

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

Of Oregon- Its Government and People

By A. L. Lindbeck

The pie counter boys of the Republican camp are becoming impatient. The political plums are not falling as fast as they would like. No amount of shaking seems to have any effect on the Democratic incumbents who continue to sit tight in their snug berths apparently oblivious of the mob demanding their heads.

Rumor had it that as soon as Governor Sprague got the legislature out of Salem and had a chance to look about a bit he would begin reorganization of state departments over which he holds jurisdiction but apparently the governor is not going to be rushed into any thing like a wholesale housecleaning. In fact he is a bit too conscientious about the responsibilities of his position to suit many of those who supported him in the hope of political reward in the form of a job on the state payroll.

Rumor that there would be no further changes in the state tax commission to make room for deserving Republicans was confirmed by the governor this week, thus blasting the hopes of at least one of the faithful who might have found a lucrative post thereon. Right on top of that announcement came another one to the effect that J. W. Ferguson is to be retained as state forester, for the time being at least. Ferguson has never been very popular with the forestry people. A Democrat, he was forced down the throat of the forestry board by Governor Martin at the outset of his administration. It had been hoped by many that he would be among the first to walk the political plank when the Republican administration took over. But apparently this is not to be the case. Ferguson's status was discussed at the executive session of the forestry board in Salem last week and it was decided that no change would be made just at this time. This, however, does not mean that Ferguson is secure in his job for another four years since he serves only at the pleasure of the board and is subject to removal at any time.

Interest just now centers in the possible fate of D. A. Bulmore, administrator of the unemployment compensation act. The job pays \$4000 a year which is enough to place it in the political plum classification and it is understood that the commission is already looking around for a "conservative business executive" as a possible successor to Bulmore.

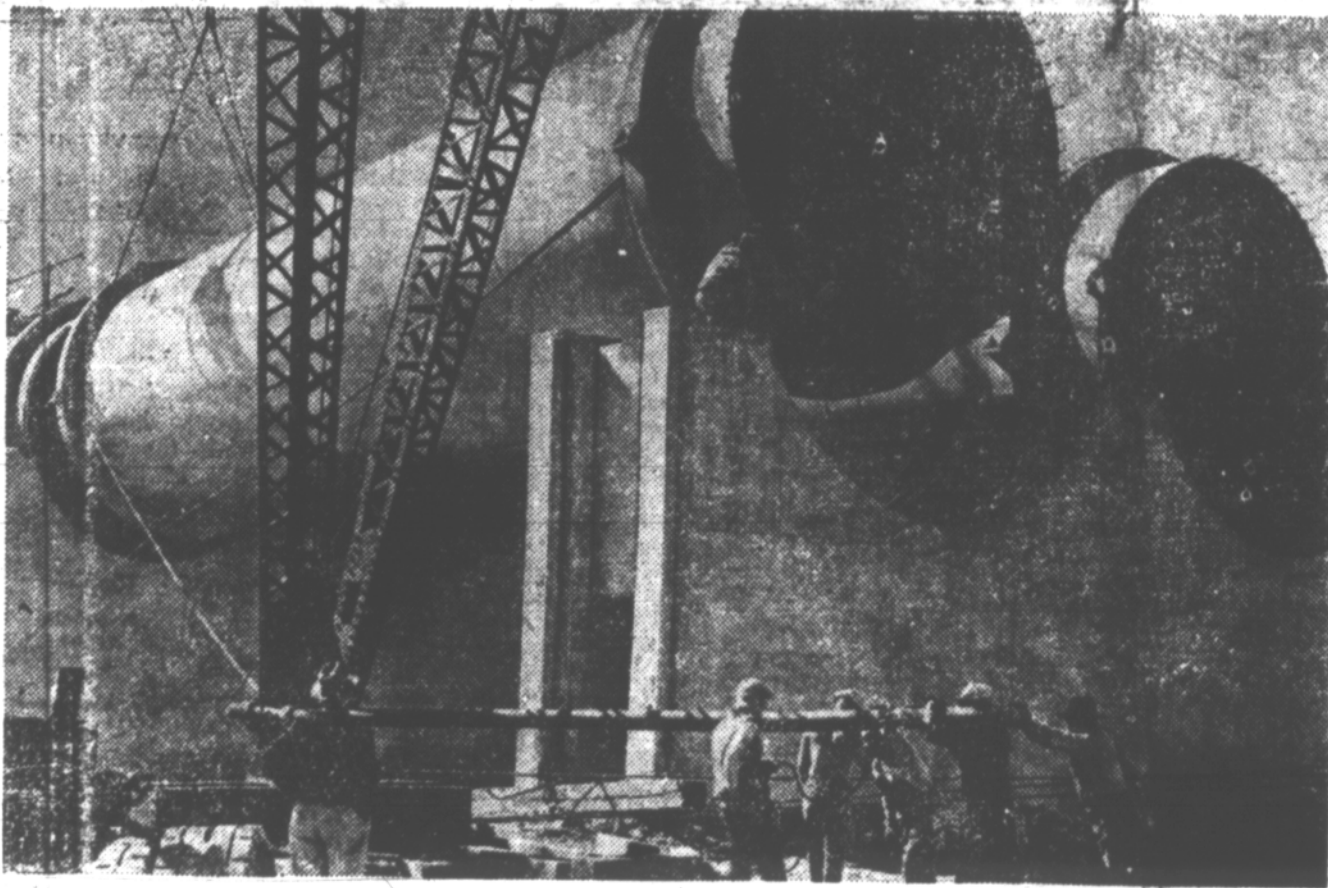
It has just leaked out around the capitol that the Democrats put over a fast one on the Republicans in loading the Oregon exhibit at San Francisco's worlds fair with followers of Roosevelt, Martin, Gosselin, et al. Created under the administration of Governor Martin most of the commissioners are, naturally, Democrats. Likewise the executive secretary of the commission, C. C. Carlson, is also a Democrat and a close personal friend of W. L. (Pinky) Gosselin, Oregon's little Jim Farley. It now develops that while the Republican job hunters have been haunting the executive offices young Carlson has been busy taking care of young Democrats in jobs with the fair exhibit. There are now 14 of them on the commission's payroll at salaries ranging from \$125 to \$325 a month, most of them hired, too, since the new administration came into power but without consulting the governor or any of his patronage dispensers who have just awakened to the fact and are not any too happy over the whole thing.

Chalk up another "first" for the new capitol. Charity M. Watson and Harry Stupp were the first bride and groom to be married in Oregon's \$2,500,000 state house. Both are from Portland. The ceremony was performed at 7:00 o'clock Friday morning in the presence of a score of friends and relatives.

Resignation of Dexter Rice, Roseburg attorney, from the state game commission leaves a vacancy for Governor Sprague to fill. The governor said that he knew Rice was resigning as chairman of the board but not that he was leaving the board entirely.

Plans are already underway for
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Huge Siphon to Help Irrigate California Valleys



Early does it as cranes lower into place a 42-ton section of the siphon which carries All American canal water across New river, 1 1/2 miles west of Calexico, Calif. The bureau of reclamation, which is constructing the canal for the irrigation of the fertile Imperial and Coachella valleys of southern California, is building this siphon—one of the principal engineering feats of the 80-mile route.

Sherman County Wins Cup for Seal Sales

Sherman county again won the cup given for the county that sells the largest number of Christmas seals per capita. Nineteen thirty eight was the second consecutive year that the cup has come to this county. A picture in the papers this week showed Mrs. J. M. Wilson, of Kent, vice chairman for this county, accepting the cup from the hands of the state director.

While the seal sale is ended by the first of the year it always takes several weeks before the concluding figures are made up and the cup awarded.



By EARL SNELL, Secretary of State

Three-fifths of all drivers involved in fatal accidents in Oregon last year boasted an otherwise clean records for the past seven years, Secretary of State Earl Snell announced this week.

"It is a common misconception that a majority of all accidents, and especially fatal accidents, are caused by a few reckless drivers," Snell commented, "yet the fact that more than half the drivers in these fatal accidents are suffering their first mishap indicates that they are responsible for many bad smash-ups."

On the other hand, the figures do indicate that poor drivers are more apt to become involved in fatal accidents than the average run of motorists. Thus, only three per cent of all drivers were charged with three or more accidents during the past seven years, while 11 per cent of the drivers involved in fatal accidents had three or more accidents on their records, not counting their fatal mishap.

Rainfall Brief But Clouds Threaten

Rain started to fall in Sherman county Tuesday evening raising the hopes of farmers who always desire rain when the wheat is in the ground and growing, but the hopes were short lived for the rain was but a shower of which nothing was left, but a new place to make tracks on by the next morning. Since then skies have been cloudy and rain has threatened. It has been so long trying to rain now that the most hopeful have concluded that this attempt will result in a blow.

ROBT GUTHRIE DIES

Robert H. Guthrie, 83, well known to many Sherman citizens of the passing generation, died in Oakland, California Tuesday afternoon of an illness of several weeks. He leaves three daughters and a wife. He was an early day stock man and farmer southeast of Grass Valley and still owns several hundred acres of land which is farmed by V. B. Eakin and sons.

New City Pump Installed; Change Being Made

The city council of Moro met Tuesday night for a discussion of municipal affairs. A report on the progress of the job of installing the new pumping system was made by the water committee to the effect that the new system was in, in a temporary fashion and that a pit was being dug to lower the booster pump in order to increase the capacity per minute from forty to fifty gallons. The poles and wiring for the automatic device have been installed.

The pit will be concreted and the booster pump lowered within a few days.

It was voted to inform members of the fire department that the fire engine was not to be taken outside the city limits except to other towns. Possible loss of the city's present favorable fire insurance rating was the reason for the decision by the council.

The boys club was given permission to use the room above the fire house and the street and public property committee was named to have the roof repaired on that building. The boys will repair the interior of the room.

A discussion was had about the advisability of oiling at least one of the streets up the hill because of the trouble of keeping gravel on them. Information about the cost and possibility of having the job done this year will be obtained.

CCC Buildings Are Being Torn Down

Work of tearing down the buildings at the camp has been going on for over three weeks and two entire barracks and some other buildings have been completely razed and the crew is working on the remaining ones.

It is expected that three weeks more will be consumed in the job of tearing down the remaining barracks, the hospital, the recreation hall and the garages. Some of the material is being used in other camps, a truck from Heppner coming Wednesday to take a load of interior board to the camp there for installation purposes.

Woman's Club Meets

The Moro Women's club held a regular meeting Friday afternoon at the club house with members of the Wasco and Grass Valley clubs as invited guests.

The program which was handled by Mrs. T. W. Alley and Mrs. W. A. Ruggles consisted of a song by Connie Ruggles, a solo, "God Bless America" by Mrs. Lloyd Hennagin, a series of Professor Quiz interrogations at which Mrs. Collis Moore was adjudged best and the talk on homemaking by Nancy Morris of the Oregonian Home Institute. All phases of homemaking were discussed by the visitor who received close attention from the members of the clubs present.

Committees For Interim Appointed

Appointment of interim committees by the presiding officers of the senate and house is one of the last acts they perform before winding up the affairs of the legislature. This week appointments have been made to three such committees by E. R. Fatland, speaker of the house, and Robert Duncan, president of the senate.

On the committee to make recommendations for standard forms to be used by the house and the senate on bills, Senators Strayer and Francisovich, and Representatives Loneragan, Turner and McAlister were named.

On the committee to study re-apportionment of senators and representatives after the 1940 census and to report to the 1941 legislature, Senators Clark and Stalman and Representatives Marsh, Wells and French were chosen.

To study the merit system for state employees one representative, Al Grant of Baker was named to work with Alex Barry of Portland, W. B. Duerst of McMinnville, Mrs. Lamar Toozs of Portland and W. A. Bowes of Portland.

Oregon 4H Clubs Win at San Francisco

Against the strongest competition in the history of the Interstate Junior Livestock show held at the San Francisco World fair, Oregon club members made a clean sweep of blue ribbons in the Aberdeen-Angus baby beef, took one blue ribbon in Shorthorn classes, and were second only to Texas exhibitors in the Hereford classes.

Of the 23 club members from six Oregon counties, 16 won one or more prizes on their animals. These were in competition with stock shipped from nearly every section of the United States. Some 4000 head of baby beefs, lambs, and hogs were shown.

Taylor High of Klamath county took the highest honors among the Oregon exhibitors by winning first in the Aberdeen-Angus class with a baby beef weighing 650 to 800 pounds, and also took the breed championship. Charles Kik of Umatilla county placed first; Stanley Masten, Klamath county, second; and Kenneth Bense, Umatilla, third, in the Aberdeen-Angus class with steers weighing 805 to 950 pounds. Charles Oheine and Virgil Ratcliff of Klamath county took first and second in the Aberdeen-Angus class with steers weighing 955 to 1100 pounds. Bob Blickenstaff of Klamath county was first in the low weight Shorthorn class. Robert H. King of Sherman county with two animals placed second and fourth in the Hereford, 650 to 800 pound class.

Others who won ribbons in the Hereford class were Clayton Charley, Jackson county; Marvin Wellmar and George Poulos, Baker county; and Joe Keller and Walter Ritter, Klamath county. Other winners in the Aberdeen-Angus class were Lawrence Ousterhout and Don Pruett, Jackson county.

Farm Meetings Scheduled To Start Friday

Farm Plan and Estimate
Sheets Must Be Filled Out
By All Cooperators

Meetings will begin Friday at Locust Grove between farmers and their community committees and the county agent which have for their purpose the signing of farm plan and estimate sheets by each farmer who is, or expects to co-operate with the government's farm program.

The sheets will apply to the 1939 crop and each farmer will indicate the number of acres he has in his farm and the number in crop, summerfallow, compliance, hay, grass and in any other crop or pasture. While this information has been given a number of times there is possibility of change on each farm.

The meeting for the Wasco district will be held Monday and Tuesday at Wasco and after that in Moro, Grass Valley and Kent in order to give each farmer of the county an opportunity to declare his farming intentions for the year.

Receipt of checks for the promised December payment has been slow but some arrive nearly every week. The payment that was due in early February will be along later.

Trashy Fallow Gives Good Wheat Yields

Moro—Shallow land double disked for fallow has produced just as high wheat yield as when plowed with a mold-board plow in 18 years' trials at the branch experiment station here. The double disked leaves the straw and stubble in the upper few inches of soil, which helps prevent wind and water erosion. Average yields of mold-board plowing have been only six-tenths of a bushel larger with winter wheat, while with spring wheat the averages are exactly the same.

Unemployment Men Clarify Changes

Salem, Ore., April 13—The state unemployment compensation commission today sought to clarify changes enacted in the job insurance law by the legislature in regard to waiting weeks and redeterminations. The statement read:

Waiting weeks served since January 1, 1939 (or as many of weeks 50, 51 and 52 of 1938 which are a part of one uninterrupted period of unemployment which continued into 1939) by any claimant whose benefit year does not expire until after that date shall be countable for waiting-period purposes under any new claim for 1939 benefits filed by such a claimant on or after April 1, 1939.

All waiting-period weeks beginning with week 14 of 1939 will be determined as such under the law as amended with respect to all claims for benefits regardless of the date the claim was filed and whether or not the claim is "original" or "new."

When a claimant who filed prior to April 1, 1939 and whose benefit year ends on or after June 30, 1939 has served a total of three waiting period weeks at any time in his current benefit year, he will not be required to serve additional waiting-period weeks under such current claim. Benefits will not be paid for any waiting-period week served prior to April 1, 1939, whether or not such week is in excess of three such weeks which have been served by the claimant in his current benefit year.

CAR EXPERTS COMPILE COST OF OPERATION

It costs approximately 6 cents a mile to operate a medium-sized car, including all the expenses confronting the average automobile in Oregon, according to figures announced by the Oregon State Motor association.

The costs include gasoline, oil, tires, maintenance, depreciation, license, taxes, storage, interest and insurance. The average owner of a car weighing about 3200 pounds, a technical bulletin from the highway department states, pays about \$430 a year for operation. Smaller cars run about \$299 a year.

Bank Expects To Pay Federal Income Tax

H. W. Champneys returned Tuesday from Portland where he had been to attend a hearing regarding the matter of federal income taxes on the Bank of Commerce at Wasco. It was not presumed that a bank in liquidation would be forced to pay income tax until recently and the charge may fall heavily on the depositors who have expected to receive interest on their deposits according to a recent state supreme court ruling. The stock holders may also lose in case there is any securities remaining for the tax will be a direct liability on the liquidation just as it is on an individual.

The case will take some time to settle as it will go to the court of tax appeals before being paid.

Typing Contest Held For Sherman County

The typing contest for high school pupils of Sherman county was held Wednesday afternoon at the Moro high school. First and second year students were in separate classes. Winner of the first year division was Claudine Thompson of Moro who made an average of 46 words per minute. Audrey Baker of Moro was second with 42 and Nellie Wilson of Kent third with 40. June Wilde and Kenneth Blair of Wasco were fourth and fifth with 33 and 28 respectively.

In the second year typing group Geraldine Norton of Kent won first place with 55 words, Thelma Fortner of Grass Valley second with 53, Willard Olds of Grass Valley third with 37 and LeVina Barnett of Kent fourth with 35.

Moro, Wasco Track Teams Hold Contest

Track teams of Moro and Wasco held a contest last Friday afternoon at the fair grounds in order to give a bit of additional competition to those who will be contestants in the county track meet to be held in May.

Moro was superior in the distance runs with Barzee and Kenney, French and Lutje winning the half and mile runs but Valdis Wilde of Wasco was clearly better in the sprints although Adams of Moro made a hot race out of the 220.

No jumps were attempted and Moro won in the shot put and discus Pinkerton and Adams out-throwing their competition.

Slow World Trade In Wheat Situation

Crop developments in the North ern Hemisphere and slow world trade were outstanding features in the wheat situation during the first week in April. Beneficial rains in the domestic winter and spring wheat areas improved prospects for winter wheat and placed the soil in better condition for spring seeding. East of the Mississippi river, winter wheat remained in fair to good condition although damage from freezing and thawing was noted in some parts of the eastern Ohio valley.

The crop made good progress in the Mississippi Valley area. In the southern Great Plains, south of Kansas, wheat made good progress except in west central Texas and in parts of Oklahoma. In Kansas the crop showed improvement in all sections with growth rank in southern counties. In the northwestern plains and the Pacific Northwest, the outlook continued favorable. Based on April 1 conditions, private trade agencies estimated the winter wheat crop at over 500 million bushels. An abandonment was placed at about 141 percent which was somewhat under that indicated at the first of December. The Crop Reporting Board will release its indicated production figure on Monday, April 10. Seeding of spring wheat was about half completed at the close of the week in South Dakota and had started in Minnesota and North Dakota.

BANK INSPECTED

A crew of three men from the head office of the First National bank are here this week to inspect the local branch. They are W. M. Burkhardt, G. W. Schachtsick and R. C. Ross.

South Wettest Determined In Series of Tests

Moisture Tests Show Ground
Wet Enough To Make Crop
In Normal Season

The consensus of opinion throughout the county all spring has been that the north end was better supplied with moisture than the southern end of the county. Tests made by the experiment station staff this week indicate that the reverse is true and that a considerably greater percentage of moisture is in the soil near Kent and Grass Valley than near Wasco.

A dozen places in the county were tested with the standard soil tube and the dirt weighed and dried and the percentage of moisture computed with most interesting results.

In Amandus von Borstel's field near Wilcox there was 15.6% moisture for three feet, which may be compared to 12.7 on the experiment station in clean summerfallow and 13.3% in the trashy fallow.

In the field trail plots on the Haggerty place near Kent there was an average of 15.3 in four feet. Near the junction of the new Bourbon road and the highway there was 17.5 percent of moisture in 3 feet for the highest mark in the county. In Coon's field just south of Grass Valley there was 15.3 in 4 feet.

Near Moro the percentages were much like those taken on the station, with 13.9 being found in Chas. Powell's field near Erskine and an even 13 in the E. E. Barzee wheat. Both tests were made to the full six foot depth. In the Kaseberg country on the old Gordon ridge road there was 13.2 per cent moisture in six feet and farther north on the Kaseberg road there was 10.9 in five feet, although this piece had heavy wheat on it which might have sapped some of the moisture.

Nearer Wasco on the market road a test taken showed but 9.7 in six feet. On the Wes Fuller place north of Klondike a test taken showed 11.8 moisture in six feet and further south on the Boice place there was but 9 in five feet. On the land farmed by Charles Burnett east of Moro the test gave 11.5 percent moisture in six feet.

All tests were made in land now sown to wheat.

Despite the fact that the grass is drying up the wheat apparently has sufficient moisture for the present time if these tests can be relied upon and conditions remain normal. Grass, except bunch grass and Crested Wheat, is short rooted and the dry weather of the past month has caused it to stop growing.

Near Mayville in Gilliam county there was 22.6 percent moisture and west of Condon there was 21, while on Shutter flat the moisture was only 11.1 percent. Four feet was the deepest the tube was driven.

In Jefferson county tests were made for an average of 2 1/2 feet with the result that moisture content of the soil was determined to be 31.6 near Grizzly and 19.2 on Agency plains.

Easter Sunrise Service Held

The Easter Sunrise Service, held on the Sawtooth Road at 5:30 a. m., and sponsored by the Christian Endeavor, was attended by Rev. and Mrs. Gilbert Carry, Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Leo Watkins, Marion Crews, Gerda and Marjorie Rich, Edward Johnson, Gladys Stone, Isabelle Spencer, Danny Kaseberg, Walter Mee and Eugene Gosson. The program consisted of the following numbers. Scripture reading by Marjorie Rich; Prayer, Rev. Carey; trumpet solo, Eugene Gosson; Readings by Gladys Stone, Gordon Rich and Mr. Taylor.

At the conclusion of the service twenty-two persons enjoyed breakfast in the basement of the church under the able direction of Mrs. E. P. Rich.

TAX PENNIES FLOW FAST

Pennies collected for state gasoline tax flow into the coffers at the rate of about \$404 per second. This sum \$24.04, represents the typical weekly wage of about half the people who own automobiles, according to the census bureau.