

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

Of Oregon— Its Government and People

By A. L. Lindbeck

The taxpayers who footed the bill for the new building got their first chance to inspect Oregon's new \$2,500,000 state capitol building Saturday afternoon.

More than 5000 persons took advantage of the opportunity offered by the "open house" program to spend an hour or more exploring the spacious hallways, exclaiming over the magnificence of the legislative chambers, going into raptures over the myrtle wood lined room that will be the governor's private office and sparing a few moments to inspect the private shower baths that have been installed in the offices of the secretary of state and the state treasurer.

A parade participated in by the Salem Cherrians, Newberg Bersians and Portland Rosarians and a dozen bands and drum and bugle corps preceded the program at the capitol at which Governor Martin declared that the completion of the state house "demonstrates anew Oregon's ability to turn adversity into triumph."

Frank Branch Riley, noted lecturer, described the building as "one of the most beautiful structures in America." Four states and one territory had contributed material for its construction, he pointed out. The marble for the exterior of the building came from Vermont. The interior is decorated with marble from Montana and granite from California, Arkansas and Alaska.

Dr. Bruce Baxter, president of Willamette university, who presided as chairman, declared that "this day will remain a most significant one in the history of Oregon."

Any lingering doubt as to Governor Martin's political intentions were definitely resolved this week by his declaration that he would "be glad when he could get away from public service." The governor told newspapermen this week that he proposed to "take it easy" for the remainder of his term as governor, carrying on the duties of his office but taking on no additional responsibilities such as outside speaking engagements. State House gossip has it that the Governor and Mrs. Martin will embark on a tour of the world shortly after he retires from office next January.

O. Henry O'Leen, state representative from Columbia county for the past six years, will side-step politics for the time being, he declared on a visit to Salem this week. Rumor had it that O'Leen, defeated for the democratic nomination for governor, might seek a return to the legislature as an independent candidate.

The scale model of the new capitol building which has been on display in the lobby of the state office building for several months is soon to be sent to the architectural school at the University of Oregon.

The high cost of living slipped substantially in the three month period between March and June according to the records of the state purchasing department. Cow beef, of which state institutions use about 90,000 pounds every 3 months and which was quoted at \$10.75 per 100 pounds in March was offered at \$8.96 when bids for the new supply were opened this week. Steer beef prices were down from \$12.83 to 11.97.

At least one old age pension bill will be on the November ballot. Completed petitions for the Citizens Retirement bill, sponsored by Elbert Eastman, Portland attorney, were filed with Secretary of State Snell this week. The measure provides for a monthly pension of not to exceed \$100 for all persons 65 years of age or over who would cease gainful employment, the pension to be financed by a two per cent transaction tax. This is the second initiative measure for which petitions have been completed. Deadline for completing petitions is set for 5:00 p. m. Thursday of this week.

Twenty nine out of every 1000 residents of Oregon were on the (Continued on Page Two)

Fourth Quiet In County; People Gone

The Fourth of July was spent more quietly by Sherman county than have any of the national holidays for several years as this was the first year in a blue moon that no local celebrations were held. The towns were deserted and nearly everyone was at some lake or driving around looking at some far-off country. Nearby lakes attracted many but the reports of fish caught indicate a disappointing holiday for the fishermen.

Freight Charges Handicap Oregon

Because Oregon is geographically remote from great centers of population in the United States, consumer demand for its products is handicapped by heavy freight charges and Oregon producers are forced to depend very largely upon foreign markets, reached by lower water rates, for continued and profitable sales.

Thus Oregon involuntarily, and of necessity, enters competitive world trade and becomes an aspirant for the good-will of peoples across the sea. The excellence of its products is recognized, and while amity and friendly relations exist they may hope to retain preferred position in the minds of foreign purchasers.

Friendly Help

Nations, no less than individuals, prefer to deal with those who display a neighborly spirit of cooperation in commerce and a degree of tolerance in the more delicate relations of social contact. Neighborliness is in fact, as well as in theory, an essential element in all human activities.

With a water-borne commerce mounting into the hundreds of millions annually and holding promise of sustained increase, the people of Oregon are, therefore, vitally and personally concerned in the initiation and progress of all matters and movements which might influence, for good or ill, their dealings with present and prospective customers in the Orient, in the Philippines, Hawaii, Africa and South America, in all of which the products of Oregon forests, factories, farms and orchards are received with growing favor.

Little Unemployment Insurance Paid Here

Two-thirds of payrolls in Sherman county upon which employers contributed to the state unemployment compensation fund in 1937 represented wholesale distributors other than wholesale merchants, according to a survey just completed by the commission and forwarded here from Salem. It was even larger in 1936, first year of administration of the law, figures disclose. Sherman county employers paid contributions on \$33,869 in 1936 and \$32,166 was in this industrial classification known as code No. 28 in the state statistics. In 1937, wholesale distributors paid on \$24,638 out of \$36,579 for the county. August 1936. Largest

August of 1936 was the biggest month for the county, as far as employment covered by the law is concerned, with January 1936 the lowest. Employment curves shown by the survey show great activity in the harvest period—July, August and September.

Wholesalers Pay Most

Total benefit checks distributed through June 29th in the territory served by The Dalles employment office amounted to \$31,956.72. June checks amounted to \$3,681.82, a drop of 37 per cent from May. The Dalles serves Sherman, Wasco, Gilliam, Wheeler and Jefferson counties. Distribution of benefits already exceeds contributions by employers in the five counties during 1936 and 1937.

Seven industrial groups accounted for 94 per cent of the checks during the first quarter of 1938. Contract construction workers received 31 per cent; food manufacturing, 5 per cent; lumber and timber products, 9 per cent; transportation other than water, 6 per cent; Wholesale and retail trade, 9 per cent; and automotive sales and service, 4 per cent.

Anti-Picketing Bill Filed For November

Farm Organizational Act To Put Measure Up To Oregon Voters

Regulation of picketing and boycotting by labor groups, and protection to agriculture in the harvesting, processing and marketing of farm products are sought in a farm-sponsored measure which will go on the general election ballot next November.

This was assured today when initiative petitions bearing approximately 28,000 signatures were filed with Secretary of State Earl Snell by Howard L. Shoemaker of Hood River, president of the Associated Farmers of Oregon.

In addition to the Associated Farmers, other sponsors and supporters of the initiative include the Eastern Oregon Wheat League, the Oregon Farm Bureau and prominent farm leaders and Grangers in every section of the state.

"Ever since the disastrous waterfront strike of 1934, Oregon agriculture has suffered losses aggregating many hundreds of thousands of dollars," Mr. Shoemaker pointed out. "We have been helpless victims in labor's own quarrels and we are determined to protect not only ourselves but the public and the working people from these unfair labor practices."

Mr. Shoemaker indicated that the farm groups will unite in campaigning out and carrying on a campaign, the culmination of which he believes will put Oregon in the forefront in solving the present national labor debacle.

"All we ask is a calm and thoughtful study of our proposed law," he said. "We are not opposed to organized labor as such. We know that adoption of this law will strengthen legitimate labor unions and will bring to Oregon an era of much industrial peace and prosperity."

Aged Veteran Goes To Gettysburg

William Lower, father of Mrs. R. H. McKean of Wasco, at the age of 96 is attending the 75th anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg where he fought the first days of July 1863. He is a resident of Bolivar, Mo., where he has lived most of his life since the end of the war. According to the Bolivar Free Press he is still hale and hearty and retains much of the vigor of early manhood which kept him from staying at home while the reunion was on.

Alumni Owe School Says Graduate

Despite general tendencies to the contrary, there has been no substitute for work found by the silver jubilee class, according to a report made by Charles Reynolds, La Grande, spokesman for the class at reunions held this summer. "Prosperity is up to us; the government cannot produce it," said Reynolds. "We have not found that education instantly brings wealth and happiness, but in the 25 years since leaving the portals of learning have found that education has been a great assistance in the material things as well as in peace and happiness in mind and spirit—our college owes us nothing—we are the debtors."

Douma Brothers To Have Electricity

Douma Brothers are getting ready to build an electric power line from the Hockman place to their two houses in Grass Valley canyon. Twenty nine poles will be required for the mile and a half of line. Doumas will build the line themselves, furnishing the poles and setting them and will hook on to the 220 volt line making expensive transformer equipment unnecessary. This is the first extension of electric lines in the county for some years although several other lines are being contemplated, especially one west and north of Wasco.

County Court Has Easy Day of Work

County court meeting for July was not eventful as no changes in county policy were made during the meeting. Omer Says appeared for the fair board asking that the buildings be painted and that minor repairs be made to the grand stand and the bucking chutes be changed in slight detail and that starting gates be constructed to make the starting of races easier.

The form for handling delinquent tax payments prior to the foreclosure was passed on by the court. Foreclosure will be started this fall on property on which taxes are not paid. Principally this is in city lots that have brought in nothing to the county or cities for several years. County bills were paid.

Nation's Wheat Undamaged

Increased marketings of winter wheat and beneficial rains in the spring wheat areas were the outstanding features in domestic wheat markets. The quality of the market receipts improved materially and threshing outturns increased as the harvest progressed northward into areas where frost damage was less severe. Trade estimates of winter wheat production at the first of July averaged around 716 million bushels compared with the June 1 official estimate of 761 million bushels. The July official estimates of the winter and spring wheat crops will be released July 11.

Hard winter wheat in general has escaped stem rust damage in northwestern Kansas and northwestern Missouri, where the situation was threatening a week ago, according to representatives of the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine. Some loss may occur in northwestern Kansas but very little if any in the north central sections of that state. Stem rust is abundant in late fields in southern Nebraska and Iowa and in low land fields of winter wheat in southwestern and central Illinois. Rust infection increased very little in the spring wheat area during the week, it was reported, since cooler weather favored development of grain rather than rust. Susceptible varieties of spring wheat and some fields of durum wheat are lightly infected in western Minnesota and eastern Dakotas but Thatcher wheat so far has remained resistant.

Elevator Company Elects Officers

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Farmers Elevator and Supply company was held Wednesday afternoon. Election of officers for the year resulted in the selection of Omer Says as president, Truman Strong as vice president and George McDonald, Charles Powell and Lloyd Hennigan as directors. Lamer Says will act as secretary-treasurer for the year.

H. W. Champneys was engaged to continue with the liquidation of the company as was outlined some weeks ago. Lloyd Johnson will remain as manager of the yard.

Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Christensen drove to Tillamook Friday returning Monday after catching fish over the holiday.

County Roads Being Worked And Gravelled

Preparation For Wheat Hauling On Roads Made By Roadmaster

Work on county roads is continuing with gravel being spread on the Scott Canyon road from the pit to the Fulton place. It is very good natural gravel and binds well and the road is being covered in the dusty spots and the low places to aid the wheat hauling.

The county maintainer is still at work killing the Russian thistle along the road sides. This is being done to prevent the job of getting the mature weeds off the roads in the fall which is almost an impossible job. Killing the weeds while green will also keep the seeds from scattering.

The local gravel is being spread at a cost of \$1.20 per yard, a considerable saving over the cost of spreading crushed rock.

Grades Lowered

The year's road work has included cutting down several sharp pitches in important roads and the rock blasted out has been used to further lower the grade by filling in. Heavy grading has put many more miles of road up in shape and the rocky spot and bad turn on the horseshoe bend northeast of Kent has been changed, all of which has been in line with the present policy of hitting the worst spots of the roads.

Several bad points were bulldozed off the canyon roads, especially in Scott canyon which will carry many tons of wheat this fall.

Scenes and Persons in the Current News



1—Chinese Eighth Route army soldiers in Shansi province decked out in captured Japanese coats, part of captured items such as food, clothing and arms they took from the invaders. 2—Victims of an anti-Nazi riot in New York City which grew out of the recent celebration of Adolf Hitler's forty-ninth birthday. 3—Henry Ford, whose visit to President Roosevelt in the White House was regarded as the sign of a closer relationship between business and the administration.

Rules For Tennis Court Made For Season Play

Because there is considerable demand for use of "Wm. Raymond Court" and it is the desire of the tennis court committee that all may play, a few rules will be put in force today, reports Beth Mersinger, C. E. president. "The rules committee asks that all who play respect them," she announces.

1. Thirty minutes is the maximum time of play for an individual, except that he may play longer if no one is waiting. In every case a game may be finished although others are waiting.
2. Rubber soled or tennis shoes must be worn.
3. Children must finish their play by five o'clock p. m.
4. The rules committee may close the court after sufficient notice at the court.
5. The fact that a person is playing is evidence he agrees to respect these rules.

At present there is no fence about the court, but as soon as new funds can be raised the inconvenience of chasing balls will be placed at a premium, Beth announces.

Sherman County Less Dangerous

Hats off to the ten counties in Oregon which passed the first six months of 1938 without a single traffic fatality!

Last year these ten counties recorded twelve highway deaths in the same span, according to Secretary of State Earl Snell. Their combined records have given Oregon approximately two-thirds of its present reduction in traffic deaths over last year.

Two of the counties—Coos and Tillamook—the in Western Oregon. The other eight—Crook, Grant, Harney, Jefferson, Morrow, Sherman, Union and Wheeler—lie east of the Cascades.

"The significance of this achievement is much more apparent when we consider that last year only five counties were without a traffic death during the first six months, compared with ten this year, Snell said.

"And in those five counties only two lives have been lost this year, compared with the saving of twelve lives in this year's death-free counties." The biggest improvement so far this year has been made in Multnomah county, where twelve fewer deaths have been recorded this year than last. Malheur and Deschutes counties are tied with second honors with six fewer deaths, while Coos and Tillamook counties have each had four fewer deaths than last year.

Varied Cargo To Come To The Dalles

S. S. Wheeler Bringing Supplies For Inland Empire Saturday

The S. S. Charles L. Wheeler, Jr. when she sets world and national marine navigation precedents on an inland ship channel by docking at The Dalles, July 9, as the high light event of ceremonies in dedication of the Mid Columbia-Bonneville ship channel, will have her holds filled with 1500 tons of varied cargo. Charles L. Nellor, manager of the port of The Dalles, says that this allocated amount could have been far greater, had the limit not prevented.

The cargo, which includes 2 1/2 tons of salad oil, ranges from sugar to cement, and it will be distributed from Hood River to Spokane. It is valued at more than \$150,000. Mr. Nellor, who cites that life is just beginning for America's youngest seaport, initiating revivifying influences of lessened transportation costs for all the Inland Empire, pays high tribute to H. E. Lounsbury, general freight agent of the Union Pacific System, and K. C. Conyers, district manager of the McCormick Steamship Company, for securing special permission from the Interstate Commerce Commission for applying, on the interchange at The Dalles same water-rail rates as published Portland interchange water-rail rates.

The westbound cargo, symbolic of the past as well as prophetic of the future, will embellish the celebration ceremonies at The Dalles with what will perhaps be its most picturesque incident. Delivery of cargo will interweave historic romantic history and feminine pulchritude.

Clint Haight, colorful editor of the Blue Mountain Eagle of Canyon City, and Charlie Brown, picturesque old timer of the John Day Valley, will deliver to Captain Peter Lund, master of the Wheeler, a pouch of boni fide Grant County gold dust, and a leather saddlebag, the kind used by pony express riders, filled with letters from Inland Empire municipal officials. These will be carried by Captain Lund to San Francisco for delivery to the Commission of the Golden Gate International Exposition.

Miss Barbara Johnson, beautiful "Miss Oregon," and this state's official representative to the great fair of next year, will go pioneer for the celebration. She will be on the box with the driver of one of the old, original The Dalles-Canyon City stage coaches, and will make personal delivery of the gold dust and official greetings when the old equipage, with its last relay of four horses, is drawn at a gallop down The Dalles' main street and turns to the waterfront to contact Captain Lund at the gang plank of the Wheeler.

Captain Riggs, who will pilot the Wheeler, says he will be expecting to see all of you July 9.

Several members of Boy Scout troop 360 spent the night in camp east of Lone Rock, Friday. Included in the group who passed tests and played various scouting games were: Second class scouts Linden Mersinger, John Shipley, Dave McLeod, and Tenderfoots Ramsey Schadowitz and George DeMoss. Asst. Scoutmaster L. H. Mitchelmore accompanied the troop.

Odd Jobs Plenty At Oregon State

Oregon State College—Regular and odd jobs valued at \$14,876 were obtained through the college by men students here during the last 12 months, according to the annual employment office report of the employment secretary, Mrs. Lulu M. Howard. A total of 1299 men registered for employment during the regular and summer sessions, while 4808 requests were received from employers for work men. One young man worked for six regular employers each week, earning from \$7 to \$10 a week as janitor, cook, nurse maid, chauffeur tutor and clerk.

BOY SCOUTS HIKE

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