

Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Seventh Year No. 39

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Official County Paper

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

It is still under guard, the Japanese embassy on Massachusetts avenue in Washington, D. C. There is a patrol booth in which a Washington policeman sits night and day, when he is not stretching his legs on the sidewalk. Half a block away, on a vacant lot at the approach to a bridge spanning Rock creek park, the grass has been worn down by the wheels of automobiles in which, from time to time, FBI agents sit through the night to supplement the watch being kept by the lone policeman. No one goes through the locked gate, the entrance to the walk leading to the low, picturesque building which housed the embassy until Dec. 7, 1941. On that day all attaches of the embassy were assembled within the enclosure and remained there until they were removed, under guard, to a swanky hotel at White Springs pending shipment back to Japan.

In the back yard of the embassy there still remain ashes where the Japanese burned incriminating papers, while at the White House the cabinet met hastily to discuss the raid at Pearl Harbor. The lawn is not as carefully kept as it once was. The embassy is a desolate place today. Tourists pause and look at the establishment and wonder how long the Japanese can hold out before the eventual and inevitable unconditional surrender.

When the embassy was closed the Spanish ambassador was designated to take charge of any official business or mail of the Japanese and a hand-painted sign notified the public to this effect. Chains have been placed across the driveway leading to the area where the Japanese housed their automobiles. Within the building everything is as it was left by the departing enemy; it must be, for no one can enter. The flowers which were used for decorations have long since resolved themselves into dust, for the Japanese did not take time to throw them out before their hasty exit. A deserted dismal building is all that remains of the Japanese in Washington D. C. The guards are there to see that vandals do not break in and loot the place.

Contributing to current confusion over the sugar situation is the statement made on the floor of the house a few days ago by Representative Bender of Ohio that 60,000 tons of sugar has been allocated to Spain. Representative DeLacy of Washington added to the misunderstanding by saying he thought it ridiculous to send sugar to Spain and Portugal to assure a supply of Portuguese brandy. Neither speaker revealed any truth, according to official announcements. Sugar for Spain was allocated from the world pool and not from stocks held in the United States and is, presumably, for table use. There are legitimate reasons for complaint over the sugar shortage without resorting to misrepresentation.

Defending the committee proposal to reclassify fourth-class postage rates as applied to books, Representative McKensie indulged in an attack upon the Book-a-Month club and other book publishers who are opposed to the measure. The Book-a-Month club, he stated, charges a mailing fee of 11 cents for each book mailed to a subscriber, while a committee check showed that the actual cost was but 8 1/3 cents. With the 600,000 subscribers claimed by the club this would represent a clear profit of \$162,000 annually. Other book publishers profit proportionately from the collecting

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Land Payments To Start This Month

Sherman county farmers will be eligible to receive the new government payments on sheep and lambs marketed for slaughter, according to information given to the county AAA committee.

The new program is effective August 5, and payments will be made on all sales to legally authorized slaughterers after that date. Producers will save all invoices and sales slips, as these will form the basis for the payments.

Payment rates for August will be \$1.50 a hundredweight for lambs weighing 65 to 90 pounds; \$2.15 for lambs heavier than 90 pounds, and \$1.00 for all other sheep and lambs.

The program will extend thru June 30, 1946. Payment rates will vary from month to month, from the minimum rates set for August up to a maximum of \$2.50 for light lambs and \$3.15 for those over 90 pounds. The rates for sheep and for lambs less than 65 pounds will remain at \$1.00 throughout the year.

The subsidy of 95 cents a hundred now being paid to packers will be withdrawn on August 4, so that all government payments will go directly to producers after August 5.

Frank Ballard Again Directs County Agents

Frank L. Ballard, who was forced by ill health to give up the arrangements for the trip for presidency of Oregon State college, several years ago, has now completely recovered and has been restored to his former position in active charge of the federal cooperative extension service at Oregon State college.

With William A. Schoenfeld as dean and director of the entire agricultural division including research instruction, research and extension, Mr. Ballard will serve as associate director of extension to supervise that work. The state board of higher education approved the new appointment at its July meeting.

W. L. Teutsch, assistant director of extension since 1940, continues with the same title and will remain in charge of important phases of the central administration work, Dean Schoenfeld has announced. Charles W. Smith, who has had the title of county agent leader, is also made director to continue in charge of the county projects. Clifford L. Smith continues as assistant county agent leader.

Harvest Weather Pretty Damp Nights

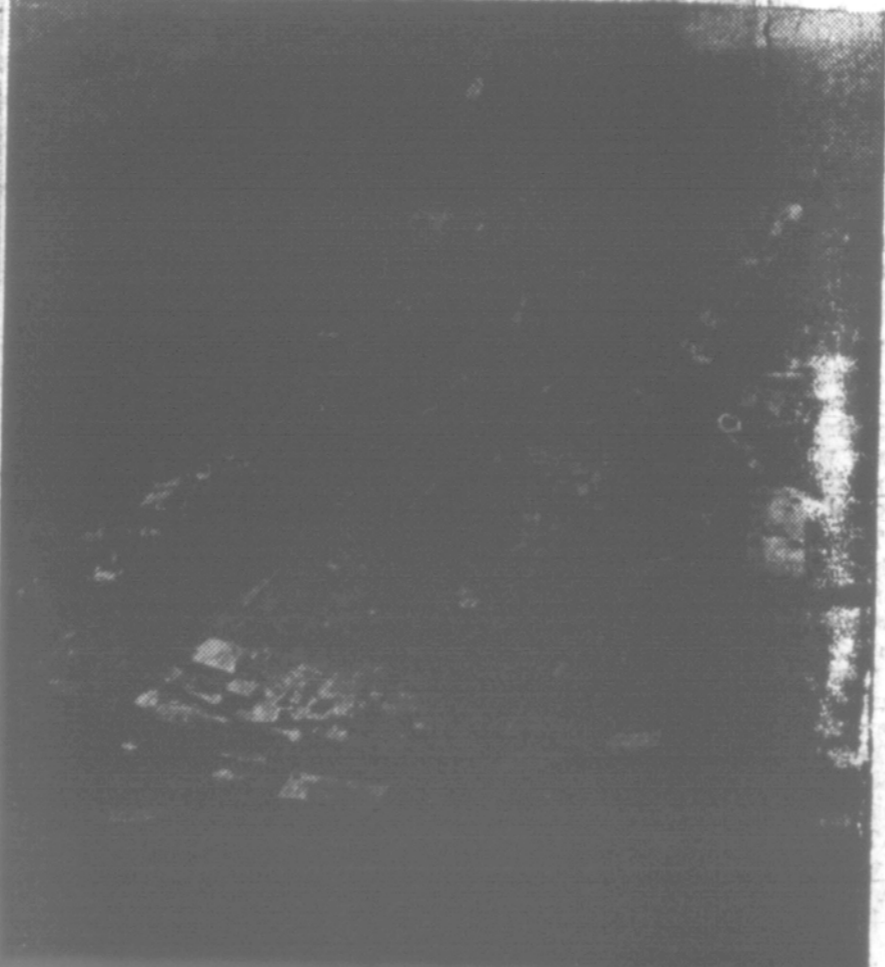
Harvest weather this year is following the usual pattern. The mornings have been cool enough to delay starting of the combine although not cool enough to make them uncomfortable.

Change in the variety of wheat seems to have made a difference in threshing quality so that there is more delay in starting in the mornings. Time loss does not amount to a great deal, it is estimated, unless rain intervenes and causes loss through dampness. News from Grass Valley this week is that there was actually a light frost there one day last week, a frost hard enough to nip the gardens. Such weather is not usual in harvest although it occasionally happens. Frosty nights are almost always damp enough to hamper harvest.

OPA ROURS CHANGED

The War Price and Rationing Board 85.22.1, Wasco, Oregon announces change of office hours, effective August 6, 1945:
Monday—10 A. M. to 3 P. M.
Tuesday—10 A. M. to 3 P. M.
Wednesday—1 P. M. to 3 P. M.
6:30 P. M. to 9:30 P. M.
Thursday—10 A. M. to 3 P. M.
Friday—10 A. M. to 3 P. M.
Saturday—9 A. M. to 11 A. M.

Navy Floating Dock in Service



A completed floating dry dock shows eight sections which have been welded together, after having been towed separately for thousands of miles to an advance base. Complete with cranes and other necessary facilities, this dock will afford rapid repairs to battle-damaged ships now in the Pacific waters. Hundreds of ships will be mended at the spot by this dock.

Revised Crop Insurance Plan Held Workable

Federal crop insurance, now being offered to Oregon winter wheat growers for the first time since 1943, covers practically the same risks as those for which Oregon farmers collected 513,628 bushels in losses during the five years of the original program, according to Willis C. Boegli, state director for the Federal Crop Insurance corporation.

All except two of the causes of loss for which insured growers collected in the period 1939-43 are covered in the contracts now offered on winter wheat, Boegli said. These two, stray stock and poor farming practices, accounted for only three-tenths of one per cent of the losses in the state under the original program.

In reviewing the losses paid to Oregon farmers under the original program, Boegli pointed out that drought, which accounted for 37 per cent of the total indemnities, was the chief cause of crop damage on insured farms. Others included excessive moisture, 14.4 per cent; frost, 9 per cent; plant disease, 10 per cent; insects, 6.8 per cent; weeds, 3.5 per cent; hail, 5 per cent, and heat, 3.4 per cent.

Causes which accounted for less than one per cent of the total during the five years include shortage of water hot winds, rodents, migratory birds, volunteer vegetation, fire, dust storms and blow lands.

Losses from all these causes are covered by the three-year contract now being offered through county AAA committees and authorized sales agents appointed by the committees. Farmers have their choice of two plans—one covering 75 per cent of the farm's average yield, and the other covering 50 per cent. September 30, or the day the wheat is seeded, whichever is earlier, is the deadline for signing an application.

DEER PROTECTION TALKED

There have been several reports of deer being seen in Sherman county recently and likewise there have been expressed wishes that the game commission enforce a closed season on deer in this county so the ones here might be preserved to become the start of a herd of some size. At one time there was a Sherman County Fish and Game committee that would naturally be the agent to inform the game commission of the desires of the people of the county in this regard.

School District Utility Valuation Varies Greatly

Classification of Tax Assessments Show Extreme Variation

A brief study of the assessment rolls of school districts of Sherman county shows some peculiarities especially in relation to the valuations of different kinds of property in the 20 districts still functioning in the county.

The greatest amount of property is naturally listed as real property in a county so agricultural as Sherman. Total valuation of real property is \$6,817,240. Wasco has the largest real property valuation with \$800,840.

Personal property is composed of farm equipment, stocks of goods and livestock which is valued at less than a million dollars, \$948,420 to be exact. The Kent school district contains enough livestock to have the highest personal property tax valuation.

Utility valuations vary greatly in Sherman county partly because of the comparative scarcity of utilities. Much the largest valuation of utilities is in railroads although the electric utility valuation is quite high. It is, however, pretty well scattered, as is the telephone valuation. Highest utility valuation is in the Rufus district, which, with district 3A, has over half of the utility valuation of the county. Rufus district has \$847,627 and 3A Rufus, has 189,269, a total of \$1,036,896 out of the county total of \$1,886,791. Utilities make up approximately two-thirds of the Rufus valuation.

List of districts valuations by the three classes of property follows:

| Dist. | Real | Personal | Utility |
|-------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| 1 | \$176,800 | \$ 23,240 | \$ none |
| 3 | 464,410 | 57,630 | 847,627 |
| 3A | 19,590 | 5,350 | 189,269 |
| 4 | 56,530 | 20,360 | none |
| 5 | 406,480 | 51,510 | 19,707 |
| 7 | 800,840 | 96,890 | 163,777 |
| 9 | 664,580 | 142,560 | 84,646 |
| 13 | 195,020 | 20,400 | 68,714 |
| 15 | 320,110 | 83,690 | none |
| 16 | 315,250 | 23,890 | 94,065 |
| 17 | 612,340 | 87,200 | 69,718 |
| 19 | 207,180 | 15,410 | 39,684 |
| 20 | 340,430 | 34,810 | 138 |
| 21 | 281,620 | 47,130 | 19,577 |
| 22 | 203,330 | 20,160 | none |
| 23 | 389,980 | 68,640 | 126,273 |
| 24 | 269,910 | 47,610 | none |
| 30 | 537,700 | 44,650 | 73,204 |
| 32 | 218,710 | 26,190 | 56,632 |
| 33 | 336,430 | 81,200 | 33,764 |

DECISION HANDED DOWN

Decision was handed down in the Powell vs Powell case last week by Judge D. N. Mackay of Condon. Mrs. Esta Powell is to receive \$7906 from former activities of her partnership with her son, Marion M., and the partnership is dissolved. The 1944 and 1945 crops are to be divided equally as is other income of the partnership.

Man Lost In South End of County In 1864 Has Seven Days Wandering Before Rescue

The following story is from the Reminiscences of Carson C. Massiker and tells of the unfortunate experience of Mike Galligher, a cousin of John Galligher who was murdered in 1864 on the Canyon City road. John had a pack train and his widow asked Mike to go to Canyon City to sell it after his death. He collected the money and started back on horseback with the Cayuse George, who was carrying the mail at the time. No trail had been opened yet, they simply went over the hills and through the bunchgrass.

Somewhere between Ferry Canyon on the John Day and Ferry Canyon on the Deschutes Galligher's saddle became loose and he stopped to tighten the girth. While he was doing this, Cayuse George passed on over a hill and out of sight, Mike, who was a barber by trade, had always lived in the city and was utterly lost. He wandered for four days between the two rivers but did not strike any road. He then killed his horse but had no matches and could not build a fire to cook the meat and his stomach rejected it. He then wandered one day on foot. By this time he could eat raw horse, but he hunted two days in vain for the horse. He then abandoned the hunt and tried to find his way out. On the evening of his seventh day of fasting, he struck a fresh wagon track and followed it until dark. It brought him to the camp of Samuel Price and William Massiker in Grass Valley, where Dr. Rollins afterward settled.

Mike's foot was horribly blistered and all that he had eaten during the seven days of his wanderings was the bark from a few roots he had pulled out of the ground. The roots themselves were too tough and woody for him to eat. He had killed a prairie bird with a stone on the seventh day and was saving it for supper, but he found a better supper and had the bird left. He said he would take it home for his family to see and that if he ever got back to the city, he would never leave it again.

Crossbred Wheat Total County Does Best On Station Trials

Threshing on the experiment station has so far resulted in very ordinary yields of most of the wheats. In the winter varietal trials the little red chaffed club wheat, a cross between Rex and Alicel, made the best yield with a little over 24 bushels per acre. Turkey wheats suffered badly from the June, drouth. Mr. Overton estimates that the overall yield of the wheats on the station will be about 18 bushels.

MILE POSTS UP

New mile posts have been erected along the Sherman Highway recently to mark the distance from the junction between Highway 97, the Sherman Highway and The Old Oregon Trail, Highway 30 at Dinty's. The posts are white wood with distance painted in black. This is an addition that has been needed for some years. The highway department went through the county last week with one of the new yellow line making trucks and painted a line full length of the county in a small fraction of the time and with a small part of the crew formerly employed to do that work.

CLUB CALVES GAINING

Four H club calves are being weighed by County Agent LeRoy Wright this week, although he is taking the job slower than usual. He reports that calves are gaining an average of 2.3 pounds per day on feed which will put them into a high weight bracket by time for the Pacific International Livestock show in Portland.

Date for the Sherman County 4-H club fair has not been set and it is not expected that it will be until the Portland show announces its dates. The local stock show will immediately precede the Portland one so calves will not have to be shipped home and then off the ranch again within a week or so.

Champion Service Man's Family



Pfc. Wilbert L. Fleury of Fort Huron, Mich., father of 11 children, 11 of which are shown in photograph with their mother, tops record of Cpl. Chester J. Barrett, formerly called the "Champion Dad of the Armed Forces." Two of the children were visiting relatives when this photograph was made.

Man Lost In South End of County In 1864 Has Seven Days Wandering Before Rescue

Price and Massiker had been out to Buck Creek for a load of wood. They brought Mike in with them to Sand Spring and the next day William Nix, (better known as Bill Nix) came out from The Dalles in a buggy and took Mike to town. The Dalles Mountaineer made an account of this affair and gave Nix the credit of rescuing Galligher, but said nothing about Price and Massiker in connection with it. Galligher gave my brother William his revolver. It was a fine shooter that carried a six shooter ball, the only one of its kind I ever saw.