

# HILLSBORO ARGUS

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## At the National Capitol

(By John W. Kelly)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Affairs of state will be shelved next Monday and the President of the United States will be just Franklin D. Roosevelt, citizen and papa to a large family. He likes to refer to himself as "papa" and that is what all his children call him. For hours Mr. Roosevelt will be nestled in an arm chair in front of a blazing fire-place (fireplaces are in every room in the White House—relic of the original heating system), reading aloud Dickens' "Christmas Carol." This has been his practice for years.

There are three decorated Christmas trees in the East Room where the murdered Lincoln lay in state and Alice Roosevelt was married, and at each window of the mansion facing Pennsylvania avenue the side tourists stand to take snapshots. Garland and wreaths are hung. The White House, in brief, is decorated as millions of other American homes are, no more, no less. There is a cheerfulness about the scene.

Farm security administration expects to assist in settling reclamation projects in Washington and Oregon—it has, it claims, settled 500 families in the drought area of the Vale-Oxybee project and as many more families in other parts of Oregon. FSA is looking forward to locating farm families on the Grand Coulee project when water is available and the Rora section of Yakima and later on the Deschutes project.

The farm family labor camps now in Oregon are expected to provide the supply of winter legume seeds for replanting. Washington 76,200 pounds. Triple A has also been distributing superphosphate in the program, distributing 2444 tons in Oregon and 1675 tons in Washington.

facilities each year. Cost of the Oregon facilities \$300,000. Practically the same arrangement if planned for the state of Washington.

Of 10,967 drought families in Oregon only 4000 have been able to establish themselves without help, according to FSA.

Few advocates of rural electrification or creation of public utility districts in the Pacific northwest have any idea of the amount of power required to operate the appliances most common in homes. Department of labor (not federal power commission nor REA) has just issued a bulletin on the subject.

According to this government document, here are the estimate number of kilowatt-hours required annually for eight electric appliances: Flatirons, 30; vacuum cleaners 24; washing machines 30; toasters 20; radios 130; refrigerators 430; ironing machines 125; ranges 1200 k. w. h. They add up to 2000 k. w. h. for a year.

Here is how one hand washes another: Triple A made available 1,292,341 pounds of hairy vetch and Austrian winter pea seed to farmers in Oregon and Washington (where the seeds are produced, to increase the supply of winter legume seeds available for southern farmers next fall. The seeds are furnished in lieu of conservation payments for carrying out the soil building program. Oregon received 1,216,141 pounds of seed for replanting; Washington 76,200 pounds. Triple A has also been distributing superphosphate in the program, distributing 2444 tons in Oregon and 1675 tons in Washington.

## Great American Home



## Real Wages Highest

### In History of Nation

(By Roger W. Babson)

CHARLOTTE, N. C.—Factory workers in this and practically every other industrial town who have jobs are better off today than they ever have been. Their wages, measured by the amount of food and clothing their pay envelopes will buy, are the highest in history. The working generation of 1933 gets far more for its dollar than that of 1929. Only disadvantage facing the employer today is the fact that a fourth of his income must go for taxes, relief, and graft.

In remembering the unbridled prosperity we often forget that many changes have taken place which benefit the wage earner and salary worker of 1933. Living costs have plummeted while wages have skyrocketed. The cost of living, as estimated by authorities today, is off a seventh from 1929. This means that a man who is receiving the same wage today as he was 10 years ago actually has been given 16 per cent pay less in his pay envelope than in 1929 can buy just as much as he could then.

FOOD AND CLOTHING CHEAPER  
Major savings in the average family's living costs today are in the weekly market basket. Food now is almost a third cheaper than in 1929. There is not much saving in rent or the cost of building. If you want to build a house today it will cost you about as much as it did 10 years ago. You can rent a desirable apartment or single house much cheaper than you could then. Clothing, however, costs a good deal less today than it did 10 years ago. Many suits, dresses, hats, and shoes as \$100 bought 10 years ago.

Taxes are a different story. Back in 1929 15 cents was sucked out of every wage worker's dollar by local, state, and federal government costs. Today taxes take 25 cents out of a working man's dollar. Moreover, if taxes in 1929 were not much saving in public bills as we go along, instead of borrowing part of the money, government costs would take even a greater portion of the worker's income. The average wage earner does not realize this because most taxes he pays are hidden. It would be committing political hubris to say that the cost of living has to be as much as she does for a shirt or a loaf of bread is not because the cotton planter or the wheat farmer is being paid too much. In fact, the planters and farmers are getting little.

It is due to two reasons: (1) The workers who made the shirts and the bread have had a justifiable increase in pay, and (2) because the shirt manufacturers and bakers' taxes are about twice as big as they were in 1929. Hence, the savings in raw material costs through lower prices and in the cost through increased efficiency of new machinery have been almost entirely eaten up by taxes. If government expenses had not gotten out of hand, these savings would have been passed on to consumers through lower prices. They, in turn, would be able to buy more goods of other kinds, thus providing new jobs for the unemployed. Careful shoppers will be able to save a little money on post-Christmas bargain sales. Unless, however, goods are really marked down, I see little reason for housewives to stock up heavily in clearance sales this January. Meanwhile, wage rates will continue to rise gradually.

WAGE RATES RISING STEADILY  
While living expenses have been held down during the 1933-39 business recovery (they are not much higher now than they were five years ago), factory wage rates have been rapidly marked up. Since 1933, there has been an average broken rise in hourly pay. Today the average factory wage of more than 70 cents per hour is the highest in the history of the country. At the same time, the work-week has been trimmed down drastically so that the factory worker's average weekly income may not be any higher today than it was in 1929—before the savings in living costs are figured in.

As to the immediate trend of living costs and wages, I see no important changes. Probably early 1940 will see some modest advance in food and clothing prices, but there will be no sharp mark-up. Careful shoppers will be able to save a little money on post-Christmas bargain sales. Unless, however, goods are really marked down, I see little reason for housewives to stock up heavily in clearance sales this January. Meanwhile, wage rates will continue to rise gradually.

TAXATION STIFLING JOBS  
So, Yuletide of 1939 rolls around with the lot of the American job-holder making a striking comparison with that of labor in other lands. No rationed food, no soaring living costs, no cold and dark homes. Only point of similarity is the huge cut taxes take out of the weekly pay envelope. When I say that job-holders are better off in America today than anywhere else in the world I have not forgotten there are millions out of work. Fully education and unwise taxation are behind this unemployment. Not until politics are rooted out of our schools and graft voted out of our local, state, and federal governments, can we ever hope to solve unemployment and end the threat to our liberty.

Shorttopics  
(By C. E. Barker)  
Notwithstanding it is cold in Washington, D. C., the marble capitol is melting under the charm of Roosevelt. Picture the scene for yourself.  
Robert M. Hutchins, president of Chicago university, says the primary function of colleges is to teach youth to think, but he fails to tell what to think about, and how.  
In Milton's Paradise Lost is a yarn about a gentleman of evil repute who fell seven times the space that measures day and night. There is a widespread suspicion that that gentleman is living today in luxury somewhere in Europe.  
A Christmas party will be held for "undisciplined" dogs in Montclair, N. J. "A righteous man regardeth the life of his beast."  
Rain in Oregon: Fog with a little body to it. Frost in Oregon: Something found on cake. Snow in Oregon: Dandelion on Mt. Hood.  
The Russian soldiers are so accustomed to seeing red that the white-clad Finnish army was upon them before they suspected anything.

## A Very Merry Christmas to All

A Merry, Merry Christmas to all our friends, subscribers and business associates, is the wish of publishers and staff members of the Argus, whose great pleasure and opportunity it is to serve the people of Washington county through the medium of a newspaper. Friendships made through this service are one of life's greatest rewards.

To the nearly forty faithful correspondents in all parts of Washington county the publishers wish to express their wishes for a happy Yuletide holiday.

May the service rendered by the thirteen staff members of the Argus and the many community correspondents continue throughout the years to justify the patronage, co-operation and loyalty given by so many Washington county residents and business firms over the past 46 years.

We of the Argus hope that this service may continue to expand in order that this newspaper will be of greater and greater value to Washington county and Hillsboro and contribute its bit to the happiness and enjoyment of its people.

## Frank L. Ballard, An Excellent Choice

Selection of Frank L. Ballard by the state board of higher education as president of Oregon State college should meet with approval throughout the state. Mr. Ballard is particularly well qualified by reason of his experience and knowledge of Oregon. Under his direction this great institution should continue its fine service to the people and progress as it has under the fine leadership of Dr. W. J. Kerr and Dr. George W. Peavy.

A graduate of the college in 1916, Mr. Ballard has been connected with the extension service for a good many years and through this has a thorough knowledge of Oregon, the college and agriculture. As the new president he will succeed Dr. Peavy next June.

Mr. Ballard is known to many in Washington county through visits here in connection with his work and the many friends made here will wish him well in his new position, not only for him but because of its importance to the youth of Oregon.

## Children Praised For Seal Sales

There is a line of humanity service in the rural districts every year at this time that is rewarded by too little publicity. Take a case in point: In a certain rural school in Washington county, fifteen boys and girls all under ten years of age, sold \$6.85 worth of Christmas seals. They trudged miles in all kinds of weather calling at the isolated farm houses, imploring the occupants to buy Christmas seals at one penny apiece. The writer of this ought to know what a rainy day picnic they had. They gave up their joyously anticipated visits on Saturdays to the near-by towns to see Santa Claus and his reindeer, the children's parade, the decorated Christmas trees, and the wonderful displays of the Yuletide. A drive like this has been going on all over the county. You've done a great work, country boys and girls, and great shall be your reward in the way of a double portion of the true spirit of Christmas that shall warm your hearts.—C. E. Barker.

Selection of Charles H. Martin, retired major-general, former congressman and ex-governor, as the first citizen of Portland for 1939 by the Portland Realty Board will hit the spot with the solid citizenry of the state of Oregon. His long career of courageous public service cannot help but win respect of all fair-minded people.

## Herbert Deck Lived A Fine, Useful Life

Herbert Deck was one of Washington county's most prominent and beloved citizens, one whose passing will be greatly mourned. He filled an important place in the community as a business, civic and religious leader, always willing and ready to do his part or more.

Although he served but a few years as pastor of the local congregational church, Mr. Deck started his career as minister in this community as pastor of the Hillsboro and Laurel Evangelical churches. As man and friend he was held in such high esteem by people in this section that he was often called upon to officiate at funerals and weddings after leaving the pastorate and entering local business. Mr. Deck was one of those individuals who did things in a way that was always pleasing and won for him many friends.

Analytical and keen, with a friendly speaking voice, he was frequently called upon for talks, and his messages were without fail worthwhile and logical.

Quiet and unassuming, steadfast in his convictions as to right and wrong, understanding and sympathetic, the memory of Herbert Deck, businessman-minister, will linger long with all who knew him.

The Argus regrets that Mrs. Jesse Meyers, who has served as Argus representative at Buxton for more than ten years, is giving up her work on account of moving to Willamina with Mr. Myers, where they will operate a coffee shop. Her daughter, Mrs. Roscoe Burton, will take over the duties of writing the news for the Buxton community and acting as subscription and business representative for the county paper. Mrs. Meyers has been exceptionally faithful in her work and has had news items of her community printed each week. The Argus joins with her many friends in the Buxton section, where she had lived since 1906, in extending best wishes to her and Mr. Meyers in their new field.

Hillsboro as usual did itself proud on the matter of Red Cross donations and much credit is due the faithful volunteer workers, who put in their time and efforts in solicitation. Contributions so far have exceeded last year by more than \$50.

Are you doing your bit in the Christmas lighting contest no matter how small? All who possibly can should help in making Hillsboro just a little brighter and more attractive for the Yuletide season. What a cheerful place this would be if nearly every house had a wreath with a light shining from a window.

Holland feels that flooding her land will provide a sure defense. But has she considered the danger of U-boat attack?

## Our Yesterdays

Fifteen Years Ago  
Argus December 18, 1924—Semi-annual market road appropriation of \$21,422 for Washington county held up by state highway commission on ground state specifications not being followed. County court makes statement and questions authority of commission to hold up fund.

William J. Ingram of Farmington, pioneer of 1932, dies Saturday.  
Captain Laurel Frost of Hills football team receives Rotary club cup for second time for being selected by teammates as greatest inspiration.

Icy hand of winter takes firm hold of valley.  
American Legionnaires line business streets with Christmas trees.

Big tree in court house square decorated with colored lights furnished by chamber of commerce.  
Benton Phillips of Manning, Oregon pioneer of 1946, dies December 11.

Mrs. James S. Coulter of Hillsboro dies December 12.  
F. M. Wadsworth named president of North Plains Commercial club.  
Mrs. V. W. Gardner named worthy matron of Eastern Star.  
Mrs. Edward Vandehey of Verboort dies Monday.

## Opinion Parade.....

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

European countries engaged in armed conflict with Germany are laying in large stores of foodstuffs, presumably in preparation for a long siege, while Hitler and his followers are still speaking in terms of an "early peace." How long do you think the war will last? Why do you believe it will continue this long? Will the United States be pulled into the war?

B. M. GOODMAN, Insurance Agent, Hillsboro: "Less than two years—Germany will be short of food supplies when the blockade of exports becomes effective. I do not believe the United States will get into it because we are not going to jump at propaganda as we did in 1917."

REV. NEWTON D. PENBERTHY, Priest, Hotel Washington, Hillsboro: "About two or three years longer. There doesn't seem to be any major action as yet on the part of any belligerent. The details are far from settled. It seems to be mere preliminaries to some decisive action. I do not see how the United States can keep out of it if the peace and security of English speaking peoples is threatened."

H. S. ROGERS, Mayor, Hillsboro: "From three to five years—for the reason that it is a war of the survival of the fittest. The United States will not get into this war unless some over act on the part of combatants causes an upheaval such as the sinking of the Lusitania in the World War and the sinking of the Maine in the Spanish-American war."

DR. EUGENE COLGIN, Dentist, Hillsboro: "I believe the war will last possibly ten years. It appears to be a game of diplomatic waiting with each side reluctant to jump in and start something they might not be able to finish. The United States is too far removed from the European trouble to get into it."

NEAL W. BUSH, Attorney, Hillsboro: "The war in my opinion will be a long one—lasting for several years. The allies will try to starve Germany into submission rather than take them by aggression. The United States will not be pulled into the war unless invaded."

## Long Residents Of Buxton Given Farewell Friday

BUXTON—Friends and neighbors surprised Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Meyers and Elsie with a farewell party Friday evening at their home here. The Meyers left Sunday for Willamina, where they will operate a restaurant which they purchased recently. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Vic White, Shirley and Beverly, Mr. and Mrs. Joe Vacca, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Komer, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Simonton, Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Connors, Patty Rae and Stanton, Mr. and Mrs. Otto Stowell and Keith, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Fast and Cleo, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Edwards, Jr., Janet and Janice, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Kelly, Mrs. R. W. Manley, Mrs. Mary Watson, Mrs. Edna and Lucile, Mrs. Jessie Tillman, George Fisher and Irene, Mrs. Alice Estep, Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Scofield, Mrs. Edith Riggie and Mr. and Mrs. Roscoe Burton, Elsie, Mrs. Jack Powell, all of Buxton; Mrs. Jack Whiteside, Leroy and Darriel, Scofield; Mr. and Mrs. Fred Benefield, Manning; Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Riggie and William Riggie, Elsie; Mr. and Mrs. Andy Bremer, Mrs. Charles Poetter, Mrs. Myrtle Layner, Miss Lenore Carrick, Guy Hansen, Harold Shipley and Glenn Gibson, all of Vernonia; Mr. and Mrs. Meyers will be missed in this community, where they have lived many years. They were married 28 years ago and have lived here since except for a short time in Laurel, returning 17 years ago.

## Writes Xmas Poem



Mrs. A. H. Blasing, well known local poetess, wrote the following poem in connection with Christmas.

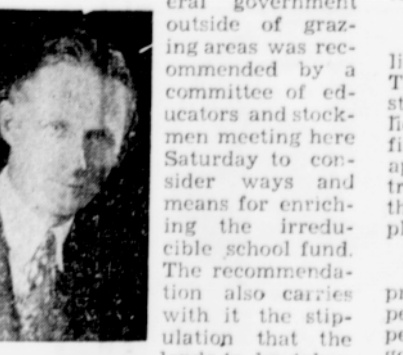
TRUE GIVING  
Somebody gave me a kindly word,  
When my life was dreary and grey,  
But somebody gave me a kindly word,  
And it sang in my heart all day.  
Somebody gave me a friendly smile,  
I was lonely and full of care,  
But somebody gave me a friendly smile,  
And lifted my soul from despair.  
Somebody gave me a helping hand,  
As I stumbled through mists of pain,  
But somebody gave me a helping hand,  
And I walked in the sun again.  
A word, a smile, and a helping hand,  
Ah! the joy of their giving know,  
For a word, a smile, and a helping hand,  
Are gifts we can all bestow.  
—MYRTLE BLASSING

## Program at Shute School Friday Eve

SHUTE—School program will be held Friday, December 22, at 8 p. m. at the school house.  
School House Entered  
The Shute school was broken into Wednesday night. Nothing seems to be missing, but both back doors were broken.

## Exchange of State School Lands Proposed

(By A. L. Lindbeck)  
SALEM—Immediate exchange of state school lands located within the public domain for isolated holdings of the federal government outside of grazing areas was recommended by a committee of educators and stockmen meeting here Saturday to consider ways and means for enriching the irreducible school fund.



A. L. Lindbeck

to cash immediately. The committee also recommended the leasing of school lands within the public domain to the federal grazing service pending an exchange of these lands for federal lands that might lend themselves to "blocking" for sale to stockmen or to grazing associations.

Secretary of State Earl Snell does not choose to run for congress in the forthcoming campaign he let it be known during the past week. Snell was mentioned as a possible candidate against Walter

## Still Young

ALONG—I will be 95 on January 27, and don't consider myself old. I keep young by liking modern things and the associations with my fellow Rebekahs with whom I have been affiliated for the greater part of my life." As she said these words, Mrs. Irvin M. Adair was sitting in a large sun window looking out at the "vehicles," as she calls them, passing to and fro on the highway, which she could see perfectly without glasses, at least 20 rods distant.

She was born in Germantown, Ohio, and she and her husband settled in Salem, Oregon. She has spent 65 years of her long life in this state—six years as hospital nurse at the Indian school at Chemawa, six years as matron of the boys' dormitory at the same institution, and established residences in Portland, Cornelius and Aloha.

She and her husband were telegraph operators, he being the first station agent at Cornelius.

Mrs. Adair served throughout the Civil War in Company I, 16th, Indiana Volunteer Infantry in the armies of General George H. Thomas and General William T. Sherman.

He died in 1864.

Mrs. Adair makes her home with her grandson, Charles Adair Lockwood, on North Vista avenue. She enjoys perfect health, dries the dishes and sweeps the house. She has her own natural teeth, except two which were extracted a short time ago. Her eyes are still pretty good and up to five years ago, could decipher a Western Union telegram as quickly as a professional. At 81 she rode a bicycle, and says she would like to learn to drive the car, as "it goes much faster than Old Prince (the family horse) used to go."

## From Cattle Country

"No, you couldn't say Prineville was a 'tough' town. There weren't any sheriffs bumped off. Oh, maybe one or two . . ."

It's J. W. Barney, Hillsboro city manager and engineer, talking. Barney was born in Prineville, 1900, worked in his dad's sawmill and on the family ranch there.

"Hardly any cattlemen killed, either. Sheepherders were the heavy losers in that day. Lynching parties were a favorite brand of entertainment for the old-timers, it seems."

Barney doesn't know exactly how he happened to venture into highway construction and engineering instead of ranching or cattle-raising. "It'll always remain a mystery," he says.

His first job with the state highway department in 1919, was in the traditional tenderfoot post, chainman. From there, he was transferred from job to job until he had served in almost every position in the book: Rodman, levelman, transitman, bridge inspector, surface inspector, and others.

He became assistant engineer for Washington county under Engineer Charles D. Jones in 1925 and has days centers about the fate of Dan Fry as state purchasing agent and secretary to the board of control. Rumor has it that Fry is scheduled to walk the political plank for a return to private life along about the turn of the year.

The state board of agriculture at its meeting here Saturday announced the dates for the 1940 state fair as September 2 to 8, inclusive. This means the fair will open again on Labor Day as it has for the past several years.

Complaints from the Canyon City chamber of commerce charging that state police were discourteous in their treatment of the state auditor that section of the state have been received by Charles P. Pray, superintendent of the state police bureau.

## King Winter at Play

Enrys Evans, erstwhile proprietor of the portrait studio in Hillsboro, has been spending the last several weeks at Glenside beach on the Oregon coast getting acquainted with King Winter and his capricious friend, Old Man Pacific Ocean.

Stormy weather during the past two weeks has had residents in that vicinity on the lookout lest they wake up some night and find themselves adrift on a tossing sea, Enrys comments. A nine-foot tide which lashed at the coastline a few days back sent salt water spraying over many of the cottages at Taft, he reports.

The "spouting horns" at Depoe Bay have been putting on a great show with geysers blowing across the coast highways and warning winter tourists like himself to "keep their distance," the former Hillsboroan added.

## Stories Are Her Life

To use a hackneyed phrase, the last six years of Esther Price's life has been a continual succession of ups and downs. She is the elevator operator in the county courthouse at Hillsboro.

"There are probably a great many people who ride up and down with me every day who don't know my name. Most of the courthouse people call me 'Ma,' she frankly informed an Argus reporter.

"During the six years that she has saved steps for county officials and others who make regular trips from the main floor to the third, she has probably gone 'up and down' for a grand total of approximately 375,000 round trips.

As everyone who knows her is aware, "Ma" Price doesn't waste any time on her job as operator of the only public elevator in Washington county. When she isn't standing at her control lever, she takes up her knitting needles and adds a few more stitches to a sweater, shawl or some other piece of searing apparel which she always has in the process of manufacture.

Born in Iowa, Mrs. Price first came to Hillsboro in 1907, stayed for two years and then returned to her native state until 1929, when she again took up residence here. During the four years from 1929 to 1933, she worked off and on in the B. E. Maling cannery.

Her father, Charles Warbis, a native of Indiana, is remembered by many old-timers in Forest Grove as the man who operated a horse-and-buggy delivery line in that community for many years.

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Captain Clyde Warren of the state police department has announced his resignation effective December 31 to accept a position as head of the liquor control commission's enforcement division.

The state tax commission lost its fight to tax back salaries earned by employees of federated labor organizations when the state supreme court ruled this week that these employees enjoyed the same status as federal employees whose salaries only became subject to state taxes through a recent ruling of the United States supreme court.

## PEOPLE.....

been a resident of Hillsboro ever since except for a two-year period, 1928-29, when he took over duties as engineer of Columbia county.

Elected engineer of Washington county in 1930, Barney held that post for nine years and was appointed city manager of Hillsboro early in 1938. Teamed with an active mayor and city council, the first year of his office tenure has seen civic progress on many fronts.

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