

Oregon Historical Society
220 N.W. Market

Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Seventh Year No. 10

Moro, Oregon, Friday, January 12, 1945

Official County Paper

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

Legislators Get Committee Appointments

Committee appointments given to members of the legislature from the 22nd representative district and the 18th senatorial district are as follows. Members, being older in service, have better appointments and Senator Fatland, having had experience in the house before going to the senate, received good treatment at the hands of Senator Belton.

Fatland is chairman of Game, vice-chairman of Roads and Highways, a member of Alcoholic Traffic, Education and Judiciary. Giles French is again chairman of the Taxation and Revenue committee in the house which handles most of the tax legislation. He is also a member of Education, Labor and Industries, Land Use and the Legislation and Rules committees.

Henry Peterson, now starting his second session is vice-chairman of Land Use, and a member of Agriculture, Health and Public Morals, Livestock and Public Institutions.

Legislature Organized In Short Time

Post-War Problems May Be Left For Special Legislative Session

In one of the shortest and best organized organization sessions the two houses of the Oregon legislature started their 43rd biennial job Monday. There was no hitch in credentials of members, no long argument about who was going to preside, no kick about committee assignments. Things went off as smoothly as if greased, which, in fact, they were greased with ample preparation by committees of legislators who had spent a good part of the day before arranging. These arrangements went so far as the preparation of scrips for each member who had a part in the proceedings.

General sentiment as expressed by long time observers of legislatures is that this session will be a long one. There are many reasons given. First of these is that the problem facing the legislature are not concrete but rather, shrouded in a future more indefinite than usual. The war's shadow darkens all views of the next two years. Another reason is that members are busier at home and will not stay on the job as well as usual. Considering that five excuses were given in the house for the second day, this may be true. Illness, family sickness, press of private business and departure of relatives for the army are all reasons given for absence.

Major problems of this session will be those of every session. They will be taxes, labor, schools, post-war. The tax problem will revolve around raising enough money to pay for the political gadgets the legislature wants to pass and the things asked by the governor. If no such funds are found and the state has to run along on its present level of expenditures, it will probably be just as well. But this does not mean that there will not be proposals.

Labor and employers are still fighting about the rates on unemployment compensation payments and rates. The industrial accident law is in for a bit of overhauling with at least three groups trying to do the job.

The school problem appears to have moved more fully into the limelight than usual with proposals from teachers, administrators and even taxpayers. There are about six groups said to be writing bills to make over the school tax system, now in a flux because of the 1942 initiative bill that passed the

Camouflage Used Against Nazis



Sergeant Marvin C. Hans Jr. of Owensboro, Ky., demonstrates new snow cape being used by U. S. infantrymen battling Nazi winter offensive in Belgium. The one-piece cape, which ties in front, provides quick, easy camouflage for soldiers fighting on snow-covered ground. White rags around rise give additional protection.

Man Killed On Highway By Officer's Car

Captain Walter Smejkal of Spokane, where he is a medical officer at Geiger Field, having been transferred from California and instantly killed Bruno W. Deline, approximately 57, Monday night at 8:32 on the Columbia highway near Fleck's orchard. Deline was a World War veteran who had been working at Mary hill in orchards there. He was single. Smejkal was not held as the coroner's jury found insufficient evidence to do so.

people and the 1944 amendment that failed to pass.

Post-war problems may not be solved, or rather, no attempt may be made toward that effort. There is a feeling that it would be so much better to wait until the war is over and have a special session called to settle the problems when they were ready.

It is true enough that there is not enough light to guide at present, but no special session called hurriedly under the emotional stress of the immediate post-war period could meet under much more favorable conditions. If money is to be raised provision might better be made now. One may well wonder what anyone can do to repay the sacrifice being made.

There is a personal suspicion that there may be more outbreaks of temper in this session than usual. It seems that people's nerves are closer to the surface than ordinary these days and members of the legislature like every one else, have their worries over sons and daughters overseas. Talk of the war and attendant topics of things outside the legislature is more common than before.

Sheepmen To Inquire Into Low Number

A thorough discussion of factors that have brought about the reduction of sheep numbers in eastern Oregon is the lowest point in modern times will feature the annual meeting of the Oregon Woolgrowers association at Prineville January 17 to 19. A half-day will be devoted to this part of the program Friday forenoon, announced Mac Hoke, president, and Walter Holt, secretary, both of Pendleton.

This discussion will be directed by E. L. Potter, head of the agricultural economics division at O.S.C., who will call on men in or closely related to the industry to speak on production costs, predatory animals transportation problems, effects of wartime controls, and grazing regulations. Among those appearing on this part of the program will be W. E. Williams of the Production Credit association; Wayne Stewart, Dayville; Fred Phillips, Baker; J. H. Dobbins, Enterprise; R. L. Clarke, Portland, and John Carlin of the public utilities commission, Salem.

Proposed new truck legislation will be discussed by Ned Sherlock, Lake county, and R. C. Burkhardt, Lebanon, representing the Western Oregon Livestock association. A. P. Echoskey, Portland, and J. R. Beck of the O.S.C. Extension service will speak on the labor situation.

James Coon of the Pacific Wool Growers cooperative will report on the new core sampling method of grading wool, and J. M. Jones, National Wool Growers association secretary, and E. E. Marsh, assistant secretary, of the Selt Lake, will speak on wool marketing, postwar problems, and the association's program.

Woman's Club Favors Bill For Health Study

The Moro Women's club held an interesting meeting last Friday with the American Home Department in charge of the program.

The club went on record as favoring a bill for an act to provide for a complete program of health instruction and physical education in all elementary and high schools of the state. This measure will be presented at our state legislature in January.

After a short business session, Mrs. A. Douma, director for the afternoon presented a discussion on juvenile delinquency and crime as outlined by the Reader's Digest program called, "Let's Take Stock of our Children."

A very interesting article on "War Orphans of the U.S.A." was given by Mrs. Merle Beckett, and an article called "Hi-Toots" telling how one man helped to prevent juvenile delinquency, was given by Mrs. L. V. Moore.

All joined in singing "America the Beautiful". Hostesses were Mrs. C. R. Belshie and Mrs. Howard Belshie.

The next meeting will be January 19 with movies and special music as entertainment.

Maloney Warns Of Tax Date

J. W. Maloney, Collector of Internal Revenue, reminded taxpayers that January 15 is the deadline for filing original or amended 1944 Declarations of Estimated Tax and for paying installments on previously-filed declarations for 1944.

Nearly all farmers are required to file original 1944 declarations by January 15. Most other taxpayers who were required to file 1944 declarations did so last April, but those who underestimated their tax by more than 20 per cent should the amended declarations to avoid the penalty for substantial underestimates. January 15, likewise, is the last day for paying all installments due on 1944 declarations.

Can Pay Now

Mr. Maloney also called attention to the new provision of law which permits a taxpayer to file his annual income tax return for 1944 and pay the tax due on the return by January 15, instead of filing or paying "estimated tax" otherwise due at that time. Taxpayers availing themselves of this special provision will be saved the double duty of filing and paying "estimated tax" on January 15 and filing and paying on the annual return March 15. March 15 remains the regular deadline for filing 1944 annual returns and 1945 Declarations of Estimated Tax.

For detailed information and forms, call at the Custom House or the office of your nearest Deputy Collector.

Fourth Big Crop Hailed As Best News of Year

Production Fortunately At High Price Period; Prosperity On Sound Basis

The biggest news of the county for 1944 was the fourth big crop of wheat that was produced successively. Such magnificence of production has not before been heard of, even in often prodigious Sherman county.

Wheat crops can seldom be measured accurately in this county for there is always some kept for seed and feed, some sold before it is warehoused and some kept in farm storage.

Yet in 1941 2,932,000 bushels of wheat were packed in the county's warehouses and elevators, about 400,000 in farm storage and some 250,000 for feed and seed.

In 1942 another good crop came to surprise those who said lightning never struck twice in the same place. That year the elevators had 2,150,000 bushels piled on the unmovable part of 1941's crop. New elevators, new cribbing went up all harvest. Total crop was called 2,750,000 bushels.

Crop Nearly 3,000,000

In 1943 the county did a little better by warehousing 2,197,000 bushels but the crop may have been no better for farm storage was already full and could not all be used, but the increase in stock caused a lot of wheat to be fed.

Now comes 1944, a less favorable year from the point of weather and deep soil moisture, but with an additional 26,000 acres of land in wheat. This year the crop is 2,872,000 bushels, not so much per acre as before, but as much per farm and per farmer.

Back in 1937 the crop warehoused was 2,028,000, in 1938 it was 2,533,397 and then for 1939 and 1940 crops dropped to 1,491,090 and 1,395,013 respectively.

From the disastrous thirties when the crop fell to a mere million bushels or a little better these crops are wonderful. In addition the price has remained good, but not so spectacular as farmers remember in the last war when a sack of wheat was worth \$7.00 and better.

Production Efficient

Economy of farm operation has progressed so far that this district is recognized as one of the most efficient in farm production.

The above is big news. The first big crop was news comparable to 1916 and that of 1893. Continued successive big crops are still news and have caused some to feel that such production is not news but has become the rule, the customary thing.

Moro Boys Lose To Goldendale Team

The Moro Huskies were defeated by the Goldendale Wolves last Saturday night on our home floor. Goldendale led the game most of the time with their tall, fast playing team. The score at the end of the game was 16-29.

Friday night the Moro team played Rufus on the Rufus floor. The game was victorious for the Moro boys with the ending score being 28-21. The game does not count for the tournament because some of the Rufus boys are not within the required ages.

The Huskies will play two games this week in Fossil and Condon, playing Fossil on Friday night and Condon on Saturday night.

PRINEVILLE CHOSEN

Oregon sheep raisers will gather at Prineville January 17, 18, and 19 for the forty-ninth annual meeting of the Oregon Wool Growers association.

Mac Hoke, Pendleton, president of the association, will have recently returned from an eastern trip at that time and will be able to report on some animal developments in the wool industry. W. C. Jones, secretary of the National Wool Growers association, is one of the speakers; scheduled for the regular program.

Wednesday, January 17, will be devoted to meetings of committees appointed in advance, with Thursday and Friday left for the regular scheduled program.

Review of News Stories of 1944 Discloses Effect of War on Sherman County: Men Lost In Action, Men To War, Bond Sales, Scarcities

July 7. Kent school district annexes a part of Wasco county. Farm Bureau organizes in county. Wheat crop may reach 4,000,000 say estimators.

July 14. Wheat loan values raised by government, being now \$1.46 Portland. Foot rot found in some county wheats. Moro buys \$1500 of its bonds.

July 21. County sales in Fifth War Loan drive \$207,102. Harvest starts in few fields but yields not large. Cool weather spell broken by hot wave that brought 100 degree temperature.

July 28. Valuation of county set at \$9,722,526, for taxation purposes. Broken wire and fire along Deschutes river puts out lights.

Aug 4. Good reports indicate county crop of near 30 bushels. Schools get \$7,367 from school support fund. Higher voltage given county by wiring changes.

Aug 11. Assessor figures millages for all taxing units, county levy 8.2. Rain slows harvest. Elgin wheat beating Rex on station.

Aug 18. John Otbor hangs self while in county jail. Organization started to coordinate ser-

vice men's aid upon return. Updegraff resigns as circuit judge.

Aug 25. Nearly 3,000,000 bushels of wheat in warehouses. Precipitation 9.42 for crop year. No draft call in September. Trashy fallow makes 36.4 bushels.

Sept. 1. Schools to open Sept. 11. Charles Wilson held for murder of step daughter at Antelope. Harvest nearly over.

Sept. 8. Hyslop Memorial fund campaign planned for Sherman county. Plans for trail marking day being made by old timers.

Sept. 15. Kent high school pupils enter Moro school. Mrs. John Brogan dies from grief over son drowned in army. Landing field discussed.

Sept. 22. Committee named to handle post war plan for veterans. Three posts planted along pioneer trail between John Day ford and Deschutes river crossing at Sherars.

Sept. 29. Kenneth Barnett dies in South Pacific from heat. Moro high school wins first game of football from Goldendale.

Oct. 6. 4-H fair coming this week. Non high school board refuses to contract with Rufus, costs

too high. Moro ties Papooses.

Oct. 13. Club children go to Portland after showing stock at local show. Group from Sherman county launch "Fond du Lac" from Oregon Ship Yard, because of high bond sale. Wasco airstrip busy with learners.

Oct. 20. Guy Cordon, senator, talks to crowd here. Wheat League starts to make program for December meeting. Club boys sell stock at good figures.

Oct. 27. Wayne Morse, candidate for U.S. senator talks Sunday to local citizens. Sherman county children drink most milk.

Nov. 3. Moro wins from Condon. Wasco Masons honor Grand Lodge members. Bryan Van Gilder dies while hunting. Lack of rain sadens farmers.

Nov. 10. Arlington 12. Moro 0. Election brings few surprises. Roosevelt, Cordon, Morse, Stockman carry county. Rain makes seeding safe, although late. Andrew Thompson married 65 years.

Nov. 17. Carsten von Borstel killed in Italy. Moro wins from Lupin. A-tickets stolen from

cars. Sixth War Loan asking for \$150,000.

Nov. 24. Bond sale starting slow. Three California lads held theft of car. Deal may bring electricity. Teacher training brought to county.

Dec. 1. Wheat League offers varied and informative program. Nearly all of 1944 tax paid on due date. Bond sales good but still slow.

Dec. 8. E bond quota met. Many attend wheat league. Committees recommend continued use of Crested Wheat. 4-H calves for 1945 being fed.

Dec. 15. Wheat League program brings broad outlook to those who hear. General discussions held.

Dec. 22. Army engineer units move to Rufus, expect to practice bridging. County E bond quota doubled. Seal sale not up to 1943 so far.

Dec. 29. AAA elects community committeemen. Cold weather loosens grip as sun drives fog away. Total bond sales 217.4 percent of quota.

Robert vonBorstel Joins Navy Radar

Robert Carsten von Borstel of Grass Valley has been inducted into the U. S. Navy as a seaman first class, in the radar training program and has been sent to Great Lakes, Ill., for indoctrination.

Although of draft age, von Borstel was able to earn a directed letter of assignment into the Navy by passing the Eddy-test—the examination given to determine whether a person is qualified for radar training—and also to be enrolled as S I-c, which is two steps above the rating at which a recruit ordinarily begins.

Following "boot" training at Great Lakes von Borstel will go to one of the nation's leading universities for primary radar training. Following this course he will be sent to another school for advanced study, during which he will have opportunity to earn a petty officer rating.

Anson Woods Wed! Fifty Years

Mr and Mrs Anson B. Woods celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary on New Year's day. A small group of friends called during the afternoon and early evening to share the day quietly with the couple.

Mrs Woods, the former Eliza A. McDonald, is a native of Canada. Her husband was born in Iowa.

They were united in marriage at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. E. A. Dudley at Athena by the Rev. William Pruetz, on New Year's day 1895. The couple first lived in Sherman county, Oregon, for a time, later moving to a farm near Weston, Oregon. In 1910 they went to Walla Walla, Washington, where they have since resided.

They have one daughter, Mrs. James E. Kuhns of Weston, who with her husband attended the anniversary observance, and one grandson, James Anson Kuhns of the U.S. Navy.

Mr and Mrs Woods are affiliated with the Baptist church. Ill health of the latter prevented a more extensive celebration.