

Sherman County Journal

Fiftieth Year No. 13

Moro, Oregon, Friday, January 28, 1938

Official County Paper

Of Oregon— Its Government and People

By A. L. Lindbeck

Announcement by Frederick Stelwer, Oregon's junior senator, that he would not seek re-election has set a number of political "bugs" buzzing around this particular political light, most of whom, by the very nature of things, are fabled to pay for their curiosity with a pair of scorched wings.

In the Democratic camp three men are already avowed candidates for Mr. Stelwer's seat. Carl Donogh of Portland, federal district attorney, and Circuit Judge Edward B. Ashurst of Klamath Falls have publicly declared their intention of seeking the nomination in the May primaries and petitions are in circulation to place the name of Elton Watkins, Portland attorney, in the running. Willis Mahoney of Klamath Falls who so far has failed to commit himself as to which political plum he will choose to pluck is expected to enter the race for the senatorship with a public declaration shortly.

So far no Republican has come forth with a definite announcement but there appears to be an abundance of suitable material and willing patriots if one is to judge by the ever increasing list of those who are being "prominently mentioned" for this post. Only within the past week two more names have been added to this list which bids fair to develop into a roster of the G. O. P. faithful. These were J. E. Bennett, stormy petrel of the Portland city commission and former member of the state senate, and Walter Tooze, Jr., Portland attorney. Secretary of state Earl Snell and State Treasurer Holman both of whom have been mentioned as possible gubernatorial candidates are just as frequently mentioned in connection with the senatorship. J. M. Devers, attorney for the state highway commission, is definitely in a receptive mood, awaiting only the proper encouragement before making any announcement. Other republican party leaders who are regarded as possibilities for this post include Willard Marks of Albany, president of the State Board of Higher Education; State Senator Homer D. Angell of Portland; George Neuner of Portland, former United States district attorney; State Senator Dean Walker of Polk county, and Lowell C. Paget, former state president of the Oregon Republican Club.

The State Board of Control may decide to erect a new building in Portland for use of the state departments located in that city instead of buying an old building and remodeling it to meet state needs if it follows the advice of its advisory committee. This committee, after an investigation of the many buildings being offered the state, reported that it would be better to construct a new building if this could be done for the cost of an old building and estimated the cost of a building large enough to meet the state's needs in Portland at \$550,000. This amount is \$140,000 below the price placed on the remodeled Elks Temple but \$15,000 excess of the price asked for the Board of Trade building remodeled to meet the state's needs. The \$550,000 estimated cost of a new building, however, does not include a site cost of which will have to be added if the state decides to build.

The state highway department will place a marker on the Central Oregon highway, 14 miles east of Burns, to designate the site of old Fort Harney, established in 1867 and abandoned in 1888. The fort was named in honor of General William D. Harney who was appointed commander of the Oregon military department in 1858.

Arrests by state police for traffic law violations during December totaled 533; while warning slips were issued to 6376 other motorists during the month, according to the report of Chas. P. Pray, superintendent of police.

Of the 9825 employees on the state payroll as of last September 23 are located in Sherman county according to a survey just completed by Wallace S. Wharton, state budget director. These Sherman county employees of the state who drew salaries for the month aggregating \$1062.35 are distributed as follows: Moro, 17; Rufus, 4; Grass

(Continued on Page 2)

Power Meeting Is Held In Arlington

Local Committee Named
To Arrange For Meeting
For Preliminary Organization

Sherman counties attended the district meeting for preliminary organization of a power district in the mid-Columbia area Tuesday at Arlington together with groups from Morrow and Gilliam counties. County chairmen were named from each county to carry on organization work and arrange for county meetings.

Wilford Belabe will act for Sherman county in preparing for a meeting to inform the public of the possibilities of power and the methods of forming power districts. Half of Bonneville power will be reserved for public power districts if it is spoken for by 1941 and the organization of such a unit here is wanted to make this reservation possible. Mr. Belabe has named J. G. Addington and R. Dingle of Rufus; J. M. Wilson and J. E. Norton of Kent; V. B. Haufelt and B. H. Grady of Wasco; Joe Peters I. C. Wright, Moro; D. C. Reynolds and E. E. Gervais, Grass Valley to arrange for a county wide meeting which will probably be held about the middle of February. The committee will meet next week.

Those attending the Arlington meeting were J. B. Adams, W. S. Powell, H. E. Endicott, Walter May, Wilford Belabe, George McDonald, T. S. Eeese, J. M. Wilson, Wm. Huck, W. B. Wilson, Richard Dingle, Atee Wilson and J. G. Addington.

Jesse A. Barnett Dies In The Dalles

Jesse A. Barnett, 79, died in the Mid-Columbia hospital Friday after a brief illness. He became unconscious Wednesday here and was removed to the hospital where his ailment was pronounced as albumen poisoning. He did not regain consciousness.

Mr. Barnett had been a resident of Sherman county since the early years of this century having come here from Missouri where he grew to manhood and was married. His widow survives him as do a son, Tommy and a daughter, Mrs. Clyde all of Grass Valley. A brother, George lives in The Dalles.

The funeral was held Monday from the Civic Auditorium with Rev. L. H. Mitchelmore of Moro and Gerald Dryden of Grass Valley officiating. Tom Fraser and Elmer Haisted of Moro sang accompanied by Mrs. Blake. Pall bearers were Sam Stark, Fred Krusow, Joe Newcomb, Gus Engstrom, A. A. Dunlap and R. A. Stow. Interment was made in the Odd-Fellows cemetery.

Legislation Planned

Determined to attempt a solution of the labor troubles which have crippled both agriculture and industry in Oregon for the past four years, the Polk County Pomona Grange at a meeting here Saturday went on record favoring remedial legislation and authorizing its legislative committee to sponsor an initiative measure at the general election next November.

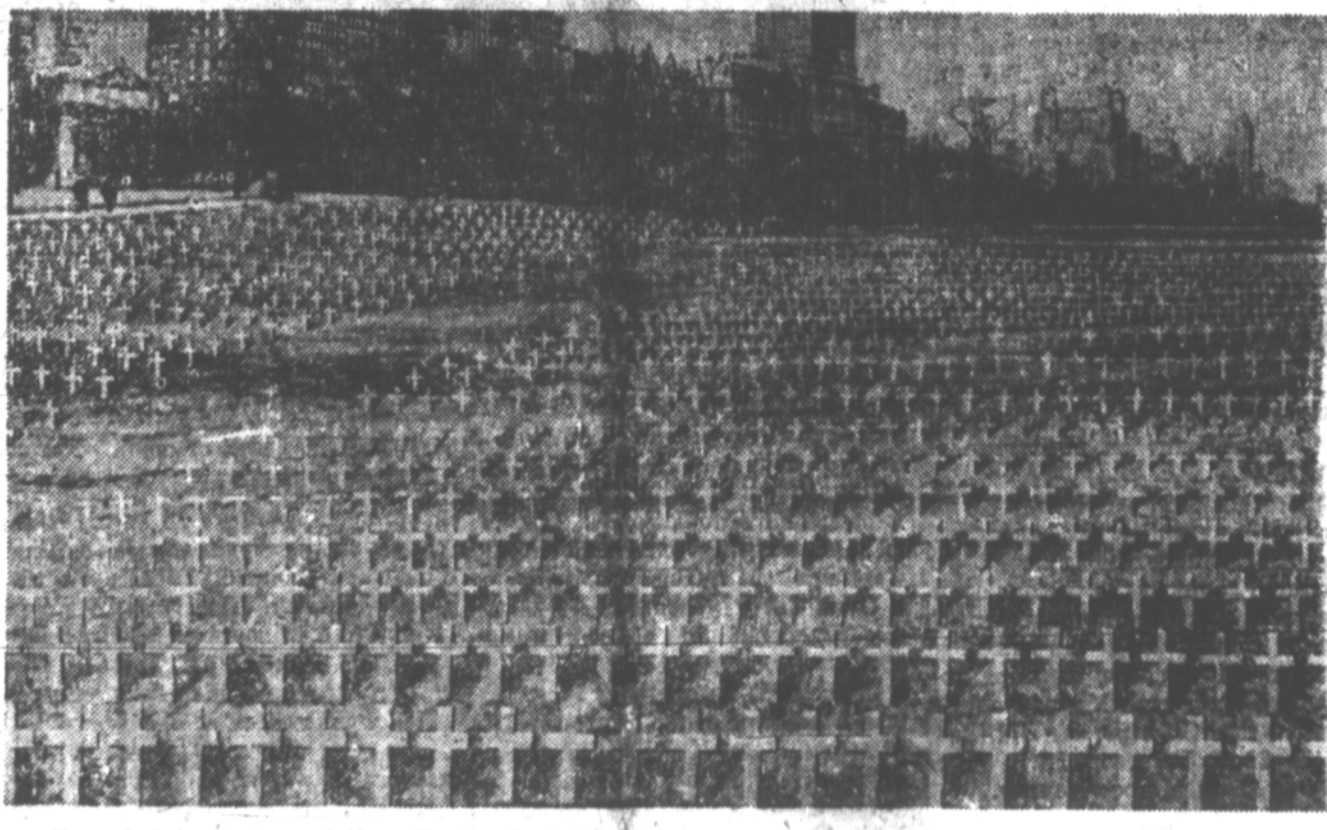
The resolution urges that labor disputes be defined to include only those bona fide disputes between an employer and employees, and preventing picketing and boycotting unless the controversy is an actual labor dispute.

It is further provided that any controversy between rival labor organizations or between groups of employees shall not be termed a labor dispute, and picketing and boycotting is prohibited in such inter-union controversies.

Another proposed feature which won strong support from the determined Polk County Grangers, is a section which would prevent any individual or organization from using force, coercion or any other unlawful method to prevent a person from offering his services to an employer desiring to employ him.

The farmers likewise seek to make it possible for the courts of this state to issue injunctions to prevent labor organizations from picketing or boycotting places of business, which are not actually connected with a bona fide labor dispute.

New York's Auto Dead for One Year



How that huge area of New York's Central park known as the "mall" would look if all the persons killed by automobiles for the year of 1937 were buried there is visualized by the above picture. The crosses were painted on this photograph to impress motorists and pedestrians alike of the enormity of the death toll. Police figures show that in 1937 a total of 943 people were killed by automobiles in New York.

Sherman County Journal Places In Contest

The Hood River News, published by Hugh G. Ball and E. A. Sonnichson, was announced at the Oregon Press Conference held at the University of Oregon, January 20, 21 and 22, as winner of the annual Sigma Delta Chi contest for the best weekly newspaper in the state. By winning the journalism fraternity's award for the third time, the exp now belongs permanently to the Hood River paper. Second by a narrow margin was the McMinnville Telephone Register, also a twice winner of the trophy. Third place went to the Redmond Spokesman, a top-ranking paper for many years.

The Hal E. Hoss memorial award for the best paper in towns of less than 1,000 was won by the Vale Enterprise, published by A. H. Bone. The Junction City Times was second, the Sherman County Journal third. Announcement of awards was made at the banquet by William Lamme, contest chairman for Sigma Delta Chi. Papers were judged by Bruce McCoy, of the Louisiana state editorial association, a nationally known expert. He rated the Oregon entrants very highly and warmly commended the publishers.

Grange Ag Committees To Meet Thursday

All grange agricultural committees will meet next Thursday, February 3 at the court house at 9:30 to formulate a program for agriculture in the county for the year for all Pomona and subordinate granges. The meeting has been called by the county agent who will be assisted in the conference by W. L. Teutsch of the extension service. This agricultural conference is an annual event.

Boy Scouts Now Have Two Troops

Troop 360, Moro Boy Scouts, has organized two patrols with Wyman French leader of the Swallows, and Donald Morris, patrol leader for the Stags. The two groups are at present busy in a contest to enroll eligible boys in their respective units of the troop, before spring and summer activities of scouting are launched, reports Clyde Gillmor, scout master of the Masons sponsored organization.

Road Crew Working West of Wasco

The county road crew is working west of Wasco widening the Murchie fill. This fill is high and for many years has been very narrow. Dirt is being taken from the hill to the west and brought to the side of the fill by mainfainer and bulldozer. A board fence is also being built on both sides of the fill to make it safer for traffic. No attempt is being made to raise the road as it is gravelled and the surface will not be disturbed.

27 Farmers Now Co-operating With SCS

Co-operating Farmers Use
Methods To Combat
Soil Erosion

The beginning of 1938 finds 27 local farmers and ranchers cooperating with the Soil Conservation Service in the Sherman County erosion control demonstration area in perfecting and demonstrating a sound, long-time soil and water conservation program on 23,548 acres in this section, according to J. R. Chenault, superintendent of the Moro SCS-OCC camp.

Cooperating farmers in the area have increased the acreage of erosion resisting crops on their farms 7,704 acres since they started cooperating with the government in the adoption of effective and practical soil and water saving farming methods. They have seeded 1806 acres of less productive crop land to soil-building permanent seedings of grass and legumes, established soil-improving crop rotations on 1,744 acres, and are utilizing crop residues to improve soil structure and to form a wash and blow-proof surface on 7,500 acres.

Range land treatment includes contour furrowing of 126 acres, regulated grazing on 8,015 acres, development of 17 springs, and the construction of five stock water ponds.

OCC enrollees from Camp Moro have constructed 160 permanent and 78 temporary gully dams to stop channel cutting, provide water storage, and raise the water table; built 600 linear feet of jetties and revetments for bank protection; and graded in 10,553 cubic yards of gully banks preparatory to seeding them.

These figures, however, reflect only a part of the work farmers and ranchers of the Moro area are doing in the unified erosion control program. Rough tillage, buffer strip seeding, grass and legume seedings on abandoned land, woodland and wildlife plantings of trees and shrubs, and other practices needed to control erosion and to make the best use of every acre on the farm are being used, superintendent Chenault explains.

Mr. Chenault suggests that near-by farmers and ranchers visit some of these demonstration farms, talk with the operators and see for themselves. Information about erosion control practices for this section also can be obtained from the local county agent or technicians at the local Soil Conservation Service camp office.

Juan Wan For Wildmen
Juan Bazo, freshman in agricultural engineering at Oregon State college, from Peru, says he gained his ideas of the Pacific northwest from movies and books, and was much surprised to see very few cow boys when he arrived here and to find the Indians driving 1938 model cars instead of riding ponies. He plans to complete his four-year course at OSC and then return to his own country to put his new knowledge into practice.

Carl Adams Is Appointed To Grange Office

Carl Adams, Grass Valley farmer, received word Wednesday that he had been appointed to fill out the unexpired term of George A. Palmer on the executive committee of the state grange. Palmer recently resigned his position. His term would have expired in June when the state grange meets. Mr. Adams has long been identified with grange work in Sherman county having been Pomona master for a number of years. He is a member of the Harland View grange.

Wheat League Urges Weed Control Program

Immediate steps to interest all agricultural organizations, county courts, county planning boards, chambers of commerce, service clubs and others in a weed control program of substantial proportions have been decided upon by the Eastern Oregon Wheat League in adopting a report of its Weed Control and Soil Conservation committee at the recent annual meeting.

"It seems particularly timely to recommend that a most intensive educational drive be organized, first to acquaint the largest possible number of people with the downright seriousness of the issue, and then to gain their helpful support," the report sets out. "Your committee believes most earnestly that many different types of town as well as rural organizations would be most sympathetic and helpful if acquainted with the many ways in which they are certain to be affected by this destroyer of wealth, the noxious perennial weed."

The report calls attention to the fact that from the best available information, between 25,000 and 30,000 acres of farm lands in the 11 counties making up the wheat league area are now supporting costly weeds. The situation is serious, not only to land owners but to the entire citizenry of the country, it said.

County weed surveys were recommended to be completed and as thoroughly as possible, the work to be carried out through cooperation with the Works Progress Administration in all counties where such arrangements could be made. It was also pointed out that field examiners in the employ of the county agricultural conservation associations could render valuable service in this weed survey project.

In order to acquaint the general public with the appearance of the worst noxious weeds in various stages of growth, prepared weed mounts have recently been distributed to all county agent offices by the OSC extension service. A comprehensive weed bulletin is also in the course of preparation.

Soil Goals Will Be Sent Out This Week

Goals in soil depleting and soil conserving practices will be set by the state committee this week and sent out to the several counties of the state. After that the county and community committees will set the goals for each farm in the counties. Whether the operator wishes to comply with the program or not the committee will set a goal for the farm.

What method will be taken to determine goals for Sherman county farms has not been decided upon by the committee and will not be until the county goal is set. There has been debate as to whether or not all farms should be given the same goal in all sections of the county which will not be settled until the committee acts.

Woman's Club Gives Interesting Program

The Moro Woman's Club met January 21 with Mrs. Darwin Van Gilder as director. The program was interesting as well as educational, as it concerned Public Welfare. Dr. Poley spoke to the group about Social Hygiene and illustrated his talk with microscopic pictures.

Miss Stoneman, county health nurse, talked on Public Welfare in general and also about how it is carried on in the county.

The next meeting will be held on February 4, Mrs. Martha Cope will be the director and the topic is Music.

Local Men Attend Rate Hearing

J. B. Adams and W. S. Powell were in Portland last week to attend the hearing of the Interstate Commerce Commission in which the railroads are asking for a fifteen percent increase in freight rates. Adams was a witness protesting against the freight rate boost, George Peck of Lexington represented the Eastern Oregon Wheat League and other farm organizations sent men to speak for them. Wm. Hyeck of Rufus represented the Sherman County Pomona grange at the hearing.

Adams testimony showed the gradual rise in prices of materials needed in the production of wheat showing that these had risen by 16% while wheat had dropped to 65% of its 1928-30 price level. Increased freight rates, he said, would reduce the market for northwest wheat and therefore cut the amount shipped and therefore defeat the purpose of the railroads.

The farm debt situation in the northwest is such that returns from wheat farms must be kept at least to present levels if farmers are not to be dispossessed and the farms go to the government lending agencies. A freight rate increase would reduce incomes so that farmers could not repair and replace their buildings and equipment which would also mean lowered income for railroads that would be called upon to haul material for such improvements.

The commission moved on after the hearing and will finish the job of taking testimony soon and hold a final hearing in Washington. Arthur Geary, attorney for the Farm Rate Council, handled the witnesses and will go to Washington to appear before the commission if money sufficient for his expenses can be raised by farmers interested in the fight.

Webb Family Leaves For California

The departure of the R. B. Webb family who left Sunday for California after waiting for several weeks for an expected appointment to soil erosion work in California, has complicated the housing situation for a few days. The Harry Petersons will move into the Akers house vacated by the Webbs, Jerry Cunliff and wife will take the house now occupied by Peterson and H. E. Endicott and wife will move into his house where Cunliff has resided for the past year and a half.

Reports of the Bureau of Biological Survey shows that Trapper Fulkerson of Sherman county killed two coyotes during the month of December working 81 days.

Chapter of Associated Farmers Formed

Large Crowd Votes Affiliation
With State Groups for
Labor Control

A court room full of farmers met last Saturday afternoon to organize a Sherman county branch of the Associated Farmers of Oregon. Walter Bailey, Roy Kelly, L. Barnum and Alvin Nielson of The Dalles, members of the Associated Farmers of Wasco county, came up to aid the local group.

Roy Kelly told of some of the work that has been done by the associations in California and in Wasco county to bring about a cessation of restraining working conditions, specifically citing the attempt by Portland labor unions to make wheat growers hire union teamsters to haul their crop last summer.

Walter Bailey recounted some of the stories of labor leadership that he held not to be for the benefit of the working men, the farmer or the general public. When such practices interfere with farmers in marketing their crops it was his contention, farmers should be prepared to defend their rights as American citizens. Conciliation or compromise should not be a substitute for adherence to inalienable and guaranteed constitutional rights.

Mr. Barnum talked about the organization of the association, reading the constitution and by-laws. By a unanimous vote of the assembly it decided to incorporate and a committee was named to choose temporary directors. Membership books were passed and a membership fee of fifty cents was collected from 83 farmers before the meeting adjourned.

Elected to the board of directors were V. B. Eakin, C. B. Andrews, V. B. Haufelt, E. D. McKee, Fred Hennagin, E. W. Watkins, Geln King, Dewey Thompson, O. L. Belabe, A. S. Johnson, Dave Reid, and Joe Peters. Eakin was chosen as president and V. B. Haufelt as secretary at a directors meeting held immediately after the mass meeting at the court house. An executive committee of E. H. Watkins, O. L. Belabe, A. S. Johnson, and Dave Reid was chosen, and Mr. Eakin as president will serve as the fifth member.

By laws were written and approved naming the organization the Associated Farmers of Sherman County, a completely new organization without connection with other groups in the county except in its personnel.

Local Young People Attend CE Meeting

Beth Mersinger, president; Ardis Truitt, vice president; and Rev. L. H. Mitchelmore, high school society advisor; attended a stewardship rally and executive meeting of the Mt. Hood Christian Endeavor union in The Dalles last Sunday afternoon. Representatives were present from Mosier, Odell, Hood River, Dufur, The Dalles and Moro C. E. societies.

12,700 Acres Added To Erosion Control

A 12,700-acre addition to the area in Sherman county upon which soil and water saving measures are being demonstrated will coincide with the signing of a cooperative agreement for erosion control work on the V. B. Eakin & Sons ranch nine miles southeast of Grass Valley, officials of the Moro camp of the Soil Conservation Service report.

Service officials are working with Mr. Eakin in drawing up a plan of conservation operations on the 7,600 acres of range land and 5,100 acres of crop land on his ranch. A feature of the plan, they said, is the provision for additional stock water supplies to be secured thru development of springs and construction of several earth fill dams on ponding sites. This water supply development work will permit better distribution of grazing and a more uniform utilization of available range.

Cultivated fields on the ranch that are most subject to soil and water losses will be retired to create wheat grass for pasture, the officials stated.