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A column of news

About Government, Politics and People

with especial emphasis

on the Northwest

Washington, D. C., Feb. 1.

Payment of government subsidies has become so common a practice as an incentive to war production that it is the first recourse of any member of congress when he desires to establish or encourage an industry in his district. The latest claimant for this form of federal benefaction is Representative Poage of Texas, who insists upon preserving the guayule plant as a source of rubber even after experiments have demonstrated that it cannot compete with either other natural rubber or the synthetic product now being generally used in the United States. It costs about 21 a pound to manufacture rubber from guayule, but it is asserted that better milling methods and lower post-war labor cost would permit the industry to survive if the government pays subsidy of 28 cents a pound. Such a subsidy would be more than the price of natural rubber in normal times and more than the present cost of producing synthetic rubber.

All the guayule harvested last year was grown in California, but Mr. Poage wants 400,000 acres of Texas land put on a producing basis, hence his demand for a subsidy. In 1944 only one mill produced guayule rubber but another has been built and together they have a potential capacity of 600 tons of refined rubber. The government has spent many millions of dollars on the experiment and the men in charge are not enthusiastic about continuing it.

There may be a question as to whether the people profit in the long run from the payment of government subsidies, but there is none as to the initial cost or the source from which the money comes. It all comes from taxes and the total spent in this manner in recent years is enormous. No one is in position to say exactly how much has been paid out in subsidies because they come from different agencies. War food administration, for one, has paid out more than one billion dollars in subsidies to producers, processors and dealers: RFC has paid out more than half that sum in roll-backs on meat, butter and flour; Commodity Credit corporation has been a generous spender on subsidies. Subsidies have been paid to farmers, to millers, to meat packers, to air lines, to certain industries and to many others. It may be doubted whether the public will ever know how much of its tax money has been spent in the payment of subsidies, or whether the people have gained or lost in the operation.

Comes this report from a farmer in the Willamette valley in Oregon: His farm work at this season does not occupy all his time and he can do a little side work. A plant in town is making a certain article for the government which must be painted. The farmer is an old-time painter and he agreed to do the job. First, however, he was directed to the employment service for clearance. USES told him to go to the painters union and procure a clearance before he could go to work. Women in the plant do not have to join a union, but since the farmer was compelled to pay, an organizer has entered the plant and is endeavoring to force all the women to pay union dues.

Triple A has bought tons of Austrian peas from growers in Washington and Oregon. What will become of the seeds is not known, but lend-lease offered to take every pound off the hands of AAAat the price paid and ship the peas to Russia. The Russians were in the market for all the seeds they could acquire in the United States. Triple A refused to sell its stockpile to lend-lease administration to relieve the Russian situation. All Triple A would dispose of was only a fraction of the stored up holdings of that agency and whether the bulk of the stockpile is being held for domestic needs or for other purposes is not disclosed.

MARCH OF DIMES IN SHERMAN CO. SUCCESSFUL

Facts prove that participation in the March of Dimes was worth while. Scores of rehabilitated Oregon polio patients are now serving their country in the armed forces and as nurses because of therapy treatment made possible by hundreds of Sherman county contributions to fight infantile paralysis.

Mrs. Zella Kenney, Moro, chairman of the women's division of Sherman county, emphasized that the success of this county's drive was made possible by efforts of volunteer workers, newspapers and radio, and the whole-hearted support of interested residents.

Oregon Women's Clubs Propose New Legislation

Mrs. Louis Scholl of Wasco, who is state chairman of Bible Study of the Oregon Federation of Women's clubs, attended a meeting in Portland recently.

The group went on record as favoring a program of intelligent care and treatment for victims of alcoholism. Free tuition for Pan-American girl students in Oregon institutions of higher education as a means of creating better relations between our countries, were recommended. The state legislature will be petitioned on this point.

Discussion of methods and rules in state training schools led to recommendations for changes in some instances.

—The Dalles Chronicle

Mrs. Fred Krusow Buried Thursday

Friends were saddened this week by the news of the death of Mrs. Fred Krusow of Grass Valley, who passed away early Tuesday morning. She was at The Dalles hospital where she had been taken after suffering a broken hip.

Funeral services were held at the Grass Valley Methodist church Thursday afternoon in charge of Rev. James D. Moberg of Moro. Interment was in the Oddfellow cemetery at Grass Valey.

Agnes Scott was born at Port Elgin, New Brunswick, Canada, June 2, 1859, and died at The Dalles, Oregon, January 30, 1945.

She was married at Cambridge, Mass., in 1898 to Fred Krusow and with him she came to Sherman county where she had since resided. She was a member of the Presbyterian church.

Besides her husband, she leaves an adopted son, Stanley; a brother, John Scott, in Canada; a nephew, Walter Swartz, in The Dalles, and two grandchildren.

Farm Census Is Now in Progress

The enumerators for the 1945 farm census began their house-to-house canvass of the various Sherman county communities Monday. They will collect information on farm equipment, crop production and plans.

R. L. Ackerman of Klamath Falls is supervisor of the census for this district. Local enumerators are Helena N. Weight, Moro community and Monkland; E. M. Eslinger, Grass Valley community; Gordon N. Harper, Locust Grove, Wasco and Klondike; Hugh A. Walker, Rufus; and J. H. Wilson, Rutledge and Kent.

Moro Women To Furnish Cookies

Moro community will furnish cookies for Camp Rufus this week. They will be picked up at Douma's Grocery at 11:30 a. m. Saturday. Last week Wasco community contributed 283 dozen cookies to the camp.

The annual sale of Christmas seals in Gilliam county totaled $596.

A. S. Johnson Is Head of Farm Loan Association

A. S. Johnson of Wasco has begn selected to head the new enlarged national farm loan association which has been formed by the consolidation of three similar organizations in this district. George N. McDonald of Moro is vice president and Victor G. Peterson is secretary-treasurer of the consolidated association which will have headquarters at The Dalles. Other members of the cooperative's board of directors are C. A. Nist of Mikkalo, Warren Stanley of Dufur and Wm. D. Ketchum of The Dalles.

Consolidation of the acounts of these associations will bring to more than 260 the number of farmer-borrowers served by the larger organization, and the combined loan volume will exceed $1,702,950, according to Mr. Peterson. The payment to thousands of dollars in cash settlement for association stock held by former borrowers who have paid off their loans, and rehabilitation of the association capital structure will result from the consolidation.

"This consolidation and rehabilitation program, which strengthens the farmer-owned and farmer-controlled mortgage credit system in this and other districts of the Pacific Northwest, is made posible through operating economies of the Federal Land Bank of Spokane," said Mr. Peterson. "Savings which resulted from these economies and from the use of government funds in previous years are being passed on to farmer-borrowers as part of the cooperative function of the bank.

"These savings have permitted the Spokan Federal Land bank to set the pace for long-time interest rates at 4 percent on all regular loans made through national farm loan associations. A 10 percent dividend to all associations was declared on September 30, 1944. Through this new program and through other operating economies and sound business practice, the bank contemplates going on a permanent dividend-paying basis. As a result of this dividend a 5 percent dividend was declared as of the same date by the Wasco-Sherman association of The Dalles and the dividend checks will be distributed in the next week.

Deputy To Assist with Federal Income Tax Returns

Residents of this county will be given assistance in the preparation of their 1944 federal income tax returns during the first part of February by a deputy from the office of the collector of internal revenue in Portland. The deputy will be at Moro February 7 to 9, and at Wasco February 10.

Condon community sent more than 200 boxes to service men for Christmas at an expense of $124 for the overseas packages and $63 for those to boys in camps in this country.

New Construction in Pacific

(U. S. Marine Corps Photos)

Built by natives from native materials are the commanding officer's residence (top photo) and the enlisted men's clubhouse (below) at a U. S. Naval air station in the Marshall Islands. Timber is taken from scrub trees; roofs and walls are thatched in the true native style. The building projects provide a livelihood for the impoverished native population, whose fishing boats and equipment were confiscated by the Japanese and whose coconut trees were destroyed during the American assaults to capture the Marshalls.

First Heavy Snow Falls During Week

Snow at last! A snowfall of seven inches on Tuesday night followed by flurries Wednesday and another heavy fall Thursday is being universally acclaimed as "very good for the country." While there is some frost in the ground, it is thought it will not prevent the absorbtion of considerable moisture from the snow.

Busses and mail were delayed by snow and some trouble was encountered in the operation of cars. State highway snowplows got into action Wednesday enabling traffic to keep moving.

The storm condition, which was general east of the mountains, was not accompanied by any low temperature.

Movie Show Starts 6-Day Schedule

A doubling of the number of shows to be presented each week at the Grass Valley Theatre has just been announced by Manager L. T. Hanson. Beginning next week, regular double feature shows will be scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday in addition to continuing the present Friday, Saturday and Sunday showings.

As the first attraction on the new schedule, Mr. Hanson has secured the popular film "Make Your Own Bet" which has been dated for February 6, 7 and 8.

The Grass Valley theatre has been having good attendance and the addition of three more showings a week will doubtless meet with favor.

Committees To Put Controversial Bills Out Soon

Hope that much of the important legislation will get out of committee is based upon hope and little else. Little if any of the important bills have even been seriously discussed in committee so far. Yet to come is the county manager bill, promised for introduction Monday, the three way insurance bill due this week, the unemployment compensation bills and others that pack a good charge of political dynamite are still a-borning.

School finance bills are still resting in the taxation and revenue committee in the house except those in the education committee where they are to receive preliminary discussion before going over to taxation. The bill for equalization of school taxes within counties is still being given the once-over by attorneys. There seems to be surprisingly little opposition to it amng those who note its provisions, but some legal tangles remain.

Hearings on the big truck bills and the freeway bill have been held in the senate and have brought out good crowds. General opinion seems to be that the big trucks will be given a two year lease on life and that the freeway bill (to give the highway commission permission to build airstrips along highways) will be killed very, very dead. That is prophecy and valuable only as such.

Sparling Named Director

Clarence Sparling of Moro was one of the two directors elected by stockholders of the Mid-Columbia Production Credit association, at their 11th annual meeting held Saturday says The Dalles Chronicle. The other was R. E. Irby of Olex. More than 175 members and friends attended the meeting. Reports on the year's operations were given by Riddell Lage of Hood River, for the board, and Roscoe Roberts, acting secretary-treasurer. Roberts' report revealed that the association lent $871,000 during 1944, and ended the year with a profit of $5,900. At a directors' meeting, W. R. Bailey was elected president; Riddell Lage, vice-president; Roscoe Roberts, acting secretary-treasurer, and Miss Lilian La Voie, assistant secretary-treasurer. Paul Davenport of Goldendale is the fifth member of the association's board of directors.

AMERICANA

by ERIC GODAL

ARLINGTON AND MAUPIN GAMES FEBRUARY 2 AND 9

The Moro basketball team was defeated by Fossil Friday night at Grass Valley. The score at the end was 31-24. Saturday night they played Condon two games and were victorious in both. The second team won 31-13 and the first team won 31-27.

The Huskies defeated Wasco Tuesday night in two games on the Moro floor. The second team won their game 38-10 and the first team was victorious by the high score of 44-16.

Next week the Huskies will play Arlington and Maupin on February 2nd and the 9th, respectively.

Women Will Continue Fight Against Polio

Sherman county's women's division, headed by Mrs. Zella Kenney, Moro, has merely begun its 1945 fight against infantile paralysis, although the annual fund-raising appeal for the March of Dimes officially ended Wednesday.

Throughout the year Sherman county women will continue their volunteer efforts in the fight against polio, one of the essential services of this county's health program.

An acute epidemic of polio did not strike in Oregon last year, but throughout the nation the toll of victims and intensity of attack was second only to the terrible outbreak of 1916. If it were not for the dimes and dollars contributed by the people in previous appeals of the National Foundation, thousands of children who are now recovered from infantile paralysis might still be disabled.

There were no cases of polio in Sherman county in 1943. Some 337 cases, with 29 deaths, were reported in Oregon during the first eleven months of last year.

"Through its county chapters, the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis is providing whatever care is necessary to restore to polio victims their maximum physical independence, within the limits of present-day knowledge of the treatment for this disease," declared Mrs. Kenney.

Geo. Williams Died Monday in Portland

Funeral serviecs will be held in Portland Saturday for George A. Williams, long time resident of Moro, who passed away in a hospital there Monday morning. Members of the family living in Moro left the first of the week for Portland. Mr. Williams was born December 30, 1863, and was 81 years old at the time of his death. He was the father of ten children, 24 grandchildren and two great grandchildren. The family had lived in the Moro community for many years.

Besides his widow, Mrs. Annie Williams, the seven sons and three daughter who survive are Hubert A., Portland; George L., Cesaford, Alberta; Oliver H. C., Vancouver, B. C.; Walter H., and Travers H., Portland; Mrs. Mamie Mitchell, Canby; Alfred W. R., Kalispell, Mont.; Mrs. Sadie Dunlap, Eugene; Mrs. Flora Conlee and Donald J., of Moro.

Funeral services will be at the Conservatory chapel S. E. Sixth and Alder, and interment will be in Rose City cemetery.

'DESTINATION TOKYO' OPENS FRIDAY AT GRASS VALLEY THEATRE

"Destination Tokyo," based on our Navy's submarine warfare in Pacific waters, will be the new attraction at the Theatre starting Friday. The new Warner Bros. film stars Cary Grant and John Garfield and features Robert Hutton, Warner Anderson and Dane Clark, young newcomers who scored in "Action in the North Atlantic." Others in the cast include John Ridgely, Alan Hale and William Prince.

"Destination Tokyo" was directed by Delmer Daves, from an original story by Steve Fisher.

Legislature Hears Many Demands For 'Big' Money

It doesn't seem to matter how cheerful are the statements about the state's financial position at the end of the year, after the legislature has been in session a few weeks there is worry about how the bills are to be met. The caution of the members of the ways and means committee may engender this feeling, as most of them part with no nickel gracefully.

Be that as it may, this state which has been giving money back to the taxpayers in million dollar chunks, may be so pinched for money it cannot do the things its legislators want it to. Probably that it a good thing.

There are huge demands. First there is the matter of salaries of state employees. The state institutions are in the same fix as private employers inthat the help have been going to the shipyards for better pay. Those remaining have been getting higher pay than the old budget permitted because there are fewer of them and the board of control has equalized it so as to keep some of them.

Deparment heads have been awaiting the session to try to get more salaries. They don't want to quit and leave Salem, but the state's top in many departments is $325 per month and most of these men could double that figure in these times.

The building program needs must have a big appropriation but it is not so pressing as the others for nothing can be done about it right away whether the money is set aside or not. A good part of this money has been returned to the general fund from older bonds anyway.

The demand of schools and other agencies for more money is strong but it is doubtful if the state will pass any of the state functions to give additional money to the schools, especially in view of the defeat of the school bill last November. Some funds may be available, but not any that are seriously needed for regular state activities.

FARM CONTRACTORS PRICES NOW UNDER CEILINGS

Effective immediately, independent contractors of farm services in this area may have their prices set by the San Francisco regional Office of Price Administration, instead of by the national office of OPA, Charles R. Baird, regional administrator, announced today.

OPA's authority to set ceiling prices on farm services performed by independent contractors is applicable only in cases where the War Food Administration establishes maximum wage rates for farm workers, Baird emphasized.

20 Years ago

1925 — 1945

Dog teams, running in relays through a heavy blizzard and temperatures [illegible] brought the last [illegible] of serum to Nome, where diphtheria threatened the town. Alaska's 655 miles away. The trip was made in 5½ days, record time. Balto, lead dog on the final team, credited with keeping the team [illegible] hailed as Alaska's No. 1 hero.

Rescue parties, after 57 days of vain effort to extricate Floyd Collins, trapped by a slide in Sand Cave, Kentucky, reached the cave explorer too late by 21 hours to save his life.

Insanity from alcoholism had more than tripled in the first year of prohibition in New York State, according to a report of the State Hospital Commission. Other cases of alcoholic insanity admitted to institutions in 1920, were [illegible], compared to 131 in 1916.

The American secretary [illegible] has been carried out [illegible] under terms of the naval disarmament agreement. Vessels disposed of totaled 722,540 tons and cost $127,416,836, Secretary of the Navy Curtis D. Wilbur reporting.