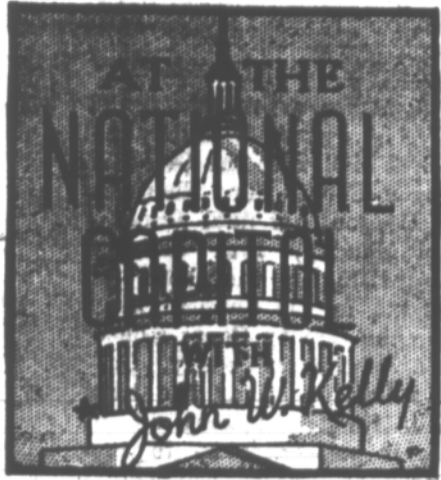


Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Second Year No. 12

Moro, Oregon, Friday, January 26, 1940

Official County Paper



Washington D. C., Jan. 25.—They are attempting to keep it a secret, but inside fact is that so many industries are nibbling for Bonneville power that Dr. Paul J. Raver administrator for the project, is afraid the industrial development of the Pacific Northwest will be obstructed unless Congress votes money for more generators at the plant and sufficient funds to expediate Grand Coulee to the point of power production.

Negotiations in every instance are being conducted in secret. Eastern firms, have suddenly become aware of cheap power in the Columbia basin and are anxious to "beat the other fellows" (their competitors) to it. Only point that is causing delay in signing tentative contracts is the local markets. The eastern concerns are in the heart of the heavily populated area of America, which means large and immediate markets.

No less than seven factories, all in the same line, are displaying keen interest in the possibilities of the far west, and at least one of these will sign for power. Important mid-west newspapers are denouncing Bonneville, accusing it of taking industries, such as Aluminum Company of America, when the concerns "might have" located in the Chicago area (where there is no such cheap power, by the way.)

Because of the disagreement between Washington senators, Bone and Schwelienbach, chairman of the senate committee on appropriations has requested Oregon's McNary to appear before the committee and make whatever argument is necessary for an appropriation for Grand Coulee for the fiscal year 1941. The senior senator for Washington, Homer T. Bone, has been unable to return to Congress since the session opened and the junior senator, Lewis B. Schwelienbach, on the verge of being named to the federal bench, doesn't expect to be in the national capital when the Grand Coulee item is reached by the committee.

Senator McNary will ask that funds be made available to install three generators at Grand Coulee (105,000 k. m. each) as the plan has been to advance Coulee that far by 1942, thus furnishing power to pump water on the first section to be irrigated.

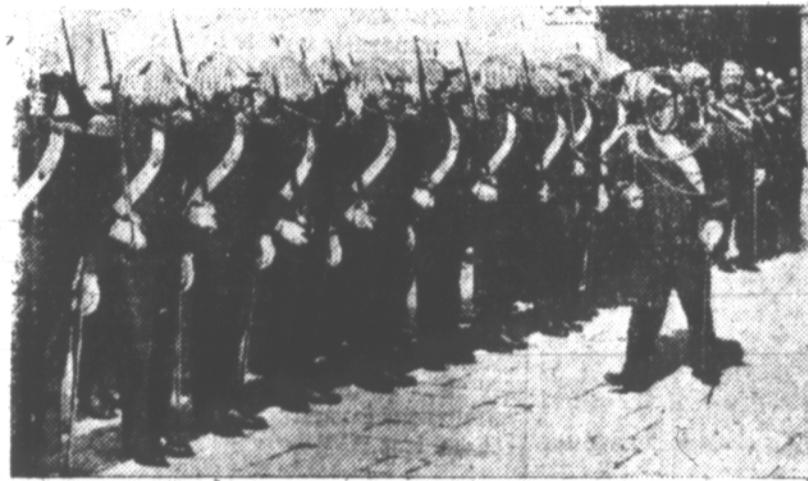
Even though Secretary Hull may persist in his refusal to open negotiations with Japan for renewal of the trade agreement denounced by him, it is not believed commerce between the two countries will be halted on January 26. Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau, with presidential approval, can withhold the imposing of penalties pending a rearrangement of relations between the two nations. This would not disturb existing tariff schedules but would permit continuance of normal trade free from the higher duties, such as are now levied on German goods. Japan is and now for some time has been America's third best customer and in 1938 brought \$2 here for every American dollar spent in Japan.

The raw silk which is imported from Japan to the value of \$80,000,000 to \$100,000,000 annually is processed here into a value of more than \$500,000,000 retail. It furnishes direct and indirect employment to at least 400,000 people and utilizes some \$200,000,000 of machinery. Japan consumes yearly 40 percent more cotton than is produced in the state of Oklahoma, giving work to several additional hundred thousand. With the unemployment rolls still high—with shipping adversely affected by the neutrality law—the administration can hardly afford to toss away this trade.

New York interests are considering the purchase of mineral properties in Oregon and Washington; gypsum in the former and tungsten in the latter. A representative of the owners has been in the national capital consulting war de-

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Smallest Republic Observes 200th Anniversary



San Marino, oldest and smallest republic in Europe, celebrates the 200th anniversary of its independence in February. Perched on a rock in the heart of Italy, (see map and picture at lower left) San Marino is governed by a great council of 60 members, two of whom exercise executive powers for a term of six months. Free of debt, the country has postage stamps and coinage of its own. It maintains a military force of 29 officers and 900 men (upper left). Abraham Lincoln was an honorary citizen of San Marino.

Dial System Inaugurated In County Easily

At a few minutes before nine o'clock Saturday night the old switch boards of Sherman county were quickly put out of commission, an act that immediately put the new dial telephones into operation.

Operators sitting at their boards were startled as the drops fell all at once, and from habit tried to put them up again.

City officials had been invited in to watch the performance and to hear an explanation of the working of the new system at the new buildings. Little difficulty has been encountered in the operation of the dial phones here although there have been some interruptions because of the changeover. The crew has been taking the old phones out of the homes and offices and dismantling the old office.

Woman's Club To Give Silver Tea

The Doernbecher silver tea given annually by the Moro Women's club will be held in the auditorium of the school house Thursday afternoon February first at two o'clock.

The dress rehearsal of the one act play, "His First Dress Suit" which will be presented later by the Moro school as an entry in the Mid-Columbia play contest will be given. Miss Barbara Leisz is director. Other entertainment will be provided.

Peter Peters Dies at Home Near G. V.

Peter J. Peters, a resident of this county since January 1, 1889, died suddenly of a heart attack at his home south of Grass Valley Friday. He had been to the Bibby ranch where was doing chores during their absence and had returned home when death overtook him. His body was found Saturday morning by Bill Buether, a neighbor, who became worried when Mr. Peters failed to come by after his mail.

The deceased was born in Hanover, Germany, November 23, 1852 and came to this country with his parents, arriving at The Dalles the first day of 1889. The family settled near what became Bourbon and Mr. Peters obtained his education here and began farming, an occupation he followed until his death.

He is survived by his father, Heinrich Peters, a sister, Mrs. W. D. Barnett, four brothers, John, Henry, Herman and Fred, all of Grass Valley.

The funeral was held Tuesday afternoon at two o'clock from the Grass Valley auditorium with Rev. Gerald C. Dryden giving the sermon and with Zells in charge. Interment was made in the Odd-Fellows cemetery at Grass Valley.

Wasco Civic Club Hears Head of Waterways Group

The Wasco Civic club heard a talk by Charles Baker, president of the Inland Waterways association, who told his listeners of the work done by that organization and prophesied that within a few years the Columbia valley would be populated with many thousands more residents.

Tonnage hauled by barge thru the Celilo canal in 1939 was greater than that put through in the twenty years prior to that year said Mr. Baker, whose organization has been in the forefront in working for added Columbia river tonnage.

The recent action of the attorney general of Oregon in declaring it illegal for Oregon counties to make appropriations for the Inland Empire group has made it necessary, he said, for that organization to rely on contributions from interested citizens and those who will benefit from river transportation.

In consideration of the infantile paralysis dance to be given Saturday night at Grass Valley the president appointed W. A. Spencer, Lewis Hastings and Floyd Reet as a committee to sell the club's quota of tickets. The club voted to put on the annual lamb show either the first or second week end of May. A speaker from the extension service of the Pacific Power & Light company will appear at the next meeting, it was announced.

Power Company Working on Lines

Work of reconstructing many of the distributing lines of the light company has been going on for several weeks and is now in full swing. In the three towns of this county ten new transformers have been or will be installed to bring better service to customers served by them, according to R. V. Lockhart, local manager.

This work is being done to insure adequate service for the steady growth of the area. A new bank of transformers has been put in near the experiment station for that part of town. New distribution lines and larger capacity transformer has been installed on Scott street in Moro and work on McCoy and Court street will include new lines and transformers.

In Wasco and Grass Valley new transformers are also being installed and four blocks of new distribution circuit will be built in Wasco and three blocks of similar construction in Grass Valley. This work is being done in places where trouble has been experienced heretofore.

MORE MONEY HERE

With the arrival of an additional \$7512.39 for fourteen farmers on their allotment the total of funds received for that purpose in this county was raised to \$302,109.75.

Public Welfare Cost Is 80percent of Appropriation

Cost of public assistance and relief to the people of Sherman county has been obtained from the office of the county clerk for 1939. It shows that of the total appropriation of \$5520 for the year \$4392.10 was actually spent. This is just under 80% of the amount levied by the court in the fall of 1938.

Of the appropriation of \$2000 levied for public assistance, \$1736.33 was spent. An appropriation of \$3000 was levied for old age assistance. Of this sum \$2354.76 was actually spent. For the blind \$120 was appropriated and \$56.49 was spent. For dependent children \$400 was levied and \$244.52 was spent. The appropriation for 1939 was raised to \$5820, an increase of \$300.

Sherman County Pioneer Passes

Ralph C. Bennett, one of the few remaining pioneers who settled in this county in the eighties, died at his home in Portland Thursday, and was buried in Portland.

Mr. Bennett was born in Iowa, and moved to Kansas with his parents when young. Later the family came west and many of them settled in Sherman county. Milton, Walter, Frank and Ralph of the brothers were homesteaders here in 1886 and a sister, Mrs. Belle Hogue still resides at Kent.

Ralph Bennett's homestead was southwest of Grass Valley and is now owned by Fred Stradley, who bought it when the Bennetts retired some twenty years ago. By careful management he accumulated enough of the world's goods to move to Portland where he ended his days.

Crested Wheat To Be Featured on Broadcast

The story of how Gilliam county, Oregon, carried out a land planning program resulting in 12 percent of its crop land being seeded to crested wheat grass is told in the usual February 6 in a broad cast over the National Farm and Home hour heard in the west at 9:30 o'clock.

Taking part in this program originating in the KEX studios in Portland will be C. K. Barker and E. R. Fatland, Condon, and C. A. Nish, Mikkaloo. Barker and Nish are farmer members of the county agricultural conservation committee, and the former is president of the Eastern Oregon Wheat league. Fatland, Condon business man, is speaker of the House of Representatives and served as chairman of the Gilliam county agricultural outlook conference sponsored by the extension services.

Court Debates Selection of Road To Be Built

Division of Federal Funds Between Counties Makes Chance for County Road Job

A specially called meeting of the county court was held Tuesday afternoon at the court house with all the members present. Purpose of the meeting was a conference with Cesar Cutler, state highway engineer, over road and highway matters.

While the contract for the improvement of the so-called Monkland Hay Canyon road has been let it has not been fully approved by the commissioners because of a lack of right of way officially designated. Howard Conlee, Dewey Thompson, J. B. Davis and Harvey Thompson appeared before the court and verbally gave their support to the road extension and promised that they would do nothing to prevent or delay the court in declaring a full sixty foot right of way for the road. A legal technicality had made this necessary.

Mr. Cutler explained that under the Hayden-Cartwright bill, under which federal appropriations were made in 1937, it was possible for the state highway commission to do work on county roads and secondary highways with federal funds, matched by the state.

In 1938 and 1939 work was done in 27 of the counties. Money was divided on the same basis as are state funds between the five districts into which the state is divided by the highway commission. The Monkland-Hay Canyon road is to be this county's share of the funds allotted for 1938-39.

The commission has proposed that inasmuch as it is necessary for them to do an equal amount of work in each district on county roads and on secondary roads they can allot a further \$15,000 to this county for work on county roads this year. Review of the different projects that had been presented to them previously caused them to favor the Fulton Canyon road. This project has received the approval of the Bureau of Public Roads.

Therefore the court was considering giving the state permission to widen, surface and oil another two miles of the Fulton Canyon road which will construct it to about half a mile west of the Victor Anderson place. The job is estimated at the \$15,000.

Commissioner Wilson objected to this allotment saying that the improvement of Shearers grade was of ten times the importance to the county and if it was thought necessary to build another road from Wasco to the river it should be into Rufus instead of paralleling the highway.

No definite decision was made as to the acceptance or rejection of the project by the county as it will be necessary to obtain the rights of way before it can be finally approved by the state.

Former Resident Dies In Auto Accident

Mrs. Perry Strong, known to many Sherman countians, was killed near Tualatin last Friday when the car in which she was riding with her husband was struck from behind by another. Mrs. Strong was an aunt of Truman Strong. Perry Strong is the owner of the Wilcox ranch farmed by Luther Davis, and he and his wife lived there for many years. The funeral was held in Portland.

AAA Explanation Due February 2

A meeting will be held at the court house February second, Friday, for county committeemen and community committeemen of the AAA organization of this county for the purpose of explaining the program for 1940. Earl Thompson is expected to be here for the meeting.

This will be a county meeting as the gathering at Arlington was a regional meeting. Time will be given to the discussion of the main program of agricultural conservation and crop restriction and to the loan and insurance provisions.

Woman's Club Hears of Lincoln From Member

An interesting meeting was held Friday, January 19 by the Moro Women's club. During the business session it was voted to purchase twelve folding chairs. Mrs. Poley was director of the program which consisted of a number of songs from the club song books written during the Lincoln period.

A review of the book, "Lincoln in Illinois" by Octavia Roberts was given by Mrs. Theodore Johnston who also gave a vivid description of the Lincoln Memorial which she, with her husband, had visited on two trips east. A piece of wood and an oak leaf as souvenirs from the memorial were shown.

Two vocal duets, "Uncle Ned" and "Believe me if all those endearing young charms" were pleasingly rendered by Mrs. Hollinshead and Mrs. Hennagin. Charades were acted and correctly guessed by the audience.

The Doernbecher tea will be held in the school auditorium Thursday, February first.

WEATHER COLDER

Wednesday night the thermometer at the experiment station dropped to 14 degrees which is the coldest, so far, of the present spell of chilly weather. The night of January 10, it dropped to 13 degrees for the lowest mark of the winter to date.

Four or five inches of snow has fallen during the past few days, most of it coming Wednesday and Wednesday night. As the ground is frozen to a depth of six inches over most of the county the snow has little chance of being of much value for the crop.

The weather data for the week:

Date	Max	Min	Prec.
Jan. 18	38	21	.00
19	25	21	.00
20	28	21	.00
21	27	22	.00
22	25	20	.00
23	77	22	T
24	26	15	15

School Districts Will Be Eliminated Under Operation of New Law

By A. L. Lindbeck

Elimination of 480 of the 1934 school districts in Oregon is provided for in preliminary reports already filed with the state board of education by county school district reorganization committees acting under authority of an act passed by the last legislature.

The state board took its first action on the recommendations of county committees this week when it approved plans for the reorganization of the school districts in Josephine and Curry counties. In Josephine county the reorganization plans provide for consolidation of the present 42 districts into 21 districts. In one instance 12 districts are being combined into one. A number of districts are not being disturbed in the proposed reorganization plan. In Curry county it is proposed to eliminate five of the existing 18 districts.

Opponents of the proposed reorganization plan in any of the districts affected have 60 days in which to reject the plan if a majority of the voters in the district so elect.

Published reports to the effect that the three D'Autremont brothers—Hugh, Ray and Roy—had appeared before the state parole board brought a prompt explanation from the board that the appearance was purely routine and had no particular significance. The three brothers who are serving life terms for the brutal slaying of four trainmen in the Siskiyou tunnel train robbery in October, 1928, are not eligible to parole, the board explained. Their only chance for release, the board's statement pointed out, lay through a pardon or commutation of sentence at the hands of the governor.

Grant county has been getting more and better game law enforcement than some of its residents want, but not as much or as good as some of them deserve. This is the conclusion voiced by Chas. P. Pray, superintendent of state police, in a report to Governor Sprague following an investigation into complaints filed by Grant county citizens against treatment meted out by state police to deer hunters in that part of the state.

Tax Notices Will Call For Slightly Less Money

Nine Rural Districts Make No Levy; Town Districts Pay Much Higher Rate

The assessor has turned the 1939 rolls over to the clerk and the clerk in turn, given them to the sheriff, who will shortly send out notices to each and every property owner telling him of his debt to the county and state for schools, roads, cities and other matters.

In general the taxes will be a bit less for 1940 than for 1939 as the total levy is down some \$5,000 but there will be variations over the county.

For those living in the country where there is no school tax to pay the levy will be 11.2 mills made up of 7.1 mills for county, state elementary school, market road, bridges, and per capita school. 2.6 mills for general road and 1.5 for non-high schools.

School Districts Vary

For those living in a school district in the country the special tax for that district must be added. Rural districts are all under two mills except Dist. 32 which is levying 5.9 mills this year. Nine rural districts levied no tax at all.

Town school districts vary from a very low of 3.9 at Wasco, a 6.7 at Kent to 12.3 at Rufus and Grass Valley and 12.6 at Moro. Districts having high schools do not pay the non-high school tax.

Residents of the towns have the city tax to pay and this is the largest of all being 14.9 in Moro, 15.2 at Grass Valley and 24.2 at Wasco.

The law permitting a three percent discount on taxes paid on or before March 15 is still in effect which gives the taxpayer who is flush a chance to cut his levy somewhat.

The State Land Board has decided to boost interest rates on loans of \$1000 or less from the state school fund from five to six percent. Rates on larger loans will remain at five percent. The increased rate, according to Lewis Griffith, secretary of the board, was necessitated because of the high cost of collecting the smaller loans.

O. Henry Olen of St. Helens, who eliminated himself from the legislative race two years ago in order to make the race for the Democratic nomination for governor, wants to represent Columbia county in the House of Representatives again. Olen filed his formal declaration of candidacy with the state department this week. His was the fourth declaration filed in the 1940 primary campaign. Olen has seen service in three previous legislative sessions.

Oregon's industrial payrolls hit a new all-time high in 1939 at \$158,294,120, according to records of the State Industrial Accident commission. This figure exceeds the 1938 record by more than \$11,000,000. The average number of men employed by Oregon industries during the year was 177,100, compared to 109,245 in 1938, records of the commission show.

The encroachment of federal agencies upon state activities this week brought a vigorous protest from Governor Sprague who addressed letters to Oregon's delegation in Congress calling attention to what he termed an "acute situation."

While the governor's letter had special reference to the demand that the Oregon Relief committee put into operation a so-called merit system in the selection of its employed personnel he expressed concern "because of the threat to extend this federal authority over other departments of state government to which the federal government makes any contribution."

Insistence by the federal board

Continued on page two