

SHERMAN COUNTY JOURNAL DAIRY STRIKE

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Those who would trade freedom for security are deserving of neither.

DECISION TO BE MADE

This county is soon to be called upon to make a decision that will be important. The Inland Navigation company has applied to the interstate commerce commission for joint rail and water rates in the entire mid-Columbia region, giving as a reason its desire to haul grain down the river, by barge and perhaps eventually by ocean steamer.

The reason the people of this county will have a hard decision to make is that if such rates are granted by the commission the branch rail lines will probably be taken up. No one seriously thinks that the branch lines can be operated at the rate that would probably prevail to The Dalles from Sherma county points.

Wheat rate to Portland from Moro is 6.6 cents per bushel. The railroads like to figure the branch line contribution at 25 percent of the total charge. However, the interstate commerce commission inclines toward increasing that figure to a half. Whatever the correct figure, the railroads would be hauling wheat to The Dalles for not over 3.3 cents per bushel and turning it over to another form of transportation.

It is doubtful if the county could make a very good case against removal of the rails if a joint rate were in effect. It was not an easy argument to win when evidence was at hand to show that will over 90 percent of the wheat was shipped to tidewater by rail. The former case was won by showing of the necessity of the rails; if other transportation was available in 38 miles or less and if railroad receipts were cut in half or less, the case would be a very difficult one for the county to win.

It may be that the county is ready to let the railroad leave and depend entirely on other forms of transportation. That is a possibility. Trucks could probably be obtained to haul the grain and barges might be available to take it down the river. It is possible that both could be obtained before needed, but neither are available at present.

For some years the county, and entire district, has been able to obtain low rail rates by the expressed or implied threat of other means of transportation. Competition has resulted in comparatively low rates. When that competition was lost through removal of the rails rates might be raised, despite the supposed cheapness of river transportation.

Although the entire railroad system pays a sizeable part of the taxes in Sherman county, the greater part of that tax come from the main line. The Siskiyou branch now pays but 5.66 percent of the county's tax bill, although it once paid around 12 percent in the depression when tax money was scarce.

This coming battle will be another chapter in the long battle between the railroads and the boatmen. Since the rails were first put along the river they have carried the greater part of the freight. Use of the river as a major form of transportation was restricted to the pre-rail days. Theory indicates that river transportation would be cheaper; practise has not proven it.

The decision as to which one this county wishes to use may be with us soon. We can probably take one or the other, but it is doubtful if we can retain both.

If this be spring we will take vanilla.

Portland is all upset because its citizens are not getting milk delivered as usual. The OPA has refused to let the dairymen charge a price equal to that paid by milk processors, who are now getting the milk the citizens would otherwise consume.

Dairymen have long been held to a price that was unprofitable. They have had feed prices raised and labor costs increased until there is nothing left for them. Decision to strike came only after long efforts to obtain a price under which they could continue to operate.

The solution isn't to damn the dairymen; it is to get rid of the OPA.

NO OPA

People are funny. They are afraid to put down the umbrella. Those of them who work at a job are afraid to quit and strike out for themselves. They hate to get out of bed. Let them get something between them and their troubles, be they physical or mental, and they will keep up the shield in preference to facing and settling the ills that beset them.

That must be the psychology that is aiding the barrage of propaganda by the OPA to keep that no-longer-needed organization in operation. The housewife is told that her shopping money would be entirely inadequate without the OPA. They are the political policemen who prevent the butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker from robbing the people right and left. Every body is entirely dishonest and grasping and the OPA is all that withholds the hungry hand of the tradesman from the family purse.

Of course, that is a lot of bunk. Some prices would probably rise without OPA. Some would certainly be lowered as soon as production could be started. Now we buy second rate articles at first rate prices because no one can make first rate goods.

In addition to the OPA we have other agencies paying subsidies to producers. One branch of government or the other controls the production and the price of goods. We will never get back to normal living as long as the beef producer gets a subsidy and the OPA sets the price. Who knows what a beef is worth, how much it could be sold for, whether it will grow more or less. The market is fictitious and not based on supply and demand.

It is about time Americans (if they wish to continue to be) stop being afraid of their fellow Americans. If the butcher charges too much for meat we'll buy it some place else. We can better adjust the prices we are willing to pay by buying or withholding trade than by regulation by a bunch of bureaucrats in Washington.

BIGGER MINIMUM WAGE

Congress is now debating a bill that would make the minimum hourly wage 65 cents, and would increase that within two years to 75 cents. The administration wants the bill and it will probably pass although there is a chance that the figure may be revised.

Establishing a floor under all wages may not work to the benefit of working men. Nor is it certain that a bill to equalize wages in this manner will help anyone. True, it is only a floor, and most labor is expected to receive a higher wage.

As a practical matter, however, it does indicate the general trend of thought that all men may be worth 65 cents per hour, in any part of a very large nation, and at any job, under any conditions. Regardless of the living conditions or standards or costs, or the value of the job to the employer, the wage is to be set by government edict.

One result that might come from such a law may be more small businesses, and by small business, we mean one or two man businesses. If they fail to earn 65 cents per hour they charge it to profit and loss and not have to come before some bureaucrat for sentence.

If that be the object of the bill it has not been stated in debate. Another effect might be the decentralization of industry. Men can live more cheaply in small towns, more cheaply in the south than in the north. With labor coming to be so large a part of manufacturing costs in

Washington Column

Continued from page one.

planes, all told, and the sky was filled for hours as the planes dived over the District of Columbia. The planes now held in cold storage for the National Guard will be seven times more than there were in the great mass flight. The planes are to be used for continued training to see that every pilot, bombardier, radio operator and navigator is kept thoroughly familiar with flying and capable of instant service. National Guard units of the Pacific Northwest will be given or loaned an allotment of these planes as soon as the plans have been worked out.

Because of loud howls, a congressional committee will probe into complaints against the army brass hats. It is asserted that the United States can never have a democratic army, that officers should not eat with enlisted men, for that would break down discipline and instead of an army it would be an armed mob.

Russia tried that in Finland and it did not work. There was a political commissar with every outfit and it was the commissar instead of the officers who decided what should be done. Russia finally kicked out the commissars and now the Russian officers have their own clubs, decorations, and salutes, all of which were forbidden prior to Finland.

There are some abuses in the American army, but the principal fault appears to be with inefficient leadership in many cases.

In Other Days

From the Observer, April 1, 1927

While harnessing his team of mules Monday morning I. E. Wilson was kicked in the jaw by one of them breaking his jaw. He went to the hospital to have it wired together and went back to work.

Permanent oiling operations on the Sherman highway as far south as Grass Valley will be done this week according to reports.

The balmy spring weather of the last few days culminated in many picnics last Sunday.

From the Observer, Mar. 30, 1941

A number of farmers around Moro have had their winter sown wheat killed by cold winds and reseeding with \$1.75 seed.

A. M. Wright was nominated as mayor and W. S. Powell, C. R. Belshee and R. J. Ginn as councilmen at a mass meeting held Thursday.

F. E. Dunton principal of the Moro school, has sold his residence property to J. E. Coleman and expects to build another one.

The Thursday Pleasure club met with Mrs. C. P. Axtell with Mrs. Howard Conlee as co-hostess.

From the Observer, Mar. 29, 1940

The official ballot for the city election had J. W. Messinger as mayor, C. K. Cochran as one year councilman, L. Barum, F. R. Messinger and William Rudoff as two year councilmen. All were non-partisan and unopposed.

The executive committee of the public schools field meet and declaratory contest will meet Saturday at the office of W. C. Bryant.

Work has stopped on The Dalles-Cehlo canal because of high water and may not be resumed until August.

John M. Johnson has been laid up from the kick of a horse maiming his right leg.

Industry might have to move away from big cities in order to keep from paying wages commensurate with the cost of city living.

But the general theory that the government should establish wages is not an American one. Men are not equal, jobs are not of equal value, conditions of labor are not the same. The United States is too big for such a bill or the men who are sponsoring it are too small.

GEORGE G. UPDEGRAFF
 Attorney At Law
 Moro and Wasco

Wasco Christian Club Holds Spring Tea

The Women's Society of Christian service held their annual Spring Tea at the home of Mrs. Hildred Zell, Wednesday, March 20. Those who attended spent a lovely afternoon. The following numbers entertained the group during the afternoon: Vocal selections, "Brahms Lullaby" by Patricia Kaseberg, Joan Burres, Barbara McConaughy, Patty Hilderbrand, song by Harry Dean Proudfoot Jr., song by Mrs. John Royse, Mrs. Lloyd Royse, Mrs. Gladys Belshee, "Without a Song" by Gladys Belshee; reading by Marcella Hilderbrand, exercise by Betty Haven and Carmen Royse; instrumental pieces, piano duet by Shirley McIntyre, Patricia Kaseberg; clarinet and trumpet trio Shirley and Jean McIntyre and Nell Coats, accompanied by Patricia Kaseberg on the piano.

Mr and Mrs Jack Mathias of Sunnyside, Washington spent the weekend visiting at the home of Mr and Mrs Ormand Hilderbrand.

Guests at a potluck dinner Sunday at the home of Mr and Mrs Ormand Hilderbrand were Mr and Mrs Wallace May and son of Grass Valley, Mr and Mrs Joe Hilderbrand and Patty, Patricia Kaseberg, Grace Medler and Phyllis Joy, Bob Davis and Lester Gray. The dinner was given in honor of Mr and Mrs Jack Mathias.

Mr and Mrs Ormand Hilderbrand, Marie Barnett Cooper, and Owen Barnett attended the funeral

of their aunt, Mrs Theo. Barnes of Goldendale, Washington Tuesday.

Mr and Mrs Clark Van Giesbeck and children of Blalock spent the week end at the home of Mr and Mrs George Van Gaa'beck.

The Eastern Star meeting Tuesday night honored past Adah's. Guest speaker was Dorothea Moore of the Bethlehem chapter in Moro, who is grand representative of Illinois.

JOB TRAINING OFFERED

How the Oregon veteran can establish himself in on-the-job training under the GI bill of rights is explained in a bulletin prepared and released this week:

Lureka Lodge No. 121 A.F. & A.M. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. Visiting members are cordially invited to meet with us. LeRoy Wright, W. M. H. B. Pinkerton, Secretary

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome. L. McLachlan N.G. Florence Johnston, S.

Bethlehem Chapter No. 78, O.E.S. Meets 1st and 3rd Thursdays in each month. Visiting Members Invited—Moro, Oregon Helen Ruggles, W. M. Edna Meizer, Secretary

Moro Lodge No. 113, I.O.O.F. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us. Ernest Houston N. G. A. R. Kessinger, Secretary

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DANCE
 The Dalles Orchestra
March 30, 1946
 RUFUS GRANGE HALL

A full College Course for you WITH EXPENSES PAID

Here's important news for young men 18 and over (17 with parents' consent). Under the GI Bill of Rights, if you enlist in the U. S. Army before October 6, 1946, for 3 years, upon your discharge you will be entitled to 48 months of college, trade or business school education. Tuition up to \$500 per ordinary school year will be paid. And you will receive \$65 monthly living allowance—\$90 if you are married. Get the facts at your nearest U. S. Army Recruiting Station.

POSTOFFICE BUILDING Phone 3926 THE DALLES

OF PAINT AND HOMES

Some day when you start to town, turn around before you go over the first hill and look at the buildings and recall how long its been since they had a coat of paint.

Don't try it going home for any home looks good when going toward it at nightfall with light streaming from the kitchen windows.

Which brings us to the point of the story. We have paint to sell, good paint, Fuller paint, and we'll match our price, quality considered, with anybody's paint.

Moro Lumber & Fuel
 MIKE AND MARY ANN MULICK

Department of Veteran's Affairs director, Hugh E. Rosson, Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Lane County on the 27th day of February, 1946 the undersigned Alice Akers as Guardian of the Estates and Persons of Margaret Jane Akers and John Harry Akers, Minor, will from and after Monday, the 15th day of April, 1946 at the hour of 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon of said day at the Law Office of T. LESTER JOHNSON, Moro, Sherman County, Oregon, proceed to sell and will sell at private sale to the highest bidder for cash in hand, or on such terms of cash and credit as may be approved by the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Lane County, all the right, title and interest of the said Margaret Jane Akers and John Harry Akers, Minor, in one parcel and subject to confirmation by the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for Lane County, in and to the following described real property: Lot Six (6), Block Twenty-Two (22), City of Moro, Sherman County, Oregon. Dated this 8th day of March, 1946.

ALICE AKERS, Guardian. Date of First Publication March 8th, 1946. Date of Last Publication April 5th, 1946.

From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Ben Ryder and the Wanderlust

During the war, Ben Ryder talked about the trips he'd take when gasoline rationing was ended. Used to pore over roadmaps—checking mileages and charting routes.

Now Ben's taking quite a lot of ribbing. Soon as rationing was lifted, he decided he liked staying home, putting in the garden, playing chess, sharing a pleasant glass of beer with friends.

"Shucks," admits Ben sheepishly, "as soon as you can go, then it's just as good as having gone!

You might as well stay home... enjoy your friends and family." From where I sit, that's a pretty common trait in human nature.

Take that glass of beer, for instance. During Prohibition, Ben was nursing an insatiable thirst. But come repeal, Ben suddenly finds he's happy with a friendly, moderate glass of beer—and nothing more. Yep—just tell folks the sky's the limit, and they'll settle for a piece of friendly earth.

Joe Marsh

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SOMETHING TO REMEMBER

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Produced in the U.S.A. under the direct supervision of our expert Canadian blender.

CORBY'S
 A GRAND OLD CANADIAN NAME

46 Proof, 63.45 Grain Neutral Spirits
 Jas. Barclay & Co., Ltd., Peoria, Illinois