

## 1975 food bills higher

If you are the record-keeping type of homemaker, you'll probably find that your 1975 food bills are about nine per cent higher than they were in 1974.

Molly Saul, extension home economist, says the nine per cent figure would agree with the average increase in retail food prices predicted for '75 by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Food prices advanced sharply during June and July following a period of relatively stable prices during the winter and early spring. Prices again stabilized during the late summer leaving the third quarter average about four per cent above the previous quarter and about a tenth over

a year earlier.

Rising prices will continue next year, too, Mrs. Saul reports. Under the "most likely" conditions, food prices may show modest quarter-to-quarter rises in the first half of 1976. In the first quarter, output of meat and poultry may decline slightly while the second quarter may see small seasonal price increases for beef, fruits and vegetables. Strengthening domestic demand and increased marketing costs will also place upward pressure on prices.

For the January-June period of 1976, food prices will likely average around seven per cent above the previous year.

## Bicentennial Forum

### Pioneer Profiles

#### THE FLORENCE FAMILY

By Justine Weatherford

Three generations of Florences have proved up on homesteads on Upper Willow Creek. First were the brothers Sterling P. (called Price) and Louis Albert (called Al) who ran cattle from their homesteads to the Columbia River before there were any fences at all.

The present-day Florences are Al's son Norman and his wife Beulah (formerly Miss Gammell from Iowa) who also homesteaded on land adjoining his parent's place. They live on this beautiful spot where Norman was born in 1893 and has never left. Norman's mother, Ella Kinsey Florence, and her husband Al bought a claim from a Keithley that joined the Price Florence place and enlarged the family holding.

The Florence family was important in Oregon history before Price and Al came to Willow Creek. Their father, Norman's grandfather, Albert Burn Florence was the first senator from Lane County in the first state legislature. His wife was Katherine Skinner for whose family Skinner Butte near Eugene is named. The town of Florence on the coast in Lane County is named for this pioneer family.

Norman and Beulah celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary this fall in their attractive, modern home surrounded by its lovely yard and a tremendous vegetable garden. Beulah has decorated their home with her needlework, unusual, colorful pictures formed in many special stitches and needlepoint, tapestry chairseats and pictures. A very special feature is a hand-carved hanging clock that belonged to Norman's grandparents. Beulah says she cares for their flowers, but Norman is the vegetable gardener and he always insists on planting a very big garden.

Among the many family treasures is an account ledger dating back into the 1890s that was kept by Norman's father. It contains the names of many families that are still represented in the county who purchased farm products from Al Florence. It also shows that he paid helpers \$1 per day for their labor.

The Florence's son Eugene Louis died in August 1967. His son Gary and Gary's two sons, the great-grandsons of whom the Florences are so fond, lived in Eugene for many years. Gary has moved to Klamath Falls where he is working as a C.P.A. (corporate controller) for Jeld-Wen, Inc. The great-grandsons are David Norman, 8, and Mark Eugene 4, who proudly carry their grandfather's names.

The Florence's daughter, Mary Eleanor (Mrs. Dean Gilman) an officer of the Heppner Branch of the First National Bank is well known in Morrow County.

#### JUDGE JONES RECEIVES AWARD FROM AOC

Morrow County Judge Paul Jones received a plaque Monday at the Chamber of Commerce. The plaque was presented to Judge Jones by County Commissioner Warren McCoy, on behalf of the Association of Oregon Counties for his many years of service to the community and the AOC.

### Government The Growth of Bureaucracy

"Government, even in its best state, is but a necessary evil; in its worst state, an intolerable one." Thomas Paine.

"I saw the Civil Service debauched and demoralized. I saw offices distributed to incompetent and unworthy men as a reward for the lowest of dirty partisan work. I saw many men employed to do the work of one man. I saw the money of the people shamefully wasted to keep up electioneering funds." George H. Pendleton, 1883.

"I don't make jokes; I just watch the government and report the facts." Will Rogers.

Little more than a century ago, 51,000 civilians worked for the United States. Today 3,000,000 do so. This vast bureaucracy administers and enforces laws, collects taxes, pays pensions, insures bank deposits, operates dams, regulates farms and industries, busts trusts, investigates crimes, prosecutes offenders, gathers intelligence. Is this what we mean when we talk about "the Government"? How did this un-elected Government grow up? Does it in fact wield excessive powers? Certainly it can irritate us with its red tape and its remoteness. But it also administers programs that reach practically every American—from the widow on Social Security and the indigent on Medicaid to the college student in need of a loan and the airline in need of a subsidy. In effect, it implements the laws and policies of the nation. Can we do with less of it? Or should we accord a higher standing to the "bureaucrat"? Should we be paying more attention to recruiting good people into the government—and to rewarding those who are there? Can government take care of the common good without people, offices, agencies with which to do it?

Loyalty and party service are at first the chief qualifications for government positions—the "spoils system." Under the Pendleton Act in 1883, competitive examinations are required for branches of the public service that are "unclassified" by the President or the Congress. The act establishes a Civil Service Commission and a merit system.

The life and death of a government agency, Lyndon Johnson creates the Office of Economic Opportunity in 1964 to wage his "war on poverty." Richard Nixon virtually dismantles it in 1973, scattering its surviving functions among other agencies.

#### TAXPAYERS RECEIVE REDUCTIONS

Less than 65 per cent of Morrow County's taxpayers paid their taxes in time to receive a three per cent reduction given for paying the full amount.

After all payments received at her office, including those mailed were tallied, Elvira Irby, tax collector, released the figures, Thursday.

Last year the discount totaled \$46,806. The main change was in the public utility payments. In the past they have been paid in full by the Nov. 15 deadline.

NOTICE: Traveling Bake Sale, Ione, Dec. 19, 10:30 a.m.

### Heppner B.P.O.E. No. 358

FOR ELKS ONLY

Thurs., Dec. 11 Reg. Lodge 8 p.m.

Fri., Dec. 12 Dinner by Jim

Dance for all Elks by the Harvest 9-2 a.m.

Sat., Dec. 17 Pinocle 7:30 p.m.

## SPRAY NEWS

By MARY A. WILLIAMS

President June Troxell called a meeting Monday evening of the Ladies Auxiliary of the American Legion and plans were made for a Christmas party to include members and families of both Auxiliary and Legion. There will be a potluck supper, gift exchange and, hopefully, Santa Claus will accept his invitation.

Diane Petersen attended the meeting and gave an enjoyable report on her trip to Girls' State.

The Auxiliary ladies have thirty dozen cookies prepared for mailing to Medford's White City Domicile.

Spray Grange held a business meeting Tuesday evening for election of officers and those seated include Bob Troxell, Master; Clara Strecker, treasurer; Cecilia Reed, lecturer; Eddy Cress, Overseer; Gus Strecker, steward; Alta Spaulding, assistant steward; Ella Munjar, Chaplain; Martina Warren, Gatekeeper; and Edith Chapman, Ceres, with selection of the two remaining graces pending.

A television board meeting was held at the Roby Chappell home Monday evening. The annual meeting will be Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. at the Grange Hall.

The weekly Senior Citizen group met Thursday and dinner was served to approximately 40 people. The usual Bingo playing ensued and furnished the afternoon's entertainment.

Illness is prevalent in our community with Rene Fisher hospitalized at Prineville for observation and treatment.

Marie Britt reports her mother, Edna Hopper of Heppner, progressing rather

slowly at St. Anthony's, Pendleton and Ethel Simmons, a former Spray resident is recovering at Good Samaritan following surgery, Nov. 28. Mr. and Mrs. DeWayne Simmons have been in Portland visiting her through the week.

Christmas shopping, business and medical appointments took Spray people to John Day through the week and included Tuck Jackson, Alice Deitz, Laurel Kelsay, Mrs. Don Troxell and Mrs. Larry Brisbois.

And in Prineville were the Bob Ashmeades and Mr. and Mrs. Odell Adams.

Harry and Ruth Phelps were business visitors at the courtly seat from the Corn Cob Ranch in the Winlock area on Thursday.

Juanita Fisher was pleasantly surprised when unexpected visitors arrived from Bend to share the recent holiday with her. They were Ethel Livingstone and her son Edward. Ethel's granddaughter and family, the Steve Shaws and daughters Juanita and Marcie.

The Livingstones and Fishers were neighboring ranchers through many friendly years in the Kahler Basin section where Juanita, alone now, still maintains and operates her ranch. With the able assistance, she comments, of her dog Taffy. Upon asking to what breed Taffy may lay claim Juanita replied, "mixed. Love and know-how." And assured me ranching could become an impossibility without this faithful canine companion.

May I refer the younger set to the local post office for a viewing of the attractive Santa's Letter Box. Placed there, I am informed, by one of Santa's helpers, Mrs. Doug Hosken.

## New Oregon Drivers Licenses in July

Although the effective date is still more than a half a year away, the Oregon Motor Vehicles Division is hard at work preparing to provide Oregon drivers with a color photo driver's license beginning in July 1976.

A new law, passed by the 1975 legislature, authorized issuance of color photo licenses, the type of license already issued in more than 30 other states. Oregon, in fact, will become the last state in the west to issue photo licenses as a more positive way to identify drivers.

Here's how the conversion to a photo license will occur: During the first two years, any driver born on an odd-numbered birthdate, such as the 1st, 3rd, 5th or 25th will be required to appear in person to renew a driver's license.

The renewal notice sent by the division will be placed in a camera and a picture of it and the driver will be taken together. This process actually produces the license itself. When drivers leave the office they will take with them their new licenses, valid for four years, instead of two years. The fee will be \$9, actually \$1 more than would be paid for the same length of time (four years) now.

Since the renewal notice is an important part of the process, drivers should be sure to keep DMV informed of any address change so their renewal notices will be sure to reach them. There is no fee for a change of address on a driver's license.

While people born on odd-numbered birthdates are getting their new style licenses, those born on even-numbered birth dates, such as the 2nd, 4th, 6th or 26th, will be

encouraged by mail, just as most people now do. They will receive old-style licenses without photos and their licenses will be valid for only two years. The fee will be \$4, the same as at present.

The law provides that drivers with even-numbered birth dates may request a photo license during the first two years of the program, but their licenses will be valid for only two years and the fee will be \$5—an extra dollar to cover the cost of the photo license and the other costs involved.

During the final two years—July, 1978 to June 1980—drivers with even-numbered birth dates are scheduled to get photo licenses, valid for four years, and pay the new \$9 fee. By mid-1980 all 1.6 million drivers in the state will be converted to the photo license, valid for four years, with approximately one-fourth of the licenses being renewed each year.

If experience in other states is duplicated here, the division expects the photo license to be very popular. Motor vehicle officials in other states indicate wide public acceptance because the photo license provides a much better identification and because it is issued right at the office instead of being mailed.

The photo license will probably make it easier to cash checks, but the Motor Vehicle Division points out that it has important law enforcement and traffic safety benefits as well, such as making it more difficult for suspended drivers to borrow or steal someone else's license. It also makes it more difficult to counterfeit or alter a license. In case of an accident, a photo license also helps to correctly identify victims.

## Christmas Tree Permits

Umatilla National Forest, Heppner Ranger District Office will be open on Saturday, December 13, 1975 from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. to sell christmas tree permits.

Permits are \$1.00 per tree and maps with designated cutting areas and cutting regulations are available.



What can I give for Christmas that

- Won't break
- Lasts all year long
- Is occasionally educational
- Often humorous
- Sometimes infuriating
- Doesn't cost very much
- Gets the adrenalin running every Thursday for 52 consecutive weeks

?

ANSWER:

A gift subscription to THE GAZETTE-TIMES

(A nice Gift Certificate will be sent to the "giftee" in your name. A wonderful way to be remembered the whole year long for only \$6 in Oregon, \$7 elsewhere)

Special!!!

Saturday, Dec. 13

Get your lube, oil filter and tune up now, and have your engine steam cleaned FREE.

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THE LEXINGTON CHEVRON STATION

Vic Klingler, Mgr. Lexington, Oregon

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