

Sherman County Journal

Forty Seventh Year No. 17

Moro, Oregon, Friday, March 1, 1935

Official County Paper

State House

Gossip

A column of chatter about legislation and legislators

By Ernest L. Gray

With the Legislature scheduled to continue until March 9, or 15 days over the prescribed 40 days, more attention is being turned to possible appointments under the new administration as well as what will happen to the big issues remaining in the legislature along with how will some legislators eat.

Friday night the pay of members of the house stopped, but the pay of the clerks and secretaries continues at \$5 a day. Members whose wives are their secretaries have an advantage. Others who do not have much other income will find it difficult. But every one of the ninety members will be here the closing night—that appeared certain.

And in the matter of appointments, one member of the house was being groomed by his friends for position as state printer to succeed E. C. Hobbs. There has been no indication Hobbs would be removed by the Board of Control as he has made a fine name for himself in that position, but the way of politics is sometimes strange.

J. Richard Smurthwaite, Jr., Representative from Baker County, has been the one advanced for State Printer. Personally, he declared, he has heard nothing official. He is a Democrat and a printer by trade as well as a world war veteran. Smurthwaite is a member of the typographical union and is 41 years of age. Well liked in the House.

Clint Haight, the editor member of the Legislature from Canyon City, was lonesome the last few days. His wife and constant companion slipped and fell upon the hard tile floor of the State Capitol and broke her left arm. The news-gang here shortly after received a fine note from her voicing appreciation for the large bouquet of flowers.

Speculation was rife as to what chances Frank C. McCulloch, the new public utilities commissioner from Baker who takes office Friday of this week, would make in the utility organization over which he will be the head. Commissioner Charles M. Thomas was expected to assume a legal position with a proposed new bus company which will operate in Portland.

One change apparent in the utilities organization would be that of supervisor of transportation, or the head of the bus and truck division. Herbert Hauser who was Secretary to the 3-man public service commission for a dozen years and who has been head of the bus and truck department, was expected to be transferred to some other division. No successor has yet been mentioned.

And while the recall for Howard Merriam was under way in Lane county because he did not vote exactly as arch supporters of the Townsend Old Age Pension plan desired, another memorial again bringing up the Townsend plan, was introduced in the House. The other one was killed by the Senate.

The new memorial, known as House Joint Memorial No. 17, differs from the other attempt in that it does not memorialize Congress to pass the "Townsend Old Age Revolving fund plan," but does ask it be brought out into the act of Congress by the ways and means committee so that the plan can be aired publicly.

This memorial, less demanding than the other one, probably will get support, including Merriam's who really did vote for a modified old age pension memorial previously. It will cost Lane County thousands of dollars to attempt to oust a good man from the Legislature on what has been termed purely a technicality.

Narkous-Amidon Nuptials Observed

The marriage of Miss LeNore Amidon of Moro and Mr. Joseph Narkous of Pendleton was solemnized Friday noon February 22 at the home of the bride's father Mr. E. Amidon, before a small group of relatives and friends.

Their attendants were Mr. and Mrs. Harold McIntyre of Helix, Rev. E. A. Hutchinson of The Dalles read the service. The Misses Dorothy Fraser, Mary Pinkerton, Genevieve Nahouse and Gayle Amidon sang accompanied by Mrs. Carroll Sayrs who also played the wedding march.

The bride wore a blue and white afternoon dress, her corsage was of tea roses and sweet peas. Mrs. McIntyre was dressed in blue and wore a corsage of tea roses and violets.

After the dinner following the ceremony, Mr. and Mrs. Narkous left for a short wedding trip. They will make their home in Pendleton.

Experiment Stations Conditions Varied

Because of varying soil and climatic conditions, eastern Oregon has six of the nine branch experiment stations. The recent biennial report of the entire experiment station system shows these variations as follows:

Station	Elevation Ft.	In. Days F	Ave. rainfall	Ave. Growing	Lowest Winter
Burns	4150	7.78	63	-45	
Hermiston	451	8.40	163	-36	
Hood River	300	32.21	184	-27	
Moro	1838	11.25	150	-22	
Pendleton	1440	13.29	149	-23	
Union	2787	13.23	118	-24	

*This figure covers only the years the station has been established, which included a dry cycle. The normal average rainfall for Pendleton is about 14 inches.

COURT NEWS

Claims Presented and Allowed Against the General Fund Account of "Courthouse Improvements", at February Term of County Court.	
Moro Hardware and Implement Company	\$1.40
Dick Morgan, Labor on courthouse basement	73.40
W. C. Weld, Labor on courthouse basement	12.00
State Indus. Accident Comm. Protection for SERA laborers	25.71
McKean and Searcy supplies	4.70
Hanson Blue Print Co., Blue prints of basement	.68
Hal White, mileage and miscellaneous expenses of engineer	14.51
McKean and Searcy, supplies	20.38
O. Meara Supply and Imp. Co. Courthouse supplies	3.00
Ginn, Coleman and Co., supplies for basement	108.35
Farmers Elevator & Supply Co., Lumber etc for basement	970.96
Union Pacific Stages, Inc., Freight on basement supplies	4.40
Claims Presented and Allowed Against Road Fund at February Term of County Court.	
C. A. Bargenholt, laborer	12.40
Ralph Eaton, laborer	12.40
Dick Yocum, laborer	12.40
Hal White, county engineer	138.00
W. C. Weld, laborer	22.45
Vinton Watkins, laborer	3.10
E. L. Weld, road laborer	26.80
A. Shearer, laborer	19.80
L. L. Funk, laborer	20.60
Unino Oil Company, road supplies	38.25
Foss & Co., road supplies	1.50
State Indus. Acc. Comm., Rd employees protection	16.63
National Hospital Ass'n Rd employees protection	15.22
Mrs. C. M. Snider, Rent of road machine shed	6.00
R. H. McKean, Rent of roadmaster's office	12.00
Pac. Power and Light Co., Lights, roadmaster's office	1.25
City of Wasco, water for roadmaster's office	1.50
Fennaguy Machinery Co., Supplies for road machinery	122.44
Shell Oil Co., road supplies	58.62

Recreational School To Be Given Here

All those persons who have longed to be able to arise in a crowd and say, "Now we'll all play ring around the rosy," and then make everyone enjoy themselves will have their innings the week of March 11 when Miss Gertrude Skow, extension specialist in recreational activities, will give a series of classes at the Moro school house. Classes will be held Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday nights.

Miss Skow attended a grange convention last summer at Grass Valley and had old and young entertaining themselves happily for several hours. It is requested that those interested in learning methods of group recreation register with the county agent before the meetings begin so the course can be planned to better advantage.

Members of all groups in the county, grange, lodge, churches and clubs are all invited. A fairly equal division between men and women is wanted for the school. About sixty are expected.

Court House Has Face Lifting Operation

For years the Sherman county court house has had much the same appearance. Pictures taken in the early days of the century might be thought to be modern ones except for the growth of trees about it. But this week it has been changed. The doors that were set inside the door area some five or six feet have been brought out almost flush with the brick wall to make room for a door to the new basement.

This is practically the only difference in the exterior of the building caused by the digging of the basement. Underneath, though, the change is great. Smooth concrete now covers the floor, the vault is nearly completed the walls smoothed down and the whole job ready for the installation of the new heating plant and other paraphernalia that will modernize the old building into one that will better fit the needs of the times.

CLUB CHILDREN FETED BY CLUB

Clubbers Tell of Work In Club Projects

COURTNEY GIVES SUPPORT

Kent Will Entertain Children Next Friday, March 8

The second community wide affair given in honor of the 4-H club children who completed their projects in 1934 was given at the Moro Hotel Saturday night with 125 persons present including the young guests.

Gordon Fraser acted as toast master and was as calm before his after dinner crowd as on the football field. George Updegraff welcomed the parents, leaders and club members and Melba Thogerson gave the response for the children.

Vivian Fuller, Gayle Amidon, Dale Johnston, Ronald Powell, Lloyd Henrichs, Doris Thompson, Betty Powell, Dorothy Fraser, Mary Pinkerton and Frank Sayrs spoke for the clubbers and Mrs. T. H. Fraser, Roy Powell and Henry Barnum gave the parents' and leaders' point of view. Perry Johnston, Wily Knighten and Miles French gave brief talks and Eugene Courtney, manager of the First National Bank in The Dalles, told of the interest that has been started in club work through the success of the Sherman county beef club last year. He had a copy of the banker's annual publication in which the matter received favorable notice.

Pins and awards were given for first year work to Dale Johnston, Ted Thompson, Claudine Thompson, Audrey Baker, Ardis Truitt, Ronald Powell, Lyle Nahouse, Helen Morrison, Donald Morris, Mearle Miller, Clara Mersinger, David McLeod, Clinton Kessinger, Jessie Kenny, Glen Kenny, Reatha Howard, Mac Hall, Wyman French, Betty Coffman, Gene Brisbine, Betty Belshee, Barbara Belshe, Winifred Belshee, Robert Gillmore and Audrey Searcy.

Third year pins were received by Thirley Chapman, Lois Melzer, Bonnie Peters, Elizabeth Mersinger, Erma Morgan, Patricia McLeod, Wayne Thompson and Betty Vintin. Fifth year pins went to Marjorie Byers, Lucille McLachlin and Lloyd Henrichs.

Second year club members Billy Axtell, Bobby Axtell, Vera Henrichs, Carl Peetz, Dean Pinkerton, Lois Reynolds, Gordon Thompson, Rodney Truitt, received cards signifying their successful completion of their work.

Fourth year cards were given Betty Powell, Louis May, Leona McLeod, Vivian Fuller, Jane French, Gayle Amidon and Donald Williams. Sixth year cards were presented to Doris Thompson, Jean Powell, Mary Pinkerton, Dorothy Fraser and George Hennagin. Cards showing seven years of successful club work were given to Gordon Fraser, Paul Fraser and Lavon Sayrs, and for 8 years to Norma Melzer, Melba Thogerson and Lois Kenny.

Dorothy Fraser and Mary Pinkerton won a scholarship for canning judging and demonstrations at the state fair, the poultry judging team, Lloyd Henrichs, George Hennagin and Dorothy Fraser were given a ribbon won at the fair. Lyle Nahouse received his 7th place ribbon for forestry. Donald Williams and Dean Pinkerton were given their fifth place ribbon for crop judging at Salem. Gordon Fraser was presented with ribbons denoting three prizes for swine and one for calf.

Ronald Powell and Betty Powell each received their scholarship for winning first place in beef calf competition. Dorothy Fraser was given a third place for her home beautification project and Gordon received his first place and a scholarship for prize winning wheat.

Leaders pins were given to Mrs. (Continued on page four)

Stephens Returns From Try To Washington

D. E. Stephens returned last Thursday from his trip to Washington D. C. where he worked in the department of Agriculture. Mr. Stephens says that Washington has changed more in the past four years than in the twenty years preceding. New buildings for agriculture, commerce, labor and the supreme court have been erected. Everyone is busy and there is said to be more people working in government offices than in the hectic days of the world war.

First '35 Months Driest Since 1920

Until the rainfall of Wednesday night and Thursday morning the months of January and February of 1935 were the driest ever recorded in this county since the establishment of the experiment station here with the single exception of 1920. Only 1.20 inches of moisture has fallen in the first two months of the year. Although there was a surplus of rainfall between September 1 and the end of the year that surplus has been wiped out by the dry January and February.

For nearly two weeks the weather has been bright and clear and frosty after the sun has gone down. A break in this sort of weather came Tuesday with a change of the moon and cloudy days with promise of rain is now in prospect. Farmers are almost unanimous in the opinion that there is more moisture in the ground than last spring as those who have dug report at least three feet of wet dirt in the Moro territory. Farther south there is much less and there is a bit more around Wasco. Little of the rainfall of the crop season has run off causing the fairly good conditions in spite of the dry months.

Farmers are beginning to work in the fields in some places, either plowing or putting in crops on the land left idle last fall.

Sale of Sherman County Horses To Valley Made

More sales of purebred Percherons were made in 1934 than for any year since 1929, according to E. J. McFarland, secretary of the Percheron Horse Association at Chicago. Sales for the year totaled 3,934 as compared with 3,574 in 1929, and January sales alone totaled 445.

Among the most recent sales is that of T. M. Rolfe of Grass Valley, Oregon, who has just furnished two purebred Percheron mares for the herd of E. R. Baker at Newberg, Oregon.

Both mares are sired by Casino II, of the famous Casino breeding and one is in foal to a Lagos bred sire.

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

From the Observer March 2, 1906. W. M. Barnett of Wasco has macaroni seed wheat for sale. The only sure dry country wheat.

Justice Brock is about to move from Moro, and was the first qualified republican voter to sign a petition for Wm. Rudolph as his successor. Mr. Rudolph is a good man for the place, not lacking in experience either, having served several terms as J. P. of Kent.

More than 100 of the most prominent farmers, stock and business men of Sherman county have pledged themselves to support an industrial exposition this year. The meeting held at the Court house Saturday showed that the time is ripe for something of this kind at home. The following officers were chosen: President, C. W. Moore; Vice President, G. A. Melroy; Secretary, A. B. Craft; Treasurer, I. D. Pike; Board of Directors, A. H. Barnum, J. W. Booth, I. N. Lemon, Fred Kruasow, Elwood Thompson.

From the Observer March 4, 1916. M. C. Davis has leased his farm, known as the Callaghan place, east of Grass Valley to J. D. Dunlap and has moved to Portland.

John M. DeMoss has had a large 6-foot sign painted by J. P. Noonan that he will place at the entrance to his farm below DeMoss, which has been named Sunrise Farm. One side of the sign will face south

Scout Dads Struggle Through Another Game

Competition between the scout dads of Grass Valley and Moro seems to be on an absolutely equal basis although some accuse the time keeper and scorers of stopping the game when the score is tied. Anyway they played another tie game at Grass Valley Wednesday night.

All players got along swimmingly, being dressed in bathing suits. Instead of the regulation basketball costume. It was another slapstick affair that caused much more amusement on the part of the spectators than would a serious game with a championship at stake.

Varied Farm Program Advised For Oregon

"It will probably pay better generally, for Oregon farmers to plan on feeding hay crops and feed grain to livestock than to depend too much on the cash market next fall and winter," says the outlook report for spring sown crops and vegetables just released by the Oregon State college extension service.

The circular points out that most of the 20 per cent gain in the general level of farm prices since last May can be attributed to the drought made scarcity of feed grains and hay which in turn cut down supplies of eggs, butterfat and meat. While the general price level advanced 20 per cent, corn went up 75 per cent, oats 70 per cent, barley 90 per cent and hay 57 per cent as an average for the whole country. Compared with a year ago, the farm price of eggs is up 40 per cent, butterfat 90 per cent, hogs 120 per cent, beef cattle 50 per cent and lambs 13 per cent.

Agricultural adjustment programs and relief purchases of cattle and sheep played a part, but most of the advance may be credited directly or indirectly to the drought, says the report. It is pointed out that farmers, particularly in the 1934 drought areas, will do everything possible to produce an adequate supply of feed grain and forage and that crop prospects are reasonably favorable. With livestock numbers also greatly reduced, the market demand for hay and grain for shipment eastward can scarcely be expected to be as great as for the crop of 1934.

Of the various spring sown crops discussed in the report—wheat, feed grain, brewing barley, hay, flaxseed, beans, clover seed, alfalfa seed, hops, potatoes, onion and other vegetable crops—the market outlook for clover seed appears the best.

The 1934 clover seed crop was 30 per cent below average and the carryover not large. Demand for clover to replant killed and damaged meadows where drought was severe is strong, so that the avail supply should be pretty well (Continued on Page two)

LEGISLATION GOES ON DESPITE PAY

Bill To Relieve Indebted Towns Introduced

SALARY BILL PASSES HOUSE

Road Resolution Would Aid Central Oregon Highways

Some of the bills that concern Sherman county have been passed by the legislature during the past week and others have gone the way of the majority and been indefinitely postponed or been forgotten in committee.

Senate Bill 108 which has to do with the salaries of county officers was passed by the house with amendments changing the sheriff and assessor's salary from the contemplated \$1600 to \$1800, as it is at present, and making the treasurer's salary \$900 per year. Whether it will get clear through the hopper before the final thump of the gavels in the senate and house is as yet unknown.

A measure has been introduced in the senate which will give the state bond commission power to act as conciliator or intermediary between the cities having back interest and bond payments and the bond holders. The bill is known as Senate Bill 355 and was introduced by Chincock, although the treasurer's office had much to do with writing the bill. It is thought that this bill will provide a way out for towns now overburdened by debt and permit them to refinance at a lower rate of interest and at a figure within the capacity of the taxpayers to pay.

Fatland's bill to give the county court's authority to set the salaries of county officers was defeated in the senate which leaves the salary schedule of county officers in exactly the same place it was previously.

One of the major questions troubling the legislators this week has been the so called Snider resolution which would force the highway commission to finish the roads that were on the highway map in 1917 before starting any new highways. A large part of the 1917 roads were in eastern Oregon it appears, and this section wants the Fremont highway (Lake county) the Johnday highway and the other old roads finished before starting another road to the coast or other projected highways. Also the question of free tolls on the coast bridges is still unsettled and it has caused worry on the part of all legislators not coming from the coast country where the matter is very hot indeed.

The governor and the grange leaders had a few words last week when the grangers were instrumental in defeating the county unit bill Governor Martin favored. The grange equalization school bill carried in the senate shortly thereafter giving the grangers the first round in the battle.

HOG LEADERS ELECTED

The meeting for organization of the Moro district of the corn-hog allotment committee was held Monday night at the court house and resulted in the re-election of the same board that functioned last year. They are Henry Barnum, community committee chairman, and county board member, Joe Peters and Tom Fraser, community committeemen. In the entire county 78 hog growers have signed contracts to date which compares to 121 signers of contracts last year.

CHURCH SPONSORS PLAY

A dramatization, showing the need of schooling among the Mexican migrant families in the United States, will be given in the Community Church Sunday, March 3, at 11 a. m. The playlet will be a part of the church service conducted by the Woman's Missionary Society, and given by the children of the Sunday School. The leading part will be taken by Reatha Sayrs and Bob Axtell. Special music will help to make this an enjoyable and instructive hour, and the public is invited.