

Sherman County Journal

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SHERMAN COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER

Forty Sixth Year

Moro, Oregon, January 26, 1934

No. 12

TAXPAYERS MEET, TALK AND FINALLY ORGANIZE

Sales Tax Favored By Majority of Men Heard

RAGSDALE ELECTED PRESIDENT

J. B. Adams Made Secretary of Group in Sales Tax Fight

Between forty and fifty farmers of which a majority were farm owners met in the courtroom in Moro Wednesday to discuss taxation especially with reference to the sales tax. J. B. Adams opened the meeting and spoke on the advantages of the proposed method of taxation over that now employed. He called attention to the number of states now using the sales tax, the injustice of the present tax system and the need for reform.

Other talks were made by half of those present making points for the sales tax. A decided majority of those at the meeting was that a sales tax would relieve property owners from a part of their tax problem, but J. M. Wilson opposed this majority opinion and thereby breathed life in a meeting that was becoming too snugly satisfied with its convictions.

A short talk pointing out the advisability of the sales tax because it would tax government employees who are now untaxed was made by Claud Thompson, one advocating it because it would insure schools now when they are needed by the present crop of young people by Tom Fraser, one favoring it because it would help to equalize taxation by Mrs. Margaret Peetz, one favoring it because it would broaden the base of taxation and thereby tend to reduce taxes by W. S. Powell. Roy J. Baker spoke about the cost of schools, the increase of debt and the impossibility of paying taxes. Willy Knighten gave some figures relative to the effect the sales tax would have on Sherman county.

An organization was formed to make effective the wishes of the group. At first it was proposed that it be called the Sherman County Reduction and Redistribution League. That name lasted but a few minutes until it was changed to the shorter Sherman County Tax League. W. H. Ragsdale was named as chairman and J. B. Adams as secretary. Committeemen will be appointed by them from every district of the county to form the board of directors.

A resolution was passed favoring the defeat of the referendum on the sales tax which is as follows:

"Whereas the aggregate of taxes has increased greatly the past several years while the income from agricultural lands and other real properties generally has declined greatly, so that lands and property do not return net income sufficient to pay the taxes, and

Whereas delinquencies of taxes amount now to more than one full year's levy, and

Whereas these delinquencies constitute first liens on such properties and thus are endangering the owners thereof with loss of their possessions, and

Whereas our schools and other public services are suffering for lack of funds to support them, and

Whereas the late special session of the Legislature enacted an emergency measure that offers at least a substantial degree of relief from the aforesaid distressing conditions, of which we hereby heartily approve, and

Whereas there is a movement now to referendum this relief act,

Therefore, Be it Resolved by the Sherman County Tax League, in session assembled at Moro, Oregon, on this 24th day of January, 1934,

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Mrs. J. P. Yates Injured In Rainy Day Fall

Mrs. J. P. Yates, wife of Senator Yates of this district, suffered a broken ankle Friday when she fell at a sidewalk crossing in Wasco. She was taken to a hospital in The Dalles where the injured limb was put in a cast after which she returned home to recover. She is getting along very well considering the seriousness of the break.

"When Do We Get 'Em" Query Of Waiting Farmer

"When are we going to get our wheat allotment checks?" is a question that, conservatively estimated has been asked 43,974 times in the past week. Everyone in the county is interested in the date of arrival of these little slips of paper that mean so much to the farmers and business men of our county. Worry over a matter of \$336,000 is not a trivial affair at any time and right now—

It was reported that they would arrive by the 20th which was last Saturday but they did not come. Monday the local office received a letter from Washington saying that the Sherman county checks would be mailed in a few days. As the letter was mailed the week before it is reasonable to expect that before many days roll around they will be here for distribution.

Some additional information was requested for the local office about some of the contracts especially those having had adjustments. These will not be mailed from Washington with the others and it may be a few days longer before they are finally sent. Correction and complete information was immediately sent back from this office regarding these contracts. Wasco county received their checks Wednesday and they are being given to the growers as fast as they call at the county agent's office. It will be necessary for farmers to call for their checks where that is possible. In cases where the owner of the checks lives at some distance from the office other arrangements will be made if it is thought.

Income Tax Coming Due In March

The 1933 Federal income tax returns were mailed on January 2nd, and should reach taxpayers within the week. The requirements for filing individual returns are the same as for the year 1932, i. e., each single person with a net income of \$1000.00 or over and each married person with a net income of \$2500.00 or over, or each person with a gross income of \$5,000.00 or over must file an income tax return.

If separate returns are filed by husband and wife, the exemption may be taken by either or divided between them. In addition to the personal exemption, a credit of \$400.00 may be claimed for each person (other than husband or wife) under 18 years of age, or incapable of self-support because mentally or physically defective, who received his or her chief support from the taxpayer during the taxable year.

Before preparing the return, the taxpayer should assemble carefully all information; he also should make a study of the instructions on the form. When the return has been completed, all working papers should be held by the taxpayer for future reference.

The oath will be administered with out charge by the Collector, any deputy collector or Internal Revenue agent.

Although taxpayers have until March 15, 1934 in which to file returns, Collector J. W. Malony wishes to impress upon each one the desirability of compiling his information and filing his return at an earlier date in order to avoid last minute rush. This early filing will permit all taxpayers to receive the full courteous assistance Collector Malony desires rendered by his corps of

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CORN-HOG DIRECTORS NAMED THIS WEEK

Three Thousand Hogs Under Scheme Already

RAISERS, NOT FEEDERS, AIDED

Will Bring In Small Sum Compared To Wheat

Farmers, or at least those who raise hogs, are being organized into groups under the corn-hog plan of government relief for distressed agriculturalists. It is another division of the AAA and is being managed much the same as was the wheat allotment in the several counties.

Whereas Sherman county was one of the large counties of the wheat plan it will be a comparatively small one under the hog plan. Only those growers raising an average of three litters of pigs for the past two years are allowed to enter the scheme.

Briefly the plan is that growers of hogs shall reduce their production by 25 per cent based on the 1932 and 1933 crops of hogs. They will be paid \$5 for each hog not raised. The breeder of hogs will get the bonus, not the feeder.

Meetings have been held in this county this week to give information about the plan and to set up community organizations which will be a part of the county organization when all are completed. Perry Johnston, county agent, has been conducting the assemblies.

At Wasco Monday night ten men signed the temporary agreement. They had raised a total of 601 hogs in 1932 and 532 hogs in 1933. J. M. Yocum was elected community chairman, W. E. Bruckert and W. H. Burres, community committeemen.

At Moro Tuesday night Henry Barnum was elected as community chairman and Joe Peters and Tom Fraser were named community committeemen. Thirteen signers were present representing a production of 656 hogs in 1932 and 669 in 1933.

The Grass Valley meeting night was a larger one as more swine are grown in the south end of the county. Thirty two hog growers were present who had grown 1728 hogs in 1932 and 1635 in 1933. Charles R. Baker was elected community chairman and E. M. Alley and Pauline Wilcox were made community committeemen. The Kent meeting was held Thursday night.

Only four districts will make up the county under this plan as there are a comparatively small number of hogs here and the expense will be minimized if the number of workers are few. There will be four men on the county committee, three of whom will be the allotment committee and one will be treasurer. J. M. Yocum, Henry Barnum and Charles Baker will be three of these men.

4-H Club Officers Elected For The Year

The 4-H club boys of the county met last week and organized into two groups for the beef calf project that has been taking a large part of their attention for the past two weeks. The First National Bank of The Dalles has advanced money for the boys to buy their calves with at a moderate rate of interest thus making it easier for the boys to purchase their stock.

Paul Fraser was elected president of the northern club, Gordon Fraser, vice president and Bobby King secretary. The southern club elected Robert Helyer president, Luther Davis Jr. vice president, and John Fairchild, secretary.

Glen King will be leader for one of the clubs and L. J. Davis was named leader of the other one.

Womans Club Plans Vaudeville Show

The Moro Woman's Club met last Friday in the church with the president, Mrs. A. Douma, as hostess and Mrs. Perry Axtell as director. The program, except for a paper by Mrs. Martha Cope on "The Golden Age in Art and Embroidery" was devoted to the study of native American art. Mrs. O. L. Belahne gave a talk on the Indian arts of jewel-setting, basketry and weaving and Mrs. E. H. Moore spoke on the art of quilting. Both papers were accompanied by varied exhibits. Marjorie Byers offering of two songs "Out of the Dusk" and "Smilin' Thru" was greatly enjoyed by the club. Miss Bourhill spoke briefly on the art of basketry as practiced by the Alaskan Indians with whom she had come in contact, stressing the fact that the true value of the baskets is seldom appreciated by the tourists who try to get them for less than the natives ask.

In place of a regular study meeting the club will give its benefit vaudeville show on Saturday, February 3rd at the school auditorium. A very entertaining program has been arranged and it is to be hoped there will be a large audience to enjoy it. Proceeds from this venture will be used for the various benefactions of the club, the town library, the Doernbecher hospital and the scholarship loan fund. The campfire girls will sell candy. Admission will be 35 cents for adults and 20 cents for all high school students and 10 cents for children. See the advertising page of the Journal next week for further details.

Council Passes Liquor Ordinance Tuesday

The Moro city council met Tuesday night to make the final vote on the new ordinance which makes the city's liquor laws conform to those of the state. A request has been made for the city to rent their council room which it was decided to do if proper arrangements could be made. It was considered likely that the school district would be willing to aid in the purchase of pipe from the new main line to the school house; and it was voted to accept the proposition. This will insure lower insurance rates for the school property.

New Plant Expert Wanted By Uncle Sam

The United States Civil Service Commission will accept applications until February 7 for the position of Principal Agricultural Explorer to fill the vacancy in the Bureau of Plant Industry, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

The entrance salary ranges from \$5,600 to \$6,400 a year, less a deduction of not to exceed 15 per cent as a measure of economy and a retirement deduction of 3-1/2 per cent.

The duties will be to plan, organize and direct agricultural explorations in foreign countries, especially in Central and South American countries, and in high altitude areas, for the purpose of securing new and promising crop plants; and to perform other related duties.

The Webfoot Social club met Friday at the home of Mrs. George Drinkard. There were five tables of bridge and Mrs. J. T. Johnson won club prize and Mrs. George Fox guest prize.

WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JAN. 24

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
JAN. 18	39	30	.01
" 19	43	33	.12
" 20	45	35	.00
" 21	54	36	.00
" 22	59	38	.10
" 23	54	37	.12
" 24	40	30	.00
Total for week			.38

WEEKLY CHANGE IN CWA CUTS TIME IN HALF

Men Here Now Working 15 Hours Per Week

COUNTY HAS MOST WORK DONE

Over Half of Money Spent To Date For County Projects

The CWA has followed its former changeable course this week and has again revised its policy. Events of the week were: Men working on projects in towns of over 2500 may now work 24 hours a week; men working in smaller towns can only work 15 hours per week. Wages remain the same. No more materials will be bought by CWA although it is that that material previously ordered will be sent to the jobs.

In Sherman county 13 men were ordered sent to the Arlington airport to work and this order was cancelled after some of the men were already on the job. A majority of these men were single.

Whether the political pressure resulting from the reduction of hours will cause congress to vote additional funds for CWA or not is still a debatable subject, but this week workers are doing 15 hours. In this county some of the projects will have to be abandoned, in fact some already have been, so that men can be used on other work so that it may be finished.

Figures obtained from the county heads of the work here indicate that the division between the county, the cities and the schools has been as follows: The county has had 52.3 percent of the work; the cities 31.5 percent and the school districts 16.3 percent. Recommendations were that the work should be divided equally between the three. However the school districts have received practically all they have asked for and some work is still going on in schools which will bring up their total.

Up to Thursday the 18th the CWA had actually spent on the different projects in the county the following sums: County projects, Memorial hall at Kent \$100.80; Surfacing Brackett road, \$24.00; Harmony road, \$176.10; Hay Canyon, \$777.15; Brackett road, \$2844.20; Rutledge road, \$163.50. Total, \$4085.75.

City projects: Wasco viaduct, \$46.50; Moro water job, \$861.00; Grass Valley water mains, \$312.60; Wasco water mains, \$390.00; Grass Valley bridge and fill, \$510.36; Moro ditch, \$112.00; Wasco ditch, \$98.00; Grass Valley auditorium, \$125.40; Total \$2455.86.

School districts: Wasco, \$119.70; Grass Valley, painting, \$472.50; Grass Valley shingling, \$161.35; Kent, \$190.80; Moro, \$389.50. Total, \$1263.85. Grand total spent in the county to date by CWA \$7805.46.

These are not final figures, for work is still going on. The Wasco school job is just nicely started as is the case with several other jobs for instance the Rutledge road, the Harmony road, the Brackett road surfacing. Others still requiring much work are the Moro pipe job, the Wasco viaduct and the Wasco ditching project.

If this \$7805.46 is divided another way, that is between the towns of the county and the country it shows that Wasco has received \$654.20; Moro district \$2245.75; Grass Valley district \$1745.71 and Kent \$291.60.

If the county expenditures are divided among the four districts in the county it looks like this: The Wasco district has received \$522.40; Moro district \$2245.75; Grass Valley district \$1745.71 and Kent \$291.60.

The Phytian Sisters and Knights will have joint installation Thursday night followed by a box social.

International Tractor Attracts Big Crowd

Men who knew tractors and men who knew horses gathered in the show room of Fred Pickett's garage last Friday to listen to a tractor discussion and to look over the McCormick-Deering Tractor on display through the efforts of the Portland branch of the International Harvester Co. and R. J. Baker of Grass Valley.

Wade Goodman and Frank Henderson, mechanics for the company, did the talking and explained the theory of Diesel motors. Over a hundred men registered at the school. Company representatives handling features of the school were H. W. Berry, G. Cifre, George Nesbit, Wade Goodman, Frank Henderson, W. N. Sipe and P. O. Walliam.

The tractor was mounted on a truck and was partly dismantled so that nearly all working parts could be shown. Farmers evinced great interest in the display.

Historical Sketches Written By Faculty

EUGENE, Ore.—Since this is the "Diamond Jubilee" year of statehood for Oregon, University of Oregon students in journalism have prepared a number of stories for newspapers that will be appropriate for publication during the present year, the 75th of statehood it is announced by Eric W. Allen, dean.

The stories cover many fields and are rich in pioneer lore. Much valuable historical data are also contained in some of them. Among the stories are "How People Traveled When Oregon Was New," and "How Oregon Pioneers Built the First Roads," by G. A. Shaddock; "How Oregon Towns Looked 75 Years Ago" and "Jacksonville as the Hub of Southern Oregon," by Paul Ewing; "How Oregon Lived in its First Statehood Year," by D. R. French; "Indians Were Quiet When Statehood Came," and "Entire Northwest Fights the Indian," by Ernest Rae, and "How Oregon Pioneers Started Their First Schools," and "How Higher Education Arrived in Oregon" by Lenore Wells.

The stories in mimeograph form can be obtained by writing to the school of journalism at the university, or to the Oregon State Editorial association office in Eugene.

What Happened 40 Years Ago, And Who It Happened To

From the Observer January 31, 1895. J. A. Hand has a sleigh ride of 57 miles daily, Sunday excepted, on his mail run from Rutledge to Monkland via Moro, and return. J. T. Caldwell's ride, every day except Sunday, is 40 miles, from Grant to Moro via Wasco, and return.

Mrs. D. H. Leech took her first sleigh ride in Oregon on the 28th, coming down by the mail sleigh that day. We observe that the new driver, J. A. Hand, has quite a number of lady passengers to accompany him while sleighing is good.

Capt. Bates informs us that the fall of snow at Kent was ten inches on the 21st and 22nd.

Emmit Olds of Grass Valley on the 28th called as he was in town. He was in too much of a hurry for us to swap many jokes—but we exchanged autographs.

The new bridge spanning the John Day is not wide enough to let a binder or a header pass over.

Since Moore Bros. started in to give away wash boards, it is cheaper to do your own washing.

From the Observer February 3, 1905. Mrs. Reed Hulse who has been in poor health for a long time was dangerously sick last week but is now better.

Fred Krusow was the purchaser of the W. A. Kentner farm at Kent. Mr. K. is now mine host at Kent Hotel

TAXES HIGHER ON 1933-34 TAX ROLL

Nearly Every Item Higher In Mills and Dollars

LOWER VALUATION PART CAUSE

Special School Taxes Up Nearly 10 per cent Over 1933

Mrs. Margaret Peetz, county assessor, has completed the tax rolls for the 1933-34 tax year and they are ready for the sheriff to perform his duties along the line of tax collection.

The average consolidated levy for the county has been increased this year from 17.93 mills to 21.65 mills due to the fact that taxes have been increased in many of the school districts and towns. The levy for county purposes has decreased from 3.5027 to 2.6823 mills. Increases in the towns are Wasco from 18.4 to 25.1, Moro from 19.7 to 30.7, Grass Valley from 11.7 to 13.5. These have been caused by larger amounts to be raised and to lower valuations.

The special school tax total has been upped from \$55,347.29 to \$60,818.17 because of lower valuations and higher costs. The high school tuition tax will be higher also as the new state law makes the county levy for the old deficit and the new board has to levy for current expenses. The addition for transportation has tended to increase the levy for this department of government as well although it is expected eventually to divert district costs to offset the raise.

The total sum to be collected by the sheriff this year will be \$216,800.92 which is higher than the \$199,795.10 collected last year. The market road item is lower for 1934, however, but other road items and sinking fund and interest fund is higher.

The valuation of the county has dropped over a million dollars since 1933 according to assessor's figures. Last year it was \$11,145,873 while this year we are valued at \$10,023,830

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Charles Schadewitz is again at home in Kent. He still has his farm and prospective mines in Wheeler county but good old Sherman county can never be forgotten.

A certain young man took a young lady of pronounced prohibition opinions to the opera house Monday evening, and as the curtain rang down after the first act he hurriedly left his seat, remarking: "I think I heard a fire alarm. I must go and see about it." He returned in ten minutes chewing a clove, and said, "Well it wasn't a fire." "And it wasn't water, tartly replied the lady.

From the Observer January 29, 1915 To Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Searcy, born a daughter Saturday, January 23, at the Dr. Poley sanitarium in Moro.

A bouncing baby boy was born Friday, January 22nd, to Mr. and Mrs. Homer D. Belshee.

Miss Della Mortensen has returned from a visit with relatives at and near Wasco.

Mr. and Mrs. Hadden and family have moved to Moro from Vancouver, Wash., and will live in the Elmer Armstrong cottage on Main Street. Mr. Hadden is a carpenter by trade. Mrs. Hadden is a sister to Mrs. Pearl Bethage, housekeeper for R. C. Byers and family.