

Home Ownership In Medford Above National Average

In Medford, home ownership has been on the rise and is now at a high level.

A greater proportion of local families own the houses in which they live than at any previous time. The ownership ratio is well above that given for the rest of the United States.

The findings are from reports released by the U. S. Department of Commerce, based on data gathered during the recent census of housing.

They show that 62.7 per cent of all dwelling units in use in Medford are owned by their occupants, compared with 61.9 per cent in the United States and 60.2 per cent in the Pacific states.

Much of the progress in this direction took place in the last few years, aided by general prosperity and by government mortgage underwriting.

The steadily rising consumer incomes and the increased availability of mortgage money at favorable rates stimulated many people to acquire homes of their own.

8,335 Dwelling Units
The figures show a total of 8,335 occupied dwelling units locally, of which 5,226 are owner-occupied.

In Medford, as well as in most communities in the United States, property owners have been spending more than usual in the last 10 years for the upkeep and improvement of their homes.

The Census bureau said the average expenditure on a one-family house was \$283 in 1960 and that the total spent by American home owners in the year was over \$13 billion.

Locally, as a result, solid advances have been made since 1950 in the physical condition of dwellings. The level was raised, in addition, through the replacement of some old houses with new ones.

The housing census lists a large proportion of local dwellings, 7,223 out of a total of 8,968, as being "sound" and equipped with all modern plumbing facilities.

Residential property values in Oregon have gone up considerably in the last 10 years, the average being 54.4 per cent. In Medford, the effect has been to raise owner-occupied, non-farm dwellings to a median market price of \$11,600, as against a state median of \$10,500.

Timber Sold at Three Auctions

C. M. and D. Logging of Trail was high bidder last week for 1,200,000 board feet of national forest timber in the Deer Creek Select area, Union Creek Ranger district, Rogue River National forest.

Supervisor C. E. Brown said the high bid totaled \$37,960, compared to the forest service appraised price for the timber of \$19,044.50, an increase of 99 per cent.

Next high bidder in the oral auction for the timber was Estremado and Sons of Gold Hill. Other bidders were J. G. Slack, Seven Cloud, McCormick Trucking, Kogap Manufacturing company, and Steve Wilson.

Steve O. Wilson of White City was high bidder for 9,000,000 board feet of national forest timber in the Old Baldy area, Ashland Ranger district.

The high bid totaled \$89,592, compared to the forest service appraised price of \$59,136, an increase of 52 per cent.

Next high bidder in the oral auction was Green Springs Lumber of Klamath Falls. Other bidders were Klamath Hardwoods, Kogap Manufacturing company, Eugene Burrill, Brecount Brothers, and Cheney Forest Products.

Fic-Ply, Inc., Medford, was high bidder for 1,930,000 board feet in the Innaha Access area, Butte Falls Ranger district. The high bid totaled \$67,310, compared to the forest service appraised price of \$41,968.50, an increase of 60 per cent.

Next high bidder was C. M. and D. Logging of Trail. Other bidders were Cliff Green, Estremado and Sons, Hanscom Brothers, and Steve Wilson.

Radio Station Adds 'Master Control'

Radio station KSHA has added to its broadcasting schedule a 30-minute variety program entitled "Master Control."

The program, which is broadcast at 6 p.m. each Sunday, is produced and distributed by Southern Baptists Radio-TV commission. "Master Control" features interviews with people and both popular and sacred selections, as well as brief religious vignettes.

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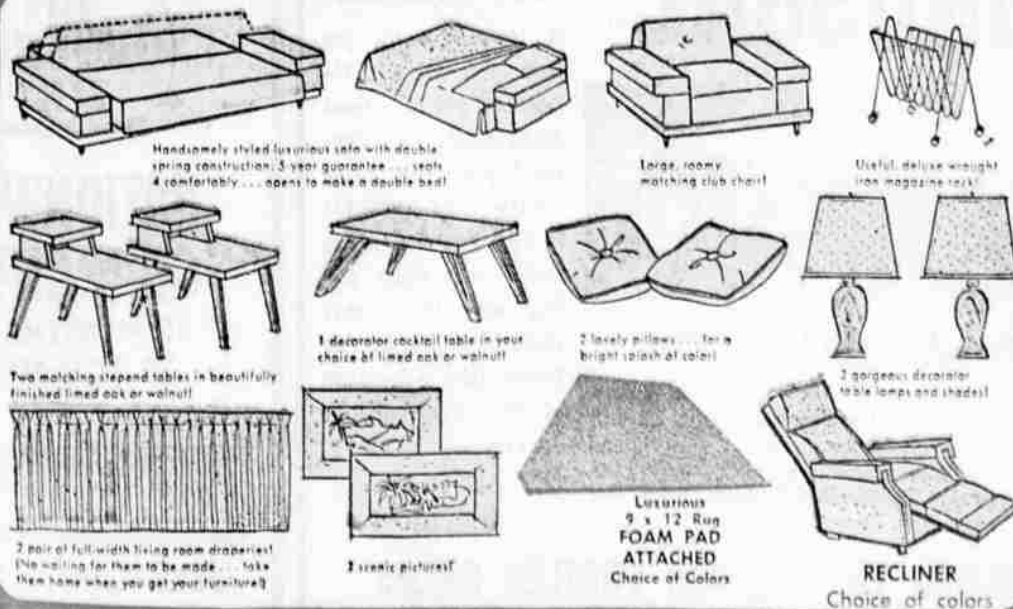
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