

Sherman County Journal

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SHERMAN COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

Moro, Oregon, January 6, 1933

No. 9

Forty Fifth Year

TAX LEAGUES ASK FOR LOWER STATE COSTS

Study of Budget Leads to Belief in Possibility of Balance

RECOMMENDATIONS ARE MADE

Legislature Is Asked To Make Several Big Cuts

The tax leagues of the mid-Columbia counties in their second session at Arlington to discuss the state budget and make recommendations to the state legislature regarding the tax situation formulated a set of resolutions that cover the parts of state expense that have been debated most heavily up to this time. According to those who attended the meeting from this county the following recommendations do not represent the complete program of the tax leagues for the present session of the law makers and other resolutions will be sent in later as occasions arise.

Those who have represented Sherman county at the meetings are: W. H. Ragsdale, who was chosen chairman of the permanent organization, W. F. Jackson, J. B. Adams, W. S. Powell, L. L. Peetz and G. L. French.

To the Members of the Oregon Legislature:

The following recommendations were made by committees of the Tax Leagues of Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow and Wheeler counties, meeting at Arlington, December 30th, 1932, and represent, we believe, the ideas and opinions of the wheat and stock men of the Mid-Columbia river counties.

Whereas, the salaries paid to state officials and employees during the war and post-war period became approximately fifty percent higher than those paid in normal times, and

Whereas, the occasion for such salaries has now passed, and

Whereas, the per capita cost of state government has increased from \$5.90 in 1917 to \$15.06 in 1931, and

Whereas, the incomes and earnings of tax payers generally have depreciated to the extent of forty to eighty percent, with many of them even suffering heavy losses, thus rendering it impossible for them to meet the expenses of government as at present constituted, and

Whereas, a thorough investigation of the salaries and wages now paid in business and industrial establishments and by agriculture reveals that the rates of pay during the past three years has been reduced twenty-five to fifty percent, be it resolved:

1. That the salaries to be paid by the state henceforth be at once readjusted downwards to conform to the schedules of salaries paid during the pre-war period 1909-16.

2. That the extravagant manner of employing clerks and stenographers in the legislature that has been customary in certain sessions thereof in the past be corrected and replaced at the coming session by a program of economy and efficient management.

3. That the cost of the governor's office, which has been raised approximately forty percent in recent years be reduced to the previous level.

4. That the making of the state budget be henceforth accomplished as formerly it was, up to 1929, thus discontinuing the present budget division and office of budget director.

5. That the expenditures in connection with maintaining the Oregon National Guard be reduced by fifty percent or more as an emergency relief measure.

6. That the cost of maintaining the capitol buildings and grounds be reduced materially, more than has been suggested in the budget, by paying the ordinary labor required no more than is paid for such by individuals.

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Sherman Countians Attend Dalles Banquet

Last week quite a number of Sherman county citizens promised to arise in the chill, dark part of the night and drive to The Dalles for a 6:30 breakfast. A generous percentage of those who promised to perform so Herculean a feat did not do so for one reason or another. Nine adventurous souls made the night trip to represent the county. They heard a program designed to show the possibility, or even probability of ocean going vessels docking at the wharves at The Dalles and, in fact, captains and admirals and commodores were in evidence to prove that boats were already after the inland empire wheat crop. Norval Martin, president of the Lion's Club, was chairman and Francis Galloway, acted as toastmaster. Shelby Wiggins gave the address of the occasion.

Eight were in attendance from Grass Valley, J. W. Shepard, W. Ray Blake, A. R. Fortner, Estel Hartley, Fred Krurow, Joe Newcomb, E. E. Gervais and Dell Olds; from Moro, G. L. French.

Legion County Conference Postponed

The American Legion county conference that was to have been held in Moro Saturday night January 7th has been postponed until a later date. This action was necessary because it was inconvenient for the state leaders to appear in eastern Oregon at this time as they are holding conferences in the Willamette valley and because almost every family in the community has one or more cases of flu. This prevalent illness makes it nearly impossible for the Auxiliary to hold an installation at this time.

While a date cannot be promised for the meeting later in the year it is thought that the state officers can arrange to attend a meeting here when they make their trip to Spokane sometime next month.

Scoutmaster Belcher Visits in County

Scout Executive W. W. Belcher was a Sherman county visitor Wednesday, calling upon Scoutmaster Melvin Schadewitz and other Scouters of Moro. Principal Paul R. McCulloch of Wasco school has accepted the post of Scoutmaster there and is looking forward to a successful year of Scouting in Wasco.

Plans are being made for a troop of Boy Scouts in both Grass Valley and Rufus, as people realize that the character building work of the community must not be neglected, regardless of the kind of a year.

Mens Club Plan Meeting Saturday

The men's club of the Community church expect to hold their second meeting Saturday night at the church. This club was formed for the purpose of bringing together the men of the community in discussions of questions of general concern. The first speaker before the club was Rev. R. A. Hushinson who told of his trip to Europe.

Sidney S. George, national committeeman of the American Legion of Oregon and former state commander of the ex-service mens organization will speak at this second meeting of the men's club. A pot luck dinner will be served at 6:30 sharp at the church. All men interested in the discussion of public affairs, especially ex-service men, are invited.

No longer are the reporters and desk men of the Waterbury, Commercial American negligent about answering the other fellow's telephone. A caustic bulletin, by City Editor Raymond J. Fanning, turned the trick. It read: "To the Subjects. Anyone who can sit still and listen to a telephone ring has the nervous system of a mud turtle and a helluva nerve to be about a newspaper office."

WHEAT CONDITION LESS FAVORABLE

General Opinion More Pessimistic Every Day

TURKEY NOW THOUGHT HURT

Similarity To 1924 Becoming Apparent To Observers

Whether it is due to a reaction from the cheer of the holidays or whether caused by a more thorough examination the general opinion about the condition of the winter wheat crop in this county has undergone a change for the worse within the last week.

Observers who have been hesitant about stating their views on the subject now declare that the wheat is gone. Federation, Forty Fold, early Turkey and late Turkey. In the counties lying near Sherman county there is agreement that a large part of the wheat has been killed and in the southern end of Gilliam county it is reported that some farmers have already reseeded their fields to winter wheat.

There are still those who believe that the winter wheat will come out all right. These men maintain that the wheat is starting to grow again and that although a part of it might be killed and all of it set back to the beginning stage it will come out in the spring.

The pessimists or realists recall that in 1924 when the wheat was frozen out it was first reported that the soft wheat was gone and that "radically everyone came to admit that all of the wheat was dead much as they are doing now.

While no survey has been made in this county it is thought that there is enough wheat in the county to reseed. It is probable that there is insufficient spring wheat to reseed and some might have to put in Turkey wheat in January and February to prevent shipping in spring wheat at additional cost.

There is a strong possibility that a part of the county will not be reseeded if the wheat is frozen out. With the wheat market at approximately 25 cents per bushel there is not much incentive to grow wheat on land that is not certain of returning a good crop. If moisture is lacking

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Jack Sheets, War Veteran, Dies in Wasco

Mr. John Sheets, 45, who lived in Wasco for a number of years died at his home after a long illness at 10:10 the evening of January 1st.

Mr. Sheets was born in La Grande, Oregon August 21st, 1887 and for many years worked as a blacksmith in this community. He was a World War veteran and has been a patient in the Veterans' Hospital in Portland a number of times. John Sheets enlisted at Fort George Wright, Washington December 11, 1917. He was with the American expeditionary forces as a private first class from May 7, 1918 to December 4, 1918 and was attached to the 837th Aero Squadron in the Aviation corp. He was discharged at Camp Lewis, Washington on December 28, 1918. He is survived by his wife, two daughters, and a small son, his mother of Joseph, Oregon, one brother and three sisters.

The funeral was held Wednesday January 4th, at Wasco with the Wasco with the Wasco American Legion in charge of the services.

Soloman Coats Buried in Wasco Cemetery

Solomon L. (Bud) Coats was born in Yell county, Arkansas, April 27, 1880, and passed away at his home in Rufus December 26, 1932, at the age of 52 years and 8 months.

His early life was spent in Arkansas and Missouri. In 1903 he moved with his family to Oregon where he has made his home at Rufus with the exception of two years spent in Gilliam county.

May 20, 1888, he was married to Margaret E. Fox. Four children were born to them. He is survived by his wife and two daughters, Mrs. H. H. Brackett and Mrs. J. G. Addington all of Rufus, five grand children and one great grand child.

Mr. Coats was the last member of a family of ten brothers and sisters. Funeral services were held at the Rufus church with burial at Wasco.

Read the ads in the Journal

WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JAN. 4

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
DEC. 29	47	33	00
" 30	43	29	90
" 31	42	31	07
JAN. 1	42	30	00
" 2	41	28	44
" 3	39	29	00
" 4	53	36	00
Total for week			51

APPOINTMENTS MADE BY COUNTY COURT

New Year Brings Much Detail Work To Officers

OFFICERS BONDS ACCEPTED

County Will Be On Warrant Basis Until Taxes Paid

There is a surprising lot of detail work necessary to the running of a county and this is never more apparent than at the first meeting of the county court in each year. This is especially true in those years after a general election.

There is the matter of the appointment of a stock inspector, a health officer, a county physician, a truant officer, and there is the detail of accepting the bonds of the county officers who have been newly elected or re-elected to office. It all takes time and no small degree of patience.

Work of this kind took up the time of the court members Wednesday of this week when they hailed the glad news of the new year for the first time in their official capacities. James Stewart received the appointment as stock inspector again. He has been in that capacity so long he is almost a permanent fixture. Hugh Chrisman was named as truant officer and small boys vagrantly inclined had better escape his glance when playing hooky. C. L. Poley will be the health officer and county physician for 1933. Road viewers Roy Powell, D. E. Vinton and Homer S. Wall were re-appointed.

The bonds of A. M. Young for \$20,000, of G. C. Vinton for \$10,000, of Hugh Chrisman for \$20,000, Mrs. Peetz for \$10,000, and of L. H. Nahouse for \$10,000 were accepted by the court.

The Sherman County Journal was named the official newspaper of the county for the coming year.

The report of Sheriff Chrisman showing a turnover of \$4,418.67 at the end of the year was accepted. It was explained by the court that there would be no funds available for the elementary school fund as this fund was depleted after paying off the warrants that had been written against it. However all of the back warrants are paid.

In fact there were no funds of any consequence in the county's hands and warrants will be the method of payment until taxes can be collected.

Valuations Given Of Sherman County Towns

Valuations of the cities of the county have been completed by the assessor and they have been shanged somewhat since the report of last year. Wasco is valued at \$272,497. This sum is divided \$220,470 local valuation and \$52,027 public service giving Wasco much the larger slice of railroad property of any city in the county.

Moro is valued at \$197,356, divided \$164,720 in local valuation and \$32,636 in public service corporations. The tax rate in Moro will be 19.7 mills.

Grass Valley has a total valuation of \$147,795 of which \$112,250 is local valuation and \$35,545 represents public service companies. The tax rate in Grass Valley will be 11.7 mills designed to raise \$1720.

News of Earlier Days For Old Time Readers

Taken from the Observer January 4, 1894.

Miss Jennie Belshae and J. B. Morrison were married on New Year's day at the residence of the bride's parents, Rev. Morrison performing the ceremony.

Co. Thompson mustered "A Co." into the 3rd regiment, O. N. G. at Wasco last week. There were 54 members, and as fine appearing men the colonel says, as there are in Eastern Oregon. The mustering was done in the K. of P. hall, and every courtesy was extended to the mustering officers by the citizens of Wasco. Following are the commissioned officers elected. V. C. Brock, captain; W. H. Henrichs, first lieutenant; Jas. Marsh, second lieutenant.

Another young man residing in Washington was mistaken for a bear and killed a few days ago. A young man has no business to look like a bear, especially when there is a fool in the woods with a gun.

Observer January 9, 1914.

Emerson Peoples, writing from Pasadena, says that he attended the recent Rose Tournament in that city, but of the roses on display it would take a half a dozen to make one of an Oregon beauty.

Mrs. J. O. Powell, son, and Lloyd Powell and wife, who were visiting relatives in Moro during the holidays left for their home at Prineville Saturday.

Miss Leah Cushman returned Saturday to Portland to continue her studies at school in that city.

Miss Inez Hansen who has been spending the holidays at home returned to Albany college Monday to resume her studies.

Invitations were issued for 430 people to join with Moro in a Made in Oregon banquet at which the Moro Unity Club will be assisted in entertaining their friends by the Oregon Manufacturer's Association. A special rate has been made by the railway for the occasion and a party of twenty will attend from Portland. Hood River and The Dalles by means of a special Pullman. The affair is under direct charge of L. Barnum, chairman, W. H. Ragsdale and R. D. Jackson as an executive directing committee with other committees to assist.

Observer January 8, 1904.

Uncle Tom Williams' carpet loom is again ready for business at his farm west of Wasco.

No better flour is made on the Pacific coast than the Superlative, twisted out in Moro mills. Try the home product.

Mrs. S. S. Hayes gave an evening to the young folks during holiday week in honor of Master Dean, who was at home during the Hill Military Academy vacation.

N. P. Hansen has just bought another of the best farms in Sherman county. The Buckeye, or Robert Newton farm now occupied by G. E. Moore. Consideration \$25 per acre.

George Mowry is at home on vacation from Forest Grove University.

CITY COUNCILS MEET IN ANNUAL SESSIONS

Appointment of City Officers Order of Meetings

NEW OFFICERS TAKE OATHS

Wage Question Compromised By Council and Laborers

The new council of the city met Tuesday night for their first taste of civic responsibility in their elected office and in a three hour session transacted regular city business, cleaned up the docket left from the old year and began a study of the city's condition preparatory to advocating changes in the management of municipal affairs.

Four men were sworn in as councilmen by retiring mayor J. C. Freeman. They were Harry Kunsman, O. A. Ramsey, Frank Burnet and E. E. Barzee. Max Bull elected at the general election, did not put in an appearance and until the time of the meeting had not accepted his certificate of election. Giles L. French was sworn in as mayor.

The election of a recorder and a marshal, usually a part of the business of the first council of the year, was postponed until the second meeting to be held next Tuesday night.

The report of city treasurer C. V. Belknap was accepted by the council. It showed that the city has money in four banks, three of which are closed and that for this reason the financial affairs of the city are not in an enviable state.

The disagreement about the rate of pay for the city work of digging out the pipes during the freeze was settled by a compromise. The retiring council had recommended that the men be paid at the rate of \$2.25 per day of eight hours and the men had asked for pay at the rate of .40 per hour as the city had been in the habit of paying. The work had required 422 hours of labor and the bills were settled by agreement with the workmen present at the council meeting to accept payment at .35 per hour.

Standing committees were appointed by the mayor as follows: Public property and buildings; Councilmen Ramsey, Pickett and Burnet; Finance Councilmen. Pickett, Barzee and Kunsman; Water Councilmen Kunsman, Ramsey and Burnet.

Annual council meetings were held in Wasco and Grass Valley and like the one in Moro they did not produce the fire works expected of them. Grass Valley appointed Tom Garrett as marshal for another term, and made E. E. Gervais recorder for the year 1933. Mr. Gervais usually appoints I. D. Pike as his deputy. As Ray Blake, re-elected councilman was not present and failed to qualify for the position, C. W. Fields was appointed to fill his term until the next general election.

Wasco councilmen were officially inducted into office and the usual appointments were made. Charles Everett was renamed as marshal and water superintendent.

Mayor Tuel appointed Councilman Yates, O'Meara and Nesbit as his finance committee; Councilmen McKee, Scott and O'Meara as the street committee and named R. O. Scott as the library adviser. Officers reports were accepted.

"Haunted Gold" is the title of the show coming to the Legion Theatre next Wednesday evening under the management of J. M. Yoes who has been bringing pictures to towns of the county during the winter.

This is a four star western featuring John Wayne who is developing into a western actor in the manner of the famous men who have taken like parts since pictures began.