

Sherman County Journal

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COTTONWOOD

Farmers of Gilliam county who live near Cottonwood grade have been working steadily this winter for recognition of that road between Ajax and Hay Canyon by the proper authorities.

The highway commission has delayed work on the Wasco-Condor-Hepner road for a long time and has just started working between the latter towns. It is the belief of the Gilliam county men that the section across the John Day should receive immediate attention.

It is, however, one thing to want something done and quite another to get it done. Local agitation may eventually bring the road to the attention of the highway commission but county courts and already established organizations can do so more easily and probably more effectively.

A large part of the work could be done with such a machine and the powder work could be done at any time. Then the road would be graded and would only need a surface to be satisfactory for the purpose for which it is used.

It is understood that there will be more federal money spent on secondary roads this year than for several years in the past and this condition will make it more probable than otherwise that work can be done on the road.

THROUGH RAIL RATES

A recent editorial in the Oregon Journal calls attention to one possible way of removing some of the handicaps of waterfront strikes. It is to pass the Pettingill bill and allow railroads to make through rates in competition with water transportation.

This bill has been bitterly fought by farm organizations in the northwest and the meetings of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League are often enlivened by arguments against this attempt on the part of the railroads to make it possible for them to charge less for hauling freight from Chicago to Portland than from Chicago to Baker.

The railroad contention has been that they should be allowed to make cheaper rates for through hauls because in that way they could meet water competition and retain a larger share of the business. Competition sets the rate say the rail heads.

Opponents hold that the service rendered should set the rate and that the shorter the haul the smaller should be the charge. Farm organizations would not object to lower through rates, but desire lower rates for short hauls also.

When the railroads had a monopoly on the freight business the law was passed that kept them from cutting rates in competition with water borne transportation and by this method killing the growing business.

Conditions have changed to some extent since that day. Now the rail roads have no monopoly and are, in fact, losing ground rapidly in the race for the freight business. Water transportation is receiving subsidies from the government and locks and dams are being built to facilitate the shipment of goods by water. Trucks fill the state built highways and have already taken a goodly share of the less than carload shipments.

It is not so important as it was twenty five years ago to curb the power of the railroads and it may be necessary to help them if they are to remain. Of recent years we have become almost entirely dependent on coastal shipping for the movement of grain from the Pacific northwest to southwestern ports. Now that type of shipping has become embroiled in a fight that has stopped business entirely. We checked the railroads from killing competition a few years ago, perhaps it would be well now to give them the power to check the

monopoly of water shipping.

CHRISTMAS

In this part of the worldly sphere it is customary to picture Christmas with the ground covered with a coat of fresh snow over which the sleighs filled with happy merry makers glide to the tune of bells and the hurried trample of hooves.

Even the patron saint of the day jolly St. Nicholas himself, is supposed to travel by a sleek sleigh pulled by a string of reindeer. That is the tradition. Unless snow comes over the hill tops with a rush and a roar the old gentleman who brings the good things of the day will find the going hard for the famous reindeer and furthermore the weather is not the sort to suit the heavy coats of fur those north pole animals are used to having. Forty degrees, and pulling over bare ground may make it a hard night on the prancing Dancer and Blixen.

But practical difficulties are nothing to tradition. It must and will go on regardless of weather, or other hampering conditions. Children will dance around the Christmas trees in thousands of homes and presents will be distributed in profusion whether the ground is covered with snow or bare. The stockings will be filled with uncommon treats for ever hungry young mouths just the same as if Santa's team could go tripping over hard packed snow.

Traditionally Christmas is a time of giving because St. Nicholas is the patron saint of the day and it was his custom, tradition tells us, to go about the countryside in his native Germany and give to children at Christmas time. We put aside our normal selfishness on the occasion and give some present indicating our friendliness. It makes us feel better for truly, "It is more blessed to give, than to receive."

Clint Haight in the Blue Mountain Eagle calls Santa Claus' attention to Uncle Sam as a competitor and states that Santa just works one day in the year while Uncle puts in 365 days at the job.

Santa Claus removed the Eddie-Wally episode from the front pages in jig time. Perhaps young folks became interested in what Jim or Joan was going to give them and oldsters began to wonder how they were going to pay their December bills and the kingly romance just couldn't stand the competition.

It used to be quite the thing for middle aged successful men to trade in their wife for a younger one. Mary Pickford may be starting a similar style for the women.

There is really no need of Trotsky being broke. A man of his experience in traveling should be equal to Halliburton. He might not be able to swim in forbidden places by moonlight but he has defied a bear.

This is the time to consider those resolutions which often torment the reformer of personal habits at the first of the year. If one lives so that the need for reform seems necessary on the morning of January first it is perhaps fitting and proper that there be a change of habit. The dark brown taste that comes from going to bed in the cold gray dawn will not occur to one who arises at that time.

It seems that Chinese war lords have to sell out once in a while to get money to pay the troops. In fact soldiers have been known to pawn their leader for a few pence apiece. It is said to be one of the worst dangers of the generalship in China.

The Sherman county farmer likes to have his Christmas present in a liquid form. If you don't believe it listen to the remarks about the Christmas rain.

The next big event after Christmas will be the rush to get a few dollars of the legislature for the favorite frenzy.

There may be those who cannot enjoy Christmas with bare earth and temperatures of around forty and forty five, but we contend that it beats a blizzard.

STATEHOUSE GOSSIP

(Continued from page one) mission for the current year show a decrease of approximately three per cent below the 1935 figures according to a report released by the tax commission this week. Local assessments shrank from \$761,129,734.32 to \$736,384,750.06 due in part to foreclosures on tax delinquent property by the counties and in part to a general deflation of land values. Utility valuations dropped from \$162,941,886.52 in 1935 to \$156,423,247.58.

Reduction in local assessments are shown in every county with three exceptions. Crook, Curry and Sherman counties show a slight increase in assessed valuations. Morrow county valuations dropped approximately 25 per cent from 1935 levels. Clatsop county valuations are 13.72 per cent lower and Marion county valuations are 6.80 per cent lower than in 1935. Utility valuations in Marion and Sherman counties shrank by 13 per cent. In the case of Marion county the reduction is accounted for largely by the sale of the privately owned water utility to the city of Salem, taking nearly \$1,000,000 of taxable property off the tax rolls.

Valuations on tillable lands alone show a shrinkage of nearly \$20,000,000 while valuations on town and city property dropped nearly \$14,000,000. The boom in the lumber business is reflected in an increase of more than \$4,000,000 in assessed valuation on timber lands. Valuations on horses, mules, cattle and swine are also higher than a year ago.

Two of the newly elected legislators resigned their posts on state boards this week in order to clear the way for their qualifications as lawmakers. Phil J. Brady, representative-elect from Multnomah county resigned as a member of the State Board of Conciliation, and Thomas P. Graham, Jr., senator-elect from Multnomah county resigned as a member of the State Welfare commission. Several other resignations are expected as a result of a ruling by Attorney General Van Winkle that membership on state boards and commissions or employment at a lucrative state or federal job is a bar to membership in the legislature.

Wealth would become the yardstick by which votes would be doled out if the Wittmer Federation should succeed with its program. The federation has incorporated in a group under the leadership of a group of Portland citizens, including John Schroeder, veteran chief clerk of the legislative ways and means committee. Under the proposal of the federation all taxpayers would be rewarded with an extra vote. Persons paying more than \$50 a year in taxes would have two extra votes and those paying more than \$100 a year in taxes would be given three extra votes. It is understood that an attempt will be made to refer the program to the voters through a proposed constitutional amendment.

While the Democratic state central committee spent only \$13,692.36 in carrying Oregon for Roosevelt and Garner, records in the secretary of state's office reveal that the Republican state central committee spent more than \$57,000 in their losing fight for Landon and Knox.

The semi-annual apportionment of highway funds among the 36 counties of the state was completed by Secretary of State Snell this week. Under this apportionment \$800,000 is distributed among the counties every six months on a basis established in 1931. County courts are expected to make a fight for an increase of this amount at the forthcoming legislative session.

Seven hundred automobile drivers were convicted on various traffic counts in Oregon courts during September, according to reports filed with Secretary of State Snell. The list includes 78 drunken drivers who suffered revocation of their drivers' licenses in addition to fines and jail sentences. Twenty five reckless drivers had their licenses suspended during the month.

THE MAN TO WHOM NOTHING HAPPENED

By Willis J. Douglas He tossed restlessly upon his bed. In his weary mind the shifting shadows of memory brought a confused picture of the eventless, tedious day just passed; those hateful, arrogant publicans, tax gatherers, demanding the best rooms; the cursing, sweating camel-drivers carousing in the caravansary, that Jew and his sick wife pleading for a room.

"Fah! Jews! The place was over run with them now. As if a poor man had nothing else to worry about than to have mid-wives and doctors and gaping visitors underfoot! Ah hum, she was in a bad way—well, it's no concern of mine. Better get some sleep, tomorrow's a busy day, they all are. Nothing else ever happens around here, nothing but work."

He couldn't know that the Saviour was to be born that night. There was no way for him to know. The angel Gabriel came to tell Mary and Joseph of the miracle that was to be. The Star of the East appeared to the wise men and magicians. The Heavenly Choir sang to the shepherds on the hillside. There came to the inn-keeper only the appeal of sick and weary womanhood seeking the unusual boon of a bed in which to bear her child. How could he know it was to be the Christ? He couldn't. Had he known who it was, there would have been room enough, and to spare. As it was, nothing happened to him. The first great Christmas was just another busy day.

To many people today angels can not appear. We are not astrologers, and so we will not see the star. We live hurried, toil-filled lives. We have to have our recreation. We haven't room nor time to listen to the cry of soul-sick humanity. And nothing ever happens to us.

In Other Days

From the Observer Dec. 28, 1917. A marriage license was issued December 26th to George H. Wilcox and Marie Morrison.

Hans Thompson and daughters Clara and Georgia left Thursday for a visit in California. Miss Georgia will remain in California and attend Stanford University. Moro theatre on New Year's day, at the matinee and evening shows will throw on the screen pictures of all the boys who are enlisted in the army and navy.

Simon Elcock made Moro a visit during the holidays. He was one of the first farmers to engage in cultivating the soil of Sherman county and for years was a reliable threshing machine engineer. His home is now in Portland. Miss Ida May Johnston was a Christmas visitor in Moro from Huntington.

From the Observer Dec. 27, 1937. Mr. and Mrs. Bullard of Mikalo were visiting relatives and friends in Sherman county last week.

Mrs. Lot Rust returned Saturday from a very pleasant seven weeks visit with her daughter, Mrs. Watson in The Dalles and her sister at University Park.

Guy Hoskinson of Kent, stopped in Moro last week to have Dr. James attend his dental needs, before leaving the country for Idaho where he intends to enter school.

Mr. and Mrs. O. C. Mactensen and Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Johnston attended the Brock-Spoon wedding at White Salmon.

Henry Hennagin came up with the first snow from Beaverland.

Traffic Cop—Use your noodle lady! Use your noodle—Lady—My goodness! Where is it? I've pushed and pulled everything in the car.

Teacher (in geography lesson)—Now can anybody tell me where we find mangoes? Knowing little boy—Yes, miss, wherever woman goes.

COUNTY COURT

(Continued from page one) dike and mileage 7.31 C. J. Thompson, Chairman Monkland Precinct & mileage 6.88 Geo. N. McDonald, Judge Monkland Precinct 5.85 D. L. Belshe, Clerk Monkland Precinct 5.88 Wilford Belshe, Clerk Monkland Precinct 5.88 T. S. Reese, Clerk Monkland Precinct 5.88 Clyde Smith, Chairman of Rutledge and mileage 6.36 Jas. W. Blagg, Judge Rutledge Precinct 4.56 D. L. Reynolds, Clerk Rutledge Precinct 4.56 Harold D. Eakin, Clerk Rutledge Precinct 4.56 L. D. Eakin, Clerk Rutledge Precinct 4.56 G. L. Hoskinson, Chairman Kent Precinct 6.66 J. C. Wilson, Judge Kent Precinct and mileage 9.01 G. C. Young, Clerk Kent Precinct 6.66 J. L. Davis, Clerk Kent Precinct 6.66 J. C. Helyer, Clerk Kent Precinct 6.66 J. B. Coon, Chairman Grass Valley Precinct 8.22 J. W. Hays, Judge Grass Valley and mileage 9.22 W. Ray Blake, Clerk Grass Valley Precinct 8.22 John E. Alley, Clerk Grass Valley Precinct 8.22 Dell Olds, Clerk Grass Valley Precinct 8.22 W. S. Powell, Chairman Moro Precinct 11.40 E. E. Barzee, Judge Moro Precinct 11.40 H. O. Kunsman, Clerk Moro Precinct 11.40 Theo. Johnston, Clerk Moro Precinct 11.40 Mae Moore, Clerk Moro Precinct 11.40 Belle A. Clothier, Chairman Wasco Precinct 8.19 Myrtle M. Funk, Judge Wasco Precinct 8.19 Anabel Fortner, Clerk Wasco Precinct 8.19 Idah M. Everett, Clerk Wasco Precinct 8.19 Belle Clothier, Clerk Wasco Precinct 8.19 Chas Everett, Return of ballot boxes from Wasco 1.00

CLAIMS PRESENTED AND PAID AGAINST THE ROAD FUND AT THE DECEMBER 2, 1936 TERM OF COUNTY COURT. Mrs. C. M. Snider, Rent of machine shed 6.00 L. L. Peetz, Road labor 58.60 C. R. Axtell, Road labor 42.42 Elwood McPherson, Road labor 52.00 E. W. Weld, Road labor 17.72 Joe Weatherford, Road labor 38.15 M. Stone, Road labor 6.32 Bill McDonald, Road labor 17.50 Union Oil Company, gas for roads 39.20 Austin-Western Road Mch. road supplies 30.90 Feenaughty Mch Company road supplies 40.95 Shell Oil Company, gas for roads 13.85 The Dalles Iron Works, road supplies 18.00 Standard Oil Company, Kerosene and gas for roads 32.25 O'Meara Supply & Imp. Co. road supplies 338.77 Foss & Co., road supplies 13.17 Mrs. C. M. Snider, Rent of mch shed for November 6.00 Roy Kessinger road work 49.20 Wilford Belshe, road work and team work 23.35 C. Adlorf, road work 38.00 Ernest Huston, road work 24.60

Max Belshe, road labor 24.60 E. L. Weld, Surveying road 2.50 Tum-a-lum Lumber Co., road supplies 11.95 Geo. A. Potter, road expense 3.95 L. L. Peetz, road labor 57.30 Clare Axtell, road labor 37.92 Elwood McPherson, road labor 50.25 Joe Weatherford, road labor 34.32 Bill McDonald, road labor 69.32 G. Hartman, road labor 29.37 Max Williams, road labor 27.12 McKean & Searcy, gas and supplies for roads 35.58 Kendrick Dunlap, road labor 46.30 J. E. Brown, road supplies 24.88 Roy Barnett, 1 load bridge timber 17.00 Jas. Blagg, road labor, and team 11.00 P. C. Axtell, burning weeds and labor county roads 50.40 Tum-a-lum Lumber company road supplies 23.00 J. C. Freeman, Stamps for mailing road warrants 6.00 National Hospital Association road employees protection 20.20

Notice of Final Settlement Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Sherman County her Final Report and Account, as Administratrix of the Estate of Benn Molden Morford, deceased, and

Lupine Rebecca Lodge No. 116 Moro, Oregon Meets 2d and 4th Tuesdays of each month Visiting members welcome. Maggie Barnum, N. G. Lila Bull, Secretary

Bethlehem Chapter, No. 78, O. E. S. Moro, Oregon Meets Every Second Fourth Thursdays in each Month. Visiting members invited. Esther Morris, W. M. Rose Amidon, Secretary.

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A-F & A-M Moro, Oregon Meets the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings of each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us. H. B. Pinkerton, W. M. C. V. Belknap, Secy

Moro Lodge No. 113, I. O. O. F. Moro, Oregon Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in the I. O. O. F. hall. Visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us. Lewis McKee, N. G. Joe Truit, Secretary

that Saturday, the 2nd day of January, 1937, at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day, at the Courtroom, at the Courthouse, in Moro, Sherman County, Oregon, has been fixed by said Court as the time and place for hearing of objections to said Final Report and Account and the settlement of said estate.

Geo. G. Updegraff Attorney for Administratrix Dec. 4, 11, 18, 25, 1936. Notice of Final Settlement. Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Sherman County his Final Report and Account, as Administrator with the Will Annexed of the Estate of Amanda Ellen Martin, deceased, and that Saturday, the 16th day of January, 1937, at ten o'clock a. m. of said day, at the Courtroom, at the Courthouse, in Moro, Sherman County, Oregon, have been fixed by the Court as the time and place for hearing of objections to said Final Report and Account and the settlement of said estate.

Myles Elroy Martin. Geo. G. Updegraff Attorney for Estate. 7-8-9-10

NOTICE TO CREDITORS All creditors having claims against the estate of Fred Blau, deceased, are hereby notified to present them in proper form to the undersigned, the duly appointed Administratrix and Administrator of the estate of Fred Blau, deceased, at the office of Geo. G. Updegraff, Moro, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice, to wit: December 4, 1936. Minnie G. Blau Walter L. Blau

Geo. G. Updegraff Attorney for Estate. Dec. 4, 11, 18, 25, 1936

NOTICE TO CREDITORS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLES H. SCHWARTZ, DECEASED. NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed administratrix of the Estate of Charles H. Schwartz, deceased, by the County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Sherman, and has qualified. All persons having claims against said Estate are hereby notified to present the same to me at the office of T. Lester Johnson, Wasco, Oregon, with vouchers and duly verified within six months from the date of this notice. Dated and first published December 11, 1936. Date of last publication, January 8, 1937. Mary E. Bucholtz Administratrix T. Lester Johnson, Attorney for Administratrix

The Dalles-Columbia Market A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year is the wish we extend to you Groceries, Toiletries, Remedies Sundries, Tobacco TRADING CENTER For Sherman County People

COMING! COMING! COMING! the new TD35 Diesel McCormick-Deering About January First—We will have some of these Tractors on hand—if you are thinking of buying a Tractor you cannot afford to buy without seeing this tractor. You will be surprized at the size and specifications of this late and highly refined model crawler type McCormick-Deering Tractor. And most attractive of all is the price on this unit McKean & Searcy

The Sherman County Journal and each of those who help build it wish to its readers and friends a very Merry Christmas. Mrs. A. S. Johnson Orval Thompson Giles and Lela French

For Comfort and Security Arvin Heaters Weed Chains Eveready Prestone Foss & Co., Inc.