

Sherman County Journal

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SHERMAN COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

Forty Fifth Year

Moro, Oregon, April 7, 1933

No. 22

HIGHWAY LEGISLATION MAKES GREAT CHANGES

Lower License Fees; Higher Gasoline Taxes Affect Everyone

LIGHT TRUCK LICENSE CHEAPER

Distribution System For Road Funds Is Changed

Highway legislation enacted by the legislature changes in several ways the former laws governing trunk highways and roads within the state and also makes different charges for licenses of cars and trucks.

Whereas, automobile owners used to pay a license fee based upon the size and weight of their cars they will now pay \$5 per year regardless of the size, cost, age or anything else. The fee for the last half of 1933 will be \$5, however, and the cheaper license rate will not take full effect until 1934.

Freight trucks will travel the roads at a cheaper cost than heretofore because of the passage of House bill 492 which provides that trucks weighing between 1700 and 3000 pounds will be taxed at 70 cents per hundredweight instead of 90 cents. Trucks from 3000 to 4500 pounds will be allowed to operate at a cost ten per cent less than formerly. Larger commercial trucks will have to pay a larger fee because the ton-mile rate was raised. Those used in transportation of agricultural products and those used exclusively in cities may evade this added cost.

The gasoline tax will be raised one cent to make the total tax six cents five for the state and one for the federal government.

The law affecting return of gasoline tax money was changed to make it more difficult to obtain refunds unless the gasoline was actually used on farms or in other ways not connected in any way with the highway.

Secondary highways are under the direct control of the state highway commission for both construction and maintenance. In this county it means that Clyde Gillmor and his crew will have the job of looking after Shearers and Cottenwood grades in addition to their other duties.

The \$1,600,000 to be returned to

Tommy Fraser Wins Fire Prevention Prize

Tommy Fraser, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Fraser, of Moro, won one of the prizes given in the contest of the A-H club for Farm and Home Fire prevention. Gold badges were given to the winners of the contest in each county. Winners were those who made the best records in eliminating fire hazards around the home.

License Examiner Here Next Wednesday

W. C. Bush, examiner of operators and chauffeurs will be in Moro next Wednesday April 12 at the court house from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. Since the law has been changed to make the examination for automobile drivers come every two years and the fee one dollar, there may be somewhat of a rush to be examined before the law goes into effect next June. The old law made it mandatory for all drivers to be examined within three years and allowed a fee of fifty cents.

McKean and Searcy Make First Bow

A new firm has been organized to handle the distribution and sale of Texaco gasoline and oils in this county. J. C. McKean and Searcy are now McKean and Searcy dealers in gasoline. The building formerly occupied by the stock of tractor and combine parts will be changed to an oil office. A truck will soon be in operation for country deliveries, and a pump for retail sales will be installed.

Oil Around Kent Thought A Possibility

Rumor has it that some day soon there will be mineral developments in the vicinity of Kent, if not that, there will be drilling for oil. Several weeks ago an attempt was made to lease lands adjacent to that town for oil drilling and later developments show that the movement is still progressing. Perhaps those who one time drilled for coal and oil deposits near there were not all wrong.

The counties will not help Sherman county much as \$5,104 will be the total return for this county instead of \$19,000 as was reported last week. The division is based on the license fee return of 1931.

BEER MAY BE SOLD IN COUNTY TOWNS APR. 7

Ordinance Passed By Moro Council Limits Sale of Beverage

TOLERANT POSITION IS TAKEN

Grass Valley Is Contemplating Similar Legislation

Beer, the golden, amber, liquid that has held the spotlight within these United States for the past month, will flow freely within the confines of the city of Moro today if stocks are sufficient for local dealers to purchase a portion for their trade. This was made possible when the Moro city council passed a beer ordinance Tuesday night and passed on the issuance of licenses to two purveyors.

The ordinance as passed differs somewhat from the one originally introduced last week. This difference is largely made up of restrictive clauses and regulations, although none of these will make the sale of beer here difficult for those who intend to obey the rules of good judgment. The attitude of the city fathers throughout has been one of tolerance even though many of them do not favor beer. They have passed an ordinance permitting the sale of beer in the hope that moral conditions will be improved if the drink is handled cautiously and in the open. Violations of the ordinance will be likely to result in entire closing of the town to the sale of the brew.

In order to make the city ordinance conform to that of the federal government the city will grant licenses to purveyors for the quarter from April to July. Thereafter licenses can only be granted for one year.

No beer may be sold to those under 18 years or those attending schools, none may be sold between 12 midnight and 6 a. m. License fees will be \$25 for those selling beer by the glass and \$15 for those selling it in the original containers.

The council is given the entire discretion in the issuance of licenses and also the council may revoke the license of any operator after giving him a public hearing.

Grass Valley has an ordinance very similar to that of Moro and will pass upon it finally next Monday evening. The opinion of those councilmen and other city officials attending the Moro meetings was that that city desired an ordinance embodying the same features as the Moro ordinance in the interest of conformity. License fees are the same as those in the Moro ordinance and except for a proposed closing hour of nine o'clock and a bond for the beer purveyor the two ordinances are identical.

Tractor Company Stock Moved To The Dalles

The stock of tractor and combine parts kept here by the Cascade Tractor and Machinery Co. has been moved to The Dalles by officials of that company. This leaves but two branches of the company, Arlington and The Dalles.

J. C. McKean still retains his stock in the company and his office will be headquarters for repairs, but the consolidation of stocks has been made in the interest of economy. Repairs will be ordered from the stock in The Dalles.

Vic Barr is wearing a badly bruised face this week because he chose to ride on the running board of a car instead of inside. He was near Redmond on a horse buying trip when it happened. The driver of the car stopped suddenly because of a wreck in the road, but Vic didn't, with the consequences above mentioned.

River Warehouse Plan May Go To R. F. C.

W. H. Ragsdale, who is the county's representative on the state wide board for Reconstruction Finance Corporation funds, was in Portland Saturday to attend the first meeting of the committee. While no recommendations regarding construction were made at the first meeting each representative was asked to recommend self liquidating building or construction for his county at some later date.

No definite plans have been made here regarding such improvements but a movement has been started to advocate the building of a warehouse at some point near Biggs. It is felt that a warehouse there would be self liquidating within a short time as it would draw a large part of the wheat of the county to it as river shipments become more numerous. Such a warehouse would not only pay good dividends but would facilitate water shipment of wheat at a saving to every farmer, it is held.

Jim Payne Buried In The Dalles This Week

James Luther Payne, a resident of The Dalles for several years, but formerly a resident of Sherman county, died at his home there Thursday night. He had long been ill.

He was born in Missouri in 1881 and came with his parents to Sherman county when a boy. The family settled in the Rutledge district where James grew to manhood.

The funeral was held in The Dalles and burial was made there. He is survived by his widow, four stepchildren, a brother Ben, of Grass Valley and a sister Mrs. Minnie Whitaine, now living in Portland.

Wasco School Board Decides on Short Term

The Wasco school board met last week and determined several questions about school for the coming year. One of the most radical changes in the former method of schools there was the action reducing the number of months taught from nine to eight. While this move does not preclude the possibility of holding a nine months school if financial affairs improve teachers will only be hired on an eight month contract.

Salaries of teachers were lowered by the board and preparations were made to hold expenses to a minimum for the next school year.

Beer For Parched Throats May Be Delayed

Whether the parched throats of Sherman countians will be dampened with legal liquor today is still a question that cannot be answered until the day is over. There is reported to be a real shortage of drinking liquor in the state and none of the foaming non-intoxicating drink may find its way into this county for a day or two. It will be possible to sell it in both Wasco and Moro as soon as it arrives although there has been little unrestrained excitement about it.

Eastern Star Convenes In Wasco Tuesday

The district meeting of Eastern Star Chapter of Sherman County was held on the night of April 4th in Fraternity hall at Wasco. The Chapters of Grass Valley, Moro and Wasco exemplified the work of the order and during initiation Mrs. Bill Nesbitt was taken into the Anna Fulton chapter of Wasco. Distinguished guests present were Anna Ellis, Worthy Grand Matron of Oregon, and Grand Representative Helen Friday of Madras and Mrs. E. H. Moore of Moro.

About 130 were present including Continued to page four.

COUNTY RECEIVES CASH FROM SURETY COMPANY

\$10,000 Paid By Surety For Bank of Commerce Account

NEW RELIEF WORKERS START

Predatory Animal Hunter To Remain In County

Wednesday was a busy day at the court house with the monthly meeting of the county court, the settlement between the old and the new relief committees going on and the clerk's office busy recording a new batch of waivers on Reconstruction Finance loans.

The court, being infrequent visitors and the powers that be, attracted the greatest interest. The members were deep in a discussion of finances for a large part of the day. Among the things talked about was the final settlement between the court and the Bank of Commerce receiver, E. L. Morton.

The county received a check for \$10,000 on the surety bond that secured, in part, the county's deposit of \$10,000 in the bank at the time it closed. An attempt was made to reach an agreement with Mr. Morton whereby the county could get immediate possession of the bonds given by the Bank of Commerce for security for the county certificate of deposit of \$6000. The bonds, with accrued interest, are worth the money the county had in this certificate and immediate settlement of this problem is now desired by both the county court members and the liquidator.

Although the fund for predatory animal eradication work in the state was reduced during the last session of the legislature the same amount will be allotted to Sherman county. This will allow Alva Stone to remain in the county and continue his work here.

The new relief committee was represented by George H. Wilcox, Grass Valley, who is chairman. With Homer Wall, who handled the bookkeeping for the old committee the work was checked and arrangements made to take over the work immediately. The plan has changed, from that used last year. From now on the committee will be given their funds. A nominal sum will be kept by the chairman for immediate relief. The committee will make their reports directly to the state committee where they will be audited. Although the county court members are also members of the committee the relief work will not be handled through the court, but entirely by the relief group.

Schoolmen Go To LaGrande Meeting

Schoolmen Wily Knighten, Henry Teiz and Vern McGowan drove toward LaGrande last Friday to attend the meeting of Eastern Oregon teachers. McGowan dropped off at Pendleton to visit a brother at Pilot Rock and the others joined with some thing over 400 other teachers to make the conference one of the largest held in this section of the state.

Patronize Journal Advertisers.

WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING APR. 5

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
MAR. 30	56	37	.21
" 31	47	33	.00
APR. 1	58	30	.00
" 2	68	36	.00
" 3	63	34	.00
" 4	56	27	.00
" 5	62	26	.00
Total for week			.21

Warrant Sales Discussed At Meeting Wednesday

A group of men interested in the schools of the county met at the Moro hotel Wednesday night to consider several proposals for facilitating the cashing of school warrants in the hands of teachers.

It seems that districts with a favorable financial statement may have its warrants sold to any bank by its teachers and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation will advance the necessary funds to the bank. This method of obtaining two-thirds of the face value of the warrant is more liberal than it has been heretofore and may be used by Sherman county districts.

It is possible that the teachers of the county may use their local organization to establish a clearing house for warrants to aid the sale of warrants to those wishing to pay taxes with them. It seems feasible to handle the warrants locally under the new law making tax payments with warrants possible.

First County Warrants Paid This Week

Those holding the first drawn county warrants are noting the especial splendor of the sunshine, the fineness of the atmosphere and the excellence of life in general since the Wednesday meeting of the county court, for that august body is going to pay some warrants and relieve the condition caused by three months without anything to use for money. It is quite likely that next week other warrants will be paid unless the court finds that the \$10,000 they have received from the bonding company must go to other uses.

Ferrel Barr Wrecks Trucks On Rural Road

Ferrel Barr had an accident that had serious consequences for his truck last Friday morning. While coming down the hill on the Honkman market road near the Hockman place he applied the brakes just as he reached the bridge. For some reason only one front brake took effect and the truck missed the bridge landing in the ditch. The frame extension of the bridge struck the door but did not hurt the driver.

Evidently Vic was tired of repairing that particular truck for he traded it in for a new one later in the week.

Thirty-nine Years Ago In the Midst of A Political Campaign

From the Observer April 10, 1914

George Meloy Jr. and Ben Tomlin met with a severe mishap last Tuesday evening about eight o'clock while coasting down First street upon a bicycle built for one.

Contractor O. A. Ramsey left for Kent Thursday to take charge and finish the new store building being built there by L. J. Gates to replace the one recently destroyed by fire.

L. L. Peetz received an express shipment of ten young calves, mostly Durhams, last Wednesday evening. From the Observer April 8, 1904.

Prof. Henry, leader of the Moro Cornet Band, and Miss Minnie Holder were united in the holy bonds of matrimony on the 4th.

Ninety-three votes were cast at the city election in Moro, Monday. Councilmen elected are W. H. Ragsdale and J. F. Foss for the one year term. G. W. Brock, B. F. Pike and O. W. Ramsey for the three year term.

J. E. Medler lost \$4000 by the unfortunate fire that destroyed his barn and 13 head of horses etc. on the night of the 20th. As near as can be found out two men were traveling

MOVE TO RECOVER CITY FUNDS BEGUN AT WASCO

Former City Treasurer Held At Fault in Bond Matter

CITY CONSIDERS NEW PUMP

Beer Ordinance Read First Time and Lengthily Debated

By a vote of four to two the council of Wasco voted to accept report of the committee that was instructed to contact an attorney to start suit against Earl T. Jones, former city treasurer for failing to pay city bonds held by the Bank of Commerce. It is alleged that the council ordered that \$6000 be taken from the city's account in the bank, of which Jones was cashier, and that city bonds to that amount be paid. When the accounts of the bank were brought to the attention of the council after the failure of the bank it was found that only \$4000 worth of bonds had been paid, according to current reports.

Councilmen voting to institute action against the former city treasurer were: Nesbit, Scott, O'Meara and Richelderfer. Councilmen McKean and Yates voted against such action. The city of Wasco suffered serious financial losses in the bank it is understood.

The purchase of a new pumping plant for the city well was deferred for two weeks on account of financial conditions. H. N. Crandall, of The Dalles appeared before the council and explained the proposed turbine pump, and action on its purchase will be taken at the next meeting.

A beer ordinance was brought to first reading after a discussion lasting over an hour. This ordinance if it passes the council will provide for license fees of \$60 for persons selling beer to be consumed on the premises on which it is sold and \$40 if it be sold in original containers only. It provides fines of from \$50 to \$100 for violation of these ordinance, and also prevents the sale of beer to persons under 18 years of age and to those still attending high schools. Several changes were made in the ordinance bill by the members before it was finally agreed upon, the most important of which was the division of licenses into two classes and the lowering of the fee from a proposed \$80 to \$60.

Let the Journal do your printing

Uncle Emmett Figures On the Possibilities of the Sales Tax

"A lot of rising politicians," opined Uncle Emmett, "may have the chance to write ex before their name after this sales tax business is over."

"Ha Ha. You think the ones that make their tax will have to sleep on 'em, do you?" asked Wabash.

"It sure looks like it from this point of view," answered the sage, "waivin' a tax before the voters is like wavin' a red flag before a mad bull and a new flag is redder than an old one and a new tax is a lot redder than an old one. Some folks is apt to go plumb loco over this business that dog day election we got comin' up."

"I read once about an enraged populace being the greatest enemy of corruption," remarked Wabash.

"Heck, Wabash, there ain't no corruption connected with this and whether what you say is true or not it is sure that an enraged populace is the greatest enemy of logical thinkin'. Their mad on their brains operate on the same wave length as both can't be heard together at all. It looks like this here sales tax is goin' to bring on a first rate fight that will cover up the real issues concerned. The gents that get in the front rank are apt to be splattered with a lot of mud that won't wash off in time for the next election whether they're right or wrong."

"Don't you reckon Oregon's politicians are equal to that old time bird who said he'd rather be right than be president?" inquired Wabash.

"Son, if my memory is correct he said after the election, but this here sales tax may be right if certain things happen in the next two years an likewise it may be wrong if other things happen in that time. If this new deal gives everybody a good hand, openers at least, an folks can pay their taxes and pay a big income tax to the state, if that passes and the schools have money enough to run on, the sales tax will be as unnecessary as a porch on a tent, but if folks get the same old duces and treys when the deal is over an' schools have to stop, and warrants pile up, the sales tax would be or will be a life saver for government. It all depends, Wabash, on whether you're an optimist or a pessimist. If you think you'll wake up some mornin' with you're economic sins all washed away and the sun shinin' like it did back in 1929, law off the sales tax; it ain't necessary. If you think we may have to slip along in low gear for some days yet you'd better vote to give the state a few pennies out of what you spend or else you'll have to teach your kids yourself an' that'd sure handicap the next generation terrible."

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