

Federal Pension Checks in County. Average \$793 Year

How large are the Federal pension checks going to Jackson county residents, compared with those going to people in other parts of the United States?

How much of an impact does this money exert on the local economy each year?

According to the latest official figures, released by the Social Security Administration, the local income from pensions is relatively high.

Average Payment

As of the beginning of this year, it is shown, the average payment to beneficiaries in Jackson county amounted to \$793 per year, which compares favorably with the average of \$785 per recipient in the United States as a whole.

This money, which goes to retired or disabled workers and their dependents, is paid from the trust funds of the old-age survivors and disability insurance systems, which are operated on an actual basis.

Just how much each pensioner or his family receives each month depends upon how much he paid into the funds during his active working career.

Because average earnings in the local area have been higher, the contributions have also been higher and so have the benefits. 9,537 Residents

Overall, the report shows, some 9,537 residents of the county are receiving pension payments amounting to \$7,595,000 a year.

Some idea of the expansion that has been taking place may be had by looking at the figures released by the administration three years ago.

At that time, there were only 7,060 local beneficiaries. They received \$5,177,000 during the year.

More and more people throughout the nation are coming under the protection of the social security system with each passing year as amendments are made to broaden the coverage.

In fiscal 1962 alone, over 1 1/2 million men, women and children were added to the benefit rolls and the payments went up by \$1.8 billion.

The amount of money coming into Jackson county each year, via these pension checks, has reached an important level. As the business men calculate it, it now represents 8 per cent of every dollar spent in the local retail stores.

Director Petitions Being Circulated

GRANTS PASS — Petitions for nomination of directors of the Grants Pass Irrigation district are now being circulated in the areas to be represented on the district board.

The petitions must be returned to the district office not later than midnight Oct. 28. The petitions for nomination must be signed by at least 10 electors within a division. Directors are to be elected Nov. 12 from Divisions 1, 2 and 5, according to Charles Dillon, manager of the Grants Pass Irrigation district.

Additional nominating petitions and list of eligible voters are available in the district office in the Josephine county courthouse annex in Grants Pass.

By Oregon law, qualified electors are those owning two acres or more of land with the property deed or contract of sale recorded in deed records at least six months prior to the election date.

The board of directors of the irrigation district is expected to name election officials and polling places for the balloting at the regular monthly meeting on Oct. 18, 1963.

Division 1, in which a director is to be elected for a three-year term, includes the town of Rogue River and other Jackson county acreages; all land, in fact, east of Savage Rapids dam included in the irrigation district. There is no incumbent seeking the election.

Labor Officials Win Reelection

EUGENE (UPI) — Three top Oregon labor officials have won reelection to two-year terms at the Oregon AFL-CIO convention.

They are J. D. McDonald, president; James T. Marr, executive secretary-treasurer; and George Brown, director of political education. All are from Portland.

John O'Halloran, Portland, and Herb Barker, Salem, were nominated for first vice president. Anne Chambers, Oregon City, and Patrick Flynn, Eugene, were nominated for second vice president.

Bryan O'Rourke, Oregon City; Mary Beth Mason, Forest Grove, and Martha Elwell, Portland, were named as winners of \$600 scholarships in essay and interview competition.

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