

Sherman County Journal

Fiftieth Year No. 2

Moro, Oregon, Friday, November 18, 1938

Official County Paper

Of Oregon— Its Government and People

By A. L. Lindbeck

That the results of the recent general election in this state contained many surprises goes without saying. The landslide which swept Charles A. Sprague into the governorship, for instance, was hardly expected by even his most optimistic supporters. Conservative estimates of Sprague's majority prior to the election, among those who predicted success for the Republican candidate, ranged from 15,000 to 25,000. Those who dealt in larger margins were the rare exception. The same was true in the case of Rufus C. Holman's victory in the senatorial race. Most prognosticators predicted that the race between Holman and Willis Mahoney would be close and that Holman's margin would be a slim one, should he succeed in winning at all.

Among all of the alibis and explanations that have been advanced to account for the sweeping Republican victory in this state two stand out as most logical. In the first place it was a return to normalcy. Oregon being normally a Republican state that was only swept into the Democratic column by the Roosevelt landslide of 1932 and retained therein by the popularity of New Deal policies in the elections of 1934 and 1936. This return to normalcy was speeded by dissent in the ranks of the Democratic party which was hopelessly split into a left-wing or radical group led by Elton Watkins, Henry L. Hess and others and a conservative group commonly referred to as Martin Democrats. Many of these latter unquestionably supported the Republican nominees in retaliation for the defeat administered their candidate by Hess in the May primaries.

That Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction, a Democrat, survived the rout of his partisans in this state speaks volumes for the calibre of this official who had the active support not only of the educators throughout the state but of a large majority of the newspapers as well.

When Governor Martin retired to his political tent following his defeat in the May primaries it was with a promise to his advisers that he would take no part in the general election campaign. That promise was rigidly adhered to. But on Wednesday morning, following the general election, he came out of his political retirement beaming with satisfaction over the result of the election, with the laconic comment that "Oregon still flies with her own wings." That remark can be interpreted in only one way. It was a public notice to Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes and other members of the national administration that the voters of Oregon refuse to be dictated to by the powers in Washington. It will be recalled that in the primary campaign Ickes gave his blessing to Henry Hess as well as Willis Mahoney, democratic candidate for the United States senate, repeatedly resorted to the warning that unless they were elected the national administration could not be expected to look with favor on Oregon's future requests for PWA and WPA grants and other similar favors.

With Rufus C. Holman now a senator elect interest naturally centers in his resignation and his possible successor as state treasurer. Congress convenes on January 3. If Holman plans to qualify as a senator on the opening day he must necessarily resign as state treasurer prior to that time. This would pave the way for the appointment of his successor by Governor Martin who has let it be known that, such being the case, he would name "some outstanding citizen" who could be depended upon to carry out the good work of treasurer Holman. However, it is not necessary that Holman qualify as a senator at the opening of the session. He might postpone that step indefinitely and retain his post as state treasurer in the meantime, at least until the newly elected governor, Charles A. Sprague, a republican, has been inaugurated when he would be in a position to name the new treasurer. Holman, himself, refuses to

(Continued on Page two)

Royal Pair Assigned to Australia



The duke of Kent, and his wife, the former Princess Marina of Greece, who will go to Australia in about a year, where the duke is to succeed Lord Gowrie as governor general. Both the duke and the duchess are very popular, and the appointment of a royal prince to the Australian post is interpreted as a determination of the British government to strengthen the bonds of empire by every means in its power.

Grangers Go To Portland For Convention

Many of Sherman county's grangers are in Portland this week to join with their fraternity in convention in that city. The national convention opened Wednesday with an address by Louis Taber, national master.

Initiation into the seventh degree will be given Friday and Saturday night and most of those going from here plan to be present for that ceremony. Among those making the trip are: Mesdames and Messrs. C. P. Adams, D. L. Reynolds, Wilford Belshe, Ellsworth Woods, Martin Melzer, Dewey Thompson, J. L. Davis, Louis Sather, Clyde Fridley, William Huck, C. B. Andrews and Roy Barnett and George McDonald.

Ex-Servicemen To Meet In Moro

One of the conferences for the fifth district for American Legionnaires and Auxiliaries will be held in Moro December 4th, which is Sunday. The south end of the district will be covered Saturday by the officers who will be traveling about the state and the second meeting of the district will be held here. Ex-servicemen from Hood River, Wasco and Sherman counties are invited and a crowd of over a hundred are expected. Dinner will be served at the hotel in the evening after the day's session and the evening session will be held thereafter.

Young Drivers Most Dangerous

The statement that young automobile drivers are killing three times as many persons as are middle aged drivers, made recently by an eastern educator, is no exaggeration but is a slight understatement of the facts as they apply in Oregon, according to Secretary of State Earl Snell.

"Our accident reports for last year indicate that drivers under the age of 24 are involved in three and one half times as many fatal accidents per capita as are drivers between the ages of 55 and 64," Snell stated.

He said there is no definite age at which this transition takes place, but that there is a progressive improvement as the age groups advance.

These statistics should be a real stimulus to school teachers and everyone else working to educate young people in safe driving practices, the secretary of state believes. A large part of his safety education campaign is devoted to training young drivers in the proper handling of their cars, and acquainting them with highway regulations and motor car mechanics through class room activities.

Joe Truitt will leave the latter part of the week for Salem to attend the annual meeting of county clerks.

Accident Injures Several Sunday Night Near G.V.

A serious accident occurred Sunday night about four miles south of Grass Valley on the Sherman highway when two California cars and two locally owned cars were involved.

One California car had broken down and the second had gone out from Grass Valley to tow it. The occupants were flagging cars down while they turned around on the highway. C. I. Lafon, accompanied by his family and hired man, were going south and stopped to wait until the road was clear when Harry Wayne Young, driving his father's car in which were James and Velma Tate, the latter a niece of Mrs. Young, struck the Lafon car. The impact drove the back end of the Lafon car clear to the rear axle and wrecked the Young car.

Injured in the accident were Harry Young who received a concussion and a long cut across his forehead; the Tates who were bruised and cut; Mrs. Lafon, who was in the back seat of their car. Others were bruised only. The California residents' car was but slightly damaged and they were able to go home Tuesday. Young, the driver of his father's car, is but fifteen years of age.

GRANGE ELECTS

Election of officers for Harland View Grange was held last Friday night at a regular meeting at the hall with the following results: Master, George McDonald; Lecturer, Mrs. Wilford Belshe; Secretary, Orval Thompson; Treasurer, Wilford Belshe; Overseer, Martin Melzer; Steward, Bernard Martin; Ass't steward, Dean Reynolds; second ass't steward, Mrs. Dean Reynolds; Ceres, Inez Thompson; Pomona, Sally Martin; Flora, Christine Platt; Chaplain, C. J. Thompson; Gate Keeper, Fritz Rohwerder.

HEADS SURGEONS



Dr. George P. Muller, professor of surgery at Jefferson Medical college in Philadelphia, was chosen president-elect of the American College of Surgeons at their congress meeting in New York.

Valuation of Utilities Lowered By Tax Heads

A change was made in the utility valuations in Sherman county this year by the State Tax Commission. Part of the change was done by lowering the percentage from 72 to 71 for this county and new valuations were given to the utilities putting them lower than in 1937. In 1938 they were generally raised but have been lowered for 1939 taxes.

All utility property in the county is now valued at \$1,690,040.87 a drop of \$134,380.82 from the 1938 roll. Last year the railroad up the Deschutes was removed from the rolls giving a severe cut in such valuations in the county.

Grange Leader Tells Plans For Order

Evidencing a keen understanding of the nations agricultural problems, as well as an earnest purpose to assist in their solution, Mr. Taber goes immediately to the very heart of the farm situation, and in concise, easily understood language voices the convictions of the most thoughtful farmers with reference to the present needs of agriculture and the methods which have been employed to meet those needs. Out of a life time of experience as a practical farmer himself, as well as the good fortune of having contacts with many angles of the industry, Mr. Taber speaks for the American farmer as few men can do. In consequence he not only describes existing conditions clearly, but offers in the name of the Grange remedies that will appeal to sane readers everywhere.

Low Prices Cause

He uses as a background for his analysis of farm affairs the fact that "The nation's No. 1 problem remains falling farm prices, unemployment and curtailed farm purchasing power," pointing out that the net farm income of the year will be approximately \$1,000,000,000 less than in the preceding 12 months. Continuing, Mr. Taber says: "Long ere this the wheels of national recovery would have been humming had it not been for the continuous break due to the farmer receiving too small a share of the wealth he creates." Mr. Taber then goes directly to the question of the legislation of the recent times, enacted for the purpose of helping farmers and known as "the Farm Bill." While agreeing that some legislation helpful to agriculture has been passed, Mr. Taber is forced to this emphatic conclusion:

Effects of the Farm Bill
"If we weigh the present act on the scales of farm income and prices, it is obvious that it has not reached a satisfactory goal. With the farm dollar at near 77 and with general marketing conditions unsatisfactory, we find final proof of the need of new methods to bring justice to the tillers of the soil. When this act was pending the National Grange stood practically alone in asking the Congress to take time to exemplify and correct apparent difficulties; above all to remove features that could lead to regimentation or that would be of doubtful constitutionality. Our advice was not heeded and the protests in the Corn Belt, and complaints from one end of the nation to the other, indicate the wisdom of the position of the National Grange on this legislation."

New SCS Man Comes To Moro

Joe Belanger, former county agent for Morrow county, will arrive this week to take over his duties as tillage experimenter for the Soil Conservation Service in the Columbia basin area. He will have his office at the experiment station as the Bureau of Plant Industry is partly responsible for his salary.

Mr. Belanger has made an enviable record as county agent and was largely responsible for the establishment of the first erosion district in Oregon through the law permitting such districts that was passed in the 1937 session.

With Mrs. Belanger he will live in the Ragsdale house which he has rented.

World Wheat Student To Talk To Wheat League

Governor and Senator-Elect Invited To Attend and Give Talks To Membership

The present economic position of wheat throughout the world, which is one of the principal topics interesting the Oregon wheat grower, will be discussed at the annual meeting of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League in The Dalles, by Dr. M. K. Bennett, economist of the food research institute at Standard university, it is announced by C. W. Smith, league secretary.

The eleventh annual convention of the Wheat League will be held in The Dalles December 1 to 3, with the public program on the last two days. The first day will be devoted to preliminary work of the various committees in preparing tentative reports for consideration by the convention.

New Officers Asked

Governor elect Charles A. Sprague and Senator elect Rufus Holman have been elected to attend the annual banquet Friday night. Congressman Walter M. Pierce, who has just been re-elected, is also expected to attend both this and other sessions of the convention.

Those who attended the previous convention of the league in The Dalles may recall that Dr. J. S. Davis, director of the food research institute at Stanford, spoke on the wheat situation at that time. His analysis of the wheat problem throughout the world was very well received, and it is believed by those in charge of the program that the analysis by Dr. Bennett of the same institution will be equally illuminating this year.

Richards To Talk

Program features relating to production which have been listed include an address by D. E. Richards, superintendent of the eastern Oregon livestock branch experiment at Union on the palatability of different grasses. The Union station has been conducting extensive palatability tests in cooperation with the soil conservation service, and has obtained considerable data on all of the common and more newly introduced grasses of the Pacific northwest.

Interest is also being shown in the scheduled address by C. I. Seely of the federal weed experiment station at Genesee, Idaho, who will report on results obtained through recent research in the control of more important noxious weeds.

Wasco County Works With Station

Continuing compilation of data carried on during the past five years in cooperation with the Moro Experiment station on dry land projects, 320 moisture tests were taken during October by Wasco County Agent W. Wray Lawrence. Tests made were in nine orchards in three communities, with the idea of determining the moisture content in the soils in orchards of different ages and handled under different cultivation conditions.

Clyde Kiddle Hurt In Highway Crash

Clyde Kiddle, state supervisor of government crop insurance, with headquarters at Corvallis, is recovering from serious injuries sustained in an automobile accident in eastern Oregon, when his car collided with the rear end of a truck. A fractured ankle bone, in addition to severe cuts and bruises will keep him away from his official duties for several weeks.

WEATHER FOR THE WEEK

DATE	MAX.	MIN.
Nov 10	37	28
" 11	37	19
" 12	38	24
" 13	46	31
" 14	49	35
" 15	45	34
" 16	52	38
Total for the week		12

Boys Club May Result From Meeting Tuesday

A group of men and boys met Tuesday evening at the Journal office to discuss the formation of a boys club. Need of the boys about town who have become a bit old to enjoy scout work, for a place to meet and associate together caused the meeting. Ralph Brisbane offered the use of his building and it will be cleaned and put into use for the project.

Seven boys are expected to make up the charter membership of the club and a supervisory group of three men will assist them. Two of the advisors will be chosen by the boys themselves and the third man will be chosen by the first two. Athletic equipment, books and games will be installed in the rooms by the boys. About a dozen men and five boys attended the first meeting.

Oregon Farm Bureau Hears President

"The Oregon State Farm Bureau Federation held its Annual Meeting at the Columbia Gorge Hotel in Hood River, on November 9th and 10th.

About two hundred members from all parts of the state attended the Convention, most of whom sat down with President Wm. A. O'Neal of the National Farm Bureau, who was speaker at dinner on Wednesday evening. His strong plea was for united action among the farmers.

The general session Wednesday listened to most instructive talks by Charles Galloway and John Carlin, of the State Tax Commission.

Mac Hoke, of Pendleton, President of the state unit, addressed the meeting and expressed his satisfaction with the growth of the State Bureau and made a plea for further work along the line of building a strong business organization for the farmer.

Mac Hoke was re-elected President; C. A. Reed, of Hood River, Vice-President; Berkley Davis, Pendleton, Secretary.

Loans To Wheat Growers Getting Large

Loans to Oregon wheat growers under the ever-normal granary program of the AAA have reached a total of approximately 21 million dollars, a report from the state office shows. Only nine counties have thus far reported actual completion of loans. These are Baker, Gilliam, Jefferson, Morrow, Sherman, Umatilla, Union, Wallowa and Wasco counties.

The total for the state shows 32 farmers having received loans on 128,742 bushels, placed in farm storage, and 1208 growers with 4,654,108 bushels in warehouse storage. The actual total of all loans, as reported to the state office, is \$2,485,996.37. Umatilla leads all counties with approximately 1,700,000 bushels under loans. Sherman county is a close second with 1,367,000 bushels. Morrow, Gilliam and Wasco are next, in that order.

Care Urged On Bicyclists

Bicycle riders were apparently at fault in eight out of ten Oregon highway fatalities involving bicyclists so far this year, Secretary of State Earl Snell reports.

"These cases illustrate clearly how easily a serious accident can result from momentary carelessness, or failure to observe the rules of the road," Snell pointed out.

Following are some of the actions which resulted in death to bicyclists:
Hitching on to a truck; riding at night without lights; carrying another person on the handlebars; cutting across a traffic lane without signaling or looking back; failure to stop at a through street; riding two abreast.

Three of the actions are direct violations of state laws, and all of them are forbidden in most cities having bicycle ordinances.

Byron Peets and wife were here from Portland Friday until Sunday for a visit with Mr. Peets' parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Peets.

Achievement Dinner For 4-H Clubbers Planned

Speakers From Portland and The Dalles To Pay Respect To Youthful Club Workers

An achievement day banquet for 4-H club members of Sherman county will be held at Fraternity hall in Wasco next Saturday night according to an announcement made by LeRoy Wright, county agent. The Wasco Civic Club and the First National Bank are co-operating as sponsors.

The dinner will begin at seven o'clock in the evening and will be served by members of the Ladies Aids of Wasco.

Speakers for the meeting, other than local residents who will be called on, will be R. L. Clark of Beldine & Clark, North Portland, who is always in charge of selling 4-H club stock at the International H. C. Seymour, state club leader, E. B. McNaughten, president of the First National Bank of Portland and Gene Courtney of the First National Bank in The Dalles.

Contrary to the general rule of the Wasco Civic club, women are asked to this dinner. Forty two 4-H clubbers in the county are eligible to attend and receive rewards for work done the past year and it is expected that nearly all of them will attend. Reservations may be made with the county agent.

County Judge Goes To Board Meeting

A joint meeting of the Oregon State Planning Board, Ormand R. Bean, Chairman, the Executive Committee, and the Resolutions Committee of the Association of Oregon Counties will be held on November 17th 1:30 p. m. at the Capitol Building in Salem, to discuss problems to tax reverted lands.

Increasing tax delinquency and the consequent reversion of hundreds of parcels of urban land and thousands of acres of rural lands to county ownership have created new problems for county officials in managing these lands to the best advantage.

Since 1935 the State Planning Board has cooperated with a number of counties in assembling actual data about their county lands. Results of these studies will be discussed at the joint meeting.

Judge George A. Potter of Moro is a member of the Executive Committee of the Association of Oregon Counties.

First Payments Made On Compliance

First payments under the 1938 agricultural conservation program have just been made, according to an announcement by the AAAA office at Corvallis. Although the bulk of applications for payment are not expected for some time yet, about 200 hundred from Columbia, Tillamook, Morrow and Multnomah counties have been cleared and returned to the counties for final signature.

The first checks went to 13 co-operators in Columbia county, who received payment aggregating \$161.51. All signed applications and reports of performance so far received at the state office have been acted upon.

Four Schools Have Pupils Examined

Examination of pupils in the Kent, Grass Valley, Wasco and Rufus schools by Dr. Poley and Miss Althea Stoneman, county health nurse, was completed this week. Pupils in the first, third, sixth and eighth grades were given the examination and also any high school pupils that desired it. One hundred forty were examined as follows: Kent 32; Grass Valley 46; Rufus 35; Wasco 32.

Miss Stoneman will leave Friday for Condon where she will begin her work as nurse for Gilliam county, her time being divided between Gilliam, Morrow and Sherman counties. No further health work will be done here this year.