

Sherman County Journal

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AUGUST 11, 1939

LEGIONNAIRES MEET

This week Oregon's ex-service
men are in convention at Salem.
To many this will indicate a riotous
time for the Legion, wittingly or
no, has built a reputation for
conventions as hilarious as the
best. Elks, Moose or Shriners do
not excel them, so 'tis said.

Observation of Legion conventions
in these latter days, since the
men who went to war in '17 have
become grey and wrinkled, does
not bear out the earlier assumption
of extreme gaiety. Yet, a
good time is usually had by all.

As usual there is a reason for it.
Men who went to school together
are joyous on later meetings, men
who worked together become life
long friends. Men who fought the
war together have an emotional
experience in common that can
never be forgotten.

The newest recruit felt the very
first day in the army that training
for the war was going to be an
experience different from anything
in civilization. War training made
no pretense of the gentleness re-
quired of law abiding citizens.
Men at an impressionable age
were taught to hate and to growl
and to stab fiercely with a bayonet
at figures designed to resemble,
roughly, an enemy. They were
trained to shoot accurately so they
might kill plentifully. War was
—and would be again—a period
in which civilization is overthrown
for savagery.

And if, when they meet they are
rough, and occasionally tough, it
is because when they served to-
gether back in war time they were
taught that way to better
serve the cause for which they
were called. America took some
four million men to fight, taught
them that men were pawns in a
battle of ambitions, that human
life was less than a song, that
authority, however used, must be
obeyed in silence. And America
is very fortunate that these men,
on returning, have so suppressed
this training that they are good
citizens of a democratic state.

WHEAT HAULING

This week we saw them for the
first time in several years—a
team hauling wheat to the ware-
house. It wasn't much of a team,
judged by former standards, a
mere four horses hauling one
wagon loaded with wheat sacks,
but it served as a reminder of the
olden days when the fall air was
full of the dust of long wheat
teams and the fall breeze carried
the songs and the profanity of
mule skinning wheat haulers.

When heading was over and the
thresher had gone with its many
men who transformed the stacks
of grain into piles of sacks and
piles of straw, the farmer sorted
out his rigging, the chains and
stretchers, greased his wagons,
coupled them together and pulled
out in some grey dawn to begin
the post harvest job of taking his
wheat to market.

In early times two or three days
were required for a trip. But as
the railroads were built up into
the wheat lands the time was
shortened until everyone could
make a trip a day, many two
trips and some, fortunate ones,
could make four or five. The farther
they came the bigger teams
they used.

The one-trippers came into the
warehouses around noon to unload
and pull into an open spot to
unhitch and feed their teams from
the hay in the wagon boxes, while
the men lunched heartily on food
put up in lard pails in the morn-
ing. Then there was the long,
dusty drive home to load up again
for tomorrow's sunrise start.

And now there is but one or two
wheat teams in the entire county
and they are but an abbreviated
sample of those of former days.
Trucks, nowadays, wheel the grain
to market while the heat of sum-
mer sun is still in the berries.
There is no pride in possessing a
team of well matched and fast
stepping leaders or a pair of huge
wheelers capable of setting the

lead wagon over on the grade. A
stout legged horse is a subject for
a show ring connoisseur instead of
a matter for street corner con-
versation where removable cylin-
ders and diesels are now discussed.
And no one mourns for the old
days. But like pictures of Uncle
Ben and Aunt Sally at Niagara
Falls the memory of them fills a
niche in our lives and makes us
more content with the compara-
tive ease of the present.

Officials of the Multnomah Ken-
nel club, now the only dog racing
club in the state, feel that addi-
tional permits to run the dogs
would result in decreased revenue
for the state and the county fairs
that depend on racing money to
some extent. No doubt the club
has very fine facilities for running
the dogs and it is doubtful if any
other club would wish to make the
investment necessary to compete
with it. Therefore it is unlikely
that another track would be
opened near Portland in any event.
Citizens of some other part of the
state might start such a venture,
however, and bring in quite a bit
of money for the county fairs.

While forest fires are very ex-
pensive, especially for the working
men who would benefit when the
timber is cut, the condition they
leave behind is worse. The heavy
rains of the western part of the
state soon cause an erosion prob-
lem in that can only be corrected at
tremendous expense.

Congress has adjourned and left
Washington to the heat and the
president, and the heat of the
president.

This hot weather sure makes
us pleased at the prospect of fall
frosts.

In Other Days

From the Observer Aug. 12, 1910

Prof. Blough and wife, who have
been visiting at the home of Mrs.
Blough's sister, Mrs. Lester Con-
ce, left for Portland Monday, as
Mr. B. had a business engagement
in the Rose City that could not
be postponed.

Col. C. A. Buckley, is now in
New York City enjoying the
breezes that glide over the beaches
from the Atlantic ocean.

E. A. Cushman has his harvest
all in, and it counts 3,640 sacks
from one 315 acre field.

Mrs. J. P. Strahl left on the 9th
for a visit with friends and rela-
tives in Multnomah and Washing-
ton counties and Olympia.

Mrs. George DeMoss, Elbert and
Evelyn left for Portland Satur-
day.

From the Observer Aug. 10, 1900

A. D. McDonald sacked 3160
sacks of wheat from 270 acres.

John P. Nece and family are
now residents near Grass Valley.

A stack of 200,000 lbs. of wool
sold for 14c in The Dalles last
week.

Horace Strong's summer fallow
turned out an average of 37 bushels
per acre, all fine wheat.

The DeMoss family has returned
from one of the most successful
concert tours they have ever
known.

Hal Morrow's separator was
smashed in an upset on Andrew
McDonald's place Tuesday.

A stretcher chain broke on the
Schadewitz place at Kent recently
resulting in four horses and a
header bed getting mixed up. One
horse was badly injured.

From the Observer Aug. 13, 1920

Mrs. J. J. Wiley is spending the
week near Boise, Idaho, visiting
with her sisters.

Jasper Dugger returned Monday
to his Boring home.

Gus Engstrom is pretty well sat-
isfied with his crop prospects this
early in the season; his Turkey Red
wheat is making about twelve
sacks to the acre.

A severe dust and wind storm
struck at Kent Thursday afternoon
and it is reported that it shattered
lots of wheat.

C. A. Buckley left for the ranch
early Wednesday morning with a
new Best 60 h. p. tractor

From the Observer Aug. 13, 1920

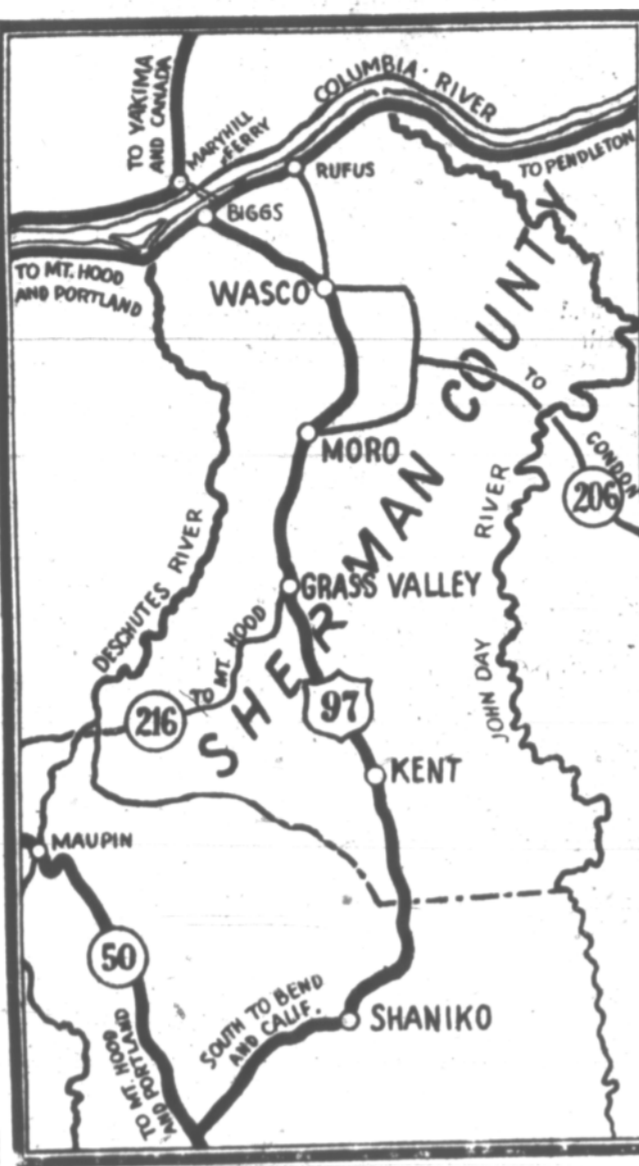
A fire set by the passenger
train Tuesday afternoon burned
about 100 acres of stubble on the
Roy Powell farm south of Moro
destroying three loads of hay and
186 sacks of wheat.

Charles Kenny has had two
stubble fires this season, caused
by hot carbon and back firing
through the carburetor of his
tractor. A chemical fire exting-
uisher each time quickly put the
fire to route.

H. J. Warn arrived home from
Portland Friday where he made
arrangements to install a "root
beer" barrel in his Bee Hive
restaurant.

A man named Jackson, from
Hillsboro, acting as a header
trailer on the Callaway machine, had
a gash four inches long and to
the bone cut in his left leg by the
iron wheel on the water cooler
Thursday.

Here is the text of the booklet
printed on the request of a number
of organizations in the county led
by the Moro Breakfast club. Some
of these will be sent to the San
Francisco fair and to other places
where they have been requested,
also to hotels, etc., where they
can be distributed.



A few facts
about
SHERMAN
County, Oregon

Sherman County is situated 106 miles east of
Portland, its northern boundary being the Colum-
bia River. It is in the mid-Columbia wheat belt.
Sherman county is a series of rolling hills that
gradually reach an elevation of nearly 3000 feet
at the southern boundary of the county. The west-
ern boundary is the Deschutes River and on the
east is the John Day River.

There are 836 square miles in the county;
535,040 acres, of which 290,000 are tilled. Sherman
County has the highest percentage of tillable acres
of any county in Oregon and with two exceptions
has the largest number of acres under plow of
any of the 36 counties.

Climate
It is a sunny land. The temperature varies
from 90 degrees in the summer to below zero in
the winter although extremes of weather are in-
frequent and never prolonged. Nights are always
cool. The air is dry and refreshing. Snow often
covers the ground in winter months protecting
the sown crops.

The average rainfall during the past 25 year
period is 11 inches, the greater part of which
falls in the fall and winter months although June
rains are not uncommon.

Crops
Approximately 130,000 acres of land is devoted
to growing of wheat for harvest which will fluctu-
ate somewhat during years when federal agricul-
tural programs are in effect. The normal yield
of wheat is from 15 to 40 bushels per acre. The total
yield for the county over 20 years has averaged
2,550,000 bushels.

The varieties of wheat grown most extensively
in Sherman County are turkey red, federation,
white federation, hard federation, rex and forty-
fold.

In addition to the production of wheat which is
the main cash crop there is on an average 2000
acres of barley seeded for harvest. This barley is
used exclusively for livestock feeding and fatten-
ing. We also seed on the average 500 acres to
oats, harvested for grain for livestock feed. There
is an average of 10,000 acres of small grains and
small grain mixtures seeded and cut for hay. In
recent years about 25,000 acres have been seeded
to crested wheat grass on wheat land as a diver-
sion under agricultural conservation program and
1500 acres were cut for seed last year, producing
an average of 100 pounds per acre in addition to
pasture derived from it, returning an average
carrying capacity of one animal unit to each
four or five acres.

There is a small acreage of land in the county
located along the John Day and Columbia Rivers,
devoted to the production of peaches, pears, apri-
cots, prunes and vegetable gardening.

Livestock
In addition to being Oregon's second wheat
county in point of production, Sherman County
has long been noted for the excellence of its live-
stock. Horses, while not extensively used in farm-
ing operations any more, are still raised for sale
to those who have need for large, well-built draft
teams. Belgian and Percheron are the predom-
inant breeds.

Beef cattle are replacing horses to a marked ex-
tent, the main breeds being Hereford and Short-
horns which are being successfully fed and fatten-
ed on wheat, our principal cereal. Sherman Coun-
ty has an average of between 10,000 and 11,000
head of cattle which are distributed quite gen-
erally among the wheat farms throughout the
county.

There are some 23,000 head of sheep which are
distributed in small flocks and a few large range
operators.

Hog production is perhaps our lightest farm
livestock enterprise with, on the average, some
3000 head produced each year, being consumed
largely within the county.

System of Farming

The system used in growing the principal crop,
that of wheat, is known as the summerfallow
method which is common in all of the dry farm-
ing areas in Oregon. In other words, approxi-
mately one half of the total farm land is plowed
and left idle one year and seeded to wheat in the
fall or the following spring. The reason for this
is due to the lack of moisture which is necessary
to cause nitrification of the crop residues in or-
der that the seeded crop will produce the highest
possible yield.

Over 90% of the farmers in Sherman County
use the crawler or track type of tractor to handle
the large acreages. The average size of the
Sherman County farm is in excess of 1000 acres.
It has been found because of the high produc-
tivity of the land and the economical operation
possible by the rolling terrain, wheat is produced
cheaper per bushel than in any other county in
the state, according to cost studies made by
the Oregon State College Extension Service.

Income

A government report released in 1935 gave
Sherman County a purple spot rating, held only
by 150 counties in the United States for its high
living standards and per capita income. Mult-
nomah was the only other county in Oregon so
designated.

The average total income from wheat over a
twenty year period is \$2,300,000, and the total
income for all crops and livestock is approxi-
mately \$3,000,000 annually.

Taxes

The bonded debt of Sherman County has never
been greater than \$300,000 and this is now en-
tirely paid. Taxes are low in comparison with
the income because public debt is low. The
county has the highest property valuation per
school child of any county in the state. The con-
solidated millage for 1938 was 17.31.

Land Values

Wheat land, when it can be bought, sells for
from \$20 to \$75 per acre and pasture land varies
from \$1 to \$8 per acre. Location and average
yield and improvements cause the variation.

Farmsteads

Sixty-five percent of the farmers in Sherman
County receive a gross income of \$4000, or over
which means that on the average, the farm homes
and farm buildings in Sherman County are equip-
ped with the most up-to-date and advanced con-
veniences such as lighting systems, running water
in the home, modern heating plants, lawns,
shade trees, cement sidewalks, which indicate
modern living conditions.

Farm Organizations

There are three active granges in Sherman
County which are highly representative and com-
parable to the average grange in Oregon. All
of the grain warehouses and elevators in the
county are owned and operated by local co-
operative groups to which over 90% of all pro-
ducers are members.

Railroads

The Union Pacific main line crosses the north-
ern end of the county and a branch line traverses
the center of the county and as the county is
but little over 20 miles wide at any point, the
railroad is not very far distant from any resident.

Highways

Sherman County is served by very excellent
roads. Highway 30, the Old Oregon Trail, runs
along the northern border; Highway 97 runs
the lengthwise of the county and is a part of the fed-
eral highway from Mexico to Canada. Five
hundred miles of county and secondary road give
every farm an all-year outlet. Over two hundred
miles are surfaced. The county is fortunate in
that long hauls of crops to market are not
necessary.

Population

The population of the county in 1930 was 2978.
The first settlement of the county started in the
early eighties by native American stock from the
mid-west. Their descendants still make up a large
part of the population with a small mixture of
Germans and new comers from the south cen-
tral states.

Towns

There are three incorporated towns in Sher-
man county. Moro, located in the central part
of the county, is the seat of local government.
Wasco, in the wider wheat belt, and Grass Valley,
to the south, are the others. Kent and Rufus are
unincorporated towns that are a center for schools
and stores. Modern up-to-date hotels may be
found in Moro and Wasco and a modern camp
ground at Grass Valley.

Schools

Originally there were many schools in the
county and each rural community supported a school.
With the advent of good roads and decrease of
population, farm children were transported to
town schools until now all children attend schools
in the five towns where grade and high schools
are maintained. The county has taken the lead
in consolidating its schools.

Recreation

The Deschutes River, which bounds the county
on the west, is one of the great trout streams
of the Pacific coast and its many tributaries also
provide excellent fishing. Within a day hunters
of big game may reach the mountains where
deer and elk are abundant. A few hours takes
one into the Cascade range for outing trips.

Churches

Each of the towns has churches and within the
county may be found Catholic, Methodist, Pres-
byterian, Baptist, Christian, Lutheran, Christian
Science and Adventist churches.

Experiment Station

Since 1912, the federal government in conjunc-
tion with the state and county, has maintained
a cereal crops experiment station at Moro. From
this station was sent out federation wheat which
has been of inestimable value to the farmers of
the northwest. Experiments are constantly car-
ried on in all phases of wheat production and
farmers, both new and old, may obtain definite
information about farming practices.

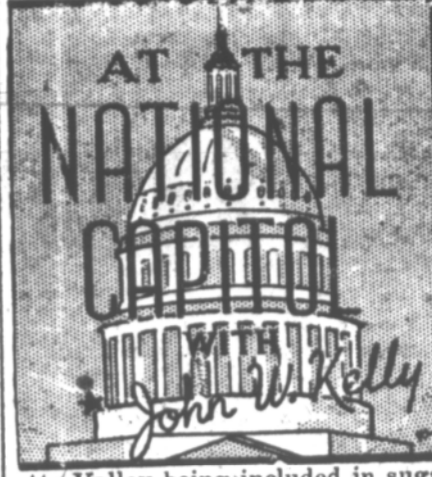
4-H Club Work

With the population of Sherman County under
3000 persons there are some 500 children ranging
in ages from 9 to 18 and of this number 65%
are enrolled in some 4-H club project.

Electricity

The county is now served by one of the major
companies of Oregon, Incorporated towns and
many farmers have electric current available at
all times. The county is within 65 miles of
Bonneville dam and will profit from the develop-
ment there.

Sherman County is a land of plenty. Wheat
and livestock, with the emphasis on the
former, are the sources of a county income
that has given prosperity to many. On its
gently rolling hills the wheat waves beau-
tifully and yields splendidly in the harvest
and in its valleys, cattle rest content. It is
a land to visit—and to live in.



ete Valley being included in sugar
beet acreage when the present
sugar quota expires and a new al-
lotment is permitted. The large
sugar refining company, located
at Nyssa, Or., is interested in
the proposition and has been
corresponding on the subject. Do-
mestic production is now under
rigid control by the department of
agriculture, the control extending
down to the point of designing
wages for pickers.

Efforts to develop the ship-
building industry on the Columbia
river and Puget Sound have re-
ceived little encouragement from
the Federal Maritime Commission
and it has awarded contracts for
five cargo carriers to be construct-
ed in southern California. Every
proposal suggested for the estab-
lishing of yards north of San Fran-
cisco bay has been discouraged by
the commission and where there
are no facilities the commission
declines to award bids.

One of the essentials in war is
tin. The administration favors
exploring the United States in the
hope of developing a supply. Gov-
ernment officials say traces have
been found in Washington, Idaho,
Nevada and California—all around
Oregon, but no trace in Oregon.

Politics played a large part in
the recent congress, but when
something affected the country
and was not tinged with politics,
White House and Congress were
as united as Siam-see Twins—the
2 billion dollars voted for national
defense, as an instance. Although
congress has adjourned, one man's
job continues. He is the chap
whose duty it is to see that all the
clocks in the capitol, senate and
house office buildings keep running
and also keep time even though no
one sees them but the janitor and
charwoman.

Mexican Highway Builder

President Lazero Cardenas of
Mexico, speaking recently at Tia
Juana, Baja Calif., announced ap-
proval of a 2,000,000 peso bond issue
for construction of a 131 mile high-
way from Mexicali, on the United
States-Mexico border, to San Felipe,
a Gulf of California fishing village.
An irrigation system in the Mexicali
valley will cost an additional 12-
000,000 pesos.



Bethlehem Chapter, No. 78.O.E.S.
Moro, Oregon
Meets Every Second and
Fourth Thursdays in each
Month. Visiting members
Invited
Rose Amidon, W.M.
Ruth Sparling, Secretary.

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116
Moro, Oregon
Meets 2d & 4th Tues-
day of each month.
Visiting members wel-
come.
Rebekah Wilson, N.G.
Florence Johnston, Sec.

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A-F & A-M
Meets on the 1st and
3rd Thursday even-
ings of each month.
Visiting members cor-
dially invited to meet
with us.
A. B. Christianson W. M.
C. V. Belknap, Secy.

Moro Lodge No. 113, I.O.O.F.
Moro, Oregon
Meets 1st and 3rd
Tuesdays in the
I.O.O.F. hall Tra-
sient and visiting
brothers are cordi-
ally invited to meet
with us.
Ve non Miller, N. G.
Joe Truitt, Secretary.

Obliging One Another
He leaned over the garden fence
and beckoned to his neighbor:
"I say, old man," he said, "I un-
derstand that you have Jones'
rake?"
The neighbor nodded.
"Good," said the first, "if you'll
let me borrow the rake occasion-
ally, I'll let you use his roller
whenever you want it."

GEORGE G. UPDEGRAFF
Attorney At Law
Moro and Wasco

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
that the undersigned, Sam Van
Vactor, has been duly appointed
administrator of the estate of
Orville G. Smith, Deceased, and
has qualified as such administra-
tor. All persons having claims
against said estate are hereby noti-
fied and required to present the
same, duly verified, to the First
National Bank of Portland, Ore-
gon, within six months from the
date of the first publication of
this notice, to-wit: August 11,
1939.

Sam Van Vactor
Administrator.
Brown & Van Vactor. 40-43
Attorneys

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF
THE STATE OF OREGON
FOR SHERMAN COUNTY
In the Matter of the Guardianship
of the Estate of LeRoy H.
Martin, an Insane Person.
CITATION
To LeRoy H. Martin, the above
named insane person, to Myles
Elroy Martin, to Lola Beatrice
Clelland, the next of kin of the
said LeRoy H. Martin, an insane
person.

IN THE NAME OF THE
STATE OF OREGON: You and
each of you are hereby required
to be and appear before the above
entitled court within ten days
from the date of the service of
this citation upon you if served
within Sherman County, Oregon,
being the county in which this
proceeding is pending, and within
twenty days if served within any
other county of this state, if
personally served, or if served by
publication, then within twenty-
eight days from the date of the
first publication of this citation,
or if served in any other state
within the United States, then
within twenty-eight days from the
date of the service of this citation
upon you, to show cause why a
license should not be granted for
the sale of certain real property
belonging to the estate of the said
LeRoy H. Martin, and described as
follows, to-wit:

Lots Nine and Ten in Block
Three, Rossmore Addition to
the City of Portland in Mult-
nomah County, Oregon.
This citation is served upon
you and each of you by publication
thereof for a period of four con-
secutive weeks in the Sherman
County Journal, a newspaper of
general circulation, printed and
published in Moro in Sherman
County, Oregon, by order entered
in this cause by the above entitled
court on August 9th, 1939, and
the date of the first publication of
this citation is August 11, 1939.

WITNESS THE Honorable George
A. Potter, Judge of the County
Court of the State of Oregon for
Sherman County, with the seal of
said Court affixed this 9th day
of August, 1939.

George A. Potter
COUNTY JUDGE
40-43

Board of Equalization Meeting
Notice: There will be a meeting
of the County Board of Equaliza-
tion of Sherman County, Oregon,
at the Court House, Moro, Ore-
gon, on the second Monday of
August, 1939, to publicly examine
the Assessment Rolls, correct all
errors in valuation, descriptions
of lands or other property assess-
ed by me, and it shall be the duty
of persons interested to appear at
the time and place appointed (ap-
pearance is by petition). All peti-
tions must be in writing and
verified by the oath of the applic-
ant and filed with the board
within fifteen days from the time
it is by law required to meet.

Margaret W. Peetz
37-40
County Assessor.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
All persons having claims a-
gainst the estate of Harriet Root,
deceased, are hereby notified to
present them, in proper form, to
the undersigned, the duly appoint-
ed, qualified and acting Adminis-
trator of the estate of Harriet
Root, deceased, at the office of
Geo. G. Updegraff, Moro, Oregon,
within six months from the date of
this notice, to-wit: July 21, 1939.

G. Herbert Root
Administrator
Geo. G. Updegraff
Attorney for Administrator 37-40