

Heppner Gazette Times

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE.
Established March 30, 1883:
THE HEPPNER TIMES.
Established November 18, 1897:
CONSOLIDATED FEBRUARY 15, 1912

Published every Thursday morning by
CRAWFORD PUBLISHING COMPANY
and entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as second-class matter.
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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year	\$2.00
Three Years	5.00
Six Months	1.00
Three Months	.75
Single Copies	.05

Official Paper for Morrow County

The Shifting Tide

BACKWASH from inflation is deflation; that from deflation, inflation. It is as the pendulum swings, or as the physicist says, "for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction."

We have seen the inflation backwash subside in the new defense program activity, and the start of the flow of another period of inflation. Our government leaders are not alarmed by the extent so far. Cooperation is generally being given attempts to thwart unreasonable price advances, but no certain means has yet been provided to stop the insidious flow that comes constantly nearer.

Through rationing output, as in the automobile industry, to make more materials available for defense, the government is creating scarcity of commodities. With manufacturers complying to request that prices for these commodities be not increased, and with more than usual demand for the commodities, the question is what is to determine who may purchase them.

The current issue of Saturday Evening Post sensibly brings the issue forth editorially. Price has been the governing factor before. The government toll of taxes will act as a regulatory factor to a degree. But unless a sensible course is soon adopted by the government to control distribution, a chaotic condition in commodity distribution may exist.

Tendency to hoard supplies of any nature, beyond amounts reasonably necessary to conduct the ordinary affairs, must be frowned upon by everyone. The silk stocking incident is but one example of what may occur many times in coming months if people become panicky. There is but one sane, logical

PRUNE INDUSTRY DOOMED WITHOUT BETTER QUALITY

(Editor's Note—This is the sixth of a series of articles prepared by the extension service at Oregon State college on the report and recommendations of the Oregon land use planning committee on how Oregon's agricultural program may best be adjusted to meet the impacts of war and national defense.)

Acreage devoted to prune orchards in Oregon has been steadily declining for the past 20 years, just as prices of dried prunes to the farmer have also declined to the point where many have considered this enterprise unprofitable, according to the report of the Oregon state land use planning committee in the section devoted to export crops. The situation in Oregon's prune industry is such today that unless the quality of Oregon dried prunes can be improved immediately, the industry in this state is doomed, the committee reported.

About 19 per cent of the prune production is marketed in the fresh stage, about 25 per cent is canned, and about 56 per cent is dried. During the past few years the demand for canned prunes has increased, the market for fresh prunes has held its own, while the demand for dried prunes has shown a marked decline. Figures show that for the years 1921-25 the average prune acreage in the state was 56,765. By 1940 this acreage had declined to 41,583.

Furthermore, the report points out, orchards and equipment have deteriorated to the extent that it would not be feasible to restore a

course if the inflationary monster is not to leave greater havoc than ever behind him. That is for everyone to proceed cautiously in making purchases, to consider himself one cog in the great wheel that is America organized for defense and to do all possible to keep his business, and all else about him on an even keel. Thus, and as his fortunes dictate, lend through savings stamps and bonds to aid the defense program, and lay up what will be required to meet the tax bill when Uncle Sam's pay day comes. With lowered exemptions and higher rates for incomes, many more people must pay income tax, and the bill will not be easy to pay without previous preparation.

The most patriotic act of any American today is to make himself a committee of one to help stop the greatest enemy of America, the tide of inflation.

large percentage of the orchards to a state of economical production. Drying facilities are in a rundown condition, and in many instances the prunes are handled in an unsatisfactory manner from the market standpoint. Because of this situation properly handled prunes bring little more on the market than the "junk." The following four recommendations are made by the committee:

(1) That the AAA in conjunction with the SCS make a survey of the orchards as to condition of trees and soil erosion, where in their judgment it is not economically practical to operate them as orchards, that the AAA payment be increased for pulling trees.

(2) That the practice by the Prune Exchange of changing grades from year to year be discontinued.

(3) That rigid inspection based upon approved standards of driers and washing equipment and farm storage be set up at once.

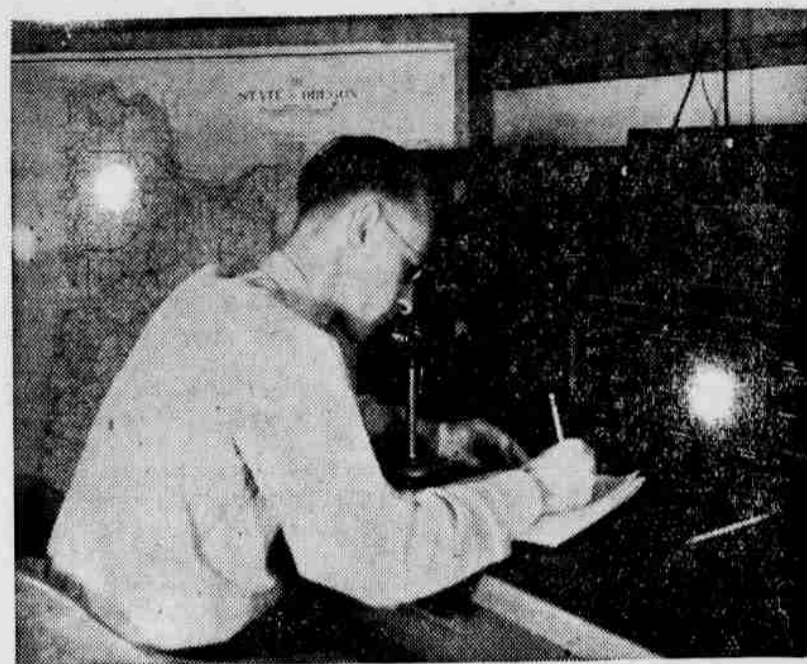
(4) That the Pure Food and Drug administration give the same inspection service to the dried prunes that they do to the canning industry.

NYA Funds Given for OSC Work Projects

Oregon State College—The National Youth administration has again made an allotment of funds to help finance worthy students working their way through Oregon State college. While the total is slightly below the \$51,840 allotted last year, it is expected to be ample to meet the demands this year in view of the improved employment situation, says E. B. Lemon, registrar, who handles the funds. Applications are now being received for employment in the NYA program and some who had previously applied have been notified of their selection.

Last year 292 men and 205 women were given part-time employment, and these earned an average of \$13.82 a month. A report on grade averages shows that the NYA students averaged higher grades in every class than the student body as a whole.

RADIO AIDS IN 'GREEN' CAMPAIGN



Statewide communication by use of radio is an important phase of the State Forestry department's forest protective organization. From station KQHQ at Salem headquarters the dispatcher is relaying the fire weather forecast issued by the United States weather bureau, Portland.

Pasture Survey Reveals Yields and Costs in Oregon

Although half of the farm land in the Willamette valley is already devoted to pasture purposes, a definite trend toward increasing pasture acreage, partly because of the scarcity of farm labor, is noted by extension agents of Oregon State college.

Late information on yields of principal pasture crops, cost of establishing and maintaining these pastures, and related facts are contained in a new bulletin just issued by the Oregon experiment station, entitled "Costs and Grazing Values of Willamette Valley and Southern Oregon Farm Pastures." A similar bulletin was recently issued concerning pastures in eastern Oregon.

The most significant fact in connection with this cost study, made by W. W. Gorton, formerly of the farm management department, was the difference in the productivity and value per acre of the various

kinds of pasture even on similar lands. As Gorton describes the situation, some of the pastures produced the utmost in feed while others produced only exercise for the livestock. Between these extremes he found every conceivable state of productivity.

The summary of productivity showed that, figured in the number of animal unit days of grazing, the native grass hill pastures in both the Willamette valley and southern Oregon were the lowest in productivity and value, with only 42 and 34 animal unit days of grazing per acre respectively.

The highest productivity was shown with irrigated ladino clover pasture, which averaged 342 animal unit days of grazing per acre, followed by Reed canary grass with 302, and alfalfa with 240. Land values of these pastures ranged from \$11.20 for southern Oregon hill pastures to \$153 for the irrigated clover pastures.

The bulletin reports most successful practices and accompanying costs for the areas surveyed.

DEFENSE BOND

Quiz

Q. Can Defense Savings Stamps be redeemed?

A. Yes; they can be redeemed for cash at face value or exchanged for Defense Savings Bonds. For example, 75 of the 25-cent Stamps — total cash value \$18.75 — may be exchanged for a Defense Savings Bond which in 10 years will be worth \$25.

Q. How long have Defense Savings Stamps been on sale at retail stores?

A. Sale of Stamps at retail stores originated in the State of Michigan on July 10. The idea met with such success that it is spreading rapidly, and soon Stamps will be sold in most retail stores on a Nation-wide basis.

NOTE:—To purchase Defense Bonds and Stamps, go to the nearest post office or bank, or write for information to the Treasurer of the United States, Washington, D. C.

THE RECORD... Facts That Concern You

No. 30 of a Series



A BAD ONE DOES TURN UP ONCE IN A WHILE!

Good weather and a bumper crop! Even then one finds a poor stalk once in a while.

The retailing of beer is something like that. Most beer retailers operate respectable law-abiding establishments. Occasionally one finds an exception—a man who tries to beat the law or who permits anti-social conditions.

The beer industry wants this type of undesirable retailer stamped out. Your cooperation will help us in our clean-up efforts.

The beer industry brings important

benefits to the community. Here in Oregon, beer provides employment for 13,238 persons, supports an annual payroll of \$11,541,550 and contributed \$617,020.86 last year in state taxes.

Oregon, too, has an important stake in the beer industry's purchases—for materials, equipment, and services—from over 100 other industries.

You can help us protect these benefits in two ways. First—patronize only the reputable places where beer is sold. Second—report to the proper authorities any law violation you may observe.

BEER...a beverage of moderation

