

Sherman County Journal

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SHERMAN COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

Forty Fifth Year

Moro, Oregon, December 2, 1932

No. 4

SHERMAN COUNTIANS ATTENDING CONFERENCE

Wheat League Meeting Expected To Bring Forth Healthy Arguments

SHERMAN CONTINGENT LARGE

Over Fifty Men Plan To Attend Annual Wheat Meet

The farmers are going to get together this week for the purpose of getting together on some of their problems. Through the medium of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League, an organization that has weathered the storms of several years of good and bad times, the farmers will meet at Condon in the midst of the Gilliam county wheat belt and talk over their troubles of production, taxation, and economy.

Coming to aid the farmers in their discussions are many of the men of the state who direct state government and make decisions of importance to all citizens. Among these men are Charles V. Galloway, of the tax commission, C. A. Howard, superintendent of public instruction, Leslie M. Scott, chairman of the highway commission, Walter M. Pierce, Earl Snell, J. P. Yates and J. O. Turner, legislators, G. R. Hislop and D. E. Stephens, agricultural advisors.

A plan that will draw the farmers closer together is the method of attending this conference. The men from Sherman county are going to take their bedding to Condon in a truck and are taking from their family larders enough provender to last during the convention. Room has been provided for them and cots have been borrowed from the Oregon State Guards whereon they may rest when the speeches and arguments of the day are finished.

It is expected that over fifty men interested in farming will attend the meeting from Sherman county as the costs of living in the "jungle" will be low enough for one of the most meager budget.

The conference will open Friday morning and will close late Saturday afternoon. The program is full of overflowing with talks by men who have made farm problems their problems and who have studied them from the theoretical angle as well as from the practical angle. It is probable that from this meeting will come several suggestions that will be thoughtfully considered by the state legislature when they convene early in January. The same questions perplex both bodies of men.

Taxation, with its many plans for lowering and shifting of the tax burden; reduced license fees for automobiles with the possibility of stopping new construction and a property tax on cars; governmental changes that may tend to reduce taxes and increase efficiency; the proposals for the rehabilitation of agriculture by some act of the federal government, all these and many more will be discussed day and night by men who have the farmer's interest at heart.

Flowers Blooming In Fall In This City

Charles Montgomery was up from Wasco Wednesday and from his place in city view addition he plucked a sprig of lupin that was in bloom as prettily as if the month was May instead of bleak November. This may be indication that spring is here, as Charlie says, or it may be indication that cheerful fall sun and rains have lingered too long for the plant to withstand the effects of favorable weather conditions. Anyway it looked bright and colorful in the winter atmosphere.

Grass Valley Has Building Boom

Grass Valley and vicinity has been experiencing a building boom such as it has not seen for several years at least not since the good old days of so long ago. There are several barns, sheds and chicken houses in the process of construction and most of them are nearing completion as the weather threatens to make outside work too uncomfortable for sufferance.

W. C. Schilling just south of Finnegan has almost finished the erection of a new barn to replace the one destroyed by fire last summer. It is 40 by 60 with an addition for the accommodation of a string of milk cows. It is set on concrete and will hold nearly fifty tons of hay and fourteen head of horses. Gus Schilling is the builder.

W. S. Holmes has the material on the ground for a new chicken house that will be constructed this winter if the weather permits.

A new barn has been built on the Schadewitz place now farmed by Grover Young to replace the one burned this summer.

Theodore von Borstel is trying a unique stunt in building a new barn over his old one. The hay and other equipment stored in the barn is not without shelter at any time and the old barn is being torn down as the work progresses on the new one.

Frank von Borstel just across the road from his brother, has finished a new machine shed placing it over his cistern.

In Grass Valley proper Alvin Balzer has had a two car garage built within the last month and it is now complete even to a coat of paint.

Kent Auxillary Gives Play and Dance

The dance sponsored by the Auxillary of George Bell Post No. 49 at Kent, Wednesday November 23, following a play at the high school auditorium was a success socially and financially.

The play "Pa's New Housekeeper" was a very humorous comedy lasting one hour. Karl Pluemeke acting the part of a college boy who masqueraded as the new house keeper to cure the flirtatious "Pa" kept the audience convulsed with laughter at his antics. Kenneth Sather was "Pa" to perfection while Charles and Margaret Dunlap as "Pa's" grown children and Anna Sather as his future daughter in law did some clever acting.

Those having purchased tickets to the play were admitted free to the dance held in the Legion hall immediately following the play. The music furnished by the five piece community orchestra directed by Mrs. Flora Ayres was good and the mid-night supper was served Cafeteria style in the basement.

TEACHERS EXAMINATION

Notice is hereby given that the County School Superintendent of Sherman County, Oregon, will hold the regular examination of applicants for State teachers' certificates at Moro as follows:

Commencing Wednesday, Dec. 21, 1932 at 9 o'clock a. m. and continuing until Friday, Dec. 23, 1932, at 4 o'clock p. m.

Wednesday Forenoon—U. S. History, Writing (penmanship), Geometry, Botany.

Wednesday Afternoon—Physiology, Reading, Composition, General History.

Thursday forenoon—Arithmetic, History of Education, Psychology, Thursday Afternoon—Grammar, Geography, American Literature, Physics.

Friday Forenoon—Theory and Practice, Orthography (Spelling), (Physical Geography, English Literature.

Friday Afternoon—School Law, Algebra, Geology, Civil Government Bookkeeping.

Saturday Forenoon—Geometry, Botany.

Saturday Afternoon—General History.

WILEY W. KNIGHTEN
County School Superintendent.

RAINFALL SLIGHTLY UNDER FALL AVERAGE

November Moisture Above Normal As Change From Drought

3.41 INCHES SINCE SEPT. 1

Posspects For Crop Better Than For Four Years

Well, we didn't quite make it, but we came so close that old Jupe must have felt his old self coming back again. The average rainfall for the first three months of the crop year, September, October and November is 3.44 inches, and it looks as if this county was going to exceed that figure this year to break up the spell of dry falls that have been bothering us from a production standpoint for four long years.

Our total rainfall as the weather month drew to an end Wednesday afternoon at five o'clock was 3.41 since the first of September. It was divided .08 in September, 1.28 in October making a much better record than we have been used to since 1928.

Last year we had 1.47 inches in September, 1.72 in October and 1.54 in November for a total of 2.73 inches about three quarters of an inch below the normal amount. That moisture together with what we had later in the crop year was sufficient to soak up the deep soil better than it had been soaked for several years and gives us a fair chance of producing a crop in 1933.

It is moisture in the fourth, fifth and sixth foot that protects grain from drying up in the month of June when it gets hot and dry and a series of dry years removes so much of this moisture that we don't get much wheat. After a year of fairly good rainfall that wets the ground we can stand more unfavorable weather and still raise wheat.

This fall the stubble is wet down a foot or more although this always varies with the slope of the ground and with the condition of the surface.

Although definite figures are not at hand it is thought by many good judges that there has not been as much rainfall in the south end of the county as in the central or north portion. Wasco has probably had more rainfall than any other part of the county.

Pickett Motor Co. To Open For Business Soon

Fred Pickett is apparently trying to emulate the famed Irishman who dispatched the famous message, "Off again, on again, gone again. Flannagan" in his business ventures. A month and a half ago he suddenly went out of the garage business. The Liquidator of the Bank of Moro took charge of his equipment, rented it to Avery Martin and that young man began on his own hook.

This week the equipment was moved to the Schadewitz garage, with the exception of one pump that was bought by Foss and Co., and as soon as the garage building is cleared of the old, Mr. Pickett announces that it will be filled with new equipment and that he will continue or begin doing business at the same old stand. The Ford agency will remain with him.

Thanksgiving Reunion Held By Alley Family

A Thanksgiving family reunion dinner was given by Mrs. Minnie McKinney in honor of her mother Grandma Alley, at the home of Mark Alley in Wasco.

Forty-three members of the family were present among those were four children, eleven grand children, and five great grand children, of Mrs. Alley.

Those attending from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Lehr and daughter of Camas, Washington; Mrs. Luther Stout and two daughters of Portland, Mrs. Omar Luttrell of Lexington, and Mrs. Wm. Luttrell of Hermiston.

This is the first family gathering in four years.

D. N. McKey, attorney of Condon, has been elected as director from this district to the Federal Land Bank in Spokane. W. H. Ragsdale was a contender for this office, the total vote showing that he received almost as large a number of supporters as did the victor in the race.

WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING NOV. 30

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
NOV. 24	55	28	.00
" 25	42	29	.00
" 26	40	29	.06
" 27	39	33	.10
" 28	48	34	.08
" 29	51	37	.07
" 30	50	34	.00
Total for week			.31

TAX REDUCTION STILL SUBJECT OF INTEREST

Meetings Are Held To Discuss Budget of County

SINKING FUND SHINING TARGET

Interest Shown in Publicity For Every County Expenditure

Taxes become more interesting as the ability to pay them becomes less apparently, for never in the history of Sherman county has there been so great an interest in the tax levies of the county and schools as this year, and never has there been so large a delinquency list.

Since the meeting of the county budget committee different groups of citizens have been endeavoring to find some way in which that set of figures could be improved to the advantage of the tax payer. It is not an easy process for as a general thing the proposed budget gives satisfaction to the greater number of persons. This, without saying that it cannot be improved in some minor feature.

The tax league met in Moro Wednesday of last week and with the aid of several farmers went over the budget item by item discussing each one. While there is some disappointment with the salaries proposed it does not appear to be general as a greater saving has been made on the whole than if the court house deputies had been dispensed with. There is agitation for minor cuts in several places in the budget.

One of the major contentions of many of the tax league members is that the \$18,000 allowed for the sinking fund should be removed and that nothing should be put in the budget for the retirement of bonds until people are better able to pay their taxes. The law makes it mandatory on the court to include this item but as one opponent to this procedure said, "No one has ever been hung for not doing it."

Many people express the feeling that if taxes are made as low as possible there will be more dollars collected by the sheriff next year than if the tax roll is larger as tax payers will be willing to contribute to necessary things but not for items that might have been held over un-

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River Meeting Called For Monday Night

Next Monday evening at The Hotel Dalles the Chamber of Commerce of Wasco county is sponsoring a meeting in the interest of the open river. Members of the legislature and newspaper men of the district will attend a dinner preceding the meeting at which time a group of visiting engineers will speak.

The general meeting is called to consider proposed legislation bearing on the development of the Columbia, especially in relation to the working of the newly made Grange power amendment. A conference will be held December 10 in Portland when actual legislation will be proposed to make this amendment active as far as the Columbia is concerned.

Old Time News From Files of Yesteryears

From the Observer December 5, 1913.

Otis Baker and Pauline Wingfield both of Wasco were granted license to marry at Vancouver, Wash., November 26th.

C. F. Coe has sold his interest in the Moro Hardware and Implement Co. store. All accounts owing the company are due and payable to Mr. Coe.

At a council meeting W. H. Ragsdale and O. A. Ramsey were appointed to draft an ordinance authorizing 1250 feet of new sidewalk.

A reception was held in Dorcas hall Wednesday of this week by the society in honor of Mrs. Clare Axtell.

December 16 is the golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. James Woods. A wonderful record is theirs; hale, hearty in health and all children living.

From the Observer December 4, 1903.

The weather is cold today but clearing is going right along.

Gus Schilling was in Moro Tuesday setting up the rough edges of his summer and fall work. His father, Fred Schilling, has completed his masonry building in Grass Valley for 1903 and is now at home on his Kent farm preparing the foundation for his residence to be built next year.

Is it not time that the surgeons were able to throw a little light on that dreadful plague, appendicitis? Patients are being operated on daily in our state for this modern malady and yet the doctors themselves don't appear to know a great deal about it.

Capt. E. Sullivan who has been in the employ of the O. R. N. on their boats for 16 years, has purchased the lumber yard in Moro and will settle here soon.

Observer November 30, 1893.

Messrs. Louis, Henry and Chas. Schadewitz, of Kent, recently leased 3100 sheep from S. Hodser of Tygh Valley, also the Houser ranch in Wasco county. Messrs. Schadewitz will run their sheep on the home range near Kent and on the Wasco county range.

Prineville has no free schools this year and the Ochoco Review says, "Owing to circumstances over which the taxpayers have no control it is impossible for the first time in six years to maintain a free school and many children are deprived of schooling."

Citizens in Morrow county in solemn convocation dispatched a resolution to Governor Sylvester Pennoyer asking that he call a special session of the legislature to aid the debtors of the state over the period of financial stringency.

O. B. Starns has disposed of his Sherman county property to R. M. Starns and contemplates moving to Idaho we believe.

The Consoling Friend

May. "My fiancé is telling everybody in India that he is coming home to marry the most beautiful girl in the world."

Edna: "To bad, darling, after being engaged to you for such a long time!"

CRESTED WHEAT GRASS GOOD FORAGE CROP

Better Adapted To Dry Land Than Any Other

PERENNIAL PASTURE POSTIBLE

Wheat May Be Displaced On Marinal Lands By Grass

Several years ago a sheep man near Shaniko was watching his flock on the hills south of that town when he noticed a sort of grass that looked different than any he had ever seen. He marked the spot and the next day he brought a spade, dug up the bunch of new grass and replanted it near his cabin. When it seeded he sent the heads to Corvallis inquiring the nature of the new plant.

The department there relayed the heads of grass on to Washington from which point the sheep man received a letter stating that his find was crested wheat grass, and that it is grown in but two places in the western United States, Dickerson, N. D. and Moro, Oregon.

The plant found growing on the hills was probably grown from a seed that had been carried from the Moro nursery devoted to the growth of the grass.

Crested wheat grass was introduced into the United States in 1898 from its original home of Siberia. There it was, and is, grown in a district of low rainfalls and poor soils and for this reason it was thought it might be useful here.

It is about fifteen years since it was first grown on the station at Moro and in that time it has been tested rather thoroughly for drought resistance and other characteristics needed for a forage grass in this county.

It is a grass that does well in a cool climate and "it not susceptible to winter killing as it is grown in Saskatchewan where the winter temperatures are as low as fifty degrees below zero.

It is drought resistant meaning that it can undergo long periods without rain and can then come to life again even after its leaves have become apparently dry and dead.

It is a very good grass to withstand the ravages of weeds because it has a well developed root system that chokes out the weeds after the crested wheat has gotten a good start.

It is a long lived plant and will continue to grow and produce seeds after it has been cut or pastured almost indefinitely. This is one of the features about the native bunch grass that has caused it to be killed out in a greater part of this country.

Farmers generally are looking for a grass that may be seeded broadcast on weedy and shallow ground and will grow and eventually choke out the weeds. So far there is no grass that will do all that and most of the grasses that are valuable need some care and attention on the start. This is true of crested wheat grass. Its main use will be to seed land that is not productive enough to grow wheat yet can be plowed and tilled sufficiently to sow to some perennial grass.

Seed can be obtained in several places in the United States and many seed stores have it.

Vic Smith Invents and Drives 'Hoovercart'

Almost everyone has read of the "Hoovercarts" of the south but few know that Sherman county has one as well. Vic Smith drives about in a cart with rubber tired wheels, a nice set of springs and a horse and a mule for power. Vic says he had an automobile four years ago and this cart is made of the remains.

