

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

Members of congress from as widely separated points as Wisconsin and California are greatly concerned over future use of air bases built by the United States at wartime facilities. Altogether, approximately half a billion dollars has been expended in construction and improvement with no more permanent title than leases which expire six months after war's end. Sentiment in both house and senate seems to be that an agreement more advantageous to the United States should be made now while our allies—meaning in the main, Great Britain—are in a more complacent mood than they are likely to be after victory is won. Discussion is predicated on the statement in a senate subcommittee report to the effect that more than \$500,000,000 has been spent on airfields and equipment all over the world. In most places we have no right except to get out when the war is over. We have constructed these fields and placed these installations on land which belongs to other countries.

Also, there is concern over what shall be done with islands in the Pacific recently taken from Japan, none of which were part of the original Japanese empire. They were turned over to Japan under mandate by the league of nations after the first world war and at least some of them had formerly belonged to Germany. It is the contention of house members that the mandates automatically expired when the Japs were driven out by American forces and that while they may not necessarily become territorial possessions of the United States, their future use becomes a responsibility of congress inasmuch as the constitution provides that no property of the United States can be disposed of without act of congress.

It has been estimated that in the post-war period 80 percent of the air traffic will originate in the United States, in which event landing fields and other facilities will be required in the most remote parts of the world. This country will have a very large fleet of planes which may easily be converted to commercial use at the end of the war, but they will be unable to transport passengers and cargo unless they have excess air fields, and in the post-war competition this may be denied them if agreements have not previously been made for their accommodation. So far no definite legislative plans have been formulated but it is the sense of congress that action should be taken with the least possible delay.

Collapse of Germany will not ease the oil and gasoline situation immediately, according to the military high command, for the reason that it will not be possible to curtail supply to the larger planes and ships used against the Japs. When the full force of the United States is turned against Japan the Pacific coast will become the center of activity and this may temporarily further reduce the amount available for civilian consumption even after the shortage in the east has disappeared.

Wages which have been frozen by the war labor board to tie in with the little steel formula will soon be thawed. Sometime between now and the latter part of October (the earlier the better) there will be an order or directive that the little steel formula has gone out the window. AFL and CIO have been hacking away at that formula for months and have presented statistics that the cost of

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One of British Secret Weapons



The crocodile flame-throwing tank, one of the secret weapons used by the British in the invasion of France. It is a Churchill type tank equipped with a flame thrower that projects a geyser of fire for 450 feet and can actually fire around corners. These tanks landed at Normandy 35 hours after the first troop landings on beaches.

Economic Survey Shows Huge Production of Farm Crops

An analysis by L. R. Breithaupt, extension agricultural economist at OSC, of preliminary official estimates of 1944 farm production, indicates the greatest total volume of crop and animal products ever produced in the United States despite the reduction in agricultural workers engaged. The preliminary estimate is 132 per cent of 1935-1939 average output of crop and animal products, compared with 129 percent in 1943 and 124 percent in 1942.

Praising farmers for the high war-time production accomplished despite many handicaps and difficulties, the War Food administration is now taking some steps to bring some of the surplus into channels of use to avoid unnecessary accumulation and waste after the war ends. One such step is the removal of most processed foods from the ration list.

The total volume of animal products is expected to reach 139 percent of the 1935-1939 level this

year, with meat animal products up to 155 per cent, poultry and poultry products at 150 per cent and dairy products 113 per cent.

Greatest expansion has been in oil-bearing crops like soybeans, peanuts, and flaxseed, estimated at 260 per cent of the pre-war average, but somewhat less than in 1943 and 1942. Grain production for human food is expected to be 156 per cent of the 1935-1939 average, food grains and hay 130, truck crops 143 per cent, fruits and nuts 117, and sugar crops 83.

The increase in output has been accomplished despite rising costs for farm operation while farm prices generally have remained about unchanged compared with a year ago. Thus, the exchange value of farm products declined several points although still relatively high compared with the pre-war situation.

Oregon's general farm price index at 174 per cent of the 1935-1939 level at mid-August was slightly lower than a year ago, although farm prices in the whole country were about unchanged compared with August 1943. Increases during the year for grains, hay, dairy products, and some other items were about offset by lower prices for meat animals and eggs, with truck crops as a whole about the same as a year ago.

Farmers are also praised and complimented for buying war bonds and paying off debts instead of going deeply into debt as during and after World War I. During the four-year period 1940 to 1943, Oregon's farm mortgage debt was reduced 10.2 per cent, down to 12.2 per cent of the value of all farms. The average reduction for all states was 14.4 per cent, down to 12.4 per cent of the value of all farms.

Five Ton Scrap Paper Shipped This Week

There has been some activity on the scrap paper front this week as paper rolled into the packaging center in a last day rush. Shipment was delayed and it was not until late in the week that it was sent to the mills for processing.

The Grass Valley community had two and a half tons and there was an amount equal to that shipped from Moro. This shipment will increase the county's per capita contribution of scrap paper by six pounds and put it in the running again. A check is being made on the May shipment which has not been credited to this county and this will give the county another boost in paper accumulation.

City Elections Also Must Be Held This Year

In addition to the national election for the choice of a president vice-president, etc., the state election for selection of treasurer, senators, and others, the district election for choice of state senators, representatives, circuit judge, etc., and county election for naming commissioner, sheriff, assessor and others the cities of Sherman county must hold an election in November to choose city officials to transact city business for the next two years.

Inasmuch as the 1942 city elections were not of regular consequence in most of the county's towns, all city officials' terms will expire the first of the coming year. In cases where there is an absence of charter provisions for nomination of city officials a mass meeting is usually held and any number of tickets named by various groups of citizens. Notice of city election must be posted by the recorder ten days before election.

Candidates may be nominated by filing petition of nomination with the recorder in most cities, this being done ten days before election.

A mass meeting will be called in Moro early in October to nominate candidates for city office.

Rufus School Opens With 31 Enrolled

The Rufus school opened last Monday morning with 10 pupils in the high school and 21 in the grades, according to D. D. Williams who is principal of the school. He was a visitor at the office of the county school superintendent Monday afternoon.

Mr. Williams is teaching some of the high school classes assisted by his wife. Grade school teachers are Mattie Lichtenberger and Lona Staab, all new to the Rufus school.

Thompson Accepts Nomination For Sheriff

Percy Thompson has accepted the nomination accorded him by write-in votes at the May primaries and expects to make an active campaign for the office of county sheriff. Since the early days of the war he has been secretary to the draft board. He is a native of the county and well known to most of its citizens.

Hay Consumption Of Stock Computed

Beef cattle in Oregon consume an average of 11.4 tons of hay annually, while sheep consume an average of 285 pounds according to figure given in a new bulletin, "Feed Requirements, and values for livestock," by H. A. Lindgren, extension livestock specialist.

Actual amounts vary with winter weather conditions, age of animals and other factors, but the figures represent the average over a period of years as observed by the experiment station and Oregon stockmen. Most operators plan enough margin of safety to have a 25 to 50 per cent carry over of hay, says Lindgren.

This brief extension bulletin, No. 639, includes many practical pointers on feeding the different classes of livestock in this state, covering both roughage and concentrates.

CHAIRMAN SEES DEWEY

Mrs. Howard Conlee returned Wednesday evening from Portland where she had been for two days to attend the sessions of the Oregon Republican club and the meeting at which Governor Thomas Dewey spoke over a radio wide radio hook-up. Mrs. Conlee is county chairman of the Republican party.

Pioneer Post Planting Program Observed Friday

Three Ceremonies Held At Different Parts of County By School Children and Pioneers

Commemorating the bravery of the pioneers, three posts were set along the route of the Barlow cut-off through Sherman county Friday, with school children aiding in the ceremonies and being charged with the duty of seeing that the posts are kept in good repair. The first post planting was done in Gress Valley canyon near the road junction at Lone Rock and was attended by the grade pupils of the Moro school and a number of interested citizens of Moro.

Another post was planted in the park at Grass Valley near the entrance to the auditorium. Grade school children of Grass Valley sang two songs and watched the dedicatory ceremony.

The third post was placed near the east end of the Buck Hollow bridge just above the confluence of that stream with the Deschutes. It was near here that the pioneers reached the swift flowing river and crossed to continue their way across the mountains to the valley settlements.

North Route To Be Marked

This series of dedications was a part of a post-planting day that was observed all over the western states crossed by the great trek of Americans to the new land of the west. School children had a part in most of them.

In this county the Barlow cut-off through the county was chosen for this year's ceremonies. Another year it is planned to mark the spots where the pioneers camped at Emigrant Springs and at Mud Springs, both well used camping places for those who continued on the main trail to The Dalles.

Jay Price was an out of county pioneer who aided in the dedications and spoke of the history of early days. Mrs. Lucy Ruggles briefly commended the work at the Grass Valley canyon planting.

Portland Cash Wheat Market Inactive

The cash wheat market at Portland did not follow the strength which developed in Midwestern markets. Only slight changes were recorded in cash wheat prices here during the past week and at the close most classes were unchanged compared with last week although ordinary Soft White and Hard Red Winter were 1-2c per bushel higher. The general cash wheat situation remained very dull during the period. Demand was very slow at Northwest terminals from all classes of buyers. Mills came into the market only for occasional lots of special quality wheat, mostly proteins. New flour business was reported slow and mills were mostly working on previous booking. On the other hand growers were not offering any appreciable amount of wheat for sale, since present current bids are below loan values and considerably wheat was reported being placed under Government loan.

Youth Urged To Go On To School

The GI's overseas who are using their spare time to "crack their school books" in the hope of improving their possibilities of when they return to civilian life, advise the boys and girls back home to keep on with their schooling. As Cpl. Kermit Greason of Atwood, Kansas, put it—"Any boy who's in high school now had better finish right away. Because if he doesn't finish before he's drafted, or before he takes a full-time job, chances are he never will. That goes for girls too."

Wasco Planning Post-War Plans Scrap Paper Drive Next Week

The residents of Wasco and the surrounding community will participate in a paper drive from Monday, September 25th to Friday, September 29th inclusive, under the joint sponsorship of the Wasco Boy Scout Troop and the American Legion Auxiliary. Paper and magazines will be picked up at the homes in town on Thursday, September 28th and those residing in the out-lying districts are requested to leave their contributions to this patriotic effort at the Wasco school barn sometime prior to the evening of the 29th. Newspapers are to be tied in bundles not exceeding 18 inches in height and magazines not over 12 inches.

Hog Price Guarantee Continued

Ceiling prices on live hogs will not be reduced from present levels before June 30 1945, OPA and WFA have announced. Present ceilings are \$14.75 a hundred pounds, Chicago basis, for hogs weighing 240 pounds or less and \$14 a hundred, Chicago basis, for hogs weighing more than 240 pounds. WFA also said the support price of \$12.50 a hundred, Chicago basis, for "good to choice" butcher hogs weighing 200 to 240 pounds, effective October 1, will be continued until June 30 1945.

Antelope Season Interests Hunters

Oregon's first big game season of this year opens for antelope on September 24 and will extend through October 7. Plenty of antelope tags are still available for sale at the Portland office of the Game Commission, the fees being \$2.50 for residents and \$5.00 for nonresidents. In making application for a tag, a person should forward the correct fee and information as to the number and kind of hunting license held.

All of the antelope range is open to hunting with certain exceptions. The Drakes Flat area and the Millican-Fort Rock-Wagonite area are closed. Descriptions and maps of these areas are included in the 1944 synopsis of hunting regulations. The Hart Mt. Antelope Refuge also remains closed to antelope hunting.

Another Change Made In Gas Rationing

Beginning September 22, all gasoline filling stations may again accept off-highway "R" coupons, Edmond W. Eggen, district OPA mileage rationing representative, announced today. The ban on their acceptance by filling stations has been in effect since April 1, 1944 to reduce illegal use of limiting channels of transfer, Eggen explained.

Since the original plan, "R" coupons have been serially numbered so coupons diverted to illegal use can be traced directly back to the person who received the coupons, he pointed out.

"B-3" and "C-3" gasoline ration coupons will be invalid for motorists after September 30, Edmond W. Eggen, district OPA mileage rationing representative announced today.

At the same time "T" coupons marked "3rd. qtr." will expire for commercial motor vehicle operators. Filling station operators will have ten days, or through October 10, to turn them in to their suppliers for gasoline or exchange ration checks. Distributors have until October 20 to deposit these coupons in their ration bank accounts.

Holders of invalidated "B-3" and "C-3" coupons which were issued for use beyond September 30 may exchange them for valid coupons at their local board Eggen said.

Sub Committee Named To Aid Veterans Obtain Jobs and Opportunity

Appointment of a committee to handle the county's post war problems was the action that resulted from a meeting of the Land Use committee at the court house Monday afternoon.

The meeting was called by LeRoy Wright, secretary of the committee, for a discussion of post war problems, especially those that apply to the welfare of service men who return to this county and need aid to become again oriented to civilian life.

Wallace May acted as chairman and explained the purpose of the meeting. An explanation of the federal GI bill and the proposed state laws for veteran education and veteran loans was given. Various groups were asked about post war plans. T. Lester Johnson said Wasco had made no plans so far, Moro is planning an air landing strip; David Reid said the county would build and repair some roads with funds it has raised but that no plans as to what roads or what kind of work had been made to date; work on the fair grounds, said Joe Peters, board chairman, depends on the demand for a fair after the war; George Wilcox said the REA was going to build a line through this county immediately after the war. The co-ops will have some work to repair their equipment also.

Questionnaire Planned

Plans of other counties for obtaining estimates of work to be done on farms and to town houses after the war were discussed with the result that copies of material used to obtain this information will be requested and a similar plan tried.

Wily Knighten said that the selective service had been charged with the duty of seeing that discharged men are returned to civilian life and that the office would continue with that job until finished.

Roy J. Baker, T. Lester Johnson and Joe Peters were named as a nominating committee to choose the sub-committee which is to be in charge of the work of aiding veterans and co-ordinating the post-war work to be done in the county. Named were Giles French, representing the selective service; A. A. Dunlap, representing co-ops and cities; David Reid representing county and farmers; Delby Wright, representing the USDA and farmers and A. von Bortwe, representing farmers.

Weather Hot, Then Cold, Then Perfect

After a hot week or ten days the wind came up from the west and routed the heat so effectively that overcoats were in use all over the country and nearly everyone had to put the heating stove or furnace into operation for the first time this fall.

After an experimental day or two of cold the weather man settled down to a regular fall temperature that is ordinarily just about right a bit chilly after dark but nearly perfect in the daytime.

SCOTCH FISHMEN WOULD DO THIS

Trust a Scotchman to make three fish grow where one grows before and thus help in the war time food program. By putting sodium nitrate and phosphate in fresh water lakes in Scotland to increase supplies of marine vegetation on which fish feed, it has been possible to increase production of some fish by 300 percent. The Department of Commerce reports. Use of fertilizer has been carried out on an experimental basis.