

Realized Net Income Of Farmers Declines

Washington—(U.P.)—The realized net income of farmers in 1955 dropped \$1,000,000, or 9 per cent, from 1954, the Agriculture Department reported today.

The sharp drop was due to lower average prices received for farm products and a slight increase in farm expenses, the department said in its publication, "The Farm Income Situation."

Further Drop Forecast

Department economists forecast last November a further drop of \$400,000,000 in farm income during this year. But the forecast did not take into consideration any increased income farmers might receive from operation of the soil bank, if adopted, and other legislation.

The net per capita income of farmers dropped to \$860, 6 per cent below the \$913 per capita

income in 1954. Part of this per capita drop was caused by an increase of 1 per cent in the farm population to 22,200,000 persons.

Per capita income of the non-farm population increased almost 5 per cent in 1955.

Smaller Receipts

Smaller cash receipts from meat animals, especially hogs, and wheat accounted for most of the \$300,000,000 decline in the total. The volume of farm marketings in 1955 was up 2 per cent from 1954, but the average of prices received by farmers was down 5 per cent.

Because of a slight increase in farm production costs, coupled with declining gross income, farmers retained as net income only 32.5 per cent of their realized gross farm income. Except for 1932, this is the smallest percentage on record.



JOVIAL—President Eisenhower enjoys a hearty laugh during a meeting in his office with John Reed Kilpatrick, national chairman of the Citizens for Eisenhower Committee.

Skimping Finally Pays for Lender

St. Louis, Mo.—(U.P.)—Years of skimping pennies finally paid off today for Sam Bronstein, a crowd money lender who turned a \$3,600 investment into a \$970,000 fortune.

Bronstein made a modest income over the years, hanging around St. Louis newspaper offices and loaning money to broke businessmen for a return of \$6 for \$5.

The elderly money lender meanwhile invested \$3,600 in the Missouri Pacific railroad in 1938, when the railroad's common stock was selling at 75 cents on \$1,000 par value. When the Mopac recently reported itself out of receivership, it was announced that Bronstein was holding \$970,000 worth of the railroad's securities.

As a gesture to newsmen, Bronstein announced that the principal on a trust fund set up for his family will be turned over to the Missouri School of Journalism. The investor estimated the principal will come to \$30,000 a year.

Belton May Become Congress Candidate

Canby—(U.P.)—State Sen. Howard Belton said today he probably will become the fourth candidate for the Republican nomination for United States congressman from the first district.

Belton said he would seek the post unless incumbent Walter Norblad decided to seek reelection. Norblad has already filed his candidacy for governor.

Belton is regarded as the top tax authority in the Oregon Senate and has served for years as co-chairman of the powerful joint ways and means committee. He has served in the Senate since 1939. His present term has two years to run.

Other Republicans who will seek their party's nomination for Norblad's post are Bruce Williams, Salem; William Healy, Salem, and R. F. Cook, Silverton.

La Grande Runaway Thumbs Wrong Ride

Boise—(U.P.)—A 15-year-old runaway from La Grande, Ore., thumbed a ride with the wrong man yesterday.

Frank Henning, state police radio dispatcher, had just broadcast an alert and description of the boy and was on his way home when he spotted a hitchhiker who appeared to be the missing youth.

Henning stopped and the youth hopped into his car. He readily admitted he was the one the state police of two states were looking for.

The boy's parents came from La Grande to pick up their son.

Ike Declares Party Should Base Program On Spiritual Values

Washington—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower, in his first political appearance since his second term announcement, said today the Republican party should base its program on "moral and spiritual values."

"If a political party does not have its foundation in the determination to advance the cause that is right, that is moral," he said, "then it is not a party but merely a conspiracy which is to seize power."

Surprise Appearance

Mr. Eisenhower made the statements in a surprise appearance before 1500 wildly cheering delegates of the Republican Women's National conference here.

He went to the meeting directly from the White House where Republican congressional leaders had told him his decision to run for reelection "will improve" the party's chance of regaining control of Congress.

Senate Republican Leader William F. Knowland of California said the President was in "great spirits" at the legislative conference and "showed a good sense of humor in our discussions."

Stood Under Pictures

At the meeting of Republican women, Mr. Eisenhower stood under huge pictures of himself and Vice-President Richard M. Nixon. A large banner proclaimed: "Peace - Prosperity - Progress."

The President said he was counting heavily on the women of America, with their responsibility for rearing the young, to support high moral and spiritual values in political life.

He also said he was counting on the Republican women in each of their districts to inform the public on the GOP program, "how far it has gone, what is left to do and what it means to the country and the world."

Survivors in Sinking of Washington Mail Declare Rescue by Navy Vessel Was Miracle

Seattle—(U.P.)—Survivors of the freighter Washington Mail which was ripped apart in a violent storm in the Gulf of Alaska Saturday agreed today it was a miracle they were saved.

"If there is such a thing as a miracle then this is one," said William Bannon, a Seattle fireman aboard the ship.

Bannon was one of 41 crew members and nine passengers of the Washington Mail who arrived here by plane late last night as hundreds of relatives and friends lined the ramps at Seattle-Tacoma airport. The 10

other crewmen were to arrive here later today.

All 60 persons aboard the ship were picked up by the Navy transport Gen. H. B. Freeman which arrived on the scene about four hours after receiving an SOS and picked up the two lifeboats from the Washington Mail.

Bannon was in the engine room when the ship began to break up.

"I heard a lot of noise that sounded like metal banging," he said. "I didn't know what was happening. Then I saw water coming in. I turned off the fires. Water was coming in faster than it could be pumped out. It was four feet deep when I got out of there."

Miss Rodgers was en route for missionary work in the Orient. Stacy Cleveland of Portland, reading."



Be right back! When you're out for the evening—at a party or somewhere—it's mighty comforting to be able to phone your babysitter to see if everything's okay, isn't it? You've probably done it lots of times. As a matter of fact, it would be hard to count all the ways your telephone does bring you peace of mind...which is just one more of the things it's for. The men and women of Pacific Telephone work to make your telephone more useful every day.

Blind Man Useful On Hospital Staff

Toledo, O.—(U.P.)—Alva Jay Francis, blind for 10 years, has become an important and useful member of the St. Charles hospital staff here. He works in the hospital's x-ray department, developing and processing negatives.

Dr. John W. Smyth, director of the hospital's department of radiology, said Francis' work has been exceptionally good.

"The developing technique of x-ray negatives is strict and Jay's following the same routine with all negatives without distraction makes the results more constant, a necessary factor in obtaining a good reading," Smyth said.

He pointed out this means fewer errors in processing, eliminating retakes of patient x-rays, and in general speeds the work of the department.

A native of East Lynn, W. Va., Francis was a door-to-door salesman of blind-made articles in Akron when a blind friend told him of the opportunities in x-ray work. He studied in Cleveland, then went to work here.

President's Name To Be Filed in Indiana

Indianapolis—(U.P.)—President Eisenhower's name will be entered in Indiana's first presidential preference primary today with Gov. Craig and state Republican Chairman Alvin Cast personally filing the petitions.

Mr. Eisenhower becomes the first and probably only one in either party that will appear on the presidential primary ballot May 8.

Under Indiana's new primary law, delegates must support the winner in the presidential primary on the first convention ballot. In 1952, only two Hoosier GOP delegates supported Mr. Eisenhower. The other 30 favored the late Sen. Robert Taft of Ohio.

Oregon Man Killed On Antarctic Job

Washington—(U.P.)—The Navy said today that a second member of its Antarctic expedition was killed yesterday when his tractor plunged into a crevasse about 110 miles from Little America V.

The victim was Seabee Max R. Kiel, son of Mrs. Roma Irene Kiel, box 32, Joseph, Ore. Another driver lost his life recently when his tractor disappeared in an ice crack.

Kiel was a member of a tractor team moving oil and gasoline drums to the site where an American base will be set up next fall for the international geophysical year.

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