

Sherman County Journal

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SEPTEMBER 13, 1935

DICTATOR'S END

A mild mannered doctor brought to a sudden end the demagogic career of Huey Long. Such ends are happily peculiar to our American...

It was almost certain that if Louisiana contained any large body of citizens which really believed in democracy as a form of government...

Huey lived by political chicanery. If his biographers are to be believed, while he distributed his favors to parishes that gave him big vote leads he traded his favors for more political power...

It would, of course, have been better if it would have been possible to remove Long from power by a deluge of votes, but his control of the state precluded that method.

DEATH ON THE DESERT

Last week readers of some of the daily papers should have been surprised to read of the death of a man in the southern part of Sherman county by heat and thirst.

Considering that Sherman county has the largest percentage of tillable acres of any county in the state it is strange that story could have been true.

The victim of our "atrocious" heat and our "dangerously dry" meteorological conditions was practically blind and in all probability suffered a stroke of paralysis or sun stroke that incapacitated him and made his search for water futile.

Truth, they say, is stranger than fiction. It may be so when only a part of it is told. A story telling of a man dying of thirst in Sherman county may be true and it may also be true that a child was clawed by bears in the city of Portland...

ATHLETICS

There is apparently a growing resentment in the county against the use of so much school time for athletic pursuits, games and activity. As one school director pointed out it nearly a quarter of the school time and therefore the school expense goes for development of the physical being of the high school students.

and sturdy legs, especially when those legs and arms may be broken. Three of the schools of the county are ready to prepare a schedule for a type of football that requires fewer men and is not designed to be so rough as the regular game.

The other sports engaged in by Sherman county schools are better fitted to their size and student body numbers. Yet there is usually a great deal more interest in sports for a good part of the year than is apparent for the scholastic pursuits for which parents support the school.

Debate, speaking contests, dramatic competition, or even the old fashioned spelling contest, might stimulate a form of competition that fitted better the purpose of a school. This is not to infer that there is not need for physical exercise for high school students.

This is merely to state that for the small school football is too strenuous for many of the boys who must participate if there is to be a team and that the time and interest given to all forms of athletics is too large a part of the school day.

TRY, TRY AGAIN

Interest in the improvement of the southern end of the Sherman highway is at present undergoing another of its sporadic boosts. It is probable that the fact that local interest has been so spotted is one of the principal reasons why nothing has been done to date by the highway commission.

The county court in their recent venture at the highway meeting, were unable to get any satisfactory answer. But this should not discourage those who are working for the road.

This is the proper time to act. The road is becoming worn out. The rock surface is down to the base; government money is being spent on state roads all over the nation; this is a through highway built in many places, to federal standards, by federal order and there is every reason why the remaining portion should be surfaced to meet the same requirements.

Its something to know that a city the size of Portland can have its school rows as well as the most remote hamlet.

Huey sure shared the people's wealth. A \$350,000 morsel in the last six months for attorney's fees.

Well Portland made it interesting in the second half anyway.

County fair and state fair are over and the next thing is the stock show.

ALMANAC

GOSH! I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE SIMPLE QUESTION, BUT I'M TOO ASHAMED TO ASK. He who is ashamed of asking, is also ashamed of learning.

- SEPTEMBER
10—Admiral Perry licks British fleet on Lake Erie, 1812.
11—Start of the bloody Tecumseh Indian War, 1811.
12—National Prohibition Party is organized, 1869.
13—250,000 march in great New York N. R. A. parade, 1933.
14—The American Army evacuates New York City, 1776.
15—William Howard Taft, 26th president, born 1857.
16—Napoleon sets torch to Moscow, then retreats, 1812.

People's Column

To the Editor—

Dear Sir: Perhaps nothing interested the City Marshal during the Fair week, than the following incident which I would call "A Lesson in Good Citizenship."

During the evening of Thursday the highway through town was lined with cars and parking space was at a premium.

Just before the Band Concert started a car drove into the limited space close to the Band building corner. Stepping up to the car the Marshal observed that it contained an official and remarked, "Oh you are an officer." Quick as a shot came the answer "I'm a scrub" as he backed instantly and found another parking place.

We take off our hats to Sergeant Grimm. Geo. A. Williams, City Marshal.

STATE AFFAIRS

(Continued from page one) working their drivers longer than the 12-hour maximum permitted by the Oregon law are being investigated by E. A. Landis, state superintendent of transportation. Landis points out that California now limits the work of truck drivers to an eight hour day while Washington to the north has just recently reduced the maximum number of hours for truck drivers to ten.

Members of the state police travel an average of more than 100 miles a day in their line of duty, according to a report by Chas. P. Pray, superintendent.

The state fair this year was a success from a financial as well as an educational standpoint, according to Solon T. White, state director of agriculture. Receipts of the fair, coupled with a share of the racing money, will finance the show without cost to the taxpayer, White said.

Plans for the 1936 fair which will mark the diamond jubilee will be started within a short time with a view to making next year's fair outstanding in every respect. Recommendations made by exhibitors this year, particularly live stock owners, that the fair dates be set back two weeks in order to avoid the busy harvest season, are receiving serious consideration by White and the state board of agriculture.

Governor Martin and members of the state highway commission are on a tour of eastern and central Oregon this week with stops at Pendleton, Enterprise, Balzer, LaGrande, Burne and Bend. Most of the party left Salem early Monday morning, but Governor Martin was delayed until Monday night, being detained by the capitol site impasse joining the other members at LaGrande Tuesday morning.

The party will return to Salem Sunday via the McKenzie highway. Enrollment of high school students in vocational agriculture increased from 1462 in 1933-34 to 1844 in 1934-35, according to Earl R. Cooley, state supervisor for vocational agriculture. Eight more schools are offering this course this year. They include Riverton in Coos county, Boardman, Scappoose, The Dalles, Arlington, Condon and Cranes. At least a dozen other schools applied for the course but could not get it because of lack of competent instructors.

In Other Days

From the Observer Sept., 14, 1906. After drilling a hole 248 feet deep on the farm of L. L. Peetz, it was abandoned, and the machine moved out of the gulch and up on a high side hill where an abundance of wholesome water was struck at 59 feet. Varily, like gold water is where you find it.

Three gangs of surveyors and all strangers to each other are working at Robrville this week. Keep your eye on Robrville.

Joe Stiles has resigned his position with the Wasco Commercial Co., and his place has been taken by Mr. Freeman, former manager of the Sherman Trading Company, of Moro. Mr. Freeman is an experienced and agreeable business man and the company has been fortunate in securing his services.—Wasco News.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Moore were the last of the Moro colony to break camp at Cascade Lox. All are home now.

This year Mrs. Lot Rust has been most happily favored with respect to her orchard south of Moro. Considering that there was no water for irrigation, the fruit was certainly nice.

From the Observer Sept. 15, 1916. A big black bear was killed near DeMoss Springs early Monday morning. It was first discovered

by Elmer Barzee Jr. and tracked to DeMoss where it was shot by Albert Pentacost and Curly Miller. Fred Hennagin has finished harvesting his crop and will soon move from the EOL land he farmed to the McDermid farm near Fulton canyon.

O. A. Ramsey has finished his contract with the Freeman building and Raymond will put in the shelves. The Moro Hardware is expected to be moved into the new building by fair time.

P. J. Dillinger has rented the Alf Dillinger farm formerly leased to E. S. Ruggles who will move to Prineville soon.

Pape brothers have moved their threshing rig to the L. J. Pape farm south of Moro. After finishing there they will again move to Herman's farm where 250 acres is waiting to be cut.

Wheat Thought Lower in Quality This Year

The lower quality of the Northern Hemisphere wheat this season tends to accentuate the smaller

Review of National History Shows Constitutional Changes

When the Roosevelt administration came to power in March, 1933, the banking system of the country had broken down, credit was contracted, confidence strained, gold was being hoarded by millions of dollars and the outgo of gold was threatened by the monetary policy of foreign countries, most of which had abandoned the gold standard but were frantically striving to strengthen credit abroad and stabilize international exchanges.

With the resolution and dispatch characteristic of the "New Deal" President, the United States joined the leading commercial nations in the abandonment of the gold standard.

There will always be economists who will question the necessity and expediency of the move. It is not the purpose of this article to pass judgment on this phase of financial policy. Rather it is intended to recite the facts as a background for the momentous decision in the gold clause cases.

The abandonment of gold at the old standard of weight and fineness would of course have been of little consequence if a vast volume of preexisting contracts to pay gold had been recognized as valid and other contracts of the kind had been sanctioned and encouraged. Widespread monetary confusion would have resulted, prices and the standard of value would have rested on no certain basis.

To sweep every phase of the old deal monetary policy out of the way for the universal use of the same medium of payment whatever it turned out to be, was the purpose of the Congressional resolution of June 5, 1933.

In this important piece of legislation, contracts for the payment of gold were declared to be "contrary to public policy." Obligations to pay money incurred either before or after the law was passed regardless of provisions contained in such contracts, shall be discharged upon payment "in any coin or currency which at the time of payment is legal for public and private debt."

The precise foundation of our currency was somewhat in doubt until the Gold Reserve Act of 1934 (January 30) and the subsequent exercise of the extraordinary power granted to the President.

By proclamation the bullion content of the gold dollar underlying the new currency was reduced from the old standard of 25.8 grains (nine-tenths fine) to 15.5-21 grains. Thus the gold content of our dollar was shovled down forty per cent.

If contracts to "pay gold of the present weight and fineness" were recognized, the devalued dollar, despite the resolution of Congress, would not be legal tender for \$100,000,000 worth of pre-existing debts and many more that might make their appearance.

Despite the far-reaching importance of the legal issues involved the devaluation of the dollar was of little practical importance. The gold dollar was merely shrunken to correspond with the depreciation of the paper money that had taken place since suspension of the gold

harvests. Of United States inspections of hard winter wheat at representative markets during July, only 46 per cent graded No. 2 or better against 80 per cent during July last year. Only 25 per cent of the hard winter graded dark hard as against 58 per cent last year. Of soft red winter only 46 per cent graded No. 2 or better compared with 73 per cent in July, 1934, with 23 per cent grading tough as against only 6 per cent last year.

Test weights of both hard and soft winter averaged around one pound lower than in 1934. Early inspections of spring wheats showed materially lower quality than last season with test weights weighing only 52 to 53 pounds per bushel, and with only 32 per cent of the August 1 to 15 inspections grading No. 2 or better, as compared with 95 per cent for the period August 1 to 10, 1934. White wheats are of somewhat higher quality than last season, with inspections during the first half of August showing 47 per cent grading No. 1 as against only 36 per cent for the period August 1 to 10, 1934. A notable increase occurred in the proportion of white club wheat which comprised 33 per cent of the inspections this year against only 17 per cent last season.

If, on the other hand, the court followed the Supreme Court in the legal tender cases after it had reversed the decision in Hopburn v. Griswold, those debts might be discharged by anything which the law designates as legal tender at the date of maturity.

Indeed, the language of the Congressional resolution of June 5, 1933, clearly suggests Chase's opinion in the legal tender cases. Debts are to be "discharged upon payment—in any coin or currency which at the time of payment is legal tender."

The Court in the gold clause decision disposes of Bronson v. Rodes as a precedent by pointing out that monetary conditions in 1934 were very different from those when the debt owed to Bronson came up for settlement in 1869.

Despite the issue of depreciated paper in the Civil War, the United States mint had not stopped coinage of gold and silver at the old standard of weight and fineness and Congress had not withdrawn the legal tender quality of metallic money. Two forms of currency of unequal value were equally recognized by law and debtor and creditor might lawfully choose to pay and be paid in either.

The resolution of Congress in 1933 and the delegation of the power to devalue had set up but one standard for the payment of debts, namely, (devalued) dollar for dollar which alone is lawful tender for debts maturing after January, 1934. These bonded obligations despite the gold clause contained therein were merely contracts to pay a certain number of dollars.

In the gold clause decision we find the broadest assertion of the power of Congress not only to coin money but to "establish a monetary system" and to invalidate the provisions of existing contracts that may interfere with the exercise of this power.

The Court held, in keeping with Juilliard v. Greenman, that the power to set up this monetary system does not reside wholly in the coinage clause of the Constitution but resides also in the sovereign powers that belong to the national government.

The full exercise of this power to set up a monetary system can not brook the existence of contracts calling for the payment of some other medium than that specified by Congressional act.

Despite the sacredness of contracts in the realm of law, the power to enter into contract can not remove the transaction from the scope of Congressional authority. Such contracts can not interfere with the power of Congress to regulate commerce, coin money, establish postoffices, etc., and by the exercise of sovereign power the national legislature may sweep them aside if they do.

The prevalence of the gold clause in bonds and other contracts to the extent of billions of dollars render ineffective the clearly defined power of the government to "create a currency and determine the value thereof."

These gold clause contracts if allowed to exist with the sanction of the Court would increase the demand for gold as a means of payment, enhance its value, stimulate hoarding and export and make unworkable any attempt to regulate the value of the dollar in the

channels of commerce. Despite contractual obligations and obstacles the Court concluded that Congress had the right to reject a dual system of currency and to establish a uniform system by abrogating the gold clause and making all payments in one medium.

In the light and the emergency and the far-reaching consequences of an opposite stand, the Court was wise in the selection of its precedents.

U. S. LAND OFFICE at The Dalles, Oregon, August 23, 1935. NOTICE is hereby given that John O. McKinnon, of Kent, Oregon, who on June 7, 1927, made Homestead Entry under Act Dec. 29, 1916, No. 025402, for N1NW1, Sec. 27, NE1NE1, Sec. 28, T. 4 S., R. 18 E., S1NW1, SW1, S1SE1, Sec. 4, S1SW1, NE1SW1, Sec. 3, and N1NW1, Section 10, Township 5 South, Range 18 East, Willamette Meridian, has filed notice of intention to make final Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before Register, United States Land Office, at The Dalles, Oregon, on the 3rd day of October, 1935.

Claimant names as witnesses: J. E. Norton, of Kent, Oregon. Benjamin Boswell, of Kent, Ore. Roy L. Robinson, of Portland, Oregon. John N. MacInness, of Kent, Ore. W. F. Jackson, Register.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS. All creditors having claims against the estate of J. Arthur Butler, deceased, are hereby notified to present them, in proper form, to the undersigned, the duly appointed executrix of the last will and testament of J. Arthur Butler, deceased, at Wasco, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice, to-wit: August 23, 1935. Pearl Irene Butler.

Geo. G. Updegraff, Attorney for Executrix 8-23, 30, 9-6 13, 1935.

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GO PENDLETON ROUND-UP September 12, 13, 14 LOW RAIL FARES UNION PACIFIC