

Oregon Historical Society
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Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

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

Many small businesses are now ready for reconversion; they have the plant, the personnel and sufficient raw material to start production for peacetime civilian uses. However, there is a fly in the ointment which is delaying the resumption of business. The manufacturers are waiting to learn from OPA what they will be permitted to charge for their product. OPA attempts to establish a national level, a peacetime price that will prevent inflation and not permit prices to run away for the limited amount of articles available.

One small plant manufacturer who formerly engaged in making parts for the new cars to be produced late this year, when OPA notified him that his prices for the parts could not be higher than he had charged for similar parts in 1942. He expostulated that his costs had increased, that the labor cost is considerably higher, and that it would be impossible for him to produce parts at the 1942 scale without losing money. OPA refused to make an exception. That is only one instance. OPA has ordered clothing manufacturers to produce lower priced goods, the kind that is required by so many people—clothing for kiddies, house dresses, aprons, pants, etc. The order is to produce, and not to charge more than the 1941 price for comparable articles. The manufacturers are howling and protesting, but they have made no impression on OPA. The makers of the cheap lines have been upping prices steadily and prefer producing goods of a shade higher quality. OPA says it will see that the low-price and medium-price manufacturers obtain as much cloth as formerly and will not permit the high-price boys to monopolize the available supply; but in return for this assurance of receiving the cloth the low-price manufacturers must go back to the prices of four years ago.

It is the aim of OPA to restore 1941 and 1942 prices in all goods in so far as possible. This agency ignores the increased cost of labor that has occurred since Pearl Harbor despite the efforts of manufacturers to convince the OPA that labor is always an important part of the cost of every product, and that wages are far higher than in the days "when."

For ten years before Pearl Harbor Japan received from the United States scrap iron and steel, airplanes and airplane parts, aviation gasoline and fuel oil. Everyone on the west coast knew of these exports. Lewis Schwollenback, then senator from Washington, later a federal judge in that state, and now nominated to the cabinet as secretary of labor by President Truman, asked for an investigation of these exports, a proposal which got nowhere. Shipload after shipload of scrap was sent out of Puget sound and Columbia River; gasoline and oil went from San Francisco. Junk dealers raided the back country buying old farm machinery and selling it to the Japanese. Until after the Marco Polo bridge "incident" launched the war between Japan and China the Japs were buying airplanes from the United States. This country was the stockpile for the Japanese war lords.

Longshore unions on Puget sound picketed Japanese merchant ships waiting for a cargo of scrap (which is always the base of war materials) and the warnings that this scrap would be used against American boys were regarded by

County's Farms Increase In Size, Lose in Numbers

According to R. L. Ackerman, census taker for this area for the 1945 agricultural census, Sherman county has 292 farms. It had 345 in 1940 and 367 in 1935. The same source shows 471,175 acres of land in farms as compared to 462,375 in 1940 and 438,220 in 1935. Average size of farms has grown, from 1194 in 1935 to 1348 in 1940 and 1614 this year. Further information on Sherman county agriculture will be forthcoming.

ADAMS AT ONTARIO

James B. Adams is here again after several days spent at Ontario where he has been managing that office of the Eastern Oregon Land Co., in the absence of Charles Flegel, who is still missing in the wilds of central Idaho. Mr. Flegel, in company with a lumber dealer named, Van Petten, went fishing over a month ago in a plane. They left their camp about six o'clock to fly home and nothing has been seen of them or their plane since that evening, although diligent search has been made. It is likely that Mr. Adams will combine with the Ontario office for the remainder of this crop season at least.

Sherman County Court Pays Bills, Issues Orders, Sells Land

CONDENSED REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF COUNTY COURT DURING MEETING HELD ON JUNE 6, 1945.

Claims against County General and County Road Fund allowed as presented. Monthly statement of County Treasurer showing fund balances as of May 31st accepted and approved.

Indemnity Bond of Foss & Co. pertaining to lost warrants approved and accepted and Clerk directed to issue warrants in lieu of those lost.

Sheriff presents report covering tax collections from Feb. 15, to May 15, 1945. Report examined and approved and Clerk directed to file.

Deeds approved and signed by Court members wherein County deeds tax foreclosed property in Wasco to Ryland O. Scott and tax foreclosed property in Moro to Edna M. Freeman.

Field Day Date Set For July 6 Next Friday

Farmers All Invited To See Experiments

The annual field day at the experiment station will be held Friday, July 6, according to Merrill Oveson, superintendent. The date is slightly later this year by the calendar, but not later by the crop season. The afternoon will be spent in going over the plots on the station grounds and talking about the results of experiments in the growing of new wheats, developing new varieties, testing new grasses and mixtures of grasses and also tillage methods. The station is of value only as the results of work done there is known by the farmers of the area served and the field days are an important means of giving opportunity to obtain that knowledge.

Senator Wayne Morse wires that the surplus property board has released 172 trucks to be used to move the wheat crop to market. The area included is Idaho, Montana, Washington and Oregon indicating that many farmers will be disappointed in obtaining a truck, but the 172 is a start.

Sherman County Fish Goes To Yale University

After an army furlough spent in Sherman county as a guest of George Martin, Ed Migdolski, with his host, left Sunday for a camp in Georgia where he is a medical technician.

Peace-time pursuit of Migdolski is assistant curator of the Yale Museum of Natural History, and the special part of his work is in the fish section as he is a fisherman who has been over all the eastern seaboard with his rod and reel. Highlight of his stay here was the catching of a 22 inch Rainbow trout at Sherman's Bridge, which he picked in formaldehyde (brought clear from Georgia) and prepared to send to Yale University. Not many Oregon fish get to Yale, Harvard students to the contrary notwithstanding. Corporal Migdolski made five trips to the river west of Grass Valley and said that this country with its swift rivers and picturesque hills was the finest country he had ever seen.

Weather Change To Cold Again

Radical changes in the weather have been common this month. First there was the unseasonably cold weather of the first two weeks followed by some pretty warm days and east wind, that damaged the wheat to some extent. Then Monday the wind changed and blew as if it was in a hurry.

Reports here that the north end of the county had several big blizzards that caused damage to summer-fallowed fields. Wind Tuesday at the station blew 329 miles for the 24 hours. That is an average of nearly 14 miles per hour and is a high wind considering that most of the 24 hour period was comparatively calm. Damage by hot weather is confined to small patches that were on lighter soil and will have little bearing on the total crop.

Vernon Dutton was elected school director for Klondike district to replace W.E. Bruckert, whose term had expired.

HOW SHERMAN COUNTY VOTED IN FRIDAY ELECTION

	Ruf.	L. G.	Klon.	Monk.	Burt.	Kent	G. V.	Moro	Was.
300	20	24	24	11	4	12	30	55	38
601	10	10	11	6	18	18	25	18	24
302	18	17	17	3	3	13	22	50	27
303	12	17	18	13	14	17	35	24	35

The How and Why of Chief Paulina's Death Found In Old Historical Reminiscences of Wasco and Sherman Counties by Carson Masiker

A series of reminiscences written by the late Carson C. Masiker in 1911, contains several stories of this country that bear retelling. In one of them Masiker tells of the killing of Chief Paulina near Antelope near the home of Howard Maupin. "Indians became so bad on the Canyon City road that Jim Clark sent his family away for safety. He lived on the John Day near the mouth of Bridge Creek and he and his wife's brother, George Masterson, were hatching there. I have talked with Clark and Masterson about it and I think it was February, 1866, both left the house one day to get a load of wood. They crossed the river to some drift and were loading wood on the wagon when they noticed the horses were acting queer. Clark stepped up on some logs and looked around and said, 'I see an Indian.' 'That doesn't surprise me a bit,' said Masterson. 'Let's cut these horses loose and get out of here.' 'They climbed onto the horses' after they had cut the tugs. Carelessly they had not brought any weapons with them but started for the house and found the ford was held by the Indians. They made another crossing and as they came up the river bank they saw a number of Indians between them and the house. The Indians retreated toward the house and

County Votes With State In Special Election

Cigarette Tax Comes Close In Sherman County and Building Fund Easy Winner

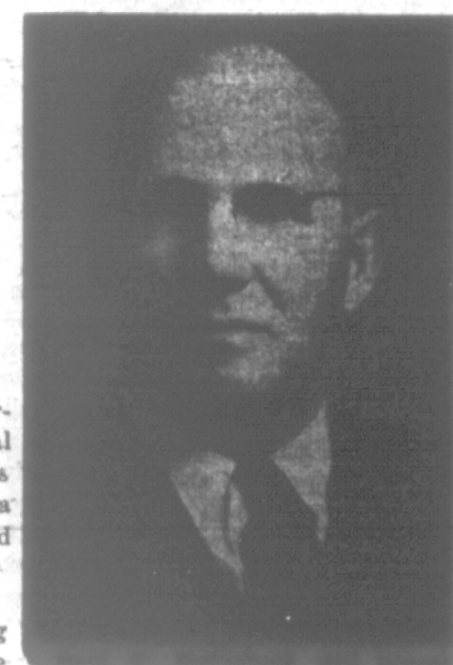
Special election results in Sherman county followed in general the result in the state in that this county gave the building fund a yes vote of 218 to 185 and defeated the cigarette tax by a small margin, 185 no to 170 yes. The margin for the building fund was larger here than in the state as a whole where the vote was 3 to 2. Likewise a tax on cigarettes was liked slightly better among the property owners than with the city folks who perhaps smoke more and pay less property taxes.

Sherman county people, or 356 of them, went to the polls Friday to cast their votes. The other 70 percent of voters stayed home or pursued some endeavor not connected with government. The upstate favored the flag tax by a small margin and every county in the state wanted the building fund. Some individual precincts opposed the building fund, but not many. Where interest was high the vote was usually more favorable indicating that greater study brought a better number of "Yes" votes. Sherman county's vote by precincts: Oddly enough the cigarette tax was voted on by more voters than was the building fund.

FOUR BOYS PASS EXAMS

Donald Thompson, Harold Melzer, Clair Balzer, Roger Blackburne and Leland Schwendel left Monday for Portland to take their second physical examination for the services. All of them have been examined previously and placed in 4-F or limited service and have not been called. It is possible that there may be a place for them now in army of occupation or in domestic camps to relieve men who have long been in the army. All the boys passed but Blackburne. Others may be called soon for service.

In New Job



Paul R. McCulloch will become the representative for the Oregon Mutual Life Insurance Company on July 1 for the Mid-Columbia counties of Oregon and Washington, with headquarters in The Dalles, according to an announcement made by Edwin A. Phillips, the company's branch manager. Mr. McCulloch was head of the Wasco schools for five years, prior to going to The Dalles where he served as superintendent of schools for eight years. He has been recognized as one of the leading school administrators of the state of Oregon. He has been active in civic affairs and has given liberally of his time to many civilian war activities, serving as county War Chest chairman for three years and a member of the Wasco county War Bond Committee. Particularly noteworthy has been the publication of a newspaper for servicemen of which he is editor. New agency officers have been opened at 405 East Second Street in conjunction with those of Ben Mussa, public accountant and tax counsellor.

SERGEANT SENDS SOUVENIRS

Staff Sgt. Philip O'Meara has sent home to his parents the largest collection of souvenirs from Europe seen in this county. He has a knack of collecting. Included in the stuff sent home are 45 pieces of dining silver from Hitler's Berchtesgaden hide-out, that are beautiful pieces of silversmith's art. There are three uniforms, several rifles, many bayonets and daggers, canvas belts, packs, divisional insignia and other smaller items enough to fill a show case. They are on display at the O'Meara store in Wasco where cases have been provided for them.

\$38,995 Needed In E Bond Sales To Reach Quota

Sales For Week Indicate That Goal Can Be Made If Attention Given To Purchases

Total sale of E bonds, according to the state office is now \$151,000 for Sherman county. This is larger by over \$8000 than the total sales made by issuing agencies in Sherman county but is official, unless error has been made. News has been received that sales will be credited July 9, which means that sales made on Saturday, July 7 can be counted if sent in that evening. That is the official deadline.

In the eight days remaining the county must sell nearly \$5000 in bonds daily to make the \$190,000 quota set for Sherman county. That is not a large sum for Sherman county as it means the sale of six thousand dollar bonds and six five hundred dollar bonds per day.

Letters have been sent out to some of those who have been heavy bond buyers heretofore asking them to increase their purchases. Many have requested they be informed if the county lacked in making its quota.

Sales of other bonds have increased during the week as corporations have been buying since June 18. Pacific Power & Light bought \$6000 of 7-8 notes, Standard Oil \$3000 and other firms have also bought.

LUMBER AVAILABLE

Oregon has been given a quota of eight million board feet of lumber for farm construction, maintenance and repair during July, August and September, reports N. C. Donaldson, executive assistant to the state AAA committee. Although the third quarter lumber allocation is slightly larger than that of the previous three months, Donaldson said that it will not be enough to take care of all farm needs. Increased demand because of recent easing of WPB restrictions on building will more than offset the increased quota, he believes. The lumber is distributed for essential farm uses on AA-2 and AA-3 preference rating certificates issued by county AAA committees.

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