

# Sherman County Journal

Fiftieth Year No. 45

Moro, Oregon, Friday, April 22, 1938

Official County Paper

## Of Oregon— Its Government and People

By A. L. Lindbeck

Possibility that Oregon's gubernatorial contest may develop into a three-way fight in the general election campaign is now receiving consideration in political circles. Should Governor Martin win the democratic nomination and Charles A. Sprague be selected by the Republicans it is regarded as almost certain that an independent candidate of more liberal leanings than either of these will enter the support of both parties. Should this situation develop, as is entirely within the range of probabilities, it is expected that Peter Zimmerman of Yamhill county who came within 21,000 votes of victory four years ago, will again make the try.

Oregon's school population continues to show a steady increase according to figures compiled by Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction. In the four year period from 1933-34 to 1937-38 the number of youngsters on the school census roll increased from 258,880 to 270,530, a gain of 11,650. Malheur county experienced the greatest increase in school population, from 3590 to 5533, a gain of 54.12 percent. Klamath county reported the next highest gain 27.86 percent. Other counties recording large gains include Hood River, 16.42; Harney, 14.10; Marion, 13; Linn, 12.41; Lane, 12.19; Polk, 11.84; Deschutes, 11.72; Benton, 11.19; Coos, 9.32; Washington, 8.99; and Curry, 8.94.

California's border inspection and ban on Oregon strawberries was imposed in retaliation for Oregon's tomato and bulb quarantine, according to Solon T. White, state director of agriculture.

A total of 218 insane and feeble minded inmates of state institutions of Oregon have been sterilized during the past 12 years according to a recent report of the state board of health.

Governor Martin has requested all citizens of Oregon to join in the observance of child health day, May 1.

State hospital officials express themselves as highly gratified over the results of experiments conducted in the use of insulin and metrazol in the treatment of mental cases. These experiments conducted over a period of six months are said to have shown definite possibilities of permanent cures of dementia praecox, the most prevalent form of insanity. Of the 2600 patients in the Salem institution 60 percent have been regarded as incurable until the introduction of this new treatment.

Landscaping of the grounds about the new capitol is now under way. With construction work on the building practically completed scaffolding is being torn down and the job of cleaning up the premises started with a view to turning the building over to the state some time in June.

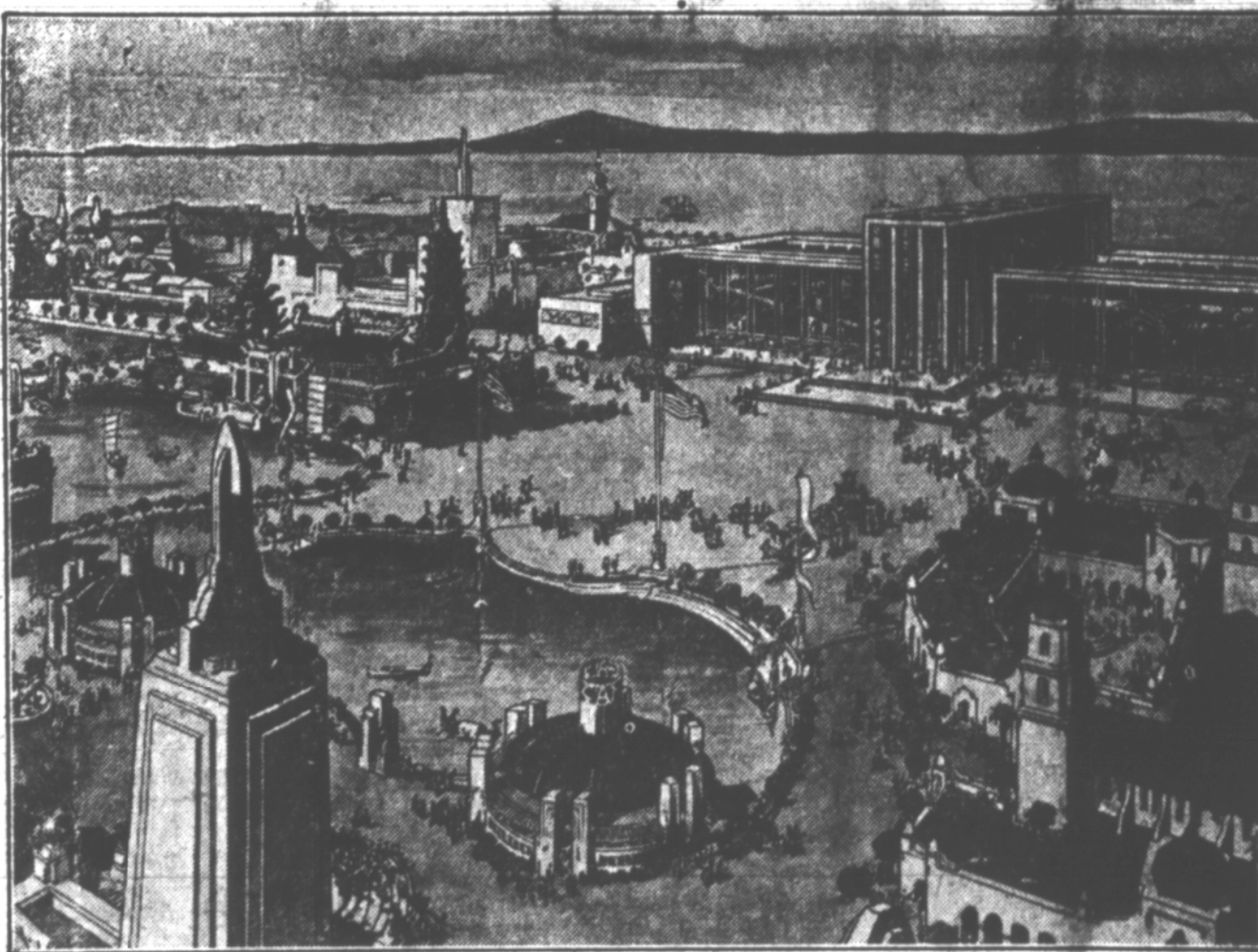
The oldest enlisted man in the Oregon National Guard is Clarence C. Smith, 61, of Portland, records at Guard headquarters here revealed. Of the 3339 enlisted men in the Oregon Guard 65 percent are under 23 years of age.

Construction of a new heating plant to serve the capitol group of buildings will probably be deferred until after the next legislative session. Attorney General Van Winkle threw a legal monkey wrench into the plan for immediate construction of such a plant this week when he ruled that surplus funds in the hands of the Capitol Reconstruction commission can only be expended on the capitol site or the four new blocks to the north. Previously the attorney general had indicated that the commission might finance construction of the plant if the Board of Control provided the necessary site.

When the Capitol Commission contracted for construction of the new library building it also let a contract for revamping of the present heating plant. This proposed revamping includes installation of an additional boiler, moving of the smoke stack 150 feet to the east.

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## Colorful View of 1939 World's Fair on S. F. Bay



Here nations of the world will display their treasures at the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition on Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay. In center of this sketch by Artist Lewis Rothe is the Court of the Nations on which faces the \$1,500,000 Federal Building (in background) and a beautiful lagoon. At right, State of California buildings and at left, some of the buildings being erected by nations of the Pacific.

## Mrs. Melzer Elected Head of Woman's Club

A very interesting and instructive meeting was held by the Woman's Club last Friday under the direction of Mrs. Howard Conlee. The club was fortunate in having several Dallas visitors, some of whom spoke to the meeting. Mrs. Margaret Merrifield, district president, talked of important field activities, and then introduced Mrs. Ann Crawford, who spoke on Education by Living. Mrs. Fitzgerald, who is president of The Dallas Sorosis Club, and Miss Ann Crawford were also present.

During the first part of the meeting the election of new officers for the coming year took place. Edna Melzer was elected president. Mary Reese, vice president; Cecil Hockman, secretary and Etta Moore, treasurer.

Delegates for the state convention to be held at Pendleton were elected. Anna Moore, and Edna Melzer were chosen. The two alternates selected were Rose Arndson and Martha Cope.

Refreshments of tea and cookies were served at the close of the meeting.

Plans for the next meeting, The Mother's and Daughter's Banquet, are not yet complete. Watch for particulars at a later date.

## Unemployment Heads Distribute Huge Sum

Oregon has reached the \$2,000,000 milestone in distribution of state unemployment compensation benefit checks.

Since January 2 when claim blanks were made available to Oregon's unemployed workers, more than 60,000 have applied for benefits under the law passed by the state legislature November 15, 1935 and amended in March 1937 to afford job insurance for those able and available for work but who are unable to obtain jobs.

## Many Claims Allowed

Approximately 42,000 of these claims have been allowed by the state unemployment compensation commission and the payment of benefits has increased steadily until current production at commission headquarters here has reached 5000 checks daily, with total daily disbursement of more than \$60,000.

Under the law, maximum weekly benefit to each totally unemployed worker is \$15 and \$7 is the minimum. Oregon checks have been averaging \$11.00.

The maximum total amount of benefits payable to eligible workers during any benefit year shall not exceed one-sixth of his total wages during his base year, or 16 times his weekly benefit amount and already 5500 of the first 42,000 Oregonians whose claims were approved by the commission have reached their zero balance for the current benefit year.

## Kilowatt Year Basis To Prevail For Bonneville

Bonneville power will be sold at wholesale in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho on a new basis—the "kilowatt-year." That is a thousand watts furnished day and night for twelve months, or 8760 kilowatt-hours of electricity.

In announcing the adoption of the kilowatt-year sales unit, J. D. Ross, Bonneville Administrator, scored the present practice of selling power "from the old scarcity standpoint."

"American consumers are paying for millions of kilowatt-hours of electricity they never receive," he said. "Immense quantities of waterpower are wasted over the dam because people will not pay exorbitantly high rates." This is particularly the case in stream-flow plants like Bonneville, he said, where at present the water cannot be stored and used as needed.

## Ross Sets Precedent

Within a short time Ross will offer a block of energy of more than one hundred thousand horsepower to the people of the Northwest. He pointed out that the rate policies used in marketing this electricity will set a precedent for Grand Coulee and other plants to be built on the Columbia and Snake rivers.

In a leaflet issued today for public distribution, the new wholesale plan is described as the most equitable method of encouraging cities and companies to give lower rates to retail customers. The "kilowatt-year" sales unit is based directly on the cost of producing power, Ross declared. "No higher mathematics or juggled schedules enter into the determination of costs. The small consumer does not subsidize the large industrialist. We simply say 'A kilowatt-year costs so much. Pay us our cost and use that kilowatt continuously, day and night, throughout the year'."

## Play Ready For Presentation

The community play that has been rehearsed for several weeks will be presented Friday night at the Legion Hall by the cast of local characters which includes Helen Sayrs, Naomi Van Gilder, Evelyn Rittner, Marjorie Kunsman, Gayle Goldard, Wendell Balsigar, Dean Pinkerton and Edwin Peters.

| WEATHER FOR THE WEEK |      |      |     |
|----------------------|------|------|-----|
| DATE                 | MAX. | MIN. |     |
| Apr. 14              | 62   | 35   | .00 |
| " 15                 | 59   | 42   | .00 |
| " 16                 | 58   | 45   | .42 |
| " 17                 | 67   | 47   | .00 |
| " 18                 | 61   | 46   | .00 |
| " 19                 | 62   | 39   | .00 |
| " 20                 | 64   | 32   | .00 |
| Total for week       |      |      | .12 |

## Moisture Exceeds Previous Record At Local Station

Continuation of Long Time  
Averages Will Insure High  
Yields For County

Reports on the exact percentages of moisture in the soil of Sherman county is now available through the spring investigation annually made by Merrill Oveson of the experiment station staff.

This year there is more moisture in the soil than at any time since moisture samples were first taken back in 1923. Also there is less difference between the upper three feet of soil sampled and the lower three feet.

On April plowed plots the average moisture is 16.3 percent. This means that approximately the inches of water are available for the use of the plant. May plowed plots average 15.7 and the June plowed plots average 15 percent of moisture.

Best previous moisture percentage in the soil in March was in 1928 when 14.8 was found when the samples were taken. A good crop resulted too, as all farmers will remember. This year the average is 16.3 and it is practically as wet in the lower three feet as in the upper three feet the figures being 16.4 in the top half and 16.1 in the lower half of the soil tube.

Poor crop years of the early thirties showed less than 13 percent of moisture and as low as 10 percent and most serious was the dearth of moisture down deep in the soil. Some years there was as little as 8 percent of moisture in the lower soil.

## How To Forestall Crop?

There is a system of multiplicity of systems for beating nearly every gambling, except raising wheat on dry land soil. Perhaps none of them work, but anyway there are systems. Now there are some methods of prognosticating the yield of wheat from the soil moisture that might be termed systems for beating the dry land farming game.

One of them is to take the average soil moisture in March, subtract six percent from it to allow for the moisture the wheat plant cannot draw from the soil, multiply by 92 to reduce it to water in the soil, add the average precipitation that can be expected from March to July and multiply by three. The result should be the bushels per acre.

This year, according to this formula, the yield on the plots tested should be 37.998 bushels which is a nice yield if you can get it.

Another formula is as follows: Since soil moisture tests have been taken at the Moro station 1.56 bushels of wheat have been raised for each percent of moisture in the upper three feet of the soil. This only allows 25.6 bushels for this year's moisture.

Also for the same period 1.92 bushels have been raised for each percentage of moisture in the lower three feet of soil. Thus for the 16.1 this year if this rule holds true there might be 30.8 bushels on the plots tested.

Now there it is, all based on time averages. And it is a safe bet that some of the systems are going to be proven to be correct this year. Regardless of what yield comes from the record breaking moisture content, the ground is very wet and farmers are getting stuck yet in the south end of the county and wet spots are being cut off to permit farm work to go on.

## Crop Insurance Plan Explained

The wheat crop insurance program of the new AAA farm act was officially launched at a national meeting held at Omaha April 19, which was attended by state leaders in wheat growing states west of the Allegheny mountains. Secretary Wallace addressed the gathering, and his speech was carried that day over the National Farm and Home Hour.

A general explanation of the crop insurance program was made at the Omaha meeting.

A similar meeting for Oregon and Washington has been called for Pendleton late in May, probably on May 17 and 18. Details of this meeting will be announced later.

## Wade Crawford To Speak To Wasco Club

Speaker for the Wasco Civic Club meeting which will be held at the Hotel Sherman next Monday evening, April 25, will be Wade Crawford, candidate for the Democratic nomination for representative from the second Oregon district. Mr. Crawford paid a short visit to Wasco last week.

He is a Klamath Indian who was born on the reservation in that county. He is a graduate of Carlisle, is middle aged, travels with his family and, say those who met him, makes a good impression on his hearers.

Subject of Mr. Crawford's address has not been announced but it is presumed that he will talk on his candidacy or his experiences back in Washington where he has often represented his people in the last few years.

## Donagh Visits Sherman County

Carl Donagh, candidate for the Democratic nomination for United States senator, was here Wednesday afternoon accompanied by W. F. Jackson of the land office in The Dalles. He was making a trip through Sherman, Gilliam and Morrow counties expecting to reach Hermiston by evening as he was scheduled to speak there. Mr. Donagh has been United States district attorney since 1933 and has conducted himself creditably in that office. He is young active and pleasant to meet and he reports that he is making satisfactory progress in his campaign.

## Henn Place Sold To Frank Burnet

C. H. Henn left Thursday night for his home in Iowa having sold the Henn place which belonged to his wife, Mrs. Tillie Lanphear Henn, to Frank Burnet last week. This place, just outside of the city limits of Moro was formerly farmed by Chet Silver and Willy McDonald. The Henns have farms in Iowa and Texas and wished to dispose of this section. Mr. Burnet and his sons and son in law will farm the place in connection with their other farms.

## Driving Laws Stop Convicted Drivers

Enforcement machinery in Oregon has taken driving privileges from more traffic violators in the last three months than during any other first quarter in the state's history, Secretary of State Earl Snell said this week.

Intoxicated drivers have been the chief offenders in this period, Snell said. Licenses of one hundred ninety six operators have been revoked since January 1 for this offense.

## More Drivers Suspended

Altogether, license suspensions and revocations during the first three months of this year were nearly half again as numerous as during the first quarter of 1937. Snell believes this indicates strict enforcement and better cooperation between state departments, rather than more disobedience to law. This belief is borne out by the fact that actual convictions for traffic offenses during March were considerably lower than during March last year.

## Care Urged

Automobile owners should be extremely careful about allowing other persons to borrow their cars Snell said. He pointed out that three-fifths of the drivers who have lost their licenses subject to the safety responsibility act this year were not the owners of the automobiles they were driving at the time of their arrest.

"This means," said Snell, "that in many cases borrowed cars were being driven by intoxicated or irresponsible drivers, probably without the owner's knowledge of the manner in which his car was being used. It is not only the right but the duty of automobile owners to check up on the use of their cars, and to lend them only to drivers they know to be responsible."

## Carl McKean Funeral Arranged For Friday

Resident of County ThirtyFive  
Years Succumbs To Long  
Illness and Operation

James Carrol McKean (Carl to his many friends) died in The Dalles Wednesday morning about five o'clock after a long illness. His right leg was removed ten days before his death in an attempt to halt the Berger's disease that has afflicted him for over a year. While he rallied from the shock the last of the week, he was not able to recover.

The deceased was born in Pennsylvania December 7, 1881 and when a boy moved with his parents to Missouri. When still a young man he came west with his brother and settled in Sherman county where he worked on farms for a few years.

Although small in stature he obtained a job handling wheat and in a few years became warehouse manager at Hay Canyon. He has been in the wheat business as warehouse manager, or buyer ever since, becoming one of the best known purchasers of wheat in the county.

He served the county as sheriff for two terms after being deputy under J. C. Freeman for a term. In this capacity he was in charge of sending men to the army during the war. After leaving this office he managed the Moro elevator and was director and cashier of the Farmer's State Bank, a locally owned concern, until it was merged in 1930.

## Forms Partnership

He was local agent and part owner of the Cascade Tractor company until a few years ago when he formed a partnership with Seral Searcy as agent for another line of implements and power machinery. The firm was also agent for gasoline and oils.

During the entire life of Mr. McKean he was active in behalf of the democratic party and has been precinct committeeman and county chairman for many years. In this capacity he has extended his acquaintance over the state.

Almost exactly a year ago he went with his wife on a trip to Pennsylvania and Washington D. C. Mrs. McKean died of pneumonia in Kansas during the trip and Carl returned in bad health because of the lack of circulation in his feet caused by Berger's disease, which finally claimed his life.

The funeral will be held Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock from the Legion hall and interment will be made in the local cemetery. Pall bearers will be O. L. Belshe, J. C. Freeman, O. G. Sayrs, W. C. Miller, W. B. Rice and W. A. May.

Surviving are a son, Kenneth; two daughters, Mrs. Georgia Kinsley of The Dalles and Muriel of Moro. A twin brother, R. H., lives in Wasco and a sister still resides in Pennsylvania.

## New Stamp Issued For Anniversary

A distinctive, two color air-mail stamp will be issued by the United States Post Office Department as a special recognition of National Air Mail Week, May 15 to 21, which will be the greatest effort in the history of this service to increase its effectiveness and popular support.

An announcement today at National Air Mail Week general headquarters here by Major Paul R. Younts, Executive Chairman, said this stamp will be symbolic of the Air Mail and should be highly desirable for the many thousands of collectors who will send and receive letters on the special flights that week.

Major Younts said he had been informed by Postmaster General Farley that this stamp will be of six-cent denomination, the same size as the commemorative issues.

## TESTS POSSIBLE

The tuberculosis test that was given to other towns of the county earlier in the spring will be given at Grass Valley next Tuesday morning from 9:15 to 11. Grass Valley was missed because of quarantine. Adults as well as children will be tested.