

Pacific Northwest Looks For Continued Expansion

By SAM DAWSON
SEATTLE (AP)—Growth is still the key word in the Pacific Northwest. So, it dismisses as "just temporary" certain economic factors—production, trade, jobs, prices—that today slant a little toward the downside.

Expansion plans continue. The region is still building. It's a little scornful of recession nerves back East.

By the Pacific Northwest people here mean Washington, Oregon, Idaho and the part of Montana west of the Continental Divide—a region tied together by the Columbia River and its tributaries, but split in climate and economy by the Cascade Mountains paralleling the coast. To the west of them there's lots of rain. To the east there's little.

"The Pacific Northwest can expect a slight preponderance of minus signs among the 1954 business indicators," say officials of the Seattle-First National Bank, which has branches throughout Washington. "But no sizable cutbacks are in prospect. The area is still growing."

Throughout this region the chief concern today is what outsiders will do to it.

Housing starts around the nation call the tune for the Northwest's

big money crop—lumber. National defense planning sets the output rate for its aircraft and allied industries—now a big stabilizing factor in some parts of the Northwest.

Government farm policies and world market conditions control to greater degree here than in most parts of the nation, bankers say, the prosperity of its wheat, pea and fruit growers.

Reclamation policy, as much as the weather, determines the production outlook for its water power and aluminum industries, and for its steadily expanding irrigated farming sections.

The ruckus in Indochina is closer to the Northwest and to its economy than it is to some other parts of the land.

JOBLESS PEAK

Northwest bankers say the business slip was worrisome early this year. Unemployment reached a peak in February. Both Washington and Oregon report that it's been dropping now for several weeks, although still above the year-ago mark.

Home building this March in 10 key cities in the four states topped that of a year ago. East mortgage terms are the chief lure now.

Industrial expansion continues too. Oil and natural gas are prime factors. Oil is being piped in from Canadian fields. Natural gas is coming—whether from Canada or from the American Southwest is soon to be decided.

Shell Oil Co. will build a 75-million-dollar oil refinery at Anacortes, Wash. General Petroleum has a 35-million-dollar one under way at Ferndale, Wash., near the Canadian border. There's talk of a 10-million-dollar refinery at Tacoma for the Washington Processing Co.

The atomic plant at Hanford, Wash., still grows, although some think that late 1954 may see the end of expansion.

NAVAL WORK Naval yards stay fairly busy, with the Indochina tension giving impetus, along with the refitting of ships for the new atomic and jet warfare age.

Retail trade lagged in the early part of the year, as it did rather markedly all along the Pacific Coast. Easter gave a fillip, however.

Seattle merchants put their faith in continued work schedules at the two Boeing Airplane Co. plants in the area. Boeing hires 37,500 workers, a postwar peak, and the area's biggest payroll.

Boeing executives say their government orders look pretty stable for some time to come.

But the apple of their eye right now is the huge jet air transport they expect to put in the air in about two months. First one built in America, it may beat the British De Havilland Co.'s Comet III to the runways, Boeing hopes so.

Boeing is staking a large sum in building it. The company hopes to sell its jet transports later to the military for troop or supply carriers or for refueling tankers, and to commercial airlines for speedier transoceanic and trans-country flights.



THESE THREE ARTISTS will appear on the Wayne Angel concert, Friday, April 23, in Mills School Auditorium. (l to r) Mrs. Aurora Underwood, pianist; Rex John Underwood, violinist; and Julianne Stone Underwood, cellist.

Concert Plans Announced

The Underwood Trio of Portland, will appear here at 8:00 p.m. in Mills auditorium, Friday, April 23, as guest artists at the Wayne Angel scholarship concert, which is sponsored by the Klamath Musical Arts Council. The trio is composed of Aurora Underwood, pianist, Rex John Underwood, violinist, and Julianne Stone Underwood, cellist, all serious musicians of exceptional ability and well-known in the Northwest. The Underwoods' trip to Klamath Falls and appearance on the program are gladly donated in the interest of furthering the career of an artist of Wayne's unusual promise. Mr. Rex John Underwood and his young wife Julianne are the

son and daughter-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Rex Underwood of Portland, Methodists Church by the Klamath Musical Arts Council and members of the concert committee, immediately following the concert, Mrs. Angel, hostess.

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Wilson Report Told Congress

WASHINGTON (AP)—Increasing capacity of the U. S. Air Force to strike back against attack, Secretary of Defense Wilson says, "gives full warning to any aggressor of the possible consequences of rash action."

In his semi-annual report to the White House and Congress, Wilson said Wednesday night a review of the whole military situation was aimed at developing strategy "that would deter both a major war and local aggression and... could be implemented and maintained without undermining the social and economic foundations of the nation."

"Military strength," he wrote, "is becoming greater through the development of increased firepower on land, on sea and in the air and through the deployment of our forces in a way that will make them more readily available whenever and wherever they are needed."

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Square Dance Jamboree Slated

Southern Oregon Square Dancers Association will have their second big jamboree Sunday afternoon April 25, beginning at 1 p.m., in Grants Pass Armory. A host of well known Oregon callers will be on hand to put the dancers through old and new favorites.

Curley Reynolds, Roseburg, and B. M. Antle, Klamath Falls, will share the spot light as masters of ceremonies. Refreshments will be served during the afternoon. All basin square dancers are cordially invited.

Tulelake School Week Planned

TULELAKE — Public School Week will be observed, April 26-30 in the schools. Achievement night is planned for 8 p.m., Thursday, April 29, 8 p.m. The program will include three one act plays, "If Girls Ask Boys For Dates," junior class; "Who Dun It?" sophomores; and "The Greener Grass," by the freshman class.

All rooms will be open for visits of parents.

The program is open to the public.

CABINET
HELSINKI, Finland (AP)—President Juho Paasikivi planned to call Thursday on Dr. K. A. Fagerholm, new Social Democratic speaker of the house, to try to form a Finnish cabinet and end a long government crisis.

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