

# Sherman County Journal

Forty Seventh Year No. 12

Moro, Oregon, Friday, January 25, 1935

Official County Paper

## State House

### Gossip

A column of chatter about Legislation and Legislators

By Ernest L. Gray

The State Legislature, now in its second week, got off to one of the most hectic starts known in Oregon history, and several times there was enough of an undercurrent of uneasiness to cause a complete blow-up, which would have resulted in even ousting the speaker, John E. Cooter, and his entire organization.

The reason—too much Multnomah county and a certain group in Portland who were doing the dictating, blinding Cooter with their demands and ending up with so much power in committees that they "hanged" themselves. And as a result the rift was narrowly averted through the timely intervention of the administration and up-state republicans.

While Cooter received a vote of confidence on the floor after several days of unrest, there will be a lot more dissent, and even among the Multnomah delegation rifts are being noted. Cooter, it is plainly seen, is not the leader Earl Snell was last season. The job appears a bit too large for the congenial Lincoln County Representative.

In the meantime the demands of Governor Charles H. Martin for immediate action on his four major proposals—general fund's scope increase, planning commission, budget control, and county unit system of education—met with opposition and all four measures are foundering around in committees and sub-committees.

All of the unusual conditions of the 38th assembly so far have arisen in the house only. Senator Harry Corbett as President of the upper body, has kept that branch of the Legislature in smooth running order. But this week it was expected that both houses will be well under way on the major measures of the session.

The people of Oregon have among their lawmakers this year six members of the Legislature who have been on relief rolls. Five of them are in the House and the other in the Senate. The report has been confirmed from the records available to any citizen desiring to learn who these Legislators are.

But to offset this phase, the House has a group of young members, both Democratic and Republican, who are taking the issues seriously and who are well capable of doing so. Most of them are lawyers and all are under thirty years of age. They have formed a group which has been labeled by some as the "Holy Jos."

This group includes Harry Boivan of Klamath Falls, Walter Fuhrer of Salem, Moore Hamilton of Medford, William Knight of Roseburg, Roscoe Krier of The Dalles, Walter Norblad of Astoria, Millard Rodman of Culver and Lyle D. Thomas of West Salem. They meet regularly and are a popular octette.

The Legislature this year is being covered by twenty press representatives, including the press associations, daily papers and trade journals and weeklies. Of that group only seven are regular state house correspondents. And the House and the Governor's office so far have been the most closely watched.

One feature of the inaugural ceremony at the opening of the session has been generally overlooked. That was the presence of The Reverend Father Joseph Lonergan who gave the invocation. He was sent as a representative of the Governor of Illinois to greet the incoming Governor since Martin was born in Illinois. Lonergan was chaplain under Martin during the World War and is a brother of Frank Lonergan of Portland.

One newspaper man is having a lot of fun in the House as a member, and at the same time injects some humor, much to the disgust

## "No Trees In '35: No Shade In '55", Johnston

Few orders for trees have been received so far for this county and those who wish to beautify their farms with trees should make their wants known before it is too late and while the supply is complete. They can be gotten by merely telling the county agent how many and what kind are wanted and paying the nominal charge which goes for express charges in the main. Any of the trees that do well in this county are available, although the Black Locust, Ponderosa Pine and Russian Olive are the recommended trees for this county.

## Learn To Decorate or Landscape Under SERA

There is a probability that a SERA project for an adult class in Moro may become a reality within the next few days. Willy Knight, who is sponsoring the idea, would like to know what subject or subjects would attract sufficient interest to insure an attendance of ten or more persons to such a class. Suggested topics to be studied are interior decorating, landscape gardening and a study of rural social problems.

## Woman's Club Hears Talk By Portlander

The local Woman's Club met January 18th at the Presbyterian church. After the opening song a short business meeting was held. The club voted to send its usual contribution of \$5.00 to the Scholar ship Loan Fund. A new member, Mrs. VanGilder, was taken into the club. The meeting was then turned over to the Director Mrs. C. L. Poley.

Mrs. Poley read an interesting poem and then introduced the speaker Mrs. Harry Johnson of Portland. Mrs. Johnson is Educational Secretary of the League of Nations Association. The theme of her talk was "The Possibility of Ending Wars for All Time." Her talk was indeed splendid and gave considerable food for thought.

Due to the severe cold weather a rather small crowd attended. The next meeting will be held Friday afternoon, February 1st, at the home of Mrs. J. J. Schaeffer.

## Tractor School Attracts Interested Mechanics

About a hundred farmers were in attendance at the tractor school held in the Legion hall in Moro, Wednesday, by the Loggers and Contractors Machinery Company. Factory representatives were present to lecture and instruct the "pupils" in the newest features of the company's product. Moving pictures of the plant and of machines in operation were shown during the day.

## CLUB LEADERS MEETING

Saturday, February 2, the A-H Club leaders will meet at the court house. Work in how to conduct the club meetings and how to obtain the cooperation of the children will be given and Miss Helen Cowgill, assistant club leader, will be on hand to give whatever instruction is asked for.

## Items That Were News 39, 29 and 19 Years In The Past

From the Observer Jan. 30, 1896. The handsome residence of A. Scott at Grass Valley was burned to the ground Tuesday morning with nearly all its contents.

The report of the Monkland school gives the grades and department of many of the present citizens of the county, the Belshes and Allens, the Frasers, the Hulises, Elliotts and Thompsons.

The Monkland correspondent says that during the run off of snow recently Grass Valley canyon had water in it deep enough to swim a horse.

G. C. Vinton is feeding a band of cattle this stormy winter near Rutledge.

From the Observer, Jan. 26, 1906. Chas. Powell has purchased the R. T. Morgan farm west of town. Mr. Morgan sold his farm to buy larger acreage east of town, the Taylor Bergin farm.

H. S. McDanel and E. A. Cushman left Monday for Oakland, Cal., where Mr. McDanel's mother and sister lives. They will probably return by the Lone Star state. Horse buyers from Yakima have been here after horses. They pur-

## Contract Plan Will Be Continued Says Davis

While northwest wheat growers are urging speed in disposing of the accumulated wheat surplus in this region, Chester C. Davis, administrator of the AAA, has just announced to middle western wheat growers that the present plan of wheat acreage control will in all probability be continued after the current three-year contracts expire at the end of 1935. This coincides with the opinion expressed by George E. Farrell chief of the wheat section, when he spoke to the Eastern Oregon Wheat League at Arlington recently.

Mr. Davis said that while there are some disadvantages in the present type of program, it will not be dropped until something better is presented. Regarding the single contract idea to cover several commodities, he said a practical plan of that sort would be welcomed, but up-to-date no improvement over the present type of program involving processing taxes and benefit payments to growers has been offered.

## Office and Vault Going In Courthouse Basement

Work on the basement of the court house is just about finished as far as the excavation is concerned and the sewer ditch has been dug across the court house lot in addition to the hole under the building.

The basement will be smaller than the court house as several feet of earth was left inside the foundation walls on each side of the house. A central heating plant will be installed soon using one of the chimneys now in the building and the front entrance will be changed so that a stairway to the basement can be put in. It is probable that an office room will be put in the basement and perhaps another will be made in the hall which now leads to the back entrance.

## IHC Tractor School Next Farm Event

A tractor school will be held here February 5th by the International Harvester Company and McKean & Sperry, local dealers. New information about the new Diesel type of motor will be given and a motor will be torn down to show each part. Prof. W. J. Gilmore of Oregon State college will speak on farm engineering subjects and Frank Henderson and Wade Goodman will also speak. Other representatives of the company who are expected to be present on that day are W. L. Cook, G. C. Cifre and H. W. Berry.

## GRANGES TO HEAR TEUTSCH

A meeting of the grange agricultural committees of the county will be held Saturday at the Harlandview grange hall for the purpose of organizing for completion of the 1935 program. William Teutsch, of Oregon State college will be present to talk to the committees and to give suggestions and help with any of the projects to be tried.

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## COUNTY VALUATION DROPS IN PAST YEAR

Stock Increases In Value While Improvements Decrease

## HORSES INCREASE BY 400

Nearly All Animals Becoming More Numerous

The summary of the assessment roll as equalized by the board of equalization has been released by Mrs. Margaret Beets, county assessor. It shows a decrease in valuation of \$47,060 as compared to the 1933 roll. The decrease has been due to a loss in the value of land of about \$20,000, a reduction in valuation of improvements on deeded lands, city lots, machinery, farm implements and hotel and office furniture. Increases have been made in valuation of horses and sheep in line with the higher prices being paid for this class of stock.

The unit valuation of all lands has risen from \$13.23 to \$13.27 and the value of tillable land has been increased 12 cents per acre to \$21.34. Non-tillable land is now valued at an even \$1.50 per acre. The state has obtained possession of 5000 acres of land lately and this has been removed from the tax rolls to lessen the total value of land. The state has added 1899 acres of tillable and 3161 of non-tillable land to its holdings in Sherman county.

The unit value of horses has risen from \$23.25 to \$24.74 and the number of horses in the county has increased from 3458 to 3852 or almost 12 per cent within the year. Cattle have been reduced in value from \$16.55 to \$12.95 and value has been raised from \$1.81 to \$2.28. The number of hogs has increased despite the reduction program and now there are 2409 as compared to 2197 on the last roll. In fact all kinds of stock have been increased during the year, there being nearly a thousand more cattle and over 2000 more sheep than a year ago.

The state tax commission conducted a survey of the towns in the county with the result that many of the valuations on town buildings and residences have been cut below their former figure. This has resulted in a reduction from \$301,430 to \$289,010 on improvements on city lots.

## Legislative Bills On File At Journal Office

House and Senate bills are being sent to this office by Senator Steiwer and Representative Fatland, of this district. Any who are interested in legislation before the house or senate may come in and peruse them to his hearts content. Also a copy of the much discussed Hansen budget has been received from Secretary of State Earl Snell and in case anyone is curious as to how the state spends its money that question can be answered from its pages. You're welcome.

## FESTIVAL PLANS UP

The principals of the county schools will meet Monday night, January 28 to discuss plans for the spring musical festival which will probably be held in Moro. Others interested in the success of the affair will join in the meeting.

## Call For Warrants

District No. 24 warrants no. 5 and 10.

## Harold D. Eakin, clerk.

## WEATHER REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JAN. 23

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
JAN. 17	33	21	.03
" 18	28	11	.05
" 19	11	00	.02
" 20	02	-13	.00
" 21	45	-01	.00
" 22	48	38	.00
" 23	50	36	.06
Total for week			.16

## New Branding Method Tried Here Successfully

Not so many years ago owners of stock used to have no compunction against throwing them down in the barn yard or corral and holding a hot iron against their hides until they were marked once and for all. While this method was effective the scar on the hide lasted even after the animal had been skinned and in many cases it made the hide useless. Nowadays a new method has been tried and in some cases found better. It is a branding liquid that can be used to mark animals. It is a permanent mark but does not spoil the hide for leather. Clarence Morrison has tried it on some of his stock and expects to try more of it in the spring. It may be obtained thru the county agent's office.

## ACCIDENT DEATHS LARGER IN 1934 THAN IN 1933

More Persons Killed Per Wreck As Well As More Wrecks

Death claimed a history making number of lives on the streets and highways of Oregon last year. 802 persons having been killed in traffic accidents, according to the Secretary of State's official figures released by the Oregon State Motor Association, sponsor of the "Let's Quit Killing" program.

Injured during the year in the state were 5046 persons, some of whom were maimed for life. Fatalities and injuries resulted from a total of 21,386 traffic accidents. While some of them were trivial, comparative figures show that there was a larger percentage of serious accidents in 1934 than in 1933.

Secretary of State Earl Snell's report for December completed the year's statistics. It shows that 26 persons were killed and 523 injured out of 2361 accidents in December 1934, while 29 were killed and 544 injured out of 2676 accidents in December 1933. Officials have expressed some satisfaction in the fact that at least December, 1934, considered a bad month for accidents, showed a reduction over the same month a year ago.

There was one fatality and four injuries out of 2 traffic accidents in Sherman county last month, according to the official report.

In all of Oregon during the year 1933 there were only 247 fatalities and 4315 injuries out of 29,248 accidents. An analysis of figures for 1933 and the year just concluded shows that, while the increase in fatalities was 22 per cent, the increase in number of accidents was less than six percent.

This appalling rise in traffic fatalities was made in spite of efforts on the part of city, county and state officials to bring about a general reduction for 1934. The increase has spurred sponsors of the "Let's Quit Killing" program on to even more vigorous efforts to create a spirit of safety in motorists and bring about more effective law enforcement.

Although popular belief is that most fatal accidents occur in the large cities, the figures show that this is untrue. While 21 per cent of the states population is in Portland that city recorded only 28 per cent of Oregon's fatalities during the past year.

Portland's traffic deaths, however, broke an all time record with a total of 88 for the calendar year.

## PEACE ADVOCATE SPEAKS

Mrs. Harry Johnson, representing the League of Nations club for Oregon, spoke to groups at Wasco and Moro last week using for her topic "International Relations." She is one of a group of persons in each state who is working toward the entrance of the United States into the League or at least wish this country to accept the world court. Her talk had to do with the costs and uselessness of wars. The conference table is the place where the difficulties are settled after all, she contended, and nations should be sufficiently civilized to use the conference table before the battle field.

## ERRATA 1-- xX!!

It was the acceptance notices on the hog checks that were received last week instead of the checks themselves, as was announced in this paper. When the checks will arrive is still unknown although they are expected almost any day.

## Mercury Crawls Into Bulb; Out Again

When the mercury crawled down to the minus 13 mark on the thermometer Saturday night, it definitely put this winter entirely out of the class of the winter of 1933-34 when 20 above was the coldest point reached. Thirteen below if even for one night, makes a winter of ordinary proportions.

Several inches of snow fell over the county last week but was piled up in the roads and drifted back and forth three or four times until it was pretty well worn out. Some remained on the ground, however. It was the belief of many that the frost in the ground would keep the snow water from going into the earth but after a few hours of chinook the snow was gone without run off proving that the land was able to absorb it. There wasn't much moisture in the snow though. The wind of Monday and Monday night removed all the snow except the drifts and scattered rains aided the operation. Roads were dry again Tuesday except in the north end of the county where the chinook did not blow Monday night.

## Growing Crop Now Market Factor

Prospects for wheat in 1935 are now coming into prominence as a market factor. Acreage estimates are still lacking for many important winter wheat areas, but such as are available indicate an acreage equal to or in excess of that of last year. The condition of the crop as a whole is average or better and considerably above a year ago. Winter wheat seedings in the United States were increased nearly 6 percent last fall and the condition of the crop at the first of December indicated a harvest about 70,000,000 bushels larger than in 1934. For Europe no important changes are in prospect although a slight increase over last year in total acreage is suggested by early estimates. The French acreage of 13,007,000 acres is 1.9 percent larger than that of 1934, and 4 percent above the average of the past five years. German seedings are approximately the same as last year and favorable seeding conditions in Italy suggest the maintenance of the large acreage of recent years. The United

## Representative Haight Rises To Remark On Legislative Topics

And so this is the legislature, the House, one of the three legs upon which the grand old state of Oregon stands, like a tripod—the executive, judicial and legislative—and under our form of government, it is with the legislative leg that government limps. It is the parliamentary branch of government that has been found wanting. Not only in this country, but throughout the world, the function of legislative authority have been merged with imperial rule, taking the form of a Hitler, a Mussolini or a Bureau in America.

Running the current of the stream, the first three bills to appear in the House were to crown the governor with the jeweled diadem of authority, which history teaches has been sought alike by both saint and sinner, for a sinister or a sanctified sentiment.

But let us bounce about. This historic room, where the House meets is not on the square. It is a beautiful room, ornate, pretentious, gilded and with the great windows embellished with the stained art glass of the cathedral of medieval mystery.

The room looks much larger than it is, with the speaker, John Cooter, standing up behind an elevated bar, like a saloon. Down in front of him is another bar where a cow-puncher from Eastern Oregon might be tempted to step and buy a drink. Behind this bar are four or five bar tenders and a member can step up to the bar and order a resolution, memorial or a bill or you can find out anything that has happened here for twenty five years, from Fred Drager, the chief clerk who knows what's what, who's who and why.

And to the left is the press with their noiseless typewriters grinding out the dope that you folks back home get in your daily newspapers. There is Larry Smyth of the Oregon Journal; Duane Hennessey, Oregonian; C. C. Chapman, with a bale of data on legislation from the time of the great law-giver Moses down to four minutes

past four, Saturday; and C. K. Logan, Associated Press and Salem Capital Journal; Wilfred C. Hagedorn, Albany Democrat-Herald; and the rest of the quill pushers, who have eyes like blue eagles, noses like hounds and ears like wild gazelles. They know all, see all and feel bored. But they are the boys that give you the dope.

And then there are the sixty desks and each member or debater sits in a swivel chair with his charming and beautiful stenog, sitting on his right, with a face dimpled in a wreath of smiles, and with his wife on his left, scowling and bored. It looks like a school room, and were it not for the expense to the taxpayers, we would insist that every member be supplied with an old-time school room slate, slate pencil and sponge, for he has everything else on his desk even down to a silver mounted dagger to open his mail from his infuriated constituency. Upon each desk are law books enough to open a supreme court.

In the back part of the room are the bleachers, and bobbing about, are the bell hops or pages, attaches, helpers, or what we might call the hay hands, and there is Wyatt Williams, blacker than Egyptian night, master of the cloak room, and by the way, he is a graduate attorney.

## MORO WINS FROM RUFUS BY 1 POINT

Game Decided In Last Minute of Play

## CRIPPLED WASCOITES WIN

Kent Beaten By Decisive Score On Wasco Floor

With a driving finish the Moro boys surprised themselves and their followers Friday night by winning from the Rufus basketball team, the score being 23 to 22.

The first quarter was slow ending 3 to 3. Rufus did not play speed boys Williams and Eakin in that period at all keeping them for the later part of the game. At the half Rufus was ahead by a small margin and were able to retain their lead until the last minutes of the game when Axtell and Thompson dropped shots to put their team ahead.

The Rufus boys couldn't seem to get going whether because of the small floor or the checking of the Moro guards. Squires, of Grass Valley refereed and called them close stopping the charges of the Rufus forwards many times on too many steps.

The Moro boys showed considerable improvement in speed since their earlier games. Barnes was high point man and was active in the game at all times. Morris of Rufus was effective with his long shots as usual.

Wasco defeated Kent the same night by a decisive score. The Wasco has been and is handicapped by injuries and sickness which will keep it from reaching the top of the ladder unless their luck changes. Kent is not considered a possibility this year. Grass Valley and Rufus were thought to be the teams with the best chance to emerge victorious but the defeat of the latter team is somewhat of a blow to its chances as Moro and Grass Valley have both won.

## Representative Haight Rises To Remark On Legislative Topics

And so this is the legislature, the House, one of the three legs upon which the grand old state of Oregon stands, like a tripod—the executive, judicial and legislative—and under our form of government, it is with the legislative leg that government limps. It is the parliamentary branch of government that has been found wanting. Not only in this country, but throughout the world, the function of legislative authority have been merged with imperial rule, taking the form of a Hitler, a Mussolini or a Bureau in America.

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We started out to tell you that this room, known as the House, was not on the square, for we have just stepped it off, and it is 75 by 90 feet.

And again we might tell you about the coronation of the governor, with its pageantry, its magnificence, dignity and splendor, with the flare of trumpets amid official ostentation, and the members of the supreme court wearing black Mother Hubbards like grandpas used to wear, looking down upon this vast throng of dignitaries and officers, past, present and future were the life-sized portraits of 18 governors from their gilded frames. It was grand and great and dull.

(Continued on Page two)