

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

Appointment of Guy Cordon as Oregon's new United States senator to serve until a successor is elected next November to the unexpired term of the late Senator Charles L. McNary, met with instant approval around the national capital. Senator Cordon is no stranger in Washington, D. C. For many years he has been attorney for a group of southwestern Oregon counties which are beneficiaries from the Oregon-California reversioned land grant. As their attorney, Senator Cordon had made many arguments before both house and senate committees to obtain compensation from the government for these lands in lieu of taxes, which kept him at the national capital for many months each year. All of this valuable experience makes Senator Cordon a veteran legislator, so to speak, and familiar with the many lines of senate and house procedure. A freshman to the Oregon legislature would have to spend months trying to find out what it's all about. But not so with Senator Cordon, who has had his eyeteeth cut.

The new Oregon senator was the legal advisor to a delegation of Oregon county judges who originally proposed the O & C land grant matter years ago and he worked out the program which was finally adopted and by which the counties received a sum of money each year. From time to time there have been revisions in this law, and this was under the direction of Senator Cordon, who worked hand in glove with officials of the forest service and the department of the interior. He also instigated the organization of western states and counties to try to obtain redress for the loss of lands from the tax rolls. There are now several bills with this object in view, among them one introduced by Senator McNary which was written by Senator Cordon. He compiled the list of government lands in the various states which has since been used on many occasions by representatives and senators.

Senator Cordon was one of the intimates who gathered each evening in the office of Senator McNary to discuss the needs and welfare of Oregon and where everything was off the record. To these meetings came high government officials and Cordon came to know them well. The new senator was born in Texas and went to Oregon with his parents in a covered wagon, the family settling in Douglas county. There he became county assessor and thoroughly versed in the O & C land grant history. He was elected district attorney and as such prosecuted several of the most spectacular murder cases on record in the state.

Possessed of a brilliant mind, a quick thinker and a good lawyer, Senator Cordon, if he ever makes a speech in the senate, will demonstrate that he is among the best. He can read the A B Cs and make them sound like a classic. While a natural mixer, with an infectious smile, he is retiring and modest. A delightful companion, the senator will be very popular in the cloakrooms with his fund of Oregon stories—the first such raconteur from that far western state.

"There must be something I can do in this war," said Cordon after Pearl Harbor, and although a veteran of world war No. 1 he attempted to enlist for active combat. He secured introduction to the brass hats and applied for the army air corps; was rejected as being too old (his only son is now a flier); applied for his old service, the field artillery.

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Navy Opens Drive on Jap's 'Pearl Harbor'



U. S. naval task forces, striking with hundreds of planes, have made their first assault on Truk, Japan's great stronghold in the Western Pacific, and the last major obstacle on our road to the Philippines and China. The attack on Truk, shown on this map, followed with relentless speed the capture of the Marshall Islands.

Red Cross Has New Sewing Room at Wasco

A Red Cross sewing room is to be opened at Wasco soon. Location will be in the store building formerly occupied by the J. P. Yates store. Mrs. A. H. McIntyre, county chairman, was enthusiastic in announcing it, as the building has plenty of storage space, cutting counters, drawers and glass display cases.

The Wasco club, the Tuesday afternoon club and the Wasco study club have each agreed to give one meeting date per month to the sewing and any others who can be asked to donate some time to sewing in the new rooms. Principal need is for furniture, chairs and sewing machines are the main shortage and anyone having them is asked to permit the use of them by the Red Cross sewers.

Fuel Oil Supplies Still Pronounced Low

Despite greatly increased production of crude and fuel oil products since the war began, fuel oil consumers in the Portland OPA district are urged by Fredrick F. Janney, OPA executive, to stretch their rations as far as possible to get through the remainder of the winter.

"We have been advised by local oil representatives," Janney said, "that because of ever increasing requirements of military forces and for plants manufacturing war materials, civilians must make every gallon go as far as possible." Not more than 65 percent of the season's rations should have been burned to date, he emphasized.

Customers who use their rations too fast run the risk of not getting orders filled as there is no provision for allowing more than the season's allotment except for special emergency cases.

DAIRYMEN GET MORE JACK

Substantially increased payments to dairy farmers which were put into effect March 4 by the War Food Administration will help Oregon milk producers meet increased production costs, Earl C. Hald, district OPA price executive, commented today. The new rates should also protect consumers against future increases in the price of milk, he added.

"This action which makes the payments a uniform 60c per hundredweight throughout the state, means a proportionately larger increase for milk producers east of the mountains since the subsidy is now the same throughout the state," he declared.

More Farms Sold But Prices Lower Than In Last War

Developments in the farm real estate market show extremely diverse conditions in various sections of the county, with the general trend sharply upward, especially in the east south central and Pacific regions, according to an analysis by the agricultural economics section of the OSC Extension service.

On November 1, 1943, farm land prices had reached 141 per cent of the 1912-14 level in the Pacific group, compared with 105 per cent in the country as a whole. By groups, land prices ranged from 79 per cent of the 1912-14 average in the west north central states to 147 in the east south central, according to USDA bureau of agriculture economics figures.

Sales of farms continued to increase in Oregon last year and reached a record number, exceeding even the 1919-20 boom. Current indications point to danger of seriously inflated farm real estate activity in 1944, with increasing farm mortgage indebtedness, despite substantial investments in war bonds and debt retirement by many farm families.

The sharp drop in land prices from 1920 to 1930 was associated with much reduced income from farming operations, due largely to disparity between prices for farm products and the cost of farming. Net cash farm income, including that from non-farm sources, fell from 9.2 billion dollars in 1919, the year after World War I ended, to 6.8 billion in 1920 and 3.6 billion in 1921.

Current figures on the trend of farm prices and costs in Oregon prepared by L. R. Breithaupt, extension agricultural economist, indicate some reversal in the ratio during 1943. The Oregon index of the general level of prices of farm products advanced only 4 per cent while costs, including labor, went up two or three times as much during the year.

NO. 18 GOOD 'TIL APRIL 30

If you haven't used shoe stamp No. 18 in ration book one, you have until April 30th before it expires. As soon as stamp 18 expires, the OPA will validate another shoe stamp on May first, to be good indefinitely. Meantime Airplane stamp No. 1 in ration book three, which is good now, will continue to be valid indefinitely, running concurrently with the new stamp to be validated. May first. This will make the fourth shoe stamp since rationing started a year ago February.

'Bob' Stow Talks Farmers Starting Work As Ground Loses Frost

R. A. Stow, of Grass Valley went to Portland, accompanied by K. P. Brisbane Wednesday morning, so Mr. Stow could appear over KOIN that night as one of Northwest Neighbors. Mr. Stow appeared as "The original Jack of All Trades" a characterization he might well fill.

"Bob Stow came to Sherman county about 45 years ago from Yamhill county and took up a homestead at the upper end of Sherrers grade. The land was not of the best, so Stow did blacksmithing for freighters who had breakdowns or who needed horses shod. At the same time he raised wheat, horses, cattle, hogs, turkeys and chickens.

Later moving to Grass Valley Mr. Stow became carpenter, plumber, harness maker, shoe repair man, city marshal, and added to this list by becoming notary public and justice of the peace besides raising a good garden and keeping a few goats.

City Council Decides On Water Matters

The city council met Tuesday night and agreed to begin work on the pump house site between the two wells in the flat. Proposal is to install the centrifugal pump there so it can pump from both wells and be used as an emergency water supply. The old Ginn Coleman warehouse has been removed so work can begin.

The city also asked that the pump company from which the rotary pump in the Conlee well was bought send a man here to pull the pump and check it for wear before the heavy pumping period.

The city also has received \$424 from the state street fund and the decision on the best method of spending it was delayed until more information was obtained from the State Highway Department.

Woolens Coming Back Again

There should be more woolen clothing this season, according to word received by Lucy Lane, specialist in clothing and textiles at OSC. Suits and coats as well as woolen yard goods, promise to be more plentiful in retail shops because raw wool supplies have been larger for some time.

The government has built up large stockpiles of wool to insure plenty for military needs while the shipping situation has also improved, enabling importations from Australia and South America, as well as small supplies from South Africa and New Zealand.

Miss Lane has been informed that more all-wool and less mixed goods will be on the market this season, because the large quantities of wool on hand make "stretching" the wool by blending with other fibers no longer necessary in meeting essential civilian needs.

Saving Tin Tubes Still Good Habit

Although it is no longer a WPB requirement that a used collapsible tube be turned in when purchasing shaving cream, tooth paste or other products in tubes, Mrs. America is asked to continue saving certain types of these containers voluntarily. The WPB is still interested in salvaging tubes made a year ago or more because they generally provide a higher percentage of tin than those most recently produced. Tubes containing ointments and other medicinals—no matter when made—are even more valuable for salvage purposes since some still are made of all tin, and every bit is still needed. So, if you have such containers, turn them into your dealer as usual.

Farmers Starting Work As Ground Loses Frost

Seeding To Be First Job As Part of Summerfallow Left Last Fall

The few frostless nights that have been the part of Sherman county have done wonders to the process of getting farm work started. A balmy morning, for those who are up to enjoy it, leads to thoughts of plowing and planting and that is what farmers are getting ready to do.

Not all of them have waited for frostless mornings. Some have been working afternoons in the field, getting the summerfallow spring toothed and ready for spring seeding.

Some are treating seed wheat and others have that job all finished and are merely waiting for a few drying days before pulling the drills into the field.

There has been almost constant threat of rain, but little rain; there have been flurries of snow, but little snow. Although the earth has been frozen nearly every night the frosts are light and the ground is workable by noon.

It is as if the earth, itself, was waiting for some future date to get ready for the crop and was putting off the job of starting seed as long as possible.

But next week, with the income tax statements out of the way, the farmers will certainly be in the field and the bark of the tractor will be an all day, and all night, sound over the land.

OPA URGES TICKET USE

Mrs. America is urged to spend ration tokens when she goes shopping for red stamp and blue stamp foods. The OPA suggests once ration tokens are received in change they be used for later purchases of meats and fats or processed foods. Each ration token is worth one point, whereas each red and blue stamp has a uniform value, regardless of number printed.

Farmers Turn in Orders for Help At Farm Labor Office in County



The OSC Extension service is rapidly completing details for handling the 1944 farm labor program in Oregon in accordance with the provisions of public law 229, recently passed by Congress, reports William A. Schoenfeld, director, who, with J. R. Beck, state emergency farm labor supervisor, has returned from a conference on this subject in Denver.

General plans have been in preparation for months in expectation of congressional action, hence it is believed that, with a year's experience and with an earlier start, the program will operate as smoothly as can be expected in view of constantly increasing manpower difficulties.

The new law provides that "for the purpose of assisting in providing an adequate supply of workers for the production and harvesting of agricultural commodities within the several states" an appropriation is made and apportioned to the states on the basis of need "for expenditure by the agricultural Extension services of the land grant colleges in such states in accordance with such agreements as may be entered in-

Woman's Club Hears About Home Problems Wheat Shipment May Be Delayed By Imports

Canadian Wheat in Portland Takes Market From Northwest Wheat Growers

Since the beginning of big crops in Sherman county a part of each year has been used by the warehouse men to worry about how to get rid of the piles of wheat that accumulate from July to September. This year is no exception, despite the stories about the need for wheat as feed for the "surplus" livestock of the nation.

For instance the Moro Grain Growers has bulk storage for 1,400,000 bushels of grain which was practically all in use at the end of last harvest. Now, when warehouse men are beginning to wonder about the next crop 1,000,000 bushels are still on hand.

It is expected that by the first of April this will be reduced to 800,000, which will permit storage of 600,000 bushels of 1944 wheat. No one knows how big the 1944 crop will be but the past three years have brought crops of 800,000 to 900,000 bushels.

The government loan period is up April 30 and normally much of the grain could be shipped out immediately after that date. This year, despite the stories about demand for wheat, the market is failing and wheat is not being sold.

In fact, the government is shipping Canadian wheat into Portland. Two ship loads have been received. With country warehouses full of wheat that must be shipped if the 1944 crop is to be warehoused this importation of wheat seems odd to the farmer.

Shipment of wheat has been going on at a good rate at Moro and Grass Valley lately and each train brings in 20 to 30 empties permitting the shipment of 30,000 to 50,000 bushels each week. It is reported that shipment of wheat from Wasco has not been heavy.

The warehouses can be emptied enough for the coming crop if cars are furnished and there is a place made for the wheat, report warehousemen. However, imports from Canada or other foreign countries may block country elevators and warehouses in harvest.

More Pork Available For Americans

More meat this month for Mrs. America's family to sink their teeth into, but more than half of it pork. The outlook's good for bacon and eggs—what with most popular bacon cuts at one ration point per pound and eggs continuing at low levels. Butter point value remains unchanged—still 16 points per pound—but lard has been removed from the ration list for the month of March. The current point chart lists lard at three points per pound. But all dealers have been asked to make the correction. The chart was printed before the War Food Administration advised OPA that the amount of lard available for civilians would permit it to be point-free this month.

Sherman County Tops Another Record

Indicative of how well the school children of Sherman county did in the recently ended scrap paper drive is the news in the official report of Rod Finney, state salvage chairman, that the state's average was 7 pounds per capita and Sherman county had sent in 23 pounds per person.

Average in the counties that have reported was 7.3 pounds. Second county in the state was Clatsop with 12.5; third was Hood River with 11.3 and fourth was Benton with 10.8 pounds. Several counties are just now starting campaigns and it is possible that the average may be raised.