

Sherman County Journal

Fiftieth Year No. 7

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Official County Paper

Of Oregon— Its Government and People

By A. L. Lindbeck

Portland's labor controversy, which became definitely a state problem last week when Governor Martin stepped into the picture, bids fair to develop into a showdown between constituted civil authority on the one hand and organized labor as represented by the American Federation of Labor on the other.

When the governor unleashed his broadside against labor "royalists," "racketeers" and "gangsters" in condemnation of the attitude of labor leaders involved in the Portland deadlock he apparently struck a responsive chord in the breast of his Oregon public as indicated by editorial comment in the press of the state and the hundreds of letters and telegrams received in all sections of the state. Public sentiment, however, does not appear so carry much weight with the AFL leaders who have announced their determination to continue their fight against CIO which, judged by the result of the Inman-Poulson election, holds a decided majority among the sawmill workers of that area.

The operation of the Inman-Poulson mill is being closely followed by the governor since success of this step is expected to be followed by petitions from other mill employees asking for elections to determine their bargaining agencies and the opening of other Portland plants.

Although the legislative session of 1937 was shorter by two days than that of 1936 it cost the state taxpayers of Oregon \$17,580 more, an audit of the session expenses has revealed. A part of this increase in cost was due to the rental of legislative quarters in the Marion hotel and the Salem armory amounting to \$5466 for the session. Clerk hire was also increased by more than \$3900 and the session's stamp bill was \$1651 above that for the 1935 session.

The Oregon Merchants' Legislative League, sponsors of a measure to license certain forms of gambling, takes exception to the ballot title prepared for the measure by Attorney General Van Winkle and has appealed to the supreme court for a new title. In their petition to the court the League charges the attorney general with being biased and prejudiced against all forms of gambling and that the ballot title "reflects the warped, prejudiced and biased legal and personal opinions regarding lotteries and other species of gaming held by the attorney general and his assistants."

Boundary lines do not follow the vagaries of a river, Attorney General Van Winkle has ruled. The opinion was given in connection with a dispute as to which school district could rightfully claim a certain farm in Linn county. As originally defined the river was one of the boundaries of the district. Since that time, however, the river has changed its course so that now it is on the opposite side of the farm in question. The attorney general holds that the old river bed still constitutes the boundary line between the two districts.

Prospects of a collection of between \$300,000 and \$400,000 in income taxes from contractors who have been employed on federal projects in the state were considerably brighter this week when the United States supreme court, in a case on appeal from West Virginia, held the contractors to be subject to the state tax. Facts in two Oregon cases, one now pending before the United States court, are said by Earl Fisher, member of the tax commission, to be similar, if not identical to the facts in the West Virginia case. A number of high salaried employees of contractors on federal projects who have taken refuge behind their supposedly federal status are also expected to come forward with substantial tax payments on the strength of the court's ruling.

Drivers of state owned automobiles will be protected against damages by liability insurance up to \$40,000 the board of court decided this week. Heretofore the state has carried a maximum of

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Old Time Christmas Tree Program Billed

On Christmas eve Harland View Grange will present an old-fashioned Christmas tree program with all the trimmings including candy and nuts for the children. The program will be short to permit people to return home before the evening is too late. It is planned that this event will be a genuine community Christmas tree with good will and the holiday spirit prevailing among all those who gather together.

Examiner Coming Next Monday

The Examiner of Operators and Chauffeurs, will be in Moro Monday, December 20, 1937 at the court house between the hours of 1 to 5 respectively, according to recent announcement.

All those wishing permits or licenses to drive cars are asked to get in touch with the examiner during these hours.

Liverpool Market Remains Weak

While United States and Canadian wheat markets maintained a steady tone influenced by the possibility of larger European takings of North American grain as a result of the short Argentine crop, the Liverpool market remained weak with liberal Australian offerings, together with fairly large stocks on ocean passage and a continued slow demand from European importing countries. Argentine ship ments remained small with a total of only 406,000 bushels. Australian exports totaled 1,478,000 bushels, while 2,216,000 bushels, including 1,240,000 bushels of Russian wheat, were cleared from Black Sea ports. United States exports for the week ended December 4, totaled 2,211,000 bushels and Canadian overseas shipments for the same period about 2,360,000 bushels.

Churchmen To Meet

Monday night, Dec. 20, has been set as the time for an all-church and congregation Christmas potluck dinner and program in the Moro Community Presbyterian church basement, according to Rev. L. H. Mitchellmore. It has been the plan of the organization to have several such dinners during the course of the year, he explained yesterday. Not only the church people but all residents of Moro are welcome.

Kent News

Robert Helyer and Cecil Norton returned to Kent Tuesday from Corvallis where they visited with friends over the week end.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Guyton left Friday for Los Angeles, California, where they will spend several weeks.

The county health nurse from Moro was here Wednesday checking up on the school children.

J. E. Norton unloaded a car of coal at Kent last week for the Tumalum company.

G. L. Barnett has been raffling off his turkeys at the I. O. O. F. hall the past few days.

Kent Grange held its regular meeting Saturday evening, December 11th. The new officers were installed by J. L. Davis, installing officer.

Rev. G. E. Williams of Turner was an over night guest at the J. M. Wilson home Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jay McKay and Mrs. Alfred Lyons were business visitors in The Dalles Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Matthes and Mrs. G. L. Barnett and son Melvin were at Moro Thursday on business.

Mrs. H. E. Morrow left last week for Portland where she will remain a few weeks for medical treatment.

Mrs. and Mrs. J. E. Norton and daughters Geraldine and Carol and son Ross spent the past week at Tangent visiting Mrs. Norton's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ross.

J. C. Wilson and George McKay were business callers at Grass Valley Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Gregg and sons Kenneth, June and Bob were dinner guests at the Alfred Lyons home Sunday.

Ernest Smith was transacting business in The Dalles Thursday.

Basis For Farm Legislation Set Forth By League

Crop Restriction Favored
By Compulsion Only When
Voted and When Control
In Hands of Farmers

Oregon wheat growers, through the eastern Oregon wheat league, are taking an active interest in the new farm legislation now before Congress, and have expressed their desires, so far as the wheat program is concerned, through definite resolutions which have been forwarded to the congressional delegation.

The committee on federal programs drew major interest at this year's convention and was in session at various times throughout the three days before and during the convention.

After hearing the outline of an administration wheat program from C. E. Carter, representing the western division of the AAA, and giving opportunity to all to express their opinions, the committee adopted an 11-point program, which was confirmed by the convention without material change, although several features were warmly debated.

The program advanced by the Wheat league is based on a continuation of present agricultural conservation programs, supplemented by a voluntary acreage control plan, together with possible marketing quotas to be used upon a vote of the wheat growers themselves. Following is an outline of the 11-point program urged by the convention:

Concise Program Made

1. Continuing of Soil Conservation program;
2. Production control to be exercised by voluntary means but with a provision that when burdensome surpluses develop that marketing quotas for every wheat grower may be established by a two thirds majority vote of the producers;
3. Provisions for benefit payments sufficient to bring price and income to parity;
4. Crop insurance;
5. Designation of wheat produced in white area as a separate commodity with special treatment in subsidization of exports;
6. Commodity loans of at least 50 per cent of parity when total supplies of white wheat exceed 93 million bushels;
7. Processing tax on wheat to finance benefit payments in excess of payments provided under conservation program;
8. No discrimination in payments because of size of operation;
9. Adequate consumer safeguards;
10. Provision for intervention by secretary of agriculture in proposed freight rate increases on agricultural products;
11. Adequate tariff protection for wheat.

Kent Auxiliary Sends Toys Away

The Kent Auxiliary of the American Legion met Wednesday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Max Plumke. Each member brought a toy which with 9 nightgowns was sent to the State Child Welfare. A box of 10 cushions and covers was sent to the Veterans Hospital.

It was decided to hold a card party Saturday night, December 18 to be public. Also plans were made to serve a complete chicken-pie supper for forty cents and a regular dance supper for 25c at the Legion hall on New Years eve at Kent.

Millie von Borstel, president, reported on the district meeting at Dufur. Among those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Ted von Borstel, Miss Cassie Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. Arzell Lemley, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Dunlap, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Ball, Mr. and Mrs. W. Rooper and Mr. and Mrs. B. Rooper and Mr. and Mrs. Willy Knighten. A banquet was held, followed by a social dance.

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK				
DATE	MAX.	MIN.	PRECIP.	
Dec. 9	31	26	.00	
" 10	31	21	.75	
" 11	26	30	.40	
" 12	44	31	.00	
" 13	35	32	.04	
" 14	45	32	.07	
" 15	50	36	.00	
Total for week			1.26	

More Social Security Offices Opened

An eastern Oregon office of the Social Security Board has been opened at La Grande to serve employers and employees in this section of the state who are covered by the old-age insurance system of the federal social security act.

Leo C. Rasberg, acting manager of the new office, has emphasized that the old-age insurance provisions of the act cover employers having one or more employees on a temporary, part time or permanent basis and that the law includes all commercial, industrial and professional service establishments.

Each employee less than 65 years of age is required to have a social security account number. This number is recorded on the employer's records in connection with the employee's name. Regular reports are made by the employer to the collector of internal revenue showing wages paid each employee and these reports also show the employee's social security number.

The next wage reports by the employers will be made in January and will cover wages paid in the last half of 1937. Eastern Oregon employers file these reports with the collector of internal revenue at Portland.

Pamphlets describing the old-age insurance system may be obtained without charge by writing to the Social Security Board, 201 Foley Building, La Grande, Oregon.

John Mathieson Dies At Seventy-Six

John Mathieson, 76, who has been a resident of Sherman county for 52 years died in the Dalles Monday after a long illness. He was born in Scotland in 1861 and settled here when a young man shortly after coming to America.

The funeral was held Wednesday afternoon from the Wasco Methodist church with Rev. F. L. Cannell giving the funeral service. Surviving him are his widow, Jane, two sons, John and Hugh of Rufus, six daughters, Mrs. Catherine Vile, Howewell, Mrs. Ellen Rickels, Shedd, Mrs. Jane Thompson, Mrs. Agnes Curtis, Mrs. Margaret Leff and Mrs. Anna Kuyper of Rufus. Other relatives including four brothers, Frank, Peter, George and James live in Australia, and two sisters, Maggie and Jeanette. Thirty grand children and ten great grand children also survive.

Jay Price Tells of Early Day Stockmen and Their Departure

At quite an early date several men had large bands of stock on the range between the Deschutes and the John Day rivers. Col. Fulton had the first large band of horses in about 1863 or 64. Thomas Gordon had horses there in 1865.

With Gordon was a half-breed Indian boy named Pierre Cuchere. Gordon was very sarcastic, and about the first lesson that he gave the boy was this: "Pierre, I have no use for anything that is not useful or ornamental, and as you are not ornamental you had better make yourself useful." Which he evidently did, for he lived with Gordon until he was about grown. He was one of the best riders of his time. He stayed in that country until it settled up, he then moved to the Yakima Indian reservation and married a half-breed Indian woman. He died there a few years ago. In about 1875 or 76 the Walker boys took up a ranch near Gordon Butte. They had six or seven horses. There were six boys. Morgan and Elmer were deaf mutes. Joe Walker and young Tom Gordon had a shooting scrape over a fence. Joe lost an arm and Tom was killed. Joe was tried for murder, but was finally acquitted. George Reeder had a horse ranch near the Walker place. He came there soon after the Walkers did. Two or three years later Dave Daugherty was with Reeder. They each had some horses and they gathered up all the stray horses they could find and left the country between two days.

I think Reeder sold his place to old man Bash. Dave stole Ida Bash. They were married at Walla Walla. They went to Montana. Bill Walker went with the outfit. He was the only one of the lot that ever came back.

Mat Engleman came in about 1869. He had a small herd of

horses and a bunch of cattle. He never had a permanent home. He made his headquarters with Henry Barnum, and he also stayed at the Finnegan ranch. He finally sold his cattle, and drove his horses to Montana.

Louis Davenport, J. E. Dickerson, Jake Minton, Tim Baldwin, Al Betengen, Billy Wagerman and several others had cattle on the range, and did not provide feed, and a hard winter just about put them out of business. Orv. Donnell bought what they had left, and later sold to Lang and Ryan, who trailed them to Cheyenne. Several herds were taken this way by eastern buyers. The Pearsons took a thousand head to Foster Creek in northern Washington. Many thousands of good horses were taken north, east, and south. Col. Fulton sold to J. D. Cooper, who took them to Livingston, Montana. The Gordon horses were sold and taken to Nebraska. Watson and Dee Helm took three hundred and fifty head to Silver Lake, Southern Oregon. Wat Helm, Doug Stone, Will Lancaster, and Ben Andrews went with them. John Young also started with them, two days later John's father, Cal Young, was killed near Grants by a runaway team. Frank Hulery overtook them with the sad news at Antelope, and John came back.

C. I. Helm bought horses from Wm. Lair Hill, Jim Jenkins and John Graham, seven hundred head, and took them to Moses Coules, in the Big Bend country. Charley Helm, Jasper Garrison, Eugene Diggs, Vena Everett, Ralph Helm, Dick Johnson, and Jay Price went with that outfit.

Several other lots were taken to different places, and thus the stock was taken out of a good bunch grass country, to make way for the

Year's Supply Of Rain More Than Usual

Over Sixteen Inches Falls
At Wasco Soaking Subsoil
To Greater Depth Than For
Several Years

Precipitation for Sherman county points during the twelve month period ending November 30 was larger than for several years in the immediate past, principally because of heavy snows last winter and a big June rain.

Wasco, as usual, topped the remainder of the county in moisture as 16.56 inches were recorded there by U. M. Hicks, weather observer. At that station 1.21 inches has fallen during December of this year which is nearly as much as fell during the month of December 1936.

Moro received 14.54 inches, Grass Valley District, 14.66, Bourbon 14.38 and Kent 13.79 which assures farmers that deep moisture under the wheat is better than any time since 1929 when the disastrous series of dry years began. Station records indicate that this deep moisture is the best index to the yield of the crop.

Total rainfall for the month at Moro has been 1.29 inches with all but .03 falling during the past week. The snowfall of last Thursday failed to materialize and by Friday there was freezing sleet and rain. Warmer weather cleared the ground of snow and brought another supply of moisture that soaked the ground without run-off. This is the first December in years that it was possible to stick a car or truck on Sherman county roads, but it is being done every day now.

Two Cars Damaged In Accident

Last Saturday night an accident occurred in front of the Hugh Walker place along the highway between Wasco and Moro. Walker with his wife, had just pulled thru his gate with his car and was shutting the gate when George Ellard, traveling north, struck the Walker car broadside. Ellard sustained bruises and a cut hand and Mrs. Walker who was in the car was bruised. Ellard's car was badly damaged but the other automobile was not seriously wrecked.

Twenty Apply For Old Age Pensions Here

Twenty applications for old age pensions were filed with the local relief committee when it went into session Wednesday at the court house to thresh out the acceptable from the unacceptable and also to check on pensions already granted. There was a wide distribution of applicants some being from every section of the county. Several aged men and their wives made application.

Camp Team Wins Game With Kent

The Camp Moro basketball team easily won over Kent, Wednesday night by an impressive score of 24 to 11. The game, which was the first of the season for the Camp boys revealed to coach McKnight some of the weaknesses of the team to work on. At no time during the game were the camp boys behind and occasionally showed some fine playing. The team has some fine material and with several pre-season games should make a formidable showing in the District league.

Mr. J. M. Bowen, Special Investigator from Mr. Rechter's office inspected Camp Moro Tuesday, December 14 on an inspection tour. He stated that the camp was in good condition and had been greatly improved since he was here last year.

Another sound picture will be shown at the Legion Hall Saturday, December 18. This week the feature is "Straight From The Shoulder." There will be two shows. The first will start at 7 o'clock and the second about 8:30. Work has been done on the hall this week to improve acoustics and heating.

Freight Rate Boost Will Be Costly

Expert Says Rail Freight Increases Will Dent Farm Purse.

Proposed freight rate increases asked of the I. C. C. by American railroads will mean an additional cost of \$1,000,000 to grain growers of eastern Oregon and Washington, Northern Idaho and Western Montana, Fred R. Brown of Portland, transportation consultant, estimates.

Brown presented this estimate to Herbert G. West, executive vice president of the Inland Empire Waterways association. The two men spent Monday in Portland conferring with interested officials relative to the brief that will be filed with the board of army engineers January 11, 1938, in Washington, D. C., relative to the proposed program of improving the Columbia and Snake rivers from a river navigation standpoint.

Holds Project Needed

"In view of the present circumstances, especially with regard to the proposed 15 per cent freight increases required by the railroads, the project is more necessary and vital to the farmers of this area than ever before," West declared.

"It was the consensus of opinion of those consulted in Portland that the brief now being completed is the strongest ever to be presented the army engineers."

"It is our plan to leave Walla Walla January 2 in order that all the Northwest congressional delegations may be consulted prior to the January 11 hearing thus insuring the strongest possible case."

SEES BOOST COMING

"While the proposed freight rate increase has not yet been granted," Brown declares in his letter, "it is practically certain that with some modifications it will be. It is unfortunate that the grain growers cannot retain someone to increase the price of grain accordingly."

"In view of the impending increase, it becomes all the more imperative that water transportation be provided on the Columbia and Snake rivers at the earliest possible date and that your association prosecute the matter before the board of engineers and later the congress, to the utmost of its ability."

"Another million dollars added to the present high freight cost should spur all the people in this area to a determination not heretofore equalled, in their efforts, first, to have the rivers improved, and then to use them."

Conference Committees Appointed

Planning For Future of
To Be Undertaken By Three
Groups of Farmers Named
At Saturday Meeting

Committees for the economic conference which will be held here in February were named Saturday at the court house when plans were made for the meeting.

Three committees will carry on the surveys of projects before the conference and make reports at that time. The purpose of it all is to set up plans toward which the county may work for the next fifteen or twenty years.

J. M. Wilson of Kent will be general chairman of the conference and preside over general meetings. Committee chairman will be Millard Eakin, livestock; Albert Kaseberg, land use; Dewey Thompson, farm crops.

Large Committees Named

Named on the livestock committee were Tom Fraser, Roy Barnett, Oscar Ruggles, A. H. Barnum, Lester Barnum, Glen King, John Conroy, Bill Burres, W. C. Helyer, F. L. Burnet, T. M. Roife, L. E. Clark, Clyde Fridley, P. C. Axtell, Frank von Borstel, Amanda von Borstel, Donald Clodfelter, Ted Ball and O. L. Belshie.

The land use committee consists of G. H. Root, Joe Peters, Wallace May, David Reid, J. E. Norton, Fred Hennagin, Roscoe Moore, Luther Davis, Carl Adams, J. B. Adams, Harvey Thompson, L. P. Haven, Kenneth Martin, J. R. Chenuault, V. B. Eakin and Roy J. Baker.

The farm crops committee includes C. B. Andrews, Dell Olds, A. A. Dunlap, H. D. Proudfoot, O. G. Hilderbrand, C. A. Tom, D. E. Stephens, Floyd Root, Omer Sayra, George McDonald, Harold Eakin, Dean Reynolds, Harry Pinkerton, Paulen Kaseberg, J. McKay, Everett Watkins, Truman Strong and Darrel Belshie.

Local Firm Present Tractor School

McKean and Searcy and representatives of the International Harvester company entertained farmers Wednesday with a tractor and truck school. Moving pictures showing the many uses of the implements and talks by men from the branch office in Portland filled the day from morning until four o'clock. A free lunch was served at noon to the crowd of nearly two hundred. Demonstrations of some machines were made during the day. Visiting managers of the show were B. E. McDonald, A. H. Mason, L. W. McCallum, M. Young, T. E. Aughinbaugh, J. A. C. Prigge and L. J. Sherwood R. M. Bishop, also of the company, was here.

Automobile Accidents Reduced In 1937

Reduction of last December's record of 4049 automobile accidents in this state will be the final goal in Secretary of State Earl Snell's special campaign to cut the autumn traffic toll, he announced today.

The December, 1936, record stands nearly 700 accidents higher than any other month in Oregon's history, Snell said. His campaign has already seen a drop of nearly 40 per cent in deaths over last fall, and an improved October accident and injury record.

Here are some of the conditions which constituted to the total for the record month:

Wet or slippery streets, 2388 accidents.

Snowy or icy streets, 191 accidents.

Fog or mist, 220 accidents.

Rain, 1519 accidents.

Skidding, which played a part in 347 accidents, was exceeded only by mistaken right-of-way and excessive speed as a direct cause.

Significant also is the fact that the first hour of darkness, from 5 to 6 p. m., accounted for 30 per cent more mishaps than any other hour.

Snell urged special prudence under these conditions as the best way to lower last December's toll. Headlight and brake checks are especially important at this time, he said.