

INFLATION TAKES ITS TOLL—

Penny Postcard Thing of the Past After January First

January 1, 1952 will mark the end of an era. The last stronghold of the American penny will bow to the pressure of rising prices next Tuesday when Uncle Sam's famous old postal card, long one of the standbys of the Post Office department and of the American people will go up to two cents. The last session of congress, realizing that the mounting post

office department deficit had to be cut down, doubled the cost of writing a post card—in fact if you write very many it will cost more than double because of peculiar quirk in the new law whereby an extra 10% will be charged if cards are purchased in lots of over 50. Other increases written into the new postal law that will directly effect all mail for boxes within

the post office, is an increase from one to two cents for this classification. In other words, any letter mailed at the Heppner post office, for distribution to a boxholder in the same post office will cost two cents instead of the former one cent fee. All other first class mail, to rural routes or any other outside area will remain at three cents, the same as before.

The new increases will apply to any mail dropped after 6:00 p. m. December 31. Charges for registry and insurance were also increased effective the same date, but were not so drastic and will be noticed less by the general public. Other increases in second class mailing, such as newspapers, and third class mail, under which circulars, handbills and the like

are classified, are scheduled to go into effect in the near future. There will be no further increases in parcel post charges at the present time, increases were taken in this mail classification last October. Heppner Postmaster, James Driscoll urged all residents to make note of the new rates to avoid delays in mail delivery. Improperly stamped mail will be returned to the sender.

Economist Predicts Business and Financial Outlook for New Year

(One of America's best-known business economists, Roger W. Babson, writes for the Gazette Times again this year. His predictions give an insight on what to expect during 1952.)

- By Roger W. Babson
1. Excluding defense orders, the total business volume in 1952 will be less than that for 1951. However, National Income in 1952 will be very high, as war orders take the place of peace production.
 2. The outstanding feature of 1952—barring all-out war—will be the Presidential Election on November 4, 1952. I comment further upon this under paragraph 48.
 3. The Administration and its economic advisors appear firmly convinced that radical inflation is about to break out next year. But the "brain trusters" are overlooking the fact that the boom is already old and that it was creaking badly when the Korean War broke out. The date of the slide has only moved ahead.
 4. Farm income will continue high in 1952.
 5. As 1952 wears on, the effect of controls, increased taxes, and high prices will cause a decline in legitimate business. If civilian production declines too much, the public may then cry, "This is a government-made slump; let's change the Administration."
 6. If in 1952 it becomes evident that business is declining too much as a result of government curbs, the planners at Washington will rush their patient into an oxygen tent.
 7. Many labor groups will be successful in getting another round of wage increases in 1952. Although there may be more important strikes in the first part of 1952, there should be a decline in work stoppages in the last half year.
 8. Tightness in the labor supply will continue through 1952, particularly of highly-skilled workers. Wages of such workers will be advanced voluntarily in order to hold them.
 9. The Taft-Hartley Law will not be repealed during 1952, but may be amended. The Administrators of the Law will continue to wink at some of its clauses.
 10. Wholesale prices of many commodities will suffer a mild decline in 1952 when compared with the price level for December 31, 1951. In some lines the drop may be quite steep from the high levels of 1951. Retail prices for 1952 will hold steady.
 11. Commodity speculation for a rise will not pay in 1952. Furthermore, our expanding stockpiles of strategic materials present a real price threat in the event of a peace scare. Such stockpiles could then act strongly as a depressant on prices. Wise merchants will operate with only a conservative inventory.
 12. The cost of living will remain high during 1952. This prediction recognizes that living costs next year may continue above the lower levels that existed during the first half of the year now closing. I also predict further rises in freight and passenger rates.
 13. Congress will not take any action during 1952 to legally bolster so-called Fair Trade price maintenance. It's too risky politically when consumers are complaining about the cost of living. But, some manufacturers will tighten up on distributors, eliminating those who won't sign Fair Trade contracts.
 14. Barring crop failures, the total supply of food available should be larger in 1952 than for 1951, since the government will raise planting quotas as part of its attack on inflation. If the weather is extremely favorable, the government will be asked to give away surplus crops.
 15. With prospects good for a rising supply of feed grains, most meat should be more plentiful next year than in 1951. Prices for beef however, will be held up by high wages and military needs.
 16. The burden of Federal Taxes, both corporate and personal, will not be increased again during 1952 above the advance late in 1951. State and Municipal taxes, however, will go higher again.
 17. The above forecast is based on the assumption that unless Stalin starts World War III during the early months of 1952, he has made up his mind to forget World War III until the United States and our Allies again "go to sleep", which may be some years hence. We give this as a definite prediction as to the outlook for World War III.
 18. There are three ways of preventing inflation: (1) increased production; (2) decreased spending; and (3) as a last resort, increased taxes. I forecast that the current exploitation and accompanying fear of inflation are not yet at their peaks for this business cycle.
 19. State and Municipalities will again be under pressure to find adequate sources of revenue. Further increases in sales taxes by States and Municipalities can be looked for next year.
 20. There will be no increase in "luxury taxes" during 1952.
 21. Credit curbs will continue to hold down the demand for automobiles and certain household equipment. Completions of fewer dwellings will also act as a damper on furniture sales.
 22. Falling demand for hard goods should stimulate the public's spending for food and lower-priced soft goods.
 23. The above trend forecast will mean a decline in department store volume. I predict a rise in the sales of variety and drug chains.
 24. I believe that armament is to become a new and permanent industry, at least for many years to come. Airplanes, tanks, artillery, guns, and munitions will constantly be replaced as they become obsolete. This new ac-
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Garnet Barratt Named New Chamber President

A new slate of officers were elected last week by the directors of the Heppner chamber of commerce to head the organization for 1952. Chosen as new president is Garnet Barratt. Leslie Grant will serve as first vice president and Robert Penland, second vice-president. Re-elected to the positions of secretary and treasurer were Tom Wilson and Frank Turner. Barratt replaces J. R. Huffman as head. The announcement of the new officers was made to the membership at the regular meeting

Monday noon. Barratt accepted the position with the statement that the by-laws of the chamber specified that the organization should work for the good of the entire county and he planned to carry on the activities in that scope. The new officers will take over the first of the year.

Charlotte Lanham Dies at The Dalles

Word was received today of the death of Charlotte Marie Lanham, 43, early Thursday morning at The Dalles hospital in The Dalles. She had been taken there for treatment last Saturday.

She was born in Lake City, Minnesota and moved to Heppner from Havre, Montana, in 1941. Surviving besides her husband, Conley, is a son Michael Conley, 16, and a daughter, Sandra Jean, 14. Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

Beef Problems To Be Discussed At State Meeting

Demand for younger and lighter weight feeder cattle is bringing about changes in the state's livestock picture.

Whether the trend will continue or not is a topic being discussed preparatory to the state agricultural conference to be held on the Oregon State college campus in March by a beef cattle and horse committee headed by Larry Williams, Canyon City. Harry Lindgren, OSC extension livestock specialist, is secretary to the committee which includes rabbit, sheep swine and goat, and swine subcommittees.

While a high percentage of the feeder cattle are sold to out of state feeders, recent pasture improvement in the western portion of the state has brought problems to be considered. Among them is the fact that eastern Oregon livestock operations are "big" in comparison with western Oregon set-ups where a comparatively few head are kept.

Large operation cattlemen prefer selling feeders and other stock in large number sales. This works to the disadvantage of the smaller western Oregon operator who must shop for a comparatively few head, the committee has found.

While it is customary to sell feeder cattle in the fall in eastern Oregon, most western Oregon grassland cattlemen prefer to obtain their cattle in the spring at the start of pasture season. The state's beef cow population two years of age and older now approximates 322,000 head of which 50,000 head are located in western Oregon. This latter is a comparatively recent development. In the past, a large number of cattle were sold as two and three-year olds. Today, feeders are looking for younger, lighter weight stock, the committee says.

Steers produced annually approximate 110,000, the committee adds, and a considerable number of them go into California feed lots. Development of more feeding operations in Oregon is one of the points being considered.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. (Bert) Scouten, former owner of the Blake ranch on Hinton creek, has news of the birth of a son, Mark Richard, on November 26. The Scoutens now own a ranch near Grants Pass and are very happy with life on the Rogue River.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse C. Payne and her father, William Furlong, left Saturday for Portland to spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. Orrin W. Furlong and sons, Michael and William Patrick.

Winchester Home Wins First Prize For Decorations

First place winner in the residential section of the Christmas decoration contest sponsored by the Jaycee-Ettes went to the Ernie Winchester residence on North Main street. All the windows facing Main street were filled with Christmas scenes and the motif was carried out also on the roof of the house.

An outline of blue lights set off the W. C. Rosewall home to give it second place on the mall balloting with the Henry Raush home on Gilmore street placing third. It was brightly decorated across the entire front with lights and Christmas scenes.

The general public again acted as judges with over 175 ballots being returned to the Jaycee-Ettes by Christmas day. Many other Heppner homes received a good number of votes, but the first three were bunched closely in the voting. First place winner will receive a prize of \$10 with \$5 and \$2.50 awarded to the second and third place winners.

The money for the residential prizes was donated by Jack Loyd, Ed Dick, Gonny's, Claudien's, Wightman's Insurance and the Jaycee-Ettes.

The committee expressed their thanks for the heavy response to their request for ballot returns by the Christmas day deadline.

Susan Padberg Wins Suit For Money

A circuit court jury last Thursday awarded Susan M. Padberg \$1,800 in a suit brought by her against the John Padberg estate for services rendered the deceased.

The case was the last to be heard by circuit judge W. C. Perry for the present during the winter term of court. There is one other damage case pending, but no date has been set for the hearing.

Mrs. Padberg had sued for slightly more than was awarded by the jury.

Blue Bird Party Held December 17

The annual Christmas party for the Lovely Blue Birds was held at the home of Mrs. Stephen Thompson on December 17th. Mrs. John Pfeiffer, Mrs. Howard Evans and Mrs. James Thomson assisted with the transportation, games and refreshments.

There was also an exchange of gifts, and pictures were taken of the group who now have all their uniforms. At this meeting, the girls finished wrapping their Christmas gift to their mother—a tea towel, which they hemmed by hand, and in one corner painted a Blue Bird sitting on a holly branch.

Railroad Man Found Dead Along Tracks Wednesday Morning

The body of Chancey R. Fuller, 60, of LaGrande was found early Wednesday morning alongside the Union Pacific railroad tracks about one-half mile east of Castle Rock. He apparently died from a heart attack according to investigating officers, sheriff C. J. D. Bauman, J. O. Hager and Oliver Creswick.

Fuller, a brakeman for the railroad was found by a train crew and was reported when the train stopped at Arlington. Sheriff Bauman said that the man was working the train that left Hinkle at 2:30 a. m.

The body was brought to the Phelps Funeral home in Heppner.

Snowflakes Fall—So Does Mercury

The weatherman tried hard to give Heppner and Morrow county a white Christmas, but the few flakes that fell Christmas day hardly more than made a showing. However, Wednesday's snowfall, the first in Heppner in a sufficient amount to be measurable gave the area its first real look of winter.

Official temperature for Christmas day, though, told most residents that it was winter. The maximum was 19, and Wednesday morning it dropped to 14, not quite equalling the low of 13 registered last Saturday morning.

FIREMEN CALLED

Heppner Firemen were called to the Scott Furlong residence on Chase street Friday evening to watch over an overheated oil stove that threatened the home. There was no damage.

EASTERN STAR, MASONS, ROYAL ARCH INSTALL NEW OFFICERS SATURDAY

At a joint public installation following a Turkey dinner at the Heppner Masonic hall Saturday night, Ruth Chapter No. 32, Order of Eastern Star, Blue lodge No. 69, AF&AM and Royal Arch Masons installed new officers for the coming year.

New Eastern Star officers are: Della Davidson, worthy matron; Thomas J. Wells, worthy patron; Vivian Hays, associate matron; James Hayes, associate patron; Neva Wells, secretary; Phyllis Stout, treasurer; Ruby Beckett, conductress; Juanita Charmichael, associate conductress; Melba Quackenbush, chaplain; Beth Bryant, marshal; Helen Ruggles, organist; Hester Creswick, Adah; Gladys Jones, Ruth; Inez Huffman, Esther; Lota Tibbles, Martha; Virginia Wilkinson, Electa; Beryl Sanders, Warden; Harold Beckett, sentinel. Committees in charge of arrangements included Harriett Hall and Josephine

Echo Trips Up Mustangs 41 to 40

The Echo Cougars eked out a 41-40 victory over the Heppner Mustangs on the Echo floor Friday night to avenge an earlier 42-35 loss to Heppner.

The game was close all the way and the greatest lead enjoyed by either team was 5 points held by Heppner 18-13 early in the second period. The lead changed many times, especially in the final period. Heppner led 22-20 at the half.

The lead saw-sawed during the third quarter which ended 33-33, but the loss of center Gary Connor in that period weakened the Mustangs considerably. Heppner was ahead 40-39 with 15 seconds to go, but Echo connected with one from the floor in the final seconds to sew up the game.

Prock was high man for Heppner in the game with 12 points, while Ramos led Echo with 10. In the Junior Varsity game Heppner took a 36-28 win from Echo with forward Roy Taylor scoring 9 points to lead the local scorers.

WINDOW TO BE DEDICATED SUNDAY

A new chancel stained glass window recently installed in the Methodist church, will be dedicated to the memory of Alec Green, long time Heppner resident and churchman, at the 11 o'clock service Sunday. The round window was a gift of Mrs. Green.

John Bennett arrived by plane from Alaska to spend Christmas with his wife and children. Mrs. Bennett is spending the winter with her mother, Anna Q. Thomson.

Arthur (Bud) Chaffee is ill and in the Veterans Hospital Portland.

Home Nursing Classes Set For January

Miss Della E. Morgan, nursing field representative for the American Red Cross will be in Heppner in January to conduct a series of classes in home nursing.

The instruction is scheduled for two hours a day for seven days, January 22 to 25 and 28 through 30. Two classes a day have been set to accommodate all who wish the instruction. Morning classes will be held from 10 to 12, and evening class from 7 to 9 o'clock. All will be held at the Heppner American Legion hall. The group will be limited to 12 and 15 persons.

Anyone interested in the course is asked to contact Mrs. Mary Van Stevens, Morrow county home nursing chairman at Mary Van's Flower Shop.

First National Bank Raises Interest Rate

An increase of 2% per annum at its meeting today, according to savings accounts starting January 1, 1952 at the First National Bank of Portland was authorized by the bank's board of directors at its meeting today, according to Frank N. Belgrano, Jr., president of First National.

Interest at the 2% rate will start on January 1, 1952 and will apply to all savings accounts regardless of size at the First National Bank and its 46 statewide offices.

In taking the action, First National becomes the first statewide banking institution in Oregon to announce an increase in savings interest rate to 2%.

Belgrano added that the general high level of business activity and the increased volume of business at First National were the factors which made it possible to pass the advantage of a higher interest rate on to the bank's customers.

It is understood that other banks in this state affiliated with the First National Bank of Portland are expected to take similar action.

HOSPITAL NEWS

New Arrivals—To Mr. and Mrs. Edwin DesLauriers, Condon, a baby boy, weight 6 lbs. 1 oz., born 5:40 a. m. Dec. 25. To Mr. and Mrs. Gene Cutsforth, Lexington, a baby girl weight 5 lbs. 11 oz., born at 3:17 a. m. Dec. 25. To Mr. and Mrs. Gene Church a baby boy, Dec. 20. To Mr. and Mrs. Bob Walker, Heppner, a baby boy born Dec. 21. Medical—Marilyn Anderson, Spray, dismissed; O. L. Adams, Kinzua, dismissed; Mrs. Betty Lou Cornutt, Kinzua, dismissed; Guy L. Abrogast, Condon, dismissed; Mrs. Lucy Rodgers, dismissed; Tommy Baker, Lexington, dismissed; Darlene Wise, Heppner; Henry Harala, Cecil; E. L. Kirk, Heppner. Minor Surgery—Shirlee Adams, Kinzua, dismissed; Rosilyn Bellin, Dayville, dismissed. Major Surgery—Cyrus Balsler, Lexington, dismissed; Mrs. Beulah Ogletree, Heppner.

Dimes Drive to Start Next Wednesday

Governor Douglas McKay today sounded the keynote for the 1952 Oregon March of Dimes which opens Wednesday with thousands of volunteers moving into action throughout the state in the first month-long campaign in the 14-year history of America's annual drive for funds for the ever waging fight against polio.

"The number of polio patients needing continuing help from the March of Dimes has reached record peaks, both in Oregon and nationally, because of four successive years of heavy polio incidence", Governor McKay, the honorary chairman of the 1952 state campaign said.

"The situation is so grave, from the financial standpoint, that it has become mandatory upon the National Foundation for Infantile

Paralysis to conduct the 1952 appeal during a 30-day period instead of just the last two weeks in January", the governor said. "Impressed with the splendid work of the Foundation and the enormous task it is facing, I designate January as March of Dimes month in Oregon and urge all Oregonians to join in helping to assure the success of the 1952 March of Dimes battle against polio".

Mrs. Olive Hughes, Morrow county campaign director, announced today that nearly all committees were complete with the appointment by Heppner chairman, James Driscoll, of the following members: Women's activities, Mrs. John Bennett, chairman, Mrs. Jack Loyd; men's organizations, J. H.

Driscoll and Jack Edmondson. In the individual districts the following appointments have been made: route 2, Heppner, Mrs. George Currin, Lena; Mrs. Jasper E. Myers, Pine City; Mrs. Sam J. Turner, Sand Hollow and Blackhorse. Rhea Creek, Mrs. Floyd Jones, and Mrs. Barton Clark; Eightmile, Mrs. Frank Anderson and Mrs. Floyd Worden; Schools, L. L. Pate; CIO, Douglas Ogletree. Mrs. Hughes announced that Roy W. Lindstrom will act as special gift chairman in the Morgan district. Morrow granges have been asked to appoint a committee for the drive and the Lexington grange has announced that Mrs. Ray Dolven will act in this capacity. Other grange appointments have not yet been made.