

Indebtedness Related To Agriculture Underpayment

By HOWARD FUJII, Director
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After all the charges and counter-charges about who caused the increase in food prices, an article has been noted which states that rapidly expanding public and private indebtedness has a relationship to the underpayment to agriculture.

A Washington analyst, Carl H. Wilkens, warns of an economic collapse if farm prices and income are not brought into balance with wages and interest costs. He said Secretary Freeman estimates net farm income for 1966 will be \$15.1 billion out of a national income of \$590 billion. He compared this to the 1946-50 average of \$15.1 billion net farm income out of a \$22.4 billion annual national income.

"In other words farm operators received nothing out of an increase of \$378 billion of national income. It's the greatest example of exploitation of agriculture and rural areas in world history," Wilkens said. The analyst noted particularly the rate of debt expansion by federal, state and local units of government, as well as private debt, during this same period. The gross debt in 1965 was \$1,450.7 billion, compared to \$666.6 billion in 1950, for an increase of \$884 billion in 15 years.

In terms of relative value and purchasing power, the gross farm income declined during the 1950-65 period. The writer's tabulation showed the underpayment to agriculture was \$421 billion, the amount which farmers would have received if agricultural prices and income had been maintained at the same level as the rest of the economy.

The tabulation shows a definite ratio, averaging 2.1 to 1, between the rate of debt expansion and the underpayment to agriculture. This means an average of \$2.10 debt expansion to each dollar of underpayment.

The writer quoted from "Full parity" computations prices farmers should be receiving and compared them with prices reported by USDA on Feb. 15, 1966. Some examples were beef cattle, \$41.80 and \$29.60 (grade not specified); hogs, \$32.20 and \$27.20; wheat, \$2.81 and \$1.43; barley, \$1.82 and \$1.07; corn, \$2.15 and \$1.15.

FORMER RESIDENT DIES

Mrs. Clarence Brownley of Bend, Ore., passed away last week. Funeral services were held in Newport, Monday, July 25.

Mrs. Brownley is the mother of Mel Brownley, a former night patrolman in Port Orford, who is now assistant chief of police in Florence.

Mr. and Mrs. Brownley moved from Port Orford about four years ago. Mr. Brownley was employed at Western States Plywood.

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWS

CHURCH PICNIC

The Zion Lutheran Church picnic was held at Humburg Park, with a large number of members and guests attending. They would like to thank all the young people for their faithful participation in the worship service, as well as soloist, Mrs. Lester Hill. The speakers prepared their own messages and congratulation go to them for their fine work. Also a word of thanks to everyone who helped to arrange all things necessary for this outdoor service.

CHURCH CALENDAR

July 31, 1966
Sunday School, 9:45 a.m.
Worship, 11 a.m., with Vern Magnuson, Speaker.
August 7 and 14, 1966
Sunday School, 10 a.m.
Worship, 9 a.m., Rev. J. Kramer, Speaker.

GOLD BEACH SERVICE

Four members of Zion Lutheran Church youth will participate in the Gold Beach Service to be held at 9 a.m. Vern Magnuson will conduct the service and Clint Stole, Tony Hefner, Ilene Fisher and Roger Hill will bring the messages.

FAMILY GET-TOGETHER

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Morris, Sr., were honored recently with all of their children and families at their home in Port Orford. It was the first time in several years that they all could get together.

Sunday, July 24, dinner was enjoyed at the home of their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Keith (Caroline) Stewart at North Bend, with daughters and families, Mrs. Lou (Mary Lou) Beebe and children of Atlanta, Georgia; Mr. and Mrs. Harry (Billy Jean) Helmken and children of Sixes; Mr. and Mrs. Doug (Margaret) Helken and children of Coos Bay; and Mr. and Mrs. Marty (Ruth) Lowy and children, who recently returned from Madrid, Spain; and son, F.M. Morris, Jr., of Berkeley, Calif. Also, Mrs. Ludy Viney, a cousin of Mr. Morris, and her daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Terrell of Reno, Nev. were at the dinner.

All of the children of the Morris' are Port Orford High school graduates.

Cost Is High For Forest Clean-Up

An annual litter clean-up cost of \$60,000 for National Forests in Oregon and Washington was cited today as reason enough for cutting down littering in forest areas.

But just as much, two Pacific Northwest leaders pointed out, the desecration of the region's natural beauty and the

potential dangers of litter to health and safety are equally good reasons to put a curb to it.

The observations were made by U. S. Forest Service Regional Forester J. Herbert Stone of Portland and by CLEAN and Beautiful Executive Director Eugene B. Kasper of Auburn, Wash.

Stone said trash clean-up in campgrounds and other portions of the 24 million acres of Forest Service land in the Pacific Northwest Region eats up thousands of man hours each year, especially during the summer.

The \$60,000 estimate for litter clean-up mentioned earlier is in addition to the cost of regular Forest Service garbage

pickup, sanitation, and other clean-up responsibilities.

If a sizeable portion of this tax-supported litter clean-up work could be diverted to improving existing campgrounds and to constructing new recreation sites, we could make a significant increase in facilities over the next few years, Stone pointed out.

Equal weight was given by Kasper to the litter problem in state and national parks, national forests, beaches, and other outdoor recreation areas.

"Over and over, we have pointed out that both nationally and locally, it has been shown many times that littering is largely an unconscious act. So we'll say it again . . . think about the trouble your litter-

ing can cause, and then throw your trash into a litterbag or receptacle," Kasper said.

He urged individuals, organizations and communities interested in guides, suggestions, and aids for litter-prevention and beautification programs to contact him at the business and industry sponsored public service organization's office at 1100 Tower Building, Seattle, Wash., 98101.

WEEKEND VISITORS

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Anderson of Springfield were weekend guests at the J.B. Johnson home on Elk River.

Also visiting the Johnsons were their daughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Woodworth. The

couple also visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Woodworth on Elk River.

RETURNS HOME

Mrs. Delbert Newkirk returned home Sunday from a weeks visit in Portland with her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Olsen.

Mrs. Newkirk brought her mother, Mrs. Arthur Adams of Staples, Minn., home with her for an extended visit. Mrs. Adams traveled by train to Portland.

Mental Health Funds On Tap

A total of more than a mil-

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lion dollars in construction funds for community mental health centers in Oregon is now available, according to Robert Prairie, mental health facilities consultant in the State of Oregon's Mental Health Division, and communities planning applications should submit them at the Division's Salem office in the Capitol building. The 50-50 matching funds allocated for 1965-66 total \$474,048, and another \$616,937 has been allocated for the fiscal 1966-67 year. "There are two basic requirements for receiving grant-in-aid moneys under the Community Mental Health Centers Construction Act," Prairie points out. "The

center must be available to the general public, and the center must provide the following five services: inpatient, outpatient, partial hospitalization, emergency care, community education and consultation."

Applicants for construction funds should submit their requests to the Mental Health Division, 5 State Capitol, Salem, Prairie said.

A SUBSCRIPTION

To The NEWS

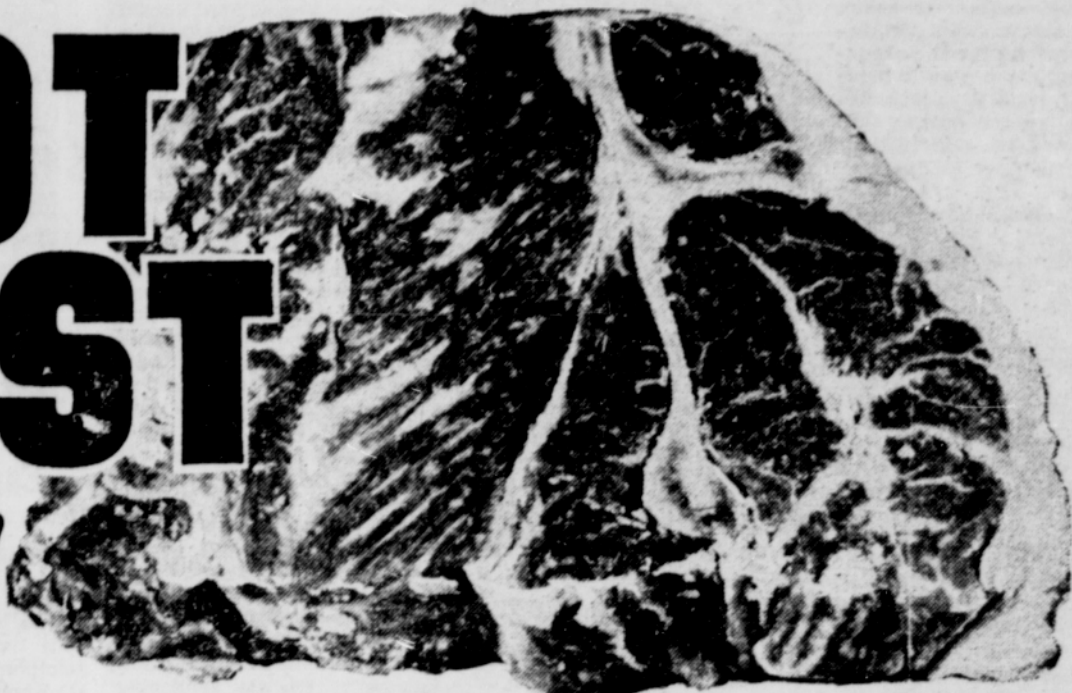
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