

Sherman County Journal

Forty Eighth Year No. 4

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Official County Paper

State Affairs

By

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The assessed valuation of all taxable properties in Oregon this year aggregates \$924,071,620.84, a reduction of approximately \$20,000,000 from the assessment of last year, according to figures compiled by the state tax commission. Of the total assessment \$761,129,734.32 represents properties assessed by the county assessor and \$162,941,886.52 represents utility properties assessed by the state tax commission. This makes the fifth consecutive year that assessed values have shown a reduction in comparison with figures of the previous year. Material reductions in the acreage of tillable, non-tillable and timber lands on the assessment rolls as well as reductions in the valuations of buildings and other improvements account for the smaller assessment. Slight increases are shown in the aggregate assessed value of merchandise, farm implements, horses, and mules, cattle, sheep, hogs, goats and dogs.

Sherman county's assessment roll shows a drop of more than \$200,000 in the year from \$9,758,352.94 in 1934 to \$9,553,230.76 in 1935.

The burden of the special election January 31, will fall largely on the counties. Dave O'Hara, elections clerk in the state department estimates the total cost of the elections at \$65,000 of which the state will put up \$15,000 with the counties shouldering \$50,000 of the cost.

Seven motorists beat the train to grade crossings on Oregon high ways during October, according to statistics compiled by the public utilities commission. In six other crossing accidents the automobile ran into the train which was already at the crossing.

Voters in 13 Oregon cities of 5000 or more population must pass on the question of civil service for their fire fighters at the January 31 special election, under an act passed by the regular session of the state legislature. Ordinances authorizing the election on the civil service issue must be passed by the city councils of these 13 cities by December 2, according to Earl Snell, secretary of state. The list of cities affected by this act includes Baker, Corvallis, LaGrande, Marshfield, Medford and The Dalles.

Definite progress in the campaign to reduce traffic fatalities on Oregon highways is shown in a report compiled by Secretary of State Snell which shows that for the ten months of the current year only 204 persons have lost their lives as a result of highway accidents compared to 259 fatalities for the same period a year ago. Traffic accidents, however, show an increase from 17,777 to 18,312 in spite of the campaign against reckless drivers. Only 19 fatalities were recorded during October compared to 34 for October, 1934.

A large framed portrait of former governor Oswald West was delivered to the executive department this week and will share honors with the recently painted portrait of ex-governor Julius Meier which hangs in one of the rooms occupied by Governor Martin and his staff in the state office building.

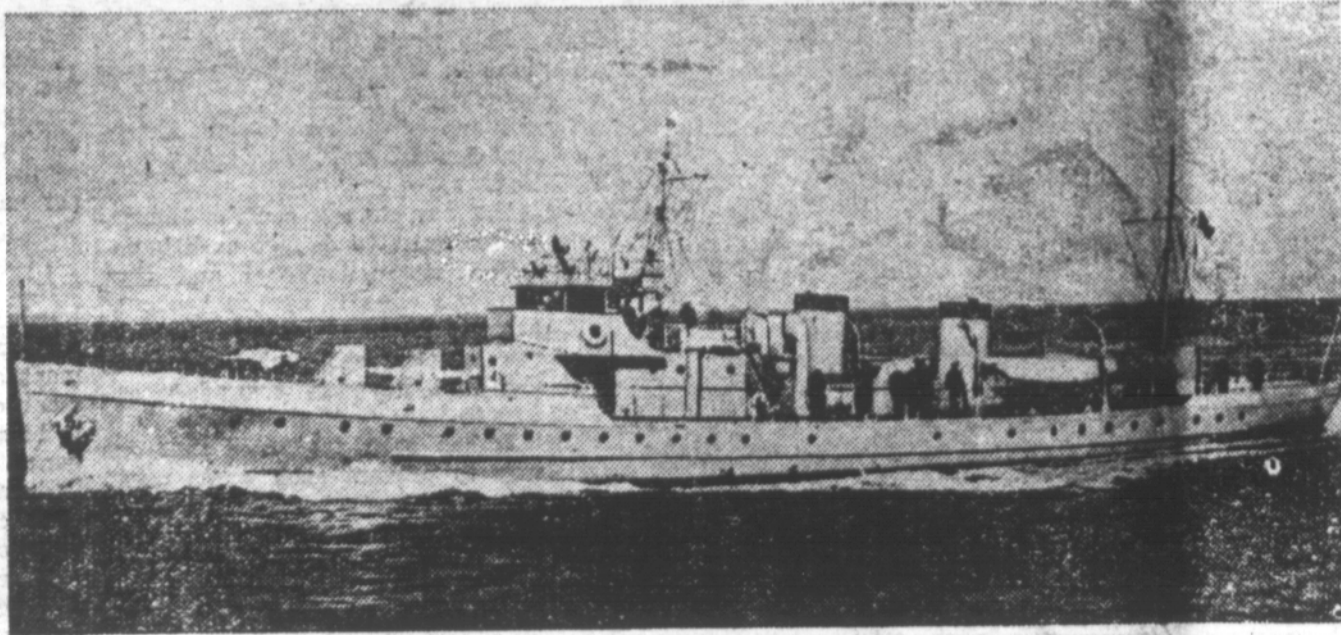
D. O. Hood, state budget director, who has been in California on private business since adjournment of the special session, is expected to resign his state job within the next few weeks. Governor Martin has given no indication as to who he will name to succeed Hood.

Gasoline sales in Oregon continue to show substantial increases over 1934 sales. Figures compiled by the state department show total sales of 154,428,769 gallons for the first ten months of the current year, a gain of 12,808,840 gallons over the same period a year ago. Gasoline taxes of \$7,721,438 collected by the state are \$640,442 greater than collections for 1934 to October 31.

Liquor sales for 1935 by state stores and agencies will exceed \$6,000,000 in the opinion of Arthur K. McMahan of Albany, chairman of the liquor control board. Profits of the liquor commission from sales and licenses to October 31 this year total \$1,471,394, according to a report filed with the state department.

Roben J. Maaske, assistant state superintendent of public instruction (Continued on Page two)

Electra, the New Presidential Yacht



Here is the new Presidential yacht, Electra, one of the new coast guard patrol boats that has been fitted up to supersede the Sequoia. It is larger and faster than the old boat and has accommodations for the accompanying secret service detail.

4-H Club Leaders Of County Confer With Advisors

4-H Club Planning Also Tries To "Make The Best Better"

Fourteen men who have 4-H club work as a primary interest seated themselves around the festive board Friday night of last week as guests of Eugene Courtney, branch manager of the First National Bank of The Dalles, and enjoyed the result of his deer hunt. Discussion, with Perry Johnston acting as toastmaster, revolved around problems of club work in this county. Each leader was asked for his opinion about methods of improving the work here and each responded with one that bore the imprint of some serious thought. Martin Melzer favored a different classification of forestry work that better fitted the needs of this unforrested area; Wallace May advocated better sheep for club children; Carroll Sayrs wanted some permanent results to come from the livestock clubs; Glen King wanted the club to have a vision at the fair; Dewey Thompson wanted club showmanship to be rated; John Foss told of the advantages to be gotten from handicraft; Merrill Oveson advocated a forage crop project for the county.

Clark Optimistic

Others who were not club leaders discussed these ideas and in some cases added to them, making of the meeting a very serious discussion about ways and means of making club work in this county a more helpful and successful endeavor. R. L. Clark, who handles the selling of livestock in Portland, told of the opportunities for feeding stock in Oregon and spoke hopefully for the success of agriculture despite the apparently discouraging outlook. Mr. Courtney, who is just recovering from a serious attack of botulism poisoning, pledged his continued assistance to club boys and girls. State club leader "Doc" Allen told of what might be done if endeavor was turned in the right direction. Willy Knighten and Perry Johnston, county club leaders, summed up the ideas into a plan for the coming year.

Sherman County Teachers Selected

Sherman county teachers and the school superintendent will appear on the program of the annual teachers convention which will be held in Portland Dec. 26-27-28.

County Superintendent, Willy W. Knighten, is chairman of the 4-H Club department. Among the prominent speakers on his program are T. P. Cramer, Jr., Secretary of the Oregon Bankers Association; W. A. Pettys, Principal, Peninsula School, Portland; County Superintendent Mary L. Fulkerson, Salem; County Superintendent L. B. Gibson, Hood River; and Mr. George Angel, Editor, The Oregon Farmer.

Miss Phyllis Rinehart will speak at the chief social event of the convention, the convention breakfast which will be held Saturday morning.

The convention of the National Educational Association will be held in Portland next summer and the Oregon teachers will be ready to receive them as plans will be made at the December meeting.

Wasco Co-op Joins National Organization

The Sherman County Grain Growers are now members of the Pacific Cooperative which is a share holder in the National Cooperative association, a dealer in farm supplies of all kinds, including petroleum products, tires, tubes, and other supplies.

The action of joining this group was taken in order to give members of the Wasco cooperative an opportunity to take delivery of gasoline in The Dalles from the Wasco county cooperatives which is also a member of the cooperative organization. No facilities for handling gasoline and oil or other farm supplies are contemplated at the present time by the local organization.

Moro Auxiliaries To Aid Needy Kids

The Moro unit of the American Legion Auxiliary will meet next Wednesday at the home of Mrs. N. W. Thompson to make doll clothes for the children of disabled soldiers. Members are expected to bring pieces of goods suitable for this use, and larger pieces so they can be used to make aprons for girls between the ages of six and eleven. Toys are also needed if anyone has any that can be spared. They must be sent by December 10 in order to reach their destination in Portland before Christmas.

Erosion Control Goes To The Hills

Now they are doing erosion work on hillside pastures.

The first of these projects is being started on the Theodore Johnston farm just east of the Lone Rock market road south of town. Work consists of terracing the slope every few feet at elevations ten feet apart. This makes irregular lines of ditches along the hillside when viewed from a distance but each ditch is comparatively level.

Every few feet a dividing strip of solid earth is left in the ditches to prevent the water from running along the ditches for any distance. Dirt removed is thrown on the lower side of the ditch.

The theory is that a part of the rainfall that comes to the steep slopes runs off before it can soak in to the ground. The treatment being given the ground is designed to stop the water in the ditches and keep it for the grass below it. Some rocky pasture and some fairly good pasture is being terraced.

Former Deputy Sheriff Dies

E. R. Hickson, former deputy sheriff of Sherman county, died at the family home in Portland Sunday morning about five o'clock after an illness that has kept him almost bedfast for several months.

For several years before 1928 and under many sheriffs Mr. Hickson kept the county tax collector's books in shipshape. He resigned in that year to retire in Portland. He is survived by two sons, one an engineer and the other an attorney.

Vernon Platt Injured in Wreck; Woman Killed

Mrs. Ada Jolley Killed When Going To Meet Waiting Bus

Vernon Platt met with an accident last Friday afternoon when he volunteered to take Mrs. Ada Jolley, state president of the W. C. T. U., to Rowena to catch a bus she had missed while conferring with members of the organization in The Dalles.

Agents of the bus company in The Dalles had called ahead to have the bus wait at Rowena and Platt, who was at the Bank Hotel, offered to take Mrs. Jolley to that point. When a couple of miles west of town a car that had been driving ahead of the Platt car turned off the highway to the left and Platt struck the rear end of it throwing his car into the ditch and overturning it.

Mrs. Jolley suffered a fracture at the base of the skull from which she succumbed a few hours later at The Dalles hospital and Platt was cut and bruised about the head.

This is the second occasion on which Mr. Platt has met with an accident while performing "good Samaritan" deeds with his car.

Scout Mastets and Executives Confer

The boy scout masters, executive committeemen from the sponsoring organizations and others who were interested, listened Wednesday night to a talk by Kenneth Wells of Portland, who is district supervisor of this area for boy scout work.

Discussion revolved around the possibilities and probabilities of re-establishing active boy scout troops in this county again. Scout Master Clyde Gilmer of Moro and newly appointed scout master Clifford Rowe of Grass Valley offered suggestions as did E. E. Gervais, Lawrence Mitchellmore, Melvin Schadewitz, Harry Pinkerton and others whose normal interest is advisory.

It is expected that joint meetings of troops and scout leaders of the two towns will be held every two months, that the over-head cost of the organization will be set at \$25 per town and that "cub packs" for the younger boys will be established in this county as a result of the meeting. Howard Boyd accompanied Mr. Wells.

THANKSGIVING PLEASANT

Thanksgiving day in Sherman county was pleasant from a meteorological standpoint for the sun shone nearly all day and it was warm and pretty as if to welcome the many visitors who spent the day here with friends and relatives. There was no public observance of the day although church services were held at two of the city's churches.

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
Nov. 21	35	30	.00
" 22	35	28	.14
" 23	31	30	.05
" 24	35	29	.00
" 25	47	32	.02
" 26	49	36	.00
" 27	50	34	.00
Total for week			.21

Applications For Wheat Contracts Practically Done

Contracts Will Be Ready To Sign In Six Weeks Or So After Wheat Board Has Checked Applications

Work of signing up the applications is finished except for a few stray ones that may be delayed for a few days. Nearly everyone who signed the applications before is doing so again and a few new ones are being made. It is expected that as great a number of contracts as were out last time will be made up again. There were 586 contracts before.

After the first of the week A. A. Dunlap will begin to check on corn-hog compliance for the county and Dewey Thompson will make a final check on the wheat applications. The owner of the land does not have to sign the applications, but will be asked to sign the contracts when they are made.

Jackman Compliments

The applications will be sent to the wheat board at Corvallis and checked by three farmers, a statistician and a member of the college faculty before being made into a contract. It will be six weeks or more before final signing will be started in this county.

E. R. Jackman, who was here Wednesday, says that the work in this county has progressed farther than in any of the counties he has visited to date.

Teachers & Principals Meeting Tuesday

Next Tuesday night a meeting of the principals and teachers of Sherman county schools will be held in the office of the county school superintendent for the purpose of arranging for the music festival which will be held some time next spring in the county.

Plans for the study groups that will take up some of the work of reading and arithmetic methods will be made as well, and the other divisions of study may come in for some study also.

Court Orders For November Varied

In the County Court of the State of Oregon for Sherman County. County Court proceedings for the November Term, 1935:

In the matter of the construction of over-crossing by O. W. R. & N. Company at Spanish Gulch in Lot 4, Section 9, T. 2 N. R. 16 E.W.M. No objections were made to the establishing of said crossing.

In the matter of the application for old age pension by George Rintchler of Rufus. Application held for investigation.

In the matter of the Biological Survey Budget appropriation for 1935: County Clerk instructed to write warrant against the General Fund for \$200. Payable to Hon. Earl Snell, Secretary of State, and representing the balance due for 1935 for said appropriation.

In the matter of the Courthouse Insurance:

Policy No. 18190, by Manufacturers Lumbermen Underwriters for \$3000.00 covering Courthouse building accepted and ordered filed.

In the matter of the gasoline contract between Sherman County, Oregon and Shell Oil Company. Contract accepted.

Treasurer's trial balance for the month ending October 31st, 1935 was filed.

In the matter of the reduction of the assessed-valuation of the taxable personal property of the Moro Hardware & Implement Company for the years 1930-1935, inclusive:

The County Court, with the County Assessor concurring, hereby by order a 25% reduction of the assessed valuation on the personal property of the Moro Hardware & Implement Company for the years 1930 to 1935, inclusive.

In the Matter of the adoption of a tax Budget for the year 1936 and making the tax levy for said period.

The County Court and Levying Board made a total levy of \$91,993.00 for the year 1936 against all taxable property in Sherman County, Oregon. Said levy representing the tax levy for County Taxes.

Grange Meeting Postponed Until December 21

The December meeting of the Pomona Grange has been postponed from December 7th to December 21st on account of the meeting of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League which many of the members wish to attend.

The next meeting will be held at Klondike with the members of that grange as hosts.

Rogers Memorial Fund Still Open

The Will Rogers memorial will be aid for handicapped children. It is fitting that this man who said that he liked everyone should have for his memorial a work that he himself would have enjoyed. The opportunity to contribute toward this fund is still open, the date for acceptance of funds for the Will Rogers Memorial fund having been extended until December 15.

Veterans and Auxiliaries Install Officers, Dance

CCC Boys Make Music and Give Musical Program

Legionnaires and Auxiliaries of Sherman county were installed in to offices by their comrades who had elected them earlier in the year Monday night at a joint meeting in the Odd-Fellows hall in Moro.

Mrs. Lorraine Brown, district president of the Auxiliary, and Harold Sexton, sheriff of Wasco county and well known ex-service man of The Dalles pronounced the solemn phrases that charged the new officers with their responsibilities toward their organization, and toward the country it represents, now as in the days of 1917.

Dancing Enjoyed

The temporary tension of installation ended, the veterans and their womenfolk proceeded to enjoy the evening. The boys from the CCC camp aided manfully with an orchestra composed of sundry banjos, drums, mandolins and supplemented by Bert Michel's violin played old and new tunes so teasingly that in spite of grey hair and bald heads the company was led to start dancing although the plans of the leaders was for a round of cards.

The Massachusetts boys also provided amusement in the form of singing, dancing and musical selections that were highly enjoyed.

As is the custom with gatherings of veterans who gather but occasionally they roasted the discreet colonel and toasted the indiscreet mademoiselle to the apparently undying strains of "Hinky-Dinky," they told stories, they played jokes, they recalled the time when—"etc." and then adjourned, long past bed time, almost glad that there was a war after all.

Some Absent

Not all of the officers of the several posts were present to receive their charge of office but according to an old American Legion custom from the date of the installation they will be considered duly elected, qualified and installed officers of the order empowered to pound the gavel, keep the minutes or handle the money just the same as if they heard about the "old Grey Mare" for another time.

M. L. Fritts Married in Stevenson

At a quiet wedding last Tuesday evening, November 12th, Mrs. Sophia Haley and M. L. Fritts, both of Goldendale, were united in marriage. The ceremony was performed at the home of his son, Cecil Fritts in Stevenson, by Miss Howell, of the Methodist church. Mr. and Mrs. Fritts left for a few days trip to Portland after the ceremony, returning to Goldendale Sunday evening. They will make their home here, where Mr. Fritts operates a shoe repair shop. Congratulations are extended to the happy couple—Goldendale Sentinel.

Wheat League Committees Prerare Program

Control of Weeds, Erosion Control, River Development and Plea For Electric Line Up River In Recommendations

Two committees working on wheat league recommendations met during the week and made suggestions that will be discussed during the Pendleton meeting and may be included in the resolutions passed by that body if they meet general approval.

The soil erosion and weed control group met Friday of last week with Dewey Thompson and Omer Sayrs as chairman and vice chairman. Work of the erosion service was explained by O. E. Dyer and others and approval of that work was given by the committee. Local associations to aid the service were recommended in all counties where the work is being carried on by the government work.

Weeds Hold Interest

When the question of weeds was brought up it immediately started heavy argument. The report of the allotment officials who have been gathering information from farmers on weeds showed that there is about 600 acres actually in morning glory in Sherman county and over 4000 acres affected by this weed was given. Other weeds now getting started are white top, Russian knap weed, narrow leaf milk weed and death weed.

It was recommended that the erosion service obtain authority to combat the weeds in the district they are working in and that the county take some steps toward killing the weeds along the road and exercise more care in handling road equipment so as not to drag weeds to new places, not now affected.

The meeting of the transportation and rural electrification committee with Harry Proudfoot, chairman and Albert Kaseberg, vice-chairman met Tuesday afternoon in Wasco with about a dozen present.

Waterways Favored

They went on record as opposed to the repeal of the long and short haul clause in the transportation act as has been proposed; opposed to the Eastman proposal to put the waterways and truck system under the Interstate Commerce Commission along with the railways and asked that the present bus and truck bill be enforced to the letter until the next session of the legislature so that its advantages and defects might be shown and give a guide to further legislation on the matter.

The program of the Inland Empire Waterways association was endorsed which includes approval of the work that organization is doing to aid river transportation and the building of the Umatilla rapids dam.

As for rural electrification it was recommended that the federal government build trunk lines from Bonneville to the east so that private lines might hook on to obtain service.

A meeting of the legislation, taxation, AAA and finance committee will be held in Kent next Tuesday with Luther Davis as chairman.

CCC Camp Night Held Each Tuesday

Camp night at the CCC camp is held every Tuesday night and citizens of Sherman county are welcome to attend the programs that are given. To a large extent the boys, themselves, make up the program but outside speakers are often obtained to add to the camp talent. Last Tuesday night Roy Powell showed pictures of Sherman county and of scenes in the northwest that gave a new idea of northwest geography to the new arrivals from Massachusetts.

The six colored boys who were in the camp left Wednesday morning for Massachusetts where they will be attached to units. A federal policy is to keep colored men within the bounds of the state in which they enlist.

Frank J. Roble, an enlisted man at the camp is in the hospital at Vancouver Barracks suffering from tuberculosis meningitis. He originally enlisted from Washington, but came from Minnesota.