

Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Second Year No. 51

Moro, Oregon, Friday, October 25, 1940

Official County Paper



283 Registrants Waiting For Army Orders

Huge Questionnaire
to Be Filled Out
After Draft Drawing

Washington, D. C. Oct. 24.—Of more than one billion dollars in shipbuilding contracts awarded to Pacific coast plants two-thirds have gone to the San Francisco area. Washington state is next on the list and Oregon so far down as to be almost invisible. The Washington delegation is in good standing at the White House, but Oregon's representatives—with the exception of Walter M. Pierce of the Second District—are very much in the doghouse. It may be that none of these national defense contracts would have been captured by Oregon in any event, but certainly the prospect was not brightened by the fact that one of its senators is the Republican nominee for vice president and the other is without influence in the present administration.

To fill the contracts obtained by California firms it will be necessary to spend nearly \$20,000,000 for new yards and ways, thus creating employment for hundreds of workers and adding greatly to the prosperity of that state. Most of the new shipbuilding in Washington state will be done at the Bremerton yards with facilities already provided. Oregon will receive only such fragments of the business as seems to be least desirable from the viewpoint of contractors.

Outstanding news in the national capital during the past week was the state department order—framed more as a suggestion—for evacuation of Americans from China and Japan. It was explained as a precautionary measure to relieve the government of responsibility in case eventualities resulted in injury or distress of nationals because of the strained relations between Washington and Tokyo.

It is no longer possible to make even a reasonable guess as to the aims of the Roosevelt administration with regard to the Far East situation, though prudent observers are disinclined to believe that there is eminent danger of a breaking off of diplomatic relations. There would be some clarification of the matter if it were possible to learn the extent to which conversations with British Ambassador Lord Lothian have committed the United States in defense of British interests in the Far east.

Remorse of negotiators for the use of Singapore as a base for the American navy persist and inquiries at state and navy departments are met with evasion or qualified denials which leave doubt as to the exact status of affairs or the purpose of the Washington government. It is not believed that Japan has any intention of backing down and that future developments will depend upon the determination of England to protect her interests in the orient, influenced, as it must be, by the steps the United States is prepared to take.

It is now taken for granted in Washington that the administration is committed to fullest aid to Great Britain, and that this policy will be continued no matter who is elected president on November 5. Candidate Willkie has made it plain in his speeches that he favors this Roosevelt policy and there is reason to believe he reflects the sentiment of the American people.

So far as this can be done without interfering with the national defense program, no doubt approval will be given by the public, but there are indications that steps are contemplated which go far beyond this reasonable limit. Transfer of big bombers has long been considered in administration circles and developments along this line may be expected any day. While the United States has no immediate need of these flying fortresses and the situation in England is desperate, an efficient air force cannot be built up if these central units are to be turned over to Great Britain as fast

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Two hundred eighty three names of men between the ages of 21 and 36 are listed in the files of the newly created Sherman county draft board. This was fewer names than were counted at the end of the registration day but many of those names had to be sent to counties of actual residence. Names of Sherman county men are coming in every day from far away places of registration such as Marius Douma who signed his card in Princeton, N. J.

The greatest number of these men gave their address as Wasco, which 82 claim as their residence. Moro is the home of 72, Grass Valley of 60, Kent of 29, Biggs of 5, Rufus of 23, Miller of 4 and Klondike of 8.

Wily Knighten, Cap Scott and George Wilcox, the draft board, are getting their office papers in shape to be ready to give order numbers and classifications to the men when the drawing is held October 29, next Tuesday.

All registrants in this county are listed as white with one exception, Tamotau Furukawa of Rufus.

Because the men in this draft are of a greater age than those of the World War draft, it is expected that there will be a large percentage of exemptions and the names of many Sherman county farmers are listed on the sheet of possible draftees.

By next week it is thought possible that the order in which the registrants will be called up can be known. Then the full information about the draftees will be demanded on the part of the government along with any exemption request that may be made. These records are quite lengthy and will require some time on the part of the registered men who must give their life history, their qualifications for war or peace and their reasons, if any, why they should not spend a year in the army.

New Impressions Gathered In Trip Across Nation

At Lansing, Michigan Harry Schenk, manager of the Oregon Newspaper Publisher's Association, took delivery on a new car and we began the trip home through peaceful Michigan countryside. The delivery system of one factory is not a matter about which it should boast, as some delay was encountered.

It is customary to think of Michigan as a factory state with factory stacks belching smoke on every horizon. It is not so. The part through which we traveled was as rural as Sherman county with a diversified agriculture, good looking soil, plenty of trees, marsh pastures and good buildings.

It rained along the lake and across Indiana and part of Illinois, rain such as never fell on Sherman county. Our hillside country would be a barren rockpile after a few rains like that.

Joliet, Illinois, is a prison and factory town, with crooked, narrow streets, black buildings and depressed looking people. Factory towns can be spotted by the drabness of the residences and cannot be compared to country towns. One gathers the idea that the social problem of the nation would be largely solved if industry could be recentered into smaller units.

Iowa again and more farms with corn, and hogs and corn, and steers and corn and horses and corn. Many fields are marked with the hybrid variety grown. These hybrids have increased production enough per acre that the reduction for parity payments has had little effect on the total corn. They are not tall.

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Union Pacific Cuts Rates In Two Counties

Farmers of Gilliam and Morrow counties will receive the same reduction in railroad freight rates about the first of December as the shippers of Sherman counties have enjoyed since April according to information released here by the company officials Tuesday.

At the time the rates were reduced last spring Sherman county was given a three cent cut and Gilliam and Morrow county shippers a two cent cut. Farmers from the two counties recently met with Union Pacific officials with the result that the three cent reduction was made to apply for all three counties.

It is possible that objections will be filed to this rate which may delay to some extent its application, but the new tariff has been requested by the railroad officials.

Young Man Held On Assault Charge

Warren Lavern Williams, 18, of Yamhill, is lying in the county jail here this week while an investigation is being made of his reputation and character, by District Attorney T. Lester Johnson and Sheriff C. C. Wilson.

Williams pled guilty last Saturday in Circuit Judge Carl Hendrick's Court to attempted robbery while armed with a dangerous weapon. The charge was placed upon Williams when he was arrested by McFord Peters, former deputy sheriff of Montana, near Biggs after he had struck Arne Melhus, 19, over the head in an attempt to rob him. Williams had picked Melhus up in The Dalles and given him a ride to Biggs.

Sentence will be passed on Williams next Saturday by Judge Hendrick who will come from his special term in Portland for that purpose.

Civic Club To Hold Meeting

The first winter meeting of the Wasco Civic club will be held next Monday night, October 28, at the Sherman Hotel, according to word given here by T. Lester Johnson, president.

Speaker of the evening will be Stanley Church who is director of traffic safety in the office of Earl Snell, secretary of state. Mr. Church was formerly a radio announcer with KOIN in Portland. The meeting will begin at 7:30 with a dinner at the hotel. Members are requested to make reservations early and guests are welcome.

Leslie Scott Has Wide Training

Leslie M. Scott, Republican candidate for state treasurer, has made a notable name for himself as a journalist, historian, executive and civic leader. The large primary vote by which he was nominated indicates the esteem in which he is held by the people of Oregon.

Mr. Scott's father, the late Harvey W. Scott, was the great pioneer editor of The Oregonian, but the son never traded on the distinguished family's name, rolling up an impressive record of achievement in his own right.

He earned the money for his college education by going to work, at the age of 16, as a reporter on The Oregonian. For a time, he was editorial writer and associate editor of that paper, and for the past twenty nine years he has been director and vice-president of The Oregonian Publishing Company.

He is the author of "History of the Oregon Country," a work which stands as an impressive tribute to his scholarship. Few men know every nook and cranny of Oregon, its native state, as well as Mr. Scott.

Mr. Scott's executive and financial ability has found an outlet, also, as a director and treasurer of the Oregon Historical Society, and as chairman of the State Highway Commission. In the latter capacity, during the years 1932-1935, he was instrumental in the development of many new highways throughout Oregon, and also helped to substantially reduce the commission's debt.

It's Going to Be a Hot Election!



President Roosevelt, en route to ground breaking ceremonies for the new Recorder of Deeds building in Washington, is pictured as his car was parked before the Roosevelt Republican club headquarters. Right: The Republican presidential candidate, Wendell Willkie, is here shown shaking hands with E. K. Matthews when his train stopped at Dickinson, N. D. People came from far and near to see Willkie and to hear him speak, while on his western tour.

State Draft Boards Giving Serial Number To 133,386 Young Oregonians Who Signed Cards

—By A. L. Lindbeck

Salem, Or., Oct. 24.—A total of 133,386 young men between the ages of 21 and 36 years registered in this state for possible military service under the recently enacted conscription act, according to figures tabulated by Lt. Col. Elmer V. Wooten, based upon reports from Oregon's 57 draft boards.

The actual registration fell some 30,000 under the pre-registration estimate of 163,000. Colonel Wooten, however, explains that the 133,000 estimate was based upon 15 percent of the 1940 census whereas the national estimate of 16,500,000 registrants was based upon 12.5 percent of the census figure. The Oregon registration amounts to 12.2 percent of the Oregon census according to Colonel Wooten who points out that when Oregon men already in military service either in the mobilized national guard or through enlistment in the army, navy or marine corps, are included this state's manpower available for military service is above the estimated 12.5 percent.

Members of the 57 draft boards appointed by Governor Sprague and all serving without pay, are now assigning serial numbers to the men registered in their respective districts. As soon as these numbers have been assigned the list of draftees will be made public, Colonel Wooten said.

According to advices from the national capital Oregon's quota of the 800,000 men to be called up during the next year has been fixed at 2806. On this basis only one man out of every 44 registrants will be called up from this state as compared to a national average of one out of every 21. Oregon's small quota is explained as due to this state's already large contribution toward the nation's defense force through its national guard and voluntary enlistments in the various branches of Uncle Sam's fighting force. The actual number of draftees is expected to be still further reduced as credit is given for future enlistments.

Colonel Wooten has pointed out that under the terms of the conscription act all registrants who now want to enlist for one year of service before their number is drawn must apply to their local draft boards. Wooten said that state headquarters as well as many local boards are being flooded with applications from men who want to get into the service at once and get their year of training over with.

Assessed valuation in Oregon decreased by more than \$3,780,000 during the past year, according to figures compiled by the state tax commission from reports of county assessors. In fixing the ratio of assessed values to true cash values the state commission reduced every county with the exception of Clackamas and Washington where the ratio remains unchanged at 46 percent and 52 percent respectively. Polk and Malheur counties are rated at the bot-

tom of the list with assessed values fixed at only 44 per cent of true cash values whereas Jefferson county tops the list with a ratio of 75. Other assessment ratios fixed by the state commission include: Benton county, 63; Columbia, 60; Coos, 65; Deschutes, 46; Douglas, 64; Hood River, 65; Josephine, 62; Malheur, 44; Marion, 48; Multnomah, 53; Sherman, 69; Umatilla, 66; Wasco, 61; Yamhill, 53.

Requests for increases in the salary and wages item of the several state institutions aggregating \$36,240 to finance the employment of 77 additional nurses and attendants have been written into the institution budgets with the approval of Governor Sprague. This increase in the employed personnel of the institutions is designed to provide for a 5-hour day week for these state employees who are now required to work from 12 to 14 hours a day for six days a week. The request for 77 additional employees, it is explained represents a substantial reduction from the number requested by the institution heads. Additional help needed at the state hospital for insane at Salem in order to put the five-day week into effect is fixed at 40 or more than one-half the total for all institutions.

More than 606,000 Oregon men and women have qualified for participation in the forthcoming general election according to registration figures compiled by the elections division of the state department. This is an increase of approximately 51,000 over the registration figures prior to the 1938 general election.

Democrats appeared to have made the greatest gains during the past two years, maintaining a total of approximately 297,000 voters, an increase of 29,000 over the 267,946 registration in 1938.

The Republicans, however, continue to hold a slight lead with approximately 309,500 registered under their banner, a gain of 22,000 over the 287,136 registered two years ago and still some 6,800 ahead of their Democratic rivals.

The Democrats gained the ascendancy in one more county this year, adding Lake county to their list for a total of 14 in which this party now registers a majority. In Clackamas county the two major parties are almost on a parity so far as registrations go with the Republicans showing a slight lead by a margin of only two.

An unusually heavy increase in registrations was experienced in Lane county where a total of 43,946 registration in 1938.

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October Rains Nearly Double Normal Fall

Eighty Hundredths Make
Wednesday Night One of
Wettest in History

It rained Wednesday night. In fact it rained so much that it was probably the hardest rain the county has experienced for years. The official at the experiment station was .80 inch.

This night's dampness brings the total for the month of October to 1.56, a total that has been beaten but three times in the history of weather data in this county. First wet October was back in 1913 when the skies were drained of 1.87 inches. In 1918 it rained 1.58 inch and in 1938 October turned up the taps and dropped 2.06 inches on the then suffering fields of the county.

The normal for the month is .87 inch. One and six hundredths of this 1.56 fell during the past week 12 coming Sunday, .06 Monday and .08 Tuesday. With another week to go, there is no telling how wet it will get.

Before the rain got to going good we had two nights when the temperature dropped to 33 degrees.

Seeding is nearly over in the county and on every ridge grain is turning the country green instead of the drab gray or black we have been used to in the fall of recent years. Prospects are good. The week's weather:

Date	Max	Min	P
17	75	45	
18	84	50	
19	78	56	
20	70	50-12	
21	62	43-06	
22	57	35	
23	55	33-38	
24		30	

Gilliam County Now Test Ground

Gilliam county has been chosen by the state land use committee to be the second unified county from the point of view of soil conservation. Government agencies, the extension service and the truck administration are to cooperate in the work.

Restriction of wind and water erosion and improvement of privately owned ranges are general objects and specific objectives are the control of the eight mile canyon blow area and the control of perennial weeds in the creek bottoms.

The state land use committee has recently returned from a trip through the soil conservation areas of central Oregon visiting the Fort Rock country and Jefferson county.

Woman's Club Has Guest Day

Guest day was observed by the Moro Woman's club Friday, October 19th, under the Art Department. Mrs. Carroll Sayra gave a short talk on "Music," Mrs. Cope on "Literature in the Bible," Mrs. Robert Henderson on the "Arrangement of Flowers in the Home," which proved extremely interesting. Reproductions of prints of famous artists were displayed in a group of fourteen arranged by Mrs. T. C. Reese and Mrs. Walter Ruggles who had charge of the program, and a number of pictures shown in the Mellon and Huntington collection of costly paintings. At each club meeting this year a five minute talk will be sponsored by the Art Department.

The club members are planning a new cook book, recipes from any one who wishes to contribute to this book to be sent in to Mrs. Ramsey, president, by the 1st of November.

Twenty guests were present at this meeting and one new member added. Hostesses Mrs. Edith Burnett, Anna Moore and Ethel Strong served cup-cakes and coffee.

TEMPLETONS TO LEAVE

Mr. and Mrs. Webb Templeton have leased a new coffee shop at Pasco, Wn., and will move to that town sometime in November when the building is completed.

County Court Pays Bills For New Machine Shed

COUNTY COURT PROCEEDINGS, OCTOBER TERM, 1940 October 2, 1940 being the time for the regular term of the County Court for Sherman County in the state of Oregon, the Honorable County Court did on said day meet in the County Courtroom in the Courthouse at Moro, at the hour of ten o'clock a. m.

The following being present: Geo. A. Potter, County Judge David Reid, County Commissioner J. M. Wilson, County Commissioner T. Lester Johnson, Dist. Attorney Joe Truitt, County Clerk

The following proceedings were had at said term:

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

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

Re: Charles R. Logan application to be appointed Sherman County Auditor at the same fee as of 1940. Application of C. R. Logan as County Auditor accepted as auditor for coming year.

In the matter of the appointment of the 1941 budget committee. Fred Hennagin, Wasco P. C. Axtell, Moro Tom Alley, Grass Valley First hearing October 15, 1940 First publication October 18, 1940 Second publication October 25, 1940 Final hearing November 8, 1940

Re: Health Nurse Lucille H. Vale report for six weeks period. Examined and approved.

Re: Order in the matter of membership of Sherman County in the Association of Oregon Counties and opinion of Alfred P. Dobson, Judge. Order examined, approved and ordered filed.

Re: County Treasurer's month report. Report examined and approved.

Re: Sheriff's turnover on current and delinquent taxes from June 15, 1940 to September 15, 1940. Examined and approved.

Court adjourned subject to call of County Judge.

CLAIMS PRESENTED AND ALLOWED AGAINST THE GENERAL FUND, OCTOBER TERM, 1940

Claimant	Account	Amount
First National Bank	General assistance	\$80.34
Sherman County Fair Ass'n	Balance of 1940 fair Fund	1000.00
First National Bank	Aid to Dependent Children	22.30
First National Bank, Old age Assistance		175.80
First National Bank, Blind Assistance		9.40
Geo. A. Potter, Judge's Salary		75.00
Otis Baker, Janitor's Salary		75.00
Charles Hartmann, Justice Court		1.50
Everett McQuillan, Justice Court		1.50
Lowell Ward, Justice Court		8.50
C. C. Wilson, Sheriff's Trans.		

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