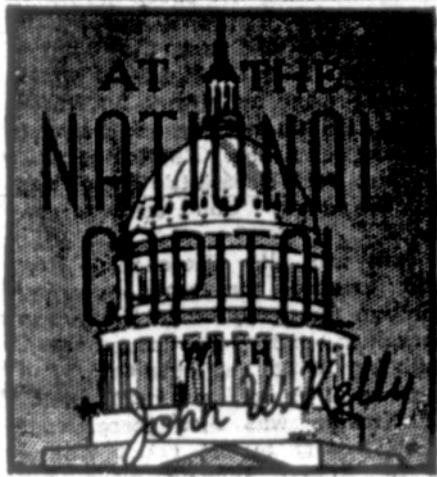


Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Fifth Year No. 9

Moro, Oregon, Friday, January 8, 1943

Official County Paper



County Court Holds First Meeting of Year

Newly Elected Members of Court Take Oaths of Office And Learn Procedure

Washington, D.C., Jan. 7.—Shippers in Gilliam and Morrow counties have been notified by the Union Pacific of a tri-weekly instead of daily service, which began January 3. Explanation is that the change is to save motive power. Shippers in these counties challenge the statement and are assembling data intended to convince ICC that a daily service is essential and that there would be no saving of motive power by a three times a week schedule. Joseph P. Eastman has been advised that there are 1500 cars a year of food and lumber moving from these counties (about four cars a day) and there are three million bushels of wheat stored along the railroad tracks.

War production board has ordered stopped all work on the Sprague river road in the Klamath Indian reservation. Through the efforts of Senator Rufus Holman an appropriation of \$150,000 was made for the building of this road. WPB now says that the road is not justified, but the Indians are asking for particulars.

The purest chrome found in the United States, according to government scientists, is coming from the black sands on the beach of southwestern Oregon. Private capital is capturing the chrome and making a better job of it than the experiments of many years in attempting to recover gold from these sands on a commercial scale.

Those who thought 1942 was tough will regard it as easy compared with what they will be up against in 1943. There will be so many sacrifices required that it will be impossible to keep track of them all. Starting January 1, for example, the Victory tax became operative, to be deducted from the payroll at the rate of five per cent, and applying to all wages over \$12 a week. This is only one tax. The individual income tax will take another chunk and there will be payroll taxes for social security. Whatever your income may be, it will look very small by the time all the taxes have been paid—and these do not take into account the state and county taxes.

The luckiest man in 1943 will be the farmer who grows his own food. The city dweller will be at a disadvantage for he must depend upon the neighborhood grocer. There will be strict curtailment of food for civilians and many of the ordinary items will disappear. Shortage of tin is eliminating canned goods other than for the military forces and lend-lease. No more fruit juices nor many of the preserved fruits grown in the northwest will be found in stores.

Food will be rationed. The ration book soon to be distributed will be a vital possession. Everyone must have such a book or be involved in endless difficulties. Meat, butter, eggs, poultry, milk, cheese, bacon will be doled out in skimpy fashion and these are only a few of the items on the long list of things "hard to get."

Shoes will be rationed on the point system and as the war goes on the quality of the leather will become poorer, the better leathers being conserved for American troops and allied forces. There will be a gradual deterioration in clothing, more shoddy and less wool. Even the galvanized garbage can cannot be replaced when needed as no sheet steel will be available.

Farmers who have specialized in berry patches will have to reduce their acreage and turn to producing something more essential, or go out of business altogether. The dairy business will be revamped, reorganized, and in some way the war manpower commission will see that dairy workers are found. (Department of agriculture now suggests milking

In the formal language of oaths of office Jerry M. Wilson and Vernon I. Miller promised to support the constitutions of the United States and of Oregon, and to fulfill their duties to the best of their abilities as county judge and county commissioner before Ross Ornduff, county clerk, at the meeting Wednesday.

Thus began a new county court. There were no indications that there would be any major changes in policy as two old members remain on the court. There were, however, more requests for explanation of payment of bills and a general desire to be informed on matters before the court.

The county court also made the regular yearly appointments of officials for 1943. L. L. Peetz was reappointed as road foreman. Roy Powell and Hugh Walker are road viewers, and the Sherman County Journal was made the official county paper for the year.

Discussion of the matter of giving raises to county officials who had made a request took up a large part of the afternoon. The court passed a resolution favoring a raise in pay for the clerk and county school superintendent from \$1500 per year to \$1800, which will put them on a par with the sheriff and assessor, who now receive that salary. In addition the court resolved to ask the legislature to increase the pay of all county officials to \$2000 for a two year period. This latter resolution was to give sufficient increase in pay to offset the rise in the cost of living. In 1933 and again in 1935 county officials took a reduction in pay for a two year period as the cost of living was held then to be low.

Funds Obtained From Tax Sale Distributed

Distribution of funds derived from the sale of tax-foreclosed property has resulted in the increase of receipts to many taxing units.

The county treasurer computed the income from tax foreclosures and returned to the taxing units concerned their percentage of the foreclosures based on the percentage of the levies each had.

The county fund obtained \$1263.23, school fund \$111.38, non-high school fund \$233.98.

School districts also participated. Dist. 7 getting \$216.88, Dist. 10, \$277.65 and Dist. 23 \$110.10, and other districts getting smaller amounts.

The city of Moro received \$275.24, Wagon \$551.54, and Grass Valley \$182.14.

There may be some sale of foreclosed land this year, in which case another distribution will be made. Cities received a proportionately high amount from this distribution because a large part of the tax foreclosures were on city lots or other city property.

Giles French Leaves For Legislature

Mr. and Mrs. Giles French are leaving Friday (today) for Salem to begin work in the legislature when that body meets Monday.

Mrs. French will act as legislative secretary to her husband. During their absence Mr. and Mrs. Orval Thompson will be in charge of the Sherman County Journal.

Coverage of the legislature will be by a weekly column of news and comment by the editor, and a weekly column by Vernon Williams, who has covered legislative sessions for many years and is editor of the Oregon Democrat.

Editorials will in the main be written from Salem. Those who have news will find it appreciated if they bring it to the office or send it in, as facilities for covering the county will be lessened during the legislative session.

On Heels of Rommel's Westbound Afrika Korps



Britain's eighth army has been hard on the heels of Gen. Erwin Rommel's much-vaunted Afrika Korps, pushing them westward towards Tripoli. Photo at left shows local Arabs, friendly to the once-again-invading British army, gathered around British armored cars when the British occupied a wrecked town in the Libyan desert. Dense smoke from a burning tank fills the background. Insets: Left, General Rommel, leader of Axis desert forces, and Lieut. Gen. Bernard Montgomery, commander of Britain's eighth army.

Breakfast Club Elects Officers For New Year

The Moro Breakfast club elected LeRoy Wright as president for the coming year, W. Ray Blake vice-president, Leon Hubbard secretary, and chose Wendell Balziger, George Undergraff and Giles French as executive board members for two year terms. M. M. Oveson and J. K. McKean are hold-over members of the executive board.

A brief explanation of the work done by the club during the year just ending was made by the outgoing president. LeRoy Wright spoke on his trip to Washington to aid the attorney with requisition matters at the ICC hearing on abandonment.

A resolution of condolence was passed by the club on the loss of Omer G. Sayrs, a charter member whose death was deeply regretted.

WINTER REGISTRATION AT OSC STAYS FAIRLY HIGH

Oregon State College—Registration at Oregon State for the winter term was running from 10 to 14 per cent under the previous year during the first week of the term. The indicated final enrollment in excess of 3500 is considerably higher than was expected by many in view of war conditions.

Enrollment of women has remained close to normal, and a considerable number of new students, mostly below draft age, enrolled for the first time this term.

Indications are that none of the 1200 or more students in reserve military programs will be called before the end of this term, and many of them probably not until the end of the year.

New Business Firm Promises Service

R. H. McKean has bought the interest of Leonard Maurus in the firm of McKean and Maurus, dealers in farm machinery, insurance and feed, at Wasco, and will operate the business under the name of R. H. McKean and son.

Mr. McKean reports that he will be able to obtain any farm machinery or supplies for which the farmer purchaser has procured approval for purchase from the county war board or rationing board.

Moro Council Makes Yearly Appointments

Moro's city council met Tuesday night and re-appointed all city officers not elected. These were Charles Ruggles as recorder, George A. Williams as water rent collector, and Aden Axtell as marshal and water master. The mayor or was given a leave of absence for the term of the legislative session, and Harry Kunsman was chosen as mayor pro tem.

A group of boys between the ages of 12 and 16 appeared to petition the council for use of the room above the fire house for a club room. Permission was granted pending the formation of a club by the boys to suit their advisers, Russell Hollinshead, W. Ray Blake, and G. Douma, and the observance by them of certain rules as expressed by the council.

Report on Sherman County Bond Sale

Sherman counties bought \$82,470.25 in war bonds during the final three months of 1942, according to information sent by the state war bond staff in Portland. This was divided \$22,883.75 in October, \$29,787.50 in November and \$29,800 in December. October and November sales included F and G bonds which were not sold to any extent in December.

The county's quota was \$16,100 for two months and \$14,904 for December. This makes the record about 180 per cent of quota.

Because of increased need for money to finance the war the quota for January has been set at \$21,630 for January, in which month the state is expected to raise \$10,500,000.

Battle ship Oregon souvenirs, consisting of small pieces of wood from the historic ship, will arrive soon for distribution to war bond buyers. These were scheduled to come in December but it was impossible to get them shipped. They will be available at the schools and at the bank in Moro.

FARM MOBILIZATION DAY TO BE OBSERVED JAN. 12

Farm and civic leaders throughout the state have been invited by R. B. Taylor, chairman of Oregon's USDA war board, to help bring about wide observance of Farm Mobilization day, Tuesday, January 12. This is the day proclaimed by President Roosevelt and state governors to mark the beginning of a nationwide drive to enlist every individual farmer in the 1943 food production program.

Highlights of the day will be a national broadcast over all four networks, starting at 1 o'clock Pacific war time, and featuring internationally known leaders of the United Nations. Special Oregon programs will also be carried by radio stations in this state, including several over KOAC.

Farmers Hold Meeting To Set Production Goals

The first of two important farm meetings was held at the court house Tuesday afternoon when Charles W. Smith of the extension service, William Encheche of the AAA and Leo Anderson of the War Board met with members of the local war board, chairmen of the conference committees, and some county committeemen.

Purpose of the meeting was to establish goals for county production on farms for 1943. Another meeting will be held January 12 to talk to a larger group about the same thing.

Goals agreed upon, in percentage of normal, were: Hogs, spring farrowing 120, fall farrowing 135; cattle and calves 108; sheep 95; milk cows 100; milk 100; hens 120; eggs 125; chickens raised 120; chickens for meat 120; turkeys 100; turkeys for meat 100; wheat 100; feed grains 100; hay 100; potatoes 120; peas, dry edible, 500 acres. More home gardens will also be asked of Sherman county farmers, who were told that these gardens would be practically necessary if farm families are to be supplied with enough vegetables, as army requirements are high and transportation difficult.

Farmers are requested to fill out a 1943 farm plan sheet on which is listed the crops of field and feed lot for 1943. They will be expected to reach the goals set for the county.

In addition to this, farmers must fill out another farm plan work sheet which contains lists of crops and livestock. Each farm must have a minimum of 16 units in order to be considered a necessary farm.

An acre of corn is worth .20 unit, an acre of wheat .07 unit (seven hundredths) an acre of soybeans .07, a milk cow one unit, cattle and calves for market .05 unit and other stock is also listed for a smaller number of units. It will be necessary for every farmer to have 230 acres of wheat to qualify or a sufficient quantity of stock to make up the required 16 units.

Members of the war board are to check these sheets and determine, with the farmer, how much labor he may employ on a farm of such production and how much machinery he will need.

If less than 16 units are grown the operator may be urged to go into some industry, or some of the help may be taken to some other place if there is an excess of labor on the farm.

It is a part of the manpower survey recently ordered by the government and is made in connection with the farm survey to determine the needed agricultural production.

W. H. Ragsdale and Victor Peterson were here Tuesday to attend the meeting of the war board and hear of new farm plans for 1943.

Moro Farmer Buried Here On Tuesday

Omer G. Sayrs died early Sunday morning at his farm home after an illness of about an hour. He had not been ill the day previous, and was in good spirits when he retired.

Mr. Sayrs was born April 22, 1890, a son of Frank Sayrs and Emma Powell Sayrs, pioneers of this county. He farmed the home place until he bought the Erskine farm southwest of town which he improved and made into a modern farm home. He served in the U.S. Army during World War I at Camp Lewis, and was a member of the American Legion post.

Omer Sayrs was always interested in public affairs and was to be counted on to aid any community endeavor with his time and his capital. He served as president of the fair board until 1940, and during his term of service some of the county's biggest fairs were held.

He is survived by his widow, Edith; two daughters, Lavon Hart of Beaverton and Mary of Moro; his mother, Emma Sayrs; one son, Lamer of Moro; four grandchildren; four sisters, Mrs. Dick Morgan and Mrs. Clair Axtell of Moro, Mrs. Will Morgan of Sheridan, and Mrs. Edgar Race of Bingen, Wash.; and one brother Carroll, of Moro.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday afternoon from the Moro Community church with Rev. James D. Moberg officiating. The American Legion members presented the full military funeral for their departed comrade. Interment was in the Moro cemetery.

Rainfall Breaks Several Records

The record for calendar year precipitation in Sherman county was broken the final afternoon when the last of a total of 15.64 inches of rainfall was recorded at the experiment station. This breaks the 1940 record of 15.42 by .22 of an inch.

The months of November and December were the wettest the county has experienced since weather records have been kept. November brought 3.21 inches and December 4.35 for a total of 7.56 inches of moisture or more than we received in some entire years. Lowest moisture for any one year is 6.43 inches.

The November-December precipitation is more than we have ever received for any consecutive three month period and more than has fallen for a four month period except for three times.

Crop year moisture was 8.05 at the end of the year and .79 have fallen since. Normal for January is 1.59.

Farmers are already talking about harvesting another big crop in 1943, and as moisture is the limiting factor it is a possibility.

Moro Refunding Operations Complete

Completion of the bond refunding operation of the City of Moro was made Thursday when payment was received from the state for bonds sold to it. The city is now indebted for \$17,000 at an interest rate of 2 1/4 per cent. Interest per annum will be \$882.50, a little over a tenth of what it was ten years ago.

Not all bonds refunded have been received, but those which have been sent in are paid. Interest stopped on the refunded bonds as of January 1, 1943.

CITY SIGNS CONTRACT TO HAVE STREETS REGRADED

The city made a contract with the state highway department Thursday which assures that Scott street from First to Bidwell and Bidwell street from Scott to the state highway will be regraded and reroaked this spring.

The city preferred that First street from Main to Scott be oiled but the state highway department, through Cap. Seely, district engineer, states that no new oiling can be done this year. The Scott street project was second choice and will be done this year, which will prepare it for oiling at some later time.

Events Of The First Half of '42 Briefly Related

Chronological Presentation Of Local Events To Give Birdseye View of News Trend

The following resume of Sherman county news of the year just ended brings to memory many events:

Jan. 2—The year 1941 ended with a blast of cold weather that kept celebration at a minimum. The experiment station reported that trashy summerfallow had produced less wheat than normal fallow.

Jan. 9—Six inches of snow falls to protect wheat fields. Tire rationing board named. Five men leave in the draft, one returned. Defense council names air raid wardens.

Jan. 16—Myron Grigsby killed in truck accident on DeMoss hill. Nancy Jane Dunlap dies. Bond sales campaign started in county. Blackout ordinances passed by cities.

Jan. 23—C. A. Tom elected head of Red Cross. Defense council buys bombs for demonstrations. Electricity off because of ice. Ed Moon dies after brief illness.

Jan. 30—Estimate on bond pledge campaign is 90 per cent of all adult residents. Weather moderates. Many attend farm loan meeting.

Feb. 6—Farm meeting called to tell farmers about their problems. Men under 45 to register Feb. 16. Floods wash Moro streets. County pledges in bond campaign average \$172.91.

Feb. 13—Taylor, Ludwick and Worth tell farmers what they are to do about crops, sacks and labor. There will be no sacks. Rabbit brush found no good for rubber. Women to register.

Feb. 20—Steers fed green wheat hay doing well. Candidates getting hats in wing. Kent residents to get no tax bills.

Feb. 27—Bomb demonstrations given over county. Red Cross makes budget. Otis Baker dies. Twelve take army examinations.

March 6—Feed wheat now being sold. Nutrition talks scheduled.

March 13—Draft board draws serial numbers for T group. First crop of county candidates announced. Grass Valley Zebras win tournament.

March 20—Wheat shipments to Commodity Credit begun as result of need for space and sacks. Bulk wheat shipped. Four new First Aid stations opened. County fire fighting equipment considered.

March 27—Bob Axtell gets first draft number. Taxpayers pay 87 per cent of tax roll. First scrap drive starts.

April 3—Potter, Ginn, Wilson, Williams, and VanGilder in county political race. County agrees to buy five pumpers for fire protection.

April 10—Jessie Amos dies. Tire rationing board gives tire purchase permits. County has 86 met in service.

April 17—Questionnaires sent out to registrants. Legion will dine selectees before the April quota of 25 leave. Gound wet.

April 24—Track meet scheduled for May 1. Eighteen men make army grade. Defense school held at Condon, several attend.

May 1—Five leave for ordnance company. Sherman county declared winner of seal sale. More bonds must be bought, says government. Men over 45 and under 21 register.

May 8—No one paying attention to primary. Morrites work at city clean-up. Wheat price raised. Loans voted by farmers.

May 15—Schools graduate classes. Women drawn on jury for first time in years. State candidates make last trips.

May 22—Army calls eight more men. County has low rate of AAA expenses. Many attend Ladr Barnum rites. Gas rationing ordered. Candidates named.

May 29—Sherman county budget made. May brings rains. Nineteen ready for summer school. County bond quota set at \$21,200.

June 5—Numbers given to over age registrants. Wasco Co-op set to build more storage space. Simon house in Grass Valley is burned.

June 12—Union Pacific petitions for Shaniko branch abandonment. (Continued on Page two)