

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

State Affairs

By
A. L. Lindbeck

It will take another 16 years to complete Oregon's present system of primary and secondary highways to modern day standards according to Henry F. Cabell, chairman of the state highway commission. This estimate, Cabell explains, is based upon a continuation of the state's present highway financing program and an anticipated normal increase in revenues from automobile registration fees and gasoline taxes.

"Any substantial reduction in revenues or any diversion or reallocation of highway funds will indefinitely postpone completion of the highway program," Cabell warns.

Calling attention to the fact that the net revenues of the highway department for 1937 will approximate \$11,700,000, Cabell explains that \$7,400,000 of this amount will be required to meet fixed expenses including payment of bond principle and interest, maintenance and administration costs. This leaves only \$3,770,000 for construction purposes of all kinds of which \$2,000,000 will be required to match federal funds and another \$550,000 for purchase of right of way and surveys for federal aid projects. Only \$1,220,000 will be available for construction and reconstruction of state projects that is projects in which the federal government does not cooperate.

Cabell declares that much of the present day agitation for diversion and reallocation of highway funds is due to a failure to understand the problems faced by the highway commission.

"The entire economic principle of highway transportation is predicated upon the assumption that the road taxes are specific taxes assessed against a particular class for a particular purpose," Cabell points out. "The diversion of such taxes from road uses is fundamentally unsound and unjust."

Any attempt on the part of the forthcoming legislature to revive the move for a reformatory for first offenders will meet with the opposition of Governor Martin.

"The first offenders are our worst criminals," Governor Martin declared in discussing the prison situation this week. "If we are going to segregate the prisoners it is the older men who should be given the best of it."

Echoing the sentiments of his chief, W. L. Goslin, secretary to the governor and member of the state parole board this week went on record as favoring a more liberal parole policy rather than a new penal institution.

"A parolee man can be properly supervised at a cost of only \$15 to \$17.50 a year whereas it costs the state \$250 a year to keep a prisoner inside the walls of the penitentiary," Goslin declared. Under our present inadequate parole system less than one third of those eligible for parole have been granted clemency. An adequate parole system would justify the governor in paroling 100 more prisoners each year resulting in an annual saving of \$50,000 to the taxpayers."

Plans for a 40-day racing meet at the state fair grounds were given a set-back when Attorney General ruled that the law forbidding leasing of the property for this purpose. The law limits racing on Lone Oak track to the six days of the annual fair, Van Winkle declared.

O. D. Adams, state director of vocational education, has just been honored with election as vice president of the American Vocational association which met in annual session at San Antonio, Texas, last week.

Four states besides Oregon will use the black and white combinations in the automobile license plates for 1937: Secretary of State Snell has been advised. They are Missouri, Utah, Virginia and Wyoming.

Development of a state wide welfare organization with local workers in all counties is recommended by the legislative interim commission on governmental and administrative reorganization and the state planning board in a report filed with Governor Martin.

Such an organization, the report points out, is justified by "considerations of economy alone." Quoting figures to show that the population of the state is increasing at a rate of one percent per year.

Sherman County People Attend Wheat Meeting

Sherman county people who attended the meeting of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League in Heppner last week were Mr. and Mrs. L. V. Walton of Kent; Roy Powell, W. S. Powell, LeRoy Wright, D. E. Stephens, W. H. Bagdale, J. B. Adams and Giles French of Moro; Glen King and T. M. Rolfe of Grass Valley; Walter Medley, Lloyd Hennagin, Chester Medley and C. A. Tom of Wasco.

Viggo Haufelt Is Wasco Legion Head

Frank Brown Post, American Legion, at Wasco met Wednesday night and organized for the year by electing new officers and planning a program.

Dr. Viggo B. Haufelt was made commander, Capt. Scott, vice commander, Ted Anderson, adjutant, Wm. Nisbit, chaplain and historian. Arrangements were made for a turkey raffle to be held in the civic singer's club rooms December 19th.

Grass Valley High School Notes

By Vere Pike

The Grass Valley High School is preparing for its annual fall dance which is to be held Saturday, December 12. The committee appointed were: decoration, the senior class; program, the junior class; clean-up, the sophomore and freshman classes; refreshments, Emma Ellen Fortner, Vere Pike, and Frances Fairchild. Some of the 7th and 8th grade girls will be asked to serve.

The Girls' League gave a lunch for the Wasco volleyball team and faculty after the game last Friday in which Grass Valley was victorious 47 to 17. C. P. Rowe acted as toastmaster, and speeches were given by Vere Pike, president of the Girls' League; Katharine Friday, captain of the volleyball team; Betty Olds, captain of the Grass Valley team; Miss Scott, coach for Wasco; Mr. Schepman, coach of the Grass Valley team; and Mr. Squires, referee.

After the volleyball game last Friday the boys' basketball team met the town team to defeat them by a large score.

Mrs. Estelle Cooke has resigned her position here and returned to The Dalles. The vacancy has been filled by A. M. Zevely.

Now that six weeks exams are over the worried look has left the countenances of some of the students while others seem to dread the ordeal of taking their cards home.

The burglars who broke into the school house in search of we-don't-know-what, certainly weren't very careful in their search because they completely overlooked a library fund of four cents in the library desk.

With six weeks examinations over, a battle in history and the smoke all cleared away, we find only two survivors who managed to struggle to victory on the Honor Roll. Frances Fairchild and Elene Hogue, of the sophomore class with a similar score. When only two students can make the Honor Roll, the latter is an honor worthy of its name and well worth the effort of striving for its attainment.

The average grade in the high school was 2.8, or just a trifle above 3. The class averages were: Juniors, 2.6; Juniors, 2.8; Sophomores, 2.8; Freshmen, 2.9.

The debate team is busily at work constructing speeches and gathering supplementary material. The squad at present consists of Frances Fairchild, Thelma Postner, Betty Olds, Ramona Spedy, Wanda Miller, Jean Blage, Doris Stradley, and Billy Todd.

Today's Simile
As dumb as the dame who thinks Einstein is "one glass of beer."

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK				
DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.	
Dec. 3	40	25	.10	
" 4	36	24	.00	
" 5	49	32	.00	
" 6	55	42	.06	
" 7	51	40	.10	
" 8	47	35	.08	
" 9	45	36	.00	
Total for week			.34	

Moisture Held Inadequate For Wheat Growth

Snow and Rain Fall For A Total Of 33 Inches, Wetting The Ground Less Than Two Inches In Most Places

The storm that began last Thursday with every promise of breaking the drought with a good fall of moisture went the way of many long awaited things and failed to live up to its promise.

The snow was melted Friday and some rain fell that day. Until Tuesday the skies were cloudy and rain seemed imminent at any time but it did not come in sufficient volume to be satisfying to those who have wheat in the ground.

A total of 38 hundredths of an inch of rain fell at the station near Moro. About the same is thought to have fallen south of there and a bit more around Wasco. A really heavy rainfall came to the north end of the county about Tuesday noon but it was of short duration.

Best reports of those who have dug in the ground to see how far it is wet are that over the county it is damp between an inch and two inches. Some of the wheat is in wet ground and some is below the moisture line so far.

Weather during the middle days of the week was clear and dry like it was before the shower indicating that the storm is over for a time.

Government Civil Service Exams Listed

The United States Civil Service Commission has announced open competitive examinations as follows:

Senior medical officer - female (psychiatry), \$4,600 a year; junior medical officer (intern), \$2,000 a year; junior medical officer (physician resident), \$2,000 a year; St. Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, D. C.

Biologist (wildlife management), \$3,000 a year. Soil Conservation Service, Department of Agriculture.

Conservation Program Nearly Over for Year

The agricultural conservation program which is the official title for the grass planting, trashy sum-mar-fallowing plan at present in vogue with the government is practically over for this year and the applications for grants will be made out soon.

An improvement has been introduced over other similar programs in that the checks for Oregon farmers will be written in Corvallis instead of in far off Washington.

Wasco Legionnaires Entertain Guests

A group of Legionnaires from the state department stopped in Wasco Tuesday noon to meet with members of the Wasco post and bring them encouragement from headquarters. They are the men who are touring the state attending conferences in different districts. They were entertained at lunch at the Sherman Hotel.

Among them were: G. R. Frey, district commander; Jerry Owen, editor Oregon Legionnaire; Dick Smurthwaite, employment officer; Mose Parmiter, vice commander; Carl Moser, state adjutant; D. L. McBain, employment man at The Dalles; Mike Melchior and A. J. Crose of the veterans commission at Salem. Local men attending the luncheon were Captain R. C. Scott, J. P. Haven, George Updegraff, G. A. Nisbit, Viggo Haufelt and O. G. Hilderbrand.

NOTICE
The Moro Civilian Rifle Club Charter has been reinstated. All those wishing to have a 1937 membership please write or call at Conlee's Grocery before December 20th. Ammunition is issued proportionately to the number of members.

The more members the more Ammunition.

Truman Strong, President.

River Hearing To Be Held December 12

The anticipated hearing on the development of the Columbia river will be held in The Dalles next Tuesday, December 15 with the army engineers in charge.

Up river men whose interest is chiefly in transportation, will be opposed at the hearing by the lower river men whose interest is fishing. It is understood that the men from below Portland will hold that further damming of the Columbia will ruin the industry by which they live.

For up river men this may seem a heresy to be dispelled only by well backed arguments and a show of public interest in the need of development of the inland empire. Anyone may attend the hearing, and those who have an interest in lower hauling costs will find it to their advantage to so attend.

Kenneth McKean and Velma Powell Wed

Velma A. Powell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Powell, and James Kenneth McKean, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. McKean, were married in Vancouver, Washington last Saturday and left immediately for California to spend a short honeymoon. They were accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Darold Belash. Both are graduates of Moro High School and the University of Oregon. The groom is employed by his father as a truckdriver and gasoline salesman and the bride has been working at the office of the Moro grain growers.

Card Party Held In Kent Legion Hall

A card party was held at the Legion hall Friday evening for the benefit of the school children who live in the country that they may have hot lunch during the cold weather. Those from out of town attending were Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Kock, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Dunlap and Mrs. Margreta von Borstel of Grass Valley.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Matthes and Mr. and Mrs. Neil McGlasson attended the card party at Grass Valley Saturday evening.

G. J. Hardman and D. E. Karns of Wasco were business visitors at Kent Thursday.

Kent Grange No. 688 will hold its next regular meeting all day Saturday, December 12, with a pot-luck dinner at noon. In the evening of the above date a card party, the second of a series of card parties will be held in the grange hall sponsored by the Home Economics club.

Mrs. W. C. Helyer who has spent the past week at Redmond with her daughter Mrs. Clifford Ullman, returned to her home here Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Harbin of Oskdale, Wash., spent Tuesday and Wednesday nights at the J. C. Wilson home.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil McGlasson were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Dunlap Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Holdaway and daughter Doris of Hood River spent the week end here at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Helyer.

Mothers of children who live in the country are taking turns coming in to the school and serving hot soup each day for lunch.

Kent grange members who went to Klondike to Pomona Grange Saturday were Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Davis, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Andrews and Mr. and Mrs. L. Sather and son Kenneth.

Choir practice was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Neil McGlasson Sunday evening. Fifteen were present. Ice cream was served after practice. The choir will meet at the J. M. Wilson home for practice next Sunday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Vern Baker of Grass Valley and Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Wilson and son Charles Jr. and daughter Donna of Moro were dinner guests at the J. C. Wilson home Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Durward Helyer of Tumalo spent Saturday night and Sunday at the W. C. Helyer home.

Kent Sunday school had twenty nine in attendance Sunday with a collection of \$1.66.

Safe Blowing Unprofitable To Traveling Thieves

\$33. Only Loot From Night of Safecracking at Grass Valley and Kent; McKean Warehouse at Wasco Entered Saturday

Last week it was a series of car wrecks that brought misfortune to residents of the county and this week it was robberies.

Last Friday night thieves broke into the elevator office in Grass Valley and blew the safe open. This safe was an old one that is used principally to keep papers from fire damage. The outside doors were open, but the inner doors were locked. They were blown open and the door lock to the small money chamber was punched in.

Little money found

Thirty three dollars was taken from the safe along with a number of checks. These checks were torn into bits and scattered between the Tum-A-Lum company office and the elevator. Most of the pieces were later found and put together and little loss, if any, will come from that source.

The same night thieves entered the Tum-A-Lum office and stole a rifle but no money was found there. The Standard Oil plant was entered but nothing was found but a few stamps.

Kent Elevator Safe Blown

The same night the elevator office at Kent was broken into and the safe there was demolished in the attempt to open it, although it was never locked. The thieves apparently locked it in trying to open it or did not try to open it without powder. Two doors were blown off the safe and it was entirely ruined. Some papers were destroyed there but no money was kept in the safe.

Saturday night some one, that to be local persons, tore a board off the R. H. McKean grain office building in Wasco and made their way into the main store room where they took seven or eight gallons of motor oil, some grease, a sack of salt and a sack of mill feed. They went out by the front doors leaving few clues of their visit.

Adams Says Strike Damaging Farmers

In every agricultural section of Oregon there is a growing demand for immediate legislation which will outlaw strikes and lockouts until every possible means of arbitration has been exhausted.

Such was the belief expressed this week by James B. Adams, prominent Sherman county wheat grower and newly elected president of the Oregon Producers and Shippers Association.

"As a means of self protection and self-preservation, agricultural groups in every part of the state plan to sponsor and urge the passage of a measure requiring a 30-day truce while the State Board of Conciliation endeavors to bring about a settlement of disputed points between employer and labor," said Mr. Adams. "Such a measure would at least help to prevent the chaos which now exists in the agricultural industry as a result of the current maritime strike."

"In my own county as well as in all the wheat growing counties of Oregon we have millions of bushels of wheat in storage, unable to market it as a result of this devastating shipping strike. Not only are our growers losing the markets they had built up for their wheat, but they are forced to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars in added storage and insurance charges."

"Our arbitration bill is fast gaining support from responsible agricultural groups and leaders. The Hood River-Growers Council and their Transportation association already have endorsed our proposed measure. Similar groups will give their endorsement within the next 30 days. We confidently expect the coming legislative session to pass this fair and just arbitration measure by an overwhelming vote."

Fourteen School Districts To Levy No Tax

The taxes for 1937 are pretty well on the way at the assessor's office, far enough, at least, that it is possible to tell what the figures will be for that year. Fourteen school districts will have no special school tax. This is the largest number that have levied nothing. Heretofore there have been several that asked nothing from the local taxpayer but this year is best of all.

The levy for the general fund will be 11 mills. This will care for state taxes, school levies, county, etc., the road fund will require 1.2 mills and the non-high school deficit will have to have .7 mills.

Wasco will require 23.5 mills on property in its boundaries and Moro will take 25.8 mills on its property and Grass Valley will ask for 15.3 mills. Special school taxes will total \$48,924.94 in 1937.

Moro Womens Club Entertains Husbands

Sixty-three attended the banquet at the hotel last Friday night given by the Moro Woman's Club in honor of their husbands. Rev. R. A. Hutchinson of The Dalles, the principal speaker, talked on "Ribbons and Roses," bringing out the fact that in business too often the human element, the "ribbon," is eliminated, and as a result we have chaos and distress. Likewise in our daily tasks, whatever they may be, he urged that we seek to do our best and see beyond the worry and fatigue they may cause us.

Mrs. Wily Knighton was toastmistress and Mrs. Harry Pinkerton and Mrs. Carroll Sayles led in group singing. Two piano numbers were played by Miss Vivian Truone. The husbands were welcomed by Mrs. Darwin Van Gilder and the response was made by Harry Pinkerton. Mrs. C. L. Poley gave a reading.

The banquet was a success in every way and much credit should be given to the committee in charge: Mrs. Wily Knighton, as director, Mrs. Joe Truitt, Mrs. Martin Melzer and Mrs. Theodore Johnston.

Use of Airmail Increases Greatly

The increasing use made by Oregon citizens of their air mail facilities was revealed today in figures showing that they sent out a total of 186,311 pounds of sky correspondence in the first ten months of this year. This poundage is almost equivalent to almost seven and a half million letters, according to postmaster Freeman.

In the corresponding period of last year, 178,290 pounds of air mail was dispatched from Oregon points. Increasingly large gains are being shown each month, with faster schedules, the current rate of only six cents an ounce and a growing knowledge of the service offered as principal factors. Postmaster Jay C. Freeman said.

Under existing schedules, air mail from Oregon reaches California points overnight and the Atlantic Coast with the loss of only one business day.

Kent Legionnaires Attend Conference

A number of Kent Auxiliary and Legion members attended the District Conference in The Dalles on Monday, December 7. Meesdames Dunlap, Justesen, Frank von Borstel, Theodore von Borstel, Kock, Plumke, Bill Rooper, Bonnie Rooper and Norton were present from the Kent Auxiliary. A turkey banquet was enjoyed in the evening. Following the evening session dancing was enjoyed.

A regular afternoon meeting of the American Legion Auxiliary was held at the home of Mrs. Emma Plumke November 9. Mrs. Millie von Borstel, Clara Kock, Floye von Borstel, Dorothy Dunlap, Nell Justesen, Emma Plumke, Mae Hoskinson and Mildred Norton were present. Dolls were dressed for Christmas gifts and blouses and dresses were made for Welfare work. Mrs. Neil McGlasson and Mrs. E. L. Cox and Billie were guests.

Every Phase of Wheat Business Talked by EOWL

LaGrande To Be 1937 Host City; Charles Nish Elected President and T. M. Rolfe, Committeeman In Annual Election

The 1936 meeting of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League held at Heppner last Friday and Saturday was adjudged one of the most successful of the conventions of wheat men by the large crowd of farmers who attended. Pertinent problems discussed were the 1937 program for agriculture, substitute crops that may be used under the soil conservation program, federal aid, state, the league would like to see adopted.

President E. Harvey Miller opened the meeting with his report of the activities of the league during the past year and in so doing pointed out the problems to be met in the next few years. To a great extent than has been the practice he gave a keynote address for the meeting.

Currency Talk Given

L. E. Williams of the foreign trade department of the U. S. National bank took the place of A. L. Mills Jr., on the program and told of the system used by bankers and exporters in handling the shipments to foreign countries. With currencies fluctuating almost daily it is necessary that acceptance be made as soon as possible in order that there may not be loss. He intimated that fluctuations are often manipulated to aid the foreign traders. He paid his respects to the Canadian trade treaty and stated that in spite of the opposition of stockmen it had done much good in aiding trade between the two countries.

H. G. Avery, county agent for Union county, spoke on the weed situation in his district and told of the methods taken to reduce the weed acreage. In the section of the state covered by the wheat league he said there are between 25,000 and 30,000 acres of weeds. He listed morning glory as the worst weed because its spread is much greater than the others but white top and Russian knap weed are harder to kill when once established. Those farmers in Union county who spent money in killing the first weeds to appear are now more free of them than those who delayed, he said.

1937 Plan Explained
Dr. E. J. Bell, youthful understudy of George Farrell, came from Washington, D. C. to tell the assembled wheat growers something of the plans of the department of agriculture for 1937.

His summary of the wheat situation in the northwest is included in the following statements:

"The prices which have been received during 1934, 1935, and 1936 in the United States have been higher than prices which farmers would have received if weather conditions had been normal."

"With normal yields east of the Rocky mountains outlets for Pacific northwest wheat would no longer be available within the United States to the same extent as in the past three years."

"In the long run this region must look to the export market for its surplus wheat."

"No nation can sell any large volume of wheat to the world today unless it is prepared to take in return goods manufactured by the wheat importing countries."

"In the face of restricted outlets for the products of American farms and in the face of continued depletion of the soil by wind erosion, a national policy for agriculture involves establishment of permanent soil conserving uses of the land rather than temporary adjustment from soil depleting crops to annual practices."

"In line with a national policy designed to establish an additional 30,000,000 acres in permanent soil conserving uses of the land the 1937 program for the Pacific northwest embodies as its principal objective the establishment of grasses and legumes insofar as permanent stands of perennial weather conditions and supplies of seed will permit."

D. E. Richards, manager of the Union livestock station, told of the results of feeding wheat to the three most important kinds of stock. During the past few years

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