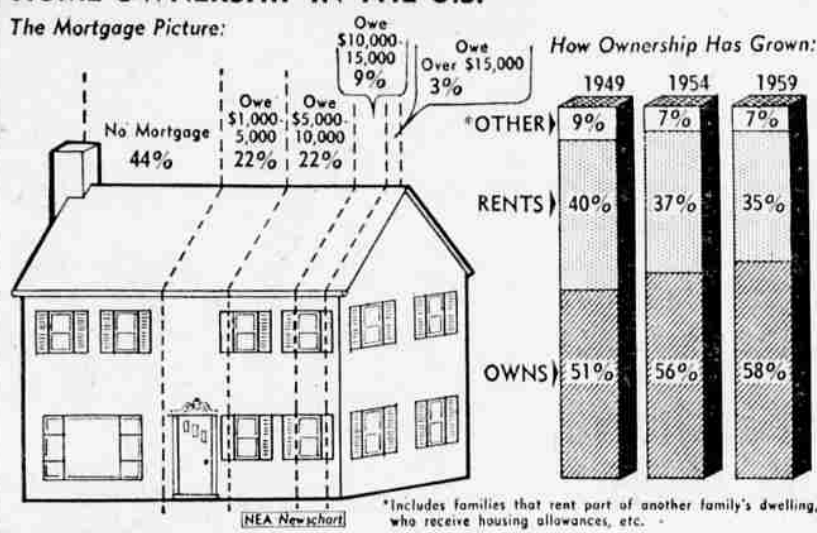


HOME OWNERSHIP IN THE U.S.

The Mortgage Picture:



NATION OF HOMES—The home-building boom that began after World War II, and which is still going strong, is reflected in the figures shown in Newsmap above. Fifty-eight per cent of America's families—not living on farms—own their homes today. Almost half of them have no mortgage debt outstanding. Ten years ago, only 51 per cent of nonfarm families were homeowners. More than half the homes are valued by their owners at between \$5,000 and \$15,000; the average for all homes is \$12,900. Of those homes with mortgages, the average debt is \$6,600. Data from National Industrial Conference Board.

Oregon Dairymen Maintain Production Level To Date

Oregon dairymen have produced just about as much this year as last year at this time, reports Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State College. This is in contrast to national milk production, which is down compared to a year ago.

Oregon's milk output dropped off in October, Mrs. Horrell found as she studied reports from the U.S. department of agriculture. However, higher production earlier this year kept total production in the state equal with last year.

Prices received by Oregon farmers for all milk sold wholesale in October held even with a year ago, Mrs. Horrell also found. However, milk dealers in Portland paid nearly two per cent higher than in October 1958, and at a record high for this time of year.

Costs were up all along the line—for dairy feed mixtures, alfalfa hay, and for wage rates.

With national milk production down a little, the national milk surplus may be cut a little next year, Mrs. Horrell reported. Marketing specialists in the U.S. Department of Agriculture say that national prospects for 1960 point to a closer balance between production of milk and commercial use of milk.

However, these USDA specialists pointed out that supplies of non-fat milk solids may continue to exceed commercial use.

Over the last 40 years, the dairy industry has had many ups and downs, Mrs. Horrell found. In the 1920's, demand for dairy products was quite stable as prices were favorable for milk producers. Then came the depression of the 1930's and low incomes kept demand and prices for milk quite low.

In the 1940's, the war created a shortage of dairy products and prices soon rose to ceiling levels. A big rise in milk production took place in the mid-1950's, and production soon ran ahead of commercial use of milk. The USDA found it necessary to buy dairy products throughout this period to maintain prices of dairy products at support levels.

Last year, however, the balance between production and commercial use of milk at support prices improved, Mrs. Horrell indicated, as milk output turned down after its five-year climb to record highs.

Arab Brides Kidnaped To Beat High Cost Of Loving

BEERSHEBA, Israel (UPI)—Any Arab who cannot afford the current market price for the young lady of his heart's desire escapes from bachelorhood these days simply by kidnaping her.

Paying for a bride is custom in this part of the world that goes back to the Biblical days of Jacob, who worked in Laban's fields for 14 years so he could marry Rachel.

In recent years, however, due largely to a rise in the standard of living that has increased the price of a bride, there has been a wave of kidnaping of girls of marriageable age among the Arabs who live in this part of Israel.

Another reason for this development probably is the declining influence of fathers. Education and the proximity of a new world have fostered a rebelliousness among Arab girls unheard of by their parents.

The kidnapings—the couples prefer to call them elopements—sometimes are carried out in the best traditions of western movies.

One recent incident involved 18-year-old Fatima, step-daughter of Ahmed Faraj Abu Bari, a storekeeper of the celebrated el-Huzail tribe in the Negev Desert.

Fatima was seized by five men as she walked to a well near her encampment to bring back water. One of the five men was Said Iftish, who said he was in love with Fatima but could not afford to buy her.

With male members of the encampment in future pursuit, Fatima was whisked off in a small truck. Her step-father obtained a court order for her return and the involved parties appeared before a Beersheba magistrate.

Said and Fatima produced evidence they had been married. The magistrate ruled the court order had been issued without full knowledge of the facts and decided not to force Fatima to return to her parents.

The present market price for brides among Israeli Moslems is approximately 2,000 pounds (the equivalent of \$1,000 in U.S. money). This represents an increase over the last four years of about 700 pounds (\$350), attributable by official sources to the jump in the standard of living among Arabs brought on by improved economic conditions.

To save money, some marriages are arranged by barter. This doesn't always work.

Hasana Bint Kassem el-Hamir was married recently to Andawi Hamed, a member of a neighboring Galilean Bedouin tribe. In exchange, Andawi gave his sister in marriage to Hasana's brother.

Andawi's sister had no children during the first two years of her marriage to Hasan's brother so he divorced her in the Moslem fashion by saying to her three times "You are divorced."

Hasana's father then ordered his daughter back home in order to cancel the whole deal. Andawi offered to pay his father-in-law 2,000 pounds, but the father began negotiations with another Bedouin to marry Hasana for a better price.

In the meantime, Hasana has given birth to a son.

Tiberias district police are attempting to settle the matter before there is bloodshed between the two tribes.

Blind Man Rakes Clams

WARWICK, R. I. (UPI)—Stuart L. Rice, 38, bull-rakes for quahaugs like so many other Rhode Island men. But, unlike them, Rice is blind—able only to distinguish the difference between day and night.

Yet he ventures out into Warwick Cove two or three times a week and manages to rake up enough of the hard clams to supply his family and pay for the upkeep of his boat.

Rice guides himself to his boat with a long aluminum cane, hauls in the 15-foot skiff which is strung from a rope on pulleys to a stake, then climbs aboard.

He says he can hear echoes from moored boats as he passes them slowly. Other guides are the songs of birds, the barking of his dog onshore and outboards passing down the channel. When he gets to a likely spot, Rice dips in his rake, lifts it, shakes out the mud and feels with his fingers. Each quahaug is slipped through a metal ring gauge tied to the side of the skiff to measure it for legal size.

Says Rice: "I think the blindness is an advantage in quahauging. I can concentrate on the rake and not be distracted by passing boats."

Greenhouse Plans Made

Oregon home gardeners will find tips on constructing and heating small greenhouses in a new bulletin available from county extension offices.

Materials are suggested for either permanent or temporary greenhouses. Diagrams and detailed building information are included in the bulletin, which was prepared by M. G. Huber, OSC extension agricultural engineering specialist, and Stanley E. Wadsworth, OSC professor of floriculture.

Persons interested in the bulletin may request "Small Greenhouses for Amateur Gardeners" from their county extension office, or from the OSC bulletin clerk, Corvallis. The bulletin is published jointly by the extension services of OSC, Washington State University, and University of Idaho.

Hula Hoop Throws Loop

ANADARKO, Okla. (UPI)—A young Indian dancer who performs amazing tricks with hoops scarcely larger than his waist had to make an embarrassing confession—he can't "hula hoop."

The boy, Harvey Keyonnie, can easily do such things as double his body, leap into the air and then pull a 26-inch hoop over himself in flight. He can even jump rope with a tiny hoop. But he can't make one twirl around his waist.

The young dancer-acrobat from Steamboat Canyon, Arizona, performs during the summer at Indian City, U.S.A., a tourist attraction near here.

FIRST AID

NEW YORK (UPI)—Checked your medicine chest lately? If you're missing any of six basic items, you're not adequately prepared to treat the 14 minor injuries statistics show are most prevalent in the average home. The basics: antiseptic, cotton balls, cotton swabs, sterile gauze pads, gauze bandages and adhesive tape.

MIXED BLESSING

CHICAGO (UPI)—A wife should remember that the first few days after her husband has been promoted may be the most critical of his career, says Lon D. Barton, president of a personnel firm. "Unless his seniority is clearly established and his duties well-defined," he said, "he will immediately become the 'bull's eye' for every rival who wanted the promotion."

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