

Sherman County Journal

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No. 34

EXPERIMENT FARM DEVELOPING GRASSES

Forage Crops May Become Valuable
For Light Lands

KILLIFER INCREASES YIELD

Difference Between Plowing and Discing
Slight

Though many sigh for the good old days, there is one phase of that era that does not appeal to the wheat farmer of Sherman county. That was when farmer's allowed the weeds to grow in the spring and then plowed late to kill them so there would be no working, summerfallow; when harvesting was late and when yields were smaller, even on the comparatively virgin soil of the county.

Such farming practices would not be tolerated any place in the county now and our comparatively modern methods are constantly undergoing change because of new developments in the farming game. One of the places where new ideas, new methods and new wheats have been developed is at the Moro Experiment station.

Now that the wheat land of the county is producing a much lowered income D. E. Stephens, of the station, is working doubly hard to find a suitable forage grass that can be used to resow the poorer lands of the county with a profitable crop to take the place of the native grasses that have been killed or are not sufficiently productive.

The best of these, and the one Mr. Stephens has experimented with for several years is crested wheat. The seed for this grass is in great demand and some of it is produced on the station at Moro. Other grasses that he is experimenting with are the native bunch grass, a poor seeder and hard to keep if heavily stocked, Kohler grass, a native grass that is becoming thicker in several parts of the county, and a needle grass that stands the drought well and produces much foliage.

An experiment that is entirely new to the followers of plant study is one that deals with the crowning habits of different wheats. While such experiments are too young to draw positive conclusions about them it is possible that wheats that crown deep in the ground are less apt to winter kill than wheats that send out their root systems from near the surface. In any event these shallow crowning wheat plants suffer when moisture goes down in the ground before the root grows. Mr. Stephens and R. B. Webb, assistant at the station, are working on this experiment.

On the station this year several plots of peas that are doing very well, better in fact than much of the winter wheat and it is expected that more pounds of field peas will be harvested than nearby wheat.

An experiment has been followed for several years that is planned to show the difference between yields from ground that is plowed in the spring and ground that is plowed in the fall. It is entirely possible that if wheat land was deep tilled every three or four years and discing for every crop instead of plowed it would raise as much wheat as it does under the present system.

Due to the unsatisfactory season much of the early plowed land this year has a poorer crop than the later worked soil. This because of a well known reason: the later worked land has a lighter stand. While this is contrary to the average condition it shows that nothing can be definitely determined from the experience of one year and that a long series of years wherein accurate records are kept, is necessary before conclusions can be drawn.

Wheat Hauled By Truck

Some farmers are making plans to cut the cost of transporting their grain to market and have contracted with hauling companies to take their wheat crop to Biggs for seven and one half cents per hundred pounds.

Farmers will supply a team and wagon to haul the wheat to the pile but the trucker will furnish a man to pick it up and help load the truck in the field.

WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 1

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
June 25	75	55	.00
" 26	75	55	.03
" 27	75	55	.25
" 28	75	55	.00
" 29	75	55	.00
" 30	75	55	.00
July 1	75	55	.00
Total for week			0.28

Russian Conditions Talked Of By Observers

Two young men with strange knowledge in their heads and the gift of ready explanation on their tongues stopped in Moro last Monday and held a group of farmers spell bound with their tales of Russian development.

The young men were Harold Ware, of Arden, Delaware, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and J. U. Harris, of New York City, a graduate of Harvard.

Ware has been in Russia several years, since 1921, and Harris has been there for fifteen months previous to last November.

They state that since the days of the famine in Russia when they had nothing to eat and no visible way to till the ground they have advanced in that much discussed country until their standard of living is higher than it ever has been.

The young men stated that they were making an independent survey of economic conditions among the farmers of the United States for the purpose of writing a series of articles perhaps with the purpose of comparing Russia's change against ours for obtaining the supremacy in agriculture in the future.

Anyway they persuaded many of their listeners that the Russian peasant is much better off than he was under the Czar and that the peasant knows it and is very enthusiastic about his new form of government.

Position of Grange On Fair Explained

Some of the Grangers of the county have explained their position on the fair which gives their reason for wishing the fair discontinued for 1931.

The Grange believes in county fairs as exhibitions of the products of field and home are a part of their constitution, but under the peculiar conditions that exist in Sherman county at the present time they feel that it would not be the part of wisdom to continue with preparations for a fair this year.

Taxes have been slow in coming in and it is possible that, since the interest and penalty have been reduced that not enough will be collected to make a fair possible after the necessary appropriations have been taken care of. Members of the fair board do not want to guarantee the fair expenses with their personal notes as they have done in the past.

According to information received at the Journal office, it was not the intention of the Pomona Grange to ask the county court and the Fair Board to discontinue the fair for 1931 but to inform those bodies that it was acceptable to the Grange that this be done.

Reverend N. S. Hawk To Minister To County

News from the Methodist conference in Eugene informs us that a new minister will grace the pulpit of that church for the coming year and that Rev. F. A. Ginn will be stationed in Dundee.

Rev. N. Sherman Hawk will be the minister of the Methodist Church in all Sherman county instead of being stationed in Wasco where he has been for the last few years. Next Sunday these ministers will preach their final sermons in their present stations and will then move to their new parishes to begin the years work.

Harlandview Plays Two Games Sunday

Two games of baseball were played on the Harlandview diamond last Sunday. The first game was between the Kent 4-H club boys and the Harlandview Juniors which resulted in victory for the Kent team by a score of 9 to 4.

The other game was between the same Harlandview boys with the addition of Homer Belashee and the Fairview Gorman team and was won by Harlandview 15 to 13. The last game of the season will be played next Sunday.

FREIGHT RATE LIFT TO BE DISCUSSED

Organizations of County Combine in Meeting

RATE INCREASE PLAN DISLIKED

Nelson and Richards Will Speak; Congressmen Invited

Those in this county who are interested in the plea of the railroads for a raise in freight of fifteen percent and who believes that such a proposal should be protested against at this time are urged to meet at the court house next Tuesday evening July 7th when a meeting of the Farm Rate Council will be held with several other organizations concerned with wheat rates assisting in the program.

The other organizations that wish to have a hand in protesting against an elevation of freight rates are the Columbia Valley Association the Chambers of Commerce of the towns of the county, the four Granges, the Pomona Grange and the three local Grain Growers organizations. The meeting is sponsored by all of these. W. S. Nelson, secretary of The Dalles-Wasco County Chamber of Commerce, secretary of the Mid-Columbia River Association, and who has the reputation of being one of the best talkers in this territory will be at the meeting and will speak on rail rates.

H. R. Richards, president of the Farm Rate Council and newly appointed member of the state agricultural commission, will preside. Senator Frederick Stiever and R. R. Butler, representative from the second district of Oregon, have been asked to appear on the program.

This meeting is called for the purpose of crystallizing the sentiment of farmers in Sherman county about the proposed raise in freight rates and to give them an opportunity to express their opinion to the Interstate Commerce Commission before the freight rate increase is decided upon by that body.

Sunday Ball Game Won By Grass Valley

The closest and most exciting game of baseball that local fans have had the privilege of witnessing this season was played on the diamond at Grass Valley Sunday afternoon with the Kent-Shaniko team furnishing the opposition to the home boys.

Barzee pitching for Grass Valley allowed three hits while Jacob Young for Kent held the boys to two safeties. Errors by the team behind him lost the game for him, for Grass Valley made five runs on three hits and errors combined to the two runs Kent was able to gather on the three hits they garnered during the afternoon.

On the Fourth Grass Valley expects to meet the Yakima Indians for the first game of the celebration at Tygh Valley.

Light Company Ready To Rebuild Line

A crew of the Pacific Power & Light Company will be in Sherman county next week to start work of the electric line from the top of the Deschutes hill to the highway near the slaughter house hill, from Erskine to the top of Nigger ridge and from DeMoss over the Gordon Ridge.

This work has been planned since last winter when so much trouble was encountered due to frosty conditions. The company will put one pole between each two all along the line to be strengthened which will double the number of poles for about twelve miles of the system.

The linemen to handle the wire will be experienced men now in the employ of the company but labor other than this will be recruited from this county. It is not known how long the job will last but it will not be very fast work for all wiring will be handled "hot" so there will be little interference with users of current in the system.

The material will arrive shortly. It will include three carloads of poles and the necessary cross arms.

Auto Drivers Will All Be Tested in Three Years

How many persons can ride in the front seat of a car? "When should you leave the motor running?" "When should the lights be on?" "What is an intersection and when are you in one?" "How should you drive when you meet horses or other stock?" All these questions and ninety five more are included in the list that applicants for drivers licenses in this state may be asked.

Sometime within three years it is expected that all of the drivers licenses will be called in by the secretary of state and when a persons license is called in he must take the examination and pass it in order to get permission to drive a car again.

There is one sheet that asks a number of personal questions about the applicant, his age, address, race, etc., and also inquires as to his or her physical defects, if any. Then there is the list of one hundred questions from which twenty five are to be picked by the examiner which the applicant must answer good enough to merit a grade of seventy five percent perfect.

The questions are all about the rules of the road as set by state law and cover knowledge that every driver should know. It is expected by the examining board that at least ten percent of the applicants will be denied licenses on their first appearance. In this case they will be given a students license which permits them to drive a car for six months when accompanied by a licensed driver. At any time before that period is up he or she may take another examination.

C. M. Bentley, one of the examiners for this district, was at the court house Monday of this week, but was not able to examine applicants for drivers licenses as the law did not go into effect until July 1st. He gave out a few chauffeur's licenses.

REASONS GIVEN FOR PURCHASING WHEAT

Bank Failures Made Steady Price Necessary

MORE IS SAVED THAN LOST

James C. Stone of the Farm Board Tell Why Wheat Was Bought

Now that the Farm Board has bought the wheat surplus of the farmers and still has it on hand there are many criticisms of their actions. The reasons for going into the wheat buying game are fully explained in the quotation below.

Part of a talk by James C. Stone at an informal meeting in Washington, D. C. as repeated by Sam Thompson:

"I think one of the things we have been up against in relation to grain stabilization efforts with most business men and farmers as well, that they have not thought through the problem," said Mr. Stone. "Most business men that I have come in contact with have not read this law. In addition, the only consideration they have given to the efforts we have made in stabilizing wheat has been to pick up the morning newspaper and see how much wheat the Stabilization Corporation has bought, get out their pencils and figure out how much we have paid for it, and see how much it has cost the United States Treasury. I don't think that is a fair way to approach the subject. I think the thing for business men to do, as well as all other good citizens of this country, is to study the background of the conditions which existed generally before we decided to stabilize wheat."

"I might relate to you briefly just what information we had before us on which to base our conclusions last November when we authorized the resumption of buying wheat. "There was, as you all know, a very serious situation facing the country. Ten days before the purchasing of wheat was begun, sixty banks in Arkansas failed in one day. The following week the National Bank of Kentucky, at Louisville, failed with \$60,000,000.00 assets. Several other banks in Louisville and a good many smaller banks in the adjacent territory failed in sympathy with the failure of the National Bank of Kentucky. Mr. Thompson, the new member of the Board, knows that they had a similar experience in Illinois. Several banks closed at about the same time in North Carolina.

"We also knew that there were from 30 to 40 million bushels of wheat upon which various banks had made loans and which, if the price declined another cent or two cents per bushel, would have been thrown on the market in order to protect the loans made against the wheat. It was our opinion that if this were allowed to occur the price of wheat in Chicago would have gone below fifty cents per bushel. If the price of wheat in Chicago had declined to

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Mrs. J. A. Maxwell Dies in Portland

Mrs. Jane Ann Maxwell a pioneer of Sherman county, died at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Portland last Tuesday evening after an illness of several years.

Mrs. Maxwell was born in Wasco county and came to Sherman county in 1881 with her husband Perry Watkins. Mr. Watkins was a stockman and his wife assisted him in this pioneer work. Two children were born to them.

After her marriage to David Maxwell, the couple farmed their place a few miles east of Moro which they still own. Several years ago they moved to Portland where they have lived since that time.

The funeral was held Friday, July 3rd in The Dalles under the direction of Zell's. Deceased was survived by her widower, David Maxwell, two daughters, Mrs. Bessie Holman and Mrs. Genevieve Miller, both of Portland.

Grange Will Celebrate Fourth at DeMoss

At our last Grange meeting we decided to have a picnic on July 4th at DeMoss Park. Everyone cordially invited to picnic with us. Come, bring your lunch and enjoy visiting with friends and neighbors. Harlandview Grange No. 682.

County Court Views Wreckage of Grade

The county court held their July meeting on the very first day of the month which happened to be Wednesday. As there was little business on hand other than the usual allotment of bills the regular session was an exceedingly short one.

In the afternoon the members of the court accompanied by Market Road Inspector Scott, Ex-County Judge E. D. McKee and G. C. Updegraff, county attorney, drove to the remains of Shearer's grade to look over possible routes for a new road.

Two sites were found that looked possible and surveys are to be made on each of them to find which will be most practical. One is south of the old road and one is north and both would be much higher grades than the one that was destroyed.

McKee and Peetz Will Attend Tax Conference

Two Sherman county men have been appointed on the state tax committee by Governor Meier who announced the membership last Saturday evening in Portland. Ex-county Judge McKee, of Wasco, and ex-county commissioner, L. L. Peetz, of Moro, are the appointees and are requested to be in Salem on Wednesday, July 8, for the initial meeting of the committees. Both Mr. Peetz and Mr. McKee expect to attend.

Sherman County Writers Send Another Story

This week we have another story. Like the one published last week it was written by a Sherman county resident although it is a considerably different sort of a story.

This feature is started for the purpose of giving anyone in the county an opportunity to express themselves in cold print and see how it feels. We may have some embryo writers that would do very well with a little encouragement.

THE RETURN

"Youse guys get off here," ordered the brakeman as he stuck his head in the roof-hole of a box car.

The hobos, roused from their unsatisfactory sleep on the car floor, protested. "This ain't Mulvane," Pargued a big black man who was called Pittsburg.

"You can't go to the end of the division with me," reiterated the omnipotent brakeman. "Get off," and they heard him walking over the car tops toward the engine.

The freight came to a jarring stop and five grumbling passengers rolled open the side door and peered into the dim morning light.

"This ain't no prosperous looking town to camp in," said the New Orleans kid, surveying the nineteen one story houses that stood unlighted and unfriendly, ghostly sentinels

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MAHARAJAH'S PALACE VISITED BY MISSIONARY

Beautiful Furniture Fills Palaces of Native Rulers

PARSEE WOMEN ARE PRETTY

Governor's Annual Flower Show and Pageant Visited

"Homedale," Monday, June 1st.

Dear Folks: Started this letter yesterday by pen but am going to try and save a little time with the typewriter. Spent the morning in study and after breakfast went to see a couple of white haired sisters about making me a wool scarf to wear in place of a sweater. My sweater is about worn out but will wait awhile before getting a new one as this scarf will take the place of one nicely.

The Fooks sisters that do the knitting have a lovely little home which they keep themselves. Their hobby seems to be flowers and they do have a pretty garden. Though rather near other homes they appear to be entirely shut off in a little world of their own; the verandah looks out over the arroya and neighboring hills—a very happy spot.

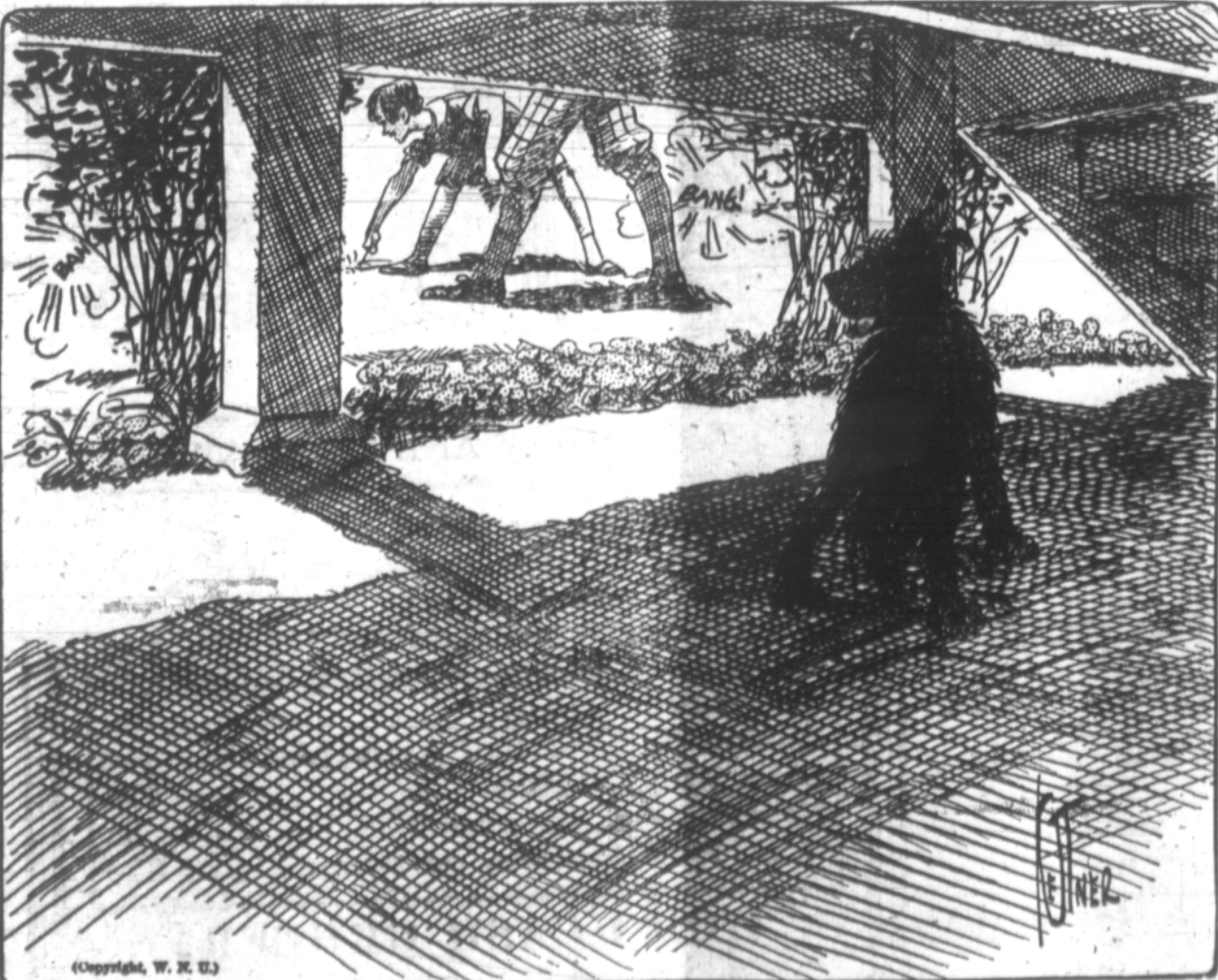
We had such an interesting, enjoyable day at Ooty Saturday with the Burgeses. In the morning we went to see the maharajah's palace. The Maharajah of Mysore's palace was closed but we spent most an hour looking about his gardens—there seemed to be no end to them; such a variety, so well laid out and so well cared for, while the lawns surpassed any I've seen in India, even those in the Governor's Gardens. A solid hedge twelve to fifteen feet high separated two of the gardens but had an arch cut for an entrance. The palace was a huge, rambling structure, not too pleasing in architecture but the spacious verandahs opening on to the gardens were nice and I dare say the interior would not be poor.

From the palace of this maharajah we went to the palace of the Maharajah of Baroda—a Native State in the Bombay Presidency. He has not been to this palace for some time and the gardens were not kept up as well. A care taker took us through the palace which was not large but richly and tastefully furnished. When I say the palace is not large I speak in a comparative term with the palace we had first visited in mind; there was a drawing room, bedroom, dressing room and bath room each for the Maharajah, for the maharani; and for their daughter besides a private and a public dining room and a library—yes, and his private secretary had the same; but there were no rooms for much entertaining. The bathroom fixtures were very modern, the furniture throughout was European and the woodwork and walls were finished beautifully. Of course the furniture was all covered but we were not backward in lifting the covers and examining the rich tapestry and wood. My examination of some of the lounges and chairs was not limited to my sense of sight but found my sense of feeling an impressive reporter of their luxurious softness. The rugs, pictures and everything were interesting and very pretty, reflecting quite a European taste so that I was not surprised to learn that the Maharajah spent many of his vacations in England and Europe. Three small pictures made of mother-of-pearl, with gold frames standing behind the glass doors of some cabinets especially took my eye; one was of the White House, Washington, D. C., one of the Congressional Library and one of the Capitol, Washington, D. C. There were bits of art representing most every country. Well, Bernice began urging that it was time for some more food, Mary was saying her head was as tired from so much looking as if she had been studying Malayalam all morning and the time was really slipping away so we told it all goodbye and went back to Burgeses tiny two rooms not the least bit envious.

A little after two we walked over to the Governor's Gardens to see the exhibition of flowers. The Flower show is sponsored each year by the Governor but as neither he nor Lady Stanley were present this time it was said that the "atmosphere" was not quite the same. Nevertheless, the flowers, vegetables and other exhibits were very nice and all afternoon I looked and looked—really stared most rudely till my neck was almost sore. Some children from the Anglo Indian School gave a May-pole dance. We sat on the lawn to watch it, and we found a place early so as to be in

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July the Fourth



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