

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

Of Oregon— Its Government and People

By A. L. Lindbeck

Admitting that he is being strongly urged to call the legislature into special session to consider labor legislation Governor Martin has let it be known that he does not propose to yield to the urge—not just now at least.

Friends of the governor say that his reluctance to convene the legislature is based upon his experience with the last session which ran riot for 57 days without accomplishing any worthwhile legislation. A special session at this time, they point out, would be composed of the same membership as was the regular session many of whom are pledged to labor and who could be depended upon to oppose any attempt to regulate labor organizations.

The governor, it is known, feels keenly his inability to deal effectively with the labor controversy in Portland and other sections of the state which has paralyzed the lumber industry for the past four months. While he has promised police protection to workers who return to their jobs picketing of the mills by the A. F. of L. and the boycott of C. I. O. products continues as a serious handicap to the operation of the mills with the governor powerless to do anything about it.

Another special session boom was nipped in the bud here this week when D. A. Bulmore, administrator for the Unemployment Compensation commission ridiculed reports that the compensation fund was being jeopardized by the labor controversy, necessitating legislative action to keep it solvent.

Bulmore pointed out that there is now approximately \$6,000,000 in the Oregon compensation fund. Assuming that the commission should be called on to pay maximum benefits of \$15 a week to 10,000 jobless workers during 1938 for the maximum duration of 16 weeks he pointed out that this would only require \$2,400,000. This would still leave \$3,600,000 in the fund plus 1938 contributions which are expected to pour in at the rate of \$500,000 a month or more than enough to offset benefit payments.

Furthermore, Bulmore explained, should the commission find it necessary to reduce payments in order to protect the fund it now possesses, full authority to curtail benefits and shorten the time for which payments are made without additional legislation.

Plans for the new state library building have been approved by the Capital Reconstruction commission and forwarded to Washington for approval by the PWA officials. Bids will be called for as soon as federal officials have approved the plans and indications now are that actual construction work will be under way well before the deadline which has been set for February 28.

Oregon's new lethal gas chamber authorized by the last legislature to supplant the gallows as a means for executing the death penalty, was installed at the state prison this week. The octagon shaped metal house is eight feet high and seven feet in diameter and is absolutely airtight when the single door is shut and locked. LeRoy Mc Carthy, condemned slayer of a Portland service station attendant who was scheduled to die in the new chamber January 7 secured a stay of execution this week when he filed notice of appeal to the state supreme court.

Revival of the bitter and bloody range wars of eastern Oregon was predicted by A. R. Hollingshead, Malheur county rancher, if the State Land Board persists in its purpose to block school lands into large grazing areas for lease to the highest bidder. The small stockmen would not be able to compete with the big operator and would be compelled to fight for grazing rights, Hollingshead told the Land Board at a meeting this week at which he opposed the blocking program.

Electric consumers of Oregon are to get more "juice" during the year 1938, according to a report compiled by N. G. Wallace, public utilities commissioner. Data available at this time indicates an increase of approximately 10 percent in the gross

Wasco Fats and Leans Practice For Court Battle

Men of Wasco of differing abilities to digest food as evidenced by their waist lines will meet in athletic competition the night of January first at the school gym to see which group is superior at basket ball. Dutch Barnett is captain of the teams, he being one whose food does not make him bulky and Bruce Grady, whose food becomes padding for the waist line, will captain the fats. Thirty six inches is the dividing line between the two classes of citizens.

Three referees have been chosen to handle any disputes that may arise but all rules have been discarded to make it easier for the mentors of the game. Scoring, however, is not expected to be common. Best feature of the game is that spectators will be admitted and anyone who wishes to see otherwise staid citizens dressed in athletic costume can obtain admission. Uniforms are self designed and original.

Mrs. Elizabeth Olds Dies at Tygh Valley

Mrs. E. Olds, who has been ill for several months at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Brittain near Tygh Valley, died there Wednesday morning December 22. Funeral services will be held Friday afternoon at two o'clock from the Grass Valley auditorium and interment will be made by the side of Mr. Olds who died in 1914.

Elizabeth Messinger was born October 22, 1857 while her parents were on a wagon train between the present states of Indiana and Iowa. She crossed the plains with her parents in 1862 coming to Yamhill county where in 1875 she was married to Emmitt Olds. In 1884 they came to Sherman county where the family home has been since. For the past few years Mrs. Olds had lived at Tygh Valley.

Eleven children were born to this union, ten of whom still live. Twenty seven grand children and 19 great grandchildren also survive. Of the Olds family there are seven boys, Lewis, Dell, Charley Dean and Earl of Grass Valley, Frank of Milton, Will of Yuba, Cal. and three girls, Mrs. M. Brittain and Mrs. George Brown of Tygh Valley and Mrs. L. H. Nahouse of Moro.

Church Holds Two Christmas Services

Two Christmas services at the Community Presbyterian church were held this week with more than 175 attending the Sunday night program and 60 present at the pot-luck dinner Monday night.

Primary and beginners department members entertained the crowd Sunday night with songs and Christmas recitations. A play "Janet's Christmas in France" was given by the junior and high school department. Mesdames Carroll Sayrs, Dewey Thompson and Martin Melzer directed the various groups. The annual candy and nut treat came at the end of the evening program.

Monday night members and friends of the church held an informal gathering in the dining room with impromptu talks on Christmas, carols, two saxophone numbers by Scott Fortner, and a surprise food shower for the pastor and Mrs. L. H. Mitchelmore as the principal features.

Machine Operators Wanted By U.S.

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

Junior tabulating machine operator, \$1,440 a year; alphabetic accounting machine operator, \$1,440 a year.

Inspector of railway signaling and train control, \$3,800 a year, Interstate Commerce Commission.

Mathematical statistical analyst, and senior, associate, and assistant mathematical statistical analysts, \$2,600 to \$4,600 a year, Soil Conservation Service.

D. E. Stephens and LeRoy Wright returned from the county agents' conference in Corvallis the last of the week.

"Bread and Britches" Tax Condemned



Mrs. Henry W. Hardy, (left) national chairman of the League of Women Consumers and Tax Payers, and Mrs. Wilber E. Fribley, (right) president of the Housewives League of America, show Sally Smith, (center) how one-eighth of a loaf of bread and a considerable portion of a pair of workman's overalls will go to the government in taxes if congress passes Secretary Wallace's proposed processing taxes on wheat and cotton. These suggested levies have been called "bread and britches" taxes.

Place Names of Local Points Traced To Origin By Jay Price

Believing it will be interesting to your readers to know how, and why certain places were given the names they are known by in that section of the country, I will supply that information the best I can from what has been told me by people that lived there before I was born, and from what I have read. Why was the river east of Sherman county named The John Day? According to history it was named after a man, John Day, who spent the winter of 1811 and '12 along the Columbia and the mouth of what we call the John Day. Briefly this is the story: In October 1810 Wilson Price Hunt, with quite an expedition was sent from St. Louis, Missouri by John Jacob Astor to establish a Trading Post at the mouth of the Columbia river. John Day was a member of the party. They spent the first winter on the Missouri river. After many hardships they reached the place where Astoria is now situated, in February, 1812. In October, 1811 four men left the outfit on Snake river to trap until the return trip he following summer. On reaching the Columbia near the mouth of the Umatilla river, John Day and Ramsey Creeks decided to spend the winter hunting and trapping along that river. They were found the next spring near the mouth of the river that was afterwards named for him. They were in a starving condition, and were sent to Astoria where Day died some

years later. A small river near Astoria is also named for the same man.

Bakeoven was so named because in 1863 a Frenchman left The Dalles with some pack horses loaded with provisions on his way to the Canyon City mines. One night he camped and the Indians stole his horses, which left him unable to move, so he built an oven out of clay and stone, and cooked his provisions and sold them to the travelers. He did so well that he had more goods brought from The

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New Road Being Built Between Bourbon and Kent

Final hearing on the proposed route will be had next Wednesday according to county Judge Potter, who says that all details of the road are not completed at this date.

County road machinery was moved Wednesday to Bourbon where a crew of men will immediately start the construction of a new road between that point and Kent if the weather permits.

This new road has been under discussion for some time by the county court and for several weeks it has been delayed because of some minor difficulty about getting deeds to the right of way. While these deeds have not yet been filed at the county clerk's office agreements have been reached with all owners of property and work is ready to begin.

The new road will follow the railroad track between the two stations keeping to the east side of the track all the way to connect with the road entering Kent from the east now in use. It will run through land owned by the E. O. L. Company, J. M. Wilson and Gus Schilling.

The county expects to construct a dirt surface road on the manner as several country roads are graded lately making a high road with good sized ditches to provide drainage. Ditches are shallow along the proposed route and comparatively small tubes will be needed for drainage, and grading can practically all be done with power machinery. Both the tractor and heavy grader and bull-dozer will be on the job.

George C. Vinton Buried Sunday
The funeral of George C. Vinton, who died at his home in Moro the evening of December 16, was held from the Grass Valley auditorium Sunday afternoon with Rev. L. H. Mitchelmore officiating. Odd-Fellows were in charge of the graveside ceremonies and Fred Krurow, George Potter, George Updegraff, Willy Knighten, W. B. Rice and George Wilcox were pallbearers.

Mr. Vinton was born in Butte county, California February 10, 1865, and came to what is now Sherman county in 1883 with his parents. He was a large cattle owner for a number of years until he entered the W. A. Gordon Bank at Grass Valley. He later became manager of the Grass Valley warehouse and the Wasco Warehouse and Milling Co., where he remained until the company was sold. He was appointed county clerk in 1931 serving until January of this year when his term expired. He has been ill for nearly two years.

Surviving are his widow, a son, Clayton, two daughters, Mrs. Geraldine Douglas of Wenatchee, Wn., and Betty of Moro; two sisters, Mrs. Stella Snook of Madras and Mrs. Sadie Williams of Portland; two brothers, Edward of Coquille and Roy of Portland. A large gathering of friends were present at the funeral.

Farm Program Delayed For Information

Data on Acreages and Crops Again Needed Before 1938 Program Can Be Started Here

Progress under the new federal program is held up for the present until more information is obtained. Quotas for the different counties are not set as yet and probably will not be until the acreage and perhaps yields of all farms are checked.

This rechecking will be done by the aid of the aerial surveys recently made, but not yet approved and returned to the county agents in their finished form. It may be two or three weeks before they are corrected. When they are received it will be necessary to check the acreage of all farms in the county, survey the acreage in crops for the past years as well as the production on the farms. This information will be sent to the state headquarters from where county quotas will be sent out.

Local and county committees will then make up the farm quotas or goals as they are to be called this year. Until later it will be impossible to tell what restrictions will be made in acreage and what goals the county committees will set for individual farms.

Probability that the new farm bill will cut returns from government compliance by as much as 95% is a matter of worry in the county, but is not expected to effect the 1938 program which is still based, to some extent, on soil conservation.

Auxiliaries Entertained Hilariously By Msn

Ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary and their children were entertained by the members of the post last Saturday night in a manner that proved interesting as well as informal. Beans and pie were served to start the evening, and while this warming food was digesting a program of stunts was given by amateur performers of the post. A debate to determine whether or not this nation should adopt a limburger cheese diet was held, a quartette made up of Elmer Halstead, Willy Knighten, Ralph Brinsine and Omer Sayrs sang some of the better looking service men modeled the new spring hats, a bit of tight rope walking was shown and Ed Christensen, Ralph Brinsine and Joe Truitt assisted by Willy Knighten, as demure a nurse as ever gave ether, operated on "Toots" Martin effectually and decisively removing several bad habits and some other articles, some edible. A bit of dancing finished the evening.

Payments Made To Farmers

AAA payments to Oregon farmers for carrying out provisions of the 1937 agricultural conservation program are expected to be well in excess of \$100,000 by Christmas even though comparatively few counties will have shared in the distribution by that time, it is announced by the state triple A office at Oregon State college.

The first two schedules of payments cleared through the Portland branch of the accounting office included 497 checks totalling \$43,452, distributed to farmers in five counties.

Wallawa county received the largest number of checks in these early distributions, when 186 farmers received \$23,194. Marion county was next with 92, Polk county 88, Jackson 81, and Yamhill 59.

Checking applications for payments is being carried on rapidly now so that approximately two schedules a week are being cleared through the Corvallis office, says N. C. Donaldson, executive secretary. Some 25,000 applications are expected under the 1937 program.

Marlene Detrich in "Desire" will be the bill at the American Legion hall next Saturday night. A new picture machine has been installed and different methods of counter-acting echoes have been provided. Two shows 7:00 and 8:30 will be run. Prices 85, 25 and 10.

Farmers Talk Over Labor Troubles of State

A meeting was held Tuesday afternoon at Dufur by the Associated Farmers of Wasco county to discuss a proposal regarding settlement of the labor dispute that is tying up work in the northwest. Several men from Sherman county were on hand and it is possible that a similar organization will be inaugurated in this county.

Among those who attended from here were Roy Powell, W. T. Balsiger, H. D. Proudfoot, Fred Hennagin, Everett Watkins, and J. B. Adams. Principal of the aims expressed in the constitution of the associated farmers is strict adherence to the constitution of the United States and prevention of disputes that breed violence.

Party For CCCs To Be Given

Next Monday night the women's clubs of Moro and Wasco will entertain the boys in the CCC camp with a party at the camp. This is a part of a national movement of women's clubs to give a program for the CCC boys who are away from home at the holiday season. Women of The Dalles clubs will entertain the Simnasho camp boys. Patrons and Patronesses for the occasion are Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. Arsell Lemley and Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Pinkerton. Twenty five cakes will be provided by the women and a program of games will be played during the evening.

Crested Wheat Grass Responds to Fertilizer

That proper fertilization will materially increase yields of crested wheat grass seed, in certain sections of Eastern Oregon at least, is indicated by preliminary results obtained at the eastern Oregon livestock branch experiment station at Union.

Results there, corroborated by observations made on commercial plantings, show that after the first two or three seed crops, the yield of seed decreases rapidly even though moisture may be plentiful. Where the grass is grown for pasture purposes, supplemental fertilization has not been found necessary, but the crested wheat plant bears such a heavy crop of seed that it uses a great deal of plant food, the experiments show.

Seal Sale Near Goat Set By State

Results of the sale of Christmas seals in Sherman county are not all reported to date but sufficient money has been received by the officials of the sale to assure a good record for the county. The goal for Sherman county was \$300 and \$270 has been returned from the sale. This is divided as follows: Moro, \$104; Wasco, \$75; Grass Valley \$63 and Kent \$28. Rufus has not reported so far but it is expected that by Christmas the goal will be reached if those who are in need of seals will see those in charge of the sale of last minute wants. A larger percentage of the returns will be left in the county if the quota is reached.

Seals may be bought at McKee pharmacy and at Yates store at Wasco, from Miss Cassie Holmes at Grass Valley and from the Moro pharmacy at Moro. Rufus and Kent people wanting seals may see the local chairman.

Two Boys Become Second Class Scouts

Wyman French and David McLeod, members of Moro Troop 360, were two of three advanced to the rank of second class scout at the monthly court of honor in The Dalles Tuesday night. Five boys from Maplin received first class ratings, and several Dalles scouts were awarded merit badges. Judge F. L. Phipps presided at the court with newly named district executive Lloyd Lillie, Portland, Scoutmaster Wayne Froese, The Dalles, and Assistant scoutmaster L. H. Mitchelmore, Moro, as court commissioners.

Wasco Civic Club Hears Nelson Tell of Columbia

Large Turnout Evinces Interest in Public Affairs of Community, Basketball Support Given

The second meeting of the Wasco Civic Club was held Monday night with 82 present from the Wasco and nearby communities. The constitution and by-law committee presented a report through T. Lester Johnson and it was accepted with but one change, that making the annual dues one dollar instead of three. The proposal to aid the local town basketball team was voted enthusiastically and many tickets were sold.

Miss Agnes Simon of Grass Valley entertained the club with several numbers on her accordion during the dinner and returned later by popular demand for more of her music.

Secretary Talks

W. S. Nelson, secretary of The Dalles-Wasco county chamber of commerce, spoke on the development of the Columbia river and told his listeners something of the work already done and prophesied some of the developments that may be expected in the future.

The Columbia is the second river in size in the nation, he said, and it drains a territory of 202,000 square miles which is only partly developed as it has recently emerged from the exploitation stage.

Water Transportation Cheap

Water transportation will always be cheaper than land transportation because one horse power can move as much freight by water as seven horses power can move by land. Therefore it is desirable when possible. Early residents used the river because it was the only means of getting gold miners and other pioneers into the interior. Cost to them was of little consequence for their products was not bulky whether gold or furs, and rates were very high.

When Herbert Hoover was secretary of commerce he asked for a survey of all waters as a preliminary step toward putting river and harbor appropriations on an engineering basis. This has resulted in the recent development of the Columbia river. Bonneville dam was not built because it was proven to be economically feasible but in order to put men to work.

Survey In 1927

Mr. Nelson stated that 85% of the boats that come to Portland can come to The Dalles when the dam is filled as the ship locks have been made large enough. This has largely been due to the activity of men of the inland empire and those who provided, tonnage for barges to operate and prove the possibility of river shipping.

It is now conceded that 1,860,000 tons of freight can economically move thru the port of The Dalles which will justify an expenditure of \$16,000,000 although but \$2,000,000 have been spent. The present plans are for other dams on the Columbia and the Snake to cost \$183,000,000 when completed.

Power Secondary

The government has recognized authority to aid navigation and nowadays when dams are built to aid navigation power may easily be produced and sold as a by product. Centralization of power in one spot has not proven successful from an economic stand point of view because of poor living conditions in industrial districts. This may account in some measure for the decision to scatter power over as wide an area as possible. Power to be used in the west must compete with \$6 coal in the east and fifty cent oil in the south.

The government has a heavy investment in the inland empire having loaned money on farms, built the roads, retained the timber and holding about half of the land in the public domain. It is therefore interested in the development of the region and is expected to contribute greatly to it through the proposed dams for navigation and power.

Several citizens were called upon by toast-master E. D. McKee. L. Barnum asked for the formation of an organization to work toward the settlement of strikes that curtail trade and lower farm prices.