

# Sherman County Journal

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SHERMAN COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

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## REPRESENTATIVES TALK ON LEGISLATIVE DEEDS

### Snell, Turner Explain Sales Tax Law To Club

### MEASURE CALLED AID TO STATE

### Relief of Taxburdened Farmers Aim of Bill

Discussion of the sales tax and other new measures recently passed by the legislators was the program before the commercial club at the meeting Tuesday night.

Earl W. Snell, of Arlington, speaker of the house at the winter session was first introduced by A. Rose, president of the club. He began by paying a compliment to the legislature saying that never before in the history of the state has any session been confronted with so many problems of major importance. He described the state's condition at the start of the legislative meeting as follows: A bonded state indebtedness of 56 million, a deficit of 4 million, of which 2 million was borrowed money. A budget calling for 9 millions of expenses for the biennium was before it from the governor. The property tax was not paid and many counties had delinquencies of over 50 per cent.

With this state of affairs the legislators labored for approximately sixty days and Mr. Snell gave it as his opinion that, despite cautious criticism, the legislators who gathered at Salem this last winter were in general a serious minded, intelligent and honest body intent on doing their best for their state.

The budget was reduced by 35 per cent despite the fact that the administration had sent it to the legislature with several important features eliminated.

The legislators were confronted with the necessity of doing one of four things. They could let the tax situation remain as it was; raise the income tax, although no income tax would be sufficient to greatly relieve property; pass a selective sales tax or pass a general sales tax. They raised the income tax and passed the general sales tax.

The speaker gave two estimates of the amount the sales tax would raise. Six million the tax commission's estimate, and from seven to ten million the estimate of the manufacturers. It will relieve the counties' tax burden in case the income exceeds the sum needed for state millage.

Mr. Snell explained briefly the sales tax law pointing out the elimination of the personal property tax, the features for control and collection and reviewed some of the objections to it. While the sales tax is not called an equitable tax, "neither is the antiquated property tax an equitable tax" he said.

Representative J. O. Turner, of Heppner, was next called upon. He praised Speaker Snell for his able explanation of the new tax measure, and for his capable handling of the lower house in the last session. He spoke briefly on the sales tax measure and gave some figures about how it would affect his county, Morrow. He stated that the passage of the bill would remove \$46,000 from the tax bills of farmers there.

Senator J. P. Yates, of Wasco, being from the host county appeared last on the program. He talked on other measures passed by the legislature instead of the sales tax. He expressed himself as opposed to deficiency judgments and hoped at some future date the rejected bill could be made law. He spoke of the bill that made warrant payment of taxes possible, the bill that made it possible to pay delinquent taxes in ten installments and gave some of the requirements of the new motor

## Mother and Daughter Banquet Held By Club

The annual Mother and Daughter banquet of the Moro Woman's Club was a very enjoyable affair. Members and their guests were seated at tables laden with good food and decorated with flowers and festoons of lavender and gold crepe paper.

America, the Beautiful, was sung by the audience, after which prayer was offered by Mrs. Bryant. After a short address of welcome by the president, Mrs. Strong, Mrs. Stephens announced the following splendid program: Song—"The Piper's Song," High School Girls' Glee Club. "Our Daughters"—Mrs. J. F. Foss. "Our Mothers"—Mary Pinkerton. Song—"The Bow Leg Boy" Girls Glee Club.

Pianologue—"Grandma's Patch Work Quilt" Mary Lou Sayrs. Mother and Daughter Sketch—Mrs. Foley and Rachel Foley. Song—"Philosophy" Girls Glee Club. Song—"Believe Me If All Those Endearing-Young Charms" audience. The president announced that the next meeting of the club will be held at her home on May 5th.

## Cooking Club Girls Entertain Their Mothers

The Moro Cooking Club held their annual tea, Saturday April 29, in honor of their mothers, at the home of their leader Mrs. Stephens.

The girls prepared a short program which included: Welcome—Mary Pinkerton. Response—Mrs. Fraser. Pianologue—"You're Just the Boy for Me" Mary Sayrs.

Recitation—"Bread and Butter"—Jean Powell. Somebody Loves You. Girl in the Little Green Hat. Piano Solo—"Woodland Echoes"—Norma Melzer.

Reading—"Fifty Years From Now"—Dorothy Fraser. Just an Echo in the Valley. I Like Mountain Music.

After the program the mothers journeyed to the lawn where they had a treasure hunt. There was a close race between Mrs. Nahouse and Mrs. Knights but the latter found the lost treasure which was a box of home made candy.

A luncheon was served consisting of angel cake, ice cream, tea and coffee.

## Men's Club To Meet May 13th

The next meeting of the Men's Club of the Presbyterian church will be held Saturday evening May 13, at the church when A. S. Jensen, Ph. D. will address the group of men in the club and the ladies as well.

Mr. Jensen is professor of psychology at the Monmouth Normal school and his talk will be upon some phase of his work in teacher training at the state school.

## Rules Of Loan Office Not To Be Followed

Plans have been completed by the Regional Crop Production Loan Office at Minneapolis for a systematic inspection of the seeding program of all crop production loan borrowers. The Minneapolis office points out that it is necessary that the regulations surrounding these government advances be strictly followed. Borrowers, in consideration of the loans received are obligated to reduce acreage of certain cash crops by 30 per cent. They must also seed the entire acreage for which loans were obtained or return the overborrowing to the Minneapolis office.

From questions asked it was developed that the utilities now have 6 percent of their taxes on personal property, the telephone company 4 percent and the railroads 8 percent.

## COURT DIVIDES COUNTY FOR NEW SCHOOL PLAN

### Five Zones Made of Non-High School Districts

### SETTLEMENT MADE WITH BANK

### Court Will Not Call Election on County Unit Without Petition

Division of the non high school districts of the county into five zones for the purpose of electing a county non-high school district board was probably the most important action taken by the county court at their meeting Wednesday. With the county school superintendent they were sitting as the county boundary board at the time.

This division is mandatory under the new law that was passed at the last session of the legislature and it is therein further provided that the districts shall be similar in size.

Zone 1 includes districts: Locust Grove, Gordon Ridge, Biglow and Emigrant with 52 pupils. Zone 2 includes DeMoss, Monkland, Klondike, Webfoot, Fairview and Gorman with 57 pupils. Zone 3 is composed of Erskine, Harmony and Boardman districts with 52 pupils. Zone 4 is made up of Rudledge, Michigan and Buckley districts with 74 pupils and Zone 5 is comprised of Rosebush, Liberty, Wilcox and Dobie Point districts with 52 pupils. This manner of dividing the county makes all zones nearly equal in number of pupils attending school.

According to the law five directors must be elected from the county, one of which shall be from each district. Candidates must file with the county school superintendent and must have a petition signed by thirty legal voters residing in the candidates district. Each candidate must file his or her acceptance within ten days before the day of the election which will be the third Monday in June or June 19th, this year.

Election is held in each school district in the non-high school districts and candidates are voted on by the entire electorate of the five zones. The man receiving the highest vote in the county for representative from his zone is declared the director from that zone.

The duty of the directors of the newly formed district will be to govern the high school pupils and their tuition in those districts not having a high school.

The court came to an agreement with E. L. Morton, representing the Bank of Commerce, regarding the payment of county funds in that bank. Mr. Dunlap dissented in the vote. The agreement allows the bank three-quarters of the sum claimed that remains from the bond sale of county road bonds.

The court did not vote to hold an election on the county unit school measure although individual members of the court felt that it might be advantageous to the county to do so. As a court the members wished to have more interest in the measure displayed before calling such an election. A petition bearing a hundred names may be presented to the county officials which will make an election call mandatory. County Unit schools may be voted on at any general or special election. It does not consolidate schools but it does change the method of school taxation and government. The court expects to meet again May 15 giving ample time for any interested persons or group of persons to circulate a petition and present it to them at that meeting.

A conservative is a man who is too cowardly to fight, and too fat to run.

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## Six Youths Chosen For Forestry Camps

The county relief committee met with the county court, that body being a part of the relief group. The problem confronting the committee was approval of applications of young men who desire to go to the forestry camps for the next six months. Few applications have been received but from them the following men were picked to fill the quota from Sherman county: Robert Hill, Rufus; Kenneth Todd, Deston Russel, Grass Valley; John Thompson, Rufus; Lloyd Young, Kent; Rolla Thogerson, Moro.

## Gorman District Will Hold School Next Fall

Gorman district was granted the privilege of continuing school next year with less than six pupils by the district boundary board. A new law makes it illegal to pay state or county school money to districts having less than six pupils except when granted permission to hold school by the board. Gorman has one pupil this year, but is somewhat isolated from other districts.

## State Does Not Take School Money

Taxes paid up to May 3 show that the county has not fared so badly within the last few days. The sheriff had collected \$13,986 in hard cash, and \$989.29 in warrants or a total of \$14,975.29 taxes paid. This, of course, does not rate as a very large tax payment as nearly a hundred thousand dollars are due, but it compares favorably with the sums other counties are collecting.

The state must be paid something over \$12,000 out of the first half of the taxes, but this demand of the state does not affect the taxes paid in for schools or cities or for any special fund. The general fund of the county suffers when the state demands their full share, but other funds cannot be touched for prepayment to the state.

## Road Crew Camp At Grass Valley

A group of about 60 men moved into Sherman county Tuesday equipped with trucks, road sweepers, oil tanks, beds, blankets and all the impedimenta of a crew of highway workers. They were under the direction of S. A. Barnum, oiling crew foreman.

Since Wednesday they have been engaged in putting a seal coat of oil on the Sherman highway between DeMoss and Kent. Three cars of oil were used in the process and it was spread thin and hot and all within four days after which the crew expect to move to Maupin.

## Picture Shows Resumed In Moro

Picture shows have been resumed here beginning Wednesday night of this week when J. M. Yoes returned after several months absence because of the bad weather. For May 10 the bill will feature Joe Brown in "You Said a Mouthful" which shows the loud mouthed comedian as a long distance swimmer with an original way of training for his feats.

## Miss Stephens Joins Kappa Delta Pi

Oregon State College, Corvallis, Emma Jean Stephens of Moro, a senior in home economics, at Oregon State college, was formally pledged to Kappa Delta Pi, national professional honor society in education, recently at a meeting in the Memorial Union building. Leadership, outstanding service, and scholarship are the bases of selection to Kappa Delta Pi.

## SALES TAX WOULD HELP REAL PROPERTY OWNERS

### General Population Would Take Up Part of Tax Burden

### SIX MILLION EXPECTED INCOME

### Little Could Be Returned To Counties Unless Tax Exceeds Estimates

This is the third of a series of articles about the sales tax written by the editor of the Sherman County Journal.

It is when the sales tax is considered from a statewide point of view that the arguments against it really become forceful. There is no denying the fact that those lobbying for it were the public utilities and it would undoubtedly be of aid to them in lowering their taxes.

Removal of the tax on personal property appears to be the part of the bill that is bearing the major criticism. While this removal will aid farmers and stockmen to some degree it will materially aid owners of stocks of goods and manufacturers. Ray Gill, master of the Oregon Grange and a foe of the sales tax estimates that of the \$87,000,000 worth of personal property in the state \$66,000,000 worth is in the hands of business houses and only \$21,000,000 is the property of farmers. Other estimates are similar to this one.

It is common knowledge that the ultimate consumer pays the taxes of the merchant anyway, but it is the argument of the opponents of the sales tax that the consumer would be forced to pay more tax if the new law passed than under the present system. There is no argument on either side that the sales tax is equitable or that it takes taxes from those that best able to pay.

The sales tax was designed to take the burden away from the real property owners and put it on other shoulders. It will do this in those counties where the removal of the personal property tax does not raise the general level of taxation. It will place the burden of this tax on the consumer of goods who is protesting that he is even less able to pay than is the owner of large properties.

The sales tax is estimated to bring in a total of \$6,000,000. The cost of collection will come out of this first, probable \$300,000. The next items taken from the sales tax receipts will be the state and elementary school taxes which are \$5,051,426 in 1933. The millage levies for the blind, the veterans and for irrigation bond payment raise this to \$5,695,106 which does not leave much money to be returned to the counties as advocates of the measure sometimes state. It must be considered as a means of shifting taxes from the real property owner to the consumer and as a shifting of taxes from the personal property owner to the consumer and in some counties to the real property owner if there is enough personal property taken off the roll.

One class that will directly benefit from the passage of the sales tax is composed of those who own property in the state and live elsewhere. These individuals or corporations will

## WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING MAY 3

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
APR. 27	76	43	.00
" 28	70	42	.00
" 29	55	37	.01
" 30	55	32	.01
MAY 1	52	39	.27
" 2	54	35	.02
" 3	57	29	.02
Total for week			.33

## New Farm Loan Association Forming

An effort is being made to establish a new farm loan agency in this county. Both of the federal farm loan associations in the county are in arrears with the regional at Spokane and are therefore unable to make further loans. Nearly all of the local associations in the wheat belt are in a like condition.

Under the new government law it is possible to establish new Federal Farm Loan Associations that can make new loans to persons having property of sufficient value. The proceeds from these loans may be used to pay off outstanding obligations which may in some cases be bought at less than par value.

W. H. Ragdale and E. E. Kaseberg are interesting themselves in the new association and information may be had from them regarding the plan.

## Educational Institute Planned For Wasco

Plans for an institute to be held under the auspices of the Wasco Methodist church are being made by a committee from that city. Three topics will be discussed and material is being gathered to present during the sessions. Economics, peace and liquor are the subjects that will be considered.

Roy Hewitt, of Willamette University will lead the economics group; J. J. Hansaker, Portland, will lead the discussion of peace and another state leader will handle the liquor parleys. The conference will begin Friday evening May 19 and will continue until the following Sunday. R. O. Scott, Mrs. G. A. Sargent and Rev. Warner are the committee in charge.

## Elevator Men Want Lower Rates Too

An effort is being made to have the new Union Pacific Stages grain rate apply to bulk wheat as well as to sacked wheat and to have the storage on bulk wheat lowered to the same figure as for sacked wheat. It is too early in this fight to determine what the outcome will be, but if it is done it would equalize costs for those who wish to bulk.

Against the handling of grain in bulk at present are the differential in grain prices of 2 cents per bushel for sacked grain, the cheaper storage caused by cheaper houses for storage purposes and the heavy difference in freight costs especially since the inauguration of the eleven and a half to 13 and a half cent rate by U. P. stages for sacked wheat.

## Other Days in Sherman County When Old-Timers Were Young

From the Observer May 8, 1914.

The best assortment of disciples of Isaac Walton leaving Moro last week was that composed of Dr. C. L. Foley, taken in case of accidents, W. C. Rutledge to see that proper rest was taken, R. D. Jackson, who supplied the linament, and C. E. Johnson, to show them where to fish.

The Dalles Maroons got marooned and buffaloid at Moro last Sunday when the local nine took them into camp by a score of 13 to 1.

Frank Marshall was in town Tuesday after a load of lumber for a new house being erected on the Hay Canyon farm owned by W. J. Furnish. A barn is being built on the same place.

H. B. Belshee has bought pipe and expects to install a siphon system from the farm reservoir to his hog lot.

From the Observer May 6, 1904.

The New Moro Hotel evolutions have finally brought a permanent landlord W. C. Rutledge has become its owner.

L. L. Peetz has completed his alfalfa and corn planting, an experi-

## RAIN COMES TO SPEED GROWTH OF WHEAT

### Third of An Inch of Moisture Adds To Chances For Crop

### WHEAT GROWING RAPIDLY NOW

### Rains in June Needed To Make Crop this year

When the farmers were feeling that rains were a thing of the past and that things were generally hopeless they were awakened in the middle of the night by the gentle sprinkle of raindrops. There was 27 of an inch in that shower and since that time various parts of the county have felt the beneficent effect of rainfall.

The total at Moro has been .33 but observers in the south end of the county claim that a greater amount has fallen there. Reports from Umatilla county to the station here indicate that over 2 and a half inches fell here within the last few days.

Rain at any season of the year is acceptable, except in harvest, but it must be admitted that a majority of the farmers would rather see it wait until June before giving us the heavy down-pour that will be needed to make the grain shell out in the proper manner.

The grain is so small at the present that it does not require a great deal of moisture and will not for several weeks. When it is heading it needs a great deal more water to keep it going at top speed and if it should be possible for a generous rain to come then—well, write your own figures.

It is not known what A. C. Kaseberg had to do with this last rain, but over a week ago he prophesied within a couple of days when rain would come to Sherman county. At that time the sun was shining and there was not a cloud in the sky.

W. C. Bush, who will examine those who wish to renew their drivers licenses, will be in Moro Wednesday, May 10. From ten in the morning until five in the afternoon he will test those who appear before him at the court house and from inquiries about his next appearance he will be busy.

## Other Days in Sherman County When Old-Timers Were Young

From the Observer May 8, 1914.

All that remained of the destroyed Moro Foundry after the fire was shipped to Portland this week.

At two o'clock tomorrow the first game of basket ball will be played on Moro field between the ladies of the high school and the Moro basket ball team.

N. W. Thompson has two good offers from the east for his harrow jack.

From the Observer May 3, 1894.

A prohibition speaker fell down the stairs at a Rutledge meeting last week, but we are informed that he was perfectly sober.

Grant Armworthy and Miss Lela Harvey were married on the 22nd. They will make Arlington their home.

R. J. Ginn has sold two threshing machines already. One to Elwood Thompson and one to Charles Belshee.

D. W. Hifu has been laid up with a severe attack of rheumatism the last few days but is now improving.

J. J. Schaeffer left with Rev. Bailey this week for Prineville to sing at revival services there.