

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper



Moro Council Considers Street Oiling Program

Possibility of oiling some of the streets in Moro is being considered by the city council and a meeting was held this week with state highway engineers Chandler of Bend and Koons of The Dalles. Unless too much gravel is needed to put the street in shape for oiling it is thought that the council will have the work done.

The matter of choosing the street to be oiled is a matter for the councilmen to decide, but it appears probable that the street from the Foss garage to the court house is the one most used and most favored by the city fathers. A twenty foot strip would be treated.

Governor Travels Cottonwood Grade

Sherman County entertained near-royalty unawares for a short time last Thursday evening. The state land board on a tour of inspection of school lands and farms on which school funds have been loaned, cut across the north end of this county on its way to The Dalles, coming by way of the Cottonwood Canyon road. In the official party were Governor Charles A. Sprague, Secretary of State Earl Snell, State Treasurer Walter A. Pearson, Daniel J. Fry, secretary of the board of control, and Lewis Griffith, clerk of the land board. The party spent the entire week in central Oregon.

Firemen Fight Flue Fire

Last Saturday while the west wind was blowing down the street in great gusts the siren sounded to bring citizens out of the stores at a high speed. The Dr. Morgan house was smoking as if the entire roof was about to cave in. When the fire truck had reached the scene and men and women had nearly all gathered it was discovered that a hot chimney fire had caused all the excitement and the smoke by whirling around the roof appeared to be coming from every place at once. A fireman climbed to the roof and poured a crowd of water on the fire and the crowd dispersed to talk about what might have happened.

Ida Coates Becomes Bride Sunday

A quiet wedding was solemnized at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Coates, Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock, when their daughter Ida became the bride of Mr. Carl F. Rutenman of Benton county, Oregon.

About twenty five friends and relatives were present to witness the ceremony. The young couple will make their home in Corvallis. Rev. F. L. Cannell was the officiating minister.

Glen King was in, Prineville Saturday to bring back a calf for Bob's club work.

Court Proceedings For May Shows Postponement of Petition

COUNTY COURT PROCEEDINGS, MAY TERM, 1939

May 3rd, 1939, being the time for the regular term of the County Court of Sherman County in the State of Oregon, the Honorable County Court did meet on the said date in the County Court room in the Court House at Moro, Oregon at the hour of 8:30 o'clock a. m.

The following were present: Judge Geo. A. Potter, Commissioner J. M. Wilson, District Atty T. Lester Johnson, Clark Joe Truitt.

The following proceedings were had at said term:

In the matter of the payment of claims presented against the General Fund. Claims allowed and presented and ordered paid.

In the matter of the payment of claims presented against the Road Fund. Claims allowed and ordered paid.

Re: The petition of Geo. B. Guthrie, Receiver of Oregon-Washington Joint Stock Land

Moisture Nearly Gone Under Winter Wheat

Heavy Draw on Sub-normal Moisture Caused By Rank Growth; Grass Poor

At the end of April the deficiency in moisture in Sherman county as judged by the readings at the experiment station was 2.62 in comparison with the normal rainfall for the same period, the first of September to date.

In March the county received .93 inch of moisture and the normal rainfall is .91 so at that time the deficiency was 1.89 instead of 1.91 as was at the first of March.

April, usually a month in which the farmer can expect some rain, was very dry only .03 of an inch falling instead of the normal .76 inch. The normal for May is .78 but no part of that amount has fallen so far in the month and none is in immediate prospect.

Moisture Tests Given

Soil moisture in the plots at the station is nearly exhausted being now down to 7.7 and 8.3 percent in the well tilled plots of ground. The use of moisture can be well understood by the readings of the delayed tillage and clean tillage plots during April.

On March 21 the delayed tillage plot had 12.3 percent moisture and the clean tillage had 12.4 percent.

Date	Moisture
April 7 - delayed	10.00
clean	9.9
April 15 - delayed	9.6
clean	9.7
April 24 - delayed	7.7
clean	8.3

Wheat cannot take the soil moisture down to less than five percent and grain on these plots is just starting to head, indicating that unless some rainfall comes before long there will not be very substantial crop on these plots.

Wheat Condition Fair

General condition of the wheat at the station is fair and some parts of it look fine. It is the grasses that are suffering from the drought more than the wheat so far. Instead of tall succulent grasses the plot is now filled with undersized tough looking plants. It is only the native bunch grasses that look anything like normal this year.

The flax experiment is showing with a very good stand, but unless there is more moisture it cannot be expected to produce much other a crop or evidence of what might be done with it in this county.

Former Resident Dies in Arlington

Mrs. A. L. (Lena) Huff, died at her home in Arlington last Wednesday night after an illness of several months. Her husband, Link Huff, is well known in Sherman county, having lived here for many years when young. Mrs. Huff was 81 years of age when she died. Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Moore attended the funeral.

Kent School Wins Declamatory Contest

Winners of the Declamatory contest were chosen last Friday night at Grass Valley when the annual speaking competition was held with fourteen contestants from the five schools taking part. Only four tried out in the high school division.

Winner of the group composed of the children in grades one to three was Derris Hinnaglin of Moro, second was Eugene Hoskinson of Kent and third was Herman Peters of Grass Valley.

The second division, composed of children in the fourth to sixth grades, was won by Vernon Melzer of Moro with Anna Flint of Kent second and Betty Bryant of Rufus third.

Points Close

In the seventh and eighth grade division Jackie von Borstel of Kent won first, Gladys Stone of Wasco second and Dorothy Macnab of Rufus third.

On a basis of five for first, three for second and one for third, Kent made a total of 11 points; Moro, ten; Wasco, three; Rufus two and Grass Valley one. The Kent entrants were heard at the school house before the other speakers because of the measles epidemic feared there.

Federal Government To Help Control Weeds

Special to the Journal:

Washington, D. C., May 12.—A plan is being worked out by which a weed control district, the state and the government will cooperate in eradicating noxious weeds. Part of the plan is to use WPA workers and CCC enrollees, with the state or specially formed districts furnishing the shovels, etc., and the necessary chemicals.

The menace of weeds is shown by the appearance three years ago near Stanfield of a new noxious weed, known as perennial peppergrass. It was sent to Oregon State college for identification and forwarded by the college to Washington, and finally was given a name. Unknown three years ago, it is now becoming a menace in various sections east of the Cascades.

Wasco Study Club Has Mother's Day Meeting

The Annual Mother's Day meeting of the Wasco Study club was held at the Methodist church on Thursday afternoon, May 4th, honoring the elder mother's of the community. Each member of the club brought a guest who was presented with a corsage. Part of the afternoon's entertainment was an exhibit of antiques which were displayed in the church parlor.

Proceeding the program: Welcome address by Mrs. Maud Akers; Star Spangled Banner, solo by Mrs. Lois Hilderbrand; Ladies Sextette "Heart Divine" and "I'm a Pilgrim." Vocal solo, Mrs. Mary Andrews; dialogue, Patsy Needham and Patricia Kaseberg; piano duet, Alma Jean McMullen and Marian Jones; vocal duet, Marian Crews and Isabelle Suencer; solo, Margaret Johnson; skit, Spring is here, Mrs. Nellie Fields and Mrs. Jane Andrews. Mrs. William Clotier was the pianist for the occasion. The program was in keeping with Music Week.

Refreshments were served in the church parlor. Mrs. E. D. McKee and Mrs. Frank Lamborn poured at a beautifully decorated table.

Lamb Show Being Made Ready

The Sherman County Lamb Show, set for May 20, at Wasco, is being prepared for by committees appointed from the membership of the Wasco Civic club.

Already the lots on a main street corner have been made ready for the pens that will enclose the lambs brought to the show. An effort is being made to have Dick Richards, superintendent of the U. S. live stock experiment station, come to judge the lambs. Posters are out for the Shepherds' Ball which will be held in the evening to raise funds for the prize money. The advance ticket sale has been satisfactory to date.

Court Hears Life History of the Mormon Cricket

Crickets Live But Little Over Hundred Days; Have Seven Distinct Growth Periods

A group of SCS officials viewed the cricket territory Thursday morning and decided that the insects were too scattered to permit effective work by CCC boys. This means that the plea of the county court for aid in the fight against Mormon crickets has been denied.

J. H. Middleton of Spokane, Millard Rodman of Pendleton, J. H. Chenault of Hermiston, camp superintendent and R. B. Elmes, local superintendent, together with Judge Potter went over the cricket infested area before the decision was made. It was provided, however, that labor may be furnished if the situation becomes more acute.

At a special meeting of the county court held Tuesday morning it was decided that the county would furnish the dust to poison the Mormon crickets with the understanding that each farmer whose fields were menaced would take charge of the crews on his own place. An effort is being made to have SCS authorities permit CCC boys to aid in spreading the dust.

Robert Every, federal entomologist in charge of cricket and grass hopper control, attended the meeting and told much of the life habits of the insects and the methods of control being used in various places.

Mormon crickets, he said, hatch in early spring in eggs that are laid the previous summer. They may be found just any place from cultivated land to rocky hillsides. When all they stay in bunches and most easily killed at this stage.

As the female lays eggs over a period of several weeks hatching also goes on for some time, and is almost a continuous process during the period when the ground is warming up. There are seven stages to the life of the crickets and these are called instars. The shell is the nearest thing to a skeleton a cricket has, so in order to grow it must shed its outer coat. It does not move far from its hatching grounds until it has shed about three times. Each of these periods is from ten days to two weeks long.

Cricket Sheds Often

When the cricket crawls out of its shell it hangs from a stalk with its hind legs, stretches its muscles and breaks the shell along its back, whiggles out and drops to the ground. The process takes from ten to fifteen minutes and within a short time the cricket is ready to go again although somewhat changed in color. Each new shell is darker than the previous one until adult crickets are nearly black.

After adulthood is reached the insects eat earth for two or three weeks and begin laying eggs. The female is equipped with a long ova posterior with which they bury the eggs in the earth about a quarter of an inch deep, laying around 150 eggs each. The fertility is very high and tests have been made which indicated that about 95 percent of the eggs hatch.

After the egg laying period the crickets die and each year's crop is new. Their entire life history is not much over 100 days.

Work in this area, said Mr. Every, is about six weeks late and it will be difficult to make much headway in killing the crickets this year as they are badly scattered. Control should be attempted, however, as it will reduce the danger from a more serious infestation next year.

This was the impression of most of the farmers who gave their opinion at the meeting and was the reason for the action of the court.

Burning of dry grass land was not considered a good method as it scatters the crickets. Furrowing against them is a good method when it can be one with a deep enough furrow with steep sides; sheet iron fences may be used to stop them, but are very expensive. The best method so far found is to dust them with hydrated lime and calcium arsenate which is now being done here. Machines used are a circular blower that is turned on by a hand crank.

Mrs. Carroll Says New Head of Woman's Club

New officers for the coming year were elected at the Woman Club meeting last Thursday. Mrs. Carroll says will be president; Mrs. O. A. Ramsey, vice president; Mrs. James Kenny, secretary and Mrs. L. V. Moore, treasurer. Mrs. M. G. Meiser was elected director for the three year term.

Mrs. Aden Axtell and Mrs. Melvin Schadewitz were made new members of the club.

A splendid program was presented by Mrs. Vernon Miller. Mrs. E. H. Moore read a paper written by Mrs. C. L. Poley on Child Welfare. Mrs. Merrill Oveson talked on "Care of Pre-school Children." Mrs. Karl Melzer talked on "Intermediate Ages" and Mrs. R. G. Cunliff told about "The High School Age." In recognition of National Music Week, Mrs. Clyde Simpson of The Dalles demonstrated teaching piano lessons to pre-school age children, with Barbara assisting. Dean Pinkerton played two trombone selections from famous operas. Little Roger Miller entertained the club by giving a recitation.

The next meeting will be a picnic dinner for members and their families at the city park at noon, on Friday the 19th of May. Mrs. E. H. Moore will direct the preparations.

West Point Candidates Fail in Mathematics

Special to the Journal:

Washington, D. C., May 12.—All candidates for West Point who took the examinations in the Second congressional district failed, Congressman Walter M. Pierce has two appointments to make to West Point and the next examinations will be held in October. The candidates made poor showing in algebra and mathematics. Whether there is anything wrong in the teaching system in Oregon is a question, but the statistics disclose that candidates for West Point and the naval academy at Annapolis from that state do not make a good showing. Boys who have a vision of going to either of these institutions now have five months to devote to intensive study of the subjects in which they will be examined.

Mrs. Elizabeth Schaeffer left Sunday with Mrs. Woods, for Prineville where she will visit for several weeks.

Board of Control Views School Lands In Eastern Oregon

By A. L. Lindbeck

To the average resident of Oregon, those whose acquaintance with the state is confined to that region lying west of the Cascades "the expression "wide open spaces" is just a nice sounding phrase, redolent of sage brush and greasewood and grazing herds. To truly appreciate the vastness of those wide open spaces that lie east of the Cascades one must visit the region in person as did this writer last week, trailing the State Land Board on its inspection of school lands of which the state still owns more than 700,000 acres scattered throughout the public domain that constitutes more than 80 percent of central Oregon.

The trip of the land board was anything but a pleasure junket although its monotonous hours of driving through mile after mile of dusty sage-covered grazing land was not entirely devoid of pleasant incidents. There were, for instance, side trips to various points of interest including the Malheur reserve for migratory waterfowl and the logging operations of the Hines lumber company at Seneca. But best of all there were the receptions with which the official party was greeted at every stop, receptions that displayed a quality of whole-hearted hospitality that leaves no room for doubt as to its sincerity. There were banquets and dinners by civic and service clubs and chambers of commerce at Bend, Burns, Pendleton and The Dalles and even more enjoyable than these was the dinner at the H. F. Severance ranch 75 miles up the Crooked river from Prineville where the official party arrived just in time to participate in the celebration of the silver wedding anniversary of that estim-

Fair Board Starts Work on 1939 County Exhibit

Judges Stand To Be Placed On Grandstand; Race Program Adopted Tentatively

A recent fair board meeting with all members, Omer Sayrs, Ormand Hilderbrand, Roy Barnett, present along with LeRoy Wright, secretary, was the first start towards the 1939 Sherman county fair which will be held this year September 15-16-17, the same week as the Pendleton Round-up and a week before the Wasco county fair.

Some change is being made in the annual premium list which will be printed and ready for distribution next month unless delays are encountered. Premiums will be much the same as before.

Race Program Made

The race program will also follow the general custom with the Peter Quick futurity, the Sherman County Derby and the consolations for them being the big races. It is possible that an agreement will be made with the Wasco county fair to permit horses from that county to run here and Sherman county horses to race at Tygh Valley. This would give horsemen a better chance to make some money on their horses.

It was decided to move the judge's stand from the inside of the track, where it has been since fairs were started, to a position above the tape on the roof of the grandstand. This is being done to clear the arena so that spectators can see the bucking contests to better advantage and prevent accidents such as happened last year, when one man was injured by being thrown against the stand.

No Training To Be Done

It is doubtful if horses will be trained by the fair board this year as the 1938 arrangements were not entirely satisfactory. Enough colts are now in the county to make a good futurity race and these are now being signed up for that race.

Mac Barbour will probably here with his string of bucking horses again to provide between the race thrills. Other diversions and concessions will be hired between now and the date of the fair to provide a full three days of education and amusement, promise the board members.

Aviation School

No mention has been made publicly yet for plans for the navy to use Tongue Point, at the mouth of the Columbia river, as a school for training navy aviation reserve officers. Conditions in the estuary where the new air-base is to be located are ideal for training purposes with amphibian planes. No other navy air-base is so well suited breaking in pilots as the Columbia affords ample room, free from obstructions, with sufficient protection for taking off and landing. There is a possibility that Tongue Point will become the principal training center for navy fliers in coming years.

Blocking Legislation

When the house of representatives is working on the consent calendar, a single objection is sufficient to hold-up or defeat a bill. For instance, a representative

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