

MORE FARMS THAN IN '25. THIS COUNTY

Total Listed at 1276 by Census Bureau—Land Values Depreciate.

AVERAGE ACREAGE OF FARM LARGER

Dairy Cows Show an Increase—Most Major Crops Also Show an Increase in Decade.

There are more farms in existence in Union county at present than in 1925, but three less than in 1920. This is the findings of the director of the census, given in a statement released from Washington, D. C. today.

In 1930 there were 1276 farms in the county, in 1925 there were 1218 and in 1920 the amount was 1279.

The average of all land farms at present is much greater than at any time during the last 10 years, but the value of land and buildings has dropped, \$4,765,554 since 1920.

The big drop in value of farms, which dropped from \$21,000,000 in 1920 to \$15,434,877 in 1930. Buildings increased in value from \$2,930,045 in 1920 to \$3,798,921 in 1930.

The value of implements and machinery also dropped, reaching a total of \$1,488,298 in 1920 but only \$1,439,237 in 1930.

However, the 1930 figure shows a considerable increase over 1925, when the figure was \$1,085,405, showing a decided upward trend in that five-year period.

Farms Are Larger The average acres per farm in Union county in 1930 was 32.9, compared with 34.4 in 1925 and 34.5 in 1920, an increase of 13.5 acres in the decade.

The average value of land and buildings per farm follows:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Land Value, Buildings Value. Rows for 1930, 1925, 1920.

Size of Farm 1930 following: Under 3 acres 36.5, 3 to 9 acres 110.69, 10 to 19 acres 143.1, 20 to 49 acres 130.119, 50 to 99 acres 138.121, 100 to 174 acres 186.209, 175 to 249 acres 205.287, 250 to 499 acres 205.287, 500 to 999 acres 167.170, 1000 acres, over 98.86.

In 1930, 998 farms were operated by owners, compared with 1021 in 1920. Tenants in 1930 were 282 compared with 236 ten years earlier.

Acres operated by owners in 1930 was 349,727, seven times as many as the 350,137 in 1920; but tenants operated 104,081 acres in 1930 compared with 81,887 in 1920.

More Dairy Cows. During the decade the number of horses decreased greatly, mules showing a slight increase.

BISHOP FROM MEXICO WILL SPEAK SUNDAY

One who has had the unique distinction of being cited by the Mexican government as 'El Rey' of Creighton, Fr. D. who will speak at St. Peter's Episcopal church at 2 p.m. Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Cummins, 67, Passes Thursday

Mrs. Martha Flint Cummins, age 67, passed away here Thursday evening after a short illness. Mrs. Flint Cummins has been a resident of La Grande for the past 21 years and has many friends in the valley.

The funeral will be held from the chapel of Walkers Funeral Home Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock with Rev. Mr. Sharpe of the Nazarene church in charge of the services.

Scores Inquire About Conditions In This Section

Chamber of Commerce Receives Many Replies From Persons Who Were Given Literature.

A joint program in land settlement between Union and Wallawa counties was started two years ago. Wallawa contributed \$150, Enterprise, \$75, Joseph, \$30, and Union county \$500, making a total of \$735, it is reported.

The La Grande chamber of commerce, seeing the opportunity of furthering Union and Wallawa counties, took the matter to the last fall, and in October, 1929, the sum of \$414.81 has been expended sending literature to chambers of commerce throughout the United States, and including Oregon.

Seventy-six replies have been received by the chamber of commerce, and 187 are yet to be heard from. The replies consist mostly of questions about the land settlement project and agricultural possibilities and come from Texas, Oklahoma, Minnesota, Missouri, California, Arizona, Canada, Utah, Kansas, Wisconsin, North Dakota, Illinois, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Montana, Colorado, Massachusetts, and Virginia.

Many stated in their replies that they intend to come to Oregon during the spring with the intention of settling permanently if they find that Oregon fits the description given in the material sent out by the chamber of commerce here.

Operetta Will Be Presented Mar. 19 and 20

Every dramatic or musical production must have a group of committees that "make the wheels go round," and a corps of directors who interpret the lines and coach the players.

Directors are Miss Lena Foley, dramatics; Miss Jennie Peterson, music; Miss Carolyn Williams, art; Miss Madeline Larson, dancing, and Roy Steen, scenery.

Committee are: Business, Austin Dunn, chairman; Delva Beers, George Cox, Juanita Crawford, Kermit Bates, Elsie Eggle, Leola Heston, Bernice Heft, Kermit Bates, Bethmy Miller, McWilliams, Edythe Sheringhouse.

Properties—Ruth Leonard and Berne Heft, co-chairman; Bessie Breche, co-chairman; But Fraser, Lucille Peck, Ava Woodell.

Advertising—Eva Jane Erwin, chairman; Lucille Hudson, Anne Geitling, co-chairman; Elsie Eggle, Lucille Peck, Ernest Chaney, Lucille Chaney.

Make-up—Dorothy Barker, chairman; Dorothy Barker, Mildred Huchler, Grace Johnston, Juanita Crawford, Delva Beers, Naomi Tidwell, Marjorie Baird, Edna Hammack, Joyce Kirby and Leone Christians.

Recently the Observer printed a story about strawberries and cherries and the chests of several Eastern Oregonians swelled when Claude L. Berry published a story of \$2000 could be made on one acre of strawberries or cherries.

The story seemed to have caused a furor among some Western Oregonians for the editor of the Junction City Times printed the story with this statement: "The editor of this paper never raised strawberries commercially, but it is his opinion that it would require exceptionally favorable conditions to produce a profit anywhere near as large as this. We believe that both the yield and selling price are placed away below the average."

Mr. Berry who he has a ready list of references among other strawberry raisers in this vicinity who have published their own articles.

Enterprise To Get Butter Factories

ENTERPRISE, Mar. 13.—Two butter factories will locate in Enterprise this spring.

One will be operated by Perry J. Bradley and Vincent Michalak, who have shipped their equipment from Elma, Wash., and have taken a five-year lease on J. P. Gillespie's building on Main street formerly occupied by E. L. Chaplin's cheese factory.

The other, which is not absolutely sure, is the Mutual Creamery, which is the concern with buying, manufacturing and selling agencies in many cities. The company has taken an option on Fred W. Falconer's brick building, formerly occupied by the old Wallawa Milling & Grain company.

IDENTITY OF BURIED MAN CHALLENGED

Insurance Company Launches Investigation of Iowa Mystery.

PERRY, Ia., March 13 (AP)—A theory that the buried body of a man buried here February 3 as John M. Smith, farmer-labor candidate for governor in 1930, was not that of Smith was being investigated today at the request of insurance companies with which Smith carried \$50,000 worth of policies.

The body, burned beyond recognition, was found under the wreckage of a motor truck near Denison, Iowa, and was identified by Mrs. Smith as that of her husband. When exhumed yesterday and subjected to an autopsy it was revealed, Coroner L. H. De Ford said, that it had been embalmed before it had been buried. The authorities were unable to identify the body. C. D. Besmer, an undertaker, told them the corpse contained no mortician's stitches, made before the burning.

Search Under Way. Meanwhile a search for Smith was under way on the theory that he is still alive.

DeFord testified that their work on Smith did not correspond with that in the mouth of the buried man. Doctors furnished additional testimony that the Smith buried during the spring was not that of Smith but that there was no indication of a fracture on the skull of the body.

Mrs. Smith said that at the time of the burial she believed the body was that of her husband but said that the features were not recognizable. She could advance no theory where her husband might be if alive.

N. G. INSPECTION MONDAY EVENING

Major A. M. Jones, of Seventh Infantry, to View Local Company.

The seventh annual federal inspection of Company E, 188th Infantry will be held Monday evening, March 16, at the armory, with Major A. M. Jones, Seventh Infantry, Vancouver Barracks, conducting the inspection. Lieutenant Colonel R. R. Huron, representing regimental headquarters, will accompany Major Jones on his tour of inspection. The officers will go to Baker on Tuesday evening; Union, Wednesday; and Pendleton, Thursday.

All national guard units are inspected for physical appearance, regular army to ascertain if standards of training and equipment are kept up to federal requirements. Major Jones will inspect the records and the office and store rooms of Company E during the afternoon, and the entire company at the regular drill on Tuesday morning. The inspection will cover all phases of training that have been covered during the past year including discipline, military conduct, close order drill, musketry, bayonet training, riot duty, communications, first aid, making and adjusting packs, stripping and cleaning rifles, physical appearance, mental alertness, and condition and care of their uniforms and equipment.

New uniforms will be worn and full attendance of the members of the company is required, sickness being the only accepted excuse for absence. The public is invited to observe the inspection.

CHILD IS KILLED DAYTON, March 13 (AP)—Victory Bond, 10-year-old daughter of Harry Bond, Dayton contractor, died at the McKinley hospital, night, after injuries received when she slipped from a school bus and stepped into the path of another car on the highway a mile east of here yesterday afternoon.

Work on \$600,000 Bridge Resumed

MARSHFIELD, Ore., March 13 (AP)—Work on the \$600,000 bridge across the Rogue river at Gold Beach, suspended during the winter months, was resumed Tuesday. The bridge will be completed by next January.

Major Hines Refuses To Say Today Whether Soldiers' Home Selected

WASHINGTON, March 13 (AP)—Major Frank T. Hines, administrator of the federal board of housing, today refused to say whether the site of the proposed \$2,000,000 soldiers' home for the Pacific Northwest has been selected, or whether a decision or announcement could be expected.

Attaches of Hines' office, however, indicated a decision is expected within two or three days, but refused to say whether the announcement would simply mention the state in which the national home is to be built, or the actual site decided upon.

Major Hines' only statement was that the board has discussed the northeastern home. He would not say whether or not another meeting will be necessary before the final decision is announced.

It was pointed out that the board's meetings have been of an executive nature and its findings sent to the president as recommendations for his approval. After this approval

Musical Comedy Wins Applause On First Night

"Oh Doctor" Presented at La Grande Highest Last Evening—Last Staging Tonight.

"Oh Doctor" was a riot! From the head of the Drinkwater sanitarium, Dr. Drinkwater himself, to the foot, Rainbow, "heseif," the darkie servant, the parts were well taken and each actor secured to get the full significance of the "wack cracks." The love scenes were sufficiently realistic, yet not sentimentally so, and the choruses had all the pep of a Broadway musical show. It is being presented against tonight at 8:15 and from the ticket sales, the directors believe the house will be filled again.

Miss Catherine Sartin and W. W. Nusbaum aided directed the production and Miss Anne Argoldus's representation of the Spanish setting gave the production atmosphere. The Spanish idea was one of the best ideas of its kind ever presented here in a musical comedy. Rollin Heasler may be mentioned because of his tenor voice; Robert Ward, because he's a bold, bad robber; the boys' eccentric dance; the cast, because every person put himself wholly into his part; and the chorus, because in all the dances they didn't miss a step.

The cast includes: Doctor Drinkwater, Packer McFarland; Mrs. Weakly, Mildred Cade; Mrs. Crossly, Alice Milne; Doctor Slaughter, Nick Hughes; Madam Cade, Ralph Geibel; Doctor Coffin, Wesley Hershby; Rainbow, Jack Kincaid; Bessie, Wenonah Nichols; Honor, Dorothy Higgins; Madam Cade, Mildred McCluskey; Glory Drinkwater, Cleda Harvey; Pancho, Rollin Heasler; Philip, Donna Poarch; Jim, Charles Walnum; Old Timer, Wayne Foster; Bob, Orval Anderson; Cynthia, Natalie Ebert; Manuel, Bob Ward; Goodness, Cecelia Bunker; Pilgrim, Robert Swan; Solo Dancer, Sally Siegrist.

In the chorus are: Dorothy Walker, Margaret McAllister, Ruth Marshall, Gladys Roberts, Irene Sittler, Berneta Hyde, Oia Mae Hough, Genevieve Flexer, Nadine O'Sullivan, Lela Warner, Wilma Hansel, Vivian Gallagher, Madeline Galt, Jeanne McKennon, Clara Norris, Mae Waldorf, Dorothy Stuart, Catherine Spaeth, Wilma Smith, Mildred Arnett, Edith Ragin, Veda Hogberg, Marie Thomas, Madeline Galt, Alice Jeanette Cooper, Maclizabeth Cooper, Arlene Conrad, Janet Binger, Phyllis Dunn, Jeanne Devine, Edna Berry, Theresa Bunker, Margaret, Marguerite Hesse, Edith Happerett, Carolyn Gray, Marie-Florence, Maravene Kiddie, Ruth Maguire, Mary Rowland, Lucille Peck, Loretta Stitt, Peggy Bohnenkamp, Nancy.

Measles epidemic is spreading in the city. The health department has issued a warning to the public to be on guard against the disease.

MEIER'S DESK CLEARED; 25 BILLS VETOED

Results in Saving of \$626,925.56 to Taxpayers in Oregon.

\$1,125,000 TAKEN FROM TAX ROLL

Lopping of \$500,000 From Appropriation Measure Brings up Interesting Questions.

1931 LEGISLATION Bills passed by the state legislature, 431.

By Clifton V. Bernhardt SALEM, Mar. 13 (AP)—The executive desk was cleared today of legislative matters, with the announcement of veto resulting in the saving of \$626,925.56 to taxpayers, and the approval of legislative appropriation legislation cutting off \$1,125,000 from the tax roll in the act of repealing the market road mileage tax.

A total of 25 vetoes were returned by Governor Julius L. Meier, while 404 bills were signed. Two measures, the "consolidated" act and the measure providing that municipal corporations shall be exempt from filing water applications with the federal government, will become laws without executive approval.

The largest appropriation reduction made possible by executive veto was the cutting from the higher education total the sum of \$500,000. This item, with \$15,000 reduced from the sum legislated for the Waverly baby home in Portland, were taken off by reducing lamp sums, and not by a reduction veto, as all other appropriation reductions were effected.

Reducing of sums by veto, and permitting the remainder of the appropriation to be used for other purposes, is a procedure in Oregon, Secretary of State Hal E. Hos, stated. Executive action on these two appropriation bills has aroused considerable interest.

Triad Choir Opens Series of Concerts

The first of many beautiful musical presentations will be given by the Triad choir, at the church, Sunday evening, March 15, at 7:30. The choir has been singing in La Grande for many years and has grown to be one of the leading musical organizations of the city.

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Great Landslide Is Threatening French Villages

CHAMBERY, France, March 13 (AP)—Government engineers today attempted to divert a mountain torrent threatening to divert the village of Le Chatelet at the rate of 500 feet an hour after engulfing the village of Le Chatelet. The landslide, brought on by the excessive rainfall of the past few weeks, broke loose from the hillside with a loud rumbling sound, and moved down with an area of about 100 acres. Its volume was estimated at 200,000,000 cubic feet.

The engineers ordered the 125 in. diameter concrete pipe at Le Chatelet, which is well known to tourists who visit Aix-les-Bains. There were no casualties in either Berge or Michal.

Another slide, of about 1,000,000 cubic feet, blocked a road near Moutiers-Tarantaise. The residents of the hillside, warned of the approaching slide, drove off their cattle and pets and left their homes. Twelve houses composing the hamlet of Michal, were famous for their region and were engulfed along with barns, and dwellings.

Engineers believed they would be able to divert the movement to a mountain torrent which had been spreading above some of the moving matter. It was expected tonight to blow up the bridge at Granges in an effort to split the flow in two.

Retired Officer Drives Into River

PORTLAND, Ore., March 13 (AP)—Captain Harvey J. Silverstone, United States army retired, an insurance underwriter, plunged to his death late tonight in the Youngs Bay straits from the east side slip of the St. Johns ferry. Several hours elapsed before the heavy automobile he was driving was recovered.

262 Lives Lost In Tragedy In Orient

SHANGHAI, March 13 (AP)—Additional deaths in the sinking of the passenger steamer Pachi indicated today that 262 lives had been lost when the ship exploded 60 miles off the coast of the Yellow Sea on Wednesday night. The remainder of the 723 persons aboard were saved.

First reports gave the death list at 200, and the number rose to 180. All who perished were Chinese.

IN THE NEWS

Hartley Scored From Bench By Superior Judge

Attacks Governor of Washington as Implicated in "Nefarious" Act.

SEATTLE, March 13 (AP)—Attacking Governor Roland H. Hartley being implicated in a "nefarious transaction," Superior Judge Howard M. Findley today removed Harry C. Johnson, state treasurer of efficiency, as receiver for the Puget Sound Savings and Loan association.

As Judge Findley arose to leave the bench after announcing his decision the collapse and fell on the steps leading to his private chambers. He had been ill of influenza for several days. Physicians were summoned.

The judge also removed George F. Jackson as liquidator. He appointed H. J. Hoffman, state supervisor of savings and loan associations, as temporary receiver and receiver. Hugh M. Caldwell, former Seattle mayor, as attorney for the receiver. Hoffman's department is a division under the department of efficiency, which Johnson heads. Johnson is appointed by the governor.

May Call Grand Jury Judge Findley said it was not possible for one judge of the superior court to convene a grand jury, but he would urge Presiding Judge William J. Steiner to call a meeting of the judges for the purpose of convening a grand jury to investigate the alleged failure of the state officers to remove the association's condition over a period of years.

The jurist said: "Can this court at a time when these proceedings were, and still are pending in this court, shut its eyes to published interviews and statements made by the governor of this great state casting aspersions upon and impugning the motives of the judge of this court, and which would bring a court of justice into disrepute and contempt?"

"TORCHSLAYER" IS HELD GUILTY

Voluntary Manslaughter Verdict Returned—to Sentence Him Monday.

INDIANAPOLIS, March 13 (AP)—Convicted of voluntary manslaughter for the death of an unknown hitchhiker whose body he admitted burning in his automobile near here last May, Harold Herbert Schroeder, 21, was held in state custody Monday. He will be sentenced Monday.

As the state last sought conviction of first degree murder and imposition of the death penalty. Only three witnesses were presented in defense of the 35-year-old Moore, who was sentenced to 10 years in the state penitentiary. The defendant pleaded insanity, the defense attorney, Schaefer, said. The defendant's attorney, Schaefer, said the defendant was not sane at the time of the murder, he drove back toward Indianapolis.

AGED INDIAN WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY; FINED

BUFFALO, N. Y., March 13 (AP)—Nancy Bowen, 65-year-old Seneca Indian woman, today was sentenced to imprisonment for one to ten years for manslaughter, first degree, in connection with the slaying of Mrs. Claude Marchand, wife of Henri Marchand, an artist, in Buffalo, last March.

Nancy, who freely admitted the killing, but declared she had been done because she believed Mrs. Marchand was a "white witch," pleaded guilty Tuesday to the manslaughter charge, which was reduced from one of murder.

The effect of the sentence was to set the aged Indian woman free immediately, the judge stipulating that the year she has already been held in jail since her arrest should be counted on her prison sentence.

Marble, Lime Co. Will Resume Work

ENTERPRISE, Ore., Mar. 13.—Operation at the quarry and lime plant of the Black Marble & Lime company are to be resumed shortly by L. A. Stringer and M. Brackley, who have taken a three-year lease on the entire property. Both the lessees and the owners of the lime company hope this will mean continuous operation and the solution of the company's tangled finances. For the community it spells the revival of a valued industry with great possibilities for the future.

Bubonic Plague Rages In Russia

ANGORA, Turkey, March 13 (AP)—Considerable alarm is felt in official circles here at the possibility of spread of bubonic plague in Turkey from Georgia, Southern Russia, where the epidemic is raging.

The frontier has been closed to persons coming from Russia. The provinces of Artvin and Kars in the Georgian republic were known to be especially hard hit by the disease.

The epidemic extends from Karabagh to Djolga. There have been many deaths.

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Today Is Second Friday The 13th Of Present Year

NEW YORK, March 13 (AP)—This is the second Friday 13th of 1931. Another will be observed on March 14. For hundreds of years Friday has been considered a hoodoo, and the same is true of the 13th. When they both fall on one day, superstitious people throw up their hands in horror.

But history records good things which happened on these days as well as evil. Here are some events that befell on Friday: Columbus set sail, sighted land, sailed back to Spain, and returning, discovered the mainland, all on Fridays; John Cabot started his journey of discovery; the Declaration of Independence was signed; Cornwallis surrendered; Melendy founded St. Augustine; the Mayflower made land; the first emigrants reached Plymouth Rock; the airship Bremen flew the Atlantic; Shakespeare, Napoleon, Bismarck, D'Aniel and Washington were born; Christ was crucified; the White House was burned; the Battle of Waterloo was fought; Joan of Arc was burned; Lincoln and Cresser were assassinated.

The national anthem was born; American troops took St. Mihiel; Richard Wagner, who had 13 letters in his name, was born; the 13th commoned 13 famous operas, presented the first on March 13, and died on Feb. 13.

Infuriated Woman Defeats Bandits 5 JURORS IN BOWLESTRIAL REPORTED ILL

LOS ANGELES, March 13 (AP)—Mrs. Anna May Power did not want to be held up and became Ernest Carbone's enemy when he was in jail with a broken leg today.

When Carbone and a companion demanded money from Charles B. Power at his garage last night, Mrs. Power stepped on the Mexican and threw him to the floor. Power, fearing his wife would be shot, ran to get the money. Carbone broke out in a rage and seized a pistol and brought him down with a leg wound. His accomplice got away but left a hat bearing the name Jose Cruz in the band.

Linnton Bank Is Sold to U. S. Gov

PORTLAND, March 13 (AP)—Sale of the First National Bank of Linnton to the United States National corporation was confirmed today. The Linnton institution by the sale became a member of the United States National group, making a total of twelve banks.

J. C. Answorth, president of the re-organized Linnton bank, said its deposits when acquired amounted to \$250,000. The United States National corporation has banks in Portland, Salem, McMinnville, Oregon City, Mount Angel, St. Helens and Camas.

Ex-Congressman Acquitted Today

WASHINGTON, March 13 (AP)—Edward E. Denison, former representative from Illinois was acquitted today of charges of liquor possession.

Wheat Today

CHICAGO, Mar. 13 (AP)—Wheat and corn underwent a decided setback late today, contrasting with unusual evenness earlier. Increased offerings near the close met with no resistance, and prices quickly sagged. Likelihood of a heavy crop was a factor in the wheat market, but the market for wheat was not so much affected as the market for corn.

Wheat closed irregular 1/4 cent lower to 1 1/2 advance, corn 1/4 cent down, oats 1/2 cent off, and provisions 5 to 22 cents up.

WEATHER FORECAST Oregon: Fair in the east and cloudy in the west portion tonight and Saturday, rain Saturday in the extreme west portion. Moderate temperatures. Moderately changeable winds. Mostly southerly offshore.

WEATHER TODAY 7.3 to 49 above. Minimum 32 above. Condition: Clear.

WEATHER YESTERDAY Maximum 57, minimum 38 above. Condition: Partly cloudy.

WEATHER MAR. 13, 1930 Maximum 48, minimum 25 above. Condition: Traces of snow, moisture .08 of inch, cloudy.

Miss Gullickson's Funeral Sunday

The funeral of Lola Frankie Gullickson will be held from the chapel of Walkers Funeral Home Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock and burial will be in the family plot in the Masonic cemetery.