

Sherman County Journal

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SHERMAN COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

Forty Sixth Year

Moro, Oregon, December 29, 1933

No. 8

CHRONOLOGY OF 1933 FOR SHERMAN COUNTY

Events of Past Year Retold in Short Form For Readers

ALLOTMENT IS BIGGEST NEWS

Wheat League Meet and CWA Work Draw Space

The biggest news in the county this year has probably been the wheat allotment plan and the work pertaining to it at least it has drawn the largest amount of space, continuing as it did through three or four months. The meeting of the wheat league here in the county also is adjudged important from a news point of view.

Civil Works projects have lately come in for considerable news as many persons are interested in it either because of the work or from interest in the projects.

January

The Tax Leagues of Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam Morrow and Wheeler counties met at Arlington and made recommendations asking the legislature to lower state costs.

The general opinion is growing more pessimistic every day in regard to the wheat condition since the freeze in December.

Representative Robert R. Butler died in Washington D. C. Jan. 7th of a heart attack, brought on by pneumonia. He was buried in The Dalles Friday, January 13th.

Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation asked wheat farmers desiring seed loans to file applications immediately.

Senator J. P. Yates received committee appointments for the legislative session. E. W. Snell was elected Speaker of the House.

The County suffered another cold spell of the winter January 16th with the mercury dropping over twenty degrees in one night.

School budgets for the county total \$101,736.14 for 1933. Cost of teaching is 35 percent of total. Transportation costs are high being 22.95 per cent.

Miss Jeanette Medler and Robert McDonald were married January 22 in Wasco.

February

Claud and Dewey Thompson are journeying to California to bring back a full blooded Arabian horse in exchange for a Percheron filly.

On Feb. 8th the thermometer recorded 12 degrees below zero making the second hard freeze of the winter more severe than the first.

A meeting held to appoint a group from which a state committee could pick five satisfactory men to act as a mortgage adjustment board in this county resolved itself into a pep assembly to organize county farmers into a militant group for protection against foreclosures, high interest rates and high taxes. Geo. Wilcox proposed a county wide meeting, enthusiastically seconded to organize a protective association. The committee appointed on arrangements were: Geo. Wilcox, J. M. Wilson, W. H. Ragsdale, Mrs. Marie Cooper and Leonard Maurus.

Geo. DeMoss, famous musician, died in Marysville, California.

John Daugherty, Sherman county pioneer, died Feb. 16 and burial was made in the private cemetery on the homestead of the deceased's parent near Kent.

Many Sherman Countyans attended the funeral of Mrs. Ben Peetz at Pendleton, the deceased having spent forty years of her life in this county.

Moro Citizens Do Without Water

Small boys in a large part of Moro had their vacation unexpectedly prolonged this Christmas for early on the morning of the 26th the main water line that has been uncovered for replacement in a new ditch broke before parents had a chance to catch sufficient water to outfit the enforced dry spell. Consequently boys had to forego the job of washing their faces. No complaints were heard from the youngsters, however.

Elders in the dry area did not rest so comfortably as water was a very scarce article on Tuesday and Wednesday. Pipes thumped as fires were built in stoves where oils reposed and housewives had to cook with a minimum of water.

March

Sherman county wheat scrip was planned by the Moro Commercial Club. Only a small amount to be tried.

Bill Buehler returned home with his bride, Kate Rape Buehler of Germany.

Mrs. Emma Elliott died March 7th at the home of her daughter Mrs. Charles Adlard.

School laws changed by legislative session, county districts with less than 6 pupils will be discontinued and non-high school districts to be formed in each county.

A. M. Wright and wife celebrate their Golden Wedding anniversary at the home of their daughter, Mrs. C. R. Belashe, March 22nd.

Good rains in March raises hopes for a wheat crop in county, as the spring seeding is now well along.

City Council provides beer regulations April 7.

Avery Martin rents Wasco Motor Service Co. and will be located there.

George Wilcox, of Grass Valley, appointed chairman of county wide relief committee with six assistants.

W. H. Ragsdale was appointed by Gov. Meier as R.F.C. advisor.

County receives \$10,000 paid by Surety company for Bank of Commerce account.

Wm. H. Lee a resident of Sherman county for 35 years died at his home in Wasco April 10th.

The recent raise in wheat price is aiding this county as a third of last years crops are still held.

First Scrip issued, \$300 worth available.

Richard Bruckert and Miss Florence McDonald were married Monday April 24th in The Dalles.

B. M. Van Landingham, 32 years a resident of Wasco died April 24th and interment was made in Wasco cemetery.

A few fields are being seeded a third time as a result of formaldehyde damage in treating seed.

Mrs. Elva Bryant files as dry candidate.

Another good rain comes to speed growth of wheat.

Six Sherman county youths were chosen for CCC camps.

Mrs. Britania Fulton, wife of ex-County Judge, was buried in Wasco.

One hundred twenty three wrote examination papers on Automobile Driving points in the rush for cheaper drivers license.

Wasco church arranges for educational institute to be held in Wasco May 19, 20 and 21.

Ray W. Gill, Master of Oregon Grange, addressed an audience in Grass Valley Sunday on the sales tax measure, upholding the grange attitude in his arguments against the measure.

Fred Pickett files as repeal candidate.

Forty eight students finish high school courses in Sherman county this May.

Continued to page two.

Sherman County May Join Hog Reduction Plan

Hog raisers in any county in Oregon will have opportunity to form their own hog production control associations and sign up for cash benefits under the national corn-hog adjustment program, according to plans laid by members of the O.S.S. extension service, who have been given the task of conducting the educational campaign in this state. Growers' meetings will be announced soon by county agents.

Regional associations were first contemplated for counties with small hog production but since it is learned that the corn-hog contracts are comparatively simple it is believed that even a county with only a half dozen growers can form its own association with less overhead expense and inconvenience. Corn producers of course who care to join in the plan will be in the same associations.

Census reports of 1930 credit this county with a total hog production of 3132 head and corn production of 29 acres out of a state total of 224,539 hogs and 63,116 acres of corn. Oregon crop observers are of the opinion that these state totals are considerably higher now and that possibly most county totals are up as well.

Though this would give Oregon hog raisers a theoretical allotment of between 175,000 and 200,000 hogs and benefit payments at \$5 a head of just under a million dollars, actually benefits could not be nearly that high because of the minimum limit set for participation.

Definite rulings have been received by the Oregon extension service setting the minimum limit for joining the plan at 10 acres of corn or three litters of pigs a year, or both. Silage and soiling crop corn is included. Many believe that between 65 and 75 percent of the hogs raised in Oregon are on farms where less than three litters a year are produced.

A farmer qualifying under either the corn or the hog provisions can join for that one crop, though if he qualifies for both he must join for both. Reduction of at least 20 percent in corn acreage and 25 percent in hog production is required in return for rent payments on the corn land retired and cash benefits of \$5 a head on the allotment of 75 percent of past average annual hog production.

White Christmas Make Things Look Natural

Just when Sherman countyans were sure that Christmas day was to be celebrated with no decorations but the green grass old Mother Nature sent down a snow to blanket the countryside and add real Christmas scenery to the day.

It was wet, too. That in itself meant something to wheat growers who are always concerned with moisture conditions. There was two or three inches of it at first although Christmas day brought a little more. The ground was unfrozen when the snow fell for the first time since second graders can remember and that is something else that makes farmers believe that there might be a Santa Claus after all these years of doubt.

Temperatures have been less than ten degrees below freezing for the most part and with a covering of snow that just makes the wheat feel comfortable.

Patronize Journal Advertisers.

WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING DEC. 27

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
DEC. 21	61	44	.00
" 22	60	58	.35
" 23	54	33	.00
" 24	39	31	.27
" 25	33	28	.25
" 26	32	21	.20
" 27	23	20	.00
Total for week			1.07

SALES TAX ESTIMATE GIVES SCHOOLS \$400-UP

One Teacher Districts Would Receive That Amount

TOTAL ESTIMATED \$4,000,000

Town Schools Would Receive Up To \$2400 Per Year

The sales tax bill for school relief passed at the special session of the legislature on December 10 will reduce tax levies approximately one mill and will cut \$5,000,000 a year from the school district taxes of the state according to an analysis of the bill by State Superintendent C. A. Howard based on the state tax commission's estimate of the revenues it will produce.

Receipts from similar revenue measures in operation in other states indicate that the Oregon bill will produce \$4,000,000 annually seventy-five percent or \$3,000,000 will be apportioned to the school districts in proportion to the number of classroom units, or the number of teachers required. This would amount to \$400 per teacher-classroom unit, since there are approximately 7500 such units in the state. On this basis a one-teacher school would receive \$400; a two-teacher school would receive \$800; and a five teacher school would receive \$2000. This bill requires the county assessor to cut from the district property tax levy the amount estimated to be received from this fund.

The remaining 25 percent, or \$1,000,000 will go to the county school funds of the counties on the basis of the assessed valuations as equalized by the state tax commission and the assessor of each county is required to reduce the county property levy by the amount received from this fund. This reduction will average approximately one mill.

Amounts that would be received from the sales tax revenues by some typical school districts based on attendance reports of June, 1933, and the reductions in district taxes that would result are shown in the following tabulation. The valuations that were used in computing millage reductions were those reported by the county assessor in March, 1933.

The districts that are marked "Elementary" in this tabulation are in either a union high school district or in the county non-high school district. In addition to the millage reductions set opposite them in the tabulation they will participate in the reductions of the union high school districts or the non-high school district to which they belong. The tuition charge for pupils from the non-high school district will be reduced approximately \$15.00 per pupil as a result of the sales tax.

Sherman County School Districts	Value	Reduction
1. Rufus, H. S. & elem. 4 units	\$1,600	red. .9 mills ap.
7. Wasco, H. S. & elem. 5 units	\$2,000	red. 1.7 mills ap.
9. Kent, H. S. & elem. 4 units	\$1,600	red. 2.5 mills ap.
23. Grass Valley, elem. & H. S. 5 units	\$2,000	red. 3.09 mills ap.
21. Near Moro, elem., 1 unit	\$400	red. 1.87 mills ap.
17. Moro, H. S. & elem. 6 units	\$2,400	red. 2.58 mills ap.
25. Near Grass Valley, elem. 1 unit	\$400	red. 2.18 mills ap.

J. B. Adams drove to Portland the last of the week to spend the holidays with his family. He found the roads all but impassable with water running eight inches over the floor boards in one place and slides partly blocking the road in other places. He returned by the Washington highway.

Seral Searcy and family were in Portland several days this week visiting with relatives.

County Wheat Men Hold Final Meeting

The county committee of the Sherman County Wheat Allotment Association met at the court house Friday afternoon for what they hoped would be the final meeting until spring. Bills of the community committeemen and allotment men were checked and paid as far as the money would go. A group of men was chosen to pay small amounts in the next few months and the business was all settled up to date. It was expected that allotment checks would be ready for mailing to owners sometime within the next month.

Bob Elliott Disappears From Wasco

Robert Elliott, who has been a resident of Wasco for the past year or eighteen months, has disappeared. Some weeks ago he was operated on in The Dalles. The county passed up the bill for further consideration at the last meeting. Last fall Mr. Elliott was married to a woman from San Francisco who still has a part of her goods in the station at Wasco. Now she is devoid of a husband and has lived so short a time in this county she cannot be legally aided by the county. Bob has flown. A check has been made to find that he is not in a hospital someplace, the missing persons bureau has sent out its call, but he has not been found.

More than Normal Rains Come To County

Well Old Jupe made it. Freezing nights and colder days were of no avail to stop the rainmaker from beating the average precipitation for the fall. For the past twenty years we have received 5.04 inches of rain from September 1 to January 1. This year we have nearly five and a half inches. Furthermore all of this moisture is already in the ground or is laying on the unfrozen ground so that it can hardly get away unless real cold weather should come before it warms up enough to melt the snow.

Sliding As Dangerous As No Man's Land

Boys and an occasional girl are having lots of fun since the snow fell sliding down the hills in Moro. Often they go clear across the highway which makes it as dangerous as a battle front but that is nothing to a twelve year old. No casualties have been reported although at least one group of boys had a close call. Motorists have little chance to stop quickly or evade sleds as they come slipping out of side streets.

Production Loans Lagging In County

Organization of production loan associations in this county is apparently lagging. So far no one has taken sufficient interest in this means of procuring money for farmers next spring to start work on organizing a local association. The finance committee of the wheat league passed a resolution asking that all possible speed be made in setting up these associations in the several counties. It was then suggested that several counties be combined into one organization, but so far nothing has been done. Concensus of opinion seems to be that this county is large enough to have such a borrowing group itself.

Arthur Johnson was called to Hood River Saturday on account of the serious illness of his mother, Mrs. Granville Phillips. Mrs. Johnson went down Tuesday morning but as boards in one place and slides partly blocking the road in other places. He returned by the Washington highway.

Seral Searcy and family were in Portland several days this week visiting with relatives.

Knox Liquor Bill Slow To Start

It is apparent that the Knox liquor law is not going to be in operation very soon. The committee appointed to operate it don't know exactly what they want to do about the measure and several cities in the state have started proceedings to have it declared unconstitutional. It takes away the local power to get revenue from local liquor dispensaries; there's the rub.

Municipal officers throughout the state have received an ordinance prepared by the league of Oregon cities that will control the liquor situation until the state law goes into effect or will replace that law if it is declared unconstitutional. It has many of the same provisions as the Knox bill itself and will undoubtedly be adopted by some cities.

At present beer of greater potency than prescribed by city ordinances is being sold in Sherman county, but nothing is being done about it for no one knows what would be the chances for conviction if a dispenser decided to plead not guilty. There is little of the new whiskey being sold here although a few puny individuals who are seriously affected by colds or threats of them have been able to procure preventative potions. A normal number of bootleggers are still making the county, but are reported to be in a quandary about the future of their chosen profession.

Non-High School Budget Reduced

It was decided by the attorney general of the state that the levy for high school tuition within the county should not exceed the 6 per cent limitation. Therefore the non-high school board and the county court met and agreed on individual reductions that brought the 1934 budget within those limits. The county reduced their budget which is to be used for payment of back warrants and the board reduced their budget by a little less than \$1000 to meet with state requirements.

County Agents Confer On Corn-Hog Plan

Perry Johnston was in Arlington Thursday to attend a meeting of county agents of this district who met with representatives from the state college for the purpose of making out a schedule for the Columbia Basin country for explanation of the corn-hog program that will be the next thing for farmers to go into the past about.

Read the ads in the Journal

What Happened 40 Years Ago, And Who It Happened To

From the Observer January 3, 1895. Wm. Currie of Rutledge has bought a tank which he will line with sheet iron and haul wheat to the river with it to save the cost of sacks.

The New Years dance at Grass Valley was a big success with 34 couples present.

C. E. Jones sold two spans of horses for \$150 per pair last week. They will pull the nets at the Columbia river fishery.

The Observer believes that wheat will be 50 cent per bushel a year from now.

Hopes for a flour mill in Moro to be operated by electric power are still flourishing.

From the Observer January 6, 1905. Miss Ethel Davis of Grass Valley and Guy Hulse were married New Years day at the bride's home.

Somebody has reported wheat in the boot in Wasco county. It surely is growing weather this winter. Dave and John Biggerstaff were

CWA WORKERS MUST BE KEPT NEAR HOMES

New Order Makes More Projects A Necessity

PROJECTS MUST BE SCATTERED

Work Progressing Rapidly Over Entire County

Civil Works regulations have been changed again in the county since the federal re-employment agent for this district made a trip through the county last week. He was not pleased with the program that required men to travel the length of the county for work and he ordered the local committee to roughly divide the county into three zones and to keep the men registered in those zones at work on projects close to home.

This ruling makes it imperative that local units—school districts, cities, etc.—prepare and present projects immediately for the county committee is charged with the responsibility of keeping men at work.

Road work will employ quite a number of men in all parts of the county it is thought. Already the Brackett road surfacing job has been approved to continue after the grading is done. A project for rebuilding a part of the Hay Canyon road above Harmony school house is in process of engineering and the widening of the Shearers road is already before the state committee. This will permit men from each part of the county to work without traveling over 20 miles.

There was a meeting of the CWA state and county heads in The Dalles Thursday for the purpose of straightening out some of the tangles that have arisen. Local committeemen are assured that the present regulations were made up after a conference in San Francisco which was attended by federal men from Washington D. C.

Work is completed on the first city of Wasco project which provides for the lowering of nearly 3000 feet of water pipe. Moro's water project was handled in a different manner than was contemplated. The pipes were lowered by changing the location into better ground thus obviating much of the contemplated rock work. Grass Valley is painting the school house and the auditorium.

What Happened 40 Years Ago, And Who It Happened To

From the Observer January 1, 1915. School meeting of Moro was held and the information given that it now costs \$3432 to operate the school here. A 15 mill tax was voted.

Robert Hickson is home from surveying for railroads in central Oregon.

From the Observer January 1, 1915. C. R. Belashe reports the John Day river covered with 8 inches of ice near the Stewart place.

While cutting meat at the Moro market Saturday morning A. M. Wright received a deep cut in the left hand.

T. C. Lee was a genuine bewhiskered Santa Claus Christmas day when he made calls to the neighborhood.

C. F. Coe reports that A. S. Johnson is drilling a well for him on the ranch near Grass Valley. He is down about 185 feet and the well is dry so far.

A holiday reunion was held at the A. H. Barnum home Christmas eve and the day following.

Let the Journal do your printing