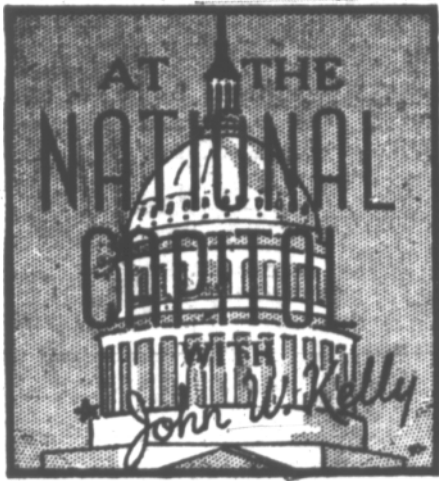


Sherman County Journal

Fifty-first Year No. 51

Moro, Oregon, Friday, October 27, 1939

Official County Paper



Washington, D. C., Oct. 26.—It is practically all over but the shouting (most of which has been going on for a month)—enactment of the so-called neutrality law. The administration steam roller has crushed the opposition. The advocates of retaining the embargo on war munitions have known for weeks that their case was hopeless, but sincerely believing that the embargo was the best plan to keep America out of war, they made their arguments. Whether they are right or wrong the next 18 months should tell.

Lately the advocates of the plan to sell munitions have indulged in a "smear" campaign against any prominent individual who disagreed with them. A group politically and financially influential and in control of three sources of communication—radio, moving pictures and a portion of the press—has featured senate speeches for repeal and almost ignored senators who want the embargo retained, and accused any private person holding an opposite view of being a booster for Hitler. It has been high power propaganda and makes the German bund propaganda look amateurish.

Some day someone will write the story, naming names. In the national capital the inside of how and why the heat was turned on congress and how the American public has been "educated" is known, but the facts are not put in type. Make no mistake, there is a "war party," a powerful group in the United States.

Here is another development of the war which affects the Pacific northwest, the sheepmen this time. Great Britain has contracted to buy all of the Australian and New Zealand wool during the war and intends dumping several million pounds on the American domestic market. Australian 1939-40 wool clip is estimated at 1,005 million pounds in the grease and the New Zealand clip will be about 350 million pounds. British government is paying 17.8 cents for Australian and 16.2 cents for New Zealand wool.

Unofficial reports are that a deal is being negotiated between the United States and Great Britain to take 250 million pounds from the Australian clip. The wool is to be auctioned and the state department has been requested to have these auctions held in Portland and San Francisco. Until Great Britain announces its plan for distribution the state department is mum as an oyster.

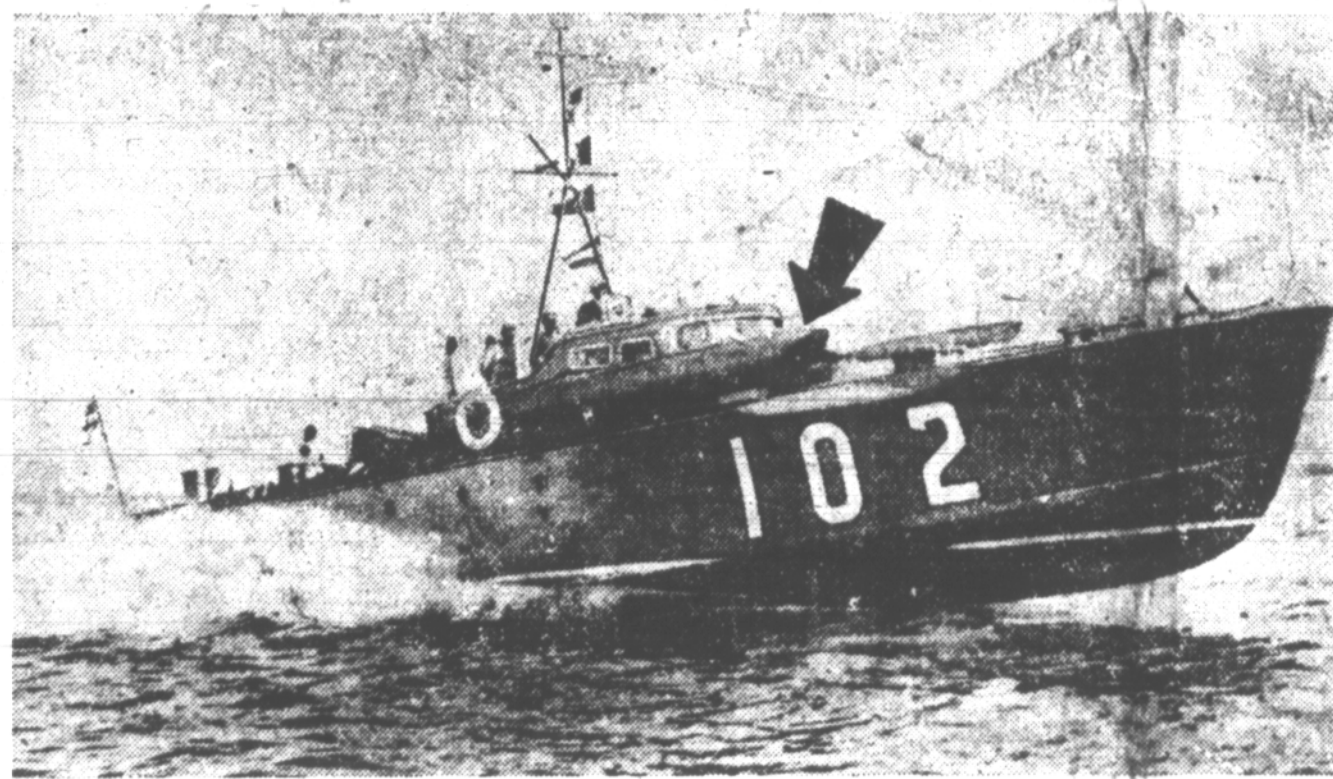
Cold figures on world trade present a revealing picture of incapable results in the event of failure to negotiate a new trade treaty with Japan to succeed the 1911 agreement recently denounced by Secretary of State Cordell Hull. The situation will be bad for Pacific northwest lumber industry and especially disastrous to American cotton growers, with depressing influence on many other lines of industry, according to students of world trade conditions.

Until a few years ago Japan, which now equals Great Britain in volume of textile exports, obtained most of its raw cotton from India, but the larger part of its supply is now purchased in the United States and accounts for an impressive percentage of the American cotton export.

Despite the unfortunate China "incident" Japan's foreign trade in 1938 was 14 percent greater than the previous five year average, with the United States as its best customer both in volume of Japanese exports and imports. Last year the United States was responsible for 34.4 percent in volume of Japanese imports and 15.8 percent of the exports, and with definite prospects that commerce between the two nations would steadily increase. The normal rate of increase would be enormously multiplied by an early end of the conflict between Japan and China.

Continued on Page Two

Torpedo Boat: Britain's Answer to German Subs



Here's one of Great Britain's powerful new torpedo boats which can launch a projectile straight ahead while traveling at top speed. Arrow points to one of the torpedo tubes mounted on deck. The British count on these boats to combat the German submarine. A large fleet of these boats has been placed in service in the North sea and they are usually attached to destroyer squadrons.

1939 AAA Due To Close At End Of November

The books of the 1939 agricultural conservation program in Oregon will be closed on November 30, according to a decision of the state AAA committee, and any farm practice completed after that date will apply to the 1940 program.

The early closing date is necessary so that county conservation offices will have time to submit all applications for 1939 AAA payments by March 31, 1940, said Will Steen, state committee chairman.

Specifications for the 1940 conservation program in Oregon have been drawn up, Steen said, and it is expected that the new handbooks explaining next year's practices will be ready for distribution by the first of January.

The 1940 agricultural conservation program will begin officially on December 1, 1939, and end November 30, 1940. This year's AAA range program will not end until December 31, but in 1940 it will terminate on the same date as the farm program, according to Steen.

First 1939 payment has been made to Francis E. Lilly of Bonanza, Klamath county. At the top of the list for receiving first checks were Klamath, Multnomah, Umatilla, Baker, Hood River and Wasco counties.

It is expected that approximately 31,000 applications for 1939 conservation payments will be made by Oregon farmers, said N. C. Donaldson of Corvallis, state executive. The payments are made as an aid to carrying on soil building and soil conserving practices, or for keeping within wheat, potato, or commercial vegetable allotments.

Conservation payments to Oregon farmers cooperating with the 1939 AAA program will total about \$3,483,000, Donaldson said. Other federal farm payments, including those for the sugar beet program and the wheat price adjustment program will probably bring the year's total agricultural benefits in Oregon to more than five million dollars.

Red Cross Drive To Begin Nov. 11

The drive for Red Cross memberships in this county is scheduled to begin November 11 as it will over the entire nation. For the first time Sherman county will be a unit unto itself instead of being but a part of the Wasco county chapter. Heretofore half of the money collected here has gone to the national and the other half was used by The Dalles unit of which this was a part. Red Cross funds are used for disaster relief and first aid and other well known needs of human kind all over the world.

Representatives of each community will be appointed by Naomi Van Gilder, county roll call chairman, before November 11 and an effort will be made to reach the county quota of 300 which has been set for this county.

Rogers Named Bank Examiner In Surprise Move By Board

By A. L. Lindbeck

Governor Charles A. Sprague this week appointed A. A. Rogers, a republican and former president of the First National Bank of Eugene, to succeed Mark Skinner as state banking superintendent. The news of the appointment came as a surprise to the capital political observers who had expected Fred S. Lamport, Salem, former banker and close personal friend of the governor, to get the \$5,000 a year job. The move was looked on as a compromise measure because the independent bankers were known to hold for the retention of Skinner but, on the other hand, republican pressure on the board was strong. Candidates for the position were numerous and political gossip was voluminous since Skinner's term expired October 1.

Next in line for the axe, it is believed, is Hugh Earle, state insurance commissioner. He is one of the few old-line democrats still holding down one of the \$5,000 a year jobs and it is felt that republican replacements having gone as far as they have, Earle will be replaced with little compunction. Daniel J. Fry, state purchasing agent and a democrat, holds down one of the best jobs on the state list. Fry is also secretary to the republican board of control and draws a \$5,340 a year salary which should provide a fine target for republican office seekers.

Indications that liquor establishments operating as private clubs are in for some tough sledding ahead were seen here this week when Joseph J. Hague, liquor administrator, and Governor Sprague had a long talk together. The day following the conference Hague and several Salem churchmen met on the invitation of Cecil Edwards, private secretary to the governor. Hague, using a local private club as an example, said that as long as the establishments refrained from selling liquor they were outside the authority of the Knox liquor and that their regulation was purely a local matter. Most of the clubs have the "members" furnish their own liquor and charge a fee for mixing drinks and in some cases a cover or entrance fee. The administrators meeting here was the first of a series through the state all with the same purpose in mind. The day following the meeting of the ministers and Hague, Governor Sprague, addressing the state W.C.T.U. convention here, suggested that the members seek closer regulation of establishments that operate as private clubs as part of their campaign against liquor. They later passed a resolution to that effect.

The state board of control this week issued a second call for bids for insurance on the state owned fleet of motor vehicles. The first award, made to a Portland insurance firm, was thrown out by the state insurance commission on the grounds that the bid had been improperly submitted. The board decided to call for bids for only a six months period so as to bring the policy into line with the fiscal year. The policy amounts to about \$20,000 a year.

Valuations Set On Property In County For 1940

Public Service Corporations Valued By State Tax Commission At Later Date

Valuations of property in Sherman county have been made for the tax year of 1940 with totals very much the same as last year. Local property, as opposed to public service, is valued at \$7,314,170 instead of \$7,315,560 for last year. The public service valuation has not been received from the state tax commission which put the valuations on such property.

Without public service corporations Moro is valued at \$134,750, Wasco at \$161,160 and Grass Valley at \$92,080. Public service valuations will increase these by approximately a quarter. The road district in the cities will be valued the same.

Tillable land in the county is 275,462 acres for taxation purposes which does not include government land. Non-tillable land totals 192,477 acres. The former is valued at an average of \$20.65 per acre and \$1.50 is the value placed on the non-tillable. Improvements on deeded land is set at \$443,190, a slight reduction from 1938.

Town and city lots have been reduced in value and are now assessed at \$66,980 instead of \$75,550 which was last year's figure. Improvements on city lots are also valued at a smaller figure being down to \$239,250, a drop of about \$19,000.

Merchandise in stores remains almost constant at about \$60,000 although more manufacturing machinery is now assessed than last year.

A decided increase is noted in the value of farm machinery as new tractors become assessable. This item is now \$266,130 instead of \$173,420 last year.

Horses, besides decreasing from 2639 to 1965, have dropped in assessed value from \$34.91 to \$32.70 and cattle although increasing a couple of hundred head, have also decreased in value from \$24.88 to \$19.66. There are fewer sheep by three thousand and more hogs by 700, which may indicate some thing about a possible change in price in meat from these animals if the trend is common in other similar counties.

Women Attend District Convention

The Fourth District of Oregon Federation of Women's clubs met in Institute at The Dalles last Saturday, October 21. Thirty women attended from the Sherman county clubs. Other counties represented were Wheeler, Gilliam and Wasco.

Mrs. H. J. Simmons of Fossil, District President, presided at the meeting which was held in the United Brethren church building.

An interesting program had been prepared, built upon the theme "Law, Order and Integrity."

During the District Chairman Reports, Mrs. R. G. Cunliff spoke on "American Citizenship." Mrs. A. L. Gosson spoke on "Applied Education." Mrs. P. W. Kasseberg sent a paper on "Fine Arts," and Mrs. Louis Scholl read a report on "International Relations."

The high lights of the meeting were addresses given by two state officers. Mrs. Finley P. Mullins, state chairman of Fine Arts Department, spoke of her plans for Oregon Federation in that line. Mrs. Harold D. Peterson of Dallas, State President, gave an interesting account of her trip to Washington, D. C.

Mrs. Louis Scholl of Wasco was elected District Director for the 3-year term. She was also named as State Bible Chairman by Mrs. Petersen.

DON'T LOOK NOW—BUT THERE'S CLOUDS IN THE SKY

Hush! It started to rain Thursday morning and kept it up almost an hour in a quiet, slow, apologetic fashion that caused every one to doubt the sincerity of the attempt. The sky is cloudy, the temperature about right for rain; everyone wants and needs it. All we lack to make a most joyous occasion is the tinkle of raindrops.

School Costs Vary Widely Over County

Cost of educating a high school pupil in Sherman county, while always high because of small enrollments, show a wide variation for the 1938-39 school year that is not dependent on the enrollment feature. Wasco with an enrollment of 31.1 pupils in average daily attendance had a cost of \$246.28. Rufus with an average daily attendance of 16.3 had a per capita cost of \$326.32. Kent high school which was attended by an average of 18.6 pupils showed costs of \$196.97. The Moro school had a cost per pupil of \$179.70 and an average attendance of 38.5 and Grass Valley with 34.8 pupils spent \$180.12 per pupil in educating them.

Cost of instruction has a bearing on the average costs as does the cost of supervision. These combined, because of the differences in figuring them in different schools show that Wasco spent \$5000.31; Rufus \$2559.17; Kent \$2323.00; Moro \$4051.70 and Grass Valley \$4028.22. Kent and Rufus had two high school teachers, Grass Valley and Moro, three and a music instructor part time, and Wasco had three and a music instructor and part time teacher in addition.

For operation of plant Wasco spent \$852.09, Rufus \$1250.24, Kent \$696.50; Moro \$1297.17 and Grass Valley \$1040.28.

Maintenance and repair of plant shows costs of \$1205.92 at Wasco; \$140.47 at Rufus; \$52.50 at Kent; \$406.73 at Moro and \$398.15 at Grass Valley.

Woman's Club Hears Talk On Safety

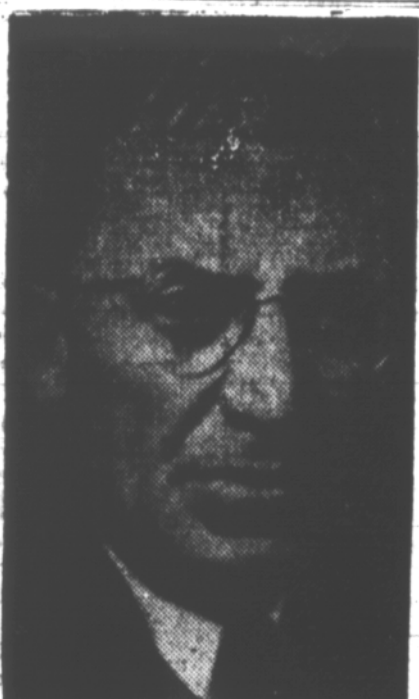
The Moro Woman's club held its regular meeting last Friday in the club rooms, with Mrs. M. R. Schadewitz and Mrs. J. F. Foss as hostesses.

During the business session the following ladies were added to the membership list: Mrs. Russell Hollinshead, Mrs. V. Haufelt, and Miss Norma Melzer.

Among the committees reporting at this time was the County chairman of the Safety committee, Mrs. H. B. Pinkerton, who read pamphlets and a letter on "Safety" cautioning all to be more "Safety minded."

A patriotic program led by the director, Mrs. Margaret Peetz, was given in two parts. First a history of the lives of writers of national and folk songs, by Mrs. Ramsey, consisting of Katherine Lee Bates, S. C. Foster, and Julia Ward Howe. She gave a very interesting description of the life of each and what led them to write that popular song. Each song was sung by the members. Second: a talk on "International Relations" by Mrs. Peetz, in her very capable manner. She also read "My Country, 'Tis of Thee," Pulitzer Editorial by R. G. Calvert.

The next meeting, November 3rd, will be guest day. Also in the near future is the bazaar. Members are asked to consult program books for a list of the supervisors and be prepared to do their part in making this a success.



N. E. Dood of Baker county county, director of the AAA farm program in 13 western states, who will return from Washington, D. C., to be one of the principal speakers at the state convention of the Eastern Oregon Wheat league, at Condon, December 8 and 9. Dood has been an Oregon farmer and rancher for 27 years.

County Budget Made Monday By Committee

Payment of Bonds Permits Lower Totals For 1940 Taxes; Emergency Increased

The county budget committee with the county court met Monday and made up the list of appropriations for 1940. It is the smallest budget made for the county in many years due to the payment of county bonds last July which automatically removed \$18,000 from the total to be raised by taxation.

The appropriations are \$84,353, or \$7,417 under those of last year which means that the appropriations other than for bonds have been raised by \$11,583. Estimated receipts are larger due to the inclusion of an estimated \$6000 surplus in the general fund which makes the budget total \$70,183 which will be raised by taxation for county purposes if the budget is not changed at the later meeting.

The county judges' salary was raised by the last legislature from \$450 to \$900 which accounts for the first increase in the budget. As the commissioners have been drawing but \$4 per day since the reduction voluntarily taken several years ago it was voted to move their pay back to the statutory \$5 per day.

An additional \$955 was appropriated for circuit court as it was presumed that more expense might be needed. The county agent's appropriation was upped by \$300 on a plea by Marie Barnett Cooper and Ormand Hilderbrand although the requested budget presented by the agent called for a continuance of the \$1700 used this year.

A new filing case was allowed for the clerk's office, an increase of \$182.19 was permitted the county school superintendent, the election appropriation was increased to care for the elections next year, the pay of the court house janitor was raised to \$75 per month and the appropriation for public welfare was increased by \$300 to make it \$5820 for 1940.

To care for the expenses of anticipated tax foreclosure an item of \$300 was put in the budget and \$30 was levied for an advertisement in the booklet of the Eastern Oregon Wheat League. In order to provide for a full time trapper the biological survey was given \$600 instead of the usual \$500. The emergency fund was increased to \$12,000 from \$5,800.

It was stated that the county expects to construct a machine shed beginning this year and an item of \$1300 was put in next year's budget for this building. Twelve hundred dollars were raised this year for this purpose, making a total of \$2500 available for the shed. An additional \$800 was put in the budget for roads after it was found possible to increase this amount and remain under the six percent limitation.

Reductions were made in the following items: \$120 in expenses of the treasurer's office, \$282.80 in statutory expenses of schools, \$25 in examinations of insane and \$45.56 in insurance on the court house.

There was an expressed desire to appropriate the full amount possible in order to keep the base for taxation up for future use and the largest year available would have been lost otherwise.

Aiding the county court as the budget committee were Fred Hennagin, P. C. Axtell and Amanda von Borstel.

Exports of Farm Products May Be Less

Washington, D. C., Oct. 26. Special—Warning is issued by the department of agriculture that the increase in export demand for United States products will be smaller than in the World War. There may also be a delay in the foreign purchases until the belligerents organize their program. One item alone for farmers to remember is that there will be no American expeditionary force sent to Europe, and it was the feeding of American soldiers that provided a large market for American agricultural products and meats in the World war days.