

# Sherman County Journal

Forty Eighth Year No. 14

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Official County Paper

## Electors Vote No On All Bills On Ballot

### Sales Tax Gets Doubtful Honor Of Being Beaten Least In Sherman County; Vote Is Fifty-One Percent Here

Voters in Sherman county said "No" 2101 times last Friday while saying "Yes" a mere 404 times thus following the remainder of the state in giving adverse majorities to all four of the measures on the special ballot.

Least favorably received in this county was the bill allowing the legislators of the state to change the law now in effect which gives them \$3 per day for their labor. This bill found but 84 voters who favored it while 537 felt that it was not a good bill.

### Student Fees Disliked

The student fee bill, although it had a big play in the papers before election and was discussed to great lengths in private arguments was the next poorest bill in the minds of Sherman county voters. Ninety two Sherman county voters put their X marks along side the yes column while 533 voted otherwise.

The bill which would have changed the primary date from May to September was defeated by a score of 521 to 107 in this county. It was, however, the one that received the largest favorable vote in the state at large.

### Sales Tax Beaten 4 to 1

The sales tax bill made the best showing in Sherman county as 121 voters voted for it while 510 voted against it. In the state at large it was defeated by a greater majority than in this county.

No bill carried in any precinct. Nearest to this was the 46 to 76 vote on the sales tax in the Moro precinct. In the Rutledge precinct there were only 3 favorable votes two being cast for the September primary and one for the legislators pay bill. The sales tax and the student fee bill were beaten there without one favorable vote.

Total votes cast in the county was 634 or a little better than 51 percent of the total voters in the

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## State Affairs

By

A. L. Lindbeck

An even two dozen acts of the recent special legislative session become effective Saturday with the elapse of the requisite 90 days of grace following adjournment of the session. Seventy four measures were enacted into law by the session. Forty nine carried the emergency clause and became effective immediately upon being filed with the secretary of state. One other, the sales tax act, was referred to the people who turned it down under an avalanche of "no" votes in Friday's election.

Of the 24 new laws only a few are of major importance. Most of the measures involving only minor amendments to existing statutes. Outstanding among the acts to become effective Saturday is one waiving penalty and interest on delinquent taxes of 1934 and prior years under certain conditions. These conditions include prompt payment of current levies and annual payment of at least one fourth of the oldest year's delinquency. Another of the new laws abolishes the office of budget director and creates the new post of executive secretary to the governor.

The amended old age pension act reducing the age of beneficiaries to 65 years and its companion measure providing financial assistance to needy blind become effective Saturday but will not become "operative" until federal funds become available for the needy aged and blind residents of this state.

Three measures of special interest to central Oregon are included in the new list. One of these requires the payment of taxes on transient livestock before stock can be taken from the grazing county, another forbids wading in irrigation ditches and canals and the third appropriates \$3000 for the establishment and maintenance

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## Grass Valley Debaters Get Experience

Debaters from the Grass Valley high school returned Sunday afternoon from McMinnville where they had spent the week end debating with representatives of other schools throughout the state on the question of public control and administration of medical service, the state debate's subject for the year.

The squad was composed of Janet Wilcox, Marjorie Blake, Agnes Simon, Thelma Fortner, Keith Rhinshart and Robert Rolfe. The boys did double duty and the girls made up a team of affirmative and negative. Defeats were registered against Beaverton last year's winner, and Gresham and the squad was defeated on four occasions.

The team will debate with Redmond soon as a start for the championship of the district.

## Moisture In Ground If You Go Deep Enough

"Believe it or not" there is moisture in the ground, if you dig deep enough for it.

Excavators for the Sherman Co-operative Grain Growers who are digging a 14-foot hole for the installation of gasoline tanks have found plenty of moisture at a depth of six or seven feet. The first three feet were wet from the recent rains; the next two or three feet were dry and made up a layer of hardpan. Below that there is moisture that makes good digging and looks like it would raise a crop of wheat if the roots could get through the hardpan.

## Sixty Per Cent Of State Lands Are Not Taxed

According to a map sent out by the county judges association there is now about 60% of the land of this state in the hands of different governmental agencies and that is not taxed. The public domain comprise 16,545,522 acres of this area and the forest lands cover 15,580,934 acres more. The entire acreage of publically owned land is 36,802,621 and none of it is taxed says the report.

Clatsop county has the distinction of having the smallest percentage of untaxed land with .02 Columbia has 4.1 percent and Washington has 3.8. These are timbered counties where the timber was owned by logging companies.

Sherman county is one of the counties with a small percentage of untaxed lands, the percentage here being .97. Gilliam has 12.1, Morrow 15.3 and Wheeler 41.7. The southeastern counties of the state are the ones having a large area of untaxed land. Malheur has 82.5 percent of its land in the hands of the government and Klamath has 83.6 percent. This is range and timber lands in the reserve.

## Planning Board Power Study Will Continue

The Oregon State Planning board will continue its studies of Bonneville power. It was decided at the January meeting of the organization held in Portland recently. A report covering potential industrial markets, collected information on the project from other sources, consumption as a function of cost and other factors, will be issued in the early summer.

The board recently issued a report, compiled by its advisory power committee, which included facts and figures on the cost of production of power and cost to substations in various parts of the state. Although the figures were assumptive, the work attracted wide attention as the first definite information in this field.

The coming report will be prepared under the direction of J. G. Stevens, chairman of the board's power committee. An allotment of \$1,000 to pay for cost of the project, was allotted by the board.

## REVENUE MAN COMING

A man from the internal revenue department of the treasury will be in Moro February 19 and in Wasco February 20 to aid those who will have to make out an income tax return this year. Final date for filing a return this year is March 16.

## CCCs Doing Many Kinds of Erosion Jobs

### Sloping Ditches, Building Dams and Terracing Keep Crews Busy During Cold Weather; Large Territory Covered

Work being done this week by the CCC boys who are combating erosion in this county is varied to a marked degree. One crew under Olaf Anderson is building a combination dam and bridge on the Art Barnum ranch at the mouth of Bull canyon. A new stretch of road is being dug out of the hill side to furnish the rock for the dam. It will be low enough in the middle to allow water to run over it and remain in the channel and high enough to allow any sort of vehicle to pass over it safely.

### Ditch Banks Sloped

On the E. E. Barnum ranch Overturf's crew is sloping down some steep banks bordering the creek and are putting in low dams to halt the water and cause sub irrigation on the meadow.

Work being done by the Mitchell crew now on the Jim Brown place is that of picking up rocks from the fields with teams furnished by the farmer and building low dams with them. Already two dams have been put across the canyon on the Schenck place farmed by T. M. Rolfe and others will be built from the same material.

### Meadow Improved

A side ditch that is encroaching on the Finnegan meadow is being dammed by the Roy Tiller crew with rocks found in adjoining side hills. The two latter crews have lunch in Grass Valley and return to the base camp at night.

On the Morrison place south of town the Barr crew is preparing to put in two or three concrete dams next spring when the weather moderates to allow such work. This job is being done to recover the low land below the Erskine place and make it more productive. Some dams will be put on the Omer Sayrs place also.

Spring development and range terracing on the Dewey Thompson place east of town is being done by Farr's crew.

### Frozen Ground Hampers

Unfavorable weather conditions are hampering the crews this week as the ground is frozen and sloping terraces and picking rocks is done under a handicap. More extensive work will probably be initiated with the advent of spring but the leaders are in doubt as to the advisability of starting some thing on a large scale at this time of the year when it might be impossible to finish it.

Evidence that the interest in the work is strong in the Wasco and Kent neighborhoods may lead to the establishment of "spike" camps near the work there later in the year. In that case the men would likely remain there for several days at a time.

## Information On More Asked For By W P A

Information on water rates and water department operation of Moro have been requested by the bureau of municipal research of the University of Oregon, according to word received here today.

A bulletin containing information from cities all over the state will be prepared under the direction of the bureau as an NYA project. Two students, Oscar Williams and Francis Beck, have been assigned the task of compiling the data.

Information sought includes amount of water distributed annually, number of reservoirs, amount of pipe, number of customers, number of meters, municipal service and other details. The bulletin will be available to any interested when the work is completed.

## NEW SECRETARY CHOSEN

Miss Pauline Davis has been selected as the new executive secretary for the county relief committee in place of Mrs. Don Smith of Grass Valley who has resigned. Details of handling the work of the committee will be done in the office in the court house occupied by Miss Davis.

## Rabbit Drive Results In Noise and Excitement

A rabbit drive was held on Wednesday. The scene was at the lower end of the Glodfelter ranch where the rabbits were said to be as thick as "No" votes in a special election.

The combination of uncontrolled rabbits and uncontrollable youngsters from Massachusetts resulted in the defeat of the plan and the escape of a large part of the long eared pests. No one apparently had informed the boys that the object of a rabbit drive is to get the rabbits in a pen for slaughter. The sight of so many rabbits caused a flurry of sticks and stones and other missiles from the beaters during which the fleetest of the bunnies escaped through the lines. Reports from that section late Wednesday afternoon were that rabbits were swimming the Deschutes river in droves and that Wasco county citizens were protesting against the sudden influx of coyote meat.

R. W. Prentice, federal rabbit eradicator, has asked for a half mile of wire and if the request is granted another drive may be held later. Fatal injuries were sustained by about a score of rabbits during the day, violent shocks to the nervous systems of other rabbits, a bruise on Charles Montgomery's knee and other minor bumps to beaters is the total reported results of the day.

## Moro Experiment Station Reports

### Discing, Plowing Produce Nearly Equal Yields For 20 Years

So far as yield of wheat is concerned, it appears to make no difference whether an eastern Oregon wheat grower disks or plows his stubble for summer fallow, according to a compilation of tests running from five to ten years announced by D. E. Stephens, superintendent of the Sherman county branch experiment station. The Soil Conservation has been placing much emphasis lately on leaving as much wheat stubble on the surface as possible. It is accomplished when either the one-way disk or the double disk is used for summerfallowing. The one-way disk is favored by farmers in regions where soil blowing is prevalent. Unless stubble is present, however, use of disk aggravates soil blowing.

### Disking Equals Plowing

Following are the average yield records at Moro with double disking for fallow and plowing, with both winter and spring wheat, from 1926 to 1935 inclusive:

	Winter wheat	Spring wheat
Disked fallow	17.5 bu.	17. bu.
Plowed fallow	17.2 bu.	17.6 bu.

At the Pendleton Field station five-year figures are available for all three types of preparation with winter wheat. They follow for 1931-35 inclusive:

Moldboard plowing	42.6 bu.
One-way disking	41.8 bu.
Double disking	42.1 bu.

These differences are all so slight as to indicate no appreciable difference in yield attributable to the various methods, says Stephens. In all these experiments the fallow was kept free from weeds. When the ordinary double disk was used one disking was given early in the spring and another about a month later after weeds had started.

Harrowing during the fallow season was impossible on disked fallow at the Pendleton station because of the heavy stubble and corn bane straw, so a rod weeder was used. In such cases it is usually impossible to use hoe drills at seeding time, though either single or double disk drills are used without difficulty.

### W. E. WHITE DIES IN NEWBERG

W. E. White died at Newberg last Saturday after a brief illness. Mr. White was a pioneer of Sherman county having settled on land east of Grass Valley in the early days when Callahan and Searcy were living in that section. Later he lived and farmed land southwest of Moro that is now in the L. V. Moore farm. He has lived in Newberg for many years.

## New Fair Board Appointed At Court Meeting

### Delegation from Erakine Asks Road Construction on 17 Miles of Dirt Road; Historical Essay Contest Prizes Underwritten

Omer Sayrs of Moro, was appointed to the fair board for the three year term. T. M. Rolfe of Grass Valley, for the two year term and Ormand Hilderbrand of Wasco, for the one year term by a decision of the county court Wednesday. Instead of having five members on the board three will hereafter conduct the affairs of the fair, that being the number set by law. However, A. H. Barnum, retiring fair president, and Fred Cox will act as advisory members for the first year of the new board's life.

### Heavy Grading Favored

A delegation from the Erakine district met with the county court Wednesday and asked that some road work be done in that part of the county this spring if it was possible to expend money for road grading in the county. With O. G. Sayrs as spokesman the group put forth the argument that total road taxes paid in their district was around \$3500 per year, that the district was next in line for a market road when road work stopped several years ago and that there was a need for better roads. The matter was taken under advisement by the court.

### Road Work To Continue

Work on roads will be continued in the north end of the county as soon as the ground thaws out so that dirt can be moved with a grader and if weather conditions remain favorable it is expected that maintenance of roads will continue after that job is finished.

The county court, upon request of county school superintendent Knighten, agreed to underwrite the payment of prizes for the county historical contest which has been held annually for the past two years. The major part of the prize money comes from the receipts of the declamatory contest held each spring.

### Auditor Hired

Charles Logan of The Dalles was chosen as auditor to check the books of the school districts of the county this year.

The report of the treasurer and the clerk were accepted by the court and provision was made to comply with the state and federal predatory animal control work.

The report of the road master on the closing of the three roads posted last month was accepted and the hearing on this closing will be held March 9 at the court house. No action was taken on old age pension applications received and the court may wait for further information on the law before taking action.

## Widow of Former Deputy Sheriff Dies

Mrs. Katherine Hickson, widow of E. R. Hickson, former deputy sheriff of Sherman county, died at Portland Sunday night after an operation for the removal of a leg caused by an infection. The funeral was held Tuesday and interment made in Riverview cemetery. Two sons survive and four grand children. Mrs. Hickson was a resident of Moro for a number of years while her husband was a deputy county sheriff and she and her family are well known here.

## Auxiliaries Meet To Work For Disabled Veterans

Twenty members and prospective members of the American Legion Auxiliary met Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Theodore Johnston. After a brief business meeting the time was spent in sewing, knitting and the cutting of a continued story from a magazine to be made up in scrap book form for the Portland Veteran's Hospital. Refreshments were served, consisting of ice cream, made in the most approved farm fashion, which means lots of whipped cream, and cake.

## Legionnaires Apply For Bonus Payments

A bunch of Legionnaires gathered at the office of George Updegraff Wednesday night to make out applications for their adjusted service payments. Duly sworn to and marked with fingerprints were the official papers that will bring cash payments to the hands of the veterans when and if the money is provided by the government.

The veteran's loan commission of Oregon has announced that it will demand that borrowers make payments on their loans in Oregon with the bonus money or bring about foreclosure of their loans. Over \$1,000,000 in loans are delinquent it was stated.

Application blanks are available at Mr. Updegraff's office or may be had from the adjutant, Marvin Miller, by those who have so far not filled out one of the sheets.

## Accident On Highway Results In Death

Vincent Gregg of Spokane was killed and C. C. Soderberg of Spokane and Mrs. J. H. Potts of Portland were injured when two cars collided on the Columbia river highway about three miles east of Rufus Sunday evening about seven o'clock.

Gregg was a passenger in the Soderberg car which was a heavy sedan. They were traveling east after making a trip to Portland from their home in Spokane where they were partners in a lumber business. Potts report was to the effect that just before he met the Soderberg car it swerved to the left of the highway and then straightened up almost crosswise of the road as he hit it with his light sedan.

### Head Concussion Kills

Gregg received a blow behind his ear that is thought to have caused his death. Soderberg had left ear nearly severed and Mrs. Potts was cut and bruised about the face and head. A hitch hiker was within a few yards of the accident and was a witness.

## New Streamliner Service Starts Today

National leadership in fast trans continental passenger service will again be assumed by the Pacific Northwest with the first sailing of the Union Pacific streamliner from Portland to Chicago, Thursday, February 6, cutting a business day from the travel time between Portland and the east. The schedule of thirty nine and three fourths hours, Portland to Chicago, will effect second morning arrival in Chicago instead of arrival the third morning as on the convention trains, it was pointed out by Union Pacific officials.

The railroad makes reservations for coach passage on the streamliner with each seat numbered, just as it makes Pullman space reservations. The streamliner is not an extra fare train, both coach and Pullman glass tickets being honored.

### Portland Now Terminal

Portland will precede San Francisco in transcontinental streamliner service by at least two months, as the Union Pacific streamlined trains for operation between those cities and Chicago, now under construction, are expected to be completed in April. Denver-Chicago streamliners should be ready in June.

The windows of the streamliner are of shatter proof glass, permanently sealed to exclude dust and outside noises. The cars are air conditioned and steam heated. Low cost meals will be available in the coach-buffet car of the streamliner.

### WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
Jan. 30	21	6	0.00
" 31	19	10	0.00
Feb. 1	19	17	0.00
" 2	26	11	0.00
" 3	32	04	0.00
" 4	29	17	0.07
" 5	40	19	0.00
Total for week			0.07

## D. R. McDole Talks Erosion To Conservationists

### Damage Done By Washing and Blowing Shown By Pictures; Erosion Pace Speeds Up As Land Becomes More Worn

The erosion meetings being held this week for completion of the organization begun a few days ago have been attended by D. R. McDole, assistant to W. A. Rockie, who is chief of the soil conservation service in the northwest. Mr. McDole speaks on erosion matters at each meeting.

With slides that show the damage being done by washing and blowing of the soil he shows how this may be prevented by a consistent policy of land conservation. A method of testing the amount of soil that has been lost through erosion is to take a section of native soil from a road way and mark the strata showing the changes in soil structure. Another block of similar soil taken from a tilled field will often show the sub-soil layer to be several inches nearer the surface than in the native soil, indicating that several inches of good land has been washed or blown away.

### Sub-soil Unproductive

This type of soil is less productive as the sub-soil has a small amount of humus. Also the removal of the roots and other vegetable matter from the soil makes it harder to work and more inclined to bake and run together.

The greatest erosion occurs on summerfallow land that has been seeded to winter wheat, said Mr. McDole. Stubble is fairly good cover for land and much less washing is found on stubble land than on adjoining summerfallow.

### Streams Erode Soil Rapidly

Doubling the size of a stream of water gives it the power to move particles 64 times as large according to experiments of the erosion service.

As soil fertility is lost, washing and blowing goes on at a much accelerated rate, said the speaker and mentioned that the soil in this county was probably from twenty five to seventy five percent lost already.

### Dams Are Temporary

Dams in land are of temporary use, similar in nature to crutches for one who has broken a leg. After proper farming conditions have been developed the dams will not be necessary in many cases. A proper use of the land is the aim of the erosion service and this depends on the farmers themselves.

Grazing land that has grown up to cheat is a problem that is serious for cheat grass has only about a fifth the carrying capacity as the old bunch grass. Usually there is some of the native grass left that can be developed. It is practically impossible to reseed ranges in this part of the country. Delayed grazing and proper use of grass will make it possible to retain and build up ranges in the opinion of Mr. McDole.

### Disc Plows Recommended

The use of the disk tiller or one-way plow was recommended and the speaker advised that the rotary rod weeder was the proper tool to remove weeds from fallow. Burning of straw is dangerous to land. Directors elected at the Kent meeting were: Frank vonBorstel, president; J. H. Wilson, vice-president; W. C. Helyer, elected for two years and Wm. Harder and Art Justesen elected for one year.

### Officers Elected

Elected at Moro for the Grass Valley-Hay Canyon water shed were: O. G. Sayrs, president, elected for one year; V. B. Eakin, vice president, T. M. Rolfe and J. B. Adams elected for two years and Mrs. Marie B. Cooper elected for one year.

Officers elected for the watershed for the north end of the county were: John T. Johnson, president; Herbert Root, vice-president; A. S. Johnson, Chester Medler and W. H. Burres.

The first meeting of the Sherman County Fair Board will be held next Monday at the court house.