

Sherman County Journal

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GILES L. FRENCH Managing Editor

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 1932.

THE GRAIN RATE CASE

The railroads evidently convinced the supreme court that their revenues had fallen greatly and that they had to have more from their investment or their bonds would be poor security. They claim a property valuation of over twenty six billion dollars, on which they have borrowed over eighteen billions, figures that even make a heavily indebted farmer wonder how it was possible.

Being bonded for so large a percent of their real value it is necessary for them to make a very substantial return on their investment in order to pay interest on their outstanding bonds which are owned by insurance companies, banks and other investing organizations. They have been very fortunate that they sold their bonds to the right people—people who are capable of demanding some protection for their investments.

In this grain rate case the railroads are opposed by the farmers. Figures are not available to us on farm indebtedness in proportion to valuation, for farm valuations have never been set and must therefore vary with every estimate. It is doubtful if farming land is indebted to a greater percentage than are the railroads, however. Farm paper is held by the government, some insurance companies, state schools and innumerable private investors who are unable to band themselves together to make a great protest against lowering of farm incomes as the railroad bond holders are doing.

Railroad earnings fell in 1930 in comparison to 1929, according to their own statement, fifteen percent, which is quite a drop and is most decidedly a cause for worry on the part of the bond holders. Farm income in the state of Oregon in 1930 as compared to 1929 dropped over thirty three percent or from eighty-four million dollars to fifty-six. Yet the supreme court of the land decided that the welfare of the country demanded that the rail earnings must come from the farmers who have already had their income cut over two times as much as the railroads.

It begins to look as if success in this one-time land of opportunity depends on more borrowing from the right people than from management when the farmers, who, in political years are called the backbone of the nation, must pay indirect profits to the bondholders, who, can only be compared to the fat.

CHINOOK

The whooping, roaring wind of Monday morning that started off the active week was a real Sherman county wind. With an irresistible swoop it took the remaining snow off the fields, dried up the roads and sailed blithely on to other counties to continue the good work of revivifying the earth after a couple of months of suspended action, because of winter's chill.

What a wind is our Oregon chinook. It zips across our rolling hills, "whoosh", driving stray tumble weeds before it; it dives around the corner, "oooh", knocks off the judges hat and sails the small boy's kite; it enlivens everything it meets for whether it comes in March when its due or in January, when unexpected, it is the first harbinger of spring and it announces that seeds must grow, mud must dry up, snow must hasten to leave an awakening earth.

Let us have plenty of the real chinook; it is a rain wind. In the last few years our wind has too often come from the northwest and it is cold and cheerless and brings nothing but fleeting flurries of snow. Any seacoast weatherman will tell you that a northerly surf means dry weather while one sounding in the south means life giving rain. Lets have the chinook for it brings frequent showers, running springs and water giving wells. Let'er blow and may the showers fall where they will. Whe-e-e-e.

Al Smith's hat is in the ring again according to a headline. Al should remember what happened to the last hat he tossed to the elephants.

The French beauty, who stated that plain soap and water are the best aids to beauty evidently has not yet received her price for recommending somebody's cream.

Two billions to reconstruct finance—now perhaps financiers will stop kicking about the five hundred millions for agriculture

The republicans have started to criticize the democratic tax and tariff policy before it is announced, showing a fighting spirit if not much discretion

Rain and snow, snow and rain, I'll bet we have a crop again

Grass Valley

Alex and Mrs. McLeod have returned to their ranch east of Moro after remaining at the Sommer home here for several days after the accident in which Mrs. McLeod was injured. She is now getting about on crutches.

E. E. Gervais and Gus Smith made a business trip to Kent and Shaniko Tuesday.

W. R. Adams, of Antelope, was visiting about town with J. M. Wilson of Kent the first of the week.

Chester Carter, of Burns, a cousin of the Garrett boys, was here the first of the week on a visit.

Mrs. S. L. Boyce drove her car down the sidewalk near the school house one day this week and had to leave it until the next morning before it could be pulled out.

Mrs. Verna Burns returned from the hospital Sunday and will be on the job at the telephone office after a week or so of recuperation.

District Superintendent Murray and C. D. Ashbaugh, The Dalles manager of the telephone company were here one day last week.

Dell Olds will steam roll feed at the old W. W. M. Co., plant during the first of February.

Henry Roth and family enjoyed a visit with an old friend from Fruitland, Idaho, J. B. Fisher and his wife, last week. Mr. Fisher and Mr. Roth came from the same district in the old country and have much in common that made the visit very pleasurable for both.

Matt Simon is expecting his daughter Agnes and Mrs. Simons home from Portland Sunday. Agnes is out of the hospital and doing fine.

Wasco

The friends of Mrs. Andy Shearer will be glad to know she is reported to be recovering very nicely and is able to sit up some. She has been quite ill with pneumonia.

Mrs. Minnie Dutton entertained the Tuesday study club at her home Tuesday afternoon. A very good program was given and a paper on "Points of Interest along the Columbia River Highway" was given by Mrs. Ida Andrews and enjoyed by all.

The Ladies Aid of the M. E. church met with Mrs. Elizabeth Fuller Friday. The ladies spent the afternoon quilting.

The Auxiliary to the Sherman Cooperative met Saturday afternoon at the Sherman Hotel when the constitution and by-laws were adopted and the program committee gave their program for the spring months. Speakers from the outside will be invited each month.

Mrs. Zelma Watkins and Mrs. May Yocum entertained 6 tables of 500 at the home of Mrs. Watkins Tuesday night. Members of the P. N. G. club and guests, High score for the ladies was won by Mrs. Spencer and for the men by Johnny Robinson. The club held their election of officers for the year. President, Mrs. Bargenhalt; vice president, Mrs. Huckins; and secretary and treasurer, Zelma Watkins.

Mrs. Ersel Yocum spent the week end at the J. M. Yocum home.

The Tillicum club met with Mrs. Manning Thursday.

The Nightingale club held their business meeting with Mrs. John McClure Monday night to discuss plans for the year.

W. H. Lee and wife went to Portland Tuesday to spend several days visiting.

The Rebekah lodge held their installation Wednesday night with Mrs. John McClure as installing officer.

Theo. Johnston and wife were guests at the John McClure home Sunday and also attended the Court of Honor held by the boy-scouts at the M. E. church. Mr. Johnston is connected with the boy scouts at Moro.

Mrs. John McDermid entertained 4 tables of bridge Tuesday night. The Nightingale club and guests. Mrs. McKean won club prize and guest prize went to Miss Retha McDonald.

The W. C. T. U. met with Mrs. Elizabeth Fuller Wednesday afternoon.

The Dorcas Society of the Christian church met with Mrs. Eliza Dingle Thursday afternoon and election of officers was held for the year. President, Mrs. W. D. Watkins; vice president, Mrs. McKean; secretary, Mrs. Robert Manning; treasurer, Mrs. Hattie Andrews.

Mrs. Estelle Hailey and Mrs. Everett Watkins entertained the Wasco study club at the Sherman hotel Friday. Papers on Browning, by Mrs. L. P. Havens, and Shakespeare by Mrs. Vic Smith were given and were greatly enjoyed by all.

The Dorcas Society of the Christian church will have a stocking social at the home of Mrs. Elizabeth Dingle Jan. 29.

Mrs. Walter Medler entertained 5 tables at bridge at her home Thursday. Members of the Les Joures club and guests. High score for the club went to Mrs. W. H. Burres and guest prize to Mrs. W. H. Lee.

R. H. McKean and Elwood McPherson made a business trip to Portland last Thursday.

Last Saturday afternoon a surprise party was given in honor of the seventh birthday of Robert Nesbit at his home. Eight guests were present and an enjoyable time was had.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lamborn, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Sink and Miss Dessie Hearing of The Dalles were visitors at the home of C. B. Hearing last Sunday.

Virginia Magness was confined to her room at the Hotel Sherman last Monday of an attack of the flu.

Mrs. C. A. Harper and son Jack Southwell of Portland were visiting in Wasco over the weekend.

The Sky Rocket card club met at the home of Belle Clothier last Saturday evening. Myrtle Garland won the high score.

A "no host" dinner was given at the home of Everett Watkins last Saturday evening. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Tuel, A. C. Kaseberg and family, and

Mrs. Estelle Hailey.

Mrs. Butler was called to Colfax last Friday on account of the serious illness of her mother.

Mildred Butler returned to Portland last Friday to complete her examinations at the S. Vincent hospital.

Mrs. John Crawford of Grand Dalles is visiting with the F. R. Fortner and L. J. Lucas families this week.

Last Monday evening Martha McKean entertained 4 tables of bridge at her home in honor of Miss Nellie Hadfield who is a guest of Hollis Hull this week. Reta Burres and Lloyd Hennigan won high scores for the evening, Miss Hadfield was presented with the guest of honor prize.

The Ever Faithful class of the Christian Sunday school held a social meeting on last Friday afternoon at the home of Mrs. A. T. Striker. Election of officers for the year resulted in the following selection: president, Mrs. Elizabeth Dingle; and secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Gertrude Mee.

Lee Dehler returned to Wasco on Saturday after having spent the past week as the guest of relatives at Mount Angel, Oregon.

Last Wednesday evening Miss Katherine Hawk entertained a number of her friends at dinner in honor of her twenty third birthday. The following: Orion Wattenberg, Georgia Harper, Mignon Wall, Winnifred Fortner, Mary Jeanette Sarg nt, Miss Vivian Trounce, Mrs. Fuller and Mrs. Harper.

Last Friday evening both the boys and the girls basket ball teams journeyed to Grass Valley where they divided the honors of winning with that school. The scores were as follows: 17-14 in favor of the Wasco girls; and 17-15 in favor of the Grass Valley boys.

Phillip Bishop, wife and young daughter, Patricia, were dinner guests at the home of M. G. Tuel and wife last Wednesday evening.

The Neighbors of Woodcraft of Wasco held installation of officers at the Fraternity hall on last Thursday evening. Officers installed for 1932 included; Esther Peugh, Guardian Neighbor; Edna Ferrell, Advisor; Mrs. Dell Rust, of Klondike, Magician; Flora B. Wright of Moro, Clerk; Leo Watkins, O. S. Bertha Moon, I. S.; and Elsie Medler, Flag Bearer. A social time, with refreshments, was enjoyed after the installation.

H. J. Proudfoot entered the Mid Columbia hospital last Wednesday morning to undergo a major operation.

TUM-A-LUM TICKLER

Published in the interest of the People of Grass Valley and Vicinity by The TUM-A-LUM LUMBER COMPANY

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EDITORIAL

"Is your Daddy home?" "No sir, he hasn't been home since Ma caught Santa Claus kissing the cook."

May be said cook looked good with those new Tum-A-Lum Kitchen Cupboards.

—T-A-L—

We were just out looking over the City of Ramshorn today and tried our luck walking over the new road with

the County Engineer and we still think we could have stayed with him if we had done a few weeks road work before we started out. As it was, we were too soft for such strenuous labor and came out second best. But we are convinced that we can go fishing very soon over this new highway.

—T-A-L—

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Third Prize.....\$75
Fourth Prize.....\$50
Fifth Prize.....\$25

And also there are twenty-five \$10 prizes and fifty of \$5.00 each. In addition, 1000 special jackknives will be distributed to all winners of cash awards and to those receiving honorable mention. In case of tie duplicate prizes will be given.

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