

Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Seventh Year No. 37

Moro, Oregon, Friday, July 20, 1945

Official County Paper

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

Final Report Shows County's E Bond Sales Best

Sherman Maintains Its Championship By Beating All Others

Some statistics about the Seventh War Loan campaign should be of interest to Sherman countyans who, again, put their county over the top with the best E bond sale per capita in the state and probably in the nation.

Based on population of November 1943 Sherman county bought \$131.44 in E bonds per individual. The average for the state was \$49.49. Second to Sherman was Wasco with \$86.26, third Hood River with \$63.71. From these figures the per capita sales ran down to \$19.87 for Polk and \$18.71 for Crook.

In total sales Hood River county led with 257.8 percent of quota. Polk was second with 205.9.

The state as a whole led the nation in E bond sales per capita. It is ahead of all other states in purchase of E bonds, the average Oregonian having bought some \$356 worth since the war began. Sherman countyans have around \$850 of them on the average.

Oregon had the highest E bond quota in the nation and Sherman county had the highest in the state. Quotas are based on per capita wealth and income of the people in the state or county. The previous record is also considered in making up the quota list for state and county.

Public Debt Rising At Rapid Rate

In 1916 the U. S. government public debt was \$1,225,145,568. That was an average of about \$11.96 per person. At end of World War I our public debt had soared to \$25,482,034,419, which was about \$240 per American. At the end of World War II the public debt will be more than \$300,000,000,000 even at present rate of federal taxes. That will mean a per capita debt of about \$2,200.

Frank Payne Now Paratroop Trainee

Pvt. Frank Payne, son of M. and Mrs. B. F. Payne of Grass Valley, Oregon has won the right to wear the "Boots and Wings" of the United States Army Paratroopers. He has completed four weeks of jump training during which time he made five jumps, including a tactical jump at night involving a combat problem on landing.

SHOE STAMP GOOD IN AUGUST

The new shoe ration stamp that OPA announced would become valid August 1, 1945, will be Airplane Stamp No. 4 in War Ration Book No. 3, the agency said. Airplane Stamps Nos. 1, 2, and 3 are good indefinitely, OPA added. The last stamp was validated November 1, 1944. OPA pointed out that the intervals between validation of stamps depends on the available supply of shoes.

That the supply of shoes for civilians will be increased is indicated in the downward trend in the production of army footwear. The War Department announced that production of army combat boots will be reduced in September from 2,100,000 to 1,500,000 pairs and that of army service shoes will be lowered from 700,000 to 350,000 pairs during the same period. This decrease schedule will be continued throughout the fourth quarter of 1945. Announcement at this time of the reduction in army footwear needs will provide a 60-day span during which time the shoe industry will be able to prepare for increased civilian production.

Twenty-Four Planes—25 Minutes



These marine pilots made aviation history off Okinawa by knocking down 24 Jap planes in 25 minutes. L. to R. in rear are: Maj. G. Astell, Laguna Beach, Calif.; Col. W. E. Dickey, Du Bois, Pa.; Maj. J. Dornah, Hood River, Ore.; Lt. E. Abner, Washington. Front row (L. to R.): Lt. W. L. Hood, Benton Harbor, Mich.; Lt. J. J. O'Keefe, Biloxi, Miss.; Lt. N. T. Theriault, Milford, Mass.; and Lt. G. Allen, Fort Worth.

Hunting Rules Give Three Days For First National Goose Shooting

A well-known Eastern Oregon rancher, Sidney T. Smythe, this week joined the staff of the First National Bank of Portland as livestock loan inspector.

Smythe, who is well acquainted with ranch operations will serve several of the First National's branch areas including Sherman county, as livestock inspector and counselor with ranch owners and operators. He will make his headquarters in The Dalles.

Educator in Arlington, Portland and Spokane schools, Mr Smythe has spent the past twenty years in the livestock and related businesses throughout the state of Oregon.

The deer season will be open from September 29 to October 28 for buck deer having not less than forked horns. There will be no special doe deer tags issued except 800 tags for a post-season shoot to be held in the Fort Rock-Silver Lake area from December 1 to 5 inclusive. The fees for these tags are \$3.50 for residents and \$5 for non residents, in addition to the regular hunting license fees.

There also will be issued 800 tags for the taking of antelope with ear length horns. The season will be from September 22 to 30. Fees for antelope tags are \$2.50 for residents and \$5 for non residents.

Drawings for both the doe deer and antelope tags will be held at dates to be published later if the number of applicants exceed the number of tags authorized.

Sherman county dates are: Pheasants, Huns and Quail: October 13 to 28.

Migratory Waterfowl: During open season for migratory waterfowl, shooting will be allowed on Thursdays, Sundays and Mondays only in Wasco, Gilliam and Sherman counties.

ATTEND MEETING

Mr and Mrs Giles French drove to Salem Sunday to attend the second monthly meeting of the state tax study commission, a group of 13 named to study all phases of taxation in Oregon. Representatives of counties and cities presented their problems to the commission at the meeting Monday.

Oregon Historical Society Gets Original Petition From Stockman

An interesting original relic, dating from 1855 in the career of James Shields, one-time appointed territorial governor of Oregon, has been presented to the Oregon Historical Society in Portland by Honorable Lowell Stockman of the 2nd congressional district of Oregon.

Shields resigned his position as Oregon Territorial Governor immediately to accept an election in the federal senate, where he served as senator from the State of Illinois and senator from the State of Minnesota.

The document is a manuscript petition presented to President Pierce seeking appointment as brigadier general in the army for Shields, who at that time was serving as senator from Illinois. The petition is in the handwriting of Senator Stephen A. Douglas of Illinois, who ran unsuccessfully against Abraham Lincoln for the presidency in 1860. He also is the first signer.

Rate Reduction Made By PP&L Company

Commercial Users To Receive Lower Rate As Well As Home Users

Customer savings totaling \$1,000,000 a year will result from sharply reduced electric rate schedules filed by Pacific Power & Light company with the Oregon public utilities commissioner, it was announced Wednesday by R. P. Brisbane, local manager.

Biggest slash in the company's 35-year history, the rate cut is slated to go into effect August 22, subject to final review and approval by the state regulatory authorities.

It will be the fifth system-wide rate reduction, made by PP&L since 1936, and will bring savings from these cuts up to a total of more than \$2,100,000 annually. In addition, a temporary rate reduction in the form of two "rate dividends" totaling approximately \$600,000 was paid to the company's customers last year.

All Customers Helped

Residential and rural customers will save an estimated \$440,000 a year under the new rates, an average of about 14 percent. Savings to most users in these classes here will run between 15 and 20 percent.

Commercial and industrial users will save an estimated \$570,000 annually, or an average of about 15 percent. Commercial rates here will be cut close to 30 percent for many users.

In addition to slashing its rates, the company is moving toward fewer and simpler rate schedules.

It also makes available to residential users an "all-purpose" block of 600 kilowatt-hours a month at the very low rate of 0.6 cents per kwh, regardless of whether or not the customer has an automatic electric water heater. This block is available to all residential and farm customers after the first 250 kwh used in any month.

The new residential rate to be effective here will be as follows: 85 cents (min.) for first 16 kwh 8.5 cent per kwh for next 44 kwh 2.4 cents per kwh for next 65 kwh 1.5 cents per kwh for next 125 kwh 0.6 cents per kwh for next 600 kwh 1.0 cents per kwh for next excess.

Minimum Reduced

The present residential rate gives 12 kwh for the 95 cents minimum charge and the next 48 kwh are at 4.3 cents; the next 140 at 2.5 cents; and excess at 1.5. For automatic water heating, the present rate provides a block of 500 kwh at 0.7 cents after the first 200 kwh used.

The new rural rate gives 16 kwh for the minimum charge of 95 cents, and the next two steps are 3.9 cents and 2.5 cents, after which the schedule is the same as for city homes.

Commercial customers will receive savings in dollars ranging from nearly \$10.00 a year for 50 kwh a month to about \$85.00 a year for 500 kwh a month. Large commercial users will also make substantial savings, it was stated. Savings to industrial customers will vary with the size of load and nature of their operations.

In announcing the proposed new rates, the company stated that the reduction was being made in anticipation of savings in interest costs through the prospective refinancing of its bonds and also because of increased evidence that the Pacific Northwest communities served would maintain their healthy growth after the war.

EXAMINER COMING

A traveling examiner of operators and chauffeurs is scheduled to arrive in Moro Monday July 23, and will be on duty at the courthouse between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4:00 p. m.

Rep. L. Stockman Stops Briefly While On Tour

Crop Damage Less Than Anticipated Earlier In Month

Representative and Mrs Lowell Stockman, now visiting their constituents in eastern Oregon, stopped in Sherman county Tuesday while on their way to Bend and Klamath Falls. Mr Stockman says the recent hot spell in Oregon felt nice and cool to them when compared to the heat of the Washington summer. It really cooks you he reports.

Mr Stockman says the senate can ratify the San Francisco charter any time a vote is taken but so that all the talking can be done. Adjournment of the senate is not expected to come until mid August, but the house was to adjourn a week ago, but has not done so yet. The eastern Oregon representative has been working on his idea of getting some of the northwest's surplus wheat shipped to Europe as feed for the people there.

Very little harvesting has been done so far and it will be next week before many combines are in the field. Some are starting every day but harvesting is not general. Reports indicate a crop of 20 bushels although in these days of bulk truck it is hard to get much of an idea of the yield until a field is finished.

State Agencies Need Workers Immediately

New examinations for clerical and casework personnel have been scheduled by the Merritt System Council. The examination date has been tentatively set for August 25. Examinations will include advanced and beginning clerical and stenographic series including administrative secretary, stock control clerk, and telephone operators; beginning and advanced caseworkers, assistant casework supervisor, and casework supervisor with the State Public Welfare Commission.

Employment with these agencies offers permanent tenure, regulated compensation, paid vacations, sick leave and protected working conditions. As career service it offers opportunities for in-service advancements. Retirement benefits as passed by the State legislature include employees in the agencies covered by the merit system. Further, applicants qualifying now need not qualify again when the new State Civil Service law becomes effective.

This crop will not be counted among the previous four mortgage lifters, but it is certainly out of the class of those of the thirties.

1946 AAA Will Be Like Older Models

No radical changes are contemplated in next year's AAA program, unless changing conditions call for emergency modifications, reports R. B. Taylor, chairman of the state AAA committee in Oregon, who has just returned from a national conference of northwest state committeemen at Washington, D. C.

Farm Safety Week Observance Urged

Individual observation of National Farm Safety Week, July 23-28, means avoidance of accidents that interfere with vital food production, Secretary of State Farrell said today in urging care in the transportation of volunteer farm workers during the summer harvest season.

"Thousands of urban residents are volunteering to help the farmer harvest food crops this year," Farrell said. "Many of these volunteers are transported to and from the farm on farm trucks and other vehicles.

"Oregon has established an excellent record in this type of transportation and we are anxious to continue that good record. Wholehearted cooperation on the part of the vehicle and passengers will assure the continuance of this accident-free record."

Farrell listed these safety precautions for the avoidance of accidents involving the transportation of farm workers:

- 1: Make sure vehicles are equipped with adequate sideboards, at least four feet high.
- 2: Provide tailgates on trucks so passengers will be protected.
- 3: Provide benches so passengers will not be tempted to sit on the bed of the truck with their legs dangling over the end. Rear-end collisions are a serious hazard in such cases.
- 4: Inspect vehicles regularly to make sure brakes and other equipment are in good operating condition.
- 5: Observe traffic regulations at all times.
- 6: Encourage passengers to avoid horseplay enroute.

Crop Expected To Be Average or Better But Quality Poor

As so often happens the appraisers of the value of the wheat crop have decided that it is not so bad as originally thought. All of it is hurt some, some of it is definitely worthless, but the crop will be pretty good anyway.

Nineteen forty-five will not go down in history as one of the big crops for the county but it may well be one in which farmers reaped a crop above average, and certainly one in which the farm income was above average.

Weather has suddenly become much cooler after its rampage that drove the thermometer up to 98 ten days ago. Nights are cool and often damp so tired men will get to sleep another hour in the morning.

Food shortages, both real and fancied, are prime topics of conversation throughout the country Taylor found, with the situation worse in populous eastern centers. Food production goals for next year which are certain to reflect the continuing peak needs here and abroad are expected to call for all-out production of the most essential crops and livestock products.

The Oregon wheat goal for 1946 will be announced soon, well in advance of fall seeding time Taylor reported. A tentative goal was referred to the Oregon committee, passed upon by the technical committee consisting of state college and other agricultural officials and then returned to Washington with recommendations. It is expected to approximate this year's planted acreage.

Visiting committeemen had an opportunity to meet the new secretary, Clinton P. Anderson, and found him a man of vigor and direct action, Taylor reports. He had a special committee working on detailed reorganization plans for the department, but denied that there is any revolutionary overhauling contemplated. Rather there will be changes to clarify functions and responsibilities and speed up operations.

Anderson, a former congressman from New Mexico, is a farm owner and operator of considerable experience. He told the committee men that his policy will be to make the department function with speed and efficiency in getting the best results for American producers and consumers of agricultural products, Taylor says.