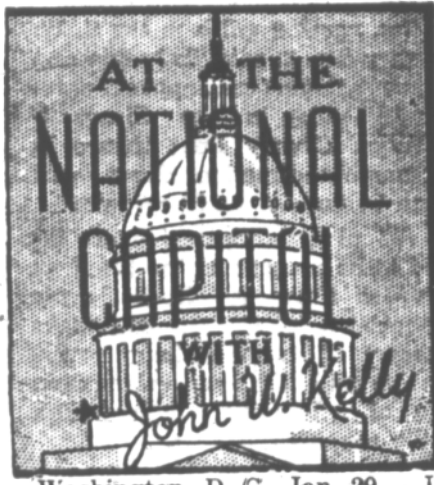


Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Fourth Year No. 13

Moro, Oregon, Friday, January 30, 1942

Official County Paper



Washington, D. C., Jan. 29.—If all goes well Oregon will raise this year the largest crop of Austrian winter peas and hairy vetch in its history. More than a half million acres will be cultivated in the Willamette valley; thousands of acres in Union county and other eastern counties of the state.

Triple A, which is asking for the seed to be used on southern farms, says it is the best crop that can be raised—so much more per acre yield.

There is a fly in the ointment, however. War production board has issued an order that irrigation machinery making be discontinued. Most of the pea and hairy vetch growers irrigate with a sprinkling system, requiring iron pipe and hose. (Pipe is "out" and no more rubber hose will be available, the rubber being needed for defense purposes. Farmers are sending word to the congressional delegation to do something about it; they need rubber hose, and the delegation has been arguing with WPB. It is possible the board may relent sufficiently to permit the manufacture of hose for irrigation purposes, but there is nothing definite yet.

This should be a big year for settlers on the Vale project, the growers of sugar beets. The government will soon issue ration cards for sugar to curb hoarding; the price of sugar, it is explained, will not be increased. The entire sugar situation has changed in the past two months; the quotas of last October do not fit the new emergency. There can be enough sugar raised in the United States to meet all requirements, but the government intends supplying the allies. An order is expected telling sugar beet growers to extend their acreage all they desire, the more the better. By full expansion of all sugar beet areas in the country a sufficient supply for domestic needs will be available and the imported sugar may be sent abroad.

Authorities claim that the beets grown in the Vale-Nyssa area are the best to be found, the sugar content being unusually high. The refineries, one to be found at Nyssa and the other at Nampa, will be sold all the beets they can process this year and next, at least. Ramifications of the sugar situation spread in all directions. All the popular soft drinks contain sugar and manufacturers are rationing dealers. The fountain business, as a result, is having a slump. This means a loss of several million dollars a week through out the country. Other sugar is going into industrial alcohol, although it can be made from grain and potatoes.

Redmond, Klamath Falls, Yakima and Idaho potato districts are inquiring what the price control administration intends doing with that farm product. As yet there is no answer. One aid to potato farmers are the two starch factories recently established in Idaho; there is a market for all the starch they can produce. Since the war the usual sources in Europe have been cut off and government is encouraging the building up of a new industry, hoping that enough starch will be made from potatoes to supply all needs. When the president signs a price control bill and the organization begins functioning an announcement regarding potato prices may be expected.

At this time the prospects are none too good for an appropriation to continue the Willamette valley project for the fiscal year 1943, which begins next July. There is a tendency in congress to whittle down all non-defense money, and flood control has been specifically petitioned as a place where economy can be practiced. The president has had to relinquish his program for the St. Lawrence waterway, dropping the navigation feature to save the power plant. The omnibus rivers and harbors bill, which authorized one

Pearl Harbor Bombing Told By Mrs. P. Fraser

Mrs. Paul Fraser and infant daughter were met in Portland by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Fraser and is now a visitor here. She tells of the bombing of Pearl Harbor saying that it was early morning and residents were still abed. The Jap bombers came over low enough to be seen in their planes; their aim was perfect and barracks were destroyed, airplane runways blown up and ships sunk with deadly accuracy. Mrs. Fraser returned to the United States aboard a slow boat, taking 12 days to the trip. The boat lost its rudder and was separated from the convoy for one night.

Wheat Stocks Being Reduced Slowly

The government report concerning stocks of wheat on hand in interior mills, elevators and warehouses shows the location of the huge surplus of grain now on hand in the United States.

Whereas the normal amount of all wheat on hand from 1935-40 was 295,688,000 bushels on January 1 it was 581,171,000 bushels on January 1 of 1942. This is nearly twice the normal.

Grain warehouse managers of this county were called to Portland last week end to discuss the problem. The Commodity Credit Corporation is making every endeavor to move the wheat by selling it as feed and shipping to Russia. This is considered necessary to make room for the 1942 crop. It is not expected that more than 10 or 15 percent of the number of sacks usually available will be found this year which means that bulk storage will be at a premium at harvest time.

Taxpayers Owe County \$74,000

There are \$74,122.73 still due the county in delinquent taxes according to the report of the sheriff's office. Largest items are from years in which payment plans are in force and which are coming gradually.

In 1941 all taxes were paid but \$7,001.88. The 1937 roll is cleanest having a mere \$1000.53 still due. The 1933-34 year and the 1935 year have the greatest delinquencies still are \$20,178.63 and for 1935 \$12,999.91.

There are also heavy delinquencies in the 1930 and prior years but these are being slowly taken up.

Farm Meeting Plans Announced

A meeting will be held in the Legion hall next Friday, February 6 for the purpose of acquainting farmers with the rules whereby they may obtain repairs and equipment for the 1940 crop year. E. C. Corey is expected from the Commodity Credit Corporation to explain about priorities and the aims of CCC regarding the sale of wheat for feed and for export.

Other subjects to be discussed will be labor for the 1942 harvest and sacks and storage problems.

STOCK PRICES GOOD

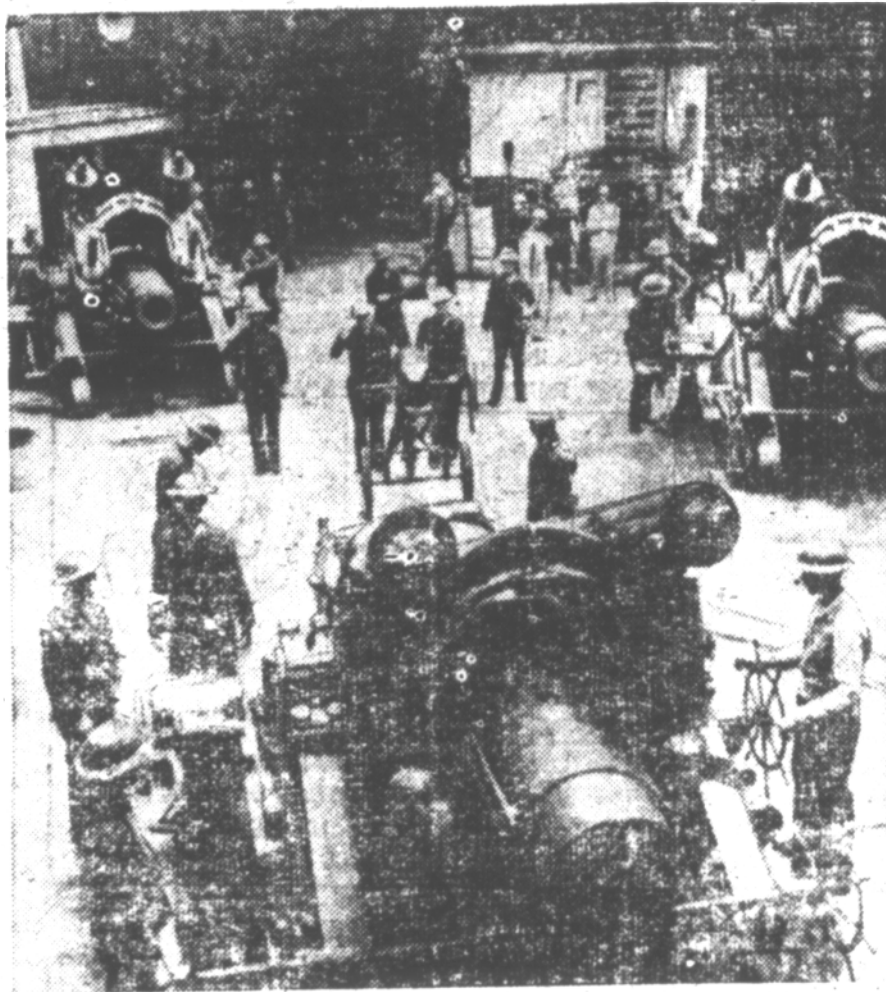
The following quotations are based on prices being paid in Wednesday's trading:

CATTLE: Good grain fed steers \$11.50 to 12.50, strictly good quotable to \$13.00 or 13.25. Good grain fed heifers \$10.50 only. Good beef cows \$8.75 to 9.25; medium \$7.50 to 8.50, common \$6.50 to 7.50, canners \$5.00 to 6.00. Bulls, medium to good \$8.50 to 10.00 a few to 10.25, common \$7.50 to 8.25. Vealers, good to choice \$12.50 to 14.50. Selects \$15.00 to 16.25.

HOGS: 170 to 215 lb truckins \$12.25 to 12.50, a few to 12.60; 230 to 285 lb butchers \$11.50 to 12.00; lightweight butchers \$11.25 to 11.75; packing sows \$9.00 to 10.00. Feeder pigs \$10.50 to 11.00.

SHEEP: Good to choice lambs \$11.50 carloads quotable to \$12.10; medium to good, \$10.75 to 11.25; common \$9.00 to 10.00. Slaughter ewes, good to choice \$8.50 to 9.75. Fall shorn lambs \$10.50 to 11.00.

Fort Corregidor, Raided by Japs



Large 12-inch mortar guns manned by United States coast artillery gunners at Fort Corregidor, in Manila bay, Philippine Islands, which was bombed by Japs. In one attack, in which 21 enemy planes participated, four bombers were shot down by anti-aircraft fire from the heavily guarded fortress.

Farm Loan Group Holds Annual Meeting In The Dalles

Directors of the National Farm Loan Association of Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam and Wheeler counties which make up The Dalles Group office met at the Dalles Hotel, Friday, January 23, to discuss ways and means of strengthening the local credit group for the period which we are entering. Here to join with them were W. H. Ragsdale of The Dalles and Harvey Shoultes of Chehalis, members of the Farm Credit Administration Board of Spokane; C. J. Rowan, assistant to the President, and David E. Grebe, assistant District Manager for the State of Oregon, from the Federal Land Bank of Spokane.

Plans for the annual meetings were laid. The Wasco and Sherman County associations will meet in The Dalles, February 25.

"Since 1942 marks the 25th anniversary of the farm loan system, it is appropriate that we should review our accomplishments in the past quarter of a century," Rowan said. "In the light of our experience and because of world conditions, we should be sure our credit house is in order, well manned and prepared to meet the emergencies of the future, whatever they may be. Among other things, we should help forestall land inflation which did so much damage to agriculture during World War I. With that experience vividly in our minds, it should be easier to keep our feet on the ground, and to avoid many of the errors made by the farm loan system twenty five years ago."

"Maintenance of realistic land values will keep agriculture economically healthy and strong to take its part in the present war effort and meet its responsibilities in the readjustment which must follow the war."

"The local associations are steadily growing in importance. Frequently the community and local people do not understand the

Farm Material Priorities Listed

A detailed list of materials allocations for manufacture of all types of farm machinery and equipment during the coming year has been received by Robert B. Taylor, Adams, chairman of the Oregon USDA defense board. The list, based on the OPM order restricting materials for manufacture of new machinery to 83 percent of the 1940 figure, and materials for parts to 150 percent, will be available at county USDA defense board offices.

The program set up by OPM further emphasizes the need of prompt ordering of parts and necessary new equipment on the part of farmer's, Taylor said. Distribution of what new equipment that is made will probably be on the basis of demand and need, and it is up to farmers to express their needs by ordering now, he advised.

Break In Weather Takes Part of Snow Covering

Fear Expressed Over Condition of Federation Wheat At Kent

After about four weeks of continuously cold weather the temperature rose Sunday night and rain began to fall, making Monday a day of real thawing weather. Water ran in the streets along the curbs, the snow settled down in the stubble and the highway became entirely clear.

Although it did not freeze Monday night thawing was less rapid Tuesday. Freezing Tuesday night halted the thaw and gave temporary assurance that the heavy snow would go into the ground as it melted. Half an inch of rain has fallen to make the snow very wet.

Frost Thought Nearly Gone

As usual, there is dispute about the frost in the ground but best evidence is that in the stubble or on grass covered places there is little frost and that is now soft. On the summerfallow there is more frost and there may be some runoff there unless thawing is delayed for some days.

Concern is felt for Federation wheat at Kent where it is thought it is frozen out. Wheat lookers in other parts of the county express confidence that their grain is all right and will grow. Kent is the part of the country where the largest percentage of Federation is sown in the fall and if it is frozen it will cause much work and expense to farmers there.

Highway conditions are good and travel on gravelled roads is better than when they were snow covered. Dirt roads may be closed to traffic when the frost goes out of them although they are still usable.

One Month Left To Take Insurance

Final date for taking out a federal all risk crop insurance policy on spring wheat is February 28. Clyde Kiddle, crop insurance assistant at the state AAA office, has reminded Oregon spring wheat growers.

County offices in spring wheat areas will shortly be staging intensive campaigns calling growers attention to the new note payment plan, Kiddle said. Under this plan, the premium can be deducted from any indemnity the farmer might receive, or from his AAA payment or wheat loan, whichever is made first. These notes mature August 18, 1942, and can be paid in wheat or cash any time before that.

Winter wheat production on more than 5000 farms is already covered by crop insurance this year, Kiddle said, predicting record year from the point of number of policies in effect.

Auxiliary Offers Essay Prize

The American Legion Auxiliary held their regular meeting Thursday night at Kent Legion hall following a "pot luck" dinner with the Legion. Plans were made to serve supper for the President's Birthday Ball at Grass Valley. Plans were made to conduct an Americanism Essay Contest in Grass Valley, Kent, Antelope and Staniko schools for pupils of Junior and Senior high school age, the subject being "The Characteristics of a Good American." The local contest is to be completed by February 14, and prizes awarded by the Auxiliary at a program on Washington's Birthday, the afternoon of February 22. Flag Codes have been given to the grade pupils of these schools and on the same program an oral quiz contest on the flag code will be conducted with prizes awarded by the Auxiliary.

The Auxiliary is assisting in the waste paper drive and in the Victory Book campaign. The next meeting will be held Thursday evening, February 12, following a 6:30 oyster dinner, to be held in Kent Legion hall.

Income Tax Experts Coming Before March 15

An agent of the federal income tax bureau will be in Moro February 17 and in Wasco February 18 according to an announcement coming out of the Portland office of the Internal Revenue service.

In addition to this aid from the federal government the state will send a man to Moro March 2 to aid in making out state income tax blanks. He will be at the court house from 8 until 5 on that day.

Frank von Borstel Named To Club

According to an item in Tuesday's Oregonian Frank von Borstel of Grass Valley was among those pledged to Witcomb Club an O. S. C. organization for animal husbandry students. Frank is also a member of Beta Kappa Fraternity and was elected and is now serving as a Thane. There are but 40 members of the Thane organization on the campus "each selected by his living organization generally because of qualities of leadership, but more definitely because he acts like a man in showing his respect for other people and his school."

Women To Register February 16

Registration of all women is expected to be done February 16. They will be asked what they can do for the country during the war. Arrangements have not been made in Sherman county but Mrs. Alton McIntyre of Wasco will announce plans for the registration in the near future. Mrs. Sadie Orr Dunbar is state director.

One Room Schools Being Reduced In Number By Consolidations

By A. L. Lindbeck

Salem, Or.—More than 1100 one-room schools in Oregon have closed their doors in the past 20 years, through consolidations and suspensions, according to records compiled by Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction.

Whereas there were 1950 one-room schools in operation in the state in 1918 there were only 806 operating on June 30, 1941, Putnam reports. At the same time the number of school districts in the state were reduced from 2556 to 1972 in 1941. Consolidations and suspension of schools have been especially numerous during recent years. The school year 1940-41 saw the total number of districts reduced by 43 while the year 1938-39 saw a decrease of 52 in the number of districts.

Pension payments to Oregon's needy aged in 1941 totalling \$5,520,172 were the highest in the history of the state according to a report by Treasurer Leslie M. Scott. In 1940 the state paid a total of \$5,200,196 to its needy aged and in 1939 pension payments totalling \$5,349,677. At the same time general assistance payments show a gradual reduction from \$2,774,344 in 1939 to \$2,411,204 in 1941.

Reports that every resident of Oregon will soon be provided with a gas mask were discounted as without foundation by Jerrold Owen, state coordinator of civilian defense this week. Owen pointed out that it would require the entire Japanese air armada to bring sufficient gas bombs to this coast to effect material damage and that military authorities are of the opinion that space in enemy bombs is too valuable to the Japanese to long carry across the Pacific to waste on gas bombs. This does not mean, however, Owen explained, that gas may not be used by the Japs in an effort to demoralize the civilian population. In such an event the public is urged to keep coal, go to the upper floors of buildings, close all windows and doors and wait. Non-persistent gases normally are dissipated in 10 minutes.

Oregon school districts have reduced their outstanding bond and warrant indebtedness by nearly

Pledge Campaign Finds Response of 90 percent

Few Refuse Aid To Nation In Time of Stress; Few Missed By Minute Men

Although hampered to some extent by bad roads and other events that diverted attention from the campaign the labor of getting pledges from all Sherman Countyans with incomes has been nearly completed within the past week. This county will have between five and six hundred pledges it now appears. Indications are that the total of these will be around \$125,000 based on maturity value.

It is expected that purchase of bonds during the war will exceed this as many signers purposely promised to buy a smaller amount than they expect to buy. Much depends, of course, on the volume of the 1942 wheat crop.

Other States Start Feb. 10

The pledges are being sent to Washington immediately by the state headquarters. This state is being used as a testing ground for the campaign in other states which will start February 10 to obtain pledges from their citizens.

Two things surprised the minute men: one the fact that so few people had been buying bonds before the campaign although they were in favor of the bond method of raising federal funds, another was the spirit of sacrifice indicated by some of the pledgers, who, with moderate or small incomes were determined to support their government to the limit of their ability.

Pledges are being forwarded to Portland as they are received at county headquarters and nearly all work is done except for some calls that have been delayed for one reason or another.

A total of 264,533 men and women were placed in jobs by the state employment service during 1941, according to L. C. Stoll, director. This was an increase of \$9,709 over the 1940 record. Reflecting the improvement in the employment situation only 28,781 workers had job applications on file at the close of 1941 compared to 42,031 at the close of 1940.

Still further reflecting the improvement in the employment situation benefit payments to jobless workers in 1941 totalled only \$2,450,862 compared to \$3,916,922 in 1940 and \$5,815,568 in 1939.

James D. Olson, former Portland newspaperman, has been appointed to the post of assistant coordinator of the Oregon State Defense Council.

Expenditures of the state highway department for 1941 aggregated \$17,755,190 according to a report by R. H. Baldock, state highway engineer. Of this grand total \$8,528,603 went into new construction of roads and bridges and another \$4,063,526 into maintenance of the state highway system. Purchase of new right of way took another \$1,176,788 and administration and general supervision, \$468,523. The department retired \$2,150,000 of its outstanding bonds and paid coupon clippings \$589,085 in interest.

During the year the department surfaced eight miles of road with cement concrete, 24 miles with asphaltic concrete and 59 miles with bituminous macadam. Oil mat treatment was applied to 235 miles of state highway and 312 miles was rock surfaced and another 312 miles was graded in preparation for surfacing. Twenty

Continued on page two

(Continued on Page two)