

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

Hopes are rising again in this national city with the prospect of an early termination of the war in Europe, but not in the Pacific. The address of Premier Winston Churchill in which he predicted that the war would end soon, and possibly sooner than expected, has acted like a shot in the arm upon the officials here. That Churchill made a bad guess last year (as did a dozen of the top-flight U.S. officials when they predicted the end of the war with Germany last October) is not held against him. He is believed to have better information now than he had then. For some reason, Churchill is regarded as a better prophet than anyone in this country. At any rate he does not hesitate to announce what he believes, what he expects the enemy to do, and he disregards the hush-hush policy of the United States, with everything from a dog displacing a soldier on an airplane to the whereabouts of the president listed as a "military secret."

It is a simple matter to find hundreds of local officials ready to lay a few dollars in a wager that the Germans will cave in by July. That appears to be the outside limit that the enemy can hold up, in popular opinion, but the Germans may again stage a stubborn resistance.

Winston Churchill renewed his promise that British might well join with the Americans in disposing of the Japanese. He once said that British troops were so weary that the ground soldiers would be brought back to England at the earliest moment. Speaking by the record, there are about three times as many American soldiers in Europe as there are British, although Churchill once said that if America would furnish the tools the British would do the rest.

Already Churchill is considering post-war plans, and he insists that free enterprise be given a chance and not be handicapped by the starry-eyed dreamers in England. This type of idealists is not limited to the United States, for Great Britain has them too—the dreamers who wish to abolish private enterprise and have the government take over industry. And Churchill recognizes that the conservative party in England will have a battle to win over the advocates of a new social order.

Congress is still angry at Commodities Credit Corp., and all the stories of mismanagement which have bobbed up in various parts of the country are being repeated in the Congressional Record. The evidence gives color to the charge that "advisory committees" to CCC knew in advance what was to be done and cleaned up with this private information. If the truth were known about CCC, several members of congress, Teapot dome would look like a molehill. Efforts are now being made to ascertain, if possible, whether there actually was crooked work in these information leaks. It has been admitted that two or three subordinates have been fired because of leaks.

The Pacific northwest knows ory committees, for some of these attempted to throttle industrial development in that area, not wishing the northwest as a business rival in the post-war period. The current undertaking to produce alcohol from sawdust by the establishing of a pilot plant was started only after certain big distillery interests in the east had been by-passed, and the aluminum from clay pilot plant was stymied until the plan was moved into a more healthy section of WPB.

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Women Present Skit At Club Meeting

A very interesting meeting of the Moro Woman's club was held last Friday afternoon under the direction of the Literature and Drama department.

A playlet "Pa's Seed Flats" was presented with the following ladies taking part: Mrs. Martin Meizer as "Pa", Mrs. Jennie Martin as "Ma", Norma Cushing as "Margie" and Florence Thompson as "Dick" the "boy friend".

Mrs. M. M. Oveson reviewed the book "Green Dolphin Street" by Elizabeth Goudge. An explanation of the "Pin Money Bond Plan" was given by Mrs. Frank von Borstel.

All joined in singing "America The Beautiful".

Hostesses were Mrs. Tom Fraser and Mrs. P. C. Axtell.

The next meeting will be April 6th at 2:30 p.m. with the Art department in charge. There will be talks and demonstrations on flower arrangements and hobbies.

Mrs. Dorothy P. Johnston and Mrs. W. B. Johnston with their collection of Bells and Buttons respectively are expected to be present.

Gifts, souvenirs or trophies from service men will also be welcome.

The Wasco clubs are cordially invited to attend the meeting.

Air Medal Given Christiansons

Presentation of the Air Medal and two Oak-leaf Clusters awarded to Lt. Robert K. Christianson, of Moro, Oregon was made to his father, Mr. A. B. Christianson, Moro, Oregon at a formal presentation ceremony held at the Portland Army Air Base lounge March 11, 1945. The presentation was made by Colonel S. B. Knowles, Jr., Commanding Officer of the Portland Army Air Base.

Lt. Christianson, who is now listed as missing in action was awarded the Air Medal and two Oak-leaf Clusters by direction of the President for meritorious achievement as bombardier while participating in sustained combat operational missions in the allied nations aerial offensive against the enemy. Flights were of a hazardous nature during which enemy opposition was met, or during which an area was traversed where enemy anti-aircraft fire was effective or where enemy fighter patrols were habitually encountered.

The citation accompanying the award read in part, "Lieutenant Christianson exhibited great courage and untiring energy; his services reflecting highest credit on the military forces of the United States."

Resume of Legislative Session Shows Several Bills Passed of Importance To 22nd District Taxpayers and Parents

The 43rd session of the Oregon legislature assembly ended last Saturday night in one of the most orderly manners within the memory of legislative old timers. The day had had its hectic moments in the senate which was hurrying to adjourn with the week, but in general it was a quiet ending.

The ending was in keeping with the spirit of the entire session, which was serious in the extreme and constantly weighted down with responsibilities of law making and the seriousness of the war. Usual last night festivities of bidding good-byes and celebrating successes or bemoaning sorrows were brief and quiet. Thus the session held to its serious—and rather slow—tendency until the very end.

Hailed as a very conservative group the members of the house and senate adopted several measures that have never been able to get through more liberal legislatures.

It passed a bill, after long controversy, that will cause all per-

Moisture Equals That of 1944 But Not Average

Tests May Show More Moisture Actually In Soil Because of Less Run-off

The supply of moisture available for the wheat crop this year is practically the same as it was at this time in 1944 according to records kept at the experiment station.

The crop year precipitation has been 7.03 to date. This is from September 1 to now. The normal for September 1 to April 1 is 8.72, considerably larger than the present supply, but a week remains in which to get more rainfall. Last year the total precipitation to April 1 was 6.86.

It is estimated by Mr. Oveson at the station that more rainfall is actually in the ground this year than last because there was less run off during the winter. Run-off was spotted over the county and this condition may not prevail everywhere.

Soil samples that will give a more accurate picture of soil moisture conditions will be available in a short time.

Rebekahs Hold Convention at Kent

The press committee of the annual Rebekah convention, Mrs. Mildred Norton, Mrs. Lola Barnett and Miss Myrtle Heiler, report the convention held in Kent March 13 was well attended by representatives from Moro, Grass Valley and Wasco.

The president of the assembly, Ethel Bailey of Roseburg was present with J. B. Bailey of Roseburg and Mrs. Elmina Douma of Wheeler. About 80 were served dinner by the American Legion Auxiliary.

Lupine and the Wasco lodge held a joint meeting and the Moro lodge conferred degrees on seven new members. The next convention will be held at Grass Valley when Mrs. Mayme Bayer will be chairman, Mrs. Florence Martin vice-chairman and Helen Alley secretary.

Clarence Sparling Quits Farming

Clarence Sparling has sold his lease and outfit to Ralph Eakin who has accordingly leased the Blaine Damon land formerly farmed by Sparling. In addition the land recently bought from Randall Fischer by Sparling will also be farmed by Eakin. No information is available as to future plans of the Sparlings.

Philippine Capital Set Afire



Fires that may continue for weeks have been set on Luzon Island. In the city of Manila, a large part of the city will be in ruins before the American forces can get the flames under control. Many of the Japs are still hiding in the city, setting new fires in various locations.

Farm Wages Under Scrutiny Of War Food

A meeting is to be held Thursday night, March 22, at which time Frank Squire of the War Food administration, will discuss with farmers the rulings that have been made about farm wages for previous and future years.

The 1942 law that established ceilings on farm labor was not operative in 1943, it is reported, because it was held unworkable. However, if farmers paid wages in 1944 greater than in 1943 they will be unable to deduct any part of such wages from income tax returns according to reports made in Moro this week.

Ceiling on farm wages is \$2400 per year, including all housing, food, garden or other additional compensation provided. It is felt locally that nearly every farmer who hire steady labor is in violation of the law for the year 1944 information about which is just now being given.

Farmers hiring harvest labor are also in probable violation because the ceiling for hourly wages is 85 cents.

BOY SCOUTS REVIVED

Reorganization of the boy scouts in the Moro community was assured when the Masonic lodge voted to sponsor the local troop. LeRoy Wright and M. G. Melzer have been named as a committee to cooperate with M. M. Oveson, former scoutmaster and others in completing the organization.

Carl Peetz Killed In Action In Germany

Notice that Staff Sergeant Carl Peetz had been killed in action in Germany where he was a member of the 76th division was received here by his aunt, Mrs. Carroll Sayre Thursday morning. The telegram stated that he had been killed March 7 in Germany.

Young Peetz, 24, son of the late Otto Peetz and Margaret Peetz, both Sherman county assessors, had graduated from the University of Oregon after finishing the local schools.

Chas. Montgomery Buried Tuesday

Funeral services for Charles L. Montgomery were held from the Moro community church Tuesday afternoon following his death from a heart attack in Portland Friday, March 16.

Mr. Montgomery was born in Illinois June 4, 1870 and had been a resident of Moro for many years until his removal to Portland about three years ago. He lived there with his niece Mrs. Ida Beyner. Other survivors are a brother, Homer of Jonesboro, Illinois and Curtis Tom and Mrs. Sarah Yocum of Rufus.

Services were in charge of the Odd Fellows lodge of which Mr. Montgomery had been a member for many years. Interment was made in the local cemetery.

Howard Conlee Wins Wings At Georgia Field

Howard M. Conlee, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lester Conlee, was awarded his silver wings at a ceremony at Moultrie, Georgia, March 17, which gave him a Second Lieutenant rating, eligible to fly single engine planes of advanced design.

Howard has already been overseas in the Mediterranean area for many months when the fighting was being done in North Africa. At that time he was side gunner on a bomber.

Lt. Conlee arrived here to visit his parents and friends Saturday night. He is on a short furlough.

Todd-Fritts Nuptials Observed Thursday

The marriage of Miss Vivian Fritts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Shelton Fritts and PFC Bill Todd, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Todd, took place at the home of the bride's parents at noon Thursday March 15.

Rev. Lloyd Anderson of The Dales read the double ring ceremony in the presence of immediate members of the family. Mrs. Orville Ruggles played the wedding music.

The bride wore a wedding dress of white satin and marquisette with finger tip veil, her flowers a corsage of a white rose and pink sweet peas. Miss Dorothy Coyle the bride's only attendant wore a powder blue taffeta and net frock with a corsage of pink carnations.

Mr. Arthur Schilling, brother in law of the bridegroom, acted as best man.

A buffet luncheon was served immediately following the ceremony. Among those present for the ceremony were Mr. and Mrs. Shelton Fritts and son, Doran, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Todd, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Schilling and children, Mrs. Orville Ruggles and Rev. and Mrs. Anderson and son of The Dales.

The bride is a teacher in the grade school at Grass Valley. PFC Todd is a Link Trainer instructor at Craig Field, Alabama.

Seventeen Year Olds Can Join Navy

To clear up confusion caused by the recent Army-Navy announcement that men between the ages of 18 and 20, inclusive, would be earmarked for infantry replacements by their selective service boards for the next three months Lt. Comdr. John F. Biehler, Navy recruiting officer in Oregon, emphasizes that the Navy still is accepting 17-year-old volunteers.

Hundreds of telephone calls have been received at the main recruiting station in Portland and at all the substations from 17-sters and their parents who misunderstood the Army-Navy announcement and were of the opinion that all Navy enlistments had been stopped.

"The joint service order affects only those in the 18, 19 and 20-year groups," Comdr. Biehler stated, "and therefore does not change the Navy's policy of accepting 17-year olds and men over 37 for voluntary enlistment."

Jocile Peters Married To Lloyd Belshe

The wedding of Miss Jocile Peters, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Peters of Moro and Sgt. Lloyd C. Belshe, son of Mrs. Alice Lavender also of Moro was held at the Methodist parsonage at Klamath Falls March 17 at 3 o'clock.

The bride is a graduate of Moro High school and has been working at the office of the county agent for several years. Sgt. Belshe is a veteran of the Pacific war and is now stationed at the hospital at Klamath Falls. Their home will probably be at Medford near Camp White where they expect to be transferred.

Wheat Shipment Starting; Bonus To Be Paid

Farmers Will Receive 3 cent Payment Promised Last Fall On Wheat Shipped

Efforts to arrange for shipping some of the wheat that is crowding the elevators of Sherman county have apparently been successful and the War Food Administration, which has taken over the duties of the Commodity Credit Corporation in such matters, will permit some shipment before the April 30 deadline and will permit the payment of the 3 cent bonus promised prior to the November election.

The total crop of the county was 3,055,928 bushels which was 25.3 bushels per acre. Of this wheat there now remains 740,000 bushels in the Sherman Co-op elevators, 800,000 bushels in the Moro Grain Growers elevators, 700,000 bushels in the Grass Valley Growers elevators and 64,000 bushels in the Eakin elevator.

After meetings held here permission to ship 209,720 from Grass Valley 239,680 from Moro, 284,320 from Wasco and 14,980 from the Eakin elevator was obtained and shipment will begin at once. Farmers will receive the 15 cent bonus promised less the costs of holding the wheat up to April 30. The bonus will then be 3.8 cents on the farms and slightly over 3 cents in the elevators.

Farmers whose wheat is not shipped now will receive the same bonus when shipment is permitted after the end of April. In addition to the above amounts 26,340 bushels will be shipped from farm storage.

The 16 year average of production in the county has been 2,793,572 bushels according to figures compiled during the discussions about immediate shipment. This is 19 bushels per acre.

Loans were made on 664,802 bushels in the Grass Valley district, 796,236 bushels in the Moro district and 947,101 in the Wasco territory and the greater part of them are made through the cooperative associations.

Boys Leave For First Examination

Harold Melzer and William Ray Archer left Wednesday for Portland to receive their pre-physical examination for the army. They were joined in the city by Robert Mitchell who will also be examined. Harold is the third son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Melzer to enter the service. Archer is a brother of Virgil Archer of Moro and Robert Mitchell is a son of Mr. and Mrs. William Mitchell, formerly of Kent.

Grass Valley Men Buy High Priced Cattle

Millard Eakin, owner of the Diamond Circle stock ranch at Grass Valley recently added to his fine herd of beef shorthorns two fine animals purchased at the shorthorn breeder's sale in Spokane. For one of these, a roan bull, Idaho Clipper Count, Mr. Eakin paid \$875, second highest price paid at the sale. The bull was outstanding in appearance and record. Only the grand champion of the show, a snow-white bull consigned by Sam Lang of Genesee, Idaho, brought a higher price, \$900.

In addition to this new head for his herd, Mr. Eakin purchased a heifer calf for \$325 and sold one animal that he had consigned to the sale.

L. K. Smith of Grass Valley paid top price for a female in the Hereford breeder's sale when he purchased the reserve champion, Lady Mark 24th, for \$2,350. This cow had been consigned by Herb Chandler of Baker, Oregon, whose bulls have been five times champions of the northwest show.