

Sherman County Journal

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SHERMAN COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

Forty Fifth Year

Moro, Oregon, August 4, 1933

No. 39

WHEAT CROP PLEASING TO HARVESTING FARMERS

County May Average 20 Bushels To Acre This Year

QUALITY IS GENERALLY GOOD

South End Crops Also Better Than Expected

Threshing operations for the last week have strengthened the preliminary estimate of last week that the county crop would be in excess of expectations.

Wheat fields in the north end continue to fill sacks in greater number than was thought possible a month ago. As several fields are finished and the yield finally computed there is assurance that the crop in that section will be much better than it was last year. Spring wheat in several places is reported to be making fifteen sacks to the acre and it is probable that the entire district west of Wasco will average between 25 and 30 bushels.

In the central part of the county the wheat is not making so high yields. Some is reported at ten sacks, other reports are lower. There is probability that the early sown wheat will yield upwards of 25 bushels in the section adjacent to Moro, although Erskine residents all say they are due for a short crop. Harvesting has not started on all of the farms around Moro so far.

Some threshing has been done in the Grass Valley district, but most of the machines have just pulled into the field and have not determined their yield.

Those reporting, however, say that they are getting from 16 to 20 bushels of wheat and that the quality is very good.

Two years ago on the same land that is being threshed now the average yield of the county was ten bushels per acre and the total crop of the county was slightly over 1,200,000 bushels. There is every indication that the crop this year will be nearly twice that of 1931. That year the price in Moro on the first of October was 51 cents. Even with the wild fluctuations the wheat market has undergone of late there is every prospect that every farmer will receive a much higher price this year than two years ago.

That year the county wheat income was but \$664,640. In 1933 it may easily be three times that sum.

The watch advertised in the Journal last week has been found and the truck advertised has been sold.

Season In Oregon Has Been more Favorable Than In Nation

The season of 1933 has been the least favorable for crop production nationally in 50 years, though Oregon shines in comparison with conditions about normal despite shortages in some crops. This is shown in the current report on the agricultural situation issued by the agricultural extension service at Oregon State college. Low yields are in prospect for most crops in the country, with acreage in some cases reduced.

The general condition of pastures in the United States is the poorest on record. Hay production is expected to be more than ten percent below average. The feed grain supply of the country may be as much as 20 percent smaller than a year ago, with the oat crop especially short. Flax seed production is expected to be less than one half of average. Potato production was forecast on July 1 as about 14 percent less than last year.

A record small crop of wheat is in prospect, the estimate being ap-

Grass Valley Will Play Ball Sunday

Grass Valley will take on the Madras-Redmond team of baseball players next Sunday at the Grass Valley field just to show the fans that baseball can be played during the harvest season as well as any other if people only think so.

Nothing is known about the boys from out south, except that they have played successfully with Antelope this season. Grass Valley expects to start several players who have not shown before.

Schoenfeld Representing West In Washington

Dr. W. A. Schoenfeld, dean of agriculture at Oregon State college, is now in Washington, D. C. called there by Secretary of Agriculture Wallace to assist Chester C. Davis, director of production in the agricultural adjustment administration, in working out certain features of the new farm act. He is dealing with features of the act that affect crops of the Pacific Northwest other than wheat, either through production control methods or trade association agreements.

The request for Dean Schoenfeld's services indicated that he is working particularly in connection with the fruit industry, though all crops affected by the act in this territory are included. Two weeks of his time have been requested, with expenses being paid by the federal government. He is advising concerning conditions in the three north west states.

Dean Schoenfeld is presenting the needs of this territory in connection with trade association agreements affecting agricultural products, and is conveying the view of some of the leaders here to those directly responsible for the final form of these agreements, it was stated at his office.

Indications are that the state college staff members will be called upon for additional information and advisory service as the complete series of plans to be followed under the adjustment act are perfected. This is already the case with the wheat adjustment program which is now well under way.

Dean Schoenfeld has already assisted unofficially with the formation of trade agreement codes involving the Northwest tree fruit industry. His call to Washington, however, is the first official notification, other than the case of wheat, that the resources of the school of agriculture are to be thrown behind the general agricultural adjustment program.

J. R. Henshaw, horseman extraordinary, is in Sherman county again working at the Howard Belshee ranch.

Patronize Journal Advertisers.

FARM PLAN MOVES SLOWLY IN COUNTY

No Appointment Made Of Administrator For County

PLAN APPEALS TO MAJORITY

Program Will Have To Be Rushed To Be On Time

Allotments to the counties of the United States have been set by the wheat adjustment bureau of the department of agriculture. These have been made on the basis of 54 percent of the five average crop instead of the 60 percent that was first estimated.

According to the official figures released this week Sherman county has an average acreage of 129,000 for the 1928-1932 period and the average crop has been 16.4 bushels per acre. This yield is considerably below the ten year average which is 20 bushels.

Our average production taken from department of agriculture figures is 2,109,895 bushels. Our allotment therefore will be 1,139,333 bushels which is the number of bushels which the county's farmers may receive the compensating payment of 30 cents. The total amount that will be received, if all farmers join, is \$351,799 less what expenses may be incurred in administering the act.

Farmers signing the contracts will begin individual allotments by a county allotment board elected for the purpose. The percentage of land that it will be necessary to leave out of cultivation to receive these payments has not been definitely set as yet, but in no case will it be more than 20 percent.

The compensating payments will begin this fall when farmers have signed their contracts. Two thirds of the payments will be made at this time. In the spring after the government is satisfied that farmers have performed their part of the agreement and have reduced acreage the remainder of the payment will be made. There will be no more seed loans, according to information given out at previous meetings.

Umatilla county will receive the largest amount of any county in the state; it has an average wheat production of 6,225,867 bushels. Sherman county is the second county in the state in size of wheat crop. Morrow county with an average crop of 1,944,885 is third and Gilliam county, with 1,718,345 is fourth. Lesser counties follow down to Lincoln which has raised an average of 33 acres of wheat for the past five years.

So far no appointment has been made of an administrator for this county and no word has been received announcing district meetings here. There has been no opposition developed against the plan and farmers are almost unanimously for it. Some difficulties will have to be worked out in cases where hail destroyed a crop, but it is thought that this will be possible with little friction.

Hasty action will be necessary in this county if farmers are to receive their allotments at the time specified. Only six weeks are left in which to organize the county and have the contracts signed.

Instructions For Home Canning Given

Happy is the home canner whose canned products always keep. The four essentials in the keeping quality of canned goods are adequate heat in processing to kill the bacteria, yeasts and molds; second, an airtight seal that remains airtight; third, fresh sound products to start with and

Continued on page four.

TWO MEN SERIOUSLY HURT IN FALL FROM ROOF

Herman Peters and Leslie Peterson Taken To Portland Hospital

Two men were seriously injured Friday afternoon while tarring the roof of the warehouse of the Grass Valley Grain Growers. The crew of three men made up of Herman Peters, Leslie Peterson and Henry Roth had almost finished the job of tarring the west side of the roof and were all in a dry spot about ten feet square on the northeast corner of the roof.

Peterson started to walk to the other end of the roof on the tar, slipped and fell off the roof feet first breaking his ankle and knocking out four teeth with his own knee. Peters looked over the edge to see Peterson and lost his balance. He landed on his shoulders.

The men were immediately taken to The Dalles by ambulance. Examination showed that Peterson had three bones in his ankle cracked and the joint badly jammed, four teeth were knocked loose, his chest was hurt and his back was bruised from coming in contact with a projecting part of the foundation. Peters was thought to be the more seriously hurt at first as he was unconscious for several minutes. Later developments seem to indicate, however, that a severe shaking up may be the extent of his injuries.

Both men were taken to Portland Tuesday night for a further examination by the insurance company. Neither is expected to work for the remainder of harvest.

Speculative Price Poor Gauge For Wheat

A phenomenon that historians will be forced to regard as very foolish has been happening for the past few weeks in the wheat market. A bushel of wheat contains just so much food value. It will sustain life to a certain known extent. It contains a definite number of calories. All within certain limitations, of course. Yet the price of it has fluctuated a third every week for nearly a month.

There have not been any very widely varying crop reports during that time. Everybody has known that the crop was going to be short in the United States and in Canada. The carryover is a known quantity. No reason for the uncertain price can be given but speculation.

Imagine a historian writing in the next century describing the early American mania for gambling, telling how one class of the people raised food and turned it over to gamblers who set the daily price by gambling with bits of paper often resulting in semi-starvation for the class of people who had to buy their food products.

The prosperity of the producers in almost any line depend to a large degree on the will of those who gamble on their goods. Reduction of acreage will be beneficial partially because it will cause a bullish market.

Board of Equalization Meeting

Notice: There will be a meeting of the County Board of Equalization of Sherman County, Oregon, at the Court House on the second Monday in August, that being the 14th day of August, 1933, at Moro, Oregon, to publicly examine the Assessment Rolls, correct all errors in valuation, description of lands or other property assessed by me, and it shall be the duty of persons interested to appear at the time and place appointed. All petitions must be made in writing and verified by the oath of the applicant and filed with the Board within fifteen days from the time it is by law required to meet.

7-21-33 Margaret W. Peetz, County Assessor.

RECOVERY ACT RULES AFFECT COUNTY LITTLE

Few Firms Will Have To Change Policy

FEW FIRMS HIRE 3 HELPERS

All Industrial Districts May Be Greatly Changed

The problems brought to the fore by the NRA blanket code and all the other special codes for each industry have had little effect on Sherman county citizens interested in harvesting a crop of wheat and getting the best price for it. Even the other sweeping plan of the administration, the farm relief plan, has not received much consideration for the past two weeks.

There are a few blue eagles displayed on the windows of county merchants, but those displaying them are in a decided minority. The regulations do not apply to those hiring less than two persons and those living in communities of less than 2500 people are also exempt from the provisions of the ruling. This makes adherence to the NRA a mere gesture as far as 90 percent of Sherman county employers are concerned. Farmers are exempt.

Regulations set by the blanket code do not allow any person to work over 40 hours per week except managers or executives and it will force stores to remain open 52 hours per week or over. Factory or mechanical workers may be employed only 35 hours per week and not more than 8 hours for any one day.

Other regulations provide for fair competition, retaining the same price schedule except for raises made necessary by this act, and increasing employment where possible. Patronage of businesses displaying the insignia of the act is also made a part of the code.

While the regulations do not apply to this county as we are almost entirely without industry except farming it makes a great change in every community having factories or payrolls of any kind. Discussions of codes is bringing representatives of every business together all over the country to the immediate benefit of the railroads, stages, gasoline companies and telegraph company.

Ordinarily the plan is being accepted by the employers as a means that may work to the common good. Laborers who will have to work shorter hours may not be so well pleased.

Bill Kramer Loses \$100 In Bootleg Practise

W. A. Kramer of Shaniko, paid a fine of \$100 and costs of \$5.00 in justice court here Monday morning when he pled guilty to transportation of liquor. Justice Ginn administered the fine.

According to the information on which the trial was based, Kramer attended the dance at Grass Valley Saturday night well supplied with pint bottles of moonshine. He was arrested late in the evening by Sheriff Chrisman and Deputy Garrett. In his possession at the time were 22 pints of liquor.

WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING AUG. 2

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
JULY 27	82	49	.00
" 28	83	45	.00
" 29	78	53	.60
" 30	81	52	.00
" 31	85	46	.00
AUG. 1	91	54	.00
" 2	84	60	.00
Total for week			.00

Bank Petitions About Ready To Deliver

Very definite progress has been made with the petitions for a bank in this county. Many of the petitions have been completely filled and while no count has been made it is thought that a majority of the citizens of the county have already signed the documents.

Plans to date indicate that the committee will go to Portland the first of next week, probably Tuesday, to present their arguments for the establishment of a branch bank in this county. The location of the bank is to be left to the discretion of the bank itself and the business men have agreed to abide by that decision.

The committee has been assured a reception on their arrival which speaks well for the chances of being favorably heard.

Executive Committee Of Club Meet Tuesday

The executive committee of the Moro Commercial club met Monday evening at the hotel to discuss several matters of interest to this section of the state. The highway commission will be informed of the wish of the club that the link between the Columbia highway and the Mary hill ferry be improved and marked for the benefit of travelers northward.

Preliminary plans for the reception of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League were discussed. The annual meeting will probably be held in November in Moro and the commercial club will cooperate with other civic bodies to make it a successful affair.

Gilliam County Has Large Wheat Carryover

It has been reported that Gilliam county has more wheat in its warehouses than it expects to raise this year. The carryover has been extremely large in that county because of unsatisfactory prices and the fact that the banks were closed tying up a part of the wheat. The crops there are decidedly below normal or are expected to be when harvesting is finished.

It is certainly a peculiar circumstance when a county famous for wheat should hold over more than it produces.

The holdover in this county is large, in fact, it has been said that the warehouses are half full, but there is a fair crop. If all of last year's crop had been held there could not be as much held over as will come in to the houses.

Newspaper Files of Years Ago Tell of Early Day Happenings

From the Observer August 7, 1914.

The county is having a fair sized building built on the court house grounds for the housing of county machinery.

Emmitt Olds, native Oregonian and pioneer of the county since 1883 passed away in The Dalles last Thursday and was buried at Grass Valley.

Bids have been asked for the construction of the Columbia highway through Hood River County.

Harvest hauling has begun to cut the roads of Sherman county and from now on until the fall rains, dust and ruts will predominate when using the roads of this county.

From The Observer, August 5, 1904.

Horace Strong sold the first wheat to change hands this year, 2000 sacks of Bluestem at 65 cents.

Dr. Goffin was called to the I. D. Pike thresher Tuesday morning to remove a sink bug from the ear of the separator tender, Mr. McGregor. It had crawled in while he was asleep.

Four combines were seen at work Monday by Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Fraser when on their way to town from

COURT FINDS LITTLE EXCITING TO DO

Routine Work For Month Past Done Quickly

ROAD IMPROVEMENT IS ASKED

Court Will Probably Attend Commission Meetings

The harvest rush was nothing to the county court Wednesday. They had the lightest session of any for several months. Except for a petition from Luther Davis who was straightening out some road matters no one appeared before the court.

Even George Wilcox, chairman of the relief committee, made his report in short order. Only \$70 was spent for the month of July in relief work so the report was shorter than usual.

Bills for election expenses filled the docket and had to be passed on. The report of Homer Wall, county engineer and road master, was filed and the payroll was audited. That is a brief matter in these days when repair of a few bridges is the only work being done. Several wooden structures have been repaired the last month.

The court members as individuals expressed interest in the proposal of the commercial club to the effect that court members attend the meetings of the highway commission to attempt to get work done on the secondary roads in the county and on the federal highway connection south of the county line.

No other means of providing for indigent workers this winter has appeared and unless highway work is available it may be a hard winter for several in the county. The two secondary roads in this county, when finished, will complete an important link in the highway system and it seems possible that the highway commission would look upon them with favor. It is probable that application for such funds will be made.

W. H. Ragsdale and his wife and son, Harry, drove to Service Creek above Fossil Sunday to attend the annual meeting of the eastern Oregon pioneers.

Read the ads in the Journal

their farm out east.

J. W. Booth recently drilled a well on his farm west of Wasco and at 18 feet struck artesian water, producing a steady stream one half inch in diameter.

Smoke from a large fire west of Wasco was seen here Tuesday afternoon and several stories are current about it.

From the Observer August 9, 1894.

The Chronicle says it was so hot in The Dalles on the 2nd that the dogs sought the shade so they could dispense with their pants.

A Heppner paper states that the proprietor of the Grants distillery have decided to locate elsewhere.

The Baptist congregation at Grass Valley are preparing to build a church 20x40 with modern improvements. Some of the lumber is on the ground and the remainder en route.

There is room for two railways in Sherman county short lines that could open up 100,000 acres of good land.

We have for sale a very desirable ranch west of Moro for \$12 per acre. An active worker could pay for this in two years.