

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

A column of news
About Government,
Politics and People
with especial emphasis
on the Northwest

The unexpected death of Oregon's senior senator, Charles L. McNary, has changed the entire political picture in Oregon and some surprise moves are in the making. After the funeral, which will be held Friday in Salem, the late senator's home town, Gov. Earl Snell will announce the appointment of a senator to serve until January 3, 1945. In the coming May primary election each party will nominate a candidate and one will be elected in November to serve out the four-year unexpired term of the late senator. So Oregon will elect two senators this coming November—one for the regular six-year term and to serve out the balance of Senator McNary's term, which has four years to go from this coming January. In the interim the governor will appoint a senator who will serve about ten months.

It is almost a certainty Governor Snell will not appoint a Portland man, inasmuch as Rufus Holman is from Portland. So the new togaman will undoubtedly be from up-state. It is also very reasonable to believe that whomever the governor appoints the appointee will agree not to be a candidate for election but will serve ten months only and then retire. This move will leave the field wide open for everyone, including Gov. Earl Snell, who, the wise men say, is now seriously considering becoming a candidate.

The one big "if" which may upset the plans of many potential candidates is Mrs. Charles L. McNary, the senator's widow. Rumor has it a group of the late senator's friends will try to persuade her to be a candidate to serve out her husband's unexpired term. Such a happening would make it mighty tough for other candidates if Mrs. McNary takes kindly to the idea. Her candidacy would surely muddle the political waters of Oregon, and it may be that the governor will offer the appointment to the ten months' term in order to clear up the situation.

When President Roosevelt attempted to pack the supreme court and the late Senator Charles L. McNary, minority leader, was apparently doing nothing, the senator receiving a telegram signed by all the brass hats of the Republican party in Oregon "demanding" that the take the floor and fight the scheme of the president. McNary bristled and wired back to the effect that "you mind your business, and I'll mind mine. I know what I am doing."

This made the party leaders hostile and not until the presidential plot was defeated did the Oregon Republicans see the smartness of McNary's strategy. He put a silencer on his Republican colleagues and encouraged Democrats to fight among themselves, and the trick won. "If Republican senators attacked Mr. Roosevelt and his court packing plan," explained McNary, "the Democrats would have suspected the Republicans of playing politics and would have rallied to the defense of the president's program."

McNary worked on the theory that when a family is in a fight the members will unite to attack any outsider who steps into the house. The Oregon senator's strategy killed the court bill, and the Democrats were so engrossed in tearing the president's measure to bits that they failed to notice that the Republicans on the other side of the aisle sat as silent as an Easter Island lava image.

Speculation is still rife in the national capital as to the identity of the individual who wrote

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Many Red Cross Workers Overseas ...



Red Cross men and women are with troops on fifty-three continental and insular battlefronts, and have gone into the theatres in many instances right along with the invasion forces, or else have followed soon after. Above is Miss Barbara Sweetland, American Red Cross worker, chatting with a small native boy, "somewhere in India." American Red Cross for the Office of War Information.

Grady Resigns As Sherman Co-op Manager

Bruce H. Grady has resigned as manager of the Sherman Co-operative Grain Growers because of an illness that has kept him hospitalized for the past two months. Mr. Grady has been manager there for most of the life of the co-op, Lloyd Hennagin having acted for a year or so, while Grady was in Walla Walla.

No successor has been named by the board of directors but one will soon be chosen as the farmers who are now managing it will soon be at their own work.

Oregon Farmers Like Wheat Raising

Prospective increases in Oregon wheat acreage beyond the 3 per cent larger state goal may crowd out other needed war crops, according to the latest summary of crops intentions included in the current agricultural information and outlook report issued by the OSC Extension service. This report indicates the requested objectives for the principal spring sown crops together with indications of probable performance based on preliminary information. So such land is apparently to be used or wheat in excess of the 3 per cent increase requested that not enough will be available to reach same other objectives, particularly the requested increase of 7 per cent in hay and 95 per cent in common and Willamette vetch for seed, the report shows. Prices for the latter are to be supported at 6 cents a pound for re-cleaned seed which meets the specifications. Slightly more land was planted to wheat last fall than the total acreage requested, and the indications point to considerable plantings of wheat this spring.

NO NEW TIRES EXPECTED

Keep an eye on care of tires on the family car and be sure to recap them in time. The tire situation is so critical that drivers who do not use their cars in connection with their work must depend on recapping for they will continue to be ineligible for tires of any sort. Only the most essential drivers will qualify for new tires, and if they cannot find them available they may get ration certificates for grade three tires—used and war tires. Motorists who use their cars for less essential occupational driving will be eligible for grade three tires.

New Elevator Will Be Built At Klondike

Priorities have been obtained by the officers of the Sherman Grain Growers at Wasco for the construction of an 150,000 bushel grain elevator at Klondike. Work will begin as soon as the contractor, John Hogeson, who built the Wasco and Biggs elevators, arrives from the east.

Rail rates have been adjusted so that farmers adjacent to Klondike can haul to that station instead of to Rufus, another outlet formerly more generally used.

Construction of this elevator will complete the immediate plans of the Sherman co-op which has built bulk storage facilities for the entire north end of the county in the past year.

Former Resident Dies At Bend

Mrs. Agnes Merritt and sister, Miss Clema Allen returned from Bend last week, where they were called by the illness and death of their brother, Shelby Allen of Redmond, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John M. Allen, pioneer residents of Sherman county.

Shelby Allen was a veteran of World War I. He leaves his widow, a brother, Harry J. Allen of Amboy, Wash., and four sisters including Mrs. Mattie McKay of Bend and Mrs. Viola Muir of Portland.

Moro Plays Closest Game; Loses First

Although the Moro High School basketball team lasted but one game in the district tournament at Arlington last week end it made the best record against the eventual winner, Helix. Moro went down 24 to 23 and Parkdale, runner-up was defeated 24-21 in the final game.

Helix plays Grant Union High to determine which one will represent the district B teams in the state tournament.

All stars picked for ability as tournament players, were: Reeves, Umatilla; Ulrich, Heppner; Hatfield and Routen, Parkdale; Robertson, Echo; Thompson, Moro; Christofferson, Arlington; Hawkins, Knudsen and Christofer, Helix.

1944 Grazing Program Made For More Use

Setting up to make fullest use of the 1944 AAA program to conserve and improve Oregon rangelands, the state AAA committee has assigned Muri E. Cummings, LaGrande, to full-time work on the range program, Robert L. Weir of Lakeview, member of the committee, announced this week.

Cummings, formerly district AAA fieldman for eastern Oregon, will work with ranchers and committees in range counties in developing management plans for individual ranching units. Previous to his appointment as fieldman last spring, Cummings was assistant secretary of the Morrow County Agricultural Conservation association.

The 1944 program, Weir said, offers range practices designed to promote efficient use of grazing lands for peak production of war needed meat and wool. Adaptable to all areas, he pointed out, is a management practice which offers payment for carrying out approved grazing plans, plus allowances to help defray the cost of range improvements made, such as fencing, stock trails, pipelines, supplemental water storage and control of poisonous plants. Also offered are practices for development of range water facilities, including construction of dams and reservoirs, wells and springs.

Red Cross Elects Officers; Starts Fund Drive

Mrs. McIntyre New Head; Roy Powell To Direct Biggest Fund Campaign

Mrs. A. H. McIntyre of Wasco was elected chairman of the Sherman county chapter of the American Red Cross when the annual meeting of that organization was held at the Wasco school house Tuesday night. Mrs. McIntyre is also chairman of the Christmas seal sale campaign, and president of the Sherman County Health association.

Roy Powell of Moro is again chairman of the drive committee and is thus to manage the campaign for funds which began immediately after the annual meeting.

The county has been asked for \$4100, which is more than double the \$1900 raised last year. Latest population figures indicate slightly more than 1700 people in the county which means that to raise the quota will require an average of \$2.60 per capita.

Other officers elected were: Ted Ball, Grass Valley, vice-chairman; Dewey Thompson, Moro, treasurer; Gordon Harper, Wasco, secretary. Willy Knighten will remain in the appointive place of home service chairman. Miss May Hurst, who has been production chairman, will be replaced as she is leaving the county.

Price Assured For Wheat Grass Seed

The proposed 1944 support prices for forage seeds grown in Oregon have been announced by the War Food administrator, emphasizing the need of more of such seeds from this year's harvest, reports R. B. Taylor, chairman of the state AAA committee.

Both OSC Extension and AAA official point out that, while acreage of practically all of these crops already fixed for this year, increased production of some of these can still be obtained by harvesting for seed instead of other purposes in some cases, and in using cultural practices that will encourage higher seed yields.

The 1944 schedule for seeds includes common crested wheat grass 15 cents. This applies to cleaned seed yagged and tagged showing official state purity and germination tests.

Just how these supports will be put into effect is not yet announced, but last year loans to growers were available at the established rates.

Writer Cited



U. S. Marine Corps Photo

Master Technical Sergeant Frank J. McDevitt of Philadelphia is the first Marine Corps combat correspondent to be cited for bravery in action. The award, for outstanding services on New Georgia Island, was made by Lt. Gen. Millard F. Harmon, commanding U. S. Army Forces in the South Pacific.

County Offices Attract More Interest

Increased interest in county politics has been running concurrently with the hub-bub over the senatorial appointment that has kept state politics agog for a week.

Curtis A. Tom, well known farmer of Rufus and former state legislator says he has been requested to make the race for county commissioner although he as not definitely decided on what he will do.

Contrary to information printed last week David Reid may again be a candidate for the county commissionership, he said Wednesday while at the court session. Candidates have until April 4 to make final decisions as filing must be completed by that time.

Doubt as to whether it will be possible to fill all county offices is being allayed. It has been suggested that a woman make the race for sheriff, proponents of the idea pointing out that law enforcement in so peaceful a county as Sherman is a small part of the job and that the tax collecting could as well be done by a woman as a man. A male deputy could do the rougher work of dealing with the state police and aiding them in arresting such law violators as infrequently appear, it is said.

Traffic Accidents Kill Many Children

Nine children under 12 years of age were killed in traffic accidents in Oregon during the six weeks of 1944, Secretary of State, Bob Farrell disclosed today. He said fatalities in this age group amounted to 24 per cent of all traffic deaths reported in the state during the first six weeks of this year.

Of the nine child fatalities, four involved children struck as they dashed out into the street or road in the path of approaching vehicles; three involved children struck while riding bicycles and two were killed while riding in cars involved in accidents.

"The high proportion of child fatalities in traffic so far this year is greatly in excess of the normal ratio, Farrell declared. "It is too early to call this a trend, but the experience truly is alarming."

Feed Expected To Be Shorter Next Year

The outlook for feed grain and hay indicates even smaller supplies for the 1944-45 feeding season. The preliminary information indicated no increase would occur in hay acreage, and that approximately 126,000 more cattle will be on hand in Oregon next winter than can be fed properly under normal conditions. Soil moisture and irrigation water prospects are not too favorable at this time.

Further details on the feed grain and hay outlook are given in the report, which also contains sections on potatoes, dry peas and beans, sugar beets, flax, hops, peppermint, fresh market vegetables, and vegetables for processing. A copy of the report, prepared by L. R. Breithaupt, extension economist, may be obtained from any county agent or from the college.

FARM GASOLINE RATIONS

Six-month gasoline rations for non-highway use on farms may be issued in instalments rather than all at one time, as in the past, the OPA has announced. If the local board has issued the farmer only part of his ration, 1942 cars to anyone, without a ration certificate. Previously, they could sell only during the furlough period following induction. Persons inheriting 1942 cars can no longer sell them to anyone who does not have an OPA ration certificate. They may continue to obtain clearance from local boards to use the cars themselves.

Crickets To Be Controlled Cooperatively

Court and Committee Agree On Method of Fighting Insect Pests

Settlement of the month old cricket problem was the main work done by the county court at its March meeting. The committee of the embattled farmers of the northeast corner of the county whose lands have been over run by Mormon crickets for the past five years was on hand to find out what the court would do for them. County Agent LeRoy Wright was spokesman for the five man committee comprised of Geo. Drinkard, Kenneth Fridley, Ross Guilford, George Fox and Ormand Hilderbrand.

The same arguments that were heard in February were gone over again and it became apparent that no new information of consequence had been added during the month.

Although the opinion of the attorney general was laying in the clerk's vault it was not a major factor in the final decision which was a compromise between those who wished the county to assume entire responsibility for cricket control and those of the court who felt that the farmers most concerned should be held partially responsible.

County To Hire Plane

The court agreed that the county would pay for the cost of the plane that is to be hired to spread the bait. The farmers are to do the work of baiting the roadsides and the portions of the territory that cannot be readily reached by plane.

It is thought that it will be necessary to hire a contractor with a plane as the bureau of entomology has none available. The cost of the bait is borne by the bureau except for board of the men who mix and haul it.

Judge Wilson expressed himself as favorable to the county bearing the entire burden. Commissioner Reid said that "interested ones should show active interest" and Commissioner Miller said that "the county court's powers were limited and that in his opinion the farmers whose lands were infected had a personal responsibility."

The court laid on the table the petition of residents of the Kent school district who asked that some six or eight sections in Wasco county be added to the Kent district.

Some Sections Get Moisture

The War Food Administration reports, "In much of the Ohio Valley, substantial amounts of precipitation during the week were beneficial to the winter wheat crop. Additional snowfall in the South Central Plains has also been helpful. In Kansas moisture is now generally ample for present needs except in the extreme west. South of Kansas the soil moisture is ample. In addition, some snow has been favorable in Montana and Idaho. Some oats and barley were sown in Oklahoma but in general progress is slow because of continued wetness."

CAR RATIONING CHANGES

Automobile rationing changes

Persons who have received a certificate of fitness from Selective Service may obtain local board authorization to sell their 1942 cars to anyone, without a ration certificate. Previously, they could sell only during the furlough period following induction.

Persons inheriting 1942 cars can no longer sell them to anyone who does not have an OPA ration certificate. They may continue to obtain clearance from local boards to use the cars themselves.