

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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"Let Your Light So Shine"

A week from tonight, Thursday, January 31, from 7 to 8 o'clock workers for the "Mothers' March on Polio" will be calling at your house—if your porch light is shining.

It will be the windup to one of the most important fund raising campaigns of the year, the March of Dimes. Heppner's Boy Scouts have volunteered to do the leg work for the mothers, and all they ask is that if you have not yet been contacted for your donation, that you leave your porch light on. If there is no porch light the boys won't stop—for the drive is voluntary. They are not going to ask you for a donation, you must offer it.

Maybe you are among the many who have already returned the March of Dimes card with a check, but happen to have another 50c or a dollar that could be spared to aid in one of America's greatest health fights. If you do, just flip the switch! Let's see every porch light in town on next Thursday night.

If your heart's in the right place, "Let Your Light So Shine."

The Same Old Story

There is probably nothing a person could select to comment upon that would be as disconcerting and uninteresting, in fact probably an even better word would be distasteful, to the public than the national budget of \$85.4 billion dollars president Truman presented to congress this week.

Yet, we just couldn't pass the opportunity to note what one of this country's greatest wits, Will Rogers, had to say on a very similar subject a little over 30 years ago. In a recent Collier's article reprinting some of the great comedians best wisecracks, there appeared this one:

"The Democrats can't compete with the Republicans in spending money to get in office, but after they get in I don't think there is anybody can compete with them."

Wonder what Will would say if he were alive today?

TRYING TO BEAT THE CONDUCTOR!



Nationally, the program is sponsored by the cooperative extension service of the U. S. Dept. (Continued on Page 7)

Announcing The Opening Of Offices

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ANALYTICAL VISUAL EXAMINATION
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From The County Agent's Office

By N. C. Anderson

Even with high prices for commodities sold and the apparent prosperity of our farm people during the past several years, there comes a warning that things may not be as well as they appear. A recent weekly price report by Oregon State College shows that farm mortgage debts are piling up. Farmers were paying off their debts pretty well in Oregon during the World War II years. The total amount in 1946 was only half what it was at the high point 16 years earlier. Since 1946, however, debts have again been creeping up. At the beginning of 1951, farmers found that their mortgages were higher than at any time since the depression year of 1933.

Perhaps one reason for this is the desire for land by our farmers. This desire is great—in fact so great—that Oregonians farm real estate prices are again back to their highest level in history. During the twelve months ending November 1, 1951, farm land in this state increased as fast as the average of the entire nation. The increase in Oregon amounted to 14 per cent, against a 7 per

cent increase as the average for the United States. Latest reports place the index of the value of farm real estate per acre in Oregon on November 1, 1951, at 31 per cent of the 1935-39 average.

It appears as if this is a good time for Morrow County ranchers to appraise their farm business. Can you afford to continue to operate as during the past few years? Were your last year's expenditures within your average means? Maybe it would have been most economical to make the old "eat" or combine do another year. Perhaps you really didn't need that extra truck. A good farm account record will help point out the weak spots of your business.

We like to see our farmers enjoying prosperity; building new homes, improving farm living and working conditions, even taking that long earned vacation in Hawaii and Florida. But we don't like to think of what might happen to this prosperity if a bad year or two should come along with our farms heavily mortgaged.

Ranchers attending the annual

meeting of the Heppner Soil Conservation District this week had the opportunity to hear and see figures of the results of fertilization trials on dryland wheat throughout the Columbia Basin. Leroy Fuller, in charge of the soils service being offered by Pendleton Grain Growers, summarized results of trials which he assisted with during the past year as Extension Soils Specialist, Oregon State College.

While the fertilizer item for this year's budget may run into a substantial figure, money spent for commercial fertilizer is in reality a highly profitable investment. Mr. Warner showed that applications of nitrogen increased profits from \$3.00 per acre where 21 pound were used to as high as \$22.00 per acre where 80 pounds were applied. Most economical returns were from applications of 60 pounds of nitrogen per acre which returned \$21.00. These returns are above non-fertilized fields and after cost of fertilizer was subtracted.

There are very few other places in present day farming operations where it is possible to put out \$1.00 and in the same season receive in return \$3.00 or more in some cases.

While there was over double the nitrogen fertilizer applied in Morrow County this past year than all succeeding years combined there is still room for more use. Demonstrations have been carried out in Morrow and adjoining counties during the past several years while trials have been run on fertilizers at our dryland experiment stations for long periods of time. With actual use in the field, observations have been made that have been helpful in making fertilizer use recommendations.

One obstacle has stood in the way in making this new practice a complete success. This obstacle has been the inadequate facilities for soil nitrogen tests to determine the needs for a particular soil. Nitrogen contents vary from area to area, soil type, tillage practices performed during the summer/fallow year as well as past cropping records. Many times Nitrogen recommendations could be made only on a sliding scale with many "ifs". Facilities that are now being

made available with a complete program for nitrogen and soil moisture determinations by the Pendleton Grain Growers, is welcomed in this area. While Morrow County ranchers will be limited to tests made, at least this year, the Pendleton Grain Growers have assured the county agent that they will cooperate fully in making tests at least by areas here. We feel fortunate in having this service available since scores of our farmers are adopting the practice of nitrogen fertilization of dryland wheat. Many hundreds of dollars of individuals can be saved through this service, in knowing the exact amount of nitrogen available in the soil and then applying proper amounts to bring the nitrogen content to the level to which moisture is available.

The recommendations for applications of nitrogen fertilization has been an important program of this office during the past year. It will be an important one this year with much of the "supposing" removed.

Dr. Fred McKenzie, Oregon State College Animal Husbandman, while speaking to Morrow County livestockmen at their annual meeting on December 1, stressed several points in feed requirements. During the past week several inquiries have been made by ranchers as to the possible cause for premature birth of calves.

As those attending the meeting will recall, Dr. McKenzie stressed the need for adequate supplies of Vitamin A in the ration of the cow herd. Vitamin A is found in large quantities in the green grass but not enough can be stored by the cow to carry them through the winter. Green hay then, is necessary to provide sufficient quantities for the brood cow. If hay is stored from one year to the next, vitamin A decreases. Pea vine silage is an excellent source of this vitamin. Symptoms of vitamin A deficiencies are weak calves, calf scours and retained after birth of the cow. While good green feed is the best and cheapest source of Vitamin A, it can be bought at the drug store and fed when too late to remedy by green hay feeding.

Those who find their calf crop below expectations might take the advice of Dr. McKenzie. He states that the most critical stages in a disease free herd is

the-month following breeding and the month before they calve. One-third of the dry cows have bred but lose the embryo during early pregnancy. Feed with sufficient quantities of Vitamin A and protein will prevent the majority of this loss.



Young men and women who would like to be "grass roots ambassadors" are now being sought as International Farm Youth Exchange delegates, announces the County Extension Agent, N. C. Anderson. Application blanks are available at the county extension office.

Applicants must be high school graduates aged 20 to 28 who can spend three months in a foreign land living and working with a farm family. Delegates must also spend considerable time reporting on their experiences throughout the state when they return.

The blanks must be filled out and returned to the County Agents office by February 1.

More than 40 countries will take part in the 1952 program. Northern hemisphere countries will be visited during the summer program (June-November) and the Southern hemisphere and tropical countries during the winter program (December-May).

The International Farm Youth Exchange is sponsored in Oregon for the second year by the Campus 4-H Club and Mu Beta Beta, 4-H honorary, at Oregon State College. It is conducted by 4-H members and leaders throughout the state. The IFYE chairman in Morrow County is Ingrid Hermann.

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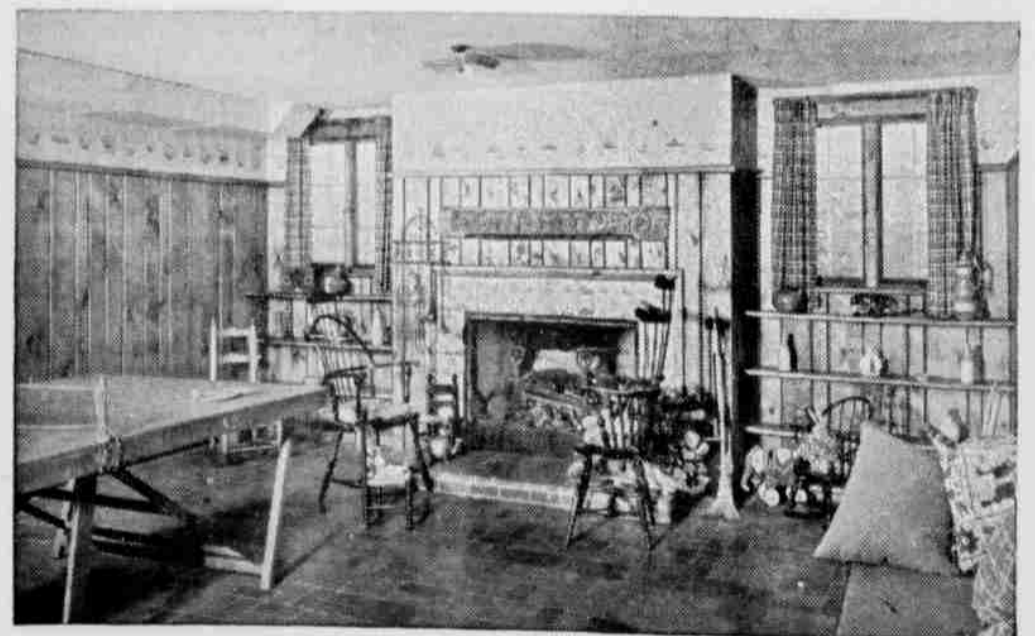
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