

F R Review AND Forecast

Victims

Sky Meadow Ranch
Spray, Or., 97874
January 11, 1973

The Hon. Senator Mark Hatfield
Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C., 20510

Dear and Hon. Sir:

Within a matter of three weeks or so we in Rural America have become the victims of:

1. Impending higher REA costs due to the Administration's action. (Over and above the projected Bonneville increase.)
2. The rape of the REAP program.
3. A grazing fee hike totally inconsistent with proclaimed Administration anti-inflation guidelines.
4. Curtailment of "set-aside."
5. Cancellation (or curtailment) of rural disaster emergency aid. (Details not at hand yet.)

Within the same period we have spent enough on B-52's, fighter-bombers and other weapons of destruction (not to count the cost in lives) probably

completely to restore and/or expand the 5 points above.

What madness abounds there?

Is it conceivable that the object is to destroy completely the small farmer and rancher so that Butz and his buddies in Agribiz may take over everything?

Then, all we farmers could move to the cities and live in slums like the American Indian who was forced there before us. I grieve for my country.....

Mike Wells

cc: Richard M. Nixon
Bob Packwood
Al Ullman
Rogers Morton, Secty. of the Interior
Earl Butz, Secty. of Agriculture

Gourmet Foods Plant Coming

Norman Hyder, president of Gourmet Food Product of Metolius, said last week the board of directors had adopted a plan to pursue a plan to move their plant to the Boardman-Hermiston area. One of the principal reasons for the move, he explained, is transportation costs.

The firm's payroll for fiscal year ending Aug. 1, 1972, amounted to \$595,000. The average work force was 90 employees. In planning their move to Boardman-Hermiston area, it appears they expect a big expansion.

Mr. Hyder said Gourmet Foods is looking to the Orient as a growing market. "That area will be a good market for Pacific Northwest food products. We expect it will use a lot of frozen french fries. Orientals are developing Western tastes," he said.

"We have been exporting to the Orient for the last five months, shipping to Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia. In April and May the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture is sponsoring an agricultural trade fair, running for two days each in Tokyo, Hong Kong and Singapore," Mr. Hyder said.

The Gourmet president said he would attend all three of the trade fair showings with displays and product samples.

"Both the USDA and the Oregon State Department of Agriculture see the Orient as a large market for our products. This promises to be a profitable market, and we will pursue it," Hyder said.

Discussing the Hermiston area, Hyder said a plant site is not a problem. A number are available. Hyder said that at least 75 percent of the equipment at Metolius could be used in a new plant at Hermiston. The firm is also looking at the Port of Morrow as a plant site, we understand.

Al Ullman Scores Wheat Set-Aside

Congressman Al Ullman said in Washington, D.C. last week that the Department of Agriculture's timing in announcing the elimination of mandatory wheat set-aside programs could have an adverse effect on Oregon winter wheat producers.

According to Ullman, the problem is that winter wheat growers sowed their crops last year under the provisions of the wheat set-aside law as it then applied.

"Although the mandatory set-aside program has now been dropped," Ullman said, "it's too late for growers who already have seed in the ground to take advantage of this."

Because of the major grain sales last year, he said, estimates of next summer's market activity are high, and elimination of the mandatory set-aside is expected to add considerably to the market income earned by producers.

In a note to Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz, Ullman asked whether the department has given any consideration to the Oregon situation where winter wheat growers who planted under the 1972 program are now unable to compete in the 1973 market in the same capacity as others who have not yet planned their 1973 production effort.

OSU Economist Sees Rising Farm Income, Higher Meat Prices

Strong demand for Oregon farm products and a further increase in gross farm income is the 1973 outlook for Oregon agriculture, reports Stephen C. Marks, Oregon State University extension economist.

And for the consumer, Marks sees higher livestock and meat prices during the first half of the year with some relief in sight for the latter part of 1973.

Continued rising production costs, Marks cautions, will cut into the farmer's increased net farm-income.

Forces shaping market-demand conditions for food in the year ahead, Marks sees as increasing world population, rising employment and personal income, and the consumers' desire to eat "high on the hog." While relatively tight-supply conditions exist for meat and certain fruits during the first half of 1973, there are no serious shortages indicated.

These observations are made by Marks in the latest Oregon Farm and Market Outlook circular, published by the OSU Cooperative Extension Service.

Inflation is sure to dilute some of the gain in consumers' buying power, Marks believes, but probably not enough to stop the upward trend in the quantity of food purchased. The food stamp program will definitely add to the purchasing power of qualified low income families. Nearly \$2 billion was allocated for this program in 1973, equivalent to about 1.5 percent of all the money U.S. consumers spent for food last year.

Livestock and meat prices appear headed for new highs during the first half of 1973, Marks estimates, surpassing 1972's peaks. But there should be some respite from the hectic rise in retail meat prices after mid-year, because farmers will be sending 7 to 8 percent more hogs to packers in late summer and fall, as well as an increase in cattle.

Poultry meat should be plentiful but probably no more so than in 1972, Marks observes. However poultry prices would increase if growers are forced to cut production because of high cost of poultry feed.

January 12, 1973

G-T Want Ads Pay

Mr. David Harrison
Columbia Basin Electric Co-op
P.O. Box 398
Heppner, Oregon 97836

Dear Mr. Harrison:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the President's deep cuts in rural programs.

I very much share your concern over these actions, and have been in touch with key committee chairmen and Congressmen representing agricultural area. In my judgment, the Administration is using the excuse of the need for spending cuts to decimate rural programs. It is now clear that disproportionately heavy reductions have been made in the rural sector. You may be sure that I will exert every effort to retain these valuable and proven activities.

Thank you again for writing on this most important matter. With best wishes.

Sincerely,
Al Ullman, M.C.



IT'S SLOWER THAN THE SCHOOL BUS... BUT THEY'RE SURE OF A NURISHING LUNCH.

LEATHER LUMPER CLUB
The Leather Lumpers 4-H Club met Jan. 16 at Jane McRobert's home. An election was held. New officers are: Ginny Estes, president; Kaedene Hollomon, vice president; Mike Lott, secretary; David Worden and Eric Clow, reporters.

Reporter,
David Worden

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"I MAY NOT BE ANYTHING TO CROW ABOUT, BUT AT LEAST I CAN'T BE REPLACED BY AN ALARM CLOCK."

THURSDAY NIGHT LADIES TEAM STANDINGS

Team	Won	Lost
Murrays	4	0
Ruggles	4	0
Toyota	3	1
Elma's Flowers	1	3
Kinzua Corp.	0	4
Columbia Basin	0	4

High Ind. Game, Helen Young -200; High Ind. Series, Harriet Evans-561; High Team Game, Elma's Flowers-967; High Team Series, Toyota-2670.

REMARKS: Beginning of 2nd half.

Job Openings

EMPLOYMENT NEWS

JANUARY 22, 1973
The Cooperative Rural Manpower Project with the help of the secretaries in the Extension offices in Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, and Wheeler counties, has the following job opening:

Morrow County: Experienced saw filer; babysitter (live-in);
Sherman County: Warehouseman with experience in farm stored grain, job for a retired couple to live on a ranch in own trailer to do odd jobs with utilities paid, one general farm worker.

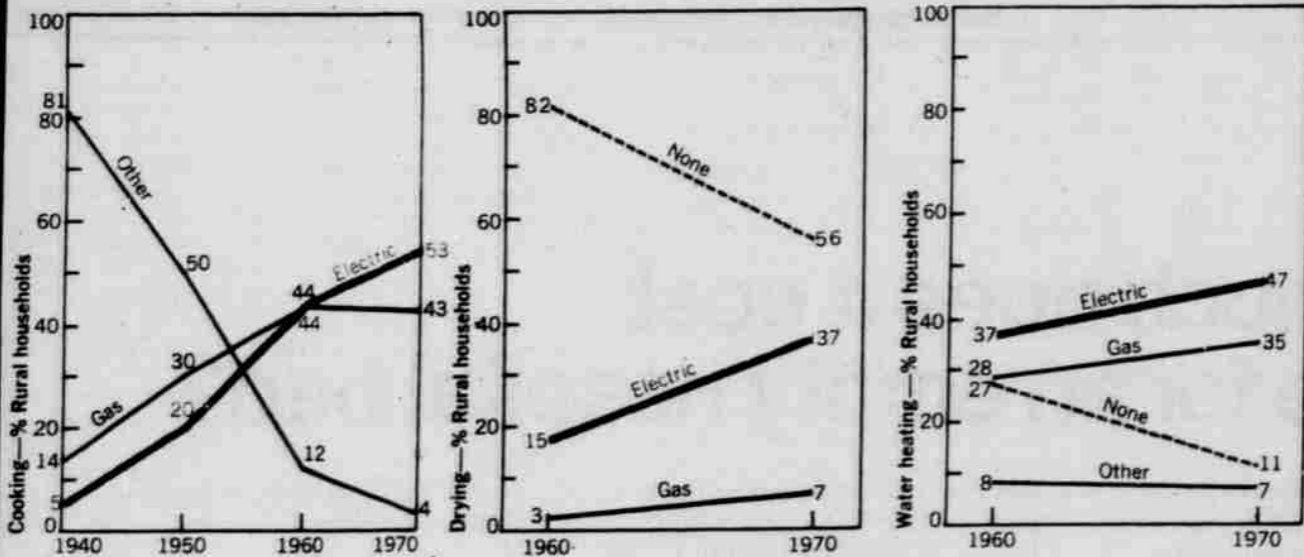
People with the following experience are looking for work: **Heppner area:** General farm workers, mill workers, secretaries, grocery checker, clerk typist, store clerk; **Sherman County:** General employment for two women, carpenter; **Wheeler County:** Housekeeper, bartender, office clerk, cook or barmaid; **Gilliam County:** Cashier, bookkeeper, secretary, motel maids, ranch worker, electricians helper, sales clerk, bartender, clerk typist, nurses aide.

For further information, contact your local Extension office: Heppner, 676-9642; Condon, 384-2271; Fossil, 763-4115; Moro, 565-3230.

This is a mutual effort of the Extension Service, Employment Service, and the people of this area.

1970 Housing Census Shows Preference Changes

Below are charts indicating fuel preferences of homeowners in 1970 as compared to previous years.



Home appliance saturation, %

Appliance	Year	Type	Urban										Rural									
			NE	MA	SA	ESC	WSC	ENC	WNC	Mo	Pa	NE	MA	SA	ESC	WSC	ENC	WNC	Mo	Pa		
Cooking	1950	Elect	11	6	20	3	13	14	23	17	21	22	18	15	4	31	17	21	31			
		Gas	63	79	52	49	84	78	74	60	75	31	40	15	11	46	35	39	27	37		
		Other	26	15	28	31	13	9	12	17	8	48	38	67	74	50	34	44	52	32		
1960	Elect	32	15	42	36	13	25	26	40	29	46	45	50	52	12	50	36	44	55			
	Gas	64	83	52	59	85	74	72	57	69	41	48	28	27	76	45	57	41	37			
	Other	4	2	6	5	2	1	2	3	2	13	7	22	21	12	5	7	15	8			
1970	Elect	45	21	53	53	26	33	40	54	41	60	53	62	61	20	54	46	50	65			
	Gas	54	77	46	46	74	67	60	45	59	36	44	32	32	76	44	52	43	32			
	Other	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	4	3	6	7	4	2	2	7	3			
Water heating	1960	Elect	11	6	36	27	2	12	11	17	19	26	37	41	31	6	49	37	39	52		
		Gas	37	44	43	57	87	76	81	78	78	19	29	14	15	54	27	33	37	36		
		Other & none	52	50	21	16	11	12	8	5	3	55	34	45	54	40	24	30	24	12		
1970	Elect	16	7	45	37	7	13	13	18	21	36	42	60	52	13	54	43	39	59			
	Gas	40	55	46	59	90	83	85	81	78	18	31	17	21	70	37	47	51	35			
	Other & none	44	38	9	4	3	4	2	1	1	46	27	23	27	17	9	10	10	6			
Dryers	1960	Elect	9	8	8	10	6	14	12	13	14	15	21	6	5	4	26	17	16	26		
		Gas	2	6	2	1	4	14	10	2	4	1	4	1	1	2	5	4	2	2		
		None	89	86	90	89	90	72	78	85	82	84	75	93	94	94	69	79	82	72		
1970	Elect	28	20	27	33	24	28	30	34	30	44	44	27	27	25	46	41	39	52			
	Gas	8	14	5	4	13	25	21	7	14	4	10	2	2	8	11	10	5	4			
	None	64	66	68	63	63	63	63	63	63	52	46	71	71	67	43	49	56	44			

NE-Northeast; MA-Middle Atlantic; SA-South Atlantic; ESC-East South Central; WSC-West South Central; ENC-East North Central; WNC-West North Central; Mo-Mountain; Pa-Pacific

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