

Farm Families Take Advantage of Program

A number of farm families in Josephine and Jackson counties are taking advantage of the farm-housing loan program offered by the U. S. department of agriculture, according to Eugene M. Denney, supervisor of the local office in Grants Pass.

The program is designed to "provide decent, safe and sanitary farm dwellings, essential to the well-being of the rural population and to the economic development of the farm area."

Interest rate is 4 per cent on the unpaid principal and the maximum repayment period is 33 years. In order to qualify, the applicant must be owner of a unit with sufficient acreage in agricultural production to provide a substantial portion of his total cash income and be recognized in the community as a farmer, rather than a rural resident.

Anyone desiring further information about the program and credit available should call at the local office, room 9, Mancel building, or write to post office box 311, Grants Pass.

Foreign Language Lab To Be Explained

The foreign language laboratory at Medford High school will be explained at the regular monthly curriculum meeting between 7:30 and 9 p.m. Tuesday, April 5.

Miss Dorothy Wilson, head of the foreign language department at Medford High school, will discuss equipment recently installed in the laboratory, which is the first such lab in Jackson county and one of the first in the state.

Students will demonstrate the equipment during the presentation, which will be held in room 30 in the southwest corner of the first floor of Medford High school.

Members of the school board and the lay public are invited to attend, school officials announced.

Marconi sent a wireless message across the Atlantic in 1901.

VISIT MEDFORD—Officials of the Chicago Great Western Railway company, who are Mr. and Mrs. Louis Smith, San Francisco, Kuckelmann greeted west, stopped in Medford Friday. Pictured above are, left to right, Freight Traffic Manager Frank P. Wright, St. Paul, Minn.; Sales Manager Leonard J. Kuckelmann, Medford;

Basic Changes in Workmen's Compensation Law Needed

Ashland—Pressures of the modern industrial revolution now taking place in Oregon demand basic changes in the Oregon Workmen's Compensation law, Rep. Keith D. Skelton (D-Lane county), chairman of the house ways and means committee, told Ashland Rotarians last week.

This law was defective when it was enacted and basic changes are now required, Skelton said. He invited employers and employees to join in a crusade for improvement of the law.

The original law provided an employer in hazardous industry could insure his employees in one of three ways: (1) through private insurance, (2) through accident commission, (3) by self insurance.

In Liability Act

However, this law only applied to those employees in hazardous industry, the state representative pointed out. When an employer decided he wanted private insurance or to be self insured he and his employees were not given the benefits and protections of workmen's compensation. Instead they were brought under the employer's liability act.

Benefits of workmen's compensation to employers and employees included certainty of payment of compensation, reduction of red tape and delay, removal of cases from tax supported courts into administrative procedures financed by industry and insurers.

Now the employer has opportunity to choose between buying insurance from state or private enterprise, and improved safety and medical research thus reducing the accident rate.

Employees and employers who are insured through the industrial accident commission.

Vice President B. R. Harris, Kansas City, Great Western Traffic Manager Louis Smith, San Francisco, Kuckelmann greeted west, stopped in Medford Friday. Pictured above are, left to right, Freight Traffic Manager Frank P. Wright, St. Paul, Minn.; Sales Manager Leonard J. Kuckelmann, Medford;

The commission has stood on technicalities and rules to throw roadblocks in the way of injured employees, the state representative argued.

"Of the 570,000 employed at peak periods in the state only about 320,000 are covered by industrial accident commission," Skelton pointed out. "This means that about 240,000 employees in Oregon do not receive the benefits of the law," Skelton stated.

"Employee and taxpayer pay the penalty for the present law's inadequacies, Skelton pointed out. Those who are not in industries classified as hazardous must go on relief or dip into savings when they are injured seriously.

Workmen's compensation costs to industry have risen from \$29.5 million in 1953-54 to \$48.5 million in 1959-60, the state representative noted. Costs will continue to rise as long as the present court administered system of law remains, he said. Skelton added that he has been retained as attorney for the committee on competitive workmen's compensation. This consists of all segments of industry interested in revising the present law he explained.

Safety Procedures

If the law is revised private insurers could bring modern remedial safety procedures to bear on reduction of costs and injuries. In most monopoly fund states such as Oregon the death rate is higher than in states where the private insurance writes a workmen's compensation, Skelton pointed out.

An alternative to his plan would mean an eventual complete socialization of workmen's compensation in Oregon, Skelton insisted. He concluded that he hoped employees and employers would write him telling their experiences with the industrial accident commission and with claims in general under the present situation.

St. Mary's Student Mentioned in List

Donald G. Davy, 123 Lincoln St., Medford, a St. Mary's High school student, is among students receiving honorable mention for scholarship competition, according to the University of San Francisco committee on scholarships.

More than 200 students participated in the scholarship competition held at Serra High school in Salem and at 12 other locations in California, Nevada, Arizona and Colorado, according to the Rev. John H. Martin, committee chairman. The USF scholarships range from \$4,000 to \$2,400 to defray four years of college expenses.

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In the Days News

By FRANK JENKINS

There's a weird little tale in the news. It concerns a childless widower who died in Chicago and left his entire estate to a college. Included in his papers was a map. It was a buried treasure map. The map spotted a place in the city. The administrators of his estate went there and dug. They found the buried chest. It contained GOLD—about \$100,000 worth of it.

Where did the gold come from? He had BOUGHT IT, a dozen years or so ago, and buried it. Of course he broke the law. By that time it had been made a crime for a U.S. citizen to own monetary gold. But he's dead now. Death wipes out a lot of scores. The college will get the money he bequeathed to it.

SO— Let's go on from there to a little dissertation on monetary gold.

PRIOR to 1933, gold had been officially worth \$20.67 an ounce. That is to say, an ounce of gold was then exchangeable for 20.67 PAPER dollars. Or - putting it the other way around - 20.67 paper dollars were exchangeable for an ounce of gold.

Then -

By fiat of law -

The government of the United States bought up ALL THE GOLD and when it had all the gold in its possession it RAISED THE PRICE to 35 paper dollars per ounce.

IN THE transaction, the government of the United States made a profit of hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars. A part of this profit was used to pay off government debt. It should be added that a considerable other part of the paper profit was used to pay for a lot of the bondholding that was current in those days.

SO much for what happened in the past. Let's now scan the horizon to see what MIGHT happen in the future.

IN THE 27 years since 1933, the debt of the federal government of the United States has risen fantastically. On December 31, 1959, the total was \$200,824,617,717. In a few years these figures are too big to be grasped, here is the total in words—two hundred and ninety billion, nine hundred and twenty-four million, nine hundred and seventeen thousand, seven hundred and seventeen dollars. That amounts to a little better than \$1600 per present inhabitant of the U.S., or about \$650 for a family of four.

THE INTEREST on our national debt now amounts to more than THE TOTAL COST OF RUNNING OUR FEDERAL GOVERNMENT a couple of generations ago.

THIS is the point: Sooner or later, some financial genius on the order of Lord Keynes is going to propose that we RAISE THE PRICE OF GOLD AGAIN—say to 70 paper dollars per ounce - and use the resulting profit to pay off a chunk of our debt.

If that happens, keep this in mind: The money thus created would be FUNNY MONEY. In the long run, funny money never did ANYBODY any good.

According to a recent survey, 77 per cent of new home owners buying new home furnishings generally shopped the page of the daily newspaper before making their purchases. National furniture and furnishings manufacturers know this. That's why they invested an estimated \$8.9 million in newspaper advertising last year.

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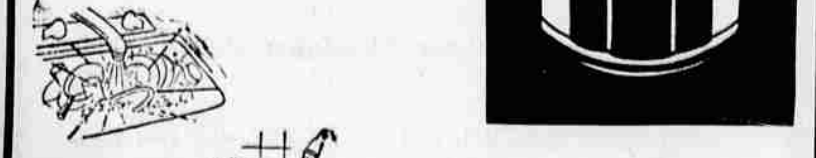
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