

Sherman County Journal

Sherman County Observer Est. 1888, Grass Valley Journal, Est. 1897, Consolidated March 6, 1931.

Moro, Oregon, July 10, 1931

No. 35

Forty Third Year

FREIGHT RATE INCREASE PROTESTED BY FARMERS

Resolution Sent Interstate Commerce Commission By Gathering

NELSON TALKS DEVELOPMENT

River May Settle Many Transportation Problems When Canalized

"There is a time when the voice of the people needs to be heard," said H. R. Richards as he opened his talk on rail rates at the court house Tuesday night and he continued by saying that when the carriers of the producers' goods ask for a raise in rates when conditions in every line are so badly depressed, that is the time for the people's voice to be raised in violent protest.

Harry Proudfoot, of Wasco, acted as chairman of the meeting and introduced Mr. Richards as the first speaker. He explained that this was but one of 76 meetings that have been or will be held to protest against a raise in freight rates during the present times. "The farmer has been fighting for years," he said, "to get wheat rates reduced and such reductions have been ordered. In the face of this what do the railroads mean by asking for higher rates?"

He read from figures prepared by Arthur Geary, attorney for the Rate Council, which showed that the earnings of the Union Pacific for 1930 were 15.63 percent and for 1929 were 20.33 percent without including the incomes from their subsidiaries.

Hearings will be held on July 15th by the Interstate Commerce Commission when the railroads will present their side of the question and it is expected that the shippers will have an opportunity to give their reasons against the raise sometime in August.

The farmers and business men who had gathered to discuss the rail rates passed the following resolution which will be forwarded to the Commission: Idaho, Washington and Oregon State Grangers urge that the Commission not pass upon the proposed freight rate increase without extended hearings in the west and without full investigation of extent to which the railroads have concealed income through subsidiaries and manipulation of accounts and wasteful practices including favoritism shown big packers, and that carriers petition be not permitted to interfere with nations program of readjustment downward of rates upon agricultural products including livestock.

Signed: A. S. Goss, Washington State Grange, Seattle, Wn., H. W. Deal, Idaho State Grange, Nampa, Ida., W. A. Pierce, Chrm Exec. Com., Oregon State Grange, La Grande, Oreg.

W. S. Nelson, secretary of The Dalles-Wasco County Chamber of Commerce, and secretary of the Mid-Columbia River Association spoke for a few minutes on the value of the Columbia River to shippers of the northwest. He stated that the products of this region were all bulky raw materials that required cheap transportation to be saleable at the world's markets.

The producer may receive a fair price for his goods without hurting the consumer, for the cost of the raw material is a small part of the finished goods. Wheat must be raised .42 cents per bushel before bakers find it necessary to charge a cent more for bread, the speaker explained, while the wool in a suit of clothes might be doubled in price without making any appreciable difference in the cost to the wearer.

The way to get some use out of the river is to "quit writing letters and begin to navigate," according to Mr. Nelson as he told of the efforts now being made to get together on the price for hauling wheat to tidewater by barge and steamer.

Before the close of the meeting it was decided to make a permanent organization of the group present in order to combat rate increases. J. B. Adams, of Moro, was elected president and Harry Proudfoot, of Wasco, was made secretary. It was decided to call it the Sherman County Freight Rate Reduction League.

Boy Starts Fire In Wasco

Quite a bit of excitement occurred in Wasco last Friday afternoon at 3:15 when a 7 year old boy playing with fire crackers started a grass fire in the vacant lot back of Atwood's store. The grass fire spread to a building owned by W. C. Weld and slight damage was done before the fire could be extinguished.

WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JULY 8

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
July 2	75	55	.00
" 3	82	61	.00
" 4	91	54	.00
" 5	83	61	.00
" 6	85	62	.00
" 7	91	60	.00
" 8	96	67	.00
Total for week			.00

Mrs. Harriet Anne Root Buried Sunday in Wasco

A pioneer who had seen people move into this country fifty years ago while we were still a part of Wasco, the mother of counties, passed into another land last Thursday morning when Mrs. Harriet A. Root, of Wasco, died at the family home there.

Mrs. Root was born in Wisconsin, May 29th, 1853, as Harriet Anne Goodyear of the since famous Goodyear family. In December 1873, while living in California she was married to Henry Root.

They settled in Sherman county in 1881 on the place west of Wasco where Mrs. Root lived until her death. She is survived by two sons, Herbert Root, of Wasco, and W. D. Root, of Glendale, California, and one daughter, Mrs. Hal Morrow, of Kent.

Funeral services were held from the Methodist church of Wasco Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock with the Rev. N. S. Hawk officiating. The ceremony was in charge of the Eastern Star of which order Mrs. Root was a member.

Pall bearers were J. P. Yates, H. D. Proudfoot, Emil Anderson, Victor Anderson, A. J. Smith, Arthur Sargeant, Harry Van Gilder, and A. C. Kaesberg. Interment was in the Odd-Fellows cemetery at Wasco.

Church Services In County To Change

Time of Methodist Church services in Sherman county will very likely undergo quite a change, for since one minister will preach in three of the towns, changes will be necessary. Rev. N. Sherman Hawk was appointed to have charge of this entire county instead of the Wasco parish that has been his charge for the past two years.

Next Sunday, as a trial schedule, he will preach in Wasco in the morning, at Grass Valley at 2:30 in the afternoon and at Moro at 7:30 in the evening.

Toby Comes Home From His Travels

About a year ago Mr. J. B. Adams made one of his frequent trips to the Kent neighborhood accompanied by the little water spaniel that was his constant companion at that time. At sometime during the day Nicholas as Mr. Adams called the dog, or Toby as his daughter called him left the car and wandered off into the country.

When it was time to return to Moro, he could not be found although his master looked for him diligently. After that time he was seen by different farmers in that vicinity many times. But before Mr. Adams could come on the scene the dog had always drifted away and could not be located. He was a dog that was particular in his friendships and did not make up with strangers at all, which made it impossible for anyone to keep him long enough for his owner to find him.

He was seen in Kent and at nearly all of the farm houses in the vicinity of that town. Several weeks later he drifted into the Clyde Smith ranch and there was something about that place that he liked, apparently, for he stayed. He was nearer home in a geographical sense, but he was farther in another way, because no one there knew who owned him, or how he had come to stray away.

In the fall the man who had been to do the fall work on the Smith ranch took him to Yakima with him. In the winter after constant and unremitting inquiry Mr. Adams found out about it all, but left Nicholas, or Toby, in Yakima, because he could not easily go for him at that time.

This week his temporary owner brought him home again to the family he had left a year ago — and was he happy? The stubby little tail wagged so hard and vigorously that the excited little body wiggled, too, for Nicholas, or Toby as Mildred calls him, was home again. And when the joyful greetings were over, and the small black body was tired, he jumped into the same bed that he had left just as if he had gotten out of it that morning, for Nicholas, or Toby, remembered all about it.

TAXES STEADILY CUT IN SHERMAN COUNTY

County and School Officers Assist Taxpayers Obtain Wishes

SCHOOL TAXES REDUCED NOW

Budgets Lowered By Over \$6,000.00 This Year

Prominent citizens from all over the state met in Salem this week to discuss ways and means of lowering the tax burden on the farmers. While the effects of this meeting may be beneficial to some of the counties of the state it has been delayed too long to be of practical help to Sherman county, for taxes here have been reduced already; first, by the budget committee last fall, and second, by the action of the various school districts that voted their budgets in June.

The budget committee, partly on their own volition, and partly on the request of the Sherman County Tax Reduction League, reduced county taxes more than \$63,000.00, principally by lowering the amount of money appropriated for the construction of roads, but not forgetting to take a little off the sums that had been given to many other activities as well. In percentage, the reduction was over 16 percent.

In June of this year the school districts of the county, with the exception of Wasco which holds its budget meeting in the fall, and two other district whose budgets have not yet been approved, cut an additional \$6229.78 from their appropriations for the school year of 1931-32.

The following table, prepared from the records of Mrs. Margaret Peetz, county assessor, and L. W. Rakes, county school superintendent, shows the amounts appropriated by each district in the county that made a levy with the exception of Wasco, previously mentioned, Rufus and District 33 which comprises Buckley, Lickskillet and some that was formerly part of districts 25 and 26, whose budgets are not yet approved.

Dist. No.	1930-31	1931-32
5	404.39	683.50
9	7,298.37	7,297.50
11	424.67	909.80
13	597.50	501.28
15	487.12	488.80
16	159.87	723.72
17	10,000.00	8,000.00
19	900.00	290.00
20	1,512.66	1,200.93
21	844.95	895.65
22	757.59	389.33
23	7,115.00	3,179.00
24	179.09	663.90
25	479.09	386.71
26	381.47	487.58
29	564.05	582.34
30	668.62	352.67
32	1,098.70	649.07
35	488.73	450.21
Total	34,361.87	28,131.99

It is quite likely that the total reduction in school levies for the next tax year will be greater than \$8,000.00 when the other districts have made the report complete.

Grass Valley Has One Serious Holiday Fire

An uninhabited dwelling in the south end of Grass Valley was burned to the ground last Sunday morning, July 5th, about one o'clock by fire of undetermined origin.

The fire was discovered by Durward Helyer who had started to his home south of Kent after attending the holiday dance in Grass Valley. He rang the fire bell and called the late dance crowd from anticipated sleep but the fire had gained so much headway that they could do nothing but watch the flames destroy the house and its contents.

The building was owned by R. J. Baker and the household furniture stored within it was the property of Ray Ragsdale. It was built about twenty-five years ago by E. W. Elrod when he was in the real estate business in Grass Valley. The loss was covered by insurance.

Grass Valley Defeats Indians in Final Game

Grass Valley finished the ball season at Tygh Valley the fifth of July by defeating the Yakima Indians 5 to 3. In the first games of this series Grass Valley played against Tygh Valley and lost by the close score of 10 to 9. The boys from Tygh Valley have been able to defeat Grass Valley's best all during the season, but it usually ends by a close score.

Maupin defeated the Indians on the Fourth by 6-3. On the fifth the teams changed opponents and Maupin defeated Tygh Valley in an easy game 14-4 while Grass Valley won from the Indians by the above mentioned score.

Barzee pitched part of the first game for the Sherman county team, and Jacob Young finished that game and pitched again on the fifth for sort of a local iron man reputation. It is said that he fanned nearly fifteen of the Indians on the fifth.

Swimming Lessons Begin Next Week

Parents wishing to have their children taught to swim will have the same opportunity this year as last when through the activities of the Red Cross many Sherman county children learned the rudiments of natation at Stiles on the Deschutes.

Mrs. C. L. Foley, at Grass Valley, and Mrs. J. L. Searcy, at Moro, have been appointed to find out for the Red Cross officials how many children would attend swimming classes this year, and parents should get in touch with them to make reservations or they may leave their names at the office of the Sherman County Journal.

Swimming lessons will probably begin shortly after the 15th of July.

Generally the latter "To be indifferent to public opinion," said Hi Ho, the sage of Chinatown, "will make you either a very great personage or a very insignificant one." — Washington Star

FOURTH OF JULY CREATES LITTLE STIR

Parties of Picnics Use Every Grove In County

NO CELEBRATION HELD HERE

Family and Group Picnics Make Day Pleasurable

The Fourth of July was a day of picnics for nearly all Sherman county people who celebrated the day at all. Quite a number drove to Camp Sherman late in the week and remained there until after the holiday was over. A picnic was held for all Sherman county people in the yard of the L. L. Peetz home and in the evening a display of fireworks was given by John Zentbauer, of Portland who has a summer home on the river.

Those who celebrated under the pines of Camp Sherman were: L. L. Peetz and family and Miss Lanette Mathews, Roy Powell and family, Ralph Brisbane and family, Truman Strong and family W. H. Ragsdale and family, J. N. Landry and family, O. L. Belshe and family, T. C. Lee and wife of Portland, and Rev. Hicks, formerly of Moro, F. B. Peetz and family, Bob Hoskinson Lester Conlee and families Howard Conlee and family, Harry Kunsman and family, Wendell Balsiger, Charles Burnett, Donald Burnett.

Another group gathered under the silver leaved poplars in the Grass Valley park to eat their dinner together and visit among themselves. Four tables were filled with the dinner and the sides of four tables were filled with diners who combined to make a very pleasant day. In the evening a dance was held.

The Harlandview Grange sponsored a picnic at DeMoss park which was attended by over two hundred people, grangers and others. They played games under and around the locust trees that shade the park grounds there.

Some others drove to Fleck's orchard where they held a picnic in the shade of the Lombardy poplars that protect the lawns from the sweep of the river wind.

A few made the trip to Tygh Valley by the way of Shaniko and The Dalles-Criterion Highway where a celebration was held with all of the old fashioned sports on the program including horse-racing, ball games, and concessions.

Moro Cash Grocery Suspends Business

Moro lost one of its business establishments last Friday when the Moro Cash Grocery discontinued operations on account of a civil suit filed against it by a Portland firm.

At present writing it is not known what settlement will be made of the stock or whether Clarence Huls, the owner, will continue the business or dispose of it to other merchants in the city.

Wheat Conditions In County Improve

Wheat conditions in the county have not changed much since the effects of the heavy rains of June were determined. Harvesting has commenced in the section of the county east of Klondike and in some places east of Moro grain is ready to be thrashed.

The spring wheat in the south end of the county is holding its own with the warm weather and gives promise of yielding better than any other section of the county. Not all of the wheat around Kent is good however, for some has been blown out and dried out until it will not be a good crop.

In fall wheat that was in the belt of the county that had the most rain green sprouts are coming up in the low places or draws giving the field a very patchy appearance. Wherever the wheat was burned or frost-killed until dead without putting out a head the roots have become active since the rain and sent up these green shoots which have headed out in some cases. It is thought that they will cause some trouble in harvesting. Some fall wheat that looked very sick before the rains will now make nine or ten sacks per acre for a very fair average.

Teacher Writes Of Berea Girls School

The Berea Bible School is an undenominational school for Japanese young women; a school which has no other text-book than the Bible, and which teaches the Full Gospel. The doctrines held are four-fold, namely, (1) Salvation through the cross and blood of Jesus, (2) Divine healing for the body, (3) The baptism of the Holy Spirit, (4) and the pre-millennial second coming of Christ.

The School was founded by the missionary in charge, in April, 1926, and the course is the two years, so that already three classes (thirteen girls in all) have graduated. These Japanese young women are at present doing Christian work in various parts of Japan. The school is unique in that it receives students who haven't a higher secular education; and yet all the graduates are making a success of that work, proving that God uses things which man despises.

In connection with this school a large amount of evangelistic work is being done in the town of Tachikawa (Which is near Tokyo), and in the towns and villages around. Tachikawa has become famous through the fact that it is one of the world's flying centers. A government school for training flying soldiers, as well as two flying schools, and the flying station of the largest newspaper in Japan (also an airplane factory) are in Tachikawa. Yet there was no Christian work in this town, when the Berea Bible School was founded. Now many of the Japanese have become Christians, through the efforts of the students of the students and teachers.

This work is done under no Mission Board, and is supported wholly by voluntary contributions. Much good has been done, in answer to the prayers of our friends, and the influence of this school has been felt throughout Japan. It is hoped that within the next year, the school will be enlarged, and permanent quarters secured, and with God's blessing upon it, it bids to be the most influential Bible School in all Japan. We solicit the prayers of God's people everywhere. More information will be furnished upon request.

Harriet Dithridge
Harriet Dithridge, Principal
8015 Plymouth St., Oakland, Cal.

OREGON NOTES OF GENERAL INTEREST

Oregon's most important fresh vegetable crop is celery, which brings in \$390,000 a year, and this crop is raised on 478 acres, and of this amount Marion county receives \$233,000 raised on 268 acres. Multnomah county has 100 acres, bringing \$63,000; Washington county has 27 acres with \$16,000. There is one acre in Wasco yielding \$400. The bureau of the census has just issued a pamphlet on the agricultural resources of Oregon and this document tells the story of celery. Dried onions are a strong second, the crop being worth \$343,000, while tomatoes bring \$272,000 on 1029 acres. The onions came off 1539 acres.

Taxpayers of The Dalles will be relieved of the maintenance cost of about a mile of city street as a result of the decision of the state highway department to extend the non-skid surfacing of the Columbia River highway inside the city limits.

CENSUS FIGURES GIVE FACTS ABOUT FARMS

Sherman County Ranches Are Big But Others Are Bigger

FEWER FARMS IN COUNTY

Sherman County One That Has No Real Small Farms

The number of farms in Sherman county has been decreasing, which is common knowledge to everyone who observes conditions, but the farms in this county are not growing nearly as fast as they are in some of our neighboring counties. In 1920 and again in 1925 we had only one farm with over 5,000 acres and in 1930 we only had six of that size for a total acreage of 37,438. This makes our oversize farms average 6,240 acres.

Now take Morrow county, for instance. In 1920 they had 21 farms over 5,000 acres in extent, in 1925 they had 23 and in 1930 this number had grown to 40 farms with a total acreage of 690,172. This makes an average of 17,254 acres to the large farms.

Gilliam county's large farms average 9192 acres in extent and there are 26 of them. In Umatilla county 40 farms in the largest class average 12,854 acres. In Wheeler there are 32 farms over 5,000 acres and they average 13,218 acres apiece. Wasco county has 26 of the large size farms and they average 15,203 acres in extent which makes our farms look comparatively small with their average of 6,240 acres.

Of course, these larger farms are stock ranches and cannot be compared with wheat farms in extent at least. Morrow county harvested a crop off but little over one fifth of the acreage in the large farms. In 1929 Sherman county farmers harvested but 4,050 acres of the land they had in the large ranches.

Sherman is one of the four counties of the state that have no farm within its boundaries of less than three acres. Although there are 930 such farms or farmlets in the state the wheat and stock section of the state will have little of such farming. The total number in the state almost doubled in the last five years, however.

Back in 1920 when wheat was worth \$2.20 per bushel there were 460 farmers struggling to get some of the wheat buyers' money. Now with wheat a drug on the market this number has decreased to 369.

Of these three are listed as being of a colored race, and are without doubt the dusky truck gardeners who farm near the mouth of the Deschutes river.

Superintendent Rakes To Speak at Conference

County reports from Sherman county were the first ones received by the state school superintendent this year and the assistant superintendent responded with a letter of congratulations to the local office for their promptness.

With the county school superintendents' hold their conference in Salem August 3-4-5 one on the talks on the program will be given by L. W. Rakes, superintendent in this county on the junior Red Cross.

Sherman county has made an enviable record for the past several years in junior Red Cross and will be asked to explain to the remainder of the state how it can be done in their counties.

The clerk's books have been audited this year and are being returned to them to begin another year's figuring.

Grain Will Be Graded As It Was Last Year

The Farmers National Warehousing Corporation expect to follow the plan adopted last year by the Grain Cooperatives in grading wheat and gathering samples of different individual's grain.

Plans are being made to have a state inspector and grader here during the harvest season to gather the samples and send them to the Portland office of the state graders to be tested. In this way it is possible to have uniform grades of all wheat in the northwest and this method conforms with the rules of the Regional Grain Growers which makes the loans on wheat.

