

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**

The Federal Reserve Board, in June made a report on the basis of a survey conducted by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics which paints a picture of present actual conditions. This report shows that in 1945 the top 10 per cent of spending units (families) received 29 per cent of all money income of the country and had 53 percent of the gross savings and 60 percent of the liquid assets. At the lowest level, 50 percent of the families received 22 percent of the money income and held 3 percent of the gross savings and 3 percent of the liquid assets. The report shows that the average holdings of the top 10 percent was \$10,500 and of the next 20 percent \$2,350. In the lowest bracket, 40 percent of the total families had an average in savings of \$40. The report concludes with the statement that the 40 percent of all families constitutes only one percent of all the savings in the country.

An ardent champion of organized labor, Senator Murray, Montana, (a very wealthy man, by the way) discounts the purported strength of unions. The April issue of the Monthly Labor Review, published by the Department of Labor estimates that 13,800,000 workers out of the total employment of 56,000,000 in labor force are covered by union agreements. This 13,800,000 includes an indeterminate number who are not union members at all, says the senator. "Exclusive bargaining rights" require an employer who is operating under less than a union shop agreement to grant identical wages and hours to union and non-union workers alike. There is also a difference between bona fide union members and "paper" union members. Considering all these factors Senator Murray doubts that more than one-fifth of the 56,000,000 employed are actual union members. The general supposition is that there are probably 10,000,000 union members in the United States, although whatever the number, it has been reduced since the war as hundreds of thousands of men and women who had to join a union before they could work in a shipyard, an aircraft plant or other war activity, have dropped out of the union since V-J day. This is especially true with respect to war industries in the northwest.

Members of the senate pay an income tax of \$142.40 a month which amounts to \$1,708.80 a year. This is taken out of the salaries as a withholding tax, just the same as Bill Jones, who works in a logging camp, finds part of his pay is deducted and sent to the Internal Revenue Bureau. The senate now, at their option, hire an administrative assistant (which is not classified as a secretary) on a base pay which will hit near \$10,000 a year. Not all senators relish the idea of an administrative secretary, for they feel that the administrative assistant will be looked upon as the chief man—almost, ranking with a senator. Under the reorganization plan, the senators will have to give more attention to legislative duties for which they were elected, and the administrative assistant is presumed to handle the non-legislative work of a senator's office. This would mean contacting the various departments and seeing that the requests of constituents are taken care of. The business of maintaining contact with departments however, is something most senators enjoy as it gives them an insight into the workings of the bureau. It has been proposed that pay be sufficiently high to attract high caliber men, as Senator LaFollette declares. The low government pay has been a handicap, especially in the upper brackets of jobs, and President Truman has complained at the small pay asserted that it is so small that the best and most suitable

New Ordinance To Give City Tax On Power

Moro's city council met Tuesday night to consider two ordinances. One had to do with the levying of a tax on all persons, companies or corporations engaged in the electrical business in the city, such tax to be two percent of the gross revenue. Payment to the city will be made on the basis of one-twelfth of the income for the previous year and will amount to about \$200 per year according to Les Owens, of the Pacific Power & Light Co. who was present to explain the effect of the new ordinance on his company. The second ordinance is a contract between the city and the power company for street lighting. Lights will be slightly increased according to a schedule made out by the council at its July meeting. Some lights will be increased in size and one will be added.

Fair Board, Midco Breeders To Meet

Monday night, August 26, there will be a meeting of the Sherman County Fair Board together with the officers of the Midco Purebred Breeders association to determine the proper procedure for putting on the fair and a stock sale at the same time and on the same grounds. Mac Barbour will be here to meet with the board and discuss his act, bucking horses. The catalogue for the sale of 66 purebred bulls and cows is nearly ready for distribution to 2300 stockmen of the northwest, many of whom are expected to come and look over and buy some offered at this first sale of the local association. Stock has been consigned from Prineville, Heppner, Condon, Centerville, Washington and other points outside of Sherman and Wasco counties and judging from prices being paid at similar sales should bring satisfactory prices to consigners. The premium list for the fair will be printed within a week or so, for distribution to possible exhibitors in the county.

Mildew Not Necessary Nowadays

Mildew in household fabrics is not such a problem in the far west as in some other parts of the country, but even Oregon homemakers have trouble at times, reports Marjorie Tye, acting extension specialist in clothing at O.S.C. Miss Tye passes on a few suggestions to combat the growth of molds that cause mildew. If mildew invades clothes closets, keeping a small electric light burning for a while will usually dry out the air enough to check it. A small electric fan to stir up the air hastens results. She says it is also good policy to leave closets and drawers open occasionally for an airing. Clothing and household fabrics are best allowed to dry thoroughly before they are thrown into the laundry hamper or chute. It is also best to spread out wet dishcloths, washcloths and shower curtains rather than leaving them bunched. In summer it is safest not to sprinkle more clothes than can be ironed in a day. Materials are now available at drug and department stores to make fabrics resistant to mildew, says Miss Tye. These are good to use on awnings or cotton shower curtains.

Knighten Now Vets Labor Advisor

Eldon Cone of Portland and G. H. Charters of The Dalles, both of the U. S. Employment service, were in town Tuesday and reported that their branch of federal service is now responsible for obtaining jobs for veterans. While here they appointed Wily Knighten as local agent to receive the information and direct veterans desiring a job to the position, whether here or some other place in the state.

Yield Prospect Goes Higher This Week

South End Crop Said One of the Best Ever; Now Being Cut

Crop reports from the south end of the county continue good this week and give rise to hope that the total crop may reach well up into the higher brackets of the two million bushel yield, if not the full three. From Moro north a large number of machines have finished and are pulled into the shed to wait in dusty dignity for another harvest and a brief spell of labor. Farmers in second best clothes come to town and visit over the crop and the respective merits of wheat varieties. Getting rid of the dusty duds of harvest is almost worth the work. Fabulous stories of biggest days threshing are going round and some have put nearly 3000 bushels into the elevator in a single day from one machine. Sixteen foot machines have harvested well over 2000 bushels in a day and the 20 foot machines have made 2700 to 2800 bushels. That even for a wheat farmer \$5000 is a satisfactory days cutting.

Crop reports from around Moro indicate an average of 25 bushels with many reporting 30, 32, 28, 24 and some fewer bushels per acre. Crops are good at Wasco although the variation is greater there, some crops being above 40 bushels and others under 20. There seems a possibility that the Wasco area may get 1,000,000 bushels, Moro 800,000 and Grass Valley should get as much if crops are as good as reported in the area covered by the grain growers organization there. Barley was uniformly good, making from a ton and a quarter to more than a ton and a half per acre of good quality grain. Most of the barley was contracted early for prices ranging between \$51.00 to \$53.00 per ton.

Red Cross Sends Aid To Hospitalse

The Sherman County Red Cross, through Mrs Wily Knighten, has sent to the central depot at San Francisco 23 pairs of mens pajamas, 53 kit bags, 45 knitted wash cloths, lap robes, 3 sweaters, 3 helmets, 7 pair's bed sox, 80 toe sox, one thigh stump sox, 3 pair regular sox, all of which material has been manufactured by local women who regularly sew for the Red Cross and through it the men still in hospitals because of war injuries.

Thirty-Two Die In Auto Accidents

Thirty-two people lost their lives in traffic casualties during July in Oregon, it has been disclosed by Robert S. Farrell Jr., Secretary of State. While this year's July toll has increased half again over last year's, the greatly swelled traffic volume will probably show driving to have been safer this year, mile for mile. The state's July mileage figures are not yet available. Farrell predicted, however, that when mileage for July has been found, the death rate per miles traveled will show a marked decrease from recent levels.

MRS McLACHLIN TO BOISE

Mrs Molly McLachlin went to Boise, Idaho Monday night to see her son, Wendell and wife. Mrs McLachlin being ill there. Terry Pitman, grand-daughter of Mr and Mrs Tom Fraser is here visiting while her mother is recovering from an appendectomy. Mrs Marius Douma went to Portland Monday night to see her dentist, spending a few days in the city. Mrs Florence Martin went to The Dalles Thursday to stay for a few days receiving medical attention there. Mrs Norman Fields is in Portland visiting with her parents, Mr and Mrs J. R. Means.



THE ARMY GOES BACK TO THE HORSE . . . The horse has come back into his own with the U. S. constabulary forces now on duty patrolling some 1,000 miles of German border along the Czech and Russian frontiers. Here Pvt. Manuel Ward, standing, is inspecting the pass of a civilian from the Ukraine, while Pvt. Gene Robbins sits on his horse. Both G.I.s are from Troy, Ohio. Maj. Gen. Ernest Harmon, who rides a grasshopper plane, commands the unit.

Pioneers Were Often Treeplanters; Many of Their Groves Still Remain

Information that the grove of tall poplar trees that were the only marker remaining of the old William Kenny homestead had been cut down, brings to mind the forethought of many of the pioneers in planting trees around their homesteads. This particular grove was the group that could be seen from the Cottonwood grade and also from the Starvation point road. Perhaps it was the pioneer women, more than the men, who planted trees or had it done in the persuasive way women perennially have with their menfolk. Anyway the first settlers did plant some groves of trees that have lived until the present, shedding their shade on mankind and his domestic animals in the heat of dry land summer. At the Love place the Lombardy poplars grow tall and the big grove of locusts that gave the name to Locust Grove are a landmark now as in early times. The old Eaton place below Wasco has some fine cottonwoods. On the place farmed by Carl Melzer are some locust trees planted, it is said by Mrs Ella Thompson in her youth. Her father, Jack Thompson, was a tree planter whose big poplars and old orchard decorate Hay Canyon shortly above the Harmony school site. Alexander Nish put trees around his dwelling and

Sherman Countians Attend Poley Rites

Numbers of people from Sherman county drove to The Dalles Sunday to be present at the funeral services held at 3:00 p. m. for Dr. C. L. Poley, for years a Sherman county doctor and advisor. Rev. J. K. MacFarlane left Monday for Portland in company with Dewey Thompson to visit Dr. Walters, leader of the church in Oregon. Rev. Wm. Gearhardt of Portland will be the guest pastor at the services Sunday morning.

School Lunchs Handled In State

Federal assistance to school lunch programs in Oregon, formerly available through the Production and Marketing administration of the U. S. department of agriculture, now will be paid to schools for food and equipment purchases through the office of the superintendent of public instruction at Salem. Transfer of the program was announced by E. Harvey Miller, state PMA director, following the completion of an agreement with Rex Putnam, state superintendent of public instruction, for operation in Oregon of the permanent school lunch program authorized this year by congress. Requests for participation in the program now will be directed to Putnam at Salem, who will handle the program for both public and non-profit private schools. The PMA office will continue its interest in helping schools meet minimum requirements, Miller said, and will make administrative reviews and audits of operating programs, and continue to donate agricultural commodities for distribution to school lunch programs.

John DeMoss and wife and son, George, left Thursday for a week or ten days vacationing to be coast.

Roscoe Moore has bought the house he now occupies from two of the heirs of Mrs Maud Akers, the estate having been near enough settled to make a sale possible. Bids were asked on the property some months ago. Mr and Mrs B. H. Roberson drove to Portland Saturday to see "Oklahoma", returning home Sunday. Mr and Mrs D. E. Stephens of Pullman, Wn., were in town briefly Monday morning, after having attended the Dr Poley funeral the previous day in The Dalles.

Sherman County Picnic Set For August 25

The annual Sherman County Picnic will be held at Laurelhurst park Sunday afternoon, August 25 at one o'clock, according to word received from the secretary, Mrs Robert C. Jones. This annual event brings together citizens of Portland and other places who are former residents of Sherman county and also an increasing number of present day natives to go down to meet old friends who usually come in goodly numbers. No program is ordinarily given, visiting being the order of the day.

Precinct Officers File For Party Jobs

Filing for precinct committeemen and women in Sherman county was completed last Monday August 12, the final date according to the new law which has such party officers elected at the general election instead of in the primary. Filing of candidates prevents some of the write-ins that make life miserable for election boards. On the Democratic ticket will be H. H. Brackett and Pearl Brackett of Rufus, Gordon Harper and Gladys Zell of Locust Grove, A. J. Bucholtz and Leona Douma of Monkland, Authur Justesen & Wynona Wilson of Kent, Tom Garrett and Oma Eakin of Grass Valley, D. H. Wright and Virginia McIntyre of Wasco, John DeMoss and Clara Houston of Moro, Kenneth Fridley and Helen Bruckert of Klondike. On the Republican ticket will be Sarah Conlee and Carl Melzer of Monkland, C. A. Tom of Rufus, Amelia Root and Harry Van Gilder of Locust Grove, Clara Rolfe and A. A. Dunlap of Grass Valley, Frank vonBorstel and Floye vonBorstel of Kent, E. D. McKee and B Estrelle Halley of Wasco, Claud Coats of Klondike, Giles French and Dorothea Moore of Moro.

Subsidies Bring No Actual Farm Gain

The recess in subsidies and ceilings has not affected gross and net farm income as much as the sharp advance in the general level of prices for farm products might indicate, says L. R. Breithaupt, O. S. C. extension agricultural economist. Offsetting the highest market receipts from some items were a big advance in the prices paid by farmers, the loss of subsidy payments and higher marketing costs and lower prices for some farm products. From mid-June to mid-July there was an advance of 12 percent in the general level of prices received by farmers, according to data from the U. S. department of agriculture. The increase was due principally to higher prices for grains, especially corn, dairy products, and meats, including poultry. Prices declined for most kinds of fruit and truck crops. There was also a sharp advance in the parity index of farm costs. That index moved up 6 percent during the month ending July 15. Not including costs for hired labor, the "parity" index of costs stood at 199 percent of 1910-1914 7 points above mid-June. With hired farm labor included in the formula as one-third of the total farm expenses, the exchange value of farm products as of July 15 would have been about 94 percent of 1910-1914, however, Breithaupt estimated. Some further increase in market prices occurred during the last half of July, especially on hogs, high grade beef cattle and feed grain. Eggs advanced seasonally, but butter declined. Trends in August will be influenced by new crop prospects and the progress of price controls and decorations. Current crop reports continue to indicate a very large crop of corn this year as well as the largest output of wheat on record. Unless otherwise ordered by the decontrol board, price controls are to be restored automatically on grains, and feeds as of August 21, and also on livestock and milk, but not on poultry and eggs unless the reconrol is ordered by the new board.

School Figures Show Variation In Pupil Costs

Costs of High School Operating Districts Vary Little With Pupils

The auditors report of the financial condition of Sherman county schools is in process of being completed and some figures are already available subject to later corrections, which will be minor. Total costs show \$23,832.10 for Rufus (which had 27.4 elementary pupils and 7.7 high school pupils), \$22,973.60 for Wasco (which had 67.9 elementary pupils) and \$11,179.10 for Grass Valley (which had 39.2 elementary pupils) and \$22,749.01 for Moro (which had 64.9 elementary pupils and 42.5 high school pupils). The above figures are not entirely comparable as rural districts paid transportation costs to Wasco, Moro and Grass Valley, whereas Kent and Rufus, being consolidated districts paid their own transportation. Cost of all transportation of rural districts was \$21,454.08. Total Receipts Large County schools received \$102,455.78 from special levies plus offset from the state support fund, \$1433.11 for delinquent taxes, \$7470.08 from the county school fund, \$9931.87 from the elementary school fund and \$337.81 from the state irreducible school fund. In addition to this the districts had \$33,041.97 on hand at the beginning of the last school year. Total received was \$189,339.37. The schools paid out \$13,787.92 for high school tuition and \$18,247.02 for elementary tuition, which was paid from one district to another and should be deducted from the total. Also the schools had \$49,114.40 left at the end of the last school year. Actual cost of schools therefore was \$107,190.03 for the school year 1945-46.

Tax Turnover Gives Money To Units

The final turnover of taxes for the 1945-46 collection year brought \$1563.28 into the treasurer's funds to be transmitted to the taxing units of the county. To \$2564.05, a low figure for delinquency. Of the amount collected \$883.03 was from current taxes, which was fairly evenly divided among the taxing units of the county. Only \$13.13 was collected on 1944-45 taxes and \$9.38 on the previous years taxes. For 1939 and prior years \$637.54 was taken in by the sheriff's office, a large part of which came from the south end of the county as the Kent school district was the biggest gainer from the collection. The end of the tax year is August 15.

Poisons Kill Ants Around House

No longer is it necessary for homemakers to suffer from invasions of house ants, says Dr. Don C. Mote, O.S.C. entomologist, in a brief mimeographed circular of information giving directions for control of these pests. The best material to use depends on the circumstances and upon the kinds of ants doing the damage, says Dr. Mote. If the colony headquarters can be located, carbon bisulphide is recommended. The best all-round poison yet found is tartar emetic combined with cheap syrup or sometimes with bacon rind or grease. Sodium fluoride and Paris green are other poisons that are used effectively at times, while 5 percent DDT in kerosene or 10 percent powder will control certain species effectively. Directions for using these are given in the station circular of information No. 388, free at any extension office.