

Sherman County Journal

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 1932.

TWO AND TWO EQUAL THREE.

It is everywhere accepted as true that two and two make four. We have the saying, "As simple as two and two make four." The science of mathematics could hardly be expected to continue if someone should discover that this statement was not the truth. It is as simple and as essential as that. What would happen to the world in general if we should all wake up some morning and find that from now on the old familiar two and two make something else for a change?

If that is all very puzzling and perhaps a bit disconcerting think what has been going on in the mind of the farmers since they found out that two and two hardly make two and a half. For years a bushel of wheat has been worth enough to pay for a pair of overalls. When wheat was selling for forty to fifty cents overalls could be bought for that price. When wheat ascended to two dollars and a half per bushel overalls did the same and a bushel of the grain still provided enough cash to buy the workman's cover for his nether portion.

Since twenty-nine, though, it has been different. Sometimes a farmer had to lug four bushels of wheat to town to take home a pair of overalls, some times it took three bushels but it always took more than one bushel.

The serious consequences that might happen to the mathematical world if two and two refused to make four have been no more serious than what has happened to the farmer's economic world since old established relationships in the price of ordinary goods have been upset.

It has now gotten to the point where the man with the overalls is kicking about the maladjustment himself. He has found that it is no advantage to him to have a price on overalls that is twice or three times as high as it formerly was. He doesn't get any more wheat than he did before because only a certain percentage of the entire wheat crop can go for overalls anyway. He is between the devil of a nonoperated factory and the deep blue sea of no business.

Not that overall manufacturers are the only ones worrying. The implement maker, the automobile manufacturer, the lumberman, the butcher, the baker, the candlestick maker, are all in the same boat. It does begin to look as though they are finding out that it is no advantage to them to have the usual price relationship distributed and are making some move to have the old rule brought back. Perhaps in a little while we will have it done and a bushel of wheat will buy a pair of overalls and two and two will again make four.

LICENSE FEE.

It is now pretty generally assured that there will be a large reduction in automobile licenses when the legislature meets next winter. This meets the approval that is usually accorded to any measure that promises to lower personal expenses. It is certainly desirable unless it is carried so far that it will cause the bonds that have been issued for highway construction to become an obligation that must be paid by property tax.

Even at the present figure the automobile tax is worth its cost. For an average cost per year of \$22.00 a motorist can travel all over the state on paved roads. He can make several times the distance possible before the roads were improved; he can save a great part of the time formerly required and can ride in comfort. Of all the numerous taxes paid by the average citizen the automobile tax is worth the money.

It is true it would be a better buy yet if it could be had for half the money. Mr. Hoss says it can and he should know. However, motorists do not want the system of highways and improved market roads to be neglected and allowed to become rough, pitted with holes or worn until they are dangerous at the high speeds people travel these days. Hard times or no hard times, we have been spoiled by good roads and we are going to insist on having them.

That part of the highway income that has been spent for new construction can be saved in these times for with automobile owners struggling to make their license payments and meet other taxes it is not time to be building new roads to further complicate matters. Maintenance is all that taxpayers are asking now, except those who want a road for their own particular benefit. No other business is expanding and it is almost too much to expect of the government.

If the necessary repairs to already constructed roads can be made and the bond interest and amortization of bonds can be met from the gasoline tax and the license money that is sufficient. How far it will allow the license fee to be reduced we do not know, but that is where it should be placed.

Sherman County Farmers.
 The Sherman County page in the Sunday Oregonian was timely and fine. But there was a mistake about what the farmer's do in the winter time. Regarding parties and drinking beer, very few have time or money around here. Especially the ones who have children in school. They get up early with no time to fool. Chores to do and the roads to break. Shovel snow until their backs ache. When the snow melts there is mud to fight. Every morning to school and back again at night. In winter the families have to eat just the same. But if there is plenty to cook they don't complain. They all have to fix their telephone lines. Which the frost breaks down in the winter time. There are chickens to feed for ten cent eggs. And a few old cows to keep on their legs. Then before the spring birds begin to sing. They overhaul the tractors and everything. With machinery to fix and harness to oil. Its no winters snap to till the soil. But Sherman County is a good place to live, no question. And we don't want other folks to have the wrong impression.

Grass Valley

Max Brown, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Brown, of Grass Valley and Redmond was married Tuesday August 9th to Miss Mary Perrin, of Redmond. Miss Perrin is the daughter of the Pacific Light and Power agent in Redmond. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. L. S. Cox of the Baptist church in Redmond.

The Grass Valley fire department held one of their first drills last Tuesday afternoon and provided some excitement for a time as well. The truck made a quick run to the vacant lot south of the school house and the weeds were burned off the lot. Because of a misunderstanding the water in the hose was turned off and the fire had to be kept under control with the chemical tank. No damage resulted.

Slim Yarrington is around again after spending the winter in search of a job in many places throughout the northwest.

A new boy, David Roy, was born to Mrs. Harriet Rolfe Wells on August 12th at her home in Minnesota.

Rev. S. L. Boyce was ill last week and there was no sermon at the Baptist church because of his illness.

Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Balzer and children drove to Tygh Valley last Sunday for a days outing.

Mrs. Con Rust and children were in The Dalles Friday of last week.

The bridge club was entertained at Mrs. Dell Olds residence Wednesday with Mrs. Alvin Balzer as hostess.

Hereafter fire drills will be held regularly and two taps of the fire bell will announce them. This announcement is given so that citizens not connected with the department will not be needlessly excited.

A birthday party was given at the John Buether home last Sunday which was attended by friends of that family.

Miss Marjorie McInnes is spending the week visiting with Mrs. C. B. Doyle.

Miss Doris McGowan is here from Independence to spend a few weeks with her brother, Vern.

A surprise party was given Saturday night in honor of Miss Eva Perry which was attended by friends of that young lady.

A boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tetz last Thursday at The Dalles hospital.

A. S. Russell drove to Lyle, Wash., last week. He returned the Johnson girls to their home at that place.

Kent News

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Norton are the parents of a boy in The Dalles last week.

Miss Della Helyer is home from Mt. Hood where she has been for the past two or three weeks.

Jerry Wilson was injured Sunday when his horse fell with him causing

a bruised leg. Arthur Justesen is under the weather this harvest with an illness that resembles pneumonia. He has been unable to work for two weeks. Mrs. John Schassen and daughters, from The Dalles, visited at the Luther Davis home Sunday. Maxine Finemke returned to her home Tuesday after spending the past month with relatives in Portland. She was accompanied home by her cousin Charlotte from Los Angeles and her cousin Vera from Portland who will spend the following week in Kent.

WHEAT REPORT

Continued from page one.

Bred wheat is a high test weight and would be of commercial value where the danger of smut is not too great. It is almost equal in test weight to Oro, a wheat that is highly smut resistant and yet does not give as large a return as does the hybrid wheat.

Holding Of Wheat

Almost Unanimous

There seems to be a decided movement toward holding wheat for a better price among the farmers of Sherman county. Almost no selling of wheat has been going on up to this date and while farmers are always interested in the price of wheat they are not selling at present prices. Nearly every farmer who belongs to the cooperatives is taking advantage of the facilities of the North Pacific to borrow money on his grain as soon as it is hauled to the warehouse. He is permitted to borrow 75 per cent of the value of the wheat at five per cent interest.

There is a movement to allow farmers to borrow the entire market value of wheat from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, but so far, no loans have been made in this county on that basis. When it will be possible to do so, or even whether or not it will even be possible is not known in this county at the present time.

There is a marked disposition on the part of creditors of farmers to

SEXTON MAKES GOOD



Leo Sexton of the United States setting a new Olympic record in the Olympic games at Los Angeles by putting the shot 52 feet 6 3/16 inches. Photograph transmitted over A. T. and T. wires.

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allow them to hold their wheat. In fact, the banks, the land banks and private creditors are insisting that farmers hold their wheat until it has enough value to pay some of the loans against it before it is put on the market at all. Representatives of some of the machinery companies selling to farmers have expressed a hope that farmers can hold their crop until the price is such as to give them some income above actual expenditures, showing that the general attitude among farmers and their creditors is to wait until there is some financial remuneration for all in the crop before letting it go out of the farmers hands.

State Egg Show Offers

Many Premiums

In connection with this egg show an exhibit and demonstration of special interest to poultrymen, farmers and produce dealers will be held in cooperation with the State College and the Pacific Cooperative Poultry Producers.

If you are not familiar with commercial methods of grading and candling eggs here will be an opportunity to learn. An expert egg grader will be on hand to explain the different grades of eggs and the reasons for them.

The State College will have an exhibit showing the effect of feed and handling on the quality of eggs. There will also be a full sized farm egg storage room used in demonstrating the added profit a producer could obtain by keeping his eggs in a suitable place until they are marketed.

Entries consist of one dozen fresh eggs.

Although forty cash prizes are offered, the largest value in the egg show is the score cards that will be mailed to each exhibitor. This State Egg Show score card will score points of merit and criticize the point that are lacking.

A show of this type should have a tendency to improve the quality of eggs in the State, but to do the most good there should be hundreds of exhibitors, each bringing a one dozen eggs for exhibit.

An office manager received a letter from his home office which read as follows: "Effective May 15, 1932, please lay off the young ladies in the

accounting department." And he is still uncertain as to just what was meant.

Wife (with newspaper): "It says here that men grow bald because of intense activity of their brains."

Hubby: "Exactly. And women have no whiskers because of the intense activity of their chins."

As the blushing bride said to the furniture salesman, "Twin beds are all very well, but of course there is no use buying them until we get the twins."

Agricultural Department Reports Wheat Crop

A domestic wheat crop about 172,000,000 bushels smaller than last season was indicated by the August 1 estimate, which placed the 1932 crop at 722,687,000 bushels. Of this total, 244,831,000 bushels is Hard Red Winter, 146,635,000 bushels Soft Red Winter, 191,913,000 bushels Hard Spring, other than Durum, 52,175,000 bushels Durum, and 87,115,000 bushels Winter and Spring white wheats. The winter wheat outturn is only a little over half that of last season, while the spring wheat harvest is nearly three times that of 1931.

No estimate is yet available of the Canadian Spring Wheat crop, but condition at the end of July was officially estimated at 88 per cent of the long time average and the acreage was placed at 27,009,000 acres, or

nearly a million acres over the area harvested in 1931. The Fall wheat crop in Canada was placed at 14,365,000 bushels. Weather in the Prairie Provinces since the first of August has continued hot and dry, and further deterioration has taken place in Southern Saskatchewan and parts of Alberta. Harvesting is general in Manitoba and wheat is half cut in the earliest districts.

Estimates and forecast of production in 23 Continental European countries, which last year represented 97 per cent of the European crop, exclusive of Russia, give a total production this season of 1,406,000,000 bushels compared with 1,403,000,000 bushels harvested in the same countries last year. Stem rust has spread rapidly in the Danube Basin and a large part of the crop is reported to be unusually poor quality. Production in the surplus areas of Europe is only about two thirds as large as last season, but the crops above the 1931 harvest.

No estimate is yet available for the Russian wheat crop, but Winter Wheat prospects have been reduced by excessive heat in North Caucasus and parts of the Ukraine. Trade reports indicate also that yields of Spring Wheat will probably be below average. Harvesting has been delayed and the July procurings were only about 45 per cent of the plan. Trade reports of the Russian exportable surplus this season range from 36,000,000 to 56,000,000 bushels. This compares with 70,500,000 bushels exported last year, and about 96,000,000 bushels two years ago.

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