

OREGON RURAL RETAIL TRADE SHOWN HEAVY

Fifty-four per cent or 7,882, of the 14,643 retailers in the state of Oregon are located in towns and cities of less than 10,000 population. This statement was made by Charles D. Bohannan, in charge of the Section of Agricultural and Rural Distribution, in connection with the release by the Bureau of Census of the bulletin on retail trade in the state of Oregon.

Bohannan further points out that over 60 per cent of the population of Oregon lives in the area served by these "rural retailers." In fact 30 of the 36 counties in the state of Oregon contain no town or city with a population as great as 10,000. In the state there are, however, 52 towns and cities with a population of 1,000 to 10,000 divided among various size groups as follows: 9 cities and towns between 5,000 and 10,000; 14 between 2,500 and 5,000; and 29 between 1,000 and 2,500.

The 7,882 retailers serving this rural area include: 1925 food stores; 2131 retailers in the automotive group; 429 lumber and building material stores; 209 clothing and other apparel stores; 419 restaurants and lunch rooms; 216 furniture stores; 241 general merchandise stores; 275 drug stores; 118 jewelry stores.

The total sales for these rural retailers amount to \$182,368,079, or 40 per cent of the total retail sales for the state. The amount of sales made by each of the groups together with the per cent which such sales formed of the total sales of similar stores for the state are as follows: Food group, \$43,964,213, 43 per cent; automotive group, \$44,646,026, 43 per cent; lumber and building material group, \$12,761,231, 43 per cent; apparel group, \$5,184,324, 19 per cent; restaurants and lunch rooms, \$5,955,050, 28 per cent; furniture group, \$5,528,382, 30 per cent; general merchandise group, \$37,110,554, 42 per cent; drug stores \$6,147,625, 40 per cent; jewelry stores, \$1,082,568, 26 per cent.

Although rural retailers as a group account for only 40 per cent of the total retail sales for the state, it is quite interesting to note that in many of the smaller towns and cities the average per capita sales are considerably higher than the average per capita sales for the state. For all the towns and cities between 1,000 and 10,000 population the average per capita sales are \$104 as compared with the state per capita sales of \$483; and per capita sales of \$703 for cities and towns of over 10,000 population. While in the cities between the 5,000 and 10,000 population limits the per capita sales amount to \$917.

That the per capita sales of the smaller towns and cities should be higher than the per capita sales in the larger cities may at first seem a bit startling, especially in view of the impression that seems to have been recently current in some quarters that practically all retail trade of the rural areas is going to the larger metropolitan centers. On the other hand, careful students of the situation have known for years that the smaller size cities in the rural counties very largely dominate the retail trade of the counties, even though there be metropolitan centers not far distant. This is especially the case if the smaller town or city is the county seat.

While this has been known for years, this first Census of Distribution is making available the first data wherewith to get a real check on this highly important matter. The fact that the county seat town acts as the principal trading center of its county is further evidenced by the following data on a few selected Oregon counties showing the per capita sales for each county as a whole and for the county seat town:

- Baker \$489; Baker City \$824;
- Clackamas \$225; Oregon City, \$256; Coos \$471; Coquille \$797;
- Douglas \$394; Roseburg \$1,184;
- Hood River \$404; Hood River City \$1,051; Lake \$492; Lakeview \$1,134; Umatilla \$503;
- Pendleton \$1,247; Yamhill \$245;
- McMinnville \$1,327.

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Youthful Politician Refuses To Be Downed by Parental Restraint

Young Bobbie DeLap, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd DeLap, and son of a family of politicians, embarked early on his own political career Wednesday night, when he determined to hear Senator Frederick Steiwer speak at Merrill, in spite of parental objections.

Dr. G. S. Newsom, county physician, stopped early Wednesday evening at the home of Lloyd DeLap, clerk of the circuit court, to ask him to motor to Merrill. Bobbie immediately felt a burning desire to go, but was refused both by his father and the county physician.

DeLap, senior, later found that he could not make the trip, so the doctor departed alone. He

almost put his car in the ditch a few miles out of town when he heard a little voice pipe up from the floor of the tonneau, saying, "Hey Doc, where are those other guys you were going to take along?"

Bobbie went alone to Merrill and heard the lecture while his parents scoured the town for him, and Dr. Newsom expected to be arrested on kidnapping charges. His mother, trusting her feminine intuition, refused to become worried until she put in a long distance call for Doctor Newsom at Merrill.

Stern parents greeted Bobbie upon his return, and rushed him off to bed, a sleepy but ambitious little politician.

Klamath Potatoes Sent to Salem for State Fair Exhibit

Two sacks of field run potatoes and several sacks of the leading brands of potatoes grown in Klamath county are being sent to the state department of agriculture in Salem by the county agents office.

The potatoes will be used in the

standardization of Oregon products display at the state fair. Charles A. Cole, of the division of plant industry of the state department of agriculture, will be in charge of the display.

When in dire straits, the Chinese believe they may expect the souls of their ancestors to come to their rescue, but only if the remains have been properly buried and kept intact.

'BUDGET HIKE' IS BOY SCOUT PROJECT

An intensive three day "budget hike" for the purpose of raising funds for Boy Scout work will begin with a scout masters breakfast on Tuesday morning, October 6, according to Executive O. E. Hoover, who is making an official visit to Klamath Falls.

The "hike" will be conducted according to regular scouting traditions, and those who will go forth to raise funds will be formed into a new troop numbered 295.

A. M. Collier will head the "troop," and the "budget hike" will be under the direction of Walter L. Hayward, associate regional director, whose headquarters are in Spokane.

Hayward, whose region is comprised of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, a portion of Wyoming, Montana and Alaska, will address service clubs of the city before the "hike" begins.

Preliminary plans for this campaign have also been under Hayward's direction.

TRAFFIC TIPS

By Sergeant Carl Cook Klamath Falls Police

It shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle other than one on official business to follow any fire apparatus traveling in response to a fire alarm closer than 500 feet or to drive into or park such vehicle within the block where fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm, or within three blocks of a point where a fire is in progress.

No street car or vehicle shall be driven over any unprotected hose of a fire department when laid down on any street, private driveway or street car track, to be used at any fire or alarm of fire, without the consent of the fire department in command.

Australia has been termed the land of pests, mostly imported from other countries. One of these is the prickly pear, a plant of American origin, which has spread over 50,000 acres of land in Queensland and New South Wales.

In New York state no fewer than one in every 22 persons becomes, at some time in his life, a patient in an institution for the mentally ill.

MILEAGE OF STATE HIGHWAYS FIGURED

SALEM, Ore., (UP)—Total mileage of state highways surfaced at end of 1930 was 3,604 according to a federal report received at the state house. Of this, 377 miles was surfaced last year.

The entire mileage in the state system was given as 5,352. Mileage of state highways in the United States as a whole was 324,496, of which 236,211 was surfaced at end of 1930.

Built More Last Year
This surfacing is composed of 84,112 miles of the higher types of roads (bituminous macadam, concrete and brick) and 142,109 miles of low-type road (sand-clay, gravel and water-bound macadam).

Surfacing place last year included 27,464 miles, 2,393 more than in 1929.

Expenditures by state highway departments on roads last year were \$989,000,000, an increase of 22 per cent over 1929. The construction program was financed largely by motor vehicle and gasoline tax revenue

and by bonds, the retirement of which is to be largely with motor vehicle funds.

Nine Reports Received
Property taxes and state appropriations, which once constituted the major sources of revenue, are now relatively unimportant. Motor vehicle revenues brought 25 per cent, gasoline taxes 24, bonds 20 federal aid 3, state taxes and appropriations 4, funds transferred from counties 5, and miscellaneous revenue, 1 per cent.

Only nine states reported decreases in their incomes in 1930.

Knights of Columbus Plan Entertainment

Mt. McLoughlin council, Knights of Columbus, met in regular session Wednesday evening to make preparations for an entertainment October 14 for an "Casey" and their families. A banquet and program are planned for the occasion.

Tuesday evening District Deputy George Donahue, Grand Knight William Krueger, Warden Walters and Trustees Silficky motored to Medford, where they officiated at installation of officers of the Medford council.

Alano Taka Dass, the Mystery Man from India, is coming!—Adv.

25,280 Domestic Corporations in State of Oregon

SALEM, Ore., (UP)—Domestic corporations that have filed articles with the state corporations office or the secretary of state prior to creation of the corporations commission in 1913, now number 25,280, according to a check made for United Press.

Foreign corporations that have been empowered to operate in Oregon number 2,880. Not all articles of incorporation by any means are in effect now, it was explained. Most of the companies operate for only a year or so. Stock selling companies are being authorized to operate in Oregon at the rate of about 15 a month. This is only half the rate about a year ago, when approximately one application a day was approved.

Who knows, sees and tells all? Alano Taka Dass. He is coming soon.—Adv.

WHO'S COMING?
B. B. and His Dog

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