

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

Like so many other things in this war, the B-29 superfortress which bombed Japan was a secret held from the American people until the spectacular raid on the steel mills at Yawata. (More than a million tons of scrap was shipped to those mills from the Pacific northwest prior to the war, valued at many millions of dollars). It is true that scores newspaper reporters knew all about the B-29 but they were pledged to secrecy and could not write a line until the raid had been made. However, there were inkblots in publications which gave a hint—but nothing more.

As the superfortresses were coming off the assembly lines hundreds of thousands of Chinese coolies, men and women, were building airfields in China for the special use of this flying battleship. These airfields were required as a base from which the B-29s could fly from China to Japan. Pictures of the Chinese at work were printed in many publications, but the significance of these fields was not comprehended by the American reading public. What they saw was an army of coolies carrying loads of rock in baskets balanced on a pole over their shoulders, the way the Chinese vegetable gardeners used to vend their wares to housewives in Seattle, Portland and Tacoma. The airfields were built with hand-power, nothing else.

One day a B-29 in a test flight crashed into a meat packing plant in Seattle, killing several people and wrecking part of the building. The public knew it was a new plane but made no inquiries, for testing new planes in the past three years has become routine. Later the B-29 went into mass production. The Boeing company, in its several factories, was doing a magnificent job. The big planes were taken to India and thence flown to China and the Japanese agents knew all about them—the time of their arrival, their size and speed and the airfields in the land of the mikado, and knowing this, they began decentralizing their war industries and surrounded the Yawata plant with anti-aircraft weapons.

So far as the enemy was concerned, they were well advised as to the nature of this new bomber and realized that they were to be on the receiving end. But, what between the photographs of the coolies pounding out an immense airfield with their bare hands and the loss of life and property when a bomber fell in Seattle, the American public could see no connection. B-29, no longer a hush-hush, is a monument to the Boeing engineers.

Shipped out of the ports of the north Pacific have been many tons of medical supplies and food intended for the American soldiers who are held as prisoners of war by the Japanese. These consignments have been taken ashore at Vladivostok, along with boots, butter, farm machinery, etc., which the Russians will use. The supplies for the prisoners of war have been warehoused in the cold Siberian port for months instead of being rushed to their destination. The hitch in the program lies at the door of Joe Stalin, the gallant ally of Uncle Sam.

Stalin refuses to permit the Japanese ships to enter the port of Vladivostok and remove the food and medicine. Why he has taken this stand is not explained, for the Japanese are familiar with that port and they know everything that is being unloaded there, transported from Puget sound and the Columbia river by ships of

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Tillage Plots Visited; New Plowing Tested

The farm demonstration on the Barnett Estate land on which Joe Belanger is testing a new method of making summerfallow was inspected Tuesday night by a group of 20 farmers who had been invited by county agent, Wright, to look over the crop which is now maturing.

Mr. Belanger explained that the demonstration was not an attempt to show farmers how to farm but was done to test a method of tillage. The ordinary position of stubble and straw after plowing is either under the ground or mixed with the top soil. The test is made by keeping the stubble on top of the ground. This entails the use of new machinery. It does prevent erosion satisfactorily. If it can produce as much wheat and the land can be worked as economically, it will be considered a successful experiment.

Deep Furrow Drill Used

The land was seeded with a deep furrow drill, 14 inches between rows. There are some weeds although not more than the average field. Seed was put on at 72 pounds per acre as compared to 90 on adjoining land.

On the similar plot south of Moro on Moore Bros. land the same tillage methods were used. The crop is one of the best in the neighborhood, being cleaner of weeds than other crops and slightly nearer maturity. Farmers are being invited to look at this plot the day of the field day at the experimental farm.

County Passes Budget; No Change

Without argument the county court, acting as the county levying board, passed on the county budget as published and passed it to the assessor who will figure the tax levies therefrom. The budget board gave its OK to the move. Estimated expenditures are \$111,399.10, a great deal more than the \$75,025.60 that was estimated to be expended last year. Estimated receipts was \$49,715.00 also much larger than the \$14,157.38 of last year.

The tax levy will be almost identical as \$64,184.10 will be raised by the 1944-45 budget as compared to \$60,868.22 for 1943-44. All money to be raised will come under the 6 percent limitation.

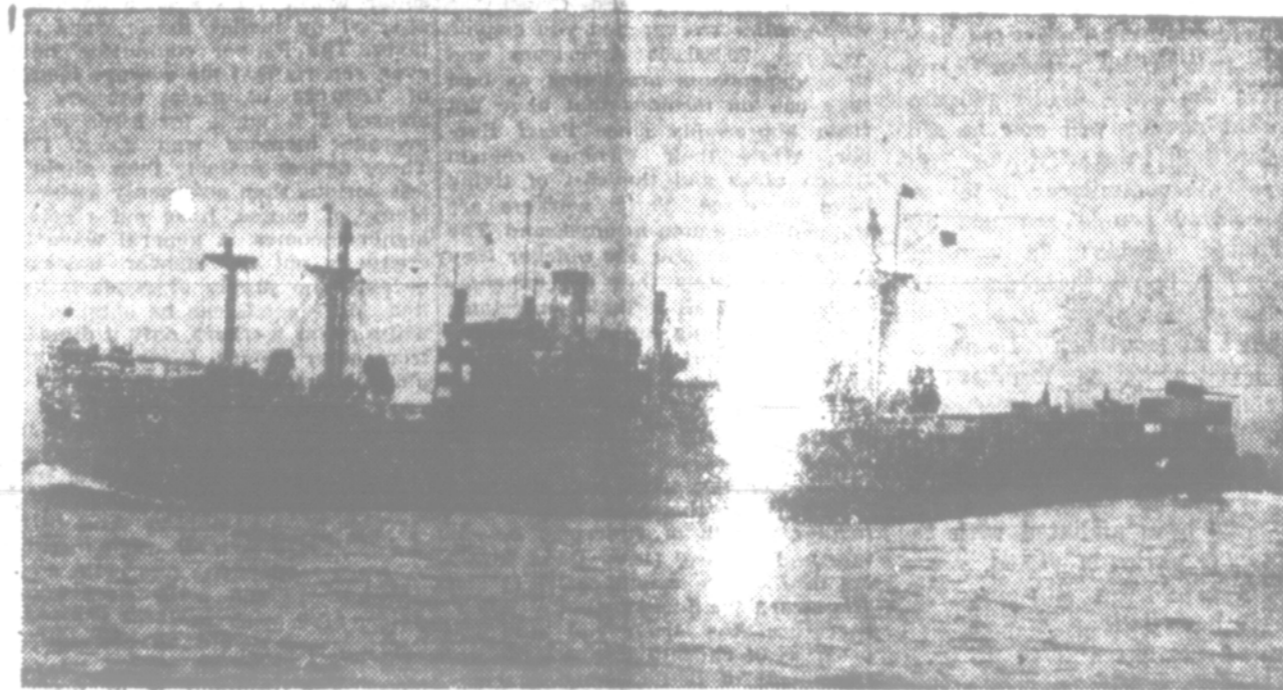
Main change in the budget was the raising of a fund of \$40,000 for post-war road building. Other changes were minor.

Saved From Japs



A happy smile is worn by August Johnson, a small Australian lad, who has been a captive of the Japs occupying the Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea area. When found, little August was wearing a pair of discarded Japanese army shoes three times too large.

Three Counties With Biggest E Bond Sales Launch



Above picture is of a tanker similar to one that will be launched by county groups from three counties in Oregon whose citizens make the best record for sale of E bonds during the present campaign.

The so-called metropolitan counties, Multnomah, Clackamas, Hood River, Washington and Columbia are in one district, the Willamette valley counties are in another and the eastern Oregon counties with Jackson and Josephine are the third group.

Counties buying the highest per capita amount of E bonds in each of the tree districts will be privileged to launch one of these ships. Sherman county has the highest per capita E bond sale for the Third and Fourth War Loan drives.

Experiment Station Field Day Tomorrow

Busy Farmers Can See Years Experiments In One Afternoon

Saturday, June 24, is the day of the field day at the experiment station.

Farmers and others interested will meet at the station at one o'clock and be conducted over the experiments by Merrill Oveson, superintendent, aided by Orman Weaver. County agents from adjoining counties and Sherman county will be present as will D. D. Hill, who is taking the place left by the death of George Hyslop at the college.

Among the things to be seen are the pea trials which show different varieties of field peas sown in different ways. Interest in pea crops may not be very widespread but for those who have stock such information is important.

Grass Strains Studied

The spring and winter wheat varieties are always matters of interest. The rate and date of seeding trials have both Elgin and Rex wheat and have rates of sowing of 55, 72 and 90 pounds per acre, at varying dates. These are things that have affected the 1944 wheat crop.

The nursery and rotation plots will cause a stop of the caravan. And an experiment in grasses will attract interest. Not only kinds of grasses but strains of them are being grown to determine what strains are best for this area. There is a difference and local grasses may be greatly improved by new strains.

Power Men Will Handle Wires

Helping to prevent accidents on the farm, Ralph Brisbine, Pacific Power & Light local agent, has offered the help of company crew men to farmers who must cross under the lines with farm machinery. Brisbine said a request in advance by telephone or mail will bring a service man to either raise the electric wires to provide safe clearance or will deaden the line until the machine is clear of wires. No charge is made for this service.

ATTENDS CONVENTION

Mr and Mrs Bernard Martin and daughter, Deanna Darlene, accompanied by Mr and Mrs Louis Sather, returned from the State Grange convention which was held in Grants Pass last week. Little Deanna stayed with her grandparents at Roseburg, during the convention.

Cricket Control Job Nearing End Here

The report of Harvey Summers, supervisor of the Mormon cricket baiting operation, in his report as of June 17 says that 225,246 pounds of bait had been spread in Sherman county, 116,650 in Morrow county and 79,588 in Gilliam county.

Sherman county has been pretty well covered except for a small patch in the northeast corner of the affected area. This bait has been spread over 22,582 acres of range land and 800 acres of tilled land. Complete coverage is not expected but enough land is covered in an area to control crickets.

Cost to Sherman county has been in excess of \$800 which is for board of the men mixing the bait. Ground baiting will be done of strips and along fence rows on farms.

OSC Speaker Defines Democracy

"Democracy is not a mass movement but a way of life that is based finally in the individual, his allegiance, his understanding, cooperation and forbearance," said President William C. Jones of Whittier college in his commencement address here. He enumerated three cardinal principles of American faith as belief in the dignity of man, belief in development of personality regardless of race, class or creed, and belief in equality of opportunity.

War Materiel Down

The Nation's Farm Army of six million along with their town and city neighbors went into action this week on the Fifth War Loan, the War Finance Division of the Treasury announces. Total goal for this loan is 16 billion dollars by July 8. Last year farm people bought \$1,200,000,000 in War Bonds—about 10 percent of their net income. With an estimated net farm income of 13 billion dollars for 1944, bond purchases by farm people are expected to be higher this year than last.

The War Bonds bought during the Fifth War Loan will enable our government to get more and better war equipment for its fighters than the bonds bought a year ago, according to a compilation of war equipment costs by the War Department. A heavy bomber, which a year ago cost \$500,000, today costs half that much. A Bofors anti-aircraft gun formerly cost \$25,000, now costs only \$13,000. A year ago the Garand Rifle cost \$90. Today it costs \$35. A few items, among them the good old Army mule, have gone up in price. A year ago Uncle Sam paid \$190 for an Army mule. Today such a mule costs Uncle \$225.

Rain Brings Brighter Prospect For Wheat Crop

Total rainfall for June has been exactly one inch at the station, there being .17 on the 8th, .02 on the 9th, .44 on the 16th, .02 on the 17th and .35 on the 18th.

Rain over the week end changed the prospects for a wheat crop for the better.

Until Saturday .44 had fallen at Moro and that night another .36 fell to make nearly an inch when combined with the traces and little showers. While there is nothing phenomenal about that much rain in June it is very pleasant a much better wheat crop than seemed likely.

Several places in the county received miniature cloud bursts, that washed summerfallow in spots. One of these fell east of Grass Valley and another fell Monday at Kent soaking that town for a few minutes. In a showery period such as the week end some spots are missed with the heavier rains and this has been the case this time. But the rain was general enough to prove very helpful.

Farm Bureau Will Reorganize

There will be held the re-organization meeting of the Sherman County Farm Bureau in the Court House at Moro on Friday evening, June 30th, at 8 o'clock arranged by State Membership Chairman, Sam Hunter, to which all old and new members and their families and all other Sherman County farmers are cordially invited. Mac Hoke of Pendleton, President of Oregon State Farm Bureau, will be the principal speaker of the evening.

"WEIGHTY" REPLY

A local war price and rationing board in Port Arthur, Texas, recently get more information than it bargained for. When a woman, applying for an additional sugar allowance for home-canning, forgot to tell the number of pounds she needed, the Board promptly returned her application and asked her to specify the exact weights. Via return mail, she wrote back that she weighed 210 pounds, her husband—145, and her mother in law 160!

Mrs. Eliza Martin To Be Buried Today

Mrs. Eliza Etta Martin died Sunday at Sacramento, California where she had been visiting at the home of her daughter. The funeral will be held Friday afternoon at 2:30 from the Moro church.

Mrs. Martin, born, Eliza Buchanan, at Island City, Oregon August 2, 1866. She was married July 27, 1884 at La Grande to Wilbert John Martin. Her death interrupted a marriage that had lasted nearly sixty years.

Last March Mr and Mrs Martin went to California to stay with their daughter, Mrs. H. E. Wooten for a few weeks. He fell and broke some ribs and was incapacitated. Mrs. Martin, already grieving over the death of a son, William J. Martin, in Moro last fall, went to the hospital where she died.

Nearly all of the Martin's married life has been spent in Sherman county where she became a member of the Eastern Star and the Rebekahs and the Christian church.

Survivors are her widower, two daughters, Mrs. B. F. Morgan of Medical Lake, Wn., and Mrs. Wooten, three sons, George E. of Tacoma, Wn., Wilbert A. and Avery M., both of Portland and a number of grand children.

LOCAL GIRL GRADUATES

Miss Catherine Richelderfer, daughter of Mr and Dr. Asa Richelderfer of Wasco, a senior cadet nurse of The Dalles hospital reported for duty at the Barnes General hospital to complete her course in training at an army hospital, June 15th.

War Bond Sales Start Slowly; Quotas Expected

Total Sales Not Determined As Reports Not In On Work

The county has made a fair start on the purchase of the \$176,000 in bonds expected of it, but still has many thousands to go.

Sales of E bonds have not been heavy partly because solicitors are busy and have to choose a convenient time to go bond selling. Some farmers have already bought but the greater number have not.

Corporation sales are not coming very fast so far, although some of these come through the state organization and are credited there before the news reaches Sherman county. The Pacific Power & Light has bought \$6000 and others are expected to come in to fill the \$31,000 corporation quota. The county court bought \$15,000 of 1-1-4 percent bonds with the sinking fund. These bonds will be paid in March 1947 and the money will be available for road work at that time.

Farmers who are able to look over their crops and estimate their income this year are buying series C, treasury notes, with which to pay their income tax and some Gs are being sold.

F Bonds Most Popular Bulk of sales, however, in this county is in E bonds. With rain making a good crop almost certain and with harvest close at hand a goodly part of the money on hand in the banks can be expended for bonds without handicapping the business of any farmer.

The exploits of our service men on all fronts is stimulating to the patriotic citizen who wants to aid his country and his country's sons in the battles for our national security. There should be little doubt about this county reaching its quota and passing it in the same percentage as before.

Range Burning Sometimes Helps

The advisability of planned burning depends to a considerable extent on the condition of the range and the type of forage, the bulletin points out. Undesirable effects, even of planned burning, are that Idaho fescue grass and bitter brush are injured, burned ranges dry up earlier, and fall forage is usually more scanty on burned areas because of fewer edible shrubs. Jackman points out that Idaho fescue, sage, and bitter brush may make up a heavy percentage of the cover in many range sections of Oregon.

Heavy sage brush causes considerable loss to stockmen by using up moisture and space that would otherwise be used by better forage, by providing hiding places for predators, and by causing wool losses pulled from the fleece by the stiff brush.

When range is burned it must be protected from grazing the first year at least, as the palatable grasses and weeds do not become well established until the second and third years, the research revealed.

P P & L Buys \$6000 In Bonds Here

Of \$500,000 in war bonds purchased by the Pacific Power and Light company Sherman county will receive credit for \$6,000 on its Fifth War Loan quota G. L. Corey, district manager announced today.

Corey explained that the half-million total thus invested in war bonds normally would be expended by the company for improvements and additions. "Because of war time shortages of materials, which limit construction to bare necessities, the company officials are making this sound investment in war bonds to provide a suitable fund for postwar expansion."