

Sherman County Journal

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HOWDY, WOOD CHUCK

If the ground-hog that comes out for his annual weather prediction in Sherman county is of an old, conservative type of marmot he is almost certain to be of the opinion that he has overslept and that instead of making his spring pilgrimage on the second of February he has delayed until April.

Instead of several inches of frozen ground to burrow through and perhaps another foot or so of snow he could dig way to a surface covered with lush grass and could bask in a spring time sun that will make his winter coat as burdensome as a gangster's conscience.

It is perhaps too early to write any eulogy on the winter even though ground-hog day is the accepted time for peans to spring. The old saw about he who prophesies Oregon weather being either a fool or a stranger deters us; we can no longer qualify as a stranger. But perhaps some recognition should be made of the most remarkable winter up to date. The ground has not remained frozen through any single day, instead of an east wind accompanied by sleet and snow we have had the balmy west wind with rains, cars have been driven all winter, so far, with no anti-freeze and no provision made for chilly radiators, stock has run on the grass all winter, a buttercup in full bloom was picked on Sherman county hills on the 21st of January plowing has been possible nearly every week of the winter and one man is almost finished with his spring plowing, gardens are already plowed, root vegetables are still being eaten fresh from the ground, fall planted peas are six inches high and growing vigorously. The only means of determining the season was by the length of the days.

So, unless our exploring ground-hog is very young, so young that he expects things to change, he is so surprised he will hardly observe whether he is casting a shadow or not and thinks he has really over-stayed his dormant time.

DOLLAR, DOLLAR, WHOSE COT A DOLLAR

The dollar is devalued. It is now worth but 15.8 grains of gold, a drop of approximately 40 per cent. What's that got to do with it, asks the ordinary man. For one thing it is presumed that the dollar will be stabilized for a little while at least. It is hoped that prices will rise. Whether they will or not is still a matter of argument between the inflationists who hold to the theory that the value of money directly affects the value of commodities and the conservative economists who believe that other causes control the price level to a greater extent.

In case the price level is raised it will have little effect on net incomes for expenses will go up along with income. If both do not go up equally someone is going to be pinched, but that cannot be helped. If prices are raised the debtor will be able to pay off his debts, the old ones that is, with greater ease. This sounds good to many farmers who have backed the inflation scheme. Farmers are reported to be indebted about 9 billions of dollars. The railroads owe about 12 billions and the debts of large corporations are also large. Those who have saved and invested will be penalized to aid those who have not. It is hoped that wealth will be redistributed by the devaluation move.

The dollar has been held at a figure very nearly that at which it was stabilized for several weeks and while prices are gradually working up they are still much below expectations.

We must wait and see.

Portland Chamber of Commerce heads believe the Bonneville dam is more important than the locks. Residents of the interior country from which Portland gets its strength thinks that the locks are the most important. Why don't both support each other and get a suitable dam and suitable locks?

That overworked expression on the face of the mailcarrier is caused by the applications for liquor vendor under the new law. There were lots of them.

What this country needs is a cigar cheap enough and bad enough to take our minds off this money business.

Government budgeteers seem pleased over the effect of legal liquor on the budget. Expenses are down and income is less, according to the news. Any old drinker would testify likewise.

A man in Portland left \$1700 on the postmaster's doorstep the other day. Must have been too busy to take a trip to Canada and make \$700 profit.

Review of Week's Events

The new presidents of the University of Oregon and Oregon State college are to be given some power instead of being mere figure heads according to news released from a board of control meeting early this week. New Presidents Boyer, of the University and Peavy, of the college will work under Chancellor Kerr but will be in control of their schools to a considerable degree it was reported.

The best joke of the week was the arrest of the famous, or infamous Dillinger gang from bold, bad Chicago who, after a big robbery with the usual shooting, went west for their health. They were taken into custody at Tucson, Arizona in true western sheriff style and have since reposed in jail awaiting the eastern deputies. The boys from the big city were not at all pleased to be arrested by a small town officer.

The eastern part of the United States has been in the throes of a storm that suddenly stopped the comparatively warm weather of the past week and endangered many lives. The mercury dropped from 50 to 70 points in a day in some places. The storm moved east and north and covered the entire country from the mid west to the eastern seaboard.

The senate passed the gold bill as asked by the president. This action has been expected as the forces favoring continued support of the president were stronger than those opposed. Nearly all the democrats and the progressives among the Republicans voted for the bill. Senator Glass, of Virginia, former head of the treasury and conservative in his ideas of new money voted against it.

The bill permits the president to revalue the dollar to between 50 and 60 cents as far as its gold content is concerned. It is presumed that this will be done shortly after the bill has been signed by the proper men including the president himself. Results of such valuation are still being debated and probably will be long after the action has been forgotten. It is designed to raise prices, help debtors and get the government out of the hole. Opponents say that it is repudiation and dishonest.

Advocates of easy money have always been numerous in the United States without ever having so good a chance to try out their ideas.

Admiral Byrd and his crew of Antarctic explorers are having a time putting their supplies ashore at Little America. The camp is located on ice a few miles from the water line. The ice is breaking up so rapidly that they cannot land their supplies and the crew is in constant danger of being washed away. It is also possible that the camp itself will be broken up if the ice goes on breaking.

Men and women from small towns and from the big cities joined in groups to celebrate the president's birthday Tuesday night. Dances were the means of celebrating. The income from these affairs is to be given to the Warm Springs, Ga., foundation for the purpose of enlarging the facilities of the camp where the president took treatment for his infantile paralysis. A member of the president's official family first had the inspiration that resulted in the dance celebrations and the large returns for the foundation.

California earthquake shocks are spreading to other states it seems for Utah and Nevada as well as sunny Cal. were affected by the last tremor. No very serious damage was done in the territory.

It begins to look like the University of Washington basketball team will run away with the championship in the northern division of the Pacific coast race this year. Already they have won eight straight games which is twice the number won by any of the other schools so it looks like the honors go to Seattle again this year.

Uncle Emmett

Uncle Emmett sat looking at the head lines of his daily paper with a quizzical expression half shrouded beneath his whiskers. He scratched his chin a little and smiled a smile of hazy remembrance. The head lines proclaimed in bold print the newest developments of the government's money policy and the print told of the change in the value of money, the

value of gold and the value of investments.

"Did you ever head of Sim Buckner that bought the McKenzie place out on Coyote creek?" he asked after a few more minutes given to cogitation.

"Seems like I remember the name," said his listener.

"Sim, you know, bought out the McKenzies after they'd had a spell of hard luck an' moved his family over there. Now old man McKenzie had done well an' he'd built a crackin' good house an' had fixed up good."

"When he got himself settled Sim discovered that there was a rat with a big family had moved in between the walls an' was rasin' Ned with the family possessions, runnin' off with the forks an' spoons, thumpin' round at night an' makin' life miserable.

"Sim was a bull headed cuss an' he vowed he'd get shet of the rats. The neighbors heard about it an' the Craig boys and Old Man Wheeler used to come by an' offer suggestions like movin' out and lettin' 'em starve to death, tearin' down the house an' runnin' 'em down an' such, till Sim got real mad about them rats.

"One day when the missus and the girls was makin' a special holler about the nuisance the rats was doin' Sim goes under the house with a bunch of paper and a pocket full of matches. He said he intended to smoke 'em out by sendin' smoke up between the walls, but the house was plumb dry on the under side and it caught afire. Sim had the dumbest time gettin' out from under before it burned down, but he got rid of the rats.

"Did them headlines set you off on that train of thought?" asked the idler as the old man resumed his silence.

"Now that you mention it, young feller, it does seem as how the country is gettin' divided between them that burns down the house to catch the rats and them that traps 'em," answered the sage.

Grass Valley

I will steam roof feed the first of next week. Dell Olds.

Mrs. Earl Olds has been ill with neuritis for the past week or ten days.

Henry Roth is home again from Olympia where he was working on a new building for his brother.

Mrs. Matt Simon and Dr. Poley took Dolores Simon to The Dalles Tuesday for another operation on an infected finger.

Mrs. George Wilcox entertained the Grass Valley bridge club Wednesday afternoon.

Don Smith and Erasmus Baker were here over the week end from Pacific university where they are attending school.

John Peters and wife were in The Dalles to attend the funeral of Mrs. George Schwartz last week.

Miss Marietta Perry is visiting here from Condon.

Mrs. Dick Huhman entertained a group of friends with bridge last week.

Don't forget the Woman's Club play on the night of February 10 at the school auditorium.

Art Bibby made a trip to Portland the first of the week to see his infant son and Mrs. Bibby.

Roy Wells, son in law of Mr. and Mrs. T. M. Rolfe had a foot severely injured Thursday when a horse fell with him on the ranch.

Rev. Ed C. Cofer's niece Beatrice, has been visiting here for a few days the past week.

King Fritts got tangled up with a plow on the Smith ranch last week and he is somewhat crippled from the effects of it though not permanently.

R. J. Baker drove to Pendleton Wednesday to visit the Collins ranch where a tractor of the make he sells is operating.

John Brogan of Antelope was a visitor here Monday when on his way to The Dalles to see his family who are spending the winter there.

Married: Helen Witter and Gus Keepe in Las Vegas, Nevada, the middle of January.

Earl Barnett and his father, George were here this week to visit with relatives.

There was a hot time in the old town Wednesday night to mark the arrival of the wheat checks. Beer was said to be the diversion of the evening and the quantity was sufficient to enliven matters so that Marchall Garrett took a hand.

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First Federal Loan Home Started



Ground was broken at Euclid, Ohio, a Cleveland suburb, for the nation's first home to be built with funds obtained through the federal home loan plan. Mayor Charles R. Ely of Euclid turned the first shovelful of dirt while several hundred persons looked on. The home will be occupied by F. J. Cook and his family. The photograph shows the crowd gathered for the ground breaking ceremonies.

Interest Held Locally In AAA

Local events within the counties and even within the communities hold the center of the stage just at present in the Oregon AAA program, according to leaders in the various educational and organization movements at Oregon State college. By the end of January practically all county educational meetings in the corn-hog adjustment campaign will have been held and many counties will have completed their local meetings and be in the midst of the 3rd series when actual signing of contracts will be carried out.

Interest in the county meetings has been keen and every indication is now for a larger sign-up of hog contracts than appeared possible at first, says H. A. Lindgren, extension livestock field man and chairman of the campaign committee for Oregon. Growers appear to be satisfied with the terms of the control plan offered by the government and those eligible will in most cases sign up, he believes. Only scattering farmers thru out the state are eligible under the corn reduction plan, but some corn contracts are expected to be signed, particularly in Malheur county, southern Oregon and a few western Oregon counties.

Clarification of a recent announcement that milk marketing agreements hereafter would be directed toward maintaining producers' prices has been given by direct statements from Washington, D. C.

Both Secretary Wallace and his administrator of the AAA, Chester C. Davis, have stated definitely that the only price agreements that will be included in future milk codes or that will be enforced under existing codes, will be the schedule of prices paid producers.

In some instances minimum or maximum resale prices will be established to prevent utter demoralization.

WANT CLARA BACK



Clara Kimball Young, former famous stage and screen star, wept with gratitude for the tremendous response made by the public which wishes her back on the screen. A veritable deluge of telegrams and letters resulted from a recent newspaper story telling of the brave fight being waged by the star to win back to success.

Synthetic Resins From Peat Synthetic resins, similar in some of their properties to the American bakelite, but prepared at about half the cost, have been obtained from peat and shale at the Leningrad Institute of Plastic Materials, Science Service says. Tarry by-products in the manufacture of gas from peat and oil shale are chemically purified and condensed with aldehydes.

the evening and lunch served by the hostess.

Miss Cassie Holmes of Grass Valley was calling on friends in Kent Friday afternoon.

A number of folks from this community went to Moro Wednesday to hear a discussion on sales tax.

Mrs. G. L. Barnett spent Friday and Saturday at Moro visiting her mother Mrs. Emma Schadowitz.

Mrs. Elmer Helyer and infant son went to Hood River Friday to spend a few days visiting with her parents Mr. and Mrs. John Adams.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Wilson and Nellie and Geraldine Norton were visitors Sunday at the W. C. Smith home.

Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wilson and sons Dick and Jerry Jr. spent Sunday at the W. C. Helyer home.

Kent Grange held their regular meeting Saturday evening January 27, with a good attendance. Five new members were initiated. The next meeting will be February 11, on Sunday, an all day meeting.

A number of young people from here attended the dances at Moro and Shaniko Saturday night.

E. J. Barnett from Clem, was visiting at the home of his brother G. L. Barnett Sunday.

J. W. Shepard, Mayor of Grass Valley was in conference with "Mayor" R. Abell of Kent Saturday morning.

Kent School Notes

The basket ball games between Kent and Grass Valley here Friday night were as exciting as they were expected to be. Both games were won by Grass Valley by a very close score. The girls rather surprised everyone by holding G. V. down to a score of 12-5.

The boys ran up more baskets but unfortunately not quite enough. The final score was 21-20. Roth was the outstanding player for Grass Valley and Dunlap for Kent.

The Midget teams also played G. V. winning again 11-8.

The games this Friday will be at Rufus.

A victory has been reported for the newly organized town team. They played at Maupin Friday night. Plans are being made for the Washington Birthday program. The upper grades are preparing a play entitled "The Vision."

Those receiving 100 per cent in the 7th and 8th grades were: Helen Sather, Charlie Bill Wilson, Luther Davis, and Dorothy Southern.

The boys and girls in the Primary room are making a talking, moving picture show of the story "Little Black Sambo."

Kent News

Thirteen farmers attended the hog reduction meeting at the grange hall Thursday night. Wilbur Haggerty, L. E. Clark and J. M. Wilson are the local committeemen.

Estel Hartley of Grass Valley was a business visitor in Kent Saturday.

J. L. Davis and family were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mitchell.

G. W. Barnett of The Dalles was visiting his daughter Mrs. J. L. Matthes Sunday night.

The Kent farmers have been notified they will receive their wheat allotment checks this week as they arrived at Moro January 27th.

American Legion Auxiliary held their regular meeting January 24th, at the home of Mrs. Frank von Borstel. Twenty members were present, invited guests were Mr. and Mrs. Karl Eaton and Mr. and Mrs. Ted Ball. Cards were the diversion of

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