

# Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

## State House Gossip

A column of chatter about Legislation and Legislators

By Ernest L. Gray

Pre-session predictions of the new members of the State Legislature offered a natural for the "third" house during the present assembly. And newspapermen and lobbyists, who comprise the third house, will use it on the biennial program presented some night during the session.

On February 12 or about that date which was the time those inexperienced in making laws declared the Legislature would adjourn and set a record of completing its business in 30 days instead of from 40 on up to 60. The Third House program will be held in the form of a last night meeting. At this program take-offs of members and state officials will be given.

But speaking of completing the business of the session, few now can see any possibility of adjournment on February 22, the end of the paying time for members, and the best guess now is March 4th for adjournment, and then with a special session in the office to provide further tie-in with the federal program of relief and social service.

There is its second half of the session still has its tightest task to face—unemployment relief. Nothing has yet been presented on this major problem, not even a sign of approach to the solution—and Legislators are getting worried.

Two chief difficulties have become paramount this session, and as a result the power of the assembly has diminished and virtually has become subservient to the public cry and the federal government—different than in times gone by. These two are the demands and restrictions under the new deal federal government, and the other the vote of the people which would defeat any attempt to gain revenue for relief through any system of taxation. A hard task for an inexperienced house where revenue measures must originate.

Three groups named by the governor during the past week of upsets and swift movements are all ready to work the game commission, the revamped liquor control commission, and the permanent planning commission. And all of them expected to have some matters before the Legislature before they can adjourn.

The planning commission, composed of the old "brain trust" of Martin's is working on a cabinet form of government for the executive, which will require legislative action. The new liquor control commission will suggest new amendments to the existing law, and the game commission has its revised budget to prepare.

It was no surprise that Frank Spencer was named administrator of the liquor board. That has been known before Governor Martin took office, and although he declared he would give the members of the revamped commission free rein, he selected the two new members because he knew they would name Spencer. Such is the working of "free rein" politics.

His selection of the game commission, however, was somewhat different. Most of them he never knew. They were selected upon the recommendation of close administrators. Comment is that he selected a very capable group. Dexter Rice as chairman was fortunate selection. He will move slowly and carefully. The first general session of the commission will be at the State House next Saturday morning.

It was quite appropriate for the executive to name D. O. Hood as budget director during the session. It follows exactly the same logic as in naming Henry M. Hazen. It is known that Hood is perhaps the closest advisor of the new Governor. Those who

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## Woman's Club May Purchase Building

The Women's Club met at the home of Mrs. Schaeffer February 1st. At the business meeting the possibility of buying a building for Club and Library purposes was discussed. The building in question is the one on Main street belonging to Mrs. Ellsworth. A committee was appointed to secure terms.

The club voted upon and accepted a new member, Mrs. Merle Miller.

The business meeting closed and a good program followed. Mrs. A. H. Barnum director, read the poem "Flag O' My Land." Mrs. Donald Knighter gave a splendid paper on Civics explaining the different steps in citizenship that is presented to the child through the entire eight grades.

All present joined in singing Yankee Doodle.

Miss Helen Cowgill was introduced. She talked of the 4-H Club work and what it is doing toward teaching American Citizenship to the club members.

The "Oregon Club Woman" review was given by Mrs. Lena Searcy. The program closed with a short review of the "Manual of the United States."

The next meeting of the club will be held at the Moro Hotel February 20. The "Husbands" will be entertained at a banquet. Club members planning to attend should make reservations with the banquet committee by February 16. Mrs. O. L. Belshe is chairman of the above committee. The hour of the banquet will be announced next week.

## Adult Education Started In County

Two more classes in adult education have been or soon will be started in Sherman county. One has been organized for several weeks: the Rufus singing school. Mrs. Akers at Wasco will instruct a group in singing and Mrs. Guy Hoskinson at Kent is teaching an adult class in Rural School Problems. There is an attempt being made by Willy Knighter to start classes in Moro and Grass Valley and public speaking has been suggested as a subject that might be interesting to a good sized group.

## GRANGE TO WORK

An all day meeting will be held at the Klondike grange hall Saturday the 16th. The morning will be given over to grange work and the afternoon will be used for an instruction period in farm accounting. All of those who are interested in this should take an inventory of their farm before coming to the meeting so that the books can be started on a basis of actual worth of the farm.

A pie social will be held the night of the 9th by the Klondike grange.

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

From the Observer Feb. 9, 1906. Miss Jennie Williams who was the guest of Portland friends last week, returned Monday after a very pleasant visit.

Neil McDonald and family returned last week from a long visit in Montana. Most of the time they were with Mr. and Mrs. Overturn in Ravella county.

Constable W. A. Kentner of Kent was in town Monday on official business in connection with the burglary of the J. H. Bottemiller place of business January 28th, and the burglary of the E. O. T. Co. store January 29th.

Messrs Brannon and Ball have returned safely to Sherman county. Lloyd Leslie is looked for soon.

From the Observer Feb. 13, 1896. Ralph C. Bennett and Fred Krusow were down from Grass Valley last week, consulting Attorney J. B. Hosford upon road matters. The question is whether one man, even Joe Shearer, has big ger claims to certain realty than the man who holds the patents from Uncle Sam.

Ministers of Sherman county Churches in 1896. Presbyterian Church, Moro—Rev. J. M. Morrison; M. B. Church, Moro—Rev. E. C. Alford; Union Sunday School, Moro—R. J. Ginn, Superintendent; Spaulding Chapel, Hay Canyon—Rev. E. C. Alford; First Baptist

## HOG CONTRACT MEET DRAWS FEW FARMERS

Harry Lindgren On Hand To Aid Signing

## ELECTION TO BE HELD LATER

New Contract Form Much Simpler Than Old

Apparently few farmers are interested in attending meetings held by the hog allotment committee for organization purposes. Any way few were at the court house Wednesday afternoon for either the meeting of the county hog allotment committee or the afternoon meeting for signing hog allotment applications.

Harry Lindgren of the state college was present and aided the hog growers in making out their applications where such help was necessary. For those who signed the 1934 contract cooperation in 1935 is made very easy. The base period is 1932-33, the same as it was last year and the work of obtaining evidence is thus removed. That is, unless a change has been made in the farm or number of acres farmed.

There is one qualification necessary for 1935 signers: They must have raised 25 percent of the 1932-33 base last year to be eligible to sign contracts. If a grower has been prevented from raising this number of hogs through disease or other good cause he may still join the allotment, although permission of the board must be obtained.

This year the government will pay \$15.00 for each hog not raised on ten percent of the base number. If a man raised fifty hogs per year during the base period he would now contract to reduce to 45 hogs and would be paid \$75.00 for doing so, according to the contract.

The dead line for signing the contracts is set for February 25 and no application will be accepted after that date.

## DANCE SCHEDULED

Members of the Chris Schultz post of the American Legion met Wednesday night and in addition to paying the bills voted to give a dance the night of February 22, Washington's birthday.

The Dances drum corps will be here on that night to make lively music and lend color with their new uniforms. A Dances orchestra will play for the dance.

## Grass Valley Debaters Make Good Showing

The crew of debaters who represented Grass Valley at the debate tournament held at McMinnville last Friday and Saturday returned Sunday evening. Although Grass Valley was much the smallest school represented it ended the tournament in the upper fourteen, of the forty five teams present at the meet.

Debates were won from Canby, Beaverton, Hillsboro and McMinnville and lost to Gresham and Hillsboro giving the team four wins and two defeats in competition with schools of much larger registration. Nine schools won five out of the six debates and were entered in the semi-finals. Beaverton finally won with Salem second. Gresham was acclaimed winner of the tournament by placing first in declamation and extemporaneous speaking.

The team was accompanied by Clifford Rowe, coach, and George Wilcox Janet Wilcox, Mildred Alley, Marjorie Blake and Elton Eakin made up the teams, two of whom are first year debaters and two having two years experience in the art. They will debate Redmond for the privilege of representing this district in the state tournament.

## TRACTOR SCHOOL DRAWS INTERESTED CROWD

Farmers Spend Day Learning About Diesel Motor

Over three hundred interested farmers gathered in Moro Tuesday to attend the tractor school sponsored by McKean and Searcy, International Harvester dealers in this county. The school began at ten in the morning and continued at full speed until late in the afternoon.

A feature that attracted much attention from the farmers, all of whom are familiar with the mechanics of modern machinery to a marked extent, was the dismantled tractor display which showed the working parts of the new Diesel from stem to stern so that it could be clearly understood.

Verbal explanation of the tractor was made by Wade Goodman who told of the principles of Diesel motors. The ordinary gas motor is rated as 23 percent efficient at the crankshaft. The remainder of the fuel is used in the following manner: Seven percent is friction, 36 percent in heating the cooling system and 34 percent in waste.

The Diesel motor is able to use 35 percent of the fuel as power, 13 percent in friction 27 percent for heating and only 25 percent out of the exhaust as waste. He stated that on the draw bar the Diesel on demonstration produced 29.6 percent of its potential power which was greater by 10 percent than any other on the market.

Frank Henderson explained the mechanics of the tractor, aided by slides shown on the screen and by moving pictures of the machines and its manufacture.

Tractor users and others were here from Washington points nearby to see the show and attend the school. Stanton Hayes, of the motor truck department told of the new truck line and displayed the new long base pick-up that attracted the notice of many farmers during the day. Free lunch was served at noon.

## Mrs. Metta Patjens Martin Dies At Age Of 70 Years

Mrs. Metta Patjens Martin passed away at her home in Vancouver, Washington February 1, at the age of 70 years, 2 months, and 1 day.

She was born in Germany in 1865, and married to Deidrich Patjens December 1886.

They came to Sherman county in 1891, and made their home near Bourbon.

In 1912 they moved to Felido, Washington.

Mr. Patjens died in 1919 and Mrs. Patjens was remarried to A. F. Martin at Vancouver, Wash. in 1923. Mrs. Martin's second husband preceded her in death succumbing in 1932.

Surviving her are five children. One son, John Patjens of Filido, Washington; four daughters, Mrs. Marie M. Grant and Mrs. Rosa G. Webber of Vancouver, Washington; Mrs. Lizzie M. Grant of Par-Harper of Portland; and seventeen grand children.

## ASSESSMENT ROLLS SHOW MANY CHANGES

Twenty Five Year Record Gives Interesting Data

## HORSES MAKE LARGE DROP

Value of Merchandise Falls Since War Years

A study of the assessment rolls of Sherman county for the past 25 years gives a picture of the development of the county in several matters that could hardly be gotten in any other way. It shows the rise in the valuation of all lands from four and a half million in 1909 to twelve and a half million in 1929 and the drop from that peak to a little over six million this year.

In 1911 automobiles were numerous to be assessed but they continued on the rolls until 1917 when they were taken off by state law. In 1909 there were stocks of goods valued at \$140,130 in the county. These increased up to nearly \$310,000 in the banner year in 1920 and have dropped since then to \$47,550. Farming implements, starting in 1909 at \$97,930 have gone up to \$450,870 and are now down to \$127,270. All portraying a part of the economic history of the county.

Back in what some of the older farmers are wont to call the good old days there were between 6 and 7 thousand horses in the county, the number remaining almost constant until 1925 and 1926 when the number began to decrease. Now there are but 3852. With cattle the opposite is the case. The county had less than 3000 cattle until 1915 and less than 4000 until 1933, whereas now there are 5239 in the county. Sheep, also, have shown an increase in the years since depression settled over the land. Before the war we had less than 20,000 sheep often 10 or 12 thousand.

In the latter years of the war and early twenties there was an increase that brought the total up above 20,000. In the middle twenties this number dropped to less than 10,000 and has since risen to 17,384.

The value of town lots has been as low as \$62,000 back in 1915 and was as high as \$122,900 in 1927, shortly after the building boom was ended. Improvements on town lots have varied in value from \$175,000 to \$372,000 with \$289,000 being the present valuation. Merchandise values climbed from the early days up to 1920 and since that date have dropped. The highway was built in 1922.

Many items were enumerated in the 25 years that are not on the tax rolls now. Money, notes and stamps, are off, automobiles, (previously mentioned) house hold goods, dogs, grain (one year there was three-quarters of a million dollars worth) all have been taxed at some time and are now taxed in some other way or not at all.

## CLUB LEADERS MEET

About twenty 4-H Club leaders met Saturday afternoon for a pre-session discussion of the problems before them and organization.

New officers were elected for the year, Henry Barnum being made president, Mrs. Tom Fraser vice president, and Mrs. Theodore von Borstel, secretary for her second year.

A demonstration of table courtesies was given by Dorothy Fraser, Louise Barzee and Helen Strong and a demonstration of club organization was given by a group of girls. Miss Helen Cowgill talked about the club work thru-out the state and the program for the year. In order to hold the demonstrations before the state fair this year they will be held at Grass Valley on July 3rd. The club fair in the county will be held with the county fair which is after the state fair.

Already plans are being laid to hold achievement day meetings for clubs throughout the county and Grass Valley has announced theirs for February 18th with Mrs. C. L. Poley in charge of the entertainment.

## James Tomlin Dies At 87, Services Saturday

James Tomlin, well known citizen of Sherman county for fifty years, died in Klamath Falls Tuesday morning after several years of suffering with rheumatism. Graveside services will be held at the Moro cemetery Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock under the direction of Zells.

Mr. Tomlin was born in Missouri February 17, 1848 and would have attained the age of 87 years had he been spared until that date this year. He was married to Laura Ellen Thornton in Stockton Missouri December 7, 1879 and six years later came to Moro where they have lived since. Mrs. Tomlin died in 1919.

In Sherman county Mr. Tomlin has been engaged in many enterprises. He drilled wells over a large part of the county thirty years ago and later, when operating a blacksmith shop, he invented the Tomlin roller that is still used on many fields each year.

Surviving him are seven children. Mrs. H. O. Kunsman, of Moro; Mrs. W. Y. Shearer, Shedd; Edward L. of Portland, Carl A. of Klamath Falls, and F. of San Francisco. George D. Klamath Falls and Laurel L. of Moro.

## Portland Symphony Orchestra Coming

Lovers of good music in the Mid-Columbia area will have the opportunity to hear the Portland symphony orchestra the night of February 20, when the organization comes to The Dalles civic auditorium for their only appearance in eastern Oregon before leaving for the eastern states on a concert tour.

The Portland symphony is directed by William Von Hoogstraten who is recognized of one of the best of his field. There are between sixty and seventy pieces in the orchestra and all will be heard in The Dalles appearance.

Seats may be purchased at the Service Drug Store in The Dalles or mail orders sent to them.

## Freight Rate Raise Not Intended By R R

Since the wheat league meeting last December there has been increased interest in rail freight rates. There is fear that when the present lowered rates expire April 1 that the normal interstate rate of 19 and a half cents from Moro and Grass Valley would be reinstated. The following letter from H. E. Lounsbury to agents in Sherman county is self-explanatory:

"For your information beg to advise that it is not intended at the present time to make any change in existing rates from points Messmer and west on grain and grain products to Portland, Vancouver, Wash., and Longview, Wash."

## County History Contest Now Starting Here

A set of rules regarding the Sherman county history contest has been sent out by superintendent Knighten this week to each school and pupils who desire to learn and write of what must seem to them like real olden times may begin their work. The general rules are the same as last year with 2000 words being the maximum length and the usual rules about writing and punctuation. There will be a high school division and a grade school division.

Fifteen suggested topics are included although there is no intention to limit the writer to any of them. It is recommended that students take a subject small enough to be completely covered in the space allotted instead of choosing too large a subject.

## New Diesel Burner Tests Now Running

Trial and experiment is being made almost each day of the diesel oil burner attachment for tractors, now being sold in Sherman county by Ira Barnett. Mr. Barnett representative of the Slate Machinery Company of Albany states that on a test on steep land a tractor used 3.4 gallons of fuel oil per hour with his adapter and 7.5 gallons of gasoline.

## PROPOSED LAWS EFFECT COUNTY

Ferry Bill Would Aid Sherman Highway

## SALARY BILL INTRODUCED

Morrow County May Be Added To This Senatorial District

Legislation that effects Sherman county is not to the fore to any great extent in the present legislature but there are a few bills of importance to residents of this county under discussion before the house and senate. Senator Steiwer has introduced bills to permit the establishment of a ferry between Maryhill and Biggs and also has a bill for such a ferry at Arlington. There will be a hearing on the Maryhill ferry bill Friday afternoon and members of the county court and others interested are going down to give the county's side of the case.

The usual county officer's salary bill is before the house having passed the senate this week. It provides for a treasurer's salary of \$600, a clerk's salary of \$1500, a sheriff's and assessor's salary of \$1600. This adjustment is made to equalize the salaries of county officers in this legislative district. However Representative Patland has introduced a bill, House Bill No. 238, which authorizes the board of commissioners to set the salaries of all county officers except themselves. An election would be held in case a change was made. This bill, if carried would stop once and for all the practice of importing the legislature each session to remodel the salaries of county officers in many counties. It is purely a local matter and one that few legislators know much about.

The county unit bill is having hard sledding in the house and has been changed to some extent as was expected. Whether it will weather the storm is still unknown.

A bill has been introduced to permit Crook, Jefferson and Wheeler counties to combine into one. This is for the benefit of Jefferson county which has decreased in population and property valuation within the past few years.

A bill has passed the house to make a senatorial district out of Klamath county alone. This same bill puts Morrow county in the eighteenth district which is now composed of the counties of Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler. It is likely that the senate will pass the bill as well as the committee on counties has put a stamp of approval on it.

## Council Contemplates Purchase of Siren

Sounds of a fire siren were the major interest of the council Tuesday night at its February meeting but the city fathers decided that probably the specimen of noise maker was not loud enough for windy days and asked that a larger size be brought up for trial. There fore it may be two weeks before a siren is installed in the city for fire warning.

Discussion of the desirability of foreclosing on some of the liens held by the city against property abutting the improved streets resulted in an informal decision to collect the liens or straighten out this part of the city's affairs in some manner.

Improvement of the upper rooms of the hotel was brought up and apartments may be made out of the third story rooms if the cost is not too great. An estimate is being made.

## HORSE SALE MEETING

Those who are interested in holding a sale of horses sometime in the county soon are requested to meet at the court house next Monday the 11th to discuss plans for that possible event. George Goch-nour, well known auctioneer of Sunnyside, Washington has been invited to come and give advice about sales and selling.