

# Sherman County Journal

Forty Eighth Year No. 38

Moro, Oregon, Friday, July 24, 1936

Official County Paper

## State Affairs

By  
A. L. Lindbeck

More than 3200 men are now employed in construction work on Oregon's system of state highways, according to R. H. Baldoek, state highway engineer. This number does not include men employed on maintenance work. To date \$11,219,993 of the 1936 program of highway work has been contracted representing 98.4 percent of the year's program. Another large letting is scheduled for this week.

On the Pacific highway alone 668 men are employed on 12 construction projects representing an estimated cost of \$1,776,175.

More than 440 men are at work on 11 projects on the Columbia river highway on which expenditures are estimated at \$864,033.

Five projects on the Dalles-California highway, representing an expenditure of \$325,399 are giving employment to more than 250 men.

More than 630 men are at work on seven projects on the Old Oregon Trail highway where an estimated \$767,966 is being spent on road improvements.

Eleven projects on the Coast highway are providing jobs for more than 400 men. Estimated cost of this work is \$716,640.

Three projects on the Wolf Creek highway, to cost \$531,358, are employing 230 men and more than 200 men are working on two projects on the Wilson river highway where \$299,430 is being spent this year.

The new super-highway between Portland and Oregon City is giving employment to 370 men on four jobs costing \$785,224.

In Eastern Oregon six projects are under way on the Wallowa Lake highway where more than 230 men are at work on jobs that will cost \$254,473. The John Day highway with four projects under way is giving employment to 130 men. These projects represent an estimated cost of \$242,639.

The semi-annual apportionment of motor vehicle funds to the counties has just been completed by Secretary of State Snell. Under an act of the 1933 session \$800,000 is apportioned to the counties every six months for use on county roads. The apportionment being based upon the amounts received by the several counties in 1931 under an old act under which each county received a percentage of the fees paid in during the year by the motorists of that county. Included in the current apportionment were the following amounts: Baker county, \$11,704.75; Benton, \$14,730.26; Clatskanie, \$34,851.16; Columbia, \$13,176.41; Coos, \$21,716.46; Curry, \$2,704.27; Deschutes, \$12,237.70; Gilliam, \$2,675.52; Hood River, \$8,962.37; Jackson, \$31,617.12; Josephine, \$10,098.79; Klamath, \$28,879.76; Lane, \$42,524.48; Lincoln, \$6,282.36; Linn, \$20,086.10; Marion, \$51,697.34; Morrow, \$3,689.82; Multnomah, \$301,781.44; Polk, \$12,453.25; Sherman, \$2,540.16; Umatilla, \$22,038.68; Union, \$13,869.49; Wasco, \$11,331.72; Washington, \$24,426; Yamhill, \$18,501.86.

The Home Owners Tax Exemption is nothing if not persistent. For the third time the League is promoting a proposal to exempt homes from taxation up to a cash value of \$2000. In two previous attempts the League failed to complete its petitions. In its preliminary petitions, filed with the state department this week an effort is made to overcome opposition to the proposal by providing for an increase in income taxes to compensate for the loss in tax revenues resulting from the tax exemption on homes. The new petition provides for a surtax on incomes starting at two percent on incomes of from \$2000 to \$2500 up to 70 percent on incomes of \$50,000 or more. The measure will not appear on the ballot until the 1938 election unless a special election is held before that time with provision for initiative measures.

T. Morris Dunne, member of the unemployment insurance commission, and Ralph Campbell, attorney for the commission, left Sunday night for Concord, N. H., to attend a three day conference of Officials from states whose unemployment insurance laws have already been approved.

A sub-committee of the State Planning Board working with a legislative interim committee are making an exhaustive study of the state's governmental set-up with

## Peter Quick Colts Being Trained For Futurity

Entries for the Peter Quick futurity have been coming in and enough two year olds for a mighty good race are already entered and are being broken to ride and run on several farms in the county.

The race is being sponsored by Guy Matthews of The Dalles who has offered to pay the filing fee of horses up to fifteen. Peter Quick is the government thoroughbred horse kept at the W. C. Helyer ranch. The race will be for half a mile and the fair board has already promised a consolation race for losers Saturday of the fair.

Contracts entered for the futurity are two from A. H. Barnum, two from Roy Barnett, two from J. C. Wilson and one each from W. C. Helyer, Durward Helyer, A. von Borsstel, Glen King, W. M. Alsop, Wm. Brinkert and Ed Newton.

## Gypsies Gyp Kent Man; Are Caught

A group of traveling gypsies lived ably up to their reputation Tuesday morning when one of the younger and more comely of the ladies was accused of stealing some money from Louis Sather as he worked in his shop on the farm south of Kent.

A short time after the gypsies had left his place he noticed that his wallet containing \$14 was missing. He called Tom Garrett at Grass Valley who called the sheriff's office at Moro.

Two cars of the rovers were stopped and another was overhauled at DeMoss by Deputy Sheriff Nahouse and Ferrel Barr. After the usual argument and protestations of innocence the leader of the band paid over the \$14 and the party was permitted to go on its way.

## Farm Price Index Raises Rapidly In Past Month

### Drouth In Midwest Reason For High Prices

The sharpest advance in the general Oregon farm price index for a long time was registered from mid-May to mid-June, with further increase indicated at mid-July. This is one of the outstanding facts shown in the most recent report on the agricultural situation by the OSC extension service. The increase in the index was from 68 per cent of the 1926-1930 average up to 73, or a 7 per cent gain in one month.

Two principal reasons account for the rapid advance in prices for a good many farm products and foods, according to the report. These are serious drought damage to crops east of the Rockies and stronger industrial activity and demand conditions in this country and in most foreign countries.

In respect to demand, the report says that business activity was at a higher level in June than at any time for several years, bringing the average of industrial activity for the first half of 1936 to 12 per cent above the first half of 1935.

**Drouth Belt Large**  
The principal drouth belt extends from the northern Great Plains to a southeasterly direction to the south Atlantic coast. The final outcome depends now very much on how corn and other late maturing crops come out. With good rains not too long delayed yields of such crops might still be fairly good, but gross production of farm products this year is already certain to fall materially below early season prospects.

The circular, which is available from county agricultural agents, goes into considerable detail in respect to the various commodities, giving data on production, prices and other information of value to farmers in planning their production and marketing program. A new feature in the report just issued is a table showing the usual seasonal trend of farm prices in Oregon for several of the most important products marketed from this state.

## Soil Conservation Service Working On 16,000 Acres

### Mechanical Means of Holding Water Being Built In Draws and Canyons To Stop Floods; Proper Soil Use Ultimate Aim

Contracts are signed which allow the SC Service to work on 16,000 acres in the part of Sherman county adjacent to Grass Valley canyon and in the watershed of that area. Plans now under way will increase this amount by 22,000 acres and probably 8,000 acres more will be added later if surveys and contracts can be made. This will make a total area in the demonstration project for Sherman county of between 45,000 and 50,000 acres.

### Work Progresses

Work is progressing more rapidly now than any other time because of the weather conditions and because of the continually improving experience of the crews working.

Vic Barr's crew has recently completed an impounding dam on the line between Peters & Ginn and Jack Eva that will raise the level of the land about six feet in a draw there. This dam is of concrete and is a permanent structure. Other dams are being built in the branch canyon that runs from Barnum canyon to the Peetz place and above.

### Bigger Dams Being Built

The work in Grass Valley canyon is being continued in much the same manner as earlier in the year. Dams were built on the Theodore Johnston place and now the crews are working on up the canyon on A. H. Barnum, L. V. Moore and E. E. Barnum places. They are building the same series of dams, each one enough above the lower one to keep slack water in practically all parts of the ditch.

A ten foot dam is being built on A. H. Barnum's place and another high dam is being considered for another place. Other dams of lesser size are being built at the junction of Grass Valley and Rosebush canyons.

It is probable that later in the year some work will be done in the fields in an effort to stop the erosion before it gets to the major draws. This may include small dirt and straw dams in the small draws.

### Soil Retention Aim

Mechanical means of stopping the flow of water and its load of silt, however, can never be successful in retaining the productivity of the land although such means may reclaim ditched bottom lands like Grass Valley canyon. The only satisfactory means of stopping erosion will be control of tillage methods so that the moisture enters the ground where it falls. This is the aim of the erosion service.

## Major Parties Elect State Chairmen

Republican and Democratic parties of Oregon selected the men who are to head the campaign at meetings held in Portland over the past week end. The democrats met Saturday at the Portland hotel and chose Claud McCulloch of Klamath Falls as state chairman. He is a son of Judge McCulloch of Baker and a brother of the public utilities commissioner. W. F. Jackson represented Sherman county at the meeting.

Republicans met Monday at the Imperial hotel and chose Arthur W. Prialux of Chiloquin to succeed himself in the state chairmanship post. Mr. Prialux also comes from Klamath county, and is a newspaper publisher.

Within a few weeks the organization of the state will be completed and the campaign will be on in earnest about the first of September.

### FEW HAUL; QUALITY GOOD

Only a few farmers are hauling to the elevator so far but more are expected to start every day. Grain so far has very good test weight and what has been given the protein test shows up very high in that regard, tests of 14 to 15 percent being made. This is on wheat that was grown on the point east of Moro.

## When Gov. Landon Vacationed in the West



Estes Park, Colo.—Governor Alf M. Landon and his family, pictured on the lawn of their summer home in Estes Park, where the Republican nominee spent several weeks recently. Left to right: Governor Landon, Peggy Landon, John Cobb Landon, Nancy Jo Landon, Mrs. Landon.

## City Sewage Problems Bother At Grass Valley

District attorney George G. Updegraff, state health inspector Carl E. Green and county health officer C. L. Poley, were in Grass Valley Wednesday to confer with city officials and residents about the sewer system that has occasioned comment for some time.

Some weeks ago Dr. Poley, as health officer, on the complaint of citizens living on the east side of main street, recommended that some means of draining the overflow from the septic tanks be made. This was not done and the health officer called in the law in the person of Mr. Updegraff, who called in the health department, in the person of Mr. Green. All conferred and the recommendation is that the drainage ditch be dug and protected from filling up by a board cover.

## C. W. Barzee Tells Of Early Day Celebrations

July 4th, 1881, by common consent called for a celebration. Prices grove at the head of the Price-Fulton canyon, affording the only suitable shade in all the farm settlement was chosen. My class in music had just rounded out the number of lessons and it was easy to select music for the occasion. In addition to general singing, a quartet was selected, as special, and Miss Jory the school teacher was musician on an organ furnished by Mr. Eaton. The special music by the quartet consisting of Miss Martha Eaton Saprano, Miss Laura Eaton alto, H. D. Jory bass and I fit in as leader I sang tenor. Many other efficient singers were present. For Speaker of the day Owen Scott was chosen. This choice provoked some suppressed comment, as Mr. Scott was known to be a pronounced democrat. At that early period after the Civil war, democrats on this coast seemingly were not far separated from rebels against the Union. There were also several minor speakers, the shortest by Mr. Eaton who decorated his hat with a feather to be the emblem of the Eagle. The special singing was commented upon by Col. Fulton who said "Most any one could learn to hammer a dry goods box, meaning an instrument, but it required talent to sing." A general good time was had by all with a splendid dinner at which the writer was a bumper but was served by special invitation.

But for the sadness of a death following the sickness of young Barnett no complaints were voiced in opposition to the days doings. Young Barnett was taken suddenly ill. The local physician, Dr. Edgington, was in attendance and ministered to him. His pain was quieted in sleep but the doctor seemed disturbed at his deep continued sleep. Strong coffee was administered by the doctor but he did not awaken.

July 1882 called for another celebration. By this time the farm

(Continued on Page two)

## Fair Board Wants Local Horses For Races

### Program of Races With Calf Riding Some Bucking and Trick Riding Tentatively Made By Board Saturday

If Sherman county horsemen really wish a free and unrestricted opportunity to fill the race program at the fair they may have it. The Fair board, in its meeting Saturday night, expressed its desire to close all the races to outside horses if enough horses will enter to fill the races.

### Six Races Planned

As tentatively arranged the program will consist of a boys and girls pony race, which as usual, will be confined to Sherman county horses and riders; a chariot race which is strictly a Sherman county race; the Peter Quick futurity, entries to which must come from Sherman county; other races will probably be a quarter mile saddle horse race, a half mile saddle horse race and a half mile free for all. There should be five entries for each of these races.

### Sherman Horses Wanted

Now the fair board wishes it made clear that if enough local, Sherman county horses, will enter to fill these three races before August 10th, no horses from outside of the county will be permitted to race.

In addition to the six races planned there will be some bucking in all probability although that feature will not be so prominent as it has been in past fairs. There will be some trick riding and some calf riding by small boys. The judging program as given in the fair book will be adhered to as closely as possible so that every one will know the hour and the date when his stock will be judged.

### Concessions Let

A contract has been signed with the George Scott concession group which will bring fifteen games of a type approved by the board and a Ferris wheel and merry go round here for the three days of the fair. Local persons who wish to set up stands may do so by making arrangements with the fair board and the George Scott company, more to follow.

Earl Gehrke is here this week to audit the books of the local grain company for the North Pacific Grain Growers, the parent company.

### WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.
July 16	93	55	.00
" 17	85	56	.00
" 18	90	55	.00
" 19	98	56	.00
" 20	99	68	.00
" 21	98	60	.00
" 22	91	66	.00
Total for week			.00

## Rumanian Here To Learn Of Our Agriculture

Dr. Nicolae Cornateanu, of state college, Bucarest, Rumania who has been in the United States several months studying agricultural methods and practices here, was at the local experiment station Thursday to learn about dry land farming as it is done in Sherman county.

Dr. Cornateanu says that the large estates in Rumania have been broken up due to agrarian reform and that now peasants have been permitted to buy from 10 to 12 acres for themselves, paying the government for it over a long period of years.

Rumania is divided into two plains on both of which grains are grown with from 15 to 25 inches of moisture. On the higher lands near the mountains grapes for wine and prunes and apples are grown and grazing is followed in the mountainous region.

### Communal Life Explained

The peasants live in the villages and go out to their farms each day. Families usually include eight persons. It is the object of the government to so aid agriculture that the next generation, which will be more numerous, will be able to make a living from the necessarily small farms.

Dr. Cornateanu feels that it will be possible to do this if another war is not fought to further upset the economic situation. Rumania, he says, needs industries to use the labor of some of her people, but the industrial development lags because of the competition from other countries and the lack of a market for produce.

The doctor has been sent to America by the Rumanian government and has spent some time at Cornell University studying American agriculture. He is interested in the development of co-operatives for the peasants of his country.

### OLD FRIENDS FETED

Neighbors of the Harmony district planned a picnic for the Emmet Mason family who came from Yakima Sunday for a community visit. The Masons formerly lived in Hay Canyon. They were met at DeMoss by their old neighbors and the afternoon was spent in visiting and dining on a splendid picnic dinner.

### Board of Equalization Meeting

NOTICE. There will be a meeting of the County Board of Equalization of Sherman County, Oregon, at the Court House, Moro, Oregon, on the second Monday in August, that being the 10th day of August, 1936, to publicly examine the Assessment Rolls, correct all errors in valuation, descriptions of lands or other property assessed by me, and it shall be the duty of persons interested to appear at this time and place appointed (appearance is by petition.) All petitions must be made in writing and verified by the oath of the applicant and filed with the board within fifteen days from the time it is by law required to meet.

Margaret W. Peetz,  
County Assessor  
87-38-39-40

## Wheat Yield Expected To Reach 10yr. Av.

### Spring Wheat Shriveled By Hot Days But Majority of Fields Ripe Satisfactorily; Average of Nineteen Twenties Expected

Threshing of wheat as been going on long enough in the county that some idea of the yield may be obtained. Wheat in the country west of Wasco is making from ten to twelve sacks which means from 25 to 30 bushels. Some is doing better than that.

North of Wasco where the blows of early spring were most severe yields are lower as stands are thinner and some wheat was damaged in the wind storms. Ten sacks is said to be the general run of wheat there.

### Yields Varied

East of Wasco wheat is making from seven to nine sacks per acre according to a consolidation of reports on the yields. In each of the districts, of course, there are many exceptional fields that are making more and some less than the estimates given.

Threshing has started on some farms around Moro but cannot be said to be general as yet although wheat is coming in to the elevator every day. The warm weather of the past week end hurried up the wheat to a marked extent and made threshing possible all over the county.

### Federation Cures Green

Quite a number of fields of spring Federation that were sown late were still green when the hot weather came along and the straw dried with a greenish tinge and the grain shriveled. Some yields have been cut from five to ten bushels per acre and others by a lesser amount.

It seems entirely possible that the average yield for the county will be 20 bushels on from 115,000 to 120,000 acres which will bring the total yield up to 2,400,000 bushels. The ten year average yield for the twenties was 2,440,000 bushels and this crop, judged on that basis will be just about normal.

As to quality it is certain that it will not be so high as it promised to be earlier in the year. Shriveled wheat will weigh lighter than if it was plump but it is possible that milling qualities will be as good.

## Land Bank May Prosecute

Creditors who violate their scale-down agreements entered into with farmers as a condition to the refinancing of old indebtedness with Land bank or Land bank commissioner's loans not only have no legal grounds for collecting, but furthermore they may be subject to criminal prosecution.

This is the opinion expressed by William Healy, general council of the Farm Credit administration of Spokane in commenting upon recent decision handed down by the appellate courts of a number of states involving creditor violations of scale-down agreements.

### Old Creditors Held At Fault

"As a condition to the granting of Land bank commissioner's loans to individuals during the past emergency period who were burdened with an excessive amount of indebtedness, borrowers have been required to obtain statements that their creditors would accept the loan proceeds in full settlement." Mr. Healy points out, "and that no indebtedness would remain beyond the commissioner's mortgage, which cannot exceed 75 per cent of the appraised normal value of the property taken as security. The situation similarly applies to regular Land bank loans.

"Notwithstanding that such agreements were entered into, however, some creditors have taken farmers' notes on the side and now with improving agricultural conditions are attempting to force payment. There is no legal ground for collecting on such notes and attempts to do so will be resisted by the federal mortgage corporation and in proper cases by the land bank."