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About Government,
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with especial emphasis
on the Northwest

Agricultural Committee To Hold Meetings

Topics on Recent and
Future Developments
Will Be Discussed

County agricultural planning committees throughout the state of Oregon will hold meetings in January and February to consider recent agricultural developments and future prospects, announces W. L. Teutsch, assistant director of extension at OSC. In general, counties west of the Cascades will hold their meetings in January, while those east of the mountains are scheduling theirs for February.

The four-fold purpose of these sessions will be to discuss recent trends in agricultural production in the state and in each county, to consider latest outlook information, to hear the first report of the newly formed county veterans agricultural advisory committee, and to consider the possibility of county economic conferences after the war ends.

Meeting with the central committee in each case will be the sub-committees on land use, livestock, crops, farm home and rural life, farm labor, and veterans agricultural advisory. Representatives from agencies on the county war board, the county home economics extension committee, and the 4-H club leaders association, as well as all county Smith-Hughes agricultural instructors, will also be invited.

Statistics on farm production and marketing in each county have been brought up to date by the OSC extension service and will be shown in chart form to indicate the changes that have occurred since 1926.

Farmers Meet at Corvallis

Farmer committeemen representing all Oregon counties will assemble at Corvallis January 18-20 for the state conference of AAA county committeemen, R. B. Taylor of Adams, chairman of the state AAA committee, has announced. This is the first such state meeting since the war.

The committeemen will devise operating plans for the 1945 conservation practice and production goal programs, and will make recommendations for the 1946 programs. Also due for discussion are problems relating to price supports, rationing of equipment and supplies, and other assignments handled by AAA committees.

Farm Truck Sale To Be Made on New Basis

Recent changes in the procedure governing sale of surplus army trucks by the Treasury Procurement division are called to the attention of Oregon farmers by the state AAA committee. All trucks sales will be made on an informal bid basis, and no more negotiated sales will be made according to the revised regulations. The sales are similar to auctions, except that the bids are written and each prospective buyer make only one bid on any one truck, but may bid on as many trucks as he desires.

Under the truck program, AAA committees issue letters of recommendation to users seeking trucks who are contributing to the war food program. In case of the bids, authorized dealers buying for resale to users holding these letters are given preference.

More than ten million dimes contributed by the American people was spent by the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis in 1944 to provide the best of modern care and treatment for all victims of the epidemic.

Sends Penicillin to Italy



Penicillium notatum molds are inspected and crated at St. John's university, Brooklyn, N. Y., preparatory to shipment to the U. S. medical corps in Italy. From this mold pure penicillin will be developed and extracted by our medical corps for the treatment of the war wounded on the various European fronts.

Traffic Death Toll Up Ten Per Cent

Oregon traffic fatalities during the first ten months of 1944 totaled 209, which is an increase of about ten percent over the toll of 189 deaths for the same period of 1943, Secretary of State Bob Farrell reported today.

The month of October saw a slight increase in fatalities with 21 this year, compared to 19 for October of 1943.

The dark spot in the traffic accident picture this year is motor vehicle-train accidents at grade crossings, Farrell said. To date, there have been 22 persons killed in these accidents, four of them during the month of October. This far exceeds the toll of six killed during the year 1943 and is 37 percent greater than the toll for the year with the highest number of grade crossing deaths previously, 1940 with 16 killed.

Traffic accidents in Oregon claimed a toll of 22 lives during the month of November according to Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell, who said this was three more deaths than were reported in the same month last year.

"This slight increase indicates there is a greater danger of accidents this year, despite the common supposition that danger has lessened, due to wartime restrictions on the use of motor vehicles," Farrell said.

Of the 22 fatalities in November, six were pedestrians, seven were killed in two-car collisions, one died in a motor vehicle-train accident; two in fixed-object collisions and six in non-collision accidents.

Seventy-one percent of the traffic fatalities reported in Oregon during the month of November occurred in rural areas of the state, Secretary of State Farrell reported today. There were 21 persons killed in traffic during the month, and 15 died in rural accidents.

The traffic death toll for the month was ten percent higher than for November of 1943 when 19 persons were killed.

During November, there was a total of 3,105 traffic accidents, compared to 2,932 in November of 1943. This brings the total for the first eleven months to 27,600 accidents, compared to 27,984 during the same period of 1943.

For the first eleven months of the year, there were 215 traffic fatalities in the state, an increase of about three percent over the toll of 208 deaths for the same period a year ago.

Railroad crossing fatalities, the dark spot in the traffic picture this year, total 23 for the first eleven months, compared to only five for the same period of 1943. This is an increase of 360 percent.

In Other Days

From the Observer, Jan. 19, 1906
By grace of the Ry company Moro received a carload of coal and a carload of wood last week. J. R. Kaseberg has invested in ten sections of Texas wheat land. He returned from the lone star state last week.

C. B. Bagley the Sherman county plasterer, put the finishing touches on the interior of the new Gordon Bank in Moro this week.

The Sherman county mutual telephone association have combined with all others in the county, north and south, and are connected with the long distance system, doing what should have been done in the start, using the I. d. transmitters and receivers, with one central station in Moro.

From the Observer, Jan. 21, 1915
Born to Mr and Mrs A. Macna's at their home near Rufus, January 18th a 12 pound boy. Mother and son doing nicely.

Reports of grain in Sherman county fields being frozen out are coming to this office, but how much damage the cold weather has caused is yet a problem.

Chas. Davis, the Moro plumber, is trying to satisfy patrons by doing "ten men's work at one and the same time. A roll call shows nearly every place in Moro with frozen pipes.

Accumulated soot and gas in the stove pipe leading from the heating stove to the flue at the L. Barnum residence caused an explosion the first of the week that threatened the destruction of the residence.

From the Observer, Jan. 22, 1926
Saturday night at 7:30 the Grass Valley and Bend basketball teams will contest for honors at Grass Valley.

Moro basketball town team staged a game last Friday at Wasco with the town team at that place, resulting in a score of 14-12 in favor of Wasco.

The third Old Fashioned dance to be given this season will be at Grass Valley auditorium on Friday, February 5th. It will be an all night dance; music by a Sherman county orchestra; prizes given for the two best lady and gentlemen.

A meeting of the Moro Community club has been called to meet at Hotel Moro next Tuesday evening for the purpose of arranging details for entertainment of the 400 delegates that it is estimated will be in attendance at the state wheat conference to be held at Moro on February 11, 12, and 13.

Mrs. J. K. McKean was honored with a shower given Friday evening by Mrs. Roscoe Moore and Mrs. Karl Landstrom at the Moore residence.

Eastern Star Chapter Installs New Officers

New officers of the Eastern Star were installed by Mrs Ruth Sparling assisted by Mrs Norma Balsiger and Mrs Alice Powell. Helen Sayrs was musician.

The list included: Mrs Rose Amidon WM; Harry Pinkerton WP; Asso. M Helen Ruggles; Asso. P. Walter Ruggles; Conductress Genevieve Powell; Asso. Conductress Pauline Douma; Sec. Ruth Sparling; Treas. Ethel Strong; Chaplain Edith Burnett; Marshal Alice Powell; Organist Nina Pinkerton; Adah, Betty Thompson; Ruth, Vera Jean Campbell; Ethel, Norma Cushing; Martha, Norma Balsiger; Electa, Elsie Jones; Warder, Edna Melzer; Sentinel, Vern Belknap.

The chapter was hostess for the evening to the members of the Masonic lodge with dinner served at 6:30. Tom Fraser sang, "Trees" William Clothier and Marion Crews played a piano duet. A candle light service was conducted by the outgoing matron, Alice Ornduff, in honor of the new matron and patron.

Radio's New Chief



Paul Porter, above, publicity chairman for the Democratic national committee during the recent campaign, has been given an interim appointment by President Roosevelt, as chairman of the Federal Communications commission.

Legislature Has Big Job Ahead

Many Important Bills and
Resolutions to be Discussed
Following Early Sessions

Not a great deal has been done during this session but the lines are being drawn that will determine what will be done. Like many another legislature composed of men of conservative and cautious background, this one may do some things that are neither. Labor, apparently thinks so, for a little Wagner act has been introduced which, if enacted, would further bind employees to their unions and further bind employers to the hard hand of bureaucracy. Mebbe so, mebbe not, if a lawyer can never tell what a jury will do neither can a citizen tell what a legislature will do. But if a guess might be made, the little Wagner act will undergo considerable change from the ideal of the unions before it becomes a law.

The bill or rather, resolution, that made most of the news the first week of the session is now taking a little rest. It is the resolution that would create an investigating committee to peer into the deep dark secrets of the state's liquor deal. The senate, by a purely partisan vote, gave its OK to the measure. In the house it went to the alcoholic control committee where it can be examined thoroughly and where the heat of its sudden passage into the headlines can be slowly dissipated. There will be time for cold, calm action on it later.

Some education bills have been introduced already and there is talk of others. One bill would change the term of a school clerk to three years, one would create some new words of enforcement for the physical education part of the public schools and spike those words with a smattering of \$26,000. Another would put a minimum on the number of pupils that may create a high school. Bills on the same subject providing more state school money under different terms are expected. There are many divergent interests on all school bills, the teachers with their OSTA lobby, the city superintendents, the county superintendents, the labor unions, the persons who always seem to want some special attachment applied to the school system and last the pupils themselves who are most concerned and who never appear.

Members seem older than the average of other sessions, tired, and less spontaneous. Perhaps the war weighs on them, and war time living and the work all are doing, slows them up and causes greater pre-occupation with other affairs than the so-far only mildly interesting bills of early sessions.

Wasco Items of Interest

The Standardbearers held a meeting and pot luck dinner Tuesday night.

A farewell party for Pinky Nisbit was given by the Standardbearers and Choir boys Tuesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kassberg and daughter, Janet, were dinner guests at the Mr. and Mrs. Everett Watkins home.

Tom Striker is ill at the Mid-Columbia hospital.

Misses Shirley and Betty Juhnke spent the week end with their grandmother, Mrs. Tom Striker.

A basketball game between Wasco and Rufus high school was played in the Rufus gym. The Wasco boys won by a 6-point margin, the final score being 19 to 13. Miss LaVerne Calkins has been on the sick list.

John Robinson is ill in The Dalles hospital.

Miss Dorothy Patey was a week end guest of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Walker in The Dalles.

Mrs. W. R. Reid made a business trip to Portland Tuesday.

Rationing Lifted on Passenger Car Used Tires

The few remaining used passenger car tires still in the hands of dealers were removed from rationing Wednesday. McDannell Brown, district OPA director, announced today, because of their poor quality and spotty distribution.

Many certificate holders were unable to locate suitable used tires. Brown explained, so that rationing of used tires had ceased to serve any valuable purpose and had become an unnecessary burden on local boards.

Because of this, and because most of the used tires still available need repairs and recaps to make them serviceable, it was decided to remove them from ration controls.

Buy Tickets Now for Infantile Paralysis Ball

The Infantile Paralysis Ball which is held annually to raise funds for the treatment and prevention of Infantile Paralysis, will be held January 27th. at the Moro Legion Hall. Mrs. Lawrence Kenny is chairman. Tickets will be on sale at McMillan's, Wasco Bakery and Jack Wilson in Wasco. In Moro tickets are available at Douma's and May's store and Bucholtz Confectionery, or from Ed Alley and C. M. Clevenger in Grass Valley. Participation in the annual March of Dimes appeal is assurance that no victim of infantile paralysis will go unaided for, regardless of age, race, creed or color.

RUFUS TO FURNISH COOKIES FOR CAMP THIS WEEK

The ladies of Rufus will furnish cookies for the boys at Camp Rufus this week. Cookies should be left at Mathieson's store not later than 3:30 p. m. Saturday, Jan. 20th. Grass Valley and Kent furnished 25 dozen cookies for the camp last week.

PECEIVES WORD FROM SON IN BELGIUM

Mrs. Mollie McLachlan has received word from her son, Wendell that he is in Belgium and feeling fine. He was unable to write any particulars, but speaks of being home in 1945. Wendell is with the 3rd Armored Force and has seen plenty of action.

MASONS INSTALL OFFICERS

Officers installed for the Masons were: Chas. Ruggles, WM; LeRoy Wright, SW; E. E. Barzee, JW; C. Sparling Treas.; W. D. Wallan, Sec.; Irving Hart, S. Deacon; Gen. Lockett JD; Harry Pinkerton chaplain; Martin Melzer Sen. Steward; Merle Becker Ass't. Steward; Donald Martin, Tyler.

Unemployment at Low Ebb This Winter

With mid-winter unemployment at its lowest ebb after three years of war, the Oregon Unemployment Compensation Commission has started taking claims for the 1945 benefit year.

Judging from benefits paid during the past few months, only a few hundred initial claims are expected before January 1, 1945, which starts the first compensable week. The two waiting weeks may be served in 1944 if unemployment continues into the new year.

Claims are handled in 22 regular U.S.E.S. local offices and in other places by mail or itinerant services. In places where workers are not able to file claims with representatives of the commission they should write a note to the central office in Salem for directions for filing by mail.

Last year only 707 initial claims for 1944 were filed in December, as compared with nearly 15,000 for December, 1940.

Farmers to Have Necessary Lumber Supply

Although increased military demands have necessitated tightened War Production board controls on lumber distribution for civilian use, adequate supplies are expected to be available for maintenance and repair of farm buildings and for new farm construction essential to production, reports Robert B. Taylor, chairman of the state AAA committee.

Oregon has been allocated 5,309,000 board feet of lumber for distribution to farmers on AA-2 and AA-3 preference rating certificates in the first three months of 1945. The certificates are issued by county AAA committees for construction that will contribute to increased production of needed farm commodities. Among the permitted uses are repairs to farm dwellings costing less than \$200, and replacement of farm buildings destroyed by fire.

In issuing the certificates for lumber Taylor pointed out, county committees give consideration to whether the use of the proposed construction is consistent with farm production goals. Since Oregon's 1945 poultry goals generally call for holding production at the 1944 level, construction of additional poultry facilities in many cases would be considered unsound expansion.

In 1944, 6797 farm lumber certificates for a total of 6 1-2 million board feet of lumber went issued by county committees in Oregon.