

Sherman County Journal

Forty Eighth Year No. 21

Moro, Oregon, Friday, March 27, 1936

Official County Paper

State Affairs

By
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Sam Brown, Gervais farmer, threw a small sized bomb shell into the Oregon primary campaign this week with his entirely unexpected announcement as a candidate for the Republican nomination as United States senator. Political prognosticators earlier in the campaign had mentioned Mr. Brown as a possible candidate for state treasurer and again for congress from the first district, but it had never been suggested that he might be ambitious to contest McNary's right to a return to the senate. With the surprising strength which Brown developed in the gubernatorial race two years ago still fresh in memory only the boldest of the prophets are as yet willing to hazard a prediction as to what effect his entry into the race will have on the candidacy of the veteran senator and even among these the predictions are by no means in agreement.

The congressional race in both the first and second districts was enlivened this week by the entry of new candidates. State Senator Byron G. Carney of Clackamas county made it a three cornered race in the democratic arena when he filed this week and Walter Pierce of LaGrande was assured of competition for the democratic nomination in the second district with the announcement by Clint P. Haight, Canyon City newspaper man, that he was throwing his hat into the ring.

Democrats who are bent on putting a complete state ticket into the field this year were left without a candidate for attorney general when Senator James H. Hazzlett of Hood River let it be known that he had no intention of making the race in spite of persistent rumors to the effect that he was already to file. Democratic opposition for the state treasurer's job in the fall election was assured this week when U. S. Burt of Corvallis filed his candidacy. Burt is president of the state association of young democrats.

While the determination of Ralph E. Williams to seek re-election as republican national committeeman has admittedly complicated the situation observers who pretend to know the sentiment existing among the rank and file members of the party insist that Ben F. Dorris of Eugene will outrun the veteran. Dorris announced his candidacy only after Williams had definitely eliminated himself as a candidate. Pressure of his friends was given by Williams as the reason for reversing his previous decision.

The telephone rate case, to which three circuit judges wrote this week in an opinion overruling the utilities commissioner, is estimated to have cost the taxpayers and rate payers of Oregon \$35,000. The order reducing rates of the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company by approximately eight percent was handed down by utilities Commissioner Charles M. Thomas in October, 1934, to become effective on November 1. The order, covering more than 80 typewritten pages, was described by Thomas at the time as the most important of his administration.

An attempt to restore the old type saloon is seen here in the proposal of the Home Rule League to repeal the Knox liquor control act and vest regulation of liquor sales in the cities and counties. As a bid for the support of their initiative measure the sponsors propose to give 75 percent of the tax revenues under the suggested set-up to the state school fund as an offset to property taxes. Sponsors of the measure, which may appear on the November ballot if sufficient signatures are secured to the petitions by July 1, claim their plan would yield the state \$2,500,000 in liquor sales and licenses under the Knox plan.

State Treasurer Holman has recommended that the state superintendent of public instruction be made a member of the state land board. This board, Holman points out, administers the huge irreducible school fund and should have a school man in its personnel to insure adequate protection of the fund which has been seriously depleted under the past administrations through bad loans and lax collections.

Of total sales of \$6,041,282.11 of hard liquor in Oregon last year \$2,453,417.12, or approximately 40 percent, was made through the

Wasco Grain Growers Declare Stock Dividend

Distribution of dividends by the Sherman Co-operative Grain Growers was made this week from the Wasco office. Six thousand dollars was sent out in checks to members which was made up from patronage dividends, bushelage dividends and a sack purchase dividend.

Stock of the company is slightly under \$22,000, all paid up, which makes the recent dividend figure a little over 27 percent on the investment. Four percent was paid on stock, a cent a bushel on patronage and a half a cent was paid on sack purchases.

Young Democrats Hold County Meeting

Members of the young Democratic organization of Sherman county met at the hotel Wednesday night to talk of organization plans for the year. Election of officers was postponed until a later date and a meeting for that purpose will be announced later.

U. S. Burt, of Corvallis, president of the young Democrats of the state and candidate for state treasurer, and Frank Tierney of Portland who are making a trip to eastern Oregon counties in the interest of the league were present and spoke to the assembly. Mr. Burt told of the plans for the state meeting to be held in Salem next month and Mr. Tierney explained the issues of the coming campaign from the point of view of the party.

Basket Social Held At Harland View

The Home Economics committee of Harlandview Grange gave a basket social Friday night. It was fairly well attended. The evening was spent in dancing until 11:30 p. m. when Carl Adams auctioned the baskets off to the highest bidders.

On March 27 during the lecture hour of the regular meeting a group of young women from the debating team of the University of Oregon will speak. It is hoped that there will be a large crowd to hear them.

Woman's Club Has Guest Day

The annual guest day for the Woman's club was Friday, March 20. The theme for study was "The Home." Director Mrs. O. A. Ramsey. She read two poems by Edgar Guest, "Path to Home" and "Our House." Mrs. Carrol Sayrs gave a talk on music in the home. She traced the growth of music, giving several instructive and amusing sidelights on the subject. She then gave a demonstration of family group playing. Beitha and Frank Sayrs and Carl Peetz played two numbers they had found time to work up during one of the short school vacations.

The 4-H club girls gave two demonstrations. Merle Miller and Betty Jean Vinton, two of Dorothy Johnston's cooking club girls demonstrated a balanced breakfast, attractively served, and Jane French and Reatha Sayrs, members of Mrs. D. E. Stephens club gave a luncheon demonstration.

Guests Introduced
Each member was then asked to introduce her guest. We were very pleased to have as our guests Mrs. Mary Taylor, aunt of Mrs. Ramsey, who was visiting from Washington D. C. and her daughter, Mrs. Pettit of Omak, Washington. Dorothy Moore gave a talk on pictures in the home and had a number of pictures to illustrate. Mrs. T. S. Reese talked on interior decorating. Mrs. Harry Pinkerton gave a list of games and other things to amuse children. Little David Moore demonstrated several building games. She also stressed music in the home as one of the very pleasant ways to spend an evening.

After a song by the club the meeting was turned over to Mrs. Pinkerton, president.

Refreshments were served at the program. Mrs. R. W. Pinkerton and Mrs. Martha Cope presided at the tea table, which was attractively decorated with pink carnations and green candles.

Tax Turnover For First Quarter Made This Week

Taxing Units Will All Receive Substantial Sums With Which To Carry on Their Business For Another Quarter

The tax turnover of the sheriff for the first quarter of 1936 was made this week and officers of tax levying bodies may expect to receive their share before the week is out. The shares will be larger than any distributed for some time because of the large payment of taxes last week.

The county general fund will be increased by a little matter of \$15,963.65 and the bond interest fund by \$4,047.43. The sinking fund for road bonds will get \$12,647.75 which may be used to further reduce the county's debt.

School Funds Large

In addition to what they will receive from the partition of the \$7,693.80 elementary school fund, the \$3,440.03 per capita school fund, the \$5,462.52 non-high school deficit fund the school districts of the county will get some nice checks from the special tax.

Rufus will receive almost ten thousand dollars, Wasco \$4,036.92, Moro, \$4,816.66, Grass Valley \$2,686.46 and Kent \$2,179.53 plus the sums sent to the districts that have consolidated with it recently.

Road district No. 1 which includes all of the county except the three incorporated towns will get \$5,499.21 which will help to put some of the roads back in shape especially when added to the \$1,770 in the bridge fund.

Towns Receive Cash

The towns of the county will get some substantial bits of money also. Wasco leads the list with a tax warrant of \$3,381.84. Moro will get \$1,661.61 and Grass Valley \$898.72.

These sums will all be paid from the current taxes collected, which totalled \$104,126.47. The delinquent taxes collected and turned over at the same time were \$11,841.71 and each of the taxing units of the county will receive additional income from this source.

The total of the tax turnover was \$115,968.18.

Commercial Club Announces Meeting

A meeting of the Moro Commercial club will be held Wednesday night, April 1, at the Moro hotel according to an announcement made by P. N. Johnston, vice president and acting head during the illness of George Updegraff.

Several matters will come before the club at this meeting, among them being a discussion of roads and highways, which the county is interested. Information regarding the erosion work now being done in the county and the possible sponsorship of a lamb show to be held here in April.

Truck Wrecked On Sherman Highway

A freight truck belonging to the Eastern Oregon freight line left the Sherman highway a short distance below Thornberry Wednesday because of a locked brake on one of the front wheels. The driver, Bob Twies, applied his brakes on the hill and the truck slid to the right and then across the road into the ditch which was approximately 30 feet deep. He was not hurt but the body of the truck was demolished. The load consisted of light cases which were damaged to some extent but the loss of cargo was not great.

Candidates File

Actual filings for office in Sherman county have been made this week by Joe Truitt, for sheriff, Carl Adams for assessor, John T. Johnson for clerk and C. C. Wilson for sheriff. Republican precinct committeemen candidates H. D. Proudfoot of Locust Grove, Hugh Walker of Klondike and R. P. Foster of Rufus have been received by the clerk. Others will be received next week in all probability.

Local Boys Are Injured As Car Overturns

An accident involving two Sherman county young men occurred early Sunday morning on the Columbia highway about a mile east of Celilo when Bill McLachlan and Richard Barnes, driving Harold Ginn's light roadster, left the road, presumable at a high rate of speed and crashed.

The boys were returning from The Dalles to Stiles where Barnes was working. McLachlan was working for Ginn between Wasco and Moro. He borrowed his employer's car to come to Moro for Saturday afternoon and continued on to The Dalles. The car was badly damaged but will be repaired.

Barnes sustained a badly cut face with one major cut running down his nose from the forehead leaving that organ seriously disfigured. He had another cut over one eye. His shoulder is dislocated and his ankle broken and he is also suffering from bruises and contusions. McLachlan suffered less severe injuries but is skinned and bruised in numerous places. The accident was first seen by trainmen as the wrecked car was near the railroad right of way.

Sherman Countians Buy Heppner Bakery

J. Arnold Sharp and wife left last week for Heppner where they have bought a bakery. They took charge upon their arrival.

Mr. Sharp has had considerable experience in this type of work, having operated a bakery in Olympia, Washington, for several years before coming to Sherman county a year ago. Mrs. Sharp is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Koepeke of Grass Valley and will assist her husband in the new business venture.

Oregon Delegates Again Called To Salt Lake

Application of the new soil conservation and domestic allotment act to Oregon moved several steps closer this week with the announcement of details of procedure at Washington and the calling of a regional "school" for western leaders at Salt Lake City.

Oregon extension service officials were called to Salt Lake City again this week to hear the details of the final administrative program explained by representatives of the AAA from Washington. Those called in from Oregon are F. L. Ballard, vice director in charge of extension service; L. R. Breithaupt, extension economist; E. R. Jackman, extension agronomist and John C. Burnett, extension editor.

State Meeting Due Soon
Immediately upon conclusion of the Salt Lake meeting, state activity will start which will lead to the setting up of county and community committees to assist in local administration of the new plan.

George E. Farrell, formerly head of the wheat section and later the grain division, was named director of the western region which includes the usual grouping of 11 western states plus North Dakota and Kansas. Northwest farm leaders have welcomed the assignment of Farrell to this division as he is most familiar with conditions in this territory and has made a record already for practical handling of the involved federal programs.

The new organization will handle the wind-up of the old commodity control contracts, Secretary Wallace announced. It is estimated that Oregon farmers will have about \$1,796,000 due for compliance made prior to the January 6 court decision.

Virgil B. Hawks from the Pullman office of the SCS was here Wednesday and planted a grass nursery on the experiment station grounds. He was assisted by station men and Harlow Parkins and Ralph Richards of the local SCS force.

Fifty grasses were sown representing the best of the grasses in the United States that are suitable for this climate and altitude. Aid in caring for the plot will be given by the CCC men at the camp.

Wheat Damage Not As Severe As First Thought

Most Reseeding Is Confined To Small Patches Where Silt Was Deposited By The Runoff or Where Drifting Left Fields Bare

A change of opinion regarding the condition of the wheat of the county occurred the last of last week when the warm spring time sun brought the waiting wheat to life and restored confidence to the farmers who had begun to doubt its condition.

It is almost an axiom that when any large number of farmers begin to doubt the wheat it is injured to some extent, but this experience indicates the contrary.

Last Winter Harder

For several years the winter wheat has not been subject to enough freezing weather to give it any sort of test. Last winter was different and the plants looked rather weak and scrawny for the last of March which caused the doubt about it.

A few fields of turkey red are being reseeded nevertheless but seeding is generally confined to small patches that were covered over with silt in the run off, or an occasional knoll where the wind whipped the snow off. Damage is slight to true winter wheat.

Work Being Done

Farm work is generally getting along well. Several fields are being seeded as they were left for spring wheat last fall, because of the none too favorable conditions. Plowing is going on all over the county and the modern machinery will turn over the soil rapidly for the next two or three weeks. Cool but generally sunny days are good for the wheat although a bit of rain would aid some of it in getting out of the ground.

Presbyterian Church Elects New Board

Members and friends of the Community Presbyterian church and congregation met in the church basement to hold the forty-ninth annual meeting of the organization Wednesday night, March 26. Following a pot luck dinner and fellowship hour reports of all organizations of the church, and election of officers became the order of business. According to the reports all departments made encouraging progress during the last year.

Officers Elected

The following were elected to office: Mrs. C. L. Poley, superintendent of the Sunday school; Chester Smith, assistant supt.; Lois Melzer, secretary; Dewey Thompson, treasurer; Mrs. Martha Cope, cradle roll supt.; Mrs. O. A. Ramsey primary supt.; Miss Pauline Davis pianist for the Sunday school. Carl Peetz and Dale Johnston, ushers; Mrs. Martin Melzer, and Miss Vivian Trounce, church pianists.

By-Laws Changed

An amendment to change the number of trustees from five to three was approved. In order to adopt the rotary system, Martin Melzer was elected to serve one year; Chester Smith, two years; and Harry Pinkerton, three years. As these terms expire all members will be chosen for three years. Permission was voted the trustees to name George Williams, secretary-treasurer of the board.

Grass Nursery Started At Local Station

Virgil B. Hawks from the Pullman office of the SCS was here Wednesday and planted a grass nursery on the experiment station grounds. He was assisted by station men and Harlow Parkins and Ralph Richards of the local SCS force.

Fifty grasses were sown representing the best of the grasses in the United States that are suitable for this climate and altitude. Aid in caring for the plot will be given by the CCC men at the camp.

Grass Valley Debaters To Meet Hermiston Team

The Grass Valley debate team, successful in defeating the Redmond debaters in a dual debate will next meet Hermiston to determine which shall meet Chiloquin for the championship of eastern Oregon.

The debate squad now consists of but one team, the affirmative, which is composed of Janet Wilcox and Marjorie Blake. They will debate that side of the public medicine question in the remainder of their contests. The meeting with Hermiston will be held on either the third or the tenth of April unless a postponement is given because of the present illness of one of the Grass Valley team.

Moro Hotel Leased To W. F. McLeod

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Templeton, who have managed the Moro Hotel for the past five years, have made a contract whereby they will assume the management of the Arlington hotel the first of April.

A special council meeting held Wednesday night for the purpose of transferring the Templeton lease resulted in leasing this hotel to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. McLeod, of Portland who will assume charge of the business on April 1. Mr. McLeod is at present in the employ of an oil company in Portland but will come here within a few days. Mrs. McLeod is a sister of Mrs. Templeton. The city agreed to make some repairs on the lobby of the hotel for the new lessees.

Red Cross Units Raise Quotas

The pleas of the Red Cross for funds with which to aid the flood sufferers of the eastern states was heard in Sherman county and donations of \$41. from the Moro vicinity and \$12.85 from Grass Valley community have been sent in by the leaders of the two places.

Ragsdale Makes Trip With Land Bank Officials

Enroute to the Land Bank of Spokane after visiting with officials of the Land Bank at Oakland, presidents of the nation's 12 district Land Banks and the Land Bank Commissioner A. S. Goss will leave their train at Eugene March 29 for an automobile inspection of Willamette valley.

Their itinerary includes a stop at Oregon State college, inspection of the national farm loan association and production credit association office at Salem and possibly a call on Governor Martin, continuing on to Portland Sunday night for an informal dinner. Wm. A. Schoenfeld of Corvallis and W. H. Ragsdale of Moro, members of the Spokane district Land Bank and Farm Credit administration board, will accompany the group, as will R. E. Brown, Spokane FCA general agent.

From Portland the party will go by train and motor to Olympia, Seattle, Yakima, Walla Walla and Spokane where conference will be resumed.

Acquaintance Sought

"The purpose is to gain a more intimate acquaintance with western agriculture and consider matters of mutual interest in field organization work," E. M. Ehrhardt president of the Land Bank at Spokane explained on his way to Oakland this week. Mr. Ehrhardt is directing the caravan trip through Washington.

During the last three years the Land Banks and the Land Bank commissioner have refinanced debts and lowered interest charges for one-third of the nation's farmers who have mortgage loans. The closing of approximately \$2,000,000 of loans in this three year period represents almost twice the total volume of loans handled by the banks between 1916, when they were organized, and 1933 when they began the tremendous task of emergency refinancing, now virtually completed. The banks are now back to normal operations.

SCS Work Shows Finished Look Since Spring

New Method of Plowing Being Tested on Johnson Field; Disc Plow Leaves Stubble on Top of Ground

Work being done by the SCS men who are directing the CCC boys at the camp has begun to assume a more finished appearance as experience and time are added to the work.

Two concrete dams have been finished on the L. V. Moore place south of Moro that bear the certain stamp of permanence. Another rock dam on the same place shows the result of experience also. These are water impounding dams although they will catch silt in the run off as well. In addition to holding water they will cause the water table in the flat to raise and thereby make the adjoining land more valuable.

Large Dams Being Built

Large dams are being built on the Omer Sayrs ranch and the Roy Powell ranch across Erskine canyon. These are above the large dams near the Sayrs house. They will hold the run off and will eventually be filled with silt that will add to the value of the farms by building soil and holding water.

A demonstration of the new type of plowing is being made on the Mary Johnson Eva land that lies west of the Peters & Ginn land. Roy Powell's tractor is doing the work and while the stubble is not large enough to give a perfect demonstration what is there is lying on top of the plowing in the manner approved by the SCS. A greater amount of stubble, such as is usually grown in better years would be an advantage in the opinion of the soil men.

New Plows Tested

The disks break up the ground to a greater extent than does a mouldboard plow but the stubble on top of the ground prevents blowing and washing erosion according to the theory.

Seeding of the terraces along the hillsides has been going on this week on the Johnston farm near Moro. These ditches held the run off of last month and are now being seeded to Crested Wheat grass and native bunch grass. Grass seeding is usually recommended as a fall job but conditions are such that it is being tried in the spring in the hope that the grass will grow and prevent the weeds from getting started. A test to determine the amount of moisture in the soil on hillsides where the terraces were made and other hillsides will probably be made shortly.

Tree Planting Projected

Dams in a short canyon on the Johnston place are being built to hold water and provide a place for the planting of trees and increase the supply of grass.

Work on other places in the area will begin as soon as the soil surveys can be made. Several are already approved and surveying is going on every day.

Mr. & Mrs. A. B. Potter Married Fifty Years

The golden wedding anniversary of two of Sherman county's pioneers was observed March 20 when Mr. and Mrs. Antone B. Potter passed the fiftieth anniversary of their marriage with a quiet celebration at their home at Klondike.

The three children of the couple were present, Judge George A. Potter and Mrs. Mayme Elliot of Klondike and Mrs. Edna Woodman of Beaverton, with their families. They have four grand children.

A. B. Potter and Elizabeth Jackson were married in Weiser, Idaho, in 1886 and have lived here ever since. Mr. Potter originally came from California.

Auxiliary Entertains

Saturday night, Kent and Moro Auxiliaries will entertain the Wasco, Maupin and Antelope members of that order at Kent. Legionnaires and Auxiliaries of the county are invited to attend.

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK				
DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.	
Mar. 19	64	31	.00	
" 20	68	34	.00	
" 21	61	32	.02	
" 22	41	27	.00	
" 23	44	29	.00	
" 24	46	27	.04	
" 25	44	27	.00	
Total for week			.06	