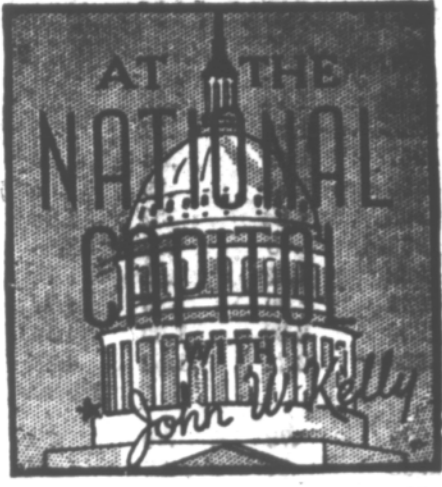


Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Third Year No. 9

Moro, Oregon, Friday, January 3, 1941

Official County Paper



Washington, D. C. Jan. 2—Unless the United States watches its step it will be in the European war before the end of 1941. No one in congress, at this date, favors war but the prodding comes from interventionists who are not in congress but who are pounding on the White House door urging action.

Under law, only congress can issue a declaration of war, but this country can become involved without congress turning a hand. There is nothing to prevent Germany from declaring war against the United States, in which case we would be in. Herr Hitler recognizes that the administration is furnishing supplies of military character to England and most of the American people are against him, and if he wishes to consider that cause for war against this country he may do so. There are, also, other methods.

Under President Roosevelt's proposed policy to aid Great Britain in sending material on lease or mortgage, a submarine could sink a boatload of this equipment, which would still be owned by the United States, and such an act might influence the American people to the point of demanding that congress declare war. England, it should be recalled, declared a state of war to exist, but Hitler created the situation in a plan to throw the blame for war upon his enemy. Sinking a boatload of American munitions enroute to the British might again serve this end.

Whatever the outcome the year 1941 will be important. Production for home defense will not reach its stride until early next winter—some ten months distant. Long before then many things may occur. Insiders at Washington expect Herr Hitler to attempt an invasion of the British isles within 90 to 120 days. Regardless of the issue, such an undertaking will have a powerful influence upon this country and particularly upon congress as well as the president. It is this expectation, of an attempted invasion that has alarmed the high command over the lagged production of airplanes, for planes more than any other implement of war are required by the British for both defense and offense.

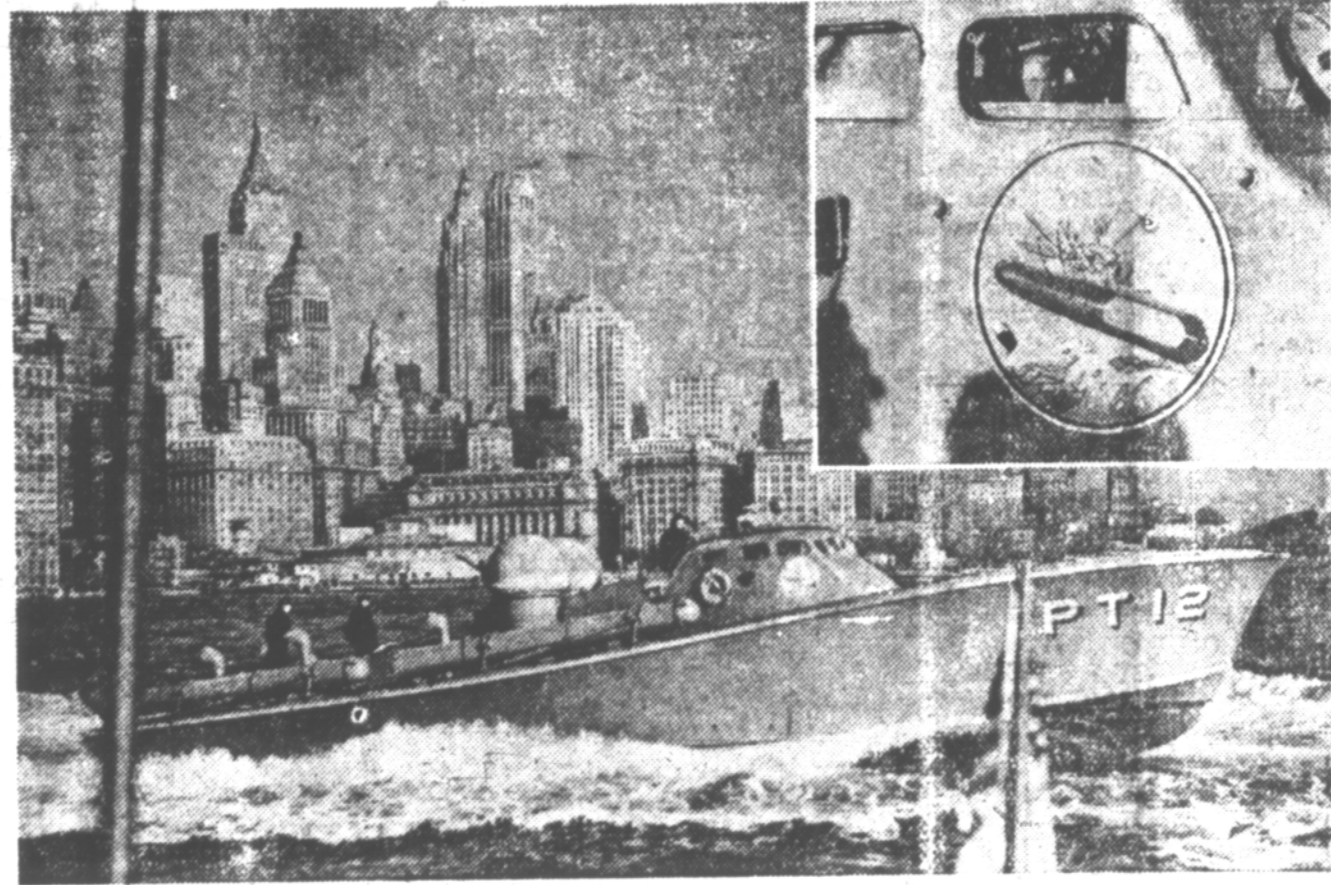
Troops have been injected with serum to immunize them against tropical diseases. This is the first step toward fitting them to hold bases in the Caribbean and on the west coast near the equator. Troops are now being shipped to several points from the Atlantic seaboard and the Pacific coast will be the jumping off place for soldiers destined for the far-flung islands. In Portland are two recently acquired passenger liners being revamped into troop ships. They will be manned by the Oregon naval reserve and are destined for somewhere.

Two mine layers and a net tender are under contract in Portland to be used on the Pacific coast. The net tender is to look after the large steel nets, now being fabricated and which will guard strategic points, such as the Bellingham navy yard. The mine layers will be almost as large as light cruisers and will cost approximately \$12,000,000. These vessels will require hundreds of skilled mechanics. They will probably be completed in the spring of 1942.

It is the considered opinion of members of congress that very little business will be done in the new congress that is not directly connected with national defense. There will be heavy appropriations for defense and a tax measure calculated to raise revenue to, in part, pay for the outlay. The tax bill, to be prepared after March 15, (the committee wishes to know how current revenue is coming in) will be the heaviest that this country has yet experienced, but it is believed to be only a starter. It will be designed to catch everyone for something.

USHA is to make a loan of (Continued on Page two)

Navy 'Mosquito'—Boat With a Sting!



The PT-12, one of the "mosquito boats" of the U. S. navy, buzzing along at about 50 knots with the grand skyline of Manhattan for a backdrop. The little boats carry a deadly sting in the form of turreted machine guns and four torpedo tubes. (Inset) Section of pilot-house on one of the mosquito boats, and the insignia of the mosquito fleet—a mosquito riding on a torpedo. The insignia was designed by Walt Disney.

P P & L Co To Give Jobs Back To Service Men

Members of the Pacific Power & Light company organization who volunteer or are called up for military training will be granted a year's leave of absence and assured restoration of their positions at the conclusion of their service, according to a company statement of national defense policy announced today by R. V. Lockhart, local agent.

The importance of utmost cooperation in national defense, from the standpoint of both of military training and education and of mobilization of industry, is stressed in the policy statement. Through well planned system development and interconnections, the company already is fully prepared to meet defense power needs in its territory.

Group life insurance coverage also will be extended during the one-year period of military service under an agreement reached with the insurance company. The full premium will be paid by the Pacific company during the leave period.

In addition, full pay for the customary vacation period falling during the year's leave of absence will be given the member of the organization when his leave starts.

New School Houses Fail To Halt Debt Reduction Program

By A. L. Lindbeck
Salem, Or., Jan. 2.—Fifty-two new high school buildings have been constructed in Oregon during the past five years, according to a survey just completed by Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction. Twenty-seven new gymnasiums and 33 other buildings in connection with high school plants have been constructed during the five year period, Putnam points out.

In spite of the expensive improvement program Putnam declares that 50 percent of the high schools of the state are still inadequate in some respects to meet the needs of a modern high school program.

While this building program was being carried out, adding \$7,851,792 to the valuation of high school buildings, school districts of the state were paying off bonds and reducing their debt load in the amount of \$3,320,000.

County AAA Re-elects Officers For New Year

The election of officers for the county AAA resulted in the same men being returned to their posts by the delegates chosen for purpose. Joe Peters will be chairman for another year, Wallace May and A. J. Smith county committeemen. Few changes were made in the personnel of the community committee for 1941 indicating general agreement with the work of the agricultural boards during the last year.

Meetings of interest due for the coming week are the gathering of grange agricultural committees which is to be held in The Dalles next Tuesday, January 7, at 10 a. m. which will be attended by grange members from this county who will aid in making up the grange program for the year in conjunction with extension service workers.

January 8 a weed control meeting will be held at the court house beginning at 2 p. m. Lawrence Jenkins will be present to talk of the proper chemicals to use on perennial weeds and the new relationships founded when the county became a weed control district will be explained.

W. Thompson Opens Offices For New Business

Wayne Thompson has taken leave from the Moro Grain Growers, and established offices in Wasco and Moro for the purpose of keeping farm records making out income tax statements and setting up bookkeeping forms for farmers and business men.

Mr. Thompson is a graduate of Moro High school and attended business college before coming back to work in the elevator as bookkeeper. He is familiar with the work he is starting and feels that there is a need for better farm bookkeeping which he can supply at reasonable cost.

His offices in Moro are in the basement of the hotel.

On Wednesday, December 25th the I. O. O. F. hall at Kent was a scene of festivity when Mr. and Mrs. Elnor Helyer celebrated their silver wedding anniversary. At the noon hour the scene changed to a quiet ceremony, when Mrs. Hazel Reeves of Grass Valley, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Clemens of Eugene and Robert Helyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Helyer of Kent, were united in marriage. Rev. Henry G. Hanson of Moro read the service. The bride was attended by Myrtle Helyer of Grass Valley and Vincent Genteman acting as best man for Mr. Helyer. Preceding the ceremony Mrs. George Wilson sang "I Love You Truly," accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Elnor Helyer, Virginia Helyer of Grass Valley played the wedding march. Following the ceremony, a reception was held at the hall. The decorations were silver and holly to conform with the anniversary and holiday motif. Out of town guests for the occasion were Mr. and Mrs. Jake Douma and family of Wheeler; Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Eakin of Parkdale; Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Adams and son of Hood River; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fraser of Fort Lewis, Wn.; Mr. W. H. Helyer of Carson, Washington; Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Belshe and son of Moro; Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fraser of Moro; Mr. and Mrs. Durward Helyer and son of Moro; Mr. and Mrs. Williams Edwards and family of Madras; and the Misses Virginia and Myrtle Helyer, and Jack Lewis of Grass Valley; and Sheri and Willard Helyer of Antelope.

After a short wedding trip Mr. and Mrs. Helyer will be at home at their ranch near Kent.

WHEAT LOANS END
The date for the expiration of wheat loans was December 31. At this time the local bank, through the AAA office, had made loans on 940,124 bushels of wheat at an average loan price of 60.9 cents. This is lower than before because of the poorer quality of wheat grown in 1940. Total wheat loans are \$572,394.34. Loans were also made on barley this year with the result that 23,097 bushels of this feed grain was put up for collateral for \$664.68.

Leslie P. Scott, state treasurer-elect, is expected in Salem to take over his new duties next Monday, January 6, succeeding Walter E. Pearson who is filling out the unexpired term of Rufus C. Holman, who resigned two years ago to become a United States senator. Pearson was not a candidate for re-election.

1940 Peculiar Year From Weather Angle

Warmer and Wetter Than Normal; Also Brings Less Wind

Weather records for 1940 are being compiled at the experiment station and Mrs. Dora Moore, who keeps the records at Wasco has sent in her report for the year. It appears that 1940 was a bit peculiar in several things other than abundance of moisture. At the station the record of 14.91 inches of precipitation was broken by over half an inch and a new record of 15.42 hung up for coming years to shoot at. At Wasco 15.01 inches were recorded during the year.

The normal rainfall for the station was 10.94 until the figures were compiled but this has been raised by 1940 so that 11.09 is now the normal or average rainfall at the station. The driest and wettest years, coming together, faded a little of being as wet as two normal years.

No one has heretofore made a point of it but 1940 was also one of the warmest years on record. January, July and November were the only months in which the mean temperature was below normal. In the other nine months the average was a little warmer than the normal.

The wind blew more lightly and the evaporation was less, which may have had an effect on the use of the large amount of moisture that fell.

At both Wasco and Moro February and April were very wet months and the record for those months were broken. Wasco measured 3.62 inches of precipitation in February. In August there was no rainfall in Wasco which was just about perfect, too.

At Wasco 5.53 inches of rain have fallen since the start of the crop year, September 1. The normal for this period is 5.62.

Hog Price Moves Upward

The hog market Monday was an even dollar higher than the previous Monday, with the top of \$8.00 equalling the previous extreme top of the year. Top carcals brought \$8.00, with 170 to 217 lb truckins bulking at \$7.75 to \$7.85, and a few to \$8.00. Medium weight butchers took a smaller discount than recently, 225 to 260 lb weights selling at \$7.25 to \$7.50. Light lights ranged from \$7.00 to \$7.50. The bulk of the packing sows brought \$5.50 to \$6.00. Good feeder pigs were sharply higher at \$7.00 to \$7.25.

Tuesday's top truckins brought \$7.60 to \$7.75, with other grades, except packing sows, off around 25c from Monday's best time.

The fat lamb market Monday was slightly stronger than a week ago, with slaughter ewes again on an unchanged basis. Four loads of 91 to 97 lb trucked lambs sold at \$8.50. Trucked in lambs sold around \$8.00 to \$8.25 mainly, with medium grades at \$7.50 down. A few yearlings cashed at \$7.00. Medium to good slaughter ewes ranged from \$3.00 to \$4.50. Tuesday's sheep market was unchanged.

The following quotations are based on prices being paid in Tuesday's trading:

CATTLE: Good grain-fed steers \$9.50 to \$10.50. Good grain-fed heifers \$8.75 to \$9.25. Other heifers \$6.25 to \$8.25. Good beef cows \$7.00 to \$7.50, medium \$6.00 to \$6.75, common \$5.00 to \$5.75, canners \$4.00 to \$4.75. Bulls, medium to good \$6.50 to \$7.50, common \$5.25 to \$6.25. Vealers, good to choice \$10.00 to \$10.50, select \$11.00.

HOGS: Good to choice carlots \$7.75; 170 to 215 lb truckins \$7.50 to \$7.75; 230 to 285 lb butchers \$7.00 to \$7.25; lightweight butchers \$6.50 to \$7.25; packing sows \$5.50 to \$6.00. Feeder pigs \$6.50 to \$7.00.

SHEEP: Good to choice woolled lambs \$8.00 to \$8.50; medium to good \$7.25 to \$7.75; common \$6.50 to \$7.00. Slaughter ewes, good to choice \$4.00 to \$4.50. Feeder lambs quotable \$7.00. Shorn lambs \$7.15 to \$7.60.

Light Company Purchase Topic In Called Meeting

A meeting has been called by R. L. Kunsman, mayor of Arlington for Friday night at 8 o'clock for the purpose of discussing with an agent of the Bonneville administration the possibility of obtaining public power in the four county area of Sherman, Gilliam, Wheeler and Morrow counties.

It appears that the Bonneville administration is anxious that means be provided for the purchase of the entire Pacific Power & Light properties. This district has shown little desire for PUD districts to date and this meeting has been called, apparently, to excite interest in the formation of districts to buy the present facilities.

Invited to attend are mayors and councilmen, county courts and state representatives.

Moro Townies Win and Lose

The Moro Townies won two and lost one game in the past week. Friday, December 27, they defeated the Kent town team on the Kent floor by a score of 48 to 19. Pukerton was high scorer for Moro with 20 points. The Kent town team will play at Moro Friday, January 3.

Monday night, December 30, Moro went to Condon. The Moro second team defeated the Condon team by a score of 19 to 13. Gillmor was high point man for Moro with six points. Logan was high for Condon, also with six points.

The Moro first team was defeated 39 to 22 in a game featured by some quite rough playing. Thompson and Hollinshead were high for Moro with 8 points each. Kurtz was high for Condon with 12.

Come out and see the team play Friday night, January 3, at the Moro gym. Game time 8 o'clock.

Wool Coop Sells Block of Local Wool

Checks representing sales of \$120,000.00 worth of eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho farm flock wools were mailed today by Pacific Wool Growers to some 500 growers residing in Oregon and Washington, east of the mountains and in western Idaho. This is in addition to checks for some \$700,000.00 which were mailed in November to some 250 range wool growers.

The Pool just closed netted prices to grower members of from 50c to 33c per pound F.O.B. ranch, depending on the grade. This was substantially higher than country prices at shearing time.

This Eastern Oregon, Washington and Idaho Farm-Flock Pool contained about 360,000 lbs. of wool which was graded and processed at the Association's U. S. licensed wool warehouse in Portland. A considerable portion of the graded wools were sold through the new Pacific Wool Growers wool auctions which were inaugurated this year in Portland, Oregon, and Stockton, California.

The Association's western Oregon and Washington Pool, commonly called the Valley Pool, will be closed about January 1st when checks totalling approximately \$185,000.00 will be sent out to some 900 members residing in Oregon and Washington, announced R. A. Ward, General Manager of Pacific Wool Growers.

November Gasoline Sales Biggest Ever

For the first time in the history of Oregon, November gasoline taxes totaled over a million dollars this year. Earl Shell, secretary of state, reported today.

The tax paid on gasoline sold in Oregon during November totaled \$1,031,032, compared to \$998,250 for November of last year. Consumption this November was 20,620,615 gallons, compared to 19,905,006 gallons for the same month a year ago.

Year's Biggest News Stories Indicate Change

Centralization Trend Goes On; Halted By Some Events

A review of the major news of 1940 reveals that many things happened or movements started that may well change the country's economic life materially within a few added years.

In January of 1940 the county was switched over on to a new type of telephone that changed the system of telephonic conversations to a marked degree. It provided a greater centralization in The Dalles and removed the small towns of this area as telephone centers.

During the year, although at different periods, Rufus and Kent obtained electrical current through the Pacific Power & Light Co., which extended its lines to serve the two communities and citizens near the lines. These improvements cost several thousand dollars; a part of which was paid by those served.

While plans for a terminal elevator did not bear fruit some progress was made during 1940. The county turned down the county school law in a special election.

Freight rates were cut three cents per hundred which made a saving of many thousand dollars to grain growers.

Following the driest year since record keeping began, 1940 was the wettest calendar year—an oddity worthy of Ripley.

A new elevator was built to replace a burned one at Erskineville and an addition put on the Moro elevator. This is evidence of a change in the handling of wheat that may make further elevators necessary in other parts of the county.

The county court approved the formation of a county weed control district, which, if used, can do much to eradicate the weed menace. The long awaited county machine shed was built in 1940 also. The county fair had its first queen contest, its first queen, June Wilde, and also brought the first pari-mutuel betting to the county.

The REA held meetings in the county and projected lines to nearly every farm house. Presaging another drive against property taxes a branch of the Oregon Tax Federation was formed here.

The above is not necessarily the biggest news of the year but is the major changes in the economic and social system of the county.

County's Quota One

Sherman county's quota in the next draft will be one according to announcement made this week. The local draft board says that there are already four men who have volunteered and are waiting for the chance to go. Number one on the list is Gordon Woodrow Bringham, now in Madras awaiting call. Olan Strak left this week for the navy as did Rodney Truitt. Gordon Boice has joined the navy and Bill Roth will leave about the middle of January for six years of navy life.

Five Sherman Countians at U. of O.

Sherman county has sent five students to the University of Oregon for the term just concluded, to help swell the total enrollment for this year to a new record high of 3622, according to word received here today. This is an increase of almost 100 over the figure of 3526 at this time a year ago.

Every county in Oregon and nearly all states and territories, as well as a number of foreign countries, are represented in the University rolls.

Students from Sherman county, with their home towns, classes, and major subjects, include: From Moro: John A. Foss, junior in business administration; Dorothy Fraser, graduate in architecture and allied arts; Wyman French, freshman in law; Carl F. Pretz, junior in law. From Wasco: John R. Proudfoot sophomore in journalism.