

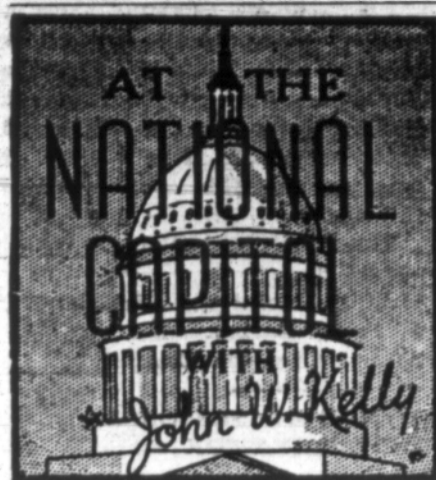
Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Fourth Year No. 52

Moro, Oregon, Friday, October 30, 1942

Official County Paper

Shaniko Branch To Remain



WASHINGTON, D.C.—Word has reached the national capital that the fish and wildlife service has not heard the last of the much disputed question of ownership of Lake Malheur in Harney county. For nearly 40 years the question of ownership of the lake bed has been in dispute and the matter has been in court several times. The lake bed is now used by the federal government as one of the largest and most successful wild fowl refuges in the nation. Around it is more than 50 miles of fence.

Attorneys for ranchers owning property adjoining the lake contend that the last court decision in the matter said the lake bed belonged to the adjoining property. Representatives of the wild life service (recently transferred from Washington to Chicago) contend that no court opinion made any attempt to apportion the lands among the individual owners, or to determine the extent of privately owned lands within the bed of the lake, and hence they were not in position to pay for the disputed lake bed since the question of legal ownership had not been settled to the point where legal payment could be made.

Ranchers contend that before the famous wildfowl lake was divided by a dike they were able to cut a large amount of hay adjoining the lake in normal seasons and that, therefore, the land was most valuable to them. The federal government has been interested in the lake as a migratory bird refuge since 1908.

While practically all foodstuffs with the exception of fresh fruits, vegetables, fresh fish and peanuts are now under price regulation, the emergency regulation exempts from price control sales made by farmers direct to consumers where these sales were less than \$75 in the preceding calendar month.

Prices were frozen at the highest levels of the five days from September 29 through October 7. Work has now begun to translate into permanent regulations the emergency ceilings. Before the permanent ceilings have been declared growers, processors, wholesalers and retailers of the various food products affected will have a chance to be heard through a series of conferences.

Potatoes, dry onions and citrus fruits are not included among the seasonal crops exempted from the price freeze.

Vacation and pleasure resort owners with heavy mortgages on their real estate and no business may be able to save their property from foreclosure through the aid of RFC if the bill introduced in July by Senator McNary and just reported favorably by the senate banking and currency committee gets speedy action. This bill will allow RFC to loan up to 75 percent of the appraised value of the property to resort owners to retire existing mortgages where the resorts have lost more than 50 percent of their normal business by virtue of decreased motor travel due to gas rationing, and where this travel is not replaceable by common carrier service. The RFC loans will bear only 3 percent interest and neither interest nor principal will be due until two years after the expiration of the "unlimited national emergency". Fairly early action may be expected on the bill in the senate and the legislation should find

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Election Apathy May Cut Vote Next Tuesday

Important Men and Measures To Be Decided Upon By Voters November 3

In spite of the general lack of interest about it, there is going to be an election held all over the United States next Tuesday. Men and women who are elected to office that day will serve with the usual powers appertaining to their offices. Therefore, the election is as important as is any such election. In fact, considering that the nation is at war, and extra burdens may be put on government of all kinds, the 1942 general election may be of more than normal importance.

The state of Oregon will choose a United States senator, either the capable veteran Charles L. McNary, a republican nominee or Walter Whitbeck, democrat.

Along with the other three congressional districts of the state the second district, comprising eastern Oregon, will elect a representative in Washington. Walter M. Pierce, who has served the district for ten years, is being given a stiff race by Lowell Stockman, Umatilla county wheat farmer.

Earl Snell, present secretary of state, is the republican nominee for governor being opposed by Lew Wallace. Snell is from Gilliam county and Wallace from Portland, from where he has the present state treasurer and the secretary of state to be.

The two candidates for secretary of state are Robert S. Farrell Jr. and Francis Lambert, both of Portland. Farrell was speaker of the last house of representatives and Lambert is the Multnomah county treasurer.

W. E. Kinsey, who has long served as deputy labor commissioner under Charles Gram, is the republican nominee for that office and is opposed by Clarence Hyde, Lane county real estate operator.

The voters of the 22nd legislative district, composed of Gilliam, Morrow, Sherman and Wheeler counties will choose two state representatives to sit in the 1943 legislative session, Henry Aiken, Hepburn pastime operator, is the democratic nominee, Giles French, Sherman county newspaper editor, is the republican nominee and Henry E. Peterson of Ione, wheat farmer, has both nominations.

Sherman county has three county offices to fill. Judge George A. Potter of Klondike, veteran of two terms, is being opposed by Jerry M. Wilson of Kent, county commissioner for a number of years.

Harold Ginn, Moro farmer, is the republican nominee for county commissioner and Vernon Miller, Moro farmer, obtained the democratic nomination.

Mrs. Naomi VanGilder, county treasurer, whose husband is in the service, has George A. Williams, former Moro marshal, as an opponent. Both are from Moro.

The polls will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the usual polling places. While registration is lighter here, as it is in nearly every county in the state, a good vote may be cast unless election apathy continues through election day.

FOUR JOIN SERVICES

During the last week four men have enlisted in the armed forces and have been excused from the draft. Robert Davis and Richard O'Meara of Wasco joined the army, Richard being the fourth O'Meara in the service. J. K. McKean, Moro implement dealer, has joined the civilian pilot training group and expects to leave Nov. 15. George Kruger has joined the navy work battalion and is expecting a call any time.

Geo. Updegraff Named New Circuit Judge

Governor Sprague announced Thursday the appointment of George G. Updegraff as circuit judge of the 11th judicial district, comprising Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler counties. Updegraff succeeds Judge Carl Hendricks, who was killed in a hunting accident October 18.

The new judge has been a resident of the county for over twenty years during a large part of which he was district attorney. He has been city attorney of Wasco since shortly after locating here.

He was born in Chippewa Falls Wisconsin October 24, 1898 and attended schools in Omaha, Cheyenne and Ogden where his father was employed as a railroad engineer. He attended St. Mary's college, Oregon. State college and graduated in law from Stanford University in 1925.

He is attorney for the state land board, the World War Veterans, president of the Sherman County Abstract company and a practicing attorney. He is a member of the American Legion being a past commander and district president.

The appointment of Judge Updegraff was urged by the Sherman county court and numerous friends throughout the county. He is the first circuit judge to serve from Sherman county for over thirty years.

Proper Now To Sell Deer Hides

Arrangements have been made by the Oregon State Game commission whereby deer, antelope and elk hides may be disposed of by hunters to agents of any of the following firms: Bissinger and Co., 1238 NW Irving; Lee Bros. Hide & Wool Co., 25 S. Clay; Blue Mountain Hide & Wool Co., 1704 SW Front; Kahn Bros., 837 SW Front; William A. Denley, N. Columbia Blvd. & Hurst St. All of these firms are in Portland. Any uncalled for deer, elk or antelope hides left at cold storage plants may be disposed of to these above named firms.

Accumulation of the deer and elk hides will help the war effort due to the fact that former sources of hides from abroad have been cut off and leather is needed by the government in large quantities.

County Court Pays Sept. Bills

CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST SHERMAN COUNTY, OREGON, CENTRAL FUND AND ROAD FUND FOR SEPTEMBER 1942 AND APPROVED AT OCTOBER TERM OF THE COUNTY COURT THEREOF.

Claimant	Account	Amount
E. W. Hansen, Dismantle and rebuild flue at courthouse		73.45
Moro Hotel, Room and meals for E. W. Hansen		10.99
A. J. Bucholtz, meals for E. W. Hansen		4.40
First National Bank, General Assistance		93.00
First National Bank, Aid to Independent Children		26.80
First National Bank, Aid to the Blind		5.00
First National Bank, Old-Age Assistance		159.60
Sherman County Traffic Ass'n, delegation to Washington D.C., re: R. R. removal, Shaniko branch		400.00
Clarence Mersinger, janitor's salary		70.85
Geo. A. Potter, Co. Judge Expense		19.90
David Reid, County Commissioner		7.00
J. M. Wilson, County Commissioner		7.50
Mid-Columbia Typewriter Co.		

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Frank Jenkins To Speak Here On War Bonds

Klamath Falls Publisher Will Speak At High School Auditorium, Program Also

A patriotic program with special emphasis on war bonds will be given at the auditorium of the Moro High school next Friday evening, November 6, according to the local war bond committee.

Newspaper Man Speaker

Speaker at the meeting will be Frank Jenkins, publisher and editor of the Klamath Falls News and Herald, and a well known speaker. He comes at his own expense as a contribution to the campaign to sell bonds. On the trip he will talk in Redmond, Prineville and Madras in addition to Moro.

Programs for Small Counties

Larger counties are able to build and maintain victory centers at which regular programs are given, some daily, some weekly. This has been considered impossible in the smaller counties but the state and local committees feel that the small counties should not be deprived of hearing about the progress on the home front just because they are small.

New Service Group Officers Installed

New officers for the American Legion and Auxiliary were installed at a public ceremony at the IGOF hall here last Sunday afternoon, with Merrill Richmond, district commander of Bonneville and Mrs. Floye vonBorstel, unit vice president reading the charges.

Installed for the Moro post were Charles Wilson, commander; Percy Thompson, adjutant; J. D. sergeant at arms. For the Kent post Frank vonBorstel was installed as commander and Wm. Pausch as vice-commander.

Kent Unit Names Chairmen

Mrs. Floye vonBorstel, department vice-president, installed the following officers at Moro in a joint installation. Mrs. Clara Kock president and Mrs. Dorothy Dunlap, secretary. Mrs. Kock has appointed her chairmen for the coming year as follows: Americanism, Sylvia Gilkison; Legislation, Alta May; Child Welfare, Dorothy Dunlap; Civilian Defense, Vivian Ball; Comm. Service and Employment, Dorothy Dunlap; Constitution & by-laws, Anna Barnett; Girls State, Hilma Rooper; Hospital, Cassie Holmes; Junior Activities, Floye vonBorstel; Membership, Dorothy Dunlap; Music, Mildred Norton; National Defense, Laura Sather; National News, Grace Zevly; Poppy, Mildred vonBorstel; Poppy Poster, Helene Lemley; Publicity, Clara Kock; Radio, Floye vonBorstel; Trophies and Awards, Grace Zevly.

Hugh Chrisman Dies From Effect of Fall

Hugh Chrisman, 17 years sheriff of Sherman county, died in The Dalles last Thursday from the result of a broken hip suffered in a fall. He was 76 years old.

Hugh Chrisman was born November 21, 1865 in Dufur of pioneer parents. When he was a small boy his parents moved to The Dalles and entered the general merchandise business where the young man obtained his business training after finishing the local schools.

When he was 21 he married Hattie Corson and entered the grocery business with his brother-in-law. Later he was employed by the Wasco Warehouse & Milling company at Rufus where he remained until he was appointed sheriff. He stayed in office until his retirement in 1936.

He is survived by his widow, a daughter, Mrs. Anna Blackburn of Portland, two sons, William of Portland and Vernon of The Dalles and two grand children. Levi of The Dalles, Frank of Ashland and Eugene of Toledo are the brothers remaining of the original family of six.

Funeral services were held in The Dalles Saturday with the Masonic lodge in charge. Interment was made there. Many Sherman county friends attended.

School Bill Explanation Given

Figures on the proposed school bill before the voters next Tuesday are confusing. The bill would use all the state income tax above \$7,750,000 for elementary and high school pupils.

The division would be on a per pupil basis, a per pupil per day basis, in fact. The tax commission estimates that the income tax will be in excess of \$14,000,000 for this year. This would likely give an additional \$7,000,000 to schools. At the present time all the income tax is used to take the place of property taxes. First the money is used for state expenses—to remove the state tax; then it is used to take the place of the elementary school tax, a two mill levy. The \$7,500,000 permitted the state under the terms of the proposed law is not sufficient to take care of the elementary school tax, which would have to be put back on property.

Sherman county has 541 pupils of the state's total of 264,743. This is .00205 percent of the children of the state or about one-fifth hundredth. Sherman county pays .007976 percent of the state property tax when such tax is levied. It probably pays a larger percentage of the income tax than it does of property tax. Passage of the school bill would mean that Sherman county would pay income taxes probably five times greater than it would receive in school money. If taxpayers are that generous they will vote for the bill; if not, they won't.

HIGH SCHOOLS LACKING
OREGON STATE COLLEGE—Oregon high school students are being handicapped by not being required, or in some instances even permitted, to take high school mathematics, believes Dr. W. E. Milne, head of the mathematics department here. The sudden demands of war services for more people with mathematics training have only emphasized a condition that has long existed, said Milne.

The college alone is at present being compelled to provide instruction in high school algebra for close to 700 students who must make it up before proceeding with college mathematics required in engineering and for military reserve programs. This constitutes a heavy and unnecessary expense to the state, says Milne.

Senator McNary Sends Word of Indefinite Deferral of Removal

Abandonment of Abandonment Brings Joy and Relief To Citizens of Sherman County; Line Apparently Found Necessary To Nations War Effort As Feed Grain Hauler

"A definite order has been made by WPB and the ODT that the removal of the rails between Biggs and Shaniko shall be deferred indefinitely. And officials here cannot understand why the local railroad agencies have orders to close offices on that branch of the line. Work of the committee was very effective. Best Wishes."

The above telegram from Senator Charles L. McNary is the final word on the four-and-a-half month controversy about the abandonment or requisition of the Shaniko branch of the Union Pacific railroad.

The trouble—for Sherman county—began in June when notice was given that a petition had been filed by the Union Pacific asking the Interstate Commerce commission to permit abandonment of the entire line from Biggs to Shaniko. Local citizens prepared testimony and considered ways and means of contesting the abandonment proceedings before the ICC.

ICC Hearing Held

The hearing was held in The Dalles early in September after the county had formed the Sherman County Traffic association and hired Wm. C. McCulloch, well known rate attorney of Portland and made other preparations for the case.

General opinion at the end of the hearing was that the railroad would be kept in the county for it appeared to spectators at the hearing that the railroad's request for removing the certificate of convenience and necessity was not of sufficient strength to cause the ICC to permit abandonment of the line.

However, on September 16 the War Production Board issued an order requisitioning the entire line. At a meeting shortly after of farmers and co-operative directors and managers it was decided that the county should send a delegation to Washington D.C. to combat the requisition action. Loans on wheat in the county had been stopped with nearly a million bushels of wheat still without loans.

Delegation to Washington D.C.

Wendell Balsiger, LeRoy Wright and Giles French were sent back to the nations' capital to see what could be done to save the railroad, obtain a resumption of the loans, and, if necessary, find out what could be done to obtain equipment to move the wheat if the railroad was taken.

The delegation spent a week in Washington, during which time they consulted with Senator McNary, Senator Holman, Representative Pierce and other men who were acquainted with the conditions prevailing in the wheat section of Oregon.

While they had been authorized by directors of the Grass Valley Grain Growers to compromise by asking for the line from Biggs to Grass Valley if necessary, they made their first approach to the ODT by asking for the entire line. After this meeting they discovered that they would be fortunate indeed if able to keep any part of the branch.

A WPB official permitted them, after some discussion, to file a brief setting forth the position of the county in an attempt to justify the retention of the line. This was done, the brief being based

on the necessity of the railroad as a means of taking the large quantity of feed grain out of the county to feed the hogs, cattle, poultry and dairy cows of the west as a means of keeping up the production of these vital foods.

In the meantime Senator Reed of Kansas had introduced a resolution in the senate asking that a committee be named to investigate the methods of the WPB in requisitioning railroads of the country. Senator McNary and Senator Holman spoke for this resolution, which passed without majority dissent.

The delegation was able to obtain a resumption of the loans on wheat throughout the county which permitted the near million bushels of wheat to obtain the same loan value as had the remaining crop. Other immediate success obtained was a delay on the order to requisition the railroad, which was set up from October 1 to November 1 from Grass Valley to Shaniko and from October 15 to November 15 for the remainder of the line.

South End Thought Gone

Word was received from Senator McNary that a different method of requisitioning was being put into effect. Then the delegation was informed that the Grass Valley-Shaniko section was to be removed and study was being made to determine the essentiality of the Biggs-Grass Valley part of the branch.

Wednesday the above quoted wire from Senator McNary was received which gives assurance that the line will not be removed at present, that removal has been "deferred indefinitely."

Railroad officials have said that the order which local railroad employees received to close offices by November 1 from Grass Valley to Shaniko and from Biggs to Grass Valley by November 15 was an error. This seems to clear the way to regular resumption of the lines' traffic.

Much Grain Shipped

Since the first order was received the three co-operatives along the branch have shipped out some 339 cars of wheat which was ordered out by the Commodity Credit corporation in an effort to get its wheat into position before the line was removed. All the 1941 wheat was ordered out. Shipment has been delayed because of lack of labor but some of the co-operatives have been able to move enough wheat to enable them to care for a normal 1943 crop.

The delegation has been generous in its praise for the efforts of Senator McNary to whom is given a large share of the credit for saving the railroad for Sherman county. N. E. Dodd, western AAA director, also gave much valuable advice to them, they report.

They warn, also, that the telegram should not be read as being complete assurance that the Shaniko branch will remain in service indefinitely. Should the war continue for several years and the demand for steel rails become more acute, it is possible that the necessities of war will make its requisitioning mandatory. However, the first attempt to remove the rails has been thwarted.