

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

State Affairs

By
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Day by day, in every way the brew in the political pot gets thicker and warmer. Patriotic citizens, timid about offering their services to the public at first, are now coming out with definite announcements of their intentions. There is Charles Thomas, former public utilities czar under the Meier regime, who now wants to go to Congress as successor to Wm. A. Ekwall on a Townsend platform. Also W. E. Burke, Yamhill county legislator who is making a bid for Townsend support as a candidate for the republican nomination for state treasurer against his former friend, Rufus C. Holman, Earl Hill of Lane county who eliminated himself as a candidate for reelection to the House of Representatives a couple of weeks ago, is being drafted by party leaders in his county and will probably run after all.

Isaac E. Staples, veteran state senator from Multnomah county, has now changed his residence to Tillamook county and is out as a candidate for the senate from the new twenty-fourth district comprising Tillamook and Lincoln counties. W. A. Johnson of Grants Pass and E. L. Ross of Hillsboro, both members of the house at the last session, are seeking promotions to the senate from their respective districts. For House seats former members so far filing include Hannah Martin of Marion county, T. W. Munyan of Linn; W. R. Osborne of Yamhill; A. Rennie of Benton, and Lyle D. Thomas of Polk.

With less than two weeks remaining for filing Secretary of State Snell is anticipating a big rush of candidates between now and March 30.

Approval of Oregon's old age pension plan by the federal Social Security Board, it is generally agreed, has dissipated any need for a special legislative session. While Governor Martin had said that he would not convene the lawmakers in extraordinary session under any circumstances it was felt he would be compelled to issue the call if approval of the pension plan had been withheld.

The depression, with its millions of unemployed, has been especially hard on paroled convicts who have found it almost impossible to find work when released from prison, according to E. M. Duffy, state parole officer. Approximately 200 men are now out on probation from the Oregon penitentiary.

All Oregon municipalities are urged by Governor Martin to secure flags and to display them on special occasions. State flags were presented to the governor, Secretary of State Snell and C. A. Howard, superintendent of public instruction this week by Ray Conway representing the state motor association.

Acting upon the advice of Attorney General Van Winkle that the "third floor" of the state tuberculosis hospital for which money was appropriated by the last legislature does not necessarily have to be above the other two floors, built in 1932, the board of control has decided to build a hospital annex instead. Construction of another story to the present hospital building was found to be impractical.

Saturday was moving day for the public utilities commission and the motor transport division which vacated their former quarters on the fifth floor of the state office building for more commodious quarters in the Busick building on north Commercial street. The offices on the fifth floor will be occupied immediately by the new unemployment compensation commission which is just getting well under way but which will ultimately require an entire floor or more for its own needs.

Sixty one motorists suffered revocation or suspension of their operators' licenses during February. Twenty nine of the revocations were for drunken driving. Most of the suspensions were for reckless driving.

Old age pensions in Oregon, under the new plan just approved by the National Social Security Board, will continue to be administered by the county relief

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Dams Catch Nearly All Of Sediment in Test

A simple test that demonstrates the value of dams was made at the experiment station this spring when the run-off of water was taking place. An ordinary quart fruit jar was filled with water that ran into the pool above the dam and another jar was filled with water that ran over the spillway. After the sediment settled and the water was evaporated the jar containing the sample of water taken above the dam had at least ten times as much solid matter as did the second jar, showing that the dam caused ninety percent of the sediment to settle above the dam. No report has been made on the amount of water or of soil that went down the creek in Moro during the run-off but the test was made and the report will come from the Pullman SCS office later, it is thought.

WPA Forces Being Cut In County

Word was received here this week that after April 5th the WPA project in this county would be discontinued by the federal work relief headquarters. Workers will be expected to obtain work on farms by that time according to the letter sent from Pendleton.

The Fulton canyon road project is the only active WPA project in the county at the present time as all work is attached to that job. There is lots of work to be done before that road is ready for wheat hauling but other labor than WPA will be used unless the order can be rescinded before April 5.

Only two of the crew of four who were working at the court house remain, as the others have taken jobs on farms and ranches of the county. Kalsomining is now going on in the court room with John Block and James Burton doing the work.

Woman's Club Entertains For Husbands, Friends

Broadcasting Station Tells of Moro Club Activities

The Moro Woman's Club entertained husbands and other invited guests on Monday evening March 16, at the Masonic hall. The room was decorated in the St. Patrick motif. As the guests entered the lady was handed a strip of green paper to make a tie for her escort, while he was presented a sheet of green paper with orders to fashion a hat for his lady. If the resulting bonnets were a true indication, the men are not wholly satisfied with feminine headgear of the past few years. While there were many different models all seemed to favor the head well covered and not just one eye.

The committee ask the chairman of each department to be responsible for a game. These were played with a great deal of enthusiasm. Between games the following program was enjoyed. Mary Pinkerton and Genevieve Nabouse played two clarinet solos. They were accompanied by Miss Hult. Lois Melzer gave a pianologue, Miss Trounce played two piano numbers. The smallest entertainer received very enthusiastic applause when little Priella Melzer gave a dance and then sang "Red Sails in the Sunset."

Radio Station Moro came on the air with announcer Dorothea Moore giving a few statistics on the Moro Woman's club, some very pertinent remarks on the political situation, and even a few secrets. Frank Sayrs played two bass solos. Mrs. Ruth Miller gave a reading "Rocks and Shamrocks"—very Irish. Mr. Mitchelmore played two Irish pieces on the trombone. Every number on this program was splendid.

After the serving of refreshments, impromptu talks were made by Mr. Foss, Mr. Mitchelmore, Mrs. Helen Sayrs, Martin Melzer and Willy Knighten.

The committee responsible for the success of the evening was Mrs. Strong, Mrs. Poley and Mrs. D. E. Stephens.

Tax Collections Larger Than Usual This Year

Sheriff's Office Busy As Tax Payments Roll In; Over Half Of 1936 Taxes Paid; Utilities Pay In Full This Time

Tax collections for this spring in Sherman county have been larger than for some years reports Hugh Chrisman, sheriff. Collections up to Wednesday were in excess of \$113,500 of which about ten percent was delinquent taxes.

Delinquent Payments Slow

The amount of current taxes paid up at that time was \$105,207.84 and \$3,056.68 had been allowed in rebates to those who paid their total tax for the year. The total roll for the year is \$204,353.03 and the payment of current taxes to date represents approximately 51 percent of that sum.

The payment of delinquent taxes has been slow compared with payment of current taxes because of the interest taxpayers have in paying their 1936 tax and getting the three percent rebate and in getting their current taxes paid so that they may pay their delinquent taxes without penalty or interest.

Money Rolls In

The sheriff's office has been a busy place for the past week or ten days with large tax payments received in every mail and callers bringing in checks and money to swell the fund. The county treasurer will handle the money next and will distribute it out to the various tax levying units whose clerks and recorders will spend it in the manner allowed by the budgets duly approved by the taxpayers last fall.

Utilities Take Rebate

Practically everyone of the public utilities paid their tax in full which added materially to the income for the sheriff's office. The Union Pacific railroad company, the Pacific Power & Light Company, the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Express and Pullman companies paid the 1936 tax and took the rebates offered. The Eastern Oregon Land Company paid its 1936 tax in full to be the largest private taxpayer to date.

Charles Ruggles Appointed Recorder

Moro's city council held its meeting Wednesday night having been delayed because of other meetings and illness. Charles Ruggles was appointed to the recorder's post and will take office immediately. Discussion of means of repairing the city's well and of guarding against possible water shortage by having spare parts on hand resulted in an order for pump parts.

A lease for the light company office and warehouse was signed for another year with Mr. Peterson, company representative here, and the street lighting contract was continued for the remainder of the year.

Telephone Taxes 71c Per Month

Total taxes of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company in Oregon on its operations in 1935 were \$986,787, or an average of \$8.53 per telephone for the year—more than 71 cents per telephone per month.

This was made known last week by J. R. Farrington, Manager for the company, with the payment to the Sherman county tax collector of \$2828.23 for ad valorem taxes, with the discount for prompt payment.

Total ad valorem taxes now being paid by the Company in Oregon are \$750,007 which, with federal, franchise and miscellaneous taxes, make up the \$986,787 grand total. The Oregon tax per telephone for 1935 is 85 cents more than the \$7.68 average tax per telephone for the Company as a whole.

Truck and Bread Wagon Collide On Highway

A SCS truck driving north and a bread truck belonging to Todd's bakery of The Dalles driving south met on the slaughter house turn Wednesday morning about ten-thirty and seriously damaged both vehicles. Injuries to the occupants was slight.

The bread truck was driven by W. F. Oden. The SCS truck was driven by John N. Richardson of Boston. Dick Mason, Albert Pentz, George Smith, Lee Belval and Robert Boisvert, Massachusetts boys, were on the truck which was going after a load of rock for a dam being built on the Clarence Morrison place.

Tracks left after the accident and the reports made to the sheriff indicate that Oden was on his side of the road when he struck the right side of the truck with the right side of the delivery car. The heavier truck continued into the ditch while the bread wagon bounced across the road into the ditch on the other side. CCC boys present, with the appetite and optimism of youth, took advantage of the presence of slightly damaged pies and pastry and filled up on the delicacies.

Arguing University Women Coming Here

The woman's debate team of the University of Oregon will debate the question of what form of permanent relief should be adopted in the United States next Friday, March 27, at the school house. The debate will begin at eight o'clock and will be held in the auditorium. No charge will be made as the Moro Woman's Club is sponsoring the trip of the team to this county.

Achievement Day Called Off - Sickness

The 4-H achievement day program which was to be held in Grass Valley next Sunday will not be held this year at all and Clubbers will receive their pins, medals and scholarships without benefit of public acclaim.

O. M. Plummer, of the Pacific International Livestock exposition, and H. C. Seymour, state club leader, were to have been in Grass Valley Sunday and present the awards to the winning children. On account of the danger of scarlet fever contagion the program was called off.

Lamb Show Planned For End of April

A lamb show for April is being discussed among the farmers and the club children who have sheep. It will probably be held the last Saturday in April at the fair grounds. Just what the program will consist of, or what breeds of sheep will be shown, has not been announced.

Merchandise prizes and other awards may be given for prize winners, although this is still a matter under consideration by the club leaders of the county.

More Men Put On Highway Crew

A double shift crew is at work repairing the highway this week reports Clyde Gillmor foreman of this district. This means that the highway repair job will go on four teen hours per day instead of the usual seven. Sixteen men will be used until the broken spots are all put in shape again. It has been several years since the roads were broken so badly by the frost and the heavy traffic that is routed by this road in bad weather. The highway between Grass Valley and Kent is broken in many places above the point where the heavy base was laid several years ago.

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
Mar. 12	50	35	.08
" 13	45	33	.00
" 14	52	33	.00
" 15	49	34	.06
" 16	60	32	.00
" 17	57	37	.00
" 18	58	29	.00
Total for week			.08

CCC Personnel Changes As Lowe and Enrolees Go

Captain Allyn In Charge Of Camp; Boys Leaving For Massachusetts Homes As Enlistment Period Ends

Changes in the personnel of the CCC camp at Moro have been and are being made this week. Captain William P. Allyn of the Ordinance Corp has been assigned to the camp in place of Captain David Lowe who reports to Vancouver Barracks for assignment elsewhere.

Lieutenant Leaves

About eighty enrolled men will leave the last of the week for Massachusetts to conclude their service with Uncle Sams tree planting and soil conservation army.

Lieutenant O'Malley and family left Wednesday for Los Angeles where Mr. O'Malley, having dropped the army designation, will engage in newspaper work.

Replacements Expected

It is not thought likely that the camp will be operated on a restricted basis after the men who have finished their enlistment leave for their homes. As this camp has been put on the approved list, it is hoped that it will be recruited to full strength shortly after the first of April. A list of the camps to be discontinued on that date did not include Camp Moro, which gives encouragement to the idea that soil conservation work here will be continued on the present basis.

Captain and Mrs. Lowe left this week after Captain Allyn's arrival. The new officer is unmarried, is a graduate of the University of Oregon and a classmate of superintendent Willy Knighten.

Farm Surveying Going On Steadily

Farm plans for the farms in this drainage area that have been surveyed by the soil conservation service are being sent to Pullman as fast as completed and are being checked there and returned to the SCS office here. After that is done the plans are submitted to the farmer and a contract for soil erosion work is signed. Each plan carries detailed information about the kind of work that will be done on each farm by the erosion service.

In the meantime the boys at the camp are building dams on many of the farms where work has started and for the past week or two have been repairing the dams that were damaged by the flood waters of the last of February.

Oregon's Safety Record Envious

Expressing satisfaction over the improved record in motor vehicles fatalities for the year 1935, Secretary of State Earl Snell has released a report showing that deaths in Oregon for the year decreased from 313 in 1934 to 259 in 1935.

In view of the increased use of the highways, as revealed by the 10 per cent gain in gasoline consumption, the showing is considered an especially good one, placing the state among the leaders in the nation in promoting safety on the highways. Oregon's record is by far the best of any western state and it ranks third in the nation, excelled only by Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

The several agencies interested in accident prevention work are doing much to improve driving conditions, according to Secretary Snell, but he adds that a sacrifice of 250 lives to car accidents in one year in Oregon shows that there is still much work to be done. He urges aggressive continuation of this work in all its branches.

Several hundred thousand pieces of safety literature have been sent to drivers in the past year by the secretary of state, weekly broadcasts have been conducted, and speakers have been supplied for dozens of safety talks in schools and civic organizations.

AAA Checks Received By County Agent

Some of the expected money from the federal government for delinquent AAA payments was received this week at the county agent's office. Total so far is but \$1964.19, but several thousand dollars may come along any time within the next two months.

Receipts so far have been for the 1934-35 payments. The 1936 payments will await compliance on the part of the farmers and will therefore be later.

Bang's Disease Test About Finished

The first test for Bang's disease in this county has been completed as far as cattle reported are concerned. Any other stock owners who wish to have their cattle tested must make application immediately. Second tests have begun and will soon be finished after which the veterinarian will be moved to some other county and it is doubtful if a man will be available until after the deadline for federal cooperation which is now set for July 1.

Cattle tested in the county to date number 3366 and the total number of reactors is 89 which gives the county a very good percentage although some herds are infected as much as a third.

OSC Erosion Students Visit At Station

W. L. Powers of Oregon State college and a group of boys who are in his class in erosion control spent a few hours at the experiment station Wednesday afternoon while on their way to Pendleton to inspect the Wild-Horse erosion projects as a part of their work. They are utilizing the spring vacation for the trip.

Potter, Axtell Decide To Run; Yates May File

Former State Senator Considers Congressional Race

Political affairs in the county received a shot in the arm Monday evening when county judge, George Potter, and county commissioner Perry C. Axtell, took out petitions for the Democratic and Republican nominations for positions now held. The judge is a Democrat and the commissioner is a Republican. The probability of this move has been considered but it was not generally thought that both would try again for their offices this year.

Present alignment shows one candidate for judge, and two, Mr. Axtell of Moro and David Reid of Rufus, both Republicans, for commissioner. What will develop in the remaining ten days before the filing closes is something that any one can conjecture about with some amusement and no cost.

C. H. Lindeman broke the ice Tuesday by being the first candidate to actually file his petition with the clerk and insure that his name will be on the ballot in May. Others are gathering up their petitions and more will perform the formal job of filing this week.

Rumor has it, if the daily papers are to be believed, that J. P. Yates of Wasco, former state senator and district may become a candidate for congress from the second district of Oregon. If successful in the primaries Mr. Yates would compete against Walter Pierce in November if Mr. Pierce decides to enter the lists again.

Republicans already in the race are C. D. Nickelson of Hood River and C. H. Phillips of Burns and V. S. Howard, a Madras chiropractor is the sole Democrat to announce for the office.

In the meantime the race goes on. County office candidates are getting acquainted at private and public meetings. Conversations are enlivened by political opinion which has so far failed to give any accurate indication of the way the wind is blowing.

Condition of Crop Source of Worry In Part of County

No Frost Damage In South End Is Contentment of Kent Men; Rain Would Aid Encrusted Plants To Emerge From Ground

To seed or not to seed, that is the question that is bothering a number of farmers, especially in the north end of the county. To a great extent the Federation wheat has been given up as lost and is being reseeded as soon as possible. Some fields of this variety, however, are being left, notably that of Mrs. Butler's on the Sink place.

Turkey Red Thought Hurt

The condition of the Turkey Red, normally a hardy winter wheat is under constant discussion and some farmers insist that if the Federation is all killed the Turkey must be badly damaged. D. E. Stephens of the Moro experiment station, however, believes that if wheat is now growing and green it will not die as enough warm days have occurred to kill frozen wheat.

Ground Crusted

There is a heavy crust on the ground that is making it difficult for the small plants to emerge from the ground and a bit of rain would be of material help.

Some farmers are reseeding Federation in the Moro section and other parts of the center of the county, and some are already to seed but are waiting for further developments in the weather, in the hope that it may not be necessary. Opinion in the last day or two is more optimistic.

Kent Wheat O. K.

At Kent, in the south end of the county, observers are almost unanimous in the belief that the wheat is alright, Turkey Red, Federation and all other varieties. Furthermore the wheat looks alright and appears to be growing. Explanation given for this phenomenon is that when the February freeze came the ground was frozen at Kent while it was thawed in the north end. Therefore the freeze was less of a shock to the south end wheat, and it survived.

The warm growing weather of the past few days will soon determine the condition of the wheat and the suspense will not be continued for any great length of time. Meanwhile reseeding of from eight to ten thousand acres of winter sown Federation is going on north of the ridge.

Wheat League Proceedings Published

Proceedings of the December meeting of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League will be sent out to the members some time soon according to a report from C. W. Smith, secretary of the league.

A resolution was passed at the meeting to have the proceedings printed and given out to the membership. Reports of committees, speeches by prominent men present and the details of the program will be in the pamphlet. Those wishing a copy who are not members may be able to get one by calling at the office of the county agent.

Prizes For Big Eggs Being Offered

The third annual "Big Egg" contest sponsored by the Columbia market will start this week and close April 4. Cash prizes of \$3 and \$1 will be given as well as merchandise prizes.

Eggs must be chicken eggs and must weigh at least 27 ounces to the dozen for entry. Entries will be purchased by exchange of one pound of coffee or for cash at the top price. Each participant may enter but one dozen eggs.

There is a growing interest in the contest says Alex Marshall, store manager and all egg producers are invited to enter their biggest eggs.