

Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Seventh Year No. 30

Moro, Oregon, Friday, June 7, 1945

Official County Paper

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

Veterans being released from service are discovering that the GI bill of rights is not all that it was cracked up to be. Proposals are now before congress for amendments which would make the measure more workable and more acceptable to the veterans. Men in the armed forces have understood that the federal government would guarantee loans for homes, farms, and business, and the bill so declares, but there is so much red tape involved that scarcely more than a handful of the veterans already discharged (in excess of 1,000,000) have obtained loans.

While the loans are guaranteed, the veterans are discovering that it is almost impossible to negotiate the loan. In the first place, the veteran must find some person or institution willing to make the loan, and if he succeeds in this a considerable amount of paper work must be done before the loan is approved for a guarantee by the veterans administration. Banks are as cautious in dealing with a veteran who has just returned from Europe or the South Pacific as they are in dealing with any stranger who walks in and says he would like to borrow money. The veteran's credit rating is looked up, and as many veterans have no credit rating since they were called into service before they had a job or were old enough to establish their credit, they are out of luck.

The veterans are discovering that if they are able to satisfy banking requirements they do not need the veterans administration to guarantee one-half of the loan they wish to negotiate. Of course, some of the blame for the mix-up can be laid at the door of the lending agencies, but even after the veteran has talked the veteran into being willing to make a loan there is still the question-naire of the veterans administration to satisfy, and that is another hurdle to overcome.

The loan feature of the GI bill carried an appeal when it was enacted by congress, but the actual mechanics of obtaining a loan and securing the guarantee of the government agency is developing many flaws. Congress, of course, is willing to remedy the situation as soon as it can figure out a fool-proof system, which the existing law most decidedly does not provide. Also, in the matter of priorities to obtain building materials, on which the veterans are supposed to be No. 1, the plan is not working out as expected—too many regulations.

Alarming statement as to probable exhaustion of oil reserves in the United States, current in the early days of the war, are refuted in a recent announcement by the petroleum institute of America which shows that these reserves are greater today than when hostilities began, and this despite the fact that a record total of 1,876,000,000 barrels of crude oil was drawn from the ground last year. The more favorable situation is due wholly to the activity of American oil companies in developing scientific methods and discovering new fields. While a greater supply than ever before was made available for war and civilian use, the year ended with a larger balance of oil reserves than when it began, amounting to a net gain of 389,000,000 barrels and with known oil reserves in the United States now at an estimated total of 20,463,231,000 barrels. Since new fields are seldom developed fully in their first year, it is probable that this estimate is below rather than above the actual figures, and that the reserve may

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All Is Not Fighting on Okinawa



There is work for young and old alike on Okinawa island and this young native (below) is proud to do his share. And an important task it is, lugging water to other natives near Kim. Upper left: Marine Clarence J. McFarland, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, amuses native boys as a basket porter. Horseplay of this type has won friends for the marines among the island folks. Upper right: No. 1 red points needed for this Okinawa pig killed by shellfire (it says here). Leathernecks are, Corp. F. E. Allen (left), Lake View, Ore., and Corp. Victor Howard, Philadelphia, Pa.

Locust Grove Electric Line Sold To REA

At a meeting held at Wasco Monday night, June 4, the members of the Locust Grove electric company sold out to the Wasco County Cooperative REA and ended one of the local disputes of several weeks standing. The vote was reported to be 8 to 3 with a two-thirds majority being necessary for a sale. Bids for the property were \$4300 from Pacific Power & Light company and \$5000 from the REA. At the end of the meeting the Pacific Power & Light company offered the REA an opportunity to hook onto the company's 22,900 volt line at any place in the county and use current. Payment would be made through the Bonneville pool. Saving in construction costs and speed in building throughout the county were given as arguments in favor of the plan.

Farm Slaughter Rules Retold

OPA's ruling of April 30 made regulations for farm slaughter of meat. Farmers are asked to learn about the order and comply with it. They are 1) asked to sell more animals on the hoof; 2) obtain a class 3 permit from the local OPA by person or by mail. For fall slaughtering the permit should be obtained by July 1. The permit limits the sale of dressed meat to the same amount as killed the same quarter in 1944; 3) farmers may market 400 pounds of meat by asking OPA; 4) charge no more than ceiling price and collect red points for meat sold or GIVEN AWAY; 5) destroy all red ration points when out of date.

Rural customers of farm slaughterers are asked: 1) pay no more than ceiling prices; 2) give red points for meat bought; 3) report violations.

SYBIL BELSHE UPPED

The promotion of WAC Sybil Fern Belshe, daughter of Mrs Hazel Belshe, Moro, Oregon to the grade of Corporal has been announced.

Corporal Belshe, who enlisted May 19, 1944, is a graduate of Oregon College of Education. Prior to her enlistment, she taught school in Portland, Oregon. At Key Field, Miss., Cpl. Belshe has been assigned to duty as a link trainer instructor, where she gives student flying officers training in instrument flying.

Free Bond Show At Grass Valley Announced

Sherman County will have a Bond Show. The Grass Valley Theater, through its manager, Estel Hartley, has arranged to show the picture "A Guy Named Joe" the evening of Monday, June 18 at 8:00 o'clock. As is usual.

As is usual with bond shows admission is to be by war bond. Because it is rather late in the present bond campaign, those who have bought a \$100 bond and who show the receipt for it will be admitted. Others will buy a bond as admission to the show. Otherwise the show is free.

It is desired that as many as possible see the show which is a complete show and not just one picture. It will continue until all have seen it, says Mr. Hartley.

SHERMAN COUNTY FIFTH

Sherman county's place in the paper gathering campaign is constantly getting farther from the top. The latest bulletin from the state salvage headquarters shows this county fifth with 58.1 pounds per capita. No shipments have been made since March when 14 tons were sent in.

Benton is first with 70.7 pounds, Marion second with 64.7; Clatsop third with 60.0; Wasco fourth with 59.3. None of them are so far ahead that Sherman county could not pass them with a good truck load of paper. Boys, there's a chance to make some spending money.

WHEAT LOANS UP

The War Food Administration has announced details of a commodity loan program to support the price of the 1945 crop wheat at a level reflecting 80 percent of parity, or a national range of approximately \$1.38 per bushel on a farm loan basis. Loan rates announced a year ago on the 1944 crop reflected a national average of about \$1.35 per bushel. If the parity price of wheat advances more than 1 cent a bushel before July 1, 1945, an adjustment will be made in the new loan rates.

MISSIONARIES COMING

The Women's Missionary society of Moro, has invited Mr and Mrs Ernest Moser, faculty members of Lewis & Clark College, former missionaries of Africa to take charge of the services at the Moro Community church Sunday June 10. They and their two young daughters will be present at Sunday school and church. There will be a potluck dinner at the close of the church service. An informal discussion will follow the dinner in the afternoon. Friends and members of the church and society are invited to attend at any time in the day.

IMPORTS BEAT EXPORTS

Overseas shipments of wheat from the United States and Canada during the first five years of this war have averaged 257 million bushels annually or 133 million bushels less than the annual average during World War I. Of the 390 million bushels average shipments during the last war, 242 million bushels were shipped from the United States and 159 million from Canada. During the present war, United States exports averaged only 34 million bushels while the overseas shipments from Canada averaged 223 million bushels. During the past two years, the United States has become a net importer of wheat. During the 1943-44 season, 136 million bushels of wheat were imported, mainly for feed while only 40 million bushels of wheat including flour, were exported. For the first nine months of this season, July, 1944 through March, 1945, 38,638,000 bushels of wheat were imported while 10,359,000 bushels were exported. During the same months, flour exports were equivalent to 19,597,000 bushels of wheat while flour imports were equivalent to only 180,000 bushels.

Road Program Agreed Upon By County Court

The county court accepted the State Highway Commission's proposal for construction of roads within this county at the Wednesday meeting and made possible construction as soon as money is available from the federal-state three year pool, and contracts let. The work includes 20.31 miles of Sherars grade, 18.76 miles of Cottorwood, 1.50 miles of Fulton canyon on the secondary system and 9.9 miles of Fulton canyon and 7.7 miles of the Rufus-Klowdike road on the county road system. The total is 58.17 miles that will be built within the next three years unless plans are changed.

The county inspected a bit of new equipment and asked that it be tried for ten days in the Cole gravel pit before final acceptance. It is a gravel loader that will be used to load gravel on trucks for spreading.

July of the non-election year is the only month in which the county court can make changes in election precincts. Therefore, if any election precincts want a change in size, or to discontinue a petition must be presented to the court in July.

The county budget meeting will be held next Friday, June 15 and final passage of the budget will be done at that time, as published or as amended.

Payment of bills and action upon other county business was done.

More Liberal For Construction Told

A new plan for the construction of rural electric lines has been announced by the PP&L company. It is based on the old program of 6 to one only it is now worked out to a more definite figure. For construction of a single phase line the charge will be 23 cents per month per hundred feet. For a three phase line the cost per month per hundred feet will be thirty five cents. It was reported that some lines are to be built at this rate.

PRICE CEILING RAISED

OPA announced an increase up to 3 1-8 cents per bushel in the wheat ceiling effective May 30. The adjustment covering all grades of wheat was made to guarantee parity prices to growers. The Agency also announced a reduction of 2 cents a bushel in discounts for "sample grade" wheat.

War Bonds Sell Slowly; Over Of Quota Unsold

About \$100,000 E Bonds Yet To Be Sold If County Reaches Quota

The official report of the Oregon War Finance committee as of June 4, Monday, shows that Sherman county purchasers have bought a total of \$99,822 in bonds. Of this sum \$87,732 are E bonds, or a little over a third of the quota of \$190,000. Other bonds are \$740 of F bonds, \$9000 of G, \$21,150 of C \$1000 of 2 1/2.

A week previous to the above report the county was credited with sales of \$72,172 of which \$61,282 was in E bonds. Sale of \$20,000 in C bonds boosted the total during the week. During the week the county's purchases of E bonds was \$6,450. With not more than three weeks yet to go a continuation of like purchases would give the county about a half of the quota.

Salesmen Working

Sales are being made in some sections as salesmen go into the field to find customers and they are finding no more sales resistance than usual although there is some inclination to restrict the size of purchases despite the intensity of the war on Okinawa.

Total sales at Wasco since the start of the drive have been \$19,612.50 up to Wednesday night. Additional sales were made at Moro this week that are not recorded in the official total but the most optimistic estimate shows that the county has \$100,000 to go to reach its goal.

Mrs Ida Strong Buried In Eugene

Ida Miller Strong of Eugene died at her home June 1. She was born at Neosho, Kansas on September 21, 1867 and moved to Oregon in 1888. She married Horace W. Strong at Moro, Oregon, on June 6, 1892. She lived near Moro for almost 30 years before going to Eugene in 1919. Mr. Strong died in 1934.

Surviving are a son, Truman, of Moro, two daughters, Mrs Ted Ball of Grass Valley and Mrs Harold Potter of Eugene, four grand children and two great grand children.

Funeral services were conducted from the Poole-Larsen chapel on Saturday, June 2, at 3:30 p.m. Rev. L. O. Griffith officiated and interment was in the family plot up in the Rest Haven memorial park, Eugene.

Paralysis Group To Meet With State Officer

Eugene W. Hall, representative of the Infantile Paralysis board in Oregon, will be at the court house Thursday night, June 14, at 7:30 announced A. A. Dunlap of Grass Valley chairman of the Sherman county infantile paralysis campaign. A meeting will be held with the members of the local board and all others interested in the work are invited to come said Mr. Dunlap.

More Hogs Needed For Nations' Food

Maximum breeding of available breed sows by these Oregon growers already in the hog business and prepared to grow hogs economically is suggested by agricultural officials as the best method for attaining an increased goal for fall farrowings as set by the state AAA committee.

The committee set the state goal at 22,000 sows to farrow this fall, which is in line with a national goal of approximately 5 3-4 million sows, which would provide a fall pig crop of approximately 37 million head. The Oregon goal of 22,000 sows bred compares with 18,000 sows that farrowed last year and 37,000 in the fall of 1943.

In connection with the Oregon goal, livestock specialists at ORC point out that the hog-grain ratio in Oregon is not encouraging unless growers are assured of the market staying at ceiling prices. On the other hand, they point out, many farmers who can supplement grain with various waste products can make a profit on their hog growing operations at the present hog-grain ratios, in contrast with those who would have to feed marketable grain exclusively.

Feed Considered

In setting goals throughout the country on number of sows to farrow, the national officials gave consideration to feed supplies on farms this spring, according to R. B. Taylor, state AAA chairman. The geographical shifts in hog production in recent years were also considered, as were records of past production, probable acreage in feed crops to be planted this year, and the need for increased supplies of meat in different areas.

The need for maximum hog production during the next year is great, according to WFA officials. Preliminary reports of farm plans gathered by the state AAA committee in Oregon indicate increases in farrowings which, if carried out, will bring Oregon production up to the suggested goal, Taylor adds.

Allotments Made To Local REA For Extension

Expansion Plans As Rapidly As Materials Available

The allotment of \$692,000 to the Wasco Electric Cooperative, announced last week, means that agency will have sufficient funds to electrify all Sherman county farms and complete the job it has started in Wasco county.

Previous allotments have totaled \$348,000 which has been used to construct the Wasco county lines. The new allotment, which makes a total of \$1,040,000 will make it possible for the board of directors of the cooperatives to hire a firm of engineers to do the staking and designing of the lines and build under contract as the original section was constructed.

The first REA power line in Sherman county started May 15 when farmers through a cooperative effort started digging holes and setting poles. There were at times as many as 60 farmers working on construction west of Wasco.

In summing up the use of electric energy on the farms in Wasco county, Eric Johnson, manager, has found that radios, washing machines, irons and refrigerators are found in over 85 percent of the farm homes. Electric ranges and hot water heaters can be found in approximately 28 percent of the farm homes. With electric space heating being pushed prominently in the foreground, it will soon be possible for the farmers of Wasco and Sherman county to enjoy all the comforts that electric service can offer them, which has been made available with the building of the Bonneville and Grand Coulee dams.

Many arguments have been brought forward in the past, says Mr Johnson, as to where the money that is allotted to the cooperative came from. RFC goes on the open market and calls for loans for the Rural Electrification Administration. This is private capital money. They, in turn, loan it through REA to the cooperatives at two percent interest, who repay this back to RFC together with all earned interest over a period of 25 to 35 years.

After the loan has been repaid continued Mr Johnson, the lines themselves belong to the members of the cooperatives. The cost of electric energy to the members after that period will be power cost plus operation and maintenance. If this were possible at the present time we could reduce our rates up to the suggested goal, Taylor adds.

ANCIENT STATE BUILDINGS HAMPER WARD CARE



Modern care for wards of the state is hampered by overcrowded, over age buildings which the United Citizens committee points out can be replaced or modernized by passing the state postwar building measure at the special election June 22. Modern care for state hospital patients requires much expensive equipment like the fever machine operated at left. The old frame pavilion at right is in use at the state tuberculosis hospital. The inset nameplate of the penitentiary shows the original building still used was built in 1871. Expansion and remodeling is urgent.