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Official County Paper

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

Sober thinking men in congress and the higher administrative posts realize that peace has not been won by the surrender of enemies in the field, nor is the world organization created at San Francisco an assurance in itself, against future wars; and there is fear that the public will take too much for granted in popular evaluation of what has been accomplished and the steps which must be taken to implement plans to strengthen and perfect what has already been done. In corridors and classrooms many opinions are expressed which do not find their way into press dispatches from the national capital. Some of these opinions may not be more well founded than those held by the average newspaper reader, but others have the weight of thoughtful study and lessons learned from experience.

There are single-track minds in congress, as elsewhere, and from these come a variety of suggestions and proposals some of which inevitably will achieve publicity through their presentation in the house and senate. A sample of what may be expected from this source is the proposal to set up in the senate a committee to investigate un-American activities along the line followed by the old Dies committee in the house. It would not be entirely true to say that such suggestions and proposals emanate from former isolationists, but it will not be denied that the sentiment behind them is distinctively anti-communist.

Members of congress on both sides of the aisle are not yet convinced of Russia's future peaceful intentions and they point to soviet dominance in central Europe as proof of their contention that Stalin is not immune to the same lust for power that led Hitler to attempt world conquest. Fundamentally, the fear is not so much that armed forces will be employed as it is of the erection of barriers which will interfere with world trade and thus create conditions which may prove intolerable and in direct conflict with the purpose of the charter which emerged from the conference of nations at San Francisco.

Realization of these fears, it is admitted, would nullify all that has been gained through the expenditure of American blood and treasure and create a situation inimical to the maintenance of peace. While those who fear this development are in the minority in congress, their attitude is certain to influence the nature of all legislation having to do with international adjournment of this session.

Proposed as a public works project as an aid in taking up the slack in employment, a bill has been introduced in the senate to build a national memorial stadium in Washington, D.C., according to plans which would provide for its self-liquidation. This latter feature, however, is purely speculative and if the project is authorized it is believed an obligation would rest upon congress to make good any deficit which might occur. For this reason the success of the measure is doubtful although it is sponsored by Senators Mead of New York, Burton of Ohio and Bilbo of Mississippi. A preliminary appropriation of \$150,000 is asked for a survey and study of the project. Actual construction cost is intended to be paid by private subscriptions but so provision is made for abandonment of the work in event these subscriptions prove to be inadequate. It is provided, however, that if subscriptions exceed costs the balance shall be applied to repayment of the mon-

Harvest Nearly Over This Week Crop Average

The last week practically ended the 1945 harvest although a few combines are still running. The weather has been almost perfect for cutting the last few days and machines are able to put in a fuller day than earlier in the season. Days are generally rather hot and nights also warm enough to prevent much morning toughness.

Amount of grain produced can be figured in a short time after the threshing is completed as hauling is also done except for the bushels stored on the farms. This is being measured and computed by the county agent.

Estimates on the crop made earlier still are considered about correct and that for a near 20 bushel average. It seems probable now that the total crop on the 1,100,000 acres will be slightly less than 2,380,000 bushels a 20 bushel crop would indicate, probably 2,250,000 will be about as much as can be counted when it is all in.

Unemployment Not Pressing Now

With lumbering, transportation and food processing plants badly in need of workers, a fair proportion of these laid off by war industries should be able to find jobs. Because of V-J day coming in the midst of Oregon's busiest season, the unemployment load probably will not reach its height for several months.

Officials of the Unemployment Compensation Commission made this analysis when asked to comment on benefit payments during the adjustment period. Administrator Silas Gaiser explained that the employment service through its 24 local offices is co-operating to handle any reasonable claims load.

"The employment service has listed thousands of jobs with canneries, railroads, lumber and logging firms and other industries," the administrator said, "they are prepared to offer work in accord with the displaced person's skill and experience."

"During this period, most workers should accept the best jobs available at prevailing wage rates. Some may have to return to pre-war occupations, even though the pay may be temporarily less. This difficult period ahead will require a maximum of patience and understanding."

In case the war plant layoffs come too quickly and there are not enough jobs to go around, the unemployment commission now has early \$73,000,000 with which to tide workers over. Benefits of from \$10 to \$18 a week for from 5 to 20 weeks may be paid to eligible workers each year.

Unemployment claims may be filed against Oregon at any of over 1,500 employment offices throughout the country. An interstate exchange system has been built up to take care of migrants from any state or territory.

Major Bong Killed



Major Richard Ira Bong, 24-year-old flier—top ranking U. S. ace with 40 Japanese planes downed in combat, was killed as he struggled to escape from the F-56 Shooting Star he had taken up for test at Burbank, Calif. His parachute was partially opened.

Division of State School Money Made Here

Number of Pupils And Teachers Largest Factor Involved

Distribution of state funds for local school districts has been done by Wily Knighten, school superintendent, according to the laws governing such distribution.

The county receives these funds under two laws necessitating two computations. Some schools do not participate in the distribution because they did not levy 3 mills or more for school purposes. Number of pupils and number of teachers units are the determining factors in the division.

The funds received by the districts are deducted from the totals of their budgets and the local school tax is reduced by the amounts received from the state.

The comparatively small sums budgeted by some districts may be accounted for by the fact that some budgets had to be reduced by appropriations made over the legal six percent as determined by the budget law held invalid in late June.

In the foregoing list the first column is the number of the district, the second is the budget as passed, the third is the sum received from the state fund and the fourth is the amount to be raised by the special school tax in that district.

Dist.	Budget	State	Tax
Nonth	\$10,292.24	\$666.84	\$9625.40
1	none	none	none
2	26,241.11	1849.48	24,391.63
4	none	none	none
5	3668.50	333.40	3335.10
7	7538.12	3368.04	4170.08
9	22,414.56	2873.09	19,541.47
13	none	none	none
15	1529.16	833.40	1195.76
16	none	none	none
17	20,384.50	3446.72	16,937.78
19	none	none	none
21	none	none	none
22	1001.15	383.40	617.75
22	1169.91	383.40	886.51
23	6860.99	1718.05	5142.94
24	3943.52	333.40	3610.12
30	2781.50	333.40	2448.10
32	1342.11	333.40	1008.71
33	4525.17	333.40	4191.77
	\$113,484.54	\$96,902.57	
Totals		\$16,581.97	

A few years ago the schools of Sherman county were operated with a special tax of from fifty to sixty thousand. Now the total is \$92,902 although reduced by over \$16,000 by outside funds. In the state at large costs have increased by about half as large a percentage.

New Buildings Due At Oregon State

Early completion of plans for new buildings at OSC with actual construction as soon as humanly possible, is sought by President A. L. Strand in view of the urgency brought on by the sudden ending of the war.

President Strand spent part of the war-end holiday with architects working on plans for the new electrical engineering building which is one of the first classroom buildings scheduled. Another is the dairy manufacturing building, while a third approved by the state board of higher education is an industrial research building.

Plans are nearest completion for the new dormitory for women which is badly needed now in view of the early return of men to the campus in pre-war numbers. The college has leased all available fraternity houses to handle coeds this fall who would normally be in Margaret Snell hall, released to the Navy for the NROTC.

President Strand said the sudden ending of the war emphasizes the wisdom of Oregon voters in approving the building measure at the recent special election. He hopes that lifting of the manpower controls and expected release of building materials will permit construction to begin much earlier than had seemed possible.

Four Boys Leave For Army; May Occupy Japan

Leaving for the army Thursday were Clair Baker, Harold Meizer, Donald Thompson and Leland Schwedel. The first three go in limited service but it is not thought that there will be much difference in duties imposed now that the war is over. They may get a new kind of training and become a part of an army of occupation.

This is the first contingent to leave Sherman county after the war has ended—all but the peace signing.

Gordon Fraser Wins Oak Leaf Cluster

The 1st Oak Leaf Cluster to the Bronze Star Medal for heroic achievement in action has been awarded to Captain Gordon O. Fraser, whose father, T. H. Fraser, resides in Moro, Oregon.

Fraser was serving with the 863rd Field Artillery Battalion of the 63rd (Blood and Fire) Division. On March 8, 1945 between Bubingen and Fechingen, Germany, due to much heavier resistance than had been anticipated Captain Fraser encountered severe artillery, mortar and automatic weapons fire. The hostile fire was of such intensity that some of the infantry companies were forced to withdraw to evacuate casualties and reorganize. During the entire action, Captain Fraser stayed with the infantry battalion commander directing artillery fire on the enemy and assisting the battalion commander in making necessary plans. His untiring devotion under the highest credit upon himself and the Armed Forces of the U. S.

Previous to his entrance into the Army, September 17, 1941, Captain Fraser attended OSC and Purdue University.

Oregon Crops Less

Crop prospects declined in Oregon generally during July, although the weather was favorable in the nation as a whole, according to a weekly review by the OSC extension service. Grain crop prospects fell sharply in Oregon but hay production is still expected to exceed last year.

National prospects for corn improved and the crop reporting service estimate was raised to 2,844 million bushels, 160 million more than the July 1 figure but still 12 percent under the harvest of 1944. The percentage of soft corn probably will be considerably above average.

The national oats crop at 1,546 million bushels breaks the 25-year record. Production this year of the four feed grains combined—corn, oats, barley, and grain sorghum—was forecast on August 1 at 114 million tons. Considering the slightly larger carry over, the total supply of feed grain would be nearly as large as in the 1944-45 feeding season, depending on how the corn crop finally turns out.

Total national production of all crops was expected to be about 97 1-2 per cent as large as in 1944. This would be the third largest crop output of record. The record wheat crop of 1,146 million bushels, a near-record hay crop, and above average indications for potatoes and fresh market vegetables contribute to the favorable national crop prospects.

The total tonnage of the eight major deciduous fruits—apples, peaches, pears, grapes, cherries, plums, prunes and apricots—is expected to be 12 per cent less than last year and 2 percent below average. The national apple crop is only 55 percent of 1944 when apple production was about equal to the 1935-36 average.

On the Pacific coast prune crop prospects are slightly above average and much better than last year, but considerably smaller than last year and 2 percent below average. The national almond and walnut crop are in prospect than last year, including almonds and pecans, the national crop of tree nuts was forecast about the same as 1944.

So This Is, or Was, Hiroshima



An aerial view of the Japanese city of Hiroshima, an important industrial center and military base, which was the first target to be hit by the new atomic bomb, announced by President Truman. The following morning the Japs admitted extensive damage done by the new "bombs." Only one bomb was dropped, but 60 per cent of the city estimated destroyed.

New Crop Insurance Plan Held Successful

Federal all-risk crop insurance, now being offered to Oregon growers on 1946 wheat crops, has been strongly endorsed by the heads of two major farm organizations in the state, according to William J. Enschede, chairman of the state AAA committee. Closing date for applying for insurance on fall sown wheat is September 30.

Support of the program by all farmers, both for protection on wheat now and for possible future extension of insurance to other crops, is urged by Morton Tompkins, master of the Oregon Farmers Union.

In a letter to all subordinate and Pamona grange masters, Tompkins said: "I feel strongly that all Grangers should be interested in seeing to it that the crop insurance program succeeds. If the program on wheat is successful, we can look forward to the day when weather, insects, fire, disease and flood are removed from the hazards of farming."

Pointing out that crop insurance is a part of the Farmers Union national agricultural program, Jones, in a letter to the presidents of all locals, declared: "If we ever want crop insurance now is our chance to get behind this program and make it work while we have government support." He also stressed the self-sustaining mutual aspects of the program.

Both granges and union locals were urged by their state leaders to undertake sales agencies for federal crop insurance wherever possible. Such arrangements are being made in a number of counties, Enschede reported.

OPA Boards Will Be Consolidated

Based on information from Charles R. Baird, regional OPA administrator, Janney said that local boards would eventually be concentrated into "area price control panels" or boards, in communities yet to be selected. The action will affect all boards in region 8 which includes Oregon.

"Local war price and rationing boards have been swinging more and more into the price control field for some time past," Baird pointed out, adding that the national OPA has authorized employment of 76 additional persons in the region's price divisions to handle reconversion pricing and ceiling on building and construction materials.

13 County Men Dead In War; Two Missing

No Additions Made To Casualty List Since Memorial Day

The record of Sherman county's participation in World War II has been made. Most of it has been written. Remaining is the job of compiling it and gathering up the information about it.

First comes the record of lives lost in the conflict. Unless there have been changes made in the last two months the record shows 13 dead Sherman countians due directly to the war. The list was published prior to last Memorial day along with the list of those who had served and were serving. The names of all of them are on the plaque on the court house grounds.

In World War I Sherman county lost two men in action. They were Henry Baker and Chris Schultz. Five died of other causes. A total of 208 from this county served of whom 16 were in actual battle.

A similar record for the recently closed war may be made although the classification may change.

Known killed in action are:

- Wyman John French, killed in action in Holland.
- Carl Frederick Peetz, killed in action in Germany.
- Carsten Amandus von Borstel killed in Italy.
- Earl Charles Williams, killed in the Philippines.
- Chester Donovan Watkins, killed in Germany.

Died in service (some under conditions that may be interpreted as killed in action) were: Kenneth Emmett Barnett, died aboard ship in South Pacific.

Leland Andrew Barnett, died in hospital in San Francisco. Donald Roscoe Burnet, killed in plane accident in Louisiana. Earl David Dutton, killed while flying in South Pacific.

Robert Huck, killed in accident in France. Charles William McKinney, killed in accident near Klamath Falls. Harlow Judson Parkins, killed in plane accident in Italy. Samuel Fredinand Stark, killed when ship sank in storm off Philippines.

Listed as missing in action are: Robert Kelse Christianson, missing over Truk on B-17 flight. William Goldie Macnab, missing over Austria while on B-17 flight.

The total of those who served from Sherman county has not been fully compiled. Some art being taken even yet into the service from other counties. The list includes those who entered from this county, those who had lived here since 1935, or whose parents lived here.

Blagg-Coyle Wedding Held At Vancouver

Miss Dorothy Coyle, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jerry Coyle of Lebanon and M-Sgt Ivan Blagg, son of Mr and Mrs J. W. Blagg of Grass Valley were united in marriage at seven o'clock Saturday evening August 18 at the First Christian church in Vancouver, Wash., in the presence of members of the immediate families.

The double ring ceremony was read by the Christian minister. Their attendants were Mr and Mrs James Blagg of Bingen, Wash.

The bride wore a pink coral suit with brown accessories and wore a corsage of white gardenias. The bride's attendant wore a gold colored suit with brown accessories and wore a corsage of white gardenias.

The bride was a teacher in the Grass Valley grade school last year having resigned to be married and go with her husband to Los Angeles, California, where he is stationed.

Quality of Crop Averages Better Than Normal

Early marketings of Hard Red Winter wheat from Oklahoma, Texas, and southern Kansas, indicated a good quality of grain from this area. Test weight per bushel was relatively high and moisture content low, but after July as the harvesting extended northward, unfavorable weather with rain increased the moisture content in the wheat, resulting in 14 percent of the receipts inspected during July grading "tough."

Domestic grain markets were not materially affected by announcement of the war's end during the week ended August 17, according to reports to the Office of Marketing Services of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. The markets generally had been quite well prepared for the situation, since the stop of hostilities had been expected for some time.

"The quality of the 1945 winter wheat crop produced in the main belt is better than average. July inspections of receipts at representative markets indicate, Hard Red Winter wheat is grading slightly higher than the 1944 crop and considerably better than average. Soft Red Winter wheat, however, is grading materially lower than the high quality crop of last season and is slightly higher than average."

MORE ITEMS FREE

The "de-control" process will take place gradually says OPA. Commodities will be released from price control as soon as it can be determined that removal will result in no increase in the cost of living. Ceiling prices on a few consumer goods have already been removed. These include several jewelry item, sports equipment items, toys selling at retail for 25 cents or less, cigarette lighter, pipe, some photographic apparatus, tools have been suspended on a clothespins and notions. Price ceiling on "luxury" furs and fur garments, too.

With major emphasis from now on headed in the direction of price control, Frederic F. Janney, acting district OPA director, announced today a gradual consolidation of local board activities as remaining rationing programs taper off.

SKIES SMOKY

Smoke from forest fires to the west drifted in Wednesday to place a haze over the entire county. Hot weather and continued dry days have made the fires doubly dangerous and some of them have been burning a month or over.