

# Sherman County Journal

Forty Eighth Year No. 5

Moro, Oregon, Friday, December 6, 1935

Official County Paper

## State Affairs

By  
A. L. Lindbeck

The "resignation" of Lynn Cronmiller as state forester, coming as a bolt out of the blue, is interpreted by many political observers as the first step in a long delayed house cleaning by the state administration. Cronmiller's resignation is understood to have been requested by Governor Martin and accepted by the chief executive for a meeting with the forestry board. At a meeting with the governor on November 23 no action was taken, report having it that several members of the board opposed the ouster which was delayed a week until Saturday's session. Assignment of Cronmiller to the forest extension division is regarded by many as merely a gesture to smooth the way for his ultimate retirement from the department, over which he has officiated as its chief since the death of F. A. Elliott in 1930. Cronmiller entered the department as deputy forester in 1924.

John W. Ferguson of Portland who succeeds to the post of state forester was formerly connected with the department, but for a number of years has been head of the Clackamas-Marion county Fire Protection association.

William I. Graham of Portland, former state representative from Multnomah county, is another newcomer to the state organization. Graham this week took over the post of deputy real estate commissioner from C. V. Johnson of Portland who has held the job for the past eight years.

Speculation here has that T. Morris Dunne member of the industrial, accident commission, may be the next to feel the political axe. Dunne and Otto Hartwig are the republican members of the republican commission with Albert Hunter democratic appointee. Democrats are known to be insisting upon a change in the line-up here to provide a place for another of the faithful.

Representative Ellis Barnes of Portland is said to be out to get the scalp of Dr. G. C. Bellingr superintendent of the state tuberculosis hospital. Barnes is understood to have filed complaints against Bellingr with the board of control whose members have been discussing the matter behind closed doors for the past two weeks or more.

In spite of increased appropriations for construction of the new capitol, for financing relief and for other state activities property owners will contribute less by approximately \$54,000 for the support of state government in 1936 than they did in 1935.

The increase in the cost of state government is more than offset by increased revenues from income taxes, inheritance and gift taxes and miscellaneous sources.

According to the 1936 state tax levy announced by the tax commission this week property owners will be called upon to contribute only \$2,613,941.58 toward a state budget of \$11,324,270. The property levy includes \$884,640.00 inside the constitutional six per cent increase and \$1,729,301.49 outside the six per cent limit. Income taxes are being counted on to provide \$2,559,247.37 of the necessary funds for 1936 and the remainder will come from miscellaneous revenues including \$625,000 from inheritance taxes, \$666,930.36 from insurance fees, \$298,046.73 from corporation taxes and \$148,230.40 from salary cuts in self supporting activities which are now diverted to the general fund under an act of the last regular session.

Although the special session authorized the expenditure of \$1,375,000 on the new capitol only \$458,334 of this amount is included in the 1936 levy in order to avoid conflict with the constitutional debt inhibition.

The general fund deficit which it had planned to wipe out entire this year will approximate \$1,147,699 at the end of 1936 according to estimates by the tax commission due to the emergency appropriation by the regular and special legislative sessions.

The compulsory student fee bill, against which the referendum was invoked, will go on the special election ballot unless state department officials are enjoined by the courts. Dave O'Hara, elec-

(Continued on Page two)

## Air Pilots in Triple Wedding in Mid-Air



High over the watchers at the women's championship air races and stunt pageant at Long Beach, Calif. Municipal airport, three air pilots took lifetime co-pilots in a triple wedding, held in a transport plane. Left to right: Elin Philpott, Eva Rife, Farris Smith, Opal Rife, Larry Ghyst, Pearl Clark, and Rev. George W. Cassidy in rear.

## Ninth Wheat League Program Is All Ready

### Assistant Chief of Wheat League Will Discuss AAA

The first day of the wheat league meeting at Pendleton will be used in discussion of the AAA with C. C. Conser, assistant chief of the wheat section, from Washington D. C. making the talk from the government side of the farm problem. Lt. Col. Williams, chief engineer, of Portland, will talk on Columbia river development. Hugh Martin, of Kerr Gifford, will talk about the export markets and wheat varieties of the Pacific northwest. Charles V. Galloway, chairman of the state tax commission and one of the best informed men of the entire country on tax matters, will speak on financing old age pensions and W. A. Rockie, head of the northwest erosion service, will speak on the objectives of the newly developed SCS in Oregon.

### Station Men To Talk

The second day will give the wheat farmers a chance to hear Walter Pierce, representative in Congress for the second district of Oregon, who will talk on the farm mortgage situation, D. E. Richards, superintendent of the Union experiment station who will talk on problems of feeding grain to livestock, D. E. Stephens, head of the Moro station, who will give the results of his experiments in wheat and grass varieties. E. L. Potter of OSC, who will speak on agricultural adjustment and the problems that may come before it, in the next few years. A. R. Shumway, of the regional advisory board, who will give the reasons for the wheat adjustment program and Dr. Raymond Staub of Portland who will speak on the defense of the west coast.

Besides these talks committee members, and this includes every-

## Moro Women's Club To Display Art Exhibit

The Moro Women's Club will display an art exhibit to the people of Moro Friday afternoon, December 6, when the Art Association of Portland will bring 48 pictures here for that purpose.

Mrs. T. S. Reese will talk on artists and their pictures and will tell how to distinguish the other. The exhibition will be held in the Masonic hall at 2:30 in the afternoon.

Works by Titian, Michelangelo, Giotto, Lippi, Fra Angelico, Martini, Botticelli, Raphael, Leonardo da Vinci, Hogarth, Carot, Millet, Rembrandt Janssens and VanDyck will be represented in the 48 pictures to be brought here by the association.

## Camp Night Program Enjoyed By Morosites

The camp entertainment of the CCC boys Tuesday night featured the boys of the camp who have ability at singing and dancing and other forms of entertainment. Two of the boys favored their mates with songs that brought cheers and encores and those who expressed their talents in monologues were treated in similar manner.

A debate between two boys on the advantages of the east and the west as a location for CCC camps was decided in favor of the east in a close contest. Arguments revolved around better advantages for those looking for work outside of camp, educational facilities and opportunities for religious practice. Local men took some part in the program.

## Seed Growing May Be Farm Opportunity

### Need of Grass Seed By Government Causes Market

The long sought Utopia for farmers—a ready market eager for products—is awaiting certain Oregon growers and Oregon communities that are ready to grasp the opportunity, says E. R. Jackman, extension agronomist at Oregon State College. This opportunity is in seed production, an industry which already brings more than two million dollars a year to the state, but which still has plenty of chance for expansion along certain lines, he says.

The unusual combination of favorable circumstances which may never be seen again includes the mid-western drought which killed millions of acres of pasture and hay meadows, and delayed reseeding of these; the crop reduction programs which encourage seeding of legumes and grasses on millions of acres; the land purchase program with the return of sub-marginal land to grazing, and the soil conservation program which has opened up additional markets for certain grasses and legumes.

The two foremost opportunities exist for raising crested wheat grass and Ladak alfalfa seed, says Jackman. Both of these are eastern Oregon crops. The price of crested wheat grass is still very high but is bound to come down when planted acreages are in full production, though a steady market for years to come is in sight. Dry land at rather high elevations is suitable for Ladak alfalfa seed production. The price of this crop last year was 50 to 70 cents a pound, while common alfalfa sold below 20

(Continued on page four)

## County Agent's Annual Report Shows Activities

Over a Million Dollars Comes To County From Triple A; Weed Survey Made; Cattle Diseases Fought

The report of the county agent is annually made up and sent in to the extension service headquarters at this time of year. Regulation call for it December 1. A perusal of this condensed statement of the activities of the year shows the diversity of interests manifested in one twelve month by the people of a county so unified in occupation as this one.

There is the wheat production figures for the year, given by the warehouses as 1,175,814 bushels, divided as follows, 849,448 bu. in the Wasco territory, 230,366 in the Moro territory, and 96,000 in the Grass Valley territory. The crop was in general a little better than last year but the division of it throughout the county was much less even.

### Smut Loss Heavy

As for smut 221,995 bushels were docked for 1% of 1% this year as compared to 235,740 last year. Wasco had 246 smutty wheat, Moro 144 and Grass Valley 27.6. Last year the percentages were 30 for Wasco, 20 for Moro and 10 for Grass Valley.

During 1935 88 sounds of alfalfa and grass seed was distributed through the county agent's office for seeding.

### AAA Pays Well

The federal government sent, or will send, a total of \$388,048.64 into this county as allotment payments. When added to the sums that have been paid in former years on the first wheat contract the total of government money received by wheat producers in this county is \$1,074,409.67, more than any individual wheat crop for several years.

### Cattle Tested

Since the inception of the Bang's disease program in the county 1001 cattle have been tested in 91 herds. Of these 3.9 percent have shown the disease and have been condemned for beef. Stock owners of the county have received \$300 in indemnities. Blackleg has killed several cattle in the county and 156 have been treated by the county agent in recent weeks.

### Hog Allotment Down

The hog allotment for the county has decreased during 1935 and instead of receiving \$15,726 as was the case in 1934 the hog raisers have gotten \$5,025 for reducing the hog supply. This makes a total of \$20,751 which has been received from the government for this project.

Weed control, rodent eradication, fair management, 4-H club work, home economic conferences and play study have been among the other projects that filled the time of the county agent during the year.

## Breaks In Power Service This Week

Going without breakfast has been quite the thing with some residents of the county since the cold began freezing onto the light wires.

Wednesday morning there was a break in the wire near the Omer Says place at Erskine and a pole was partly burned. Mr. Says notified the company and the break was mended within a few hours.

Thursday morning there was another break in service although the power was on before eight o'clock. It is planned to install new wire for a stretch near Erskine in an effort to prevent further stops in service from that source.

### WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
Nov. 28	52	33	.00
" 29	55	21	.00
" 30	32	24	.03
Dec. 1	29	25	.00
" 2	28	25	.02
" 3	28	26	.00
" 4	27	24	.00
Total for week			.03

## County Debt Lower Per Capita Than Average

The average per capita bonded indebtedness of the nation is \$136; that of the state of Oregon is \$204.

From figures recently compiled by Mrs. Naomi Van Gilder, county treasurer, it is shown that the average indebtedness per person for Sherman county is \$98.46. These figures include the bonded debt of the county, the school districts and the cities. The bonded state indebtedness is approximately \$27, which must be added to the Sherman county total to make it compare with the national average.

The net indebtedness of the county which is all in the road bonds is \$121,838.47 being all that is left of the \$300,000 in road bonds which was voted in 1920. Total indebtedness of the county is \$293,242.63 including the other taxing units mentioned. Net indebtedness was taken in all cases as sinking funds of some consequence are balanced against the total debt in some instances.

## Biggs Resident Dies In The Dalles

Charles R. Fields of Biggs, died in The Dalles, Sunday after he had collapsed in a drug store there. He had gone to that city to get medical attention for neuritis from which he has suffered many years.

The deceased was born in Illinois April 7, 1869 and came to Oregon in 1883. He has lived here since that time. He was an early settler in Sherman county. He was a single man.

The funeral was held Tuesday in Wasco with interment being made in the Wasco cemetery. He is survived by a brother, David, and a sister in Washington and by four nephews, Cecil and Tracy of Wasco and Charles W. of Grass Valley and Winifred of Portland.

## County Teachers Arrange Music Festival

### Event Is To Be Held Some Time Next May

Teachers and principals of the Sherman county schools met at the superintendent's office Tuesday night for a round table discussion of their several problems.

A committee worked out a plan for the music festival which will be held here some time in May. The scene of this entertainment has not been determined. It is Grass Valley's turn if that town cares to invite the group to meet there.

This year the work will be divided into five sections: the rhythm band, the harmonica band grades 1 to 4, grades 5 to 8, and the high school section. The same pieces will be played by each school in the same division, giving the judges a better opportunity to judge the musical abilities of the contestants.

### Referees Picked

Basketball referees will be chosen from a selected and certified list and no referee will be permitted to work games in which his school or his community is interested.

The two study groups, high school and grades, made out a list of subjects to be discussed during the year. Principals will meet in January, February, March and April and study testing and teaching. Tests will be judged on the results obtained from them. The grade group will study reading. Some argument was occasioned by the change from arithmetic, but it was held that reading was the basis of studying in the final analysis and it will be the basis of study by the grade teachers for the remainder of the year.

### FACE SNAPPERS LEAVE

The stamp picture people who set up shop in the old barber shop last week and did a thriving business for several days making likenesses of youths and maidens and CCC boys have moved on again to points where the countenances of the citizens have not recently been embalmed in hypo for several months.

## Road Projects Inspected By County Court

WPA Aiding County In Maintaining and Building Roads; Labor and Supplies Furnished By Government

With the exception of the usual grist of bills the county court's day was taken up with the examination of the several road projects now going on in the county.

The job in Fulton canyon is the largest of these. Eleven men are working there tearing down the points and making the grade wider with the material loosened. The WPA pays the men, and furnishes the gas and oil and powder for the job. The county has to furnish the transportation facilities for the men from their homes, keep the steel in shape and furnish the hand tools for the job. The entire project will expend \$6500 of WPA funds.

### Other Projects Started

Another similar project, only smaller, is being carried on near Grass Valley where a crew of six men are widening the Rutledge market road in the canyon near the J. E. Brown place. The fill there has been narrow since the road was constructed and this work is being done to remedy the situation.

Two men are working near Moro ditching the road and one is employed near Kent on the roads there. In all twenty men are working county roads under WPA projects and with WPA funds.

Only minor matters were discussed at the general meeting and these dealing with the general fund and road fund bills sent in to the court.

## City Taxes Have Reached Limit--Writes Gilbert

University of Oregon, Eugene, November 6.—Taxes on city property have about reached the limit of what the traffic will bear and if the owners of city real estate are not to be completely bankrupted, while the vital functions of city government are to be maintained, new sources of municipal revenue must be found, writes James H. Gilbert, professor of economics at the University of Oregon in an article published in the November issue of Western City.

The increasing concentration of population in cities, with its attendant problems of police protection, sanitation and traffic, has led municipal spending to such a pace that of the 14 million dollars spent by American governments at the present time more than half can be charged to local budgets, according to Dr. Gilbert. A large item in local budgets is the cost of servicing bonded indebtedness, an amount which in many municipalities is nearly equal to the ordinary expenses of operation, according to the tax payer's figures.

### Property Overloaded

Western cities have come more and more to depend upon the property tax as their main source of revenue, and even during the depression, when the income from property declined, demands and tax delinquencies with increased tax rates, Dr. Gilbert points out.

As a solution of the problem, the economist points several directions toward which the tax impetus can be shifted. Business and license taxes are objected to from two angles—from the side of the businesses taxed and from the side of local governments, which are afraid of driving business away. Dr. Gilbert offers alternatives in the cities, demanding shares in the revenue from liquor and gasoline, which, he says they have a just right to demand.

### HEALEY LOOKS GOOD

Norman Healey, middle weight boxer and pride of the Moro CCC camp will fight on the headliner Friday night in The Dalles. Healey won over Foster, his opponent, last time in an exciting bout and the boys are backing him to do it again. He shadow boxed a few rounds on the camp night program.