

The Herald and News

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Entered as second class matter at the post office at Klamath Falls, Ore., on August 20, 1906, under act of Congress, March 3, 1879

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Serving Southern Oregon And Northern California

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In News

By BILL JENKINS
The Klamath Country seems to have a way of getting into the news even during the dull season. True magazine the other day used the name Klamath Falls as a geographic possibility as to the whereabouts of Jim Moran in a yarn by H. Allen Smith. Just why Klamath Falls popped into Mr. Smith's head we wouldn't know, but it shows that our town is getting to be pretty well known.

Klamath County as a whole does very well, also, in a recent publication called "Come To Oregon." Cool, Green Valleyland, put out by the Travel Information Division of the Oregon State Highway Commission. A very well executed booklet filled with color pages and aimed at attracting the tourist trade to our fair state.

Mentioned and pictured are such scenic attractions as Odell Lake, Crater Lake, Lake of the Woods, Diamond Lake, Spring Creek and quite a handful of close-in spots such as the Deschutes, Union Creek, Abert Rim over in Lake County and Mirror Pond in Bend. Elk Lake was also pictured as a scenic and well equipped summer resort lake.

I was pleased to note that the booklet follows the lines I have been talking about for a long time now. No plugging of the wonders of our back country fishing and hunting, only a presentation of already developed and ready tourist attractions, both from the scenic and personal comfort angle.

The next link in the tourist chain will be a good road, someday, between Klamath Falls and the coast. The proposed route to Medford via the Westside highway and Lake of the Woods would be a step in the right direction here. It's high time that Eastern Oregon had access to the coast without having to go miles out of the way.

Been meaning to mention for some time and just never got around to it that John McDonald, forest supervisor over in Lakeview, did a darn fine job on his annual "report to the stockholders." John, who is the boss on the Fremont, put out a mimeographed report to the public on the activities that took place on the forest during the past year. Such things as the amount of timber cut (99 million board feet) and sold (141 million feet), the mining picture, which this past year saw over 2000 claims staked and things like that. The report also shows us that they grazed 12,387 head of cattle, 38,090 sheep and built fifteen miles of new fence in addition to the 89 miles and remaining 331 miles of old fence. There were 19,600 winter sports visitors and 20,000 hunters and fishermen on the Fremont. The hunters, incidentally, killed around 8500 bucks and 4500 does during the season. And with all that use the forest only had 89 fires, 64 of which were caused by lightning and burned 8287 acres of the total fire loss of 11,309 acres. Miner fires accounted for another 2740 acres with six fires. Hunters and fishermen were careful, starting only 15 fires but burned a total of two and a half acres.

A pretty good report and a fine thing to do so that the people may know what is happening to their land.

Soil Bank
By DEB ADDISON

You probably have read the administration's recommendation in congress on the farm situation—Mr. Eisenhower's nine point program. You may not know that the key to the program—surplus reduction and soil bank plan—came directly from the grass roots. The American Farm Bureau Federation, the nation's largest farm organization, adopted the "surplus reduction and soil bank plan" at its convention in Chicago last month.

The Bureau has written a farm bill and presented it to congressional leaders for consideration. In an introduction to the bill, its purpose is declared to be (1) to encourage orderly liquidation of CCC's holdings of surplus farm commodities; (2) to lessen the depressing effect of surpluses on farm prices and income; (3) to encourage the elimination of wasteful farm production; (4) to minimize the adverse effects of "diverted acres"; (5) to assist in marketing farm commodities at home and abroad; (6) to provide for a privately owned "soil bank" of fertile cropland devoted to soil building crops and reforestation; and (7) to assist producers and consumers by helping to provide a balanced flow of commodities in interstate and foreign commerce.

We'd like to make three comments: One is to refer to point 4 above and to add that the Farm Bureau program provides Agricultural Conservation Program payments to farmers to help them establish soil building crops or practices on land placed in the "soil bank" and the prohibition of harvesting or grazing on any soil bank land.

This is the key to keeping from wrecking the market of our Klamath Basin farm commodities as has been done by diverting land from production from wheat, corn, cotton and rice to potatoes, barley or other Klamath crops.

Another comment is to point back to Mr. Eisenhower's statement that the real cost to the taxpayers would be substantially less

than the apparent cost since the program actually will be financed with commodities already owned and paid for by the government. True, the government he means the taxpayers. We, the taxpayers, own \$4,500,000,000 worth of farm commodities. These surplus commodities have been acquired because of the war-time support programs which were terminated when their need ended.

It is plain common sense to use this present surplus liability to pay for its own liquidation.

Another thought that we have not heard voiced (and it would be popular to voice it here) but the farmers themselves have brought it up with the "soil bank" plan is how this must affect reclamation.

It would be the height of absurdity to be putting away fertile soil for future use through the deposit window of a "soil bank" and at the same time to be steadily making withdrawals from another window of the bank through reclamation.

If expansion of reclamation is brought to a halt, as it should be if we need to put away land in a "soil bank", we at least are fortunate in the Klamath Basin to have a "water bank."

The effect of the work of the Klamath River Commission, which culminated in the signing of the Reclamation-Copco contract, is to give the Upper Klamath River Basin a "water bank"—a guarantee of having water when we need it in the future for agricultural expansion.

Oldest Date
By KEN McLEOD

Mark R. Harrington, curator of the Southwest Museum, Los Angeles, writes in the current issue of "Natural History" about "Man's Oldest Date in America," which has been determined by the Carbon 14 method by Dr. W. F. Libby of Chicago University from charcoal taken from the Tule Springs site in southern Nevada. Three different samples of the remains of the campfires of the early man of the region were examined before Dr. Libby's final report was issued that the charcoal had lost all of its radio-activity and must therefore be "more than 23,800 years old."

The technique of archeology has advanced tremendously during the past couple of decades. 20 years ago the emphasis was placed only on the artifacts that could be found in excavating various sites but today every scrap of evidence is carefully saved. An old acquaintance of mine at the University of California reported some time ago when we were discussing the age of some of the caves in Southern Oregon, that it made him ashamed to think of the vast amount of charcoal he had thrown away in his years of excavating ancient sites because it was thought to be useless material. This was in the years before it was discovered that carbonaceous material which had been burned became radio-active and lost this radio-activity gradually in the period of 23,800 years.

After the knowledge of the presence of Carbon 14 became known there was an exact search of all museums for material to test and to date most of the known archeological sites in America have been examined for use by this method.

The oldest dates for man in America have been consistently coming up here in the West though there have been some early disputed finds in the eastern states. Harrington writes that there have been 23 finds prior to the Tule Spring discovery that placed man in association with the Ice Age.

23,800 years seems like a long period of time as man thinks of time yet to the geologist it is a mere fraction when he considers the age of the periods of the history of the earth. We can speculate just how long it has taken the Klamath country was 23,000 years ago or even 10,000 years, when the mighty Mount Mazama dominated our landscape and perhaps the waters of the Klamath Basin drained away southward to the Pit River.

The great chain of volcanic cones of the Cascades were mostly active and inland seas filled the present desert regions to the east. The great Lake Lahontan spread across northern Nevada from Utah to the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. This great inland sea occupied the Honey Lake Valley in California and reached into Oregon in the vicinity of Denio.

In Oregon there were giant freshwater lakes occupying Wild Horse Valley to the east of the Steen Mountains, Catalo Valley to the west. Warner Valley was another great lake and so was Abert and the Summer Lake valleys. When we contemplate this great series of water barriers thrown across the southern boundary of Oregon and further to the east was the great lake Bonneville the shores of which lapped the western slope of the Rockies, it is readily seen that the Klamath country offered the easiest route for human migration to the south. Thus it is true that man lived at Tule Springs more than 23,800 years ago the chances are many that he must have made his way there by the overland route through this region.

The Klamath country in this case would be the dividing route to the south for from here the movement could have passed either down the Pit to California or have continued south along the east slope of the Sierra following the shoreline of Lake Lahontan to its southern extremity near the region of Mono Lake. The opportunity therefore is strong that evidence of early man can appear most any place in the Klamath Basin, for this reason there has been a frantic search of caves in eastern Oregon for the

evidence of the great antiquity of man. Caves, however, are not the only place where such evidence can be found as excavations now anywhere might discover such evidence. Many such a find, however, has passed unnoticed because the people who came upon them were not aware of their importance. Now and then, however, such discoveries do come to light as in the case of the Polson and Clovis, New Mexico examples.

In 1925, at Polson, excavators uncovered the skeletons of a small bison herd: bulls, cows and calves, just as one would expect in a natural herd, their skeletons all lying close together under many feet of earth, where they had obviously lain for a long time. Their position suggested that the herd had been cornered, as it were, and struck down. Most of the bones were missing, lying at the work of human hands that cut away the tails with the hides, just as modern Indians did when they took bison skins for robes. Yet there was better evidence, for among the bones were a number of chipped dart points, most of them broken, and many of them made by man and could mean nothing less than they were the instruments of death.

This bison was one that was long extinct and was known as Bison Taylori as distinguished from our present day Bison Americanus. A great battle raged over the Polson find for many a scientist refused to believe man in America was as old as the evidence would indicate.

Some years after the discoveries at Polson, road builders near Clovis, uncovered a deposit of four boxes with the same points, Carbon 14 dated this find, at 9,883 years.

Pavement Plato
By HAL BOYLE
NEW YORK (AP)—Curbside reflections of a pavement Plato: Many a white collar worker today believes he has become civilization's biggest sucker, the forgotten man of the 20th Century. His voice is relatively unheard in the land. Few politicians bother to ask his views or explore his plight. The only people who seek him out are bill collectors, and it is his cash, not his charms, that draws them.

Let us get out our crying towel and listen to the woes of a typical member of the paper clip brigade, which runs about as follows: "Every other class in America seems to get something special from the government except the white collar class. Why are we overlooked? When do we get our turn at the public trough?" "They talk about a soil bank for farmers. How about a fund to pay for our soiled white belts?" "Why can't Congress at least vote us some help under the foreign aid program? Certainly no group has been more foreign to government aid than the white collar class."

There is at least an ounce of truth within this pound of bitterness. Farmers have a lobby. Veterans have a lobby. Manufacturers have a lobby. The unions have a lobby. So do the railroads, the utilities, the airlines, the shipping interests. Even postmen, shoeleathers, toy makers and amateur bird watchers have their lobbies. About the only two groups in America who don't have a lobby are white collar workers and widows. They remain largely unorganized and therefore, perhaps, unrepresented. Since they cannot punish a politician, why should he worry about them?

Time has passed the white collar man by. That white collar, once a badge of pretended gentility, has become more of a symbol of faceless nonentity. It no longer pays off at the pay window. It used to be the guys in overalls who stood in line at the loan office seeking to borrow money. Today it's the guys in the dirty-white collars.

The first earnings reports indicate that 1955 set a profit pace which the new year will find hard to beat.

The stock market has been doing considerable second-guessing along this line, as traders assess the prospects of individual corporations to continue their growth rate of earnings in each year (two profit margins in the face of rising operating costs, and to declare dividends that would sweeten present yields.

But whether the future is clouded or fair, the hindsight provided by the earnings statements of business is cheerful indeed.

The annual reports won't start coming in volume till later this month. But some corporations whose fiscal years have ended are reporting on their 12-month profits. Overwhelmingly they show striking gains.

Thirty-four industrial and trade companies have reported so far. Combined, their profits after taxes soar 46 per cent over the previous year. Only three of them showed smaller earnings in 1955 than in 1954, although each year (two companies operated at a loss.

The nation's railroads also made a notable comeback after their lean year in 1954. The Association of American Railroads estimates that the 126 class 1 roads will have a net income after taxes of \$15 million dollars. This would be a 34 per cent gain over the previous year.

The utilities have also profited from the fast industrial pace and the increased use of electrical home appliances. Fifty-seven of them have reported on their affairs in the 12 months ending Nov. 30. Only seven show declines in profits after taxes, and in most cases only slight drops.

Combined, the 56 report net earnings of \$546,254,028, for an 8 per cent gain over the previous 12 months.

In the communications field, American Telephone & Telegraph officials estimate its earnings in 1955 will run around \$13 a share. In 1954 the big phone company, with fewer shares outstanding, earned \$11.42 a share. Its record per share profit was \$15.72 set on still fewer shares in 1953.

Good Reasons
By JAMES MARLOW
WASHINGTON (AP)—President Eisenhower would have some good reasons for staying mum a while if he has decided not to run again.

He has already indicated he reached some decision because he said his mind is not so fixed that he can't change it.

He'd probably anger a lot of Republicans if he said he won't run now instead of waiting till mid-February when the doctors say whether they think he's able to.

They could say: "The party needs him but he made up his mind even before waiting for the doctors to tell him what shape he's in."

Eisenhower could forestall that kind of complaint by waiting until after the medical verdict is in. He may do that, if he's not going to run.

By the same token he could hardly say he will run until the doctors tell him and the country whether they think he's physically able to.

If he has decided not to try again he could, by waiting a while before saying so, get the maximum mileage out of his program.

Right now he is sending the major parts of his program to Congress in special messages.

Last week he sent up his State of the Union message, on Monday his farm program. Tomorrow it will be his education program, on Monday his budget.

But if he said now he won't run again, attention for his programs almost certainly would get lost sight of in the hub-bub over his announcement.

For days the papers would be full of his decision, the dilemma of the Republican party, speculation on likely candidates, and then perhaps announcements by some of the Republicans who would like to fill Eisenhower's shoes.

By mid-February, when Eisenhower gets the doctors' word on his physical condition, all the major parts of his program should be in Congress' hands.

For at least that long—or as long as the Republicans still have some hope he'll head their ticket again—he can depend on their almost undivided support.

If he says he won't be a candidate, some members of his party in Congress may pull away from him. But it's hard to see many of them doing that.

And for a good reason: Eisenhower's program and their support for it will have to be the main talking point of the Republicans in this year's election campaign.

Their chief hope of winning in 1956 is Eisenhower, whether or not he runs, and the claims they can make to supporting him and seeing eye to eye with him on most things.

Quotes
By UNITED PRESS
HOLLYWOOD—Grace Kelly, to reporters questioning her about any change in her career plans because of her forthcoming marriage:

"I had planned to do a play next year but I now have cancelled that plan."

MIAMI—Police Chief Walter Headley during a heated Miami Board of Review meeting discussing a photograph of Marilyn Monroe in a bathing suit:

"I don't see anything obscene about the human breast."

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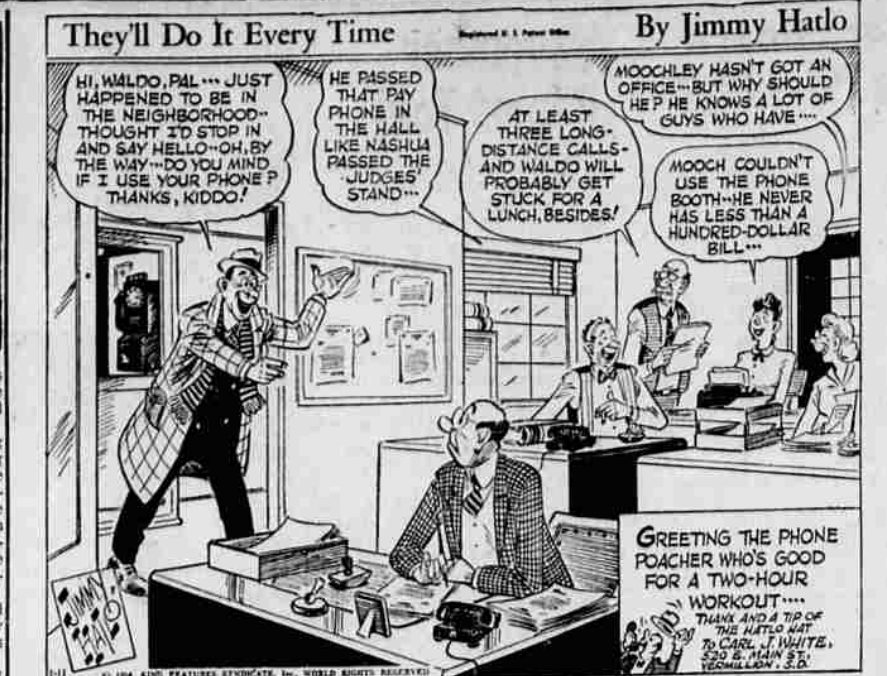
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Farmers' Role In Federal Income Revenue Described

(Editor's Note: What are the new federal income tax rules which affect the farmer, both as to income tax and social security? What are the deadlines? The Oregon Association of Public Accountants' tax information committee has prepared the following discussion, which the Herald and News presents as a service to its readers.)

A farmer is defined as an individual whose gross income is derived at least two-thirds from farming.

A few of the newer problems facing the farmer are here discussed in the light of federal law and regulations, and while this article deals as much with social security as income tax, virtually all farmers will be affected.

As before, individual farmers on a calendar-year basis must file a declaration of estimated tax on or before January 15, 1956, paying thereon at least two-thirds of the tax as finally determined. If desired, the estimate may be made by paying at least the amount of the previous year's tax. By filing the estimate in this manner, the farmer may then file at any time up to April 15, 1956, and pay the balance of tax due at that time. However, if the farmer files his final return by February 15, 1956, he need not file an estimate. Previously, the deadline for final return was January 30 if no estimate had been filed by January 15.

This year for the first time, farmers will pay self-employment tax on their net income from farming at the rate of 3 per cent. Net earnings must be at least \$400. In 1920 or more in the actual net earnings are less than \$600, the farmer may elect to report \$600 as self-employment earnings.

These alternative methods are used only in computing self-employment tax and apply only to farm income. The self-employment tax is computed and paid only once a year along with the income tax. If he has not already done so, the farmer should apply for his individual social security number as it will be needed when he files his federal tax return.

Farm labor now is also covered by social security. During the year 1955 farmers have been required to withhold 2 per cent from their agricultural employees who have been paid year or more in cash during the year, remitting 4 per cent quarterly or when a gross liability of \$100 is reached to the district director of internal revenue on form 943-A.

An annual report must be filed by the farmer who has paid taxable cash wages during 1955 on form 943, to be filed with the district director by January 31, 1956. This annual report should include all subject wages, not previously reported on form 943-A, so that all employees who meet the \$100 a year test will appear on the annual report form 943.

The farmer must also furnish his employees with statements showing total subject wages and P.I.C.A. tax withheld not later than January 31, 1956 (or within one month of the farm worker left before the end of 1955). These statements may be furnished to farm employees on form SS-14, although a form of the farmer's own choosing may be used if it contains the necessary information.

It is interesting to note that although a farmer may pay farm wages to his son, daughter, wife, father or mother for