

Sherman County Journal

Forty Eighth Year No. 6

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Official County Paper

State Affairs

By
A. L. Lindbeck

Three potential Congressional candidates eliminated themselves from further consideration during the past week. They were Peter Zimmerman, state senator from Yamhill county; G. Wallace, state senator from Deschutes and other counties of the wide open spaces of central Oregon; and J. P. Stadelman, The Dalles, former secretary of state. All three were Salem visitors during the week and each denied that there was any ground for rumors that they might seek the Congressional nomination of the respective parties. Stadelman, however, did not entirely close the gate to the possibility of his entry into the republican race for the treasuryship against Rufus C. Holman. Friends of Stadelman declare that his taste of public life as secretary of state following the death of Hal Hoss had been thoroughly enjoyed and declare they would not be surprised at his entry into the forthcoming primary battle.

Governor Martin, thoroughly disgusted with what he terms "lack of cooperation" on the part of the legislature is going to carry his program for the development of Oregon to the people. His first move was a double barreled blast at the state senate for its defeat of his capitol construction program. His next was another blast at the same group of lawmakers for their defeat of his mining board bill and his third move was a criticism of the legislature as a whole for its "niggardly" treatment of his flax development program for which an appropriation of \$1000 was approved after a hard fight.

Discussing the senate's defeat of his mining board bill with newspaper correspondents at the capitol the governor pointed out that Oregon is rich in mineral resources but declared that the investing public knew nothing about these resources and nothing was being done to inform possible investors. Scouts for eastern industrialists seeking investments in Oregon, he pointed out, were unable to secure any authentic information regarding the state's mineral resources simply because there was no such information available. The governor sponsored a bill at the special session creating a state mining board and providing a small appropriation to finance research and surveys but the bill was killed in the senate by a vote of 20 to 7 after passing the House with only three votes opposed.

Sponsors for the proposed Northwest Oregon Bonneville Peoples Utility district estimate the cost of the project at \$5,750,000. Electrical energy will be purchased from the Bonneville power plant, according to the petitions filed with the state hydro-electric commission and distributed to consumers over 250 miles of transmission lines to be constructed throughout the proposed district. The proposed project, by far the most ambitious development of its kind ever launched in Oregon, would cover 2447 square miles and embrace most of the territory embraced in seven north-west Oregon counties—Clackamas, Washington, Yamhill, Polk, Lincoln, Clatsop and Columbia. Forty-five municipalities are included in the proposed district which has a total population of approximately 150,000.

The Oregon state library has come in for national recognition. A recent bulletin issued by the United States office of education at Washington D. C., devotes much space to the work which has been done by the Oregon library for the unemployed, out-of-school young people of the state. Special mention is made of the individual reading course service which during the past two years has helped more than 3900 young people throughout the state with their home study.

Motor vehicle registrations in Oregon reached a new all-time high this year with a total of more than 300,000. Nearest previous approach to this record was in 1930-31 when registrations totalled 283,540. Secretary of state Shell says that an unusually large proportion of the cars registered this year were new ones. The new 1936 plates will be available December 15 with 20,000 numbers already assigned and ready for mailing.

Governor Martin spent his boyhood in Illinois where the fishermen sit on the bank and watch the

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Fenders Bent In Collision At Intersection

A minor accident entailing cars driven by Wendell Balsiger of Moro and J. H. Hoskins of Stanfield occurred Wednesday morning at the intersection of Main and First streets in Moro. Mr. Hoskins, with his wife and brother-in-law and his wife were traveling south to California and Mr. Balsiger was attempting to cross the street when the cars met.

The Balsiger car had the right fender and running board bent and the Hoskins car had the left fender, bumper and left light smashed. No one was injured and the travelers went on their way after an hour or so spent in reporting and in temporary repairs. Each agreed to repair his own car.

Note From CCC Camp No. 2114

The basketball team from the CCC camp were in Kent Wednesday night and won a game from the Kent team by a score of 27 to 24. It was reported as a close game. Kendrick Dunlap was referee.

A group of the camp entertainers attended a Kiwanis luncheon in The Dalles Thursday noon and put on the program for the members of that service organization.

Seventy five of them made a trip to Shera's bridge Sunday to hunt arrow heads. They enjoyed the falls and the rugged scenery on the trip and are anxious to go again.

Camp night Tuesday was more largely attended than any of the previous ones, about fifty women and a large number of men being present. John Walker and George Updegraff spoke to the boys. Rev. R. A. Hutchinson comes to the camp every Thursday night to speak to the boys.

County Court Conducts Business For December

Road Work And Construction Increases Expenditures

Sherman County Court Proceedings for the term of December 4th, 1935.

In the matter of the Sheriff's Turnover Report covering current and delinquent taxes collected as of November 8th, 1935. Both reports accepted and ordered filed.

In the matter of the Coroner's report covering the accidental death of Clyde Chandler of Bonner's Ferry, Idaho on November 12th, 1935. Report accepted and ordered filed.

In the Matter of the application of George W. Ferrel of Wasco, Oregon, for County Aid. Application held for further investigation.

In the Matter of the Treasurer's report for the month ending November 30th, 1935. Report accepted and filed.

In the Matter of Purchasing Volume Five of Oregon Code. The County Clerk was instructed to purchase Volume Five of the Oregon Code and to issue a warrant in the sum of \$20.00 against the Law Library Fund, said sum representing full payment.

By reason of the completion of the negotiation set forth in the Resolution dated January 5, 1933, and recorded in Commissioners' Journal "C", page 13, the County Treasurer is hereby instructed to credit and charge the proper account.

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Speakers of Many Views Appear Before Wheatmen

Shumway Pleads For AAA Continuance and Asks Active Farmer Support; Conser Wants New Farm Opinion

The talks before the wheat league assembly this year in the main upheld the reputation of that organization for informative addresses at its meetings.

A. R. Shumway, who spoke Saturday, is a member of the wheat advisory board, president of the North-Pacific Grain Growers. He had just returned from Chicago where he came to fear that the AAA will be declared unconstitutional in January and he warned the farmers that some action would be necessary to maintain a farm aid law. In the east meetings are now being held and the same action was suggested for this country.

AAA Farmers' Law

He told of the formulation of the present law, saying it was the combined effort of the leaders of farm associations throughout the nation was not a party law in any sense. He reviewed the conditions that brought about the loss of foreign markets and the decline of the wheat price.

He said that the farmers reduced production 6% and their price was reduced 60% whereas the farm machinery companies reduced 80% in volume and 6% in price. The motor manufacturers reduced 80% in production and 16% in price. Nothing was said about the reduction in the volume of manufactured products while criticism was meted out to the farmer.

Two River Talks Made

Two talks were made regarding river transportation. That of Calvin Sweek, president of the Inland Empire Waterways association and of Lt. Col. Williams, of the army engineers. Mr. Sweek told of the value river transportation would prove to the wheat growers in reducing freight rates saying that rates could not be cut except by competition. The association favors dams on the Snake river, building of Umatilla rapids dam and the use of the Snake river for transportations in addition to the results that have already been obtained: sea locks at Bonneville and dredging of the Columbia river to Umatilla.

Lt. Col. Williams spoke of the Columbia as the only river that has crossed two mountain ranges in its course to the sea. He said that the report as to the feasibility of the Umatilla rapids dam was not proven at present but was being reviewed. He said that a new boat line had applied for a right to use the river. Dredging of the upper river was estimated at \$400,000 but would cost \$600,000 under present conditions. In answer to a question he stated that two holes below Bonneville were 80 feet below sea level and that one point above The Dalles the bottom of the river was 180 feet below sea level.

Export Needs Told

Hugh Martin of Kerr-Gifford spoke on the prospects for wheat in the northwest and the market available in the east and southeast for northwest wheat. He favored white wheat saying that it was the only wheat that could be shipped out in competition with other wheats. He could not sell any malting barley in the east as maltsters do not like it. He spoke of the labor troubles that kept this section from shipping wheat for the past two years and recommended that an export bounty of ten cents be placed on wheat to facilitate exports.

Pension Costs Estimated

Charles V. Galloway, chairman of the state tax commission, spoke in explanation of the old age pension legislation just passed. While he did not plead for the enactment of the sales or gross income tax law he said that there was no other feasible way of raising the huge sums needed for the pension program unless property was levied again to pay it. A six mill tax would be needed, he said. There are now 7487 pensioners in the state and this number will be increased when the age reduction to

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D. E. Stephens Injured In Car Accident

D. E. Stephens suffered a slight concussion of the brain Wednesday afternoon in Corvallis when the car he was driving was hit broadside by another car. Mr. Stephens was in the college city to attend a conference of county agents and experiment station men.

Mrs. Stephens and Tom left that afternoon for Corvallis to be with the injured man who was in the Corvallis hospital, still unconscious but word was received from there Wednesday night that there was little danger of serious consequences from the accident.

Mrs. Flora Wright Buried In Wasco

Mrs. Flora B. Wright, wife of Leston Wright, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. May, died in a hospital in The Dalles Sunday morning after an illness that resulted from an attack of quinsy.

Mrs. Wright has been a resident of Sherman county practically all of her life having attended school here when a girl. She was 36 years of age at the time of her death.

The funeral was held from the Christian church in Wasco Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock with the Rev. R. A. Hutchinson giving the sermon. Pall bearers were selected from the membership of the Harlandview grange of which the deceased was a member. They were: S. A. Hall, Wilfred Belshe, C. P. Adams, A. G. Putter, George McDonald and D. L. Reynolds. Interment was made in the Wasco cemetery. The neighbors of Woodcraft assisted.

She is survived by her widower and two small children one being but three months old; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. May; five brothers, Louis, Clifford, and Frank of Moro, William of Hood River and Roy of California.

Swelling Buds Caused By Early Freeze

Many persons who have observed the swelling of the buds on lilacs, wild flowering currents, sycamores, and many other bushes, shrubs and trees during the latter part of November this year are asking how this happened and what the result will be.

Dr. S. W. Brown, chief of the department of horticulture at Oregon State college, explains that this is what is known as a "false spring," and is a premature awakening of life due to "breaking the rest period" of plants. Normally this occurs in spring after the cold winter weather is followed by warmer, sunnier days.

"This year the unseasonable cold near the first of November, followed by a couple of weeks of soft, mild weather, stimulated some plants at least to break their rest period and to start the growth cycle of spring," Professor Brown says. "Rest in plants should not be confused with the so-called dormant period. Plants go into rest when they have set their terminal buds and are no longer making length growth. They become dormant later, after they have shed their leaves."

"What can we do for plants lured into new growth by this false promise of spring? We can hope of course, that the balance of the winter may be mild and that this tender growth may be spared. If the weather turns cold, however, the practical thing to do is to cover shrubs which show these breaking buds with sacks, straw, or any other material which will protect them."

NOTICE TO VOTERS

The Sherman County poll books will be closed for a period of thirty days prior to the special election of January 31st, 1936. Any voting citizen desiring to vote who has not voted at one of the last three elections; has moved from one voting place to another; has changed political parties or any woman who has changed her name, must re-register to be eligible to vote at any future election.

C. G. Vinton,
County Clerk.

Tax Millages Announced By Assessor Peetz

General Fund Levy Will Be 12.1 Mills; City Levies Generally High; Seven School Districts Levy Nothing

The tax levy for Sherman county has just been compiled by the county assessor, Mrs. Margaret Peetz and the millages for each taxing district have been given out from her office.

The county levy will be 3.3036 mills and the state levy 3.8443 mills which includes the elementary school levy. The sinking fund for road bond will be 2.6174. With other smaller items the general levy will be somewhat lower for 1936. Wasco will collect 35.1 mills, Moro 19.2 mills and Grass Valley, 13.5 mills on property within those towns.

No Tax For Some

Seven school districts will have no special tax at all. These are districts 4, 5, 10, 11, and 19 and 30. Ownership of land or lowered expense because of few pupils and nominal transportation charges make this possible for these districts.

Of the other districts several will levy a special tax of less than one mill. These will be 13 with 1 mill, 15 with 6 mill, 20 with 2 mill, and 26 which will levy 4 mill.

High School Taxes High

As usual the districts with high school will have a larger millage than other districts. Rufus will have a 9.6 millage. Wasco one of 11.3, Kent 8.3, Moro 9.6 and Grass Valley 10.1. Practically all of the other districts will collect less than six mills on property in their boundaries.

The non-high levies are collected on rural school districts exclusively and the 3 mills for non-high school and non-high school deficit will not be added to the levies for city schools although it will be added to rural school levies making a somewhat more equal charge throughout the county. The cost of transportation is returned to the rural districts by the board and the cost of tuition is given to the city schools where the pupils are educated.

The state tax, the county tax and the road bond and interest tax are almost equal this year and the three of them make up about 80% of that total county levy of 12.1 mills.

Tax Paying Easier For Delinquents

Property owners in Sherman county may now pay their delinquent taxes without penalty and interest if the current taxes are paid according to the new law which went into effect last month. This conforms with the action taken by other counties in the state and was made at the request of the state tax commission.

.06 Inch Wednesday Helps Situation

Rainfall of over half an inch fell in Sherman county during the past week according to records kept at the experiment station. This makes the year's total better than five inches which was the lowest on record but still the year of 1935 is shorter in moisture than any other year. The lowest calendar year rainfall is above six inches unless this year beats that.

Indications are that it may rain more yet before the present spell of weather ends, but indications are of times wrong, as almost any old timer can attest.

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
Dec. 5	26	21	.00
" 6	41	28	.16
" 7	43	31	.10
" 8	47	35	.05
" 9	40	32	.00
" 10	50	35	.09
" 11	44	35	.16
Total for week			.46

School Dads Feeling Oats; Issue Challenge

Members of the faculties of Sherman county schools are making up a basketball team to play the team from the CCC camp and will later challenge county faculties of other counties. Money raised through the team will be used to pay the dues of teachers in the teacher's association so that all will attend the national convention in Portland next summer.

Potential members who will try to make basketball history in the future as they have in the past will include: Herry Tetz, of Rufus, a former star of the Grass Valley Zebras; Ray Critchfield of Wasco, Pacific University star; Homer Dixon of Wasco, with weight and football experience; John Walker of Moro, who also played at Pacific; Paul Goddard of Moro, who played for the SONS; Harold Hughes, of Grass Valley, from Pacific; and Arden Squire of Grass Valley who played for Monmouth normal. And perhaps some of the younger members of the faculties will display greater ability and supercede their elders.

Planning Board Recomends Use of Land

Federal Government Owns More Than Half of Oregon

The abridged report of the state planning commission on land uses in the state of Oregon has been published. A. S. Burrier is author of the report.

It gives the total acreage of privately owned land in Oregon as 26,431,023 or 43.2 percent of the total. This leaves 56.8 percent of the land owned by the federal government with 53.2 and the state, counties and cities the remaining difference.

Oregon 8.2 Tillable

Farms in Oregon contain 16,317,605 acres, privately owned timber land 8,675,940 acres more and other land privately owned accounts for 1,437,478 acres more. Of arable land there is but 4,989,322 acres or 8.2 percent of the total area of the state. The federal census of 1930 gave this same figure while the 1935 report gave 4,921,039 as the total for arable land. Sherman county has 5.7 percent of this arable total.

12 bu. Land Minimum

The land of the state is divided into several classifications which are designated as problem areas. No. 1-a involves the dry farming areas. Recommendations made are that land that produces less than 12 bushels per acre should be retired from wheat production although it is stated that some efficient farmers seem to be able to live on land that produces less than 12 bushels.

In the dry farming area, comprising Jefferson, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam Morrow and Umatilla counties, the major production is made on land that produces between 10 and 20 bushels and 231,557 acres of wheat land that produced between 10 and 15 bushels were sown. It made 2,914,600 bushels while the 84,008 acres that produced between 20 and 25 bushels produced 1,899,500 bushels and 29,852 acres of good land made 1,115,733 bushels of wheat.

Farmers Might Be Moved

At least 20 percent of the land in the six counties is believed to be marginal at normal prices but the exact area cannot be determined until a survey is made. It is estimated at 30 percent of the acreage would reduce production 16 percent, or, stated in figures, 220,000 acres out would reduce production 2,200,000 bushels.

About 1000 farmers would be involved and perhaps half of them would be moved to new locations. A continuation of the process of making larger farms is to expect, according to the report for farms are abandoned instead of the land being abandoned.

Lands in the Willamette valley and in other parts of the state are treated in the report and suggestions made as to their use.

Wheat League Endorses AAA and Sales Tax

Resolutions Regarding Weeds; Soil Erosion, Transportation, River Development; and Grain Grading Passed

With an attendance of three thousand four hundred farmers the ninth session of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League convened at Pendleton Friday morning after many of the committeemen had spent a day and night in making up the resolutions to be presented.

These resolutions and the talks given on the public program comprise the work of the league for a year with the exception of the labor on the part of the officials to put them into effect.

The resolutions of the committee on legislation, taxation, finance and AAA attracted the most interest during the meeting for this committee and its sub-committees upheld the allotment program with out question. In a strongly worded statement it criticized the critics of the farm plan on four counts: vis: it is not partisan or political legislation as is charged by some politicians for both parties have contributed to farm legislation in the past four years; politicians are attempting to stir up the consumers against it for political advantage; the mills and processors who are paying the tax have the most sordid opposition of all, and, last the easterners who hate to see money being paid to the west although the west has paid money to the east for many years and has helped develop the east through a protective tariff.

Industry Also Reduces

The act has given the farmer a chance to restrict production in much the same manner as industry has done. There is no fear of regimentation on the part of the farmers and the loss of the foreign market is being bawled most by those who profit from the existence of that market. It was stated that the farmers could "get along" alright without government help or the use of governmental agencies and can produce to capacity and sell wheat in competition with Argentine and Russia, if land taxes will be abolished, monopolies banished, protectiffs abandoned, labor unions smashed, restrictive immigration laws repealed and interest rates reduced to 2% or so."

Critics To Be Answered

It was also suggested that members of the league should answer all criticism of the AAA that comes to their notice.

This committee went on record without opposition in favor of the enactment of the sales tax for old age pensions which will be voted on in January. It said that the relief load should not be put on property and expressed approval of the new tax collection bill recently enacted.

New Law Liked

A suggestion was made that the tax collection laws of the state be rewritten to make a more comprehensive law and that thereafter these laws be left alone for as long a period as possible. The committee was in favor of tax exempt bonds and tax exempt holdings of any kind. It requested a study of the county unit plan and asked for labor laws that would make strikes possible of arbitration.

Railroads Opposed

The Transportation and Rural electrification committee reported in favor of the continuance of the long and short haul clause after a debate that lasted far into Friday night. It asked for a lower rate from Umatilla points above Pendleton, improvement on the Columbia to Umatilla rapids, a better truck and bus bill with liberation of farmer hauling. It suggested study of rural electrification in this sparsely settled section before any large program was started as distances between farms was in many cases too great for cheap service considering the cost of the lines.

The Production and Handling committee recommended the proper varieties of wheats for the counties in the wheat league, better treatment for smut control, more livestock on wheat farms and objected to the influx of Canadian grains during the past year.

The Weed and Erosion control
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