$3,800 in 1950 to \$5,365 in 1960.

Food, clothing, house furnishings and recreation now account for smaller shares of the spending than 10 years ago. Shelter, utilities, medical care, education and transportation take larger shares.

Although the consumers' price index, or cost of living, rose 24 per cent in this decade, food expenditures are reported to have dropped from 29 per cent of the family income to 24 per cent.

Increased home ownership—from 55 per cent of all dwellings in 1950 to 62 per cent in 1960—and increased ownership of automobiles—from 59 per cent of the families in 1950 to 72 per cent in 1960—account for larger expenditures.

A continuing shift from natural to synthetic fibers is credited with reduction of family clothing expenditures. Lowered prices on household appliances from the Korean war days to 1960 account for another drop.

As a basis for comparison, this is the budget given for an average family with expenditures of \$5,365 in 1960:

Item	Cost	Pct.
Food, at and away from home	\$1,300	24.4
Housing & furnishings	\$1,590	29.6
Clothing and services	550	10.2
Medical and personal care	500	9.3
Recreation and education	325	6.0
Transportation	790	14.7
Tobacco, Alcohol, miscellaneous	310	5.8

## from the PRESSBOX

By VIN BRENNER

**Christmas afterthoughts:**  
On behalf of all of us who enjoyed them so much—thanks to the many, many home owners who did such a wonderful job of decorating for Christmas. The lights, scenes and animations added much to the enjoyment of the season.

And the "Living Christmas" depicted by the churches was most impressive.

My imagination works overtime when I picture how beautiful would be the large cedar on Harvard—in front of the Naval Reserve building—covered from top to bottom with hundreds of colored lights. . . . May be another year.

**We transplanted upper mid-westerners find another feature of this area to appreciate at this time of year.**

**We can take down outdoor Christmas decorations without freezing in the process. Back there, it is a real problem to find a post-holiday time to put the things away when the mercury isn't near or below zero.**

Thinking of cold weather reminds us of the correspondence we have been receiving here at the office from Lotus and "Honey" Porter on a South Seas cruise which includes Tahiti, New Zealand, Australia and Hawaii.

The weather, of course, is nice, as it is summer "down under," but Lotus' description of eating on the ship fascinated me.

She writes: "Have a Continental breakfast—coffee, scrambled eggs, sausages, rolls from 6:30 to 7:30. Breakfast in the dining room 8:15 to 9:30. Hot soups and sherbets served on deck from 10 to 11. Picnic lunch on terrace at 12 noon. Luncheon in dining room from 12:30 to 2:30. Tea at 4. Dinner from 6:30 to 9:30. Snack buffet from 11 to 12:30.

Seems a shame so much of that good food goes "to the fishes" but some people never do

really "get their sea legs." It's difficult to realize that only 100 years ago people were crossing the country in a wagon train. Today we can shoot a rocket into space at 25,000 miles per hour and nobody's watching. . . . they're home watching "Wagon Train."

About six weeks ago we started, here at The News-Review, to lay the groundwork for the 1964 Umpqua Edition, which will be published Feb. 24.

It may seem silly to people not familiar with the newspaper business for us to begin 15 weeks ahead to plan one issue of the paper but, with our limited facilities and personnel, we have to use every spare minute over such a period of time to get the job done.

This year's edition will be the same but different. It will be the same in that no effort will be spared to make it interesting, informative and an issue treasured by all readers.

It will be different in that we will use a little different format and style than formerly to tell the story of the growth and promise of Douglas County.

We expect to print more than 17,000 copies and, if the 1963 edition is an example, the issue will be a sellout.

This is one of the very finest media for advertisers and we hope many of them plan to use it to tell the story of their contribution to the area.

**We will welcome suggestions for pictures or feature stories and will be most grateful for early copy—advertising or news.**

Medical science has determined that men start losing their hearing at age 32. Most wives just thought that hubby had quit paying attention.

Remember when: Nearly all automobiles came equipped with roller shades for the back window?

## Tragedies, Triumphs Highlight 1963 Year

See Pictures Page 5

Tragedy, progress and triumph shared the major headlines of news involving Douglas County during the 1963 year.

Heading the list of the top 10 stories of the year was the Roseburg Speedway crash which killed three and injured more than 25 others.

Members of the News-Review news staff were almost unanimous in selecting this as the most spectacular spot news event of the year. Tragedy was prominent among those top stories. The highway death of state Rep. W. O. Kelsay, the death of a Roseburg youth on a Himalayan expedition and the great sorrow caused by the assassination of President John F. Kennedy.

But it wasn't all tragedy. Some of the highlights were very bright. Roseburg again claimed a regional Legion Junior baseball championship, a new downtown shopping center was built and the title of Miss Oregon came to Roseburg.

Here's how they stacked up in the voting by News-Review newsmen and women:

### No. 1 — Speedway Crash

On Labor Day weekend, a crowd of more than 1,000 people turned out for some thrills at the Roseburg Speedway. What they witnessed was a chilling tragedy triggered by a collision on an inside turn that hurled a car into the grandstands killing three persons and injuring more than 25 others.

As cars in the next to last race came swooping around the turn in front of the grandstand the cars of Marvin (Bud) Van Osten and Hal Welker buffeted each other. Suddenly Van Osten's car went out of control, bounded over a three-foot retaining wall in front of the grandstand, tore through an eight-foot cyclone fence into the stand. The car cut a swath through the crowd leaving three dead, 19 hospitalized and another eight or nine with minor injuries.

The story still continues as damage suits mount against the Speedway. At present, the suits total more than \$669,000.

### No. 2 — JFK Death

Shortly before noon on Nov. 22, the entire county was stunned by the report that President John F. Kennedy had been shot in Dallas, Tex. Practically all eyes and ears were focused on radio and television sets the rest of that Friday, Saturday and Sunday as history unfolded in a way it had never before been witnessed by man. By Monday, Nov. 25, the shocked disbelief had turned to deep grief. It wasn't an event which had taken place in Douglas County, but its impact was stronger than any other event county people had ever felt.

Flags were drawn to half-mast, and in an unprecedented show of universal mourning, schools, businesses, governmental agencies closed their doors on the day of the President's funeral. Many hundreds of people turned out for special services to pay homage to the young man assassinated by a rifle bullet at the prime of his life in one of history's darkest tragedies.

### No. 3 — Lumber Strike

As Northwest lumber strikes go, last summer's was a comparatively mild one. But the uncertainty involved had a somewhat paralyzing effect on the economy.

Attention was focused on negotiations involving six major

lumber manufacturers, including International Paper Co. and U. S. Plywood in Douglas County. The unions insisted workers should receive substantial raises in pay because they had foregone wage increase demands the previous year, when industry said it was suffering from a bad economic year.

Only men at the U. S. plant in Roseburg and IP plant at Reedsport were out of work in Douglas County, but the weeks of negotiations in Portland between the so-called "Big Six" and the unions had a more widespread effect. People held onto their money, putting off purchases in case the strike became general. Business slowed to a walk, and industry suspended planning for the future while the negotiations continued.

If the uncertainty had a paralyzing effect, however, the settlement, with an increase in pay for workers of more than 30 cents an hour, was just as effective in releasing the dam on slowing economic activity. Dramatically, the economy took an upturn which will probably cheer business and industry leaders with their share of the nation-wide boom in economic activity as the year-end reports are compiled.

### No. 4 — Miss Oregon

In 1947, a blond beauty from Douglas County, JoAnne Amode became the first Miss Oregon in the annual Miss America contest. Since then, Douglas County's entries had come close to her triumph on occasion, but it took a 19-year-old Southern Oregon College student to bring the Miss Oregon title back to the county. On the Saturday night of June 29, D'Ann Fullerton, 19, Roseburg, under the sponsorship of the Roseburg Jayvees, became the county's second Miss Oregon. It was such a dramatic triumph bringing honor to both Miss Fullerton and the county that it was listed as one of the major stories of the year.

### No. 5 — Roseburg Plaza

After a couple of years of negotiation and uncertainty in reaching an acceptable price for property, meeting city requirements and finding tenants, the Roseburg Plaza became a reality this fall.

It wasn't just that a million-dollar shopping center was built that made the story such a big one. The significant aspect was that the rush of businesses to the suburbs was reversed in Roseburg. Many people saw it as a major step toward rejuvenating the downtown core area. The two businesses which took over occupancy of the Plaza—Pay Less Drug Store and Safeway Inc.—called for considerable parking space to help solve part of the city's parking problems. This area appears likely to be tied in eventually with a downtown parking mall.

At the same time, the construction of the Plaza by Portland investors indicated a strong belief in the future of the county's economy.

### No. 6 — Legion Wins

Another triumph of the first magnitude came in August when Roseburg's Legion Junior baseball team took another step in establishing itself as the "New York Yankee" team of the Oregon junior baseball world. After claiming the state title, the Legion squad hosted the regional tournament for the first time since 1959. With tremendous crowds of supporters jamming the Stewart Park grandstands in Roseburg, the team repeated its 1959 showing in one of the most dramatic victories in county sports history. Coach Bill Harper's charges racked up their regional victory and a trip to New Hamp-

### No. 7 — Natural Gas

Another strong proof of industry's high hopes for Douglas County's future was evidenced this fall as California Pacific Utilities turned on the first natural gas in Southwest Oregon at Roseburg. It and El Paso Gas Co. spent millions of dollars in laying a pipeline from Canada into Southern Oregon. The line is being built south to Ashland. Next year, a host of other Douglas County communities will be hooked up to the interstate gasline, offering residents, industry and businesses another source of fuel.

### No. 8 — Tax Referendum

This was another story shared with the rest of the state. The legislature had approved a \$404 million state budget and a new state income tax system to finance it. This triggered a hot controversy in the county as well as in the rest of the state. An Albany publisher, with many odds against him, managed to get a referendum in ballot form, and on Oct. 15, a vote was held over the state. Every one of Douglas County's 103 precincts (and the rest of the state) thunderously rejected the budget and income tax change. This sent the legislature back for its longest special session, and the budget was cut back. The effects of this rejection by the voters is still being appraised.

### No. 9 — Representative Dies

One of Douglas County's most popular state representatives, W. O. Kelsay, was returning from Klamath Falls where he had been attending a committee meeting when his car plummeted off the highway north of that city. With numbing suddenness, Kelsay was dead. This left a big gap in the county's legislative delegation which would traditionally have been filled at the next election. However, this process was complicated by the special session made necessary when the people rejected the state's budget.

This meant a replacement was necessary immediately. The choice by both the Democratic Central Committee, which recommended, and the County Court, which made the decision, was Kelsay's widow, Elizabeth. She served out the special session; but refused to be considered for candidacy next year in the county primary.

### No. 10 — Adventurer Dies

For a year, three youths, two of them from Roseburg, had planned a trip of high adventure which would take them through India, Nepal, the Middle East and Europe. The high point of their trip was to be an expedition into the Himalaya mountains to sightsee and collect insect specimens for U. S. museums.

One of these youths was 20-year-old David Wyatt of Roseburg. On Dec. 4, within about 20 miles of Mt. Everest, the trio was returning to Katmandu, Nepal, through an 18,500 foot pass. The three started to hike up a ridge while waiting for porters to come up with loads. About 2 p.m., while proceeding over icy areas, previously negotiated without ropes, one of the youths slipped but caught himself. He warned the others, but Wyatt fell. He slipped past the other two and tumbled some 500 feet to his death. Artificial respiration was applied for 2½ hours, but in vain. Wyatt was buried on the spot. Thus, a journey of high adventure ended in high tragedy.

## We're Better Off Without 'Friends'



By ROBERT C. RUARK

Come the new year, and perhaps a fresh appraisal of aid to people we don't really need, and can't trust anyhow, should be even more clearly scrutinized.

We had a piece a bit back about the faster-than-sound jet and the long-distance projectile making expensive and useless occupation of far-off hog walls impractical as well as costly. So frequently the money settles in the numbered Swiss bank accounts of a few friends of the family, the equipment rusts, and the poor people go right on starving.

The point was amply illustrated in this past month by two stories. One was that of Prince Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia, who was putting over his squash game or was irritable because of a crash diet or something. He said he would throw us out, bag and baggage, aid and army, if we didn't do something to suppress an underground radio beamed at his doleful neighbors, South Viet Nam and Thailand. So out we go.

### Loss Not Great

While saying ta-ta to the Americans and the French, and spurning that ever-loving aid about \$280 million since 1954, he didn't say anything about giving up the Russian nozzles or the Red Chinese dependency. We get maybe 60 troopers in Cambodia. I reckon we can afford to leave and cut our losses. The French, also handed the hard adieu, have been training whatever passes for an army in those parts.

Now the other one that slides me up the wall is Somalia, a piece of goat-and-mesquite real estate that I have footed, jeaped and flown over to the point of weeping despair, and which is so barren of anything worth argument that eight-tenths of its population lives in Kenya, Ethiopia, Aden, and French Somaliland. About two million souls exist in Somalia proper. The rest are a bunch of sleep-out Louies.

A Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Darman, counselor of the Somali mission to the United Nations, justifies the country's flight to the Russian embrace as being solely the fault of the United States' refusal for heavy military aid. The Somalis want a 20,000-man army for internal security, and there isn't anything to protect internally but camels.

**Ethiopia Annoyed**  
This idea annoys Ethiopia, because there is a dispute about the Ethiopian Ogaden area, which is heavily Somaliized, as is the Northern Frontier of Kenya. This war has been brewing in the mouth since I last drove from Nairobi to Mogadishu.

Haile Selassie went to the Russians for the same purpose, and on the same excuse, which was that the United States wouldn't give him enough dough to buy sufficient toy pistols to

protect Ethiopia from the nasty, wicked Somalis. Now Addis Ababa has more Russians, more Czechs, more everybody, than they have horses.

A ras is a kind of count, and every third Ethiopian is a ras. Haile Selassie was only Ras Tafari until he married money. He became King Emperor, Lion of Judah, by the wedding-ring route. The old Empress died quite a long time ago. The new one owned all the real estate in town until she passed on recently.

I digress. My point for 1964 is that as we couldn't protect close-by Cuba from the Russians, I see no point wasting a lot of time, trouble and money on the likes of Cambodia, Somalia and Ethiopia, when any or all will run pleading to anybody for dough to build private armies so they can make nasty on each other. Strategically—and don't give me a lot of guff about "The Horn" that sticks off Ethiopia and Somalia—they ain't worth a camel bell or a goatherd's wages. Economically they got sand, thornbush, negligible oil, wild coffee, some

oranges, and a whole lot of walkabout people looking for enough water to keep the camels ambulant.

Cambodia is just another piece of real estate between two other pieces of real estate on which we've spent a pile of money, some lives and a lot of time, and have achieved nothing, so far as the record runs. Except, perhaps, Madame Nhu, and a lot of stiff hotel bills.

All I am trying to say is if one outfit throws out money in our face and runs to the Russians, and the other spread runs to Russians because we won't give 'em enough money to fight their neighbors, who have already run to the Russians, in the name of reason, what business is the United States in these days?

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## In Days Gone By

Taken from the files of The News-Review

### 40 YEARS AGO

Dec. 28, 1923

The best oil indications ever struck in Oregon were found last night at the Sutherland-Oakland oil well, according to E. Merrick vice president of the Oakland Oil and Gas Co., and the water is being pumped out of the shaft today in order to determine the volume of pit flow which has been tapped. The hole is now 1,200 feet deep. When the water is removed, the flow will be measured and it will be possible to determine just what has been reached.

W. B. Buck purchased a new Ford sedan today from the C. A. Lockwood Motor company.

FOR SALE — English walnuts for 27½ cents per lb. Edmower orchard tract. Fred Fisher. Phone 26 F-3

### 25 YEARS AGO

Dec. 28, 1938

Unable to come to a decision in the outdoor holiday decorations contest, sponsored by the Roseburg Lions club, judges last night flipped a coin and upon its turn awarded the club's handsome silver cup to Dr. C. B. Wade for the beautiful display at his home on South Kane Street.

President Roosevelt was reported today to be considering creation of non-partisan county boards to act on complaints of "politics in relief."

### 18 YEARS AGO

Dec. 28, 1953

The Army plans to eliminate incompetent men. Professional privates will be among 20,000 to be given releases. The Army will take advantage of current manpower reductions to weed out men who have been determined incapable of absorbing military training to the extent

## The Almanac Day's News

By Frank Jenkins

By United Press International Today is Saturday, Dec. 28, the 362nd day of 1963 with three to follow.

The moon is approaching its full phase. The evening stars are Jupiter Saturn and Venus.

On this day in history: In 1846, Iowa was admitted into the Union as the 29th state.

In 1941, President Roosevelt pledged to regain the freedom and the independence of the Philippine Islands.

In 1945, Congress officially recognized the "Pledge of Allegiance" to the flag.

A thought for the day—The Russian novelist Dostoyevsky said: "Man is a pliable animal, a being who gets accustomed to everything."

Young Mr. Prestidge is by-passing parliament and using direct action. His plan is to throw the hounds off the scent of the fox by slipping into the hunt area beforehand and dragging pieces of meat over the field. The hounds, he believes, will follow the hamburger trail and leave the fox to his own sweet way back to his den and his family.

It's quite a job he's tackling. To begin with, it will cost a lot of money to buy meat enough to drag all over the English fox-hunting country. And he'll let himself in for a lot of ill will. Fox hunting is an ancient sport in Merrie England, and its devotees aren't going to give it up without a struggle.

So perhaps we'd better suggest to him an alternate approach to his goal.

## New Snows Fall In Plains States

By United Press International Snow fell across the Central Plains today and temperatures dropped below zero again in many sections of the North. Most of the Southland was dry and balmy.

Four inches of new snow fell during the night at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., and up to 3 inches were reported in southern and western portions of New England.

The Kansas City Weather Bureau issued a warning that highways were icy in Johnson County, Kan. The snowbelt extended from Nebraska across Kansas into Southeast Missouri. Rain fell along the Pacific coast from California to Washington.

The weather bureau said colder air would push eastward from the Great Plains during the day. Showers were expected in Alabama and Georgia and light snow was predicted for the lower Ohio Valley.

## COMPULSORY INOCULATION

PRETORIA, South Africa (UPI) — Immunization against polio became compulsory today for every South African child over the age of three months. The official Gazette said parents who fail to have their children inoculated may be fined \$140.

## matter fact



The puddingwife is a tropical American fish, which grows to about 18 inches in length. Its color is a vivid blue-green tinged with bronze or soft orange; spots and streaks of blue ornament the head and fins.

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**WOOD ALCOHOL DEATHS PHILADELPHIA (UPI)** — Twenty skid row deaths from wood alcohol poisoning in the last three days were reported Thursday.

City Medical Examiner Joseph W. Spelman, who reported the deaths, said hospitals also had a number of persons being treated for wood alcohol poisoning.

Spelman said an investigation into the source of the alleged illegal wood alcohol has been started by his office in cooperation with the police.

The sailors painted a chapel and other buildings, built a pig pen, replaced broken windows, laid drainpipes and built a basketball and volleyball court. Then they held a Christmas party, passing out gifts including a \$500 cash donation to the colony.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR FRIENDLINESS AND PATRONAGE THIS PAST YEAR. MAY WE EXTEND TO YOU OUR WARMEST GREETINGS AND GOOD WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

**Douglas County STATE BANK**  
Roseburg Oakland Sutherlin