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BUT IT IS THE FEDERAL PLAN

A petition has been filed by Ed F. Bailey of Eugene against the ballot title for the initiative petition for the Federal Plan of state reapportionment. Newspaper accounts say that objection is to the use of the word "federal". The title was written by the attorney general Robert Thornton, who will defend it before the supreme court.

It is the federal plan. It has been called that since it was first proposed in Oregon. It is the federal plan because it proposes a compromise between rural and urban, between population and area, between many sized governmental units.

It makes no difference whether the units are sovereign or not, just as it makes no difference whether they are named Connecticut, Virginia, etc.

The federal plan is a compromise, designed to properly balance, the legislative apportionment between city and up-state so that each shall have a proper share in legislative deliberations. It compromises on the same terms as those determined by the first constitutional convention; that the upper house should represent area and the lower house population. And therefore it is the federal plan and is properly so called.

ABOUT AGRICULTURE

This has been a week in which thoughts about agriculture and especially wheat growers were much in the minds of northwesterners.

The hearing before some traveling senators brought the politics of agriculture into the headlines along with the purely political controversy about parity which is itself a political panacea without economic justification. Wheat leaguers continued their arguments for a two price system which seems to be a plan without national backing, although, we think, worth trying and farm bureau witnesses testified against flexible supports which was surprising, the national organization being for them.

Political hearings about agriculture make us wonder what will happen when one political party gets enough votes to win without baiting the farmer with promises of uneconomic bounty. Settlement of the farm problem must be done by economics; it cannot be done by politics.

Rains for October and the crop year are above the average but not enough above to make much of a dent in the shortage that exists in this area and chances for a big crop are not bright at the moment. Farmers are caught in a squeeze between falling prices and rising costs and are justifiably worried about it. Smaller crops would hasten the process.

Yet farming is by far the best business in the area and has been for 15 years. No other line of endeavor can compete with wheat farming even with the lowered income, although the future may be different.

The government report on supply of wheat has been received and it shows a larger surplus than ever before, 1,937,114,000 bushels of wheat being the total supply. The total disappearance is less than half that figure and less than the 915,520,000 bushel production. The surplus is getting bigger despite wheat seeding of the minimum of 55,000,000 acres and a large abandonment that reduced the harvested acreage to the lowest in 20 years. Clearly the 1938 farm program is a failure.

Republicans are being urged to support a program for federal rental of land, a sort of soil bank, by which land would be retired from production in lieu of federal payments of undetermined size. Probably some soil conserving crops would have to be planted. We think it has not been considered long enough to work the bugs out of it. If it did not retire land from all farms it would gradually eliminate large farms such as we have and politically it seems impossible to cut acreage of small farms. There are too many of them.

Norman Thomas said Saturday night in The Dalles that he was becoming doubtful about his long adherence of support of the family size farmer since he had learned that many big farmers were more efficient. We wonder where he has been. If large farmers are more efficient—and they are—they can never demonstrate it except in free competition. A government farm program that favors small farmers, is based on social theory instead of agricultural economics. And Mr. Thomas has more of that than knowledge of agriculture.

Some political observer has said that repeal of the farm law or a drastic use of flexible supports would revert to the jungle rule of tooth and claw in agriculture. That is a nice figure of speech but there is no less tooth and claw in political manipulation than in economic competition. And however it is decided—if it is—there is going to be plenty of pretty rough competition on some front. We think the farmer, particularly the wheat farmer, is better situated to compete on a price basis than on a political basis.

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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Last Word in Farm Machinery

Curly Lawson was first in this area to use one of those roadside vending machines. He's sold milk and eggs in one about a year now, and recommends them highly—but with reservations.

"Mine's the latest model," says Curly. "Built-in refrigeration unit—heater—an automatic sign turner-on at night. Takes any combination of coins."

"However," he warned, "those machines aren't cheap to buy... or operate. They run about \$3500. If you're not on the main highway like I am—where lots of city

people pass—you'd better stick to the old methods."

From where I sit, you have to admire Curly for his pioneering spirit. Of course, there's also plenty to be said for those who tend to stick to the old proven methods. People's ideas differ on the subject—on any subject. Like you may always drink buttermilk with your meals... while a glass of beer's the "automatic" choice with me.

Joe Marsh

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4-H CLUBBERS To Meet November 7

Four-H club members, their parents and friends will celebrate the completion of another successful 4-H year by holding an achievement program at the Moro high school auditorium Monday, November 7, at 7:30 p. m.

The program will consist of group singing, reports on 4-H activities and presentation of awards. B. C. Pinckney, manager of the Sherman branch First National Bank of Portland will present pins and achievement certificates to 1st, 3rd, and 5th year members. Others will receive certificates.

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FOR SALE: Deep well pump jack, 1/2 horse electric motor. Ernest Eslinger, Moro. 51-1p

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNTING

All persons having objections to the final accounting of Leatitia Wilson, executrix of the estate of Jerry M. Wilson, deceased, shall file same before the 23rd day of November, 1955, at the hours of 10:00 o'clock a. m., which is the time fixed for settlement of said account and the County Court Chambers at Moro, Oregon, is the place fixed.

LEATITIA WILSON
Executrix

DICK & DICK
The Dalles, Oregon

Attorneys for the Estate 51-2c

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Curtis A. Tom has been appointed Executor of the Estate of William Franklin Bartholomew, also known as W. F. Bartholomew, Deceased, and has qualified as such.

All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby notified and required to present the same, duly verified, with the proper vouchers to said Executor at Rufus, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice. The

first publication is October 14, 1955. W. F. Bartholomew, deceased J. Tracy Barton Attorney for Estate The Dalles, Oregon 51-2c

CURTIS A. TOM
Executor

of the estate of William Franklin Bartholomew, also known as

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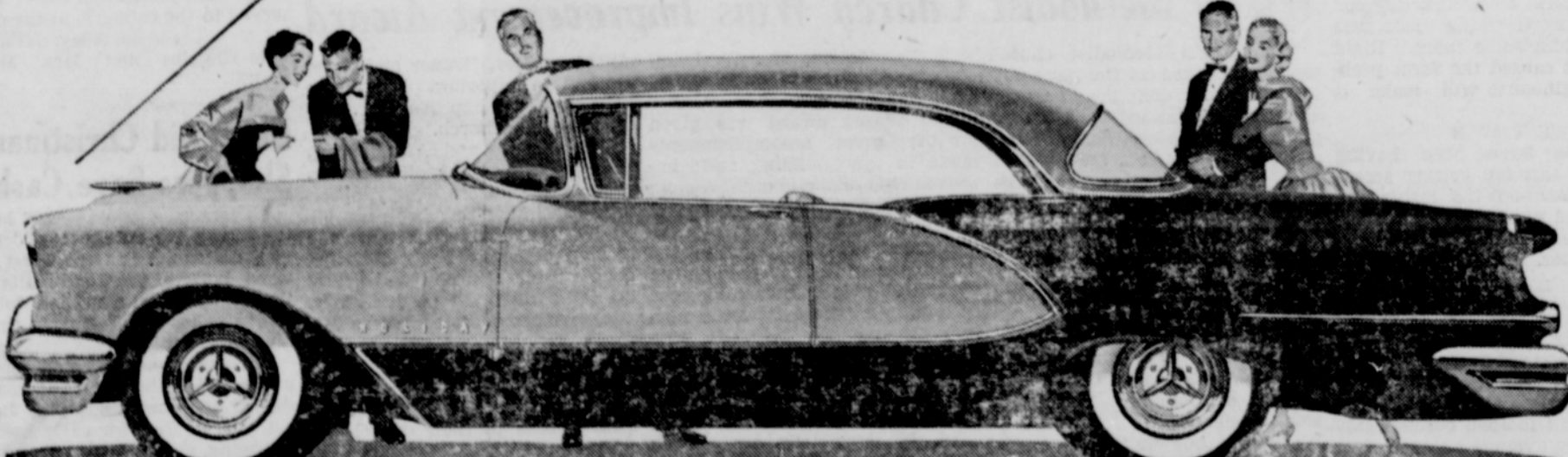


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