

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

State House Gossip

A column of chatter
about Legislation and
Legislators

By Ernest L. Grey

The fate of the Townsend Old Age Pension memorial will be enlightening. It has to be seen whether it will be passed by the House. In brief, the memorial, even the compromise proposal, is dead, and now is in the pocket of a House member—absolutely worthless.

One day last week, along with other adverse reports, the State Senate killed the memorial as passed by the House. There was not an argument in fact many who voted to adopt the adverse report of the Senate Committee on unemployment did not know upon what they were voting. The manuscript, enclosed in a blue cover, is now in the pocket of Representative Clint Haight, one of the co-authors.

Here is the history: The memorial to Congress to pass the Townsend Old Age Pension plan, specifying the \$200 per month phase, was introduced by Representative Harrison of Linn County and Haight of Harney and Grant counties. It went to the House Committee on resolutions.

There is where it met its first difficulty. After a majority of the committee voted against the proposal, a compromise bill was brought out. The compromise would eliminate the specific phase of \$200 a month and in its place suggested a memorial for the Townsend Old Age Pension plan or some adequate pension legislation.

This new memorial passed the house with about five votes only against it. Naturally it then went to the Senate where it went to the committee on unemployment. That committee reported it out with the recommendation "It does not pass." The report was adopted without roll call. That particular issue is dead—that is as far as the legislature of Oregon is concerned.

It was learned here that during the present week, Wednesday night to be exact, will be the first appearance of Willis Mahoney, arch political enemy of the present Governor during the primary campaign, in the state house. It will be an interesting event, and undoubtedly he will call upon the Governor.

But he will be here to boost the passage of the 70 car train bill. A public hearing will be held on it that night. The measure was one of the platforms upon which he sought the gubernatorial seat. And should it pass the Legislature one wonders just what would be its fate in the hands of the Governor.

Hysteria ruled the House of Representatives for a short time last week. An attempt was made to deny the press the courtesy of the floor of the House because several members became incensed at an article in a Salem paper, which was declared a direct "slap" at Speaker John Coater.

But if a vote had been taken on the motion, it was learned there would only be about five votes favorable to the move. The hysteria was stopped, however, before it got that far. A poll revealed that the only ones who would, at that time, vote to oust newspapermen were Hannah Martine of Marion, Howard Latourette and Victor Nelson of Multnomah, T. W. Munyan of Linn county and possibly Vernon D. Bull of Union county.

But the respect for the speaker was raised in the happening. When it was pointed out he was the subject of a news attack, he replied, "I can take it." The discussion with a move to adjourn, after which the move was withdrawn and the House members settled down again for consideration of the business before it.

At the present time there is talk of an extra session of the Legislature following the regular, which even the most optimistic declare

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Mrs. William Slater Buried At Lebanon

Mrs. William Slater, grandmother of Truman Strong, died at the home of Mrs. Strong in Lebanon, Oregon, Friday, February 8, and was buried Sunday at Lebanon. She was 86 years of age at the time of her death.

Mrs. Slater, born Margaret Badger, lived in Sherman county from 1882 until in the nineties when she moved to Newberg. With her husband she was among the first of the settlers who came to this county settling in Grass Valley canyon east of Moro. In late years Mrs. Slater has lived with Mrs. Strong in Eugene.

Parents Entertain Students and Teachers

Parents of the Moro High school students entertained them and both the grade and high school teachers at a party in the Gym Saturday night. Everyone joined in the fun wholeheartedly and made it a high success.

First on the program the fathers doctored tennis shoes and played their daughters a game of volleyball, the daughters proving too much for the Dads according to the score.

After this a tire race, newspaper race and other games were played.

By this time every one was ready to sit on the sidelines and watch the feature of the evening introduced by Harry Pinkerton.

Out of the past tramped in thirteen mother's garbed in the basket ball suits of twenty years ago and put on a game of basket ball which afforded plenty of amusement for the spectators. It was a "catch as catch can" game, with no holds barred. One of the tense moments of the game was when Rose Amidon snared a forward pass and ran for a touch down. The final score was 4 to 2 with the "Reds" in the lead.

The champions were presented with a silver trophy (a tomato can suitably inscribed) which was in turn presented by Captain Iva Nahouse to the Student body.

Mr. Walker, hoping to keep this colorful spectacle a permanent one, slipped out and brought Mr. Raymond to the school to take flash-light pictures of the teams.

Refreshments were served after which dancing brought the evening to a close.

Seats Selling Fast

Encouraging reports come from the ticket office in The Dalles that is handling the sale of admissions to the concert to be given by the Portland Symphony orchestra in that city next Wednesday evening. It is expected that the civic auditorium, which seats over a thousand persons, will be filled for the concert, the only one the orchestra will make in eastern Oregon.

Helen Morrison is the latest victim of the mumps having followed her sister, Doris, into the disease.

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

From the Observer Feb. 20, 1896.

The Moro Cornet Amateur band is composed of the best class of musicians formerly attached to the organization.

Clyde Williams—solo b-flat cornet. Ernest H. Moore—solo b-flat cornet. Leon V. Moore 1st solo b-flat cornet. Adolph Heydt—e-flat cornet.

Willie Powell—2nd b-flat.

Chas. Whitelaw—1st e-flat alto.

A. B. Cousins—2nd e-flat.

Taylor Bergin—1st e-flat tenor.

J. C. Burkes—e-flat tuba.

N. H. Williams—Bass drum.

Elvin Barnum—Tenor drum.

The literary society has reorganized at the school house as the G. V. L. S. Lewis Olds, president; C. W. Moore, vice president; O. P. King, secretary treasurer.

The Grass Valley flouring mill meeting Saturday was largely attended. A committee consisting of the following: Messrs E. Olds, C. W. Moore, C. A. Heath, C. E. Brown, and M. F. S. Henton were appointed to see what could be done in the matter.

From the Observer Feb. 16, 1906.

S. P. Conroy, father of Mrs. Tonkins, was a visitor with Rev. Tonkins and family on his way home from Madras to The Dalles.

Mrs. E. H. Moore entertained the

Dorcas society Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Parr entertained the Tuesday afternoon club this week, and Mrs. Logan will entertain the club next week.

Olaf Lieum, a brother of Mrs. S. H. Baker, died in Grass Valley on the 8th, aged 16 years. The remains were sent to South Dakota for interment.

O. M. Heacock will occupy the room to be vacated by T. R. Schockley after March 15, with an office for the proper fitting of and care of the eyes. An opening will be made between the two rooms and they will be thrown into one.

From the Observer Feb. 18, 1916.

Sherman county last year spent a total of \$25,085.95 on roads and bridges, including the building of Hay Canyon trunk road.

L. V. Moore has had a large sleigh built by local mechanics. The iron work was supplied by Dick Bowen and the wood work by O. A. Ramsey.

More than fifty invited guests gathered at the magnificent new home of Mr. and Mrs. Q. L. Belshe Wednesday evening in honor of the 25th wedding anniversary of Mrs. Belshe's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hockman.

Harold Ginn has purchased a new Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

Producers Sponsor New Legislation

Two measures sponsored by the Oregon Producers and Shippers, the Oregon Wool Growers and Oregon wheat growers were tossed into the house hopper Monday with Representatives W. B. Duerst of Yamhill, V. E. Staples of Malheur and W. B. Snider of Deschutes and Lake counties as the co-authors.

One provides for the repeal of the labor anti-injunction law and the other amends the state police law to permit state police to be used in patrol work in time of labor disorders. Legislators from all the agricultural counties are almost unanimous in support of these measures and there is every reason to believe they will find a safe passage in both legislative branches.

A third bill sponsored by these producer organizations, providing for 30-day compulsory arbitration of labor disputes was introduced in the house Monday by the house committee on agriculture. After the measure was explained to members of this committee they voted unanimously to sponsor the introduction.

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SCOUT DADS BATTLE TO PHYSICAL TORTURE IN GAME

Players Saved By Doctor's First Aid Kit

One of the funniest games of basket ball ever witnessed was played in the Moro Wednesday night when the fathers of the Grass Valley Boy Scouts met the paternal parents of the Moro scouts.

It was called basket ball because it was played on a basket ball floor and the players were in the sort of uniform similar to those worn by basket ball players.

The first half was played without a foul being called by Referee McDonald. It was somewhat of a struggle with nothing barred but the hammerlock and the toe hold. Grass Valley emerged from the opening half in the lead 6-4.

The second half was a farce. Fouls were called and the weary players spent the third quarter walking from foul line to foul line to watch some one shoot wildly at the basket. The strain of the unusual exercise finally had its effect, however and Perry Johnston, star center for Moro fell prone on the floor. Dr. John Foss was rushed to his side with proper restoratives and pulmotor, to save his life. Slight of the restorative had the desired effect and the game went on. Several other of the athletes were overcome before the game was ended and nearly all the spectators were in need of medical aid. The game was ended when the score was tied at 15. The Moro scouts won the preliminary game.

Line-up:

Grass Valley: Deadeye Gervais, F. Nahouse, Davies, F. Barzee, Wilcox, C. Johnston, Vinton, G. Sayrs, Fields, G. Martin

DIRECTORS ELECTED BY HOG GROWERS

Same Men Returned To Office As
County Commissioners

FEWER FARMERS SIGN UP

Only A Third of the 1934 Signers
Cooperated

Election of the community committee for the corn hog allotment program in Sherman county was effected last week with the exception of the Moro district. A total of 42 signers filled out the applications which compares to 123 signers last year and 121 completed contracts.

The Wasco district elected J. M. Yocum, chairman and county committeeman and C. W. Johnson and W. E. Bruckert community committeemen.

Grass Valley elected Charles R. Baker county committeeman and chairman of the local group with E. M. Alley and L. K. Smith as committeemen.

At Kent Wilbur Hagerty was returned as county committeeman to be aided by L. E. Clark and Frank von Borstel as local committeemen.

Officers for the Moro district will be elected next week at a meeting to be announced later. At the meeting formerly scheduled for Moro too few persons came out to make election possible.

The deadline for contract application signing still remains February 25 and the county agent announces that positively no applications will be accepted later than that date.

Back To The Land More Than A Slogan

"Back to the land" has been more than a fanciful slogan, in the experience of the land liquidating division of the Federal Land Bank of Spokane. For in each successive month all during the fall and winter period, the bank has established one new record after another in the sale of properties it has been forced to acquire from borrowers.

After setting an all time record in 1934 by marketing farms to the value of \$2,560,000, the liquidating department is off to even better start this year with sales of \$234,500 in January. Not only is this the largest January volume in the bank's history, but down payments showed a gain of 100 per cent over January last year.

"I believe this sales record is the best barometer of all to demonstrate that Pacific northwest agriculture is coming back," says Ward A. Newcomb, vice president of the Land Bank. "It has been my observation, after a pretty long acquaintance with farming conditions, that when money starts going into land it is a good sign of returning confidence all around. I feel that such is the case now. Land values are rising gradually and the farm once more is being regarded as an attractive form of investment."

The Land Bank, of course, is an unwilling possessor of the properties it has been forced to acquire, and desires to return them to individual management as promptly as suitable buyers can be found on terms aimed at helping experienced operators establish a permanent home and make good.

SALE OFF

There will be no horse sale as not enough horses were available to make such a move practical this spring. Many of the horses formerly offered for sale have already been disposed of to buyers. A list of the horse owners who desire to sell their stock has been sent to agents in the Willamette valley where it will be distributed to possible purchasers.

George Meloy has been confined to his room for the past week with a serious increase in his rheumatic pains. It is very difficult for him to get about at all lately.

Moisture Now Below Normal In County

The county began the year 1935 with some surplus of moisture over the average but the comparatively dry month of January ruined the hopeful aspect of that condition for in the first month of the year we received .58 of an inch whereas the normal is 1.56. We were ahead of the normal by .75 and at the first of February were .23 behind the average.

In totals we had 5.81 when the year began compared to an average of 5.08. At the end of January we had .06. At the end of January we had 5.39 compared to an average of 5.82. One consoling feature remains: the rainfall that did fall in January all went into the ground for there was but little freezing weather. Often a large part of the January precipitation runs off down the canyons.

Since the first of this month only .29 of an inch has fallen. The average for February is 1.17, so unless something in the way of moisture comes within a couple of weeks we will be shorter yet by the first of March. Later in the spring soil moisture tests will be taken to determine the amount of the moisture that has actually been absorbed by the ground.

SHERMAN COUNTY SECOND IN BENEFIT AAA PAYMENTS

Huge Sum Distributed In Wheat
Counties of State

Every Oregon county has shared in the distribution of \$4,246,515.29 in rental and benefit payments returned to this state under the provisions of the agricultural adjustment act, according to a report as of January 1 recently received by the Oregon Extension Service. Sherman county's total is \$559,540.91, all but \$7,084.50 from wheat.

Total expenditures in this state from processing taxes amounted at that time to \$10,489,466.90, but this amount included \$6,079,407.57 for "surplus removal", most of which was used in financing the wheat export subsidy at Portland. Only \$113,544.04 is listed as general administrative expense in this state.

Wheat benefits have accounted for the bulk of AAA payments in Oregon, the total at the first of the year being \$3,880,348.65 compared with \$386,166.64 for the corn hog program. The latter represents only the first payment on the 1934 contracts, however.

Upstilla county leads the state by a wide margin in total rental and benefit payments received. Next to its total of \$1,270,478.49 is Sherman county with \$559,540.91. Morrow, Gilliam, Wasco and Union counties follow in order. Lincoln county farmers have profited the least directly from these payments, the total there being only \$930 so far, all from corn-hog payments.

Mrs. W. E. Garrett Dies, Age 72 Years

The funeral of Mrs. W. E. Garrett was held from the Baptist church Tuesday afternoon and interment was made in the Odd-Fellows cemetery near that place.

Mrs. Garrett had been ill for several months with an incurable heart ailment. She was 72 years of age, had been a resident of Sherman county for over thirty years coming here with her husband from Harney county early in the century. They were married in Pendleton.

HAUPTMANN GUILTY

Bruno Richard Hauptmann was found guilty of murder in the first degree in eleven hours by the jury that had been hearing his case in Flemington, N. J. Wednesday, and was sentenced immediately after to death by the electric chair during the week of March 18. There was no recommendation for leniency.

ADAMS TO CAPITAL

J. B. Adams drove to Salem Monday to appear before a house committee that was considering some of the bills sponsored by the Producers and Shippers Association. These bills were written to stop some of the troubles such as the ones that occurred last summer during the dock strike.

Webb and Johnston Plant Grass Nursery

Wednesday R. B. Webb and Perry Johnston planted a grass nursery on the R. S. Macnab ranch north of Wasco planting several kinds of grass in an endeavor to find out, if possible, what varieties are best suited to land and climate in that district.

Three kinds of native bunch grass, Crested Wheat, Smooth Brome, Bulbous Bluegrass, Little Bluegrass, slender Wheat grass, western wheat grass, tall Fescue, chewing Fescue, Sweet Clover, Ladak Clover and Grimm Alfalfa are among the selections. These will all be planted separately in rows and in addition to these two plants having different mixtures will be sown. In this way it will be possible to tell something of the comparative value of the several grasses.

Larger Wheat Acreage Indicates Big 1935 Crop

A larger acreage of winter wheat for the 1935 harvest is indicated by increased fall seedings and no evidence to date of winter killing. Official estimates for counties representing approximately one-half of the world total acreage, show an increase of around 3.3 percent over last year. Winter wheat seedings in the United States were increased nearly 6 percent last fall, with a total of 44,306,000 acres. India, the largest winter wheat producer out side of the United States, sowed less wheat this season largely as a result of inadequate moisture supplies during the planting season. Russian winter wheat seedings are placed at 31,800,000 acres, an increase of 6 percent over the previous year, and near the planned acreage of 32,000,000 acres. The Danubian wheat acreage is unofficially estimated at 20,915,000 acres, as against 18,880,000 acres last year, with most of the increase resulting from larger Rumanian seedings.

The condition of wheat on the whole appears generally favorable although soil moisture is deficient in southwestern areas of the United States and in India. Alternate frosts and thaws have occurred in parts of Europe but so far no serious damage is apparent. In parts of the Danube Basin and in France growth is too forward but continued mild weather has lessened risks of serious injury. In North Africa and in the orient conditions are average or better.

Mrs. Jessie Hoskinson Maurer and Richard Ginn arrived Tuesday night to be at the bedside of R. J. Ginn.

Representative Haight Rises To Remark On Legislative Topics

STATE HOUSE, Salem—Let's chatter. These spring days make us twitter like a bird.

Spring. Glorious spring. There is only one crop that is harvested in the springtime—the law crop. And what a crop? The legislature has adopted about fifteen state codes. These codes may have as many as 250 regulations, and each regulation has the effect of a law. They include every human activity. And then we took on the NRA (state court enforcement) with its 500 codes, with a potential 250 laws each, making a modest 137,500 regulations, covering everything from a corn decider to a lead nicker in an unlawful slot machine. And two weeks yet to go.

Bills, bills, bills! At home we get our bills on the first of each month. At the legislature we get them every day in the month, with more than four hundred now in the house alone. There were 56 bills up Monday for final passage. We suggest that we vote for them, ten at a time, and then, flip heads and tails to determine whether we vote yes or no for each block of ten.

Our working principle. Contrary of course. In law the defendant is presumed to be innocent until he is proven guilty. In the legislature we always assume that a bill is guilty until it is proven innocent. First we get its parentage and be sure that its papa is not a foster father. Be sure that some lawyer is not practicing law on you and be sure that it is not conceived in greed, born of selfishness and nurtured in deception and even then not many mistakes will be made by voting no.

ROAD MATTERS TAKE DELEGATION TO SALEM

Free Ferries On River Up Before
Senate Committee

MARYHILL SITE INEXPENSIVE

Assistance of Washington Required
In Bill

A group of men who are interested in highway development in Sherman county, led by County Judge Potter and Commissioner A. A. Dunlap drove to Salem Friday to attend a hearing of the senate roads and highways committee. E. E. Gervais, L. L. Peetz, and G. L. French were other members of the party.

Immediate reason for the trip was the public hearing on the bills designed to permit to highway commission of Oregon and Washington to establish free ferries across the Columbia at points connecting Biggs and Maryhill and Astoria and Megler. At the hearing Astoria presented information showing that the cost of free forage across the river at that point would cost approximately \$62,000 for 24 hour service. Ferries would cost above \$100,000 and total cars for 1934 were 31,000.

Highway commission figures showed that in 1933 the number of cars handled by the two ferries at Astoria and Biggs was nearly equal with about 23,000 apiece. It was estimated that the cost of free forage at Biggs would be \$19,000 for 24 hour service.

After lengthy discussion the committee decided to scrap both of the bills already presented and to write one which would allow the highway commissions to establish ferries across the Columbia at points to be designated later by them. The bill has not been introduced as yet by the committee but will be in the hopper this week probably.

An order for trees has gone in to Corvallis from this county. A few extra were ordered for use for those who failed to get their order in on time. These trees should be "hailed in" as soon as they arrive and cared for carefully as they are small and easily killed by neglect.

A Fight. The House can be so dull that it is stupid with the reading clerk droning along with the monotony of the first and second reading of bills. All is quiet, peaceful and happy. Fish. Somebody said "Fish" and a dozen men were on their feet ready to go over the top. These fishing interests fish with a long line, and a little innocent bill can be a dynamite factory. Fish. The fight is whether the fish can be put into a basket or into a tin can. Sounds innocent. But if you mention "fish" in these historic halls you ought to have a wire mask on like a catcher in a baseball team.

The kids. Now we are on a subject that we will fight for—the kids. Fish don't interest us but if anyone says anything about our kids they will have to take our measurement for a wooden overcoat. We are proud of them. A fine lot of youngsters—clean cut, alert, courageous and making very creditable appearances upon the floor—they are all under 30. Millard Rodman, 24, of Crook is our baby; Roseo Krier of Wasco is 25; William Knight, Douglas, is 25; Lyle Thomas of Polk 25; Walter Norblad of Clatsop, 27; William Dickson, of Multnomah, 28; Walter Fraher, Marion, 30; and Harry Bolvin of Klamath, 30; Oregon to you we dedicate these youthful solons.

Children. That reminds us: They enjoy the legislature; it reminds them of their debating societies. Nearly every day the children from some school will visit the legislature in a body and they feel like

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