

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

Of Oregon— Its Government and People

By A. L. Lindbeck

It cost the people of Oregon \$50,000 and seven years of investigation and litigation to find out that the rates charged by the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company to its patrons in this state are not excessive. The \$50,000 represents the estimated expenditure by the Public Utilities Commission in engineering fees and legal fees in connection with the telephone rate case which ended last week in an opinion by the Supreme Court holding the rate schedule promulgated by Commissioner Charles M. Thomas in 1934 to be confiscatory. Just how much was spent by the telephone company in opposing the rate order is not known but estimates place the sum at between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

The now famous telephone rate case dates back to March 25, 1931, when Commissioner Thomas instituted his investigation into the rates of the Pacific company. His order, issued October 11, 1934, reduced the company's exchange rates by approximately eight per cent. The telephone company took the case into court and on June 4, 1936, Judges Tucker, Lusk and Brand of the Multnomah county circuit court handed down a decree setting the order aside as confiscatory. The state then appealed to the supreme court which has just affirmed the decree of the lower court.

Employment of six parole supervisors was advocated by W. L. Gosselin, private secretary to Governor Martin in an address before the Salem Chamber of Commerce. Gosselin indicated the effort to secure a more adequate parole system for Oregon which was defeated at the 1937 session of the state legislature, will be renewed at the 1939 session.

Oregon's new capital will be ready for occupancy by June 1, Dr. Ernest C. Dalts of St. Helena, member of the Capitol Reconstruction commission, told Governor Martin. Outside construction work is practically completed now and the interior finishing is well advanced. Arrival of the statue "Spirit of the Pioneer" which will top the cylindrical dome of the building has been delayed for three months, Dr. Dalton said.

The old familiar Columbia fish fight is back again for a decision fight with the voters of Oregon officiating as referees. This time the fight will wage around a measure sponsored by the Oregon Wild Life Council which wants to banish traps, seines and set nets from the river. Sponsors of the measure, preliminary petitions for which were filed with the state department this week, explain that similar restrictions were adopted by the state of Washington in 1936.

City school superintendents from all over Oregon will meet in Salem for their annual conference Friday and Saturday of this week. School revenues and the junior high school system will receive major attention at the hands of the educators. Approximately 150 superintendents are expected to attend the conference.

Approximately 100,000 Oregon citizens will be denied the right to vote in the primary election unless they register in the meantime, Secretary of State Shell warns. These are men and women who have failed to vote in the last two elections.

Enrollment in Oregon high school increased 25 percent during the past six years, according to a survey just completed by Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction. There were 60,000 youngsters enrolled in high schools in this state for the year 1936-37 compared with 48,000 for the year 1930-31. Elementary school enrollment during the same period remained practically stationary at approximately 150,000.

Failing in their efforts before the agricultural groups now propose to carry their fight for the regulation of labor organizations directly to the people in an initiative measure to appear on the November ballot.

Preliminary copies of the proposed measure filed with Secretary of State Shell here this week would define "labor disputes" as bona fide

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Scenes and Persons in the Current News



1—His Eminence, Patrick Cardinal Hayes of New York pictured at Coral Gables, Fla., en route to Nassau for a winter vacation. 2—King Carol of Rumania pictured with Crown Prince Michael (left) after the crisis which brought Premier Goga into power and banished Carol's sweetheart, Margareta Lupescu. 3—William J. Kelly, president of the Machinery Institute, "ticks" off his counts against the New Deal in an appearance before the senate unemployment committee.

Woman's Club Hears Of Music Masters

The Moro Woman's Club met Friday, February 4, with Mrs. Martha Cope directing a program on music. Mrs. Helen Sayrs gave a most interesting report on the life of the famous Edward Macdowell. Mrs. Edna Melzer gave those present a new slant on music in the Tan Bark Ring, which really is only another way of speaking of the circus. Miss Louise Barre favored the group with a piano solo, and Mrs. Cecil Hockman read a paper on violins, which also gave some interesting data on the earliest makes of that instrument.

Mrs. Etta Moore entertained the group with some first hand information about her trip to Alaska.

The next club meeting is our annual Guest Day, which will be February 18. Mrs. E. T. Strong is the director for that day.

Theater In Legion Hall Proposed

A meeting of Legionnaires and business men Wednesday night over a proposal made by C. D. Klingburg on changing the north end of the Legion hall into a modern movie house and to arrange for the financing of the work if decided to be feasible.

Mr. Klingburg, who said he had years of experience in the amusement business, wanted local men to construct a well equipped theatre in the hall and lease it to him. He felt confident of his ability to get up-to-date pictures and manage the venture successfully if he obtained the co-operation of the town and community.

Estimated cost of the changes needed in the hall was \$2000. George Updegraff, Ray Blake, Walter May, Ralph Briabine and Giles French were named as a finance committee.

Mt. Hood Lodge Opens February 4



Timberline lodge, the federal government's contribution to the Northwest's Mount Hood playground, will open around February 4, according to present plans. The opening will mark the beginning of the winter season, chief attraction being skiing high on the slopes of the mountain where snow is available practically all year.

Taxation To Be Studied By Land Use Committee

A committee for the purpose of studying the taxation problems of the county has been named by A. C. Kaseberg, chairman of the Land Use committee named for the economic conference to be held here February 19.

Reason for so doing was that taxation problems are always one of the matters to be considered when planning land use and recently released figures indicated a startling difference in taxation rates in different sections of the county without a proportionate difference in results obtained from governmental agencies.

The committee will meet on Friday of this week to discuss the taxation situation as it relates to schools, roads and general county expenses.

Named on the committee were A. C. Kaseberg, Roy J. Baker, W. S. Powell, George Potter, county judge, David Reid and A. A. Dunlap, county commissioners; W. W. Knighten, J. M. Wilson, J. B. Adams, Dewey Thompson and Giles French.

Power Unit Organized

The committee appointed by Wilford Belshe to arrange for a meeting for the consideration of a power district in this part of the state met at the court house Saturday night.

No date was set for the meeting for a general discussion of the project but members present voted to join the Peoples Power League and petitions to that effect were sent to that body. The power league is interested in aiding districts that want to establish a power district and obtain power from Bonneville dam. Petitions for an election are expected to be circulated in a few weeks.

Buck Pierson Gassed By Carbon Monoxide

Perl (Buck) Pierson has considerably more respect for the evil effects of carbon monoxide this week. Returning from a trip to Albany and Monmouth Sunday night in a strange car he felt dizzy and faint when near his home (the Bob Belshe place) and stepped out of the car. He laid in the snow for nearly an hour, before being able to continue on his way home and is still inclined to stagger a bit when walking. He had been stuck in the mud and the car, pulling heavily, sent the fumes up through the floor boards, he reported.

Kent Telephone Case Heard

A telephone hearing or conference held at Kent Wednesday with W. A. Cook, of the public utilities commission, C. G. Duffin and John Farrington of the telephone company attending and a host of farmers from the Kent community had no well defined results to its credit at the end of two hours of expression of opinion on the part of those most concerned.

Members of the Kent telephone company wished to be connected with Grass Valley exchange for service and this was held to be financially unpracticable by Mr. Duffin who held that a local exchange was the most feasible and cheapest method of settling the problem of telephone service for the Kent community.

No solution was found although a rental agreement was discussed as well as the possibility of finding some competent persons to handle telephone service at Kent. The conference resulted from the necessary disconnection of the Kent telephone lines from the switchboard and resultant lack of service for the south end of the county.

High School Pupils Get Examination

Examination of the high school pupils of Moro was done this week to complete the job for the county. Many cases of flat feet were discovered, caused, according to the doctors by too short shoes and stockings and the lack of walking or going barefoot. Cases of heart trouble and toxic goiter were found but infrequently in this county.

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

DATE	MAX.	MIN.
Feb. 3	44	17
" 4	39	25
" 5	44	25
" 6	44	30
" 7	39	30
" 8	38	20
" 9	34	21
Total for week		79

Livestock Sale Planned For Last Week of February

Regulations For Sale Made
Strict To Establish Buyer
Confidence In Event

The livestock committee of the economic conference, acting as a sale committee of the Sherman County Live Stock association, met last Saturday afternoon with the county agent and laid plans for a county wide sale of horses and cattle sometime the latter part of this month.

A definite date has not been set as an open date for an auctioneer was not known. Entries, however, were limited to February 12, Saturday after which no entries will be allowed. A sub committee of A. H. Barnum, president of the stock association, Tom Fraser, chairman of the committee, and LeRoy Wright, secretary, was named to set the date for the sale and hire the auctioneer, the clerk and make other arrangements for the sale.

Stock As Guaranteed.

Sires to be sold must be purebred, according to the rules laid down by the committee and dairy cows sold must be tested for tuberculosis and Bangs disease.

An effort is being made to make this first county wide sale so well and favorably known that it will become an annual event thus giving stock raisers in the county a time and place to attract buyers of stock without the middleman. All stock offered for sale must be as represented so that buyers will be satisfied with their purchases.

Sherman County Autos Dangerous

Sherman county ranked twelfth among Oregon's 12 group of IV counties from the standpoint of excellence in traffic safety last year, according to 1937 statistics completed this week by Secretary of State Earl Snell.

The grouping and ranking of the counties was done this year to enable every citizen of Oregon to learn just where his county stands in the statewide campaign against accidents, and to stimulate local efforts to improve traffic conditions.

Group IV counties are those with a population density of less than four persons per square mile. Snell has divided the 36 counties of the state into four groups, based on population density, for the sake of valid comparison.

Jefferson Best

Top place in this group for 1937 was taken by Jefferson county. Other counties, in the order of ranking, were Wheeler, Grant, Crook, Morrow, Harney, Lake, Gilliam, Wallowa, Curry, Malheur and Sherman.

Jefferson county's record was the most outstanding in the state. The county was free from traffic deaths and chalking up a composite reduction of 40 per cent in accidents and injuries.

Winners in other groups were Portland, group I; Lane county, group II, and Wasco county, group III.

During 1937 there were 33 accidents reported from Sherman county, resulting in 11 injuries and 3 deaths. In 1936 there were 25 accidents reported, 6 injuries and 2 deaths.

Aerial Map Being Checked

Robert Mountain is here this week to measure the aerial map sheets and test them for accuracy. The men who have made compliance will have their land measured first and checked with the maps and the other land will follow as soon as possible thereafter.

The new map sheets are approximately 18 by 24 inches and show very clearly the territory covered. They are practically as clear as were the original pictures only much bigger. Roads, fields and houses show up clearly and yet it requires some knowledge of the county to pick out what section is being shown. It is not known whether or not a master map will be made of the county showing the entire county as one photograph.

Ex-Judge McKee Ill With Heart Attack

Ex-county judge E. D. McKee suffered an attack of angina pectoris last Thursday night at his home in Wasco with the result that he will be confined to his home for at least a month and will be forced to cease his active work for some time to come.

He is the president of the Wasco Civic Club, one of the stock holders of the Bank of Commerce and until his illness was constantly in attendance on customers in his Wasco pharmacy. He served the county two terms as county judge and a similar time as county commissioner. He is recovering as well as expected but necessarily slow.

Grubstakes For Miners Available

A. V. Quine, mining geologist, will be at the County Court House at Moro, March 7, 1938, for the purpose of taking preliminary applications for 1938 grubstake loans.

It will be necessary for the year 1938 that all applicants be personally interviewed by Mr. Quine before formal application can be made to County Judge George A. Potter.

All persons who are interested in securing a loan are requested to meet Mr. Quine on the above date. No applications by mail will be considered.

Sheep Men Fear Labor Threat

Ample evidence that the racketeering labor leaders of the west coast C. I. O. have started their inland march was recently disclosed by officials of the state and national wool growers associations. Harry Bridges, the alien C. I. O. leader has sent word that wool growers must employ C. I. O. wool shearers "or else."

For more than a year the threat of these labor barons that they would disrupt Oregon's wool industry has caused officers of the Oregon Wool Growers Association much concern. When Harry Bridges accepted his reputed \$10,000-a-year leadership of the west coast C. I. O. he is said to have promised John L. Lewis that he would extend his unionizing activities to the farms on the Pacific northwest states.

Wool May Be Called Hot

And now he has come out into the open. He has notified the wool growers that unless all wool from this section bears a stamp showing it was sheared by men connected with the C. I. O. unions, the longshoremen would refuse to handle it, and other affiliated unions would assist in the boycotting of this extensive Oregon industry.

Oregon wool growers are frankly worried. At their recent convention at Prineville they voted unanimously not to submit to these racketeering demands, and unless they are given whole hearted public support, they are fearful that their industry will be plunged into chaos this year.

COWBOY LOU



Not Jack Dalton, but Lou Gehrig, iron man slugger of the New York Yankees, is shown above, as he appears in his first picture, "Rawhide." Lou portrays a two-fisted westerner hot on the trail of a gang of cattle thieves. And while his guns are cooling off, Gehrig rolls himself a smoke—one-handed.

Soil Depleting Goal For County Set At 15.43 %

Reduction of Over 43,000
In Sherman County For 1938
Asked By Triple A

Soil depleting goals for the counties of the state were set last week by officials of the AAA and were given to the counties Monday. For Sherman county the requested reduction in acreage will be 15.43% which is near the reported 16%.

Soil depleting goals for the county in acres is 233,711 acres which is the largest for any county in the state except Umatilla county which is given a goal of 458,029 acres.

Gilliam county is allowed 214,366 acres, Morrow county 231,915 acres and Wasco county may have 127,632 acres in soil depleting crops and still qualify completely.

It is now the duty of the county committee to set the goals for the individual farms in the counties and this will be started immediately in this county. It is reported that the national reduction is 16% and the state reduction is approximately the same figure leading to the belief that the county committees may follow the same procedure and give out similar goals for all farms in the county.

It has been estimated that the goals set, with the payments as scheduled, will give farmers 80 cents per bushel for wheat not grown if normal crops are raised and production expense is not calculated.

Reduction asked for Sherman county is 43,713 acres from the total crop land total of 277,424 acres estimated by the local triple A authorities. Attending the meeting in Arlington Monday were Dewey Thompson, J. M. Wilson, G. H. Root, Joe Peters and Le Roy Wright.

Council Considers Street Light Contract

City council met Tuesday night in regular session and took care of minor city matters.

Most important subject for discussion was the consideration of a new street lighting contract for the city with the Pacific Power & Light company. The company has offered a contract that will be cancellable in case a power district is organized through this territory and the city desires to change to public power and different phases of this proposed contract were discussed. Street lighting contract expires next month and a new one will probably be agreed upon by that time.

EXAMINER COMING

The Examiner of Operators and Chauffeurs will be in Moro on Monday, February 14, 1938, at the Court house, between the hours of 1 to 5, respectively, according to a recent announcement from the Secretary of State's office.

All those wishing permits or licenses to drive cars are asked to get in touch with the examiner at this time.

Gasoline Tax Revenue Increases

The state of Oregon netted an increase of \$568,405.03 in gasoline tax money in 1937, representing a gain of 5.4 per cent over the previous year, according to the secretary of state's figures released by the Oregon State Motor association.

Gasoline pumps in the state ground out an additional 11,368,100 gallons for Oregon motorists who in turn put the streets and highways to greater use than ever before. The increase was due largely to stimulation of local and non-resident recreational travel, it was pointed out.

For the entire year, motor vehicles used a total of 229,283,280.86 gallons of gasoline, returning \$11,164,164.12 to the state in taxes. Net amount of the fuel tax transferred to the state highway fund was \$9,753,494.78.

Despite the increased use of the highways, the traffic injury and fatality curves headed downward. Records show 2 per cent decrease in injuries and a 5 per cent drop in fatalities. A few more accidents were reported, however, the increase amounting to 9.5 per cent.