

Sherman County Journal

Sherman County Observer
Established Nov. 2, 1888
Grass Valley Journal
Established Oct. 14, 1897
CONSOLIDATED March 6, 1931
Wasco News-Enterprise
Established Nov. 1891
CONSOLIDATED March 4, 1932

Published Every Friday at
Moro, Oregon

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Entered as second-class matter at the Postoffice at Moro, Oregon under Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Member
Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association

OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Payable in Advance
ONE YEAR \$1.50

SEPTEMBER 9, 1938

LEGION AMERICANISM

Criticism of the American Legion as a fascist group has been made recently by a college professor who is, himself, a member. This month is the one in which the national convention of the ex-service men is held and the month in which the Oregon convention was held in Pendleton. A number of resolutions about Americanism were introduced and passed by the Oregon Legionnaires none of which could be termed as fascist except by a fascist hunter. (We use the term fascist hunter to express an alternative to red-hunter.)

It is getting to be a fact that everyone who takes a determined stand on public affairs is branded as either a red (communist) or a fascist or nazi. The communists are actively crying fascist and the fascist are crying communist. It is but natural—human nature being what it is—that the Legion in its endeavor to preach, simple Americanism should be called names by both sides.

The nation is certainly fortunate in that it has a group that takes the time and effort to talk about Americanism. Some one needs to take the defensive when critics attack our governmental system from both sides. Our system of government is very vulnerable in that we give free opportunity for criticism to any and all groups. We just let them talk.

Much of the trouble and shouting would be stopped if those who are leaders in wanting our system of government changed would investigate the proposed form of government with as critical an eye as they turn on our democratic processes. Enough will do this among the common people that a change will be slow in coming.

Preaching the American way of life and government should be in the program of every American institution. While it may be subject to some criticism it is much better suited to the needs of a nation born with individualism as an ideal than any of the newer types of government now being preached from the soap boxes.

NO RUBBER STAMP CONGRESS

The next Congress of the United States will be no mere adjunct of personal rule. Americans who have become fearful that President Roosevelt's intervention in state primaries would produce a rubber-stamp legislative branch might well take heart. There are at least three good reasons to expect more rather than less independence.

1. The independence of the American electorate is the surest guarantee. Many astute political observers believe that the experience of other Presidents who have even in a milder way dared to intervene in state elections shows that presidential opposition tends to be an asset rather than a liability.

2. The tendency for the party in power to lose seats in off-year elections and considerable dissatisfaction with economic conditions are expected to result in sizable gains for the Republicans in the House of Representatives particularly. Joseph Martin, chairman of the Republican congressional campaign committee, claims a gain of 70 seats. Dr. George Gallup's poll sets an estimate of 55.

3. There are enough independent Democrats already renominated or holding over to insure strong questioning of Administration policies. Most of the primaries so far have resulted in victories for conservative Democrats. And it should be remembered that the President has not attempted to "purge" many who voted against his court plan. In fact, some of the most regular New Dealers did that.

Altogether it appears that it would be well to recognize that American representative government is a long way from breaking

down. That realization should strengthen the resolution of citizens to keep it functioning alertly and soundly.—Christian Science Monitor.

Those OSC students who have discovered that new acid that makes things grow rapidly have a gold mine. Think what presidential candidates would give for an ounce or two of it at this early date.

They have removed the chance of getting spanked in school and now report cards are eliminated from some schools. It's sure an easy life.

On one of the longest, straightest roads in Oregon there is a huge sign advertising a towing service. Smart advertiser.

With wheat at the present price there are plenty of farmers who see value in a wheat loan. At least the crowded condition of the county agent's office would make it seem that way.

Labor day was well observed in Sherman county. It was difficult to find any one at home. Lakes, beaches and State fair were magnets drawing our citizens.

Come to think of it the light rain did settle the dust and bring more smiles.

In Other Days

From the Observer Sept. 9, 1899
Thos. Callahagan and N. J. Goetjen hauled in their header outfits on the 2nd.

Many stalwart farmers were in town Monday. The weather was drizzling and wet but everybody appeared to be in high spirits. A regular downpour of rain Sunday stopped harvest work but work was started again Tuesday.

J. W. Brown was in Moro on the 4th securing a threshing crew to work in the Finnegan section. He has the C. N. Gilman machine.

A little son of T. J. Farra broke his arm by falling backwards out of a hack a few days ago.

A. Holder of Grass Valley was in Moro on the 5th. Sheriff Holder returned from Portland the evening before expecting soon to be able to attend to business but was obliged to return to Portland yesterday.

Deputy Sheriff Brown had a narrow escape from drowning in the DesChutes with his team on the third, but happily saved all.

Doug Allen and wife are visiting in Grass Valley this week. Doug is about to start another stage line in and out of Moro.

Mrs. H. A. Moore and Master Harry are about to become residents of Portland.

From the Observer Sept. 10, 1909
Dr. and Mrs. James formerly of this city, have located at Grass Valley.

Moro Public Schools will open on the 13th, Monday next, with the following teachers: George N. Murdoch of Monmouth, principal; Miss Ida May Johnston of Missouri teacher of the 7th and 8th grades; Miss Mary Taylor, formerly principal of Kent school, teacher of the 3rd and 4th grades; Miss Alvina Riedon of Pendleton, primary grade.

A 3-minute shower purified the atmosphere wonderfully and settled the dust here at noon on the 2nd. Thankful but we want a 24-hour soaking.

County Assessor Otto Peetz has completed a transcript of the O R and N Co. assessment in Sherman county, the total footing of which aggregate the assessable valuation of \$772,360 taxable property, making the company the heaviest taxpayer in Sherman county, not excepting the Eastern Oregon Land Co.

C. R. Belshee has transferred his lease hold near Moro to King Kime, of the East Side, and will now devote all his attention to his exchange, sale and livery business.

P. F. Maus and family are visitors in The Dalles attending the celebration of the 50th wedding anniversary of Mrs. Maus' parents Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Betts.

From the Observer Sept. 12, 1919
Mr. and Mrs. Granville Phillips moved this week from Kent to their new home in Hood River. They have just returned from a visit of five months with his daughter in California, part of this time being spent in an auto tour of the state. A total of 2000 miles was driven by the party, one part being driven down the coast from San Francisco to the Mexican border, but not across the line as Grassville said he had no use for the Mexicans.

Leslie Webb was here this week looking over the fire ruins of the Webb property on first street. Report has it that the property will be made into a one story business building and rented to the Farmers State bank until the new hotel is ready for use.

Statehouse Gossip

(Continued from page one)
ion of State Senator Dean Walker of Folk county, veteran legislator and senior chairman of the point ways and means committee. The budget balancing act to be featured by the next session will be well worth watching, according to the Polk county solon.

Senator Walker's concern is occasioned by reports of increased demands on the public purse, especially for relief and higher education.

Elmer Goudy, state relief administrator, told Governor Martin this week that approximately \$30,000,000 would be required to meet relief needs in Oregon during the next biennium. Much of the increase in this load is due to the greater number of old age pension beneficiaries admitted under the lower requirement. Of the total amount needed the state will be required to finance one-third, or \$10,000,000. That is nearly double the amount the state is spending for all relief needs this biennium.

Simultaneously with Goudy's announcement of the increase in relief needs came an announcement from Arthur McMahan, chairman of the Oregon Liquor Control commission, to the effect that liquor consumption in this state had about reached its peak. Incidentally liquor profits have also reached their peak since any attempt to increase the price would only encourage bootlegging. Oregon will realize approximately \$5,000,000 in profit from its liquor monopoly this biennium. If no greater profit can be realized during the next biennium it means that Oregon must look to some other source for the additional \$5,000,000 which will be required to finance relief.

Requirements for higher education in Oregon will also be greater, next biennium due to a materially increased enrollment, especially at the college and university. However, the increase will not be as great as the \$3,000,000 erroneously reported by some sources last week. A statement this week by Chancellor Hunter says that higher education will ask for \$664,335 in addition to the millage revenues. That will mean an increase of approximately \$738,000 over the state's contribution to higher education for the current biennium.

Suit to restrain Secretary of State Snell from placing on the November ballot a measure designed to prohibit the use of fixed fishing gear on the Columbia river was filed in the circuit court of Marion county this week. The complaint, filed by a group of lower Columbia river fishermen, alleges that many of the petition sheets were verified by others than the circulators, that notarial signatures were forged and that 8000 signatures were secured by paid circulators in violation of the law.

The Capitol Reconstruction commission has refused to postpone dedication of the new state house until January in order to accommodate members of the legislature and is proceeding with plans for the dedication on October 1, as previously announced. The bronze statue of the Oregon pioneer which will surmount the cylindrical dome of the capitol was shipped from New York on August 12 and is expected to be in place in time for the dedication.

More than \$1,500,000 a year is now being spent by the state highway commission in construction and maintenance of city streets, it was pointed out this week. Friends of the state highway fund are preparing to resist the demands of the League of Oregon Cities for an additional seven per cent cut out of the highway revenues, which, they claim, would seriously curtail the state highway program and result in the loss of \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 a year in federal aid funds through inability of the state to match these grants.

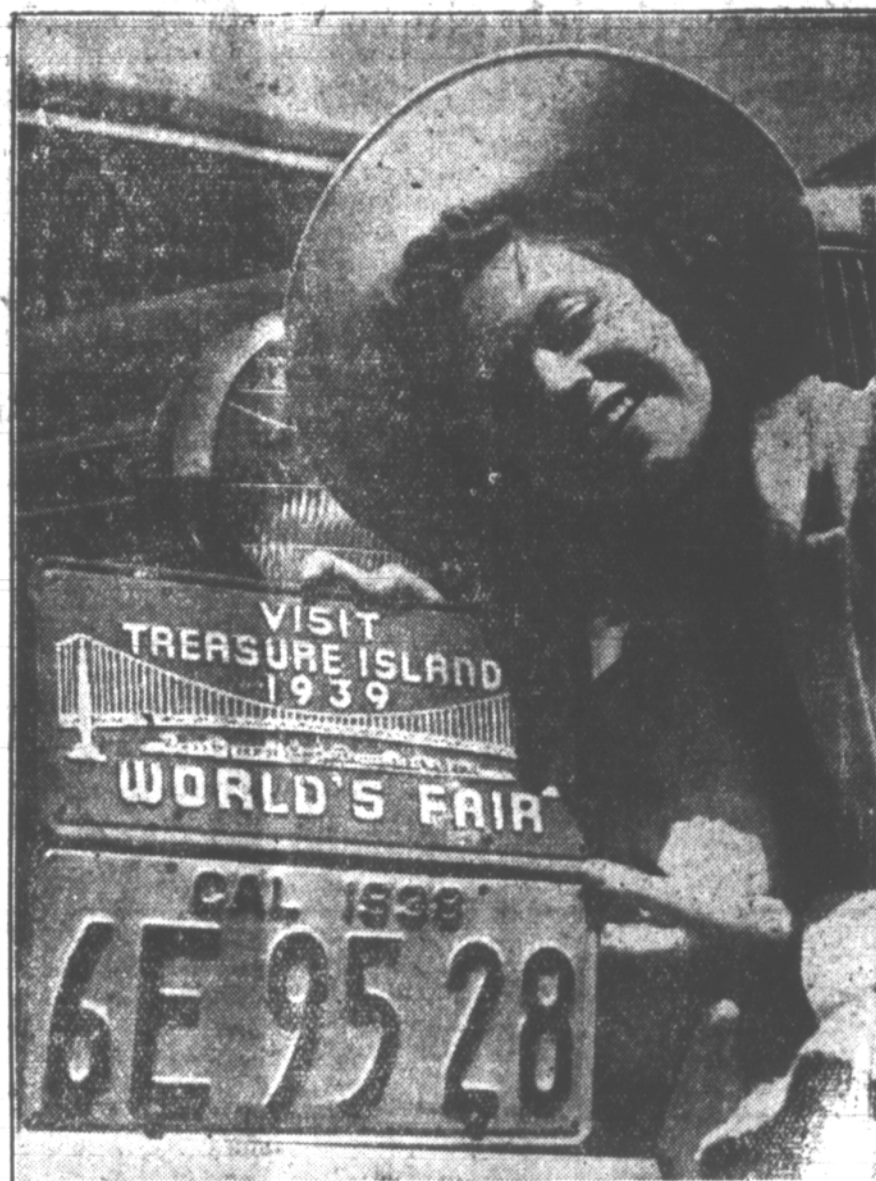
County Agent Calkins on Tuesday shipped the Sherman County exhibit to the State Fair at Salem. He will leave later to place the exhibit, but will not stay during the fair period. The exhibit will be in charge of an appointee of the county court.

Mrs. G. E. James from Eugene is visiting at the P. C. Axtell home. Roy Kunsman is back from a 10 day hunting and fishing vacation. Miss Elsie Bourhill left Thursday for Portland where she will attend the Jefferson High.

Several parts of the county were visited during the last week with rain storms of near cloud burst proportions. The road between Moro and DeMoss and also the roads in the Monkland district were washed badly in places.

S. W. Ross, wife and daughter are visiting with their son L. W. Ross and family. A number of Moro people have combined to charter a special sleeping car to leave here next week for the Pendleton Round-Up.

Fair Boost for Fair



Patsy Sheldon, ardent booster for the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition, added this extra license plate to her car, inviting the world to visit the Exposition on Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay next year.

Looking Forward

By Franklyn Waltman

In one of the many small parks that dot Washington, alongside of one of the Capitol's busy thoroughfares, there is a large bronze statue of a seated figure, leaning forward tensely, the face peering with some concern, as though trying to see what lies behind the veil of the future.

The figure is a replica of Samuel Gompers, a part of the memorial erected in honor of the first president of the American Federation of Labor. Gazing on the bronze statue one wonders what Samuel Gompers, the old man of labor, would think were he living today.

For Samuel Gompers undoubtedly did more to promote the organized labor movement in this country than any other man. Where other men had failed, he succeeded because he seemed to have an inner sense, an intuition of the wise and smart thing to do. In his long years of struggling on behalf of labor, he won the respect and admiration of a great part of the country. He brought to the American Federation of Labor a moral prestige which in later years proved to be its greatest asset.

Shunned Partisan Politics

It was Gompers' wisdom and great vision which steered the American Federation of Labor away from the shoals of partisan politics. In 1894 he risked his prestige and his standing within the A. F. of L. to battle successfully against the adoption by the Federation of a socialistic program of political action. Indeed, though he won that war, he lost a battle for he was ousted for one year from the presidency of the A. F. of L. because he made the fight.

Although Gompers kept the A. F. of L. aloof from taking sides in partisan politics, he realized the necessity for organized labor to concern itself with governmental action to protect its economic interests. He inspired in 1906 the Federation's policy of rewarding its friends and punishing its enemies—a policy which today remains the A. F. of L. policy.

Gompers would not have been in sympathy with the political activities of John L. Lewis and his C. I. O. cohorts. Were he living he would have been shocked over the members of organized labor being assessed to place approximately \$500,000 in the campaign war chest of a political party. Had he been living, without doubt he would be wrathful over sitdown strikes, attacks on the Supreme Court, regimentation of labor by a government board with powers to compel observance of its decrees.

Thus William Green, now pres-

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Dealer in

Calkins Weeders, Treaters

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Moro, Oregon Phone 454

united, is invincible. There is no way whereby our labor movement may be assured sustained progress in determining its policies and its plans other than by sincere democratic deliberation until a unanimous decision is reached. This may seem a cumbersome, slow method to the impatient but the impatient are more concerned for immediate triumph than for the education of constructive development.

The second of these quotations reads thusly:

"So long as we have held fast to voluntary principles and have been actuated and inspired by the spirit of service, we have sustained our forward progress and we have made our labor movement something to be respected and accorded a place in the councils of our Republic. Where we have blundered into trying to force a policy or a decision, even though wise and right, we have impeded, if not interrupted, the realization of our aims."

And the third quotation reads: "Say to the organized workers of America that as I have kept the faith I expect that they will keep the faith. They must carry on. Say to them that a union man carrying a card is not a good citizen unless he upholds the institutions of our country and a poor citizen of our country if he upholds the institutions of our country and forgets the obligations of his trade associations."

John L. Lewis is not the only man who, on this Labor Day, should read and ponder those words. Franklin Delano Roosevelt also might read them with profit.

Defined

"Now," said the teacher, "what does this phrase mean—'He came to himself'?"

"Please, sir," said the child, "It means he had pawned all his clothes."

CHURCHES

Moro Community Presbyterian church: 10 a. m., Our Bible school will observe its annual Birthday Sunday. Each person with a birthday since January 1, who has not brought an offering, is asked to join the pastor in the service of giving. We belong to a Bible school. Let us bring our Bible that it may be counted and used. 11 a. m., Morning worship and sermon "Marching On." 7:30 p. m. High school C. E. meeting. Lawrence H. Mitchelmore, Minister

Moro Christian Science Society: For Sunday, September 11 the

subject of the Lesson Sermon will be "Substance." The Wednesday evening service begins at eight o'clock. The reading room is open with an attendant after each service. The public is cordially invited to attend the church services and to make use of the reading room.

Grass Valley Baptist church: 10 a. m., Bible school. Was Saul a king or a shepherd? Come and find out. 11 a. m., Morning Worship. The topic will be "The Sin and Trespass Offerings." 12 noon, Those who are planning to attend the Sunday School Rally at Rufus will leave the church taking their dinners. 7:30 p. m. Evening Gospel Service. 7:30 p. m. Thursday, Prayer and Bible study at the Parsonage. Read the book of Jonah before coming.

Wasco Methodist church: Sunday school at 10 a. m. Classes for all ages. Morning worship at 11 a. m. Everybody Welcome! F. L. Cannell, Pastor.

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Moro Lodge No. 113, I.O.O.F.

Moro, Oregon
Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in the I.O.O.F. hall Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us.

Ralph E. Eakin, N. G.
Joe Truitt, Secretary.

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116
Moro, Oregon

Meets 2d and 4th Tuesday of each month Visiting members welcome.
Thelma Miller N.G.
Florence Johnston, Sec.

Bethlehem Chapter, No. 78.O.E.B.

Moro, Oregon
Meets Every Second and Fourth Thursdays in each Month. Visiting members Invited
Kerrone Christianson W. M.
Ruth Sparling, Secretary.

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A-F & A-M

Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings of each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us.

Searal Searcy, W. M.
C. V. Belknap, Secy.



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Every Day Is Sherman County Day