

Vernonia Eagle

Entered at Vernonia, Oregon,
Postoffice as Second-Class Matter.

VERNONIA, OREGON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 1927.

Volume 5, Number 22.

FARM PRICES REMAIN LOW

General Wages 231 Per
Cent of Pre-war.

RESERVE CREDIT SMALL

Fair Business Conditions
In Columbia County
In Past Year

The general agricultural situation in the United States is still short of widespread satisfaction and stability. With total crop production running this year 2.4 per cent above the five-year per capita average, and with quality generally below average, prices have not been too good for some important cash crops. Although cotton exports and domestic cotton consumption is greater than last year and the general demand situation is reasonably strong, with stocks of cotton goods low, the great crop produced this year is having a far-reaching effect not only in the cotton states but throughout the country and the climatic will probably not be reached until next year.

The production of cotton is now estimated to reach 18.6 million bales this year. Good prices for cotton during the past few years is generally given credit for stimulating production which has grown with each succeeding year beginning with 1921 when about eight million bales were produced, to 9.8, 10.1, 13.6, 16.1 and now 18.6 millions, or more than twice as much as five years ago.

Cheap cotton has its reactions in other fields. Cheap cotton seed means lower prices for concentrated feeds and cheap lard. It may have a meaning for wool growers to the degree that cotton and wool prices move in relationship which, together with the evidence of steady expansion in breeding flocks throughout the west may well have some attention from sheep raisers who are disposed to look ahead. Should much of the cotton acreage be devoted to other crops this year as it is said may be the case, other classes of agricultural producers may feel the effects.

The general business situation continues without remarkable developments either way. The index of general wages remained at 231 per cent of pre-war in October; farm wages were 176 per cent of pre-war; the retail price of food index advanced two points to 165. The general price level, however, has been falling and everybody has been buying on a hand-to-mouth basis. There has been almost no speculative bidding for either commodities or labor. While many authorities foresee possible recession this year, pointing to the building and automobile trades and the cotton industry particularly, there is nothing on the business horizon that appears to suggest sudden change or which appears to have any significant meaning as related to the plans of the farmers.

Although trade and industry are on a high level and there is a large volume of bank loans, the volume of federal reserve credit outstanding remains moderate, banks being able to meet most demands from their own resources.

Situation in Oregon.
Although there has not been much liquidation of farm mortgages, Oregon farmers have been generally catching up on current indebtedness during the past two seasons. The tree-fruit growers, however, have not fared as well as some other commodity producers and this past season has not added anything to their satisfaction on the whole owing to low prices coupled with "spray residue" troubles and the like.

About the usual acreage of fall wheat has been sown, with conditions generally favorable except lack of moisture at seeding time. Fall conditions for seeding and for pastures have been favorable on the west side of the Cascades. Interest in expanding the dairy, poultry, hog and sheep enterprises continues to feature reports of farmers' intentions. Interest is also

RISKS LIFE TO MAKE THRILLING GUN-FIRE SCENES IN DRAMA

The portrayal of "The Unknown Soldier," as personified by Charles Emmett Mack in the great Renaud Hoffman screen drama of the World War, was a dangerously realistic experience.

The bombardment during which the spectacular war scenes were photographed were so real that Director Hoffman tore his hair in frenzy for five minutes he was assured his star had emerged unscathed.

This was one of the climatic moments in the filming of the great war classic, which comes to the Majestic theatre next Tuesday.

"No one will ever know what torture I suffered for a few minutes when Charlie went over the top," Hoffman said afterwards in telling of the scene.

"Dynamite was exploded all around him, the smoke screen obscured him a big share of the time, and he actually lay in that shell hole like a dead man.

"I yelled at him for five minutes to tell me if he was all right and I couldn't get a peep of him. That's when I began worrying. Finally he crawled out slowly, and I had a fear he had been hurt. But when he showed that grin of his, I knew he was all right. What a relief it was!"

Mack, in describing the "great shot" afterwards, confessed that he was actually frightened stiff, just as he was told to be. "I didn't have to act that one," he said.

This great scene is said to be one of the most effective that has ever been screened. Margaret De La Motte is leading woman and Henry B. Wathall and Ethel Wales are leading members of the supporting cast.

It will be a joy to the war mothers and war brides who see "The Unknown Soldier" as smiling through their tears they glory in the greatness and the beauty of the theme and motif of this splendid story.

There could be no greater tribute to "The Unknown Soldier" of America than this graphic and compelling screen version of his greatness. Only a director with the artist's touch could handle so delicate a theme, and Renaud Hoffman, who directed the production has done excellent work.

"The Unknown Soldier" is a masterpiece of realism embellished by a touch of the spiritual which reaches a compelling climax with the triumph of love over death.

This show is being sponsored by the Vernonia post of the American Legion. Profits will go into the Legion's building fund. Tickets are being sold this week for the show.

New Farm Account Books.

A new supply of farm account books will soon be in the county agents office for supplying to the farmers who wish to keep account of their farm business.

This farm account book is one that has been worked out by the extension department of the Oregon Agricultural College and is a simple and practical method of keeping farm accounts. It is a system of farm accounting that can be kept up with the least amount of work and yet will give the information desired.

The book provides for keeping account of the cash income of the farm and a place for recording the cash expenditures. There is also space for keeping an inventory of the farm, stock and machinery. There are tables giving the capacity of silos for farm animals.

keener in beef cattle. There is talk of increasing the mint acreage, and there is interest in the Willamette valley in more flax and perhaps sugar beets. Small fruit and nut growers are generally optimistic.

Columbia County Situation.

Weather conditions favorable for fall crops. Fall ranges and pasture good; sufficient feeds for winter. Business conditions fair. Livestock in good condition. Apple crop moved slowly at prices around 75c and \$1.00 per box. Mint produced from 40 to 60 pounds per acre; most growers holding for better prices. Sheep in very good condition. Prices holding steadily. More hogs are being raised and more brood sows held over. Prices of dairy products good. The poultry business has been favorable this fall and more farmers are going into it; prices fair; feed rather high.

W. C. T. U. INSTITUTE TO CONVENE TUESDAY

The woman's christian temperance union of Columbia City have arranged for an all day institute Tuesday, January 11 beginning at 10 a. m.

The subject of the institute is the study of legislative plans as they affect the work of the W. C. T. U. The program will be educational and every one is most cordially invited to attend and help by your presence with making this a worthwhile undertaking. A 50c dinner will be served at noon in the same building where the institute is held. Leave the highway at the overhead bridge and take the first turn to the right.

THE PROGRAM

10 a. m. Song service and devotionals led by Mrs. Grace Edwards.

Legislative department of state and nation. (a) How constituted, (b) duties, (c) elections, (d) sessions.

Child welfare legislation, Dr. Edwin Ross.

Music.

Venerial disease division of W. S. Public Health Service, Dr. A. Holmes Johnson.

How laws are enacted. (a) introducing, (b) committee assignments, (c) passage of bills. Join L. Foote.

Adequate control of motion pictures. Rev. W. A. Mulder.

Noontide prayer. Mrs. Burcham Leader.

DINNER 12 to 1:30

1:30 p. m. Devotional led by Mrs. Geo. Wilson.

An improved industrial plan for Federal Prisoners, Rev. Geo. G. Edwards.

Curtis Reed Bill now pending, Mrs. J. R. Kinder.

Proposed legislation for 1927, session of Oregon legislature, J. Henry Olsen.

County presidents plan of work, for county unions, Mrs. Geo. Wilson.

Shoemakers song, Jeanette Mercer, Ellen Wooley, Gwendolyn Coe.

Home economics bureau, Mrs. Zona Storia.

Needed legislation for protection of youth from narcotic drugs, Rev. S. Darlow Johnson.

National prohibition measures pending, Mrs. Maud Mills.

City ordinances as affecting the work of the W. C. T. U., Mayor, P. W. McClay.

Adequate appropriations for childrens bureau, Mrs. Ulrich.

Womans bureau, Mrs. Maud Cripples.

Oregon Dairy Experts Will Instruct At O.A.C.

Neutralization of cream, sweet cream churning, cottage cheese making and cream grading are the four lines of dairy manufacturing that will be handled by four Oregon creamery experts in the annual dairy short course January 10 to February 5. The course is in charge of V. D. Chappell of the college dairy department.

Cream pasteurization and neutralization will be handled by R. C. Covett of the Ideal Dairy company, Portland, the first week. He will explain the methods forenoon and give demonstrations and supervise work afterwards in the dairy laboratory.

Sweet-cream churning will be taught and demonstrated by Chris Johnson, field inspector for the North Pacific Cooperative creamery. He sees the principles on which he bases his work in his journeys about some of the big dairies and creameries of the state.

Cottage cheese making will be in charge of Frank Moser of the Klamath Falls creamery for both the second and third weeks. How milk is handled and converted into cheese will be considered from both theory and practice points of view.

Cream grading, of interest to dairymen and creamerymen alike, will have away the fourth week with H. C. Raven of the Raven dairy, Portland, in charge. Many representatives of Oregon dairy interests are expected to be on hand to take advantage of this and other leading courses.

The L. O. V. class gave its vacation party last Thursday evening. Everybody was out to have a good time and so the party was a huge success. The social hall was decorated prettily and effectively.

RUSSELL MILLS EDITOR HIGH SCHOOL ANNUAL

School started again Monday after the vacation with renewed vigor, partly because of the imminence of approaching mid-year examinations. Glen Hawkins was elected boys athletic manager to succeed Harold Olsen, who has moved to Philomath. Elections for the annual staff were as follows:

Editor-in-chief, Russell Mills; associate editor, Veldon Parker; advertising manager, Clarence Wardle; girls athletic editor, Helen Heiber; business manager, Kenneth Whitsell; associate business manager, Marshall Malmsten; associate advertising manager, Anna Rea Webster; boys athletic editor, Glen Hawkins; literary editor, Annie Laurie Laird; feature editor, Ruth Holaday; sales manager, Dudley Spencer; associate literary editor, Gladys Krinick; society editor, Amy Hughes; artist, Eva Roles.

Freshmen.

The freshmen all had a merry Christmas and a happy new year. The freshman class is reviewing the "Lay of the Last Minstrel."

Norma Anderson and Mildred Tousley were absent from school Monday and Tuesday.

Juniors.

Miss Goodin has been absent from school Monday and Tuesday because of illness. Miss Hickman substituted for her as girls basketball coach Monday.

The junior class has returned to school after the Christmas holidays, and are preparing with vim and vigor to get ready for the most welcome (?) examinations.

The following juniors are on the annual staff: Clarence Wardle, Eva Roles and Helen Heiber.

The junior class is preparing material for a class play or vaudeville. The money from this will be used for the junior prom.

Mr. Graham, the junior class advisor, was absent from school Monday.

Civics Class.

Mr. Wilkerson had his class prepare an individual booklet on "What Each Student Should Know About Community Civics." He reports very good booklets already.

Seniors.

Anna Rea Webster is back in the senior class.

Shella Williams spent the Christmas holidays skiing on Mount Hood.

One of the seniors is the proud possessor of a new nick-name, "Dumb."

The Christmas program sponsored by the senior class was reported to have been a very good entertainment which everyone enjoyed.

A student body meeting was called Monday afternoon to elect the officers for the annual staff. Fourteen members were elected; 10 were seniors.

The senior class has at last unearthed its great mystery—Ken Whitsell's marcel is obtained by rolling his hair every night on "kid-curlers." This is where he gets his kiddish ways.

The president of the senior class, Honorable D. H. Spencer, is also somewhat of a mystery. What does the initial H. stand for? Is it Hank?

The seniors are forming their opinions on Thackeray and Henry Desmond in their English class. It seems that Thackeray and Desmond grow up like a mushroom.

Amy Hughes has been unable to attend school this week.

Louise Schindlin graduated from high school last week and is now attending normal at Monmouth.

The janitor certainly knows his oils. The seniors have been skidding around like eels. They are contemplating ordering some skid chains.

If anyone of the seniors desires a nick-name, see Mr. Glen Hawkins, Esquire.

The American history class has completed its work for the first semester and is now writing papers on different topics assigned by Miss Hickman.

The French class has begun a review of all the work which has been covered in the first semester.

The seniors are now establishing a very good record in geometry II. One of the seniors has been absent for several days and has gained weight considerably. She proved this fact when she sat down on one of the chairs and it collapsed shaking the whole building.

DRY LAW VIOLATORS MAY NOT LOOK TO GRANGE FOR SUPPORT

Vernonia grange held a very interesting meeting recently when the 1927 officers were elected. They will be installed Saturday. The following resolution was unanimously adopted.

Whereas it is being claimed that prohibition can not be enforced, and strong efforts are being made to destroy the confidence of the people in the value of the prohibition law, and whereas,

Every friend and believer in prohibition should stand four-square to the world as upholding the 18th amendment and its enforcement, and whereas,

The grange has always stood firmly on this question and committed the membership to temperance personally and as an organization,

Therefore, Vernonia grange is opposed to knowingly supporting anyone to represent the grange in any capacity who does not live up to this grange principle.

GRANGE REPORTER

Postmasters Told To Keep Revolvers Oiled

In a recent issue of the Postal Bulletin, just received by Postmaster Messing, a communication signed by Fourth Assistant Postmaster General E. J. J. states that:

"A faulty revolver in an emergency is worse than none. During the past few months complaints have been received that revolvers failed to function. Upon investigation, it is found almost invariably that the faulty action of the revolver is due to the failure to remove the cosmoline with which working parts of the revolvers are coated to prevent rust during storage or shipment. To avoid any possibility of failure of revolvers to function, the following instructions are issued:

"Revolvers must be kept clean and well oiled at all times.

"All of the cosmoline must be removed from the working parts of the revolvers. They should be tested at least once each month by firing a few rounds of ammunition."

If Postmaster Messing is observed doing a little target practice with a revolver it should be understood that he has no enemies with which to settle old scores, but that he is preparing himself for possible emergencies to protect the government property over which he has supervision.

JUBILEE QUARTET TOMORROW NIGHT

The Dixie Jubilee quartet will be the feature entertainment of the evening tomorrow night, at the Majestic theatre, given under the auspices of the Vernonia grade schools.

If you like the old-time negro way to the accompaniment of the banjo, hear The Dixie Jubilee Quartet, a versatile group of singers and instrumentalists. In their ensemble work they get that harmonious blend of voices that always makes a male quartet so popular. Careful study of what the public wants from company of colored jubilee singers has resulted in their featuring the old-time favorites with quite a sprinkle of the more humorous numbers. If you can't laugh you better not listen to these four grouchy removals.

For special features the personnel includes a cartoonist. His quick wit and rapid work with the crayons always provoked considerable merriment. A group of selections by a brilliant pianist, violin and saxophone solos, banjo and ukulele solos and duets, and some novelty features all add variety. The company boasts one exceptionally fine banjo player who has made that instrument his hobby and can make it do everything but talk. Don't let your neighbor tell you how good the jubilee concert was. Be there and enjoy it for yourself.

MUSIC FIRST CHOICE OF RADIO LISTENERS

Musical entertainment is the first choice of the Oregon radio audience when it begins to turn the dials of its collective receivers preparatory to a pleasant evening at home. Informational lectures follow close in popularity, with readings and plays pulling up a poor third. These preferences were expressed by set owners in a survey made by the extension service of the Oregon Agricultural college to indicate material to go into program.

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NEW COUNCIL IS SWORN IN

Mayor Mills, Emmott and
Mellinger Re-elected.

NO APPOINTMENTS YET

Hoffman and Tapp Take
Seats as Newly Elected
Councilmen.

C. S. Hoffmann and Edward Tapp were sworn in as the newly elected councilmen, with Mayor Guy R. Mills, G. C. Mellinger and Ray Emmott, who were re-elected. In contrast to the spirited election held in November, few were present to witness the simple ceremony of installing in office the five who will be responsible for the conduct of the city's business for the next two years.

The old council finished up all the old business, which included the usual grist of monthly bills, all but one of which were approved. Vacation of property in Baker's addition of the city of Vernonia by the city was asked by the Delta Land & Timber company. Attorney Sheeley advised against granting the petition on the ground that it was part of the school district, and that the city had no authority in doing it without permission from the school board. The two attorneys were told to straighten the matter out to the satisfaction of Mr. Sheeley and bring it up before the next council meeting.

After completing the business, the council was adjourned. City Recorder Reasoner then administered the oath of office to the five elected for the next two years, and Mayor Mills called the new council to order. Recorder Reasoner called the roll and all answered to their names. A request for free water to the Waffle House because of the claim that public toilets for men and women were maintained and kept clean, and particularly used by patrons of the stage line. The request was refused.

No small amount of good natured joking and bantering occurred at the meeting. J. W. Gooding, just retired, voiced his usual bi-monthly complaint for the last time that his "salary" had not yet been paid. As a last resort he tried to talk the newly elected councilmen into giving a supper for the group, but this last request of the former city father was ignominiously ignored. The mayor asked the new councilmen if they had any speeches to deliver but they were unprepared for such an auspicious beginning in their new offices.

The matter of appointing the city recorder, city attorney and marshal was postponed until the next meeting. Meanwhile the council will meet unofficially together and talk this matter over to the satisfaction of all, it was stated. It is expected that D. B. Reasoner, Lester Sheeley and W. J. Kelly will be appointed.

MAGICIAN PERFORMS FOR LOCAL WOODMEN

More than 200 persons attended the free show given by Vernonia camp of the Woodmen of the World Monday night, in the grange hall at which Capt. T. Jones, Jr. kept the crowd excited and laughing for about one and one-half hours.

A good number of new members were written, according to C. O. Samian and J. A. Pate, district managers here to organize for the Woodmen. It is expected that a class of about 50 will be initiated here January 17, at which time another magician, Professor B. B. Waring, will perform. It has been requested that only men attend this next time, because of the limited capacity of the hall.

Captain Jones promised to come back to Vernonia for a public appearance at the close of his present campaign for the Woodmen.