

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

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

Although opposed to the principle of subsidy payments, Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson has yielded to the force of circumstances. One of the first public statements made by him after assuming his post was that he would like to abolish all subsidies, but one of his first official acts was to announce a subsidy on frozen-pack corn, snapbeans, and mixed vegetables. This was followed by authorization of a subsidy on new feed wheat to help maintain livestock production, and then early peaches and lambs were admitted to the specially favored class. The feed subsidy which was discontinued last April cost approximately \$250,000,000 for products largely exported under lend-lease during the past four years.

Another example of the result of subsidy payments is the case of wool, of which Commodity Credit Corp. now holds 270,000,000 pounds at 20 cents a pound above fleece imported from Australia and New Zealand. The result is that these two countries are able to dominate the domestic goods market. There is scarcely an item in the subsidy list the marketing of which is not handicapped by inflated values due to the payment of these gratuities from the federal treasury.

Nevertheless, the payment of subsidies goes merrily on and it would be foolish to predict early abolition of this uneconomic practice. Manufacturers, producers, processors and every other group in the United States when confronted by a disadvantageous situation hastens to Washington D. C., with brief case filled with arguments to support a claim for subsidy, and if it is denied by an administrative agency the appeal is carried to congress with confidence that a political sponsor can be found. Begun in depression days as a temporary make shift, the subsidy program was expanded as a war emergency and now almost seems to have reached the status of an established government policy. No one has attempted to compile the total cost to taxpayers and consumers, but the sum is prodigious and has every prospect of being continuous.

Even Secretary Anderson has ceased to voice his objections, and so far congress has few members in either house or senate who is not ready to espouse the cause of any constituent who feels that the government should assure a profit from whatever he wishes to undertake. He will be a brave man indeed who first rises to demand that the practice be discontinued.

Political commentators who have been free in charging that President Truman is being dictated to by the party machine in making appointments failed to remark on his selection of Casper W. Ooms as commissioner of patents. Ooms, a Chicago patent lawyer, is a former Republican, and was chosen over the objection of Mayor Kelly of Chicago and without the endorsement of National Chairman Robert Hannegan. He is, however, have the approval of Henry A. Wallace, secretary of commerce, who is persona non grata with Kelly and none too well liked by Chairman Hannegan. The office of commissioner of patents is nonpartisan and the Republicans had a strong candidate in Maj. Roy Hackley of San Francisco. Ooms accepted the position only after two other men had refused the job.

Report by a national poll showing that 60 percent of the American people believe the recipients of lend-lease should be asked to pay for what they got was not published.

New Owners Take City Will Note Over Moro Fuel Yard Monday

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Mulick of The Dalles bought the Moro Lumber & Fuel Yard Saturday and are in the process of taking over that business from Mr. and Mrs. Martin Melzer who have operated it for the past seven years.

The ill health of Mr. Melzer and the other duties of Mrs. Melzer are the reasons for selling. Mrs. Mulick is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Skirving of The Dalles and she has been in the office of the Tum-A-Lum company there for several years. Mr. Mulick has recently been discharged from the merchant marine where he has served several years. They expect to build a home in Moro.

Better Gas Coming Quickly Now

Improved qualities of regular and premium grades of gasoline about to come on the market will cost the consumers no more than the lower qualities of these grades produced for civilian use during the war, OPA says. Regular grade gasoline sold since April 1944 has been generally about 70 octane, but this octane rating will move up to at least the normal level of 72 to 74 octane, and may in some cases be in excess of 75 octane, according to advice received by OPA from the industry. Premium grade gasoline is also being improved and, as a result, OPA has lifted the minimum octane rating qualifying for the premium grade ceilings from 75 octane to 73 octane.

College Ready For First Peace Year

The college is making ready to receive its freshmen class for the year 1945-46. Freshmen will arrive on the campus Sunday, September 23, and an interesting three-day "Freshman Days" program is being planned. Included in this orientation program will be social events, special assemblies, and tests. The entire program is for the purpose of helping freshmen students get acquainted with college traditions and methods.

Applications for admission are now being received daily by Lyle H. Johnson, Registrar of the college, and indications are that the enrollment for the fall term will exceed that of last year.

Bean Crop Partly Lost; No Pickers

Lack of local harvest workers, caused by the let-down of interest in helping with farm work immediately following the Japanese surrender, resulted in a loss of from 8,000 to 10,000 tons of snap beans in the Willamette valley, it has been conservatively estimated by J. R. Beck, OSC extension service farm labor supervisor. This represents a loss to growers of nearly a million dollars.

SOIL DISTRICT EXPLAINED

Increased interest in organization of soil conservation districts in Oregon has led to publication in pamphlet form of the Oregon soil conservation districts law including 1941 and 1945 amendments. This law is administered by the state soil conservation committee which maintains offices in room 111, agricultural hall at OSC. Copies of the law may be had from there or from county extension offices.

The pamphlet also explains briefly the procedure adopted by the state committee for the formation of a district and gives the official form of petition which is circulated as the first step in establishing a district. At present there are 11 districts in operation in Oregon and several others in process of formation.

Payment of Bonds Monday Night

The committee appointed to make a program for the city bond burning has performed its duties.

The formal bond burning will be done by members of the council as a part of a program that will include instrumental and vocal music as well as some community singing.

Giles French will talk about the city's bond history. An orchestra will take over after the program and make music for the folks to dance.

The party is given by the city for the special benefit of the taxpayers of Moro who for the first known time since July 1899 have been entirely free from bonded debt. There will be no charge.

When an individual gets his notes and mortgages back from his creditors there is a feeling of elation accompanying them that he often remembers long enough to remain on the debt free side for some time. The taxpayers of Moro are in the same favored position right now. This meeting will be their opportunity to demonstrate their pleasure.

Army To Enlist Men For Occupation Duty

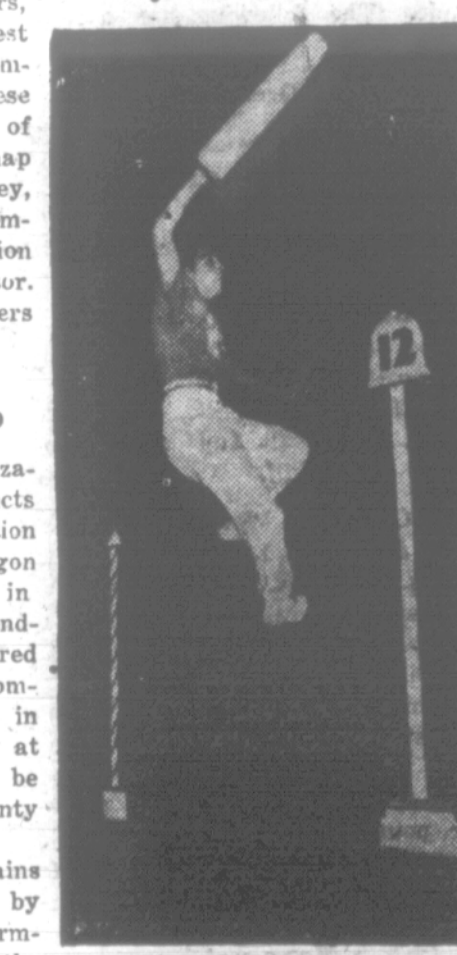
The Army's plans for raising a volunteer force of "guardians of victory" which eventually will replace the Selective Service soldiers in our peacetime army were revealed today by Brigadier General Harold N. Gilbert, U.S.A., newly appointed Director of Military Personnel Procurement Service.

Hundreds of recruiting stations will be opened in various parts of the United States and recruiting officers in each army organization will emphasize the advantages of adopting the peacetime regular army as a career.

The recruiters will have many persuasive selling points—the lure of travel; the advantages of acquiring occupational skills; the security of an army career. All recruits, whether they sign up from civilian life or from the ranks of the army, have the advantage of office of dependency allowances for their families.

Wily Knight and wife were in Portland Wednesday.

Player of Jai-Alai



Jai-alai may never take the place of baseball or basketball, but it has won plenty of followers in the United States since it was introduced a year ago at Miami, Fla. It holds the top spot among sports in Spanish and Latin-American countries.

With but One Single Thought



Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, left, and General of the Army Douglas MacArthur are shown as they chatted at General MacArthur's headquarters, during the visit of Lord Louis to the Philippines area recently. They had plans for fast and complete victory over the Japs. Mountbatten commands the Southeast Asia area against Japan.

Sybil Belshe Weds Sergeant, In Mississippi

Miss Sybil Belshe, daughter of Mrs. Hazel Belshe and now a corporal in the WACs at Key Field, Meridian, Miss., and S-Sgt. John Stockdale Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. John Stockdale of Syracuse, New York, were married at the field chapel August 24 with Chaplain John Hunter officiating.

The chapel, decorated in white gladioli and ferns, made a pretty background for the bride in her white wedding gown of chiffon with beaded yoke and full skirt. White asters were the bride's bouquet. Sgt. Chester Severa was best man. Sgt. Jones Albert sang "Because" and "At Dawning." Cpl. Anne Vane was maid of honor.

The bride was born and educated through high school in Sherman county and graduated from the Oregon College of Education at Monmouth before teaching in Portland. Sgt. Stockdale was employed by the American District Telegraph Co. before entering service.

Historical Society Committee Called

Plans for the first meeting of the newly formed Sherman County Historical Society are being made by Theodore Johnston, president, who will call the committee appointed to write a constitution and by-laws into action sometime this month.

Purpose of the organization has been set by the first group that brought it into being. It is to gather and preserve the history of the county and to interest the coming generation in that history. It is understood that meetings will be held this winter by the group which was formed July 4 at the picnic held in the Moro park.

First Rains Not Satisfactory

The first rains of the fall have come, but there have not been enough of them to do the farmers much good. The first rain brought .16 inches of dampness which was well dissipated by wind and sun. The night of Labor day another .10 fell and the sun of the following day took it into the air in a short time. Farmers have just about completed their harvest work as only one or two are still in the field with their combines. Others have already put their summerfallow in shape, put up the feed for winter and treated their seed wheat preparatory to the hoped for rains.

OVESONS IN CORVALLIS

Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Oveson left Wednesday for Corvallis with a truck load of hay cut at different stages of development. The hay will be tested for protein content at the college to determine its feed value. The Ovesons will be in the college city for the remainder of the week.

Mid-Columbia Group Goes To See Dextrose Plant

A delegation of men from the mid-Columbia section of Oregon visited the Northwest Chemurgy Cooperative at Wenatchee, August 29 and explored the possibilities of having the cooperative erect a hundred-ton glucose and sugar plant at The Dalles.

Among those in the party was John DeMoss of Moro, Sherman county representative on the board of directors of the company formed for The Dalles plant. Others were Ralph Potter of Gilliam county, Orville Cutsforth of Morrow county, Claud Macoson of Umatilla county, Roy Johnson of Wasco county and Morton Tompkins, state Grange master.

They went through the plant at Wenatchee and saw wheat being made into dextrose syrup and met the board of directors to hear of the success the plant has made in the last three years. Further studies are being made.

It is expected that the projected plant in The Dalles would hire 75 to 100 men and use 7000 bushels of wheat daily or nearly 2,000,000 bushels annually.

Starch, glucose, dextrose and by-products would be manufactured.

Efforts are being made to interest the cooperatives in Sherman county in the proposed plant.

Growers of Wheat Safe Awhile Yet

Farmers growing "basic" and "Steagall" commodities have a direct financial interest in the end of the war, R. B. Taylor, chairman of the state AAA committee, points out. Upon the formal declaration that war is ended will depend how long the government is committed to support prices of these farm commodities at the specified levels.

Wheat is the only Oregon crop named as "basic" in the Agricultural Adjustment act. For basic commodities, congress has directed that prices shall be supported at 90 percent of parity.

"Steagall" commodities are those for which the secretary of agriculture by proclamation has requested increased wartime production. These include hogs, eggs, chickens over 3 1-2 pounds live-weight, turkeys, milk and butterfat, dry peas, dry beans, flaxseed and potatoes. For these, the price support level is "not less than 90 percent of the parity or comparable price."

Legislation directing price supports for these two groups of commodities fixes the support period for the duration of the war and until the "expiration of the 2-year period beginning with the first day of January immediately following the date upon which the president by proclamation or the congress by concurrent resolution declares that hostilities in the present war have been terminated."

Just when and how this formal declaration will be made is still a matter of conjecture. At the end of World War I, the joint resolution of congress declaring peace with Germany and Austria was not signed by President Harding until July 2, 1921. If the end of hostilities is proclaimed anytime before next January 1, the government's price commitments for "Steagall" and basic commodities will extend through 1946 and 1947, chairman Taylor explains.

Congresswoman Acts



Preparing to play the leading role in "Candida," Congresswoman Clara Boothe Luce is shown in her costume for the George Bernard Shaw play opening in Stamford, Conn.

Missionary To Jews To Talk at Grass Valley

On Sunday, September 16, there will be special Missionary services at the Grass Valley Baptist church. Mr. Karl Faulkner, Missionary to the Jews in Oregon will be the speaker at the morning, afternoon and evening services.

Mr. Faulkner spent several years in Europe before the war as a missionary to the Jews in Czechoslovakia, Austria and Hungary, and has collected many items of interest in his travels. He has slides to be shown at the evening service and examples of embroidery and handiwork.

Come and hear a man who has lived in and traveled thru many of the countries of Europe in the news today.

Services at 11 a. m., 3 p. m. and 8 p. m.

Scarcity of Feeds Still Holds Market

Despite larger output of several kinds of feedstuffs than a year ago, the scarcity persists. Pacific coast markets remained very strong during the week ended August 28 and mid-west markets were about unchanged. The United States index of feedstuffs prices remained at about 99 percent of a year ago.

As in July, cattle receipts at the twelve principal stockyards were smaller than last year the first three weeks of August, but ran ahead substantially the fourth week. Calf marketings also increased to about the same rate as a year previous after running behind for several weeks. Beef production during the rest of 1945 probably will continue greater than a year previous, with other meat animals falling below last year. Not much change in the total number of cattle in the United States is expected to occur during 1945, however.

Taxes To Be Higher For 1945-46 Year

School Costs Make Tax Bills Higher In Most Districts

Tax levies for the 1945-46 tax year have been computed by Charles A. Ruggles, county assessor, and the printed information will be available to inquirers in a few days.

Despite the tax money that comes from the state for school purposes taxes in Sherman county are definitely higher than last year. For instance the general fund will need \$34,754 as compared to \$22,361 last year; The road fund is \$33,781 compared to \$972; special school taxes are \$88,299 compared to \$57,411; non-high tax is \$9,622 compared to \$8,623 and special city taxes are \$8,600 compared to \$7,845. Only break the taxpayer gets is the lack of a tax for post-war construction.

The total tax to be collected is \$175,068 compared to \$138,018 in the last tax year. In addition to this the state sent some \$16,000 back to the county from income taxes.

Schools will cost the taxpayers \$88,299 in special taxes, \$37.70 in school library tax, \$7540 in per capita school taxes, and \$16,561 from income taxes and \$9622 in non-high taxes. The total is \$122,180 slightly over 60 percent of the total tax.

The general fund will take 3.6 mills, the road fund 3.5 mills, the non-high fund 1.8 mills, a total of 8.9 mills for rural districts without special school taxes.

City millages remain about the same with that of Wasco being 19.5 mills, Moro 14.6 and Grass Valley 9.2. Total city millages are as follows: Wasco 30.6, Moro 43.7, Grass Valley 26.9.

Principal Search Having Results

Search for a principal to take the place left vacant by the resignation of E. R. Joe Barker has progressed to the point that school directors express themselves as certain of hiring a capable successor. Several have been interviewed and there still remains the matter of making a selection and coming to an agreement with whomever is chosen. No further information was available.

Court Contemplates Equipment Purchase

Action of the county court at the September meeting held Wednesday was not extensive although discussion was had on several subjects. Salesmen for road machinery appeared and offered the county their wares but no decision to buy was reached although some of the equipment may be inspected. Members of the court expressed a desire to wait awhile to see if it would be possible to buy some government surplus equipment a little later.

Bills for the month were audited and ordered paid. Appointment of Mrs. Estel Hartley as deputy sheriff was noted as was the resignation of Mrs. Charles Bothwell from the same position.

Hiring of a caretaker for the fair grounds was left in the hands of the fair board which has been in charge of the grounds for some years.

TRUCK ALLOTMENTS

The Surplus Property Board has ceased allocating surplus trucks to farmers and farm cooperatives and will release, for regular disposal, trucks recently allocated to farmers and not yet sold. It was announced by the Board. Farmers who wish to purchase surplus trucks should contact a local truck dealer as the vehicles will be disposed of thru normal channels, with no need for certification.