

Oregon Tax Reappraisal Program 75% Complete, State Agency Says

SALEM (AP) — The gigantic task of reappraising Oregon's property is 75 per cent complete, the state Tax Commission said Friday.

But the commission added that it already has fears that the \$10 million being spent on it might go down the drain because of failure to keep the new appraisals up to date.

The commission said its lawyers are working on legislation to keep the appraisals current.

The purpose of the program, authorized by the 1951 legislature, is only to equalize the property tax burden by assessing property in proportion to market values. It doesn't affect the total amount of taxes collected.

The cost is split 50-50 between the state and counties. The Tax Commission provides the technical help, with 60 men assigned to the job.

Multnomah County is not included in the program. Clackamas and Josephine counties now are negotiating contracts to have reappraisals. Wheeler, Jefferson and Yamhill counties remain the only counties which haven't said they want to be reappraised.

The commission said that in some of the 21 counties that have been completed, nothing has been done to comply with the law that the counties must keep the appraisals up to date.

This causes the commission to fear that if something isn't done, appraisals will become as unfair as they were when the program started. This would mean that some taxpayers would pay too much, and others wouldn't pay enough.

Charles H. Mack, chairman of the commission, said the reappraisals have disclosed some glaring inequities. For instance, timber valuation in Columbia County was only 1-10 what it should be.

In Jackson County, trees in orchards weren't taxed like they were in other counties. Wheat land in one county was assessed the same as cheaper grazing land. In many cases, property wasn't even on the tax rolls.

The commission has made maps and aerial surveys in the reappraised counties. They show every piece of property and ownership. The counties say these maps are valuable for other purposes, too, such as road planning.

Mack says the reappraisal program encourages new industry because "good property tax administration and consistency are appreciated by industry."

Before the present program was started, there were counties which hadn't appraised property for 60 years.

Mack said he wants the counties to maintain their own appraisal systems, but "the question is what to do if they don't accept that responsibility."

Mack said Oregon has gone further than any state in its reappraisals, and has earned a good nationwide reputation for it.



AMONG GIFTS for residents of the Klamath Nursing Home, opened during the Herald and News Christmas party in their honor Thursday, were these added to the pool by Roosevelt School fourth grade Blue Bird girls. They are, from left, Barbara Kent, Teresa Zerowski and Laura Olson; center, from left, Susan McGinty, Susan Tayson and Marilee Taylor, and back, from left, Laura Huston and Kathy Moon. Susan Govedare and Kathy Richard were not pictured.

Children Wondered If Santa Could Find Them

VALLUNGA DI FORESTO SPARSO, Italy (UPI) — Twenty six children who lived in this doomed village asked Saturday whether Santa Claus knows where to look for them.

The 47 inhabitants of this little Alpine hamlet abandoned their homes Friday under orders.

The fate of this 10-family village has been hopeless since autumn when the entire slope where Vallunga was built cracked and began moving downwards.

The inhabitants left their village in a drizzling rain and were sheltered in nearby farms and in the recreation area of a parish building.

Some of the children asked what will Santa Claus do when he finds the empty houses in the deserted hamlet? Will he know where to look for them? Grownups were too busied to answer.

The Santa Claus who visited Vallunga in the past few years was a poor, provincial version of the Santa Claus in pink-lined scarlet robes.

The toys he left in the little socks and stockings that hung by fireplaces were cheap and few.

The children of the village were told to behave properly this month. They looked up in their

Church Women Hear Report

MALIN—The Women's Association of Malin Presbyterian Church met at the home of Mildred Loveness with 26 women present for the Christmas party. The spacious home was decorated with Christmas colors.

Elva Smalley, chairman, presided at the meeting. Several subjects were discussed for the coming year. Members of different groups were asked to be president for a meeting Dec. 28, 1 p.m. at the church to plan programs for the coming year.

The report on the bazaar was given by Gladys Rajnus. Marie Bunnell reported aprons were for sale.

Program chairman for the day was Florence Wilson, whose theme was "Candles of the Lord." Muriel Brown read a verse in Matthew 5. A reading was given by Florence Wilson, one which she had composed. Mrs. Lucile Gray at the organ accompanied Mabel Cunningham, who sang "No Candle Was There and No Fire." In closing the program the group was asked to sing Christmas carols.

Earl F. Wilson Serves On Ship

Earl F. Wilson, radioman seaman, USN, son of Mrs. Earl Wilson of Malin, is serving aboard the dock landing ship USS Cabildo operating out of Long Beach.

MERRY CHRISTMAS

to all of you whom we have served this year! Our sincere thanks for your loyalty and patronage.

Ralph and Ruby Ross

GREETINGS

We wish for our friends at Christmas the lasting gifts of good health, happiness and good fortune.

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Agencies Find Christmas Plan Very Successful

A pilot plan for permitting parents in families where Christmas cheer is needed to buy their gifts and new clothing for gifts was tried successfully this year by interested agencies.

Under the plan, originating with the Klamath County Welfare office, the Salvation Army and Inter-agency Council, a store was established where shoppers could buy needed items on the point system, according to needs.

The system would eliminate disappointments and would give parents opportunity to wrap their own gifts.

Response was gratifying, officials of the sponsoring groups report, and it is hoped that next year work on the project will start earlier.

The store was open for a few hours during the afternoon, the week before Christmas.

Carole Tregoff Has Stage Debut In Jail Cellblock

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — No actress ever made a more inauspicious stage debut than Carole Tregoff.

The scene was set in a pale green cellblock dining room on the 13th floor of the Hall of Justice, just down a corridor from the cell where she will spend Christmas—and her 24th birthday — in custody on charges of murder in the first degree.

The double feature performance for woman prisoners—"The First Christmas," in which Carole was cast in the role of an angel, and the "Ice House," described as a "prisoner's beatnik comedy"—was closed to the press.

A nine piece band — compliments of the Musicians Union — got things started with a medley of "When the Saints Go Marchin' In," "White Christmas" and a mamba — in that order. Then the musicians left to play for Dr. R. Bernard Finch and other male prisoners one floor below. Finch, a once-wealthy hospital owner, and Miss Tregoff face their third murder trial Jan. 3, charged with the July 18, 1959, gunshot slaying of the surgeon's wife.

Two previous trials ended in hung juries.

Donald Bringgold, Carole's attorney, told United Press International Sunday that she was cast in the role of an angel in the nativity play and would sing with a choral group.

Jail officials, however, were tightlipped about her performance.

"How did she look as an angel?" was asked of each deputy who came out of the room. Only one would comment.

"An angel. Great day in the morning."

"I saw her just before the band came in and she told me 'If there's any photographers in there I won't come out of my cell.'"

Christmas Day she will get up at 5:30 a.m. to serve the first meal of the day to 237 other women in the cellblock. Before her recent promotion to "No. 1 server," she was a dishwasher.

She will be able to have visitors from 10 a.m. until noon. She probably will talk with her mother and stepfather in the attorney room.

And then back to her cell to open a Christmas stocking given to all inmates. Inside will be the same presents she got in the same cell last year.

An orange, three cookies, and gift wrapped bar of soap.

4-H NEWS

MODOC TOILERS

Vice President Lyle Peckham called the meeting of the Modoc Toilers on Dec. 13.

The flag salute and 4-H pledge were led by Judy Schaffner.

Peggy Bolesta, Lyle Peckham, Shirley Zeiders and two leaders were appointed to plan next year's calendar.

Rick Heiney announced that the Rimrock Riders would have a meeting Dec. 28 at Tulelake School.

The next meeting of the Modoc Toilers will be Jan. 17 at 6:30 p.m. at the multipurpose room. The Horse Club will provide a demonstration.

A motion was made to adjourn by Peggy Bolesta. Refreshments were served and Christmas carols sung.

Kim Workman, News Reporter

Furrier Gives Cash To Boys

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A successful furrier carried on his own Christmas tradition here Friday by distributing \$10 bills to 110 newboys.

Joe H. Dupler, owner of stores here and in Denver, recalled that he sold newspapers on the streets of Denver in 1906. He started his method of observing Christmas when he came to Salt Lake City 20 years ago.

The newboys also received fruit cake and candy at Dupler's Christmas party.

OLENE DAIRY CLUB

The second meeting of the Olene Dairy Club was held at the home of Albert, Robert and Kenneth Grant. The program of work was presented by Steve Reiling and was discussed and approved by the club members.

Albert Grant gave a report on hoof diseases; Robert Grant a report on mastitis, and Kenneth Grant a report on black leg.

Our next meeting will be held at the home of David and Donald Born.

After the meeting refreshments were served by Mrs. Grant.

Eric Wakkuri, News Reporter

CONSIDERS THOUGHT

NEWPORT, Ky. (UPI)—Leroy B. Fredericks, chief of detectives here, considered the thought behind the Christmas card he received from four inmates of La Grange Reformatory, whom he helped convict on charges of breaking and entering. The card read:

"Merry Christmas. Having a wonderful time. Wish you were here."

MERRY CHRISTMAS

With genuine appreciation of our pleasant relations, we extend to all our friends the Season's Greetings. We wish you all the holiday joys with an abundance of good health.

from the Volkswagen Crew at Maury's Foreign Cars

Dorothy Jones
Innis Roberts
Howard Henniger
Dale Faries
Chris Driessen
Ken Shanks
Maury Clark

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Our Christmas wish for every one we know is for a wonderful holiday season, just filled to overflowing with all the traditional joys, warm good cheer and good fellowship.

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NAME TROUBLE

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (UPI)—Mack Tankersley admitted to Judge Ben Hardeman Wednesday that he forged the name of Lester Holley to a \$15 check.

"I think I would have picked a better name than that," the judge said and bound Tankersley over to the grand jury.

Lester Holley is president of the Alabama Sheriff's Association.

Lakeview Men Serving Time

Two Lakeview men were booked at the Klamath County Jail Friday morning to begin serving a petit larceny sentence.

Alfred Casey Officer, 20, and Donald Ray Coffman, 18, were sentenced to pay fines of \$134.50 and spend 45 days in jail last week by Justice of the Peace O. C. Gibbs. The two men were convicted of stealing a generator from a car in Lakeview.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

There's a warm spot in our hearts for all the wonderful people we have been privileged to serve throughout the year. Along with our thanks we send your our heartfelt Christmas wishes.

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"MERRY CHRISTMAS"

We hope the Holiday Season brings joy and laughter to the young ones, warmth and cheer to the grown-ups, and best of all, that the memory of its joy and happiness stays with you throughout the coming year.

Greetings from Dick Barlow (left) and Wayne Plaisted, managers.

(left to right) Roberta Anderson, Bill Mulder, Clark Colbert, Ronald Harper, Glen LaMeres and Johnny Keiffer.

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