

Sherman County Journal

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PRICE LEVEL

Every paper carries notice of strikes or petitions for increases in pay. Carpenters, plumbers, bricklayers and workmen of that group are now getting into the two dollar an hour class.

If this goes on we will have a new price scale that will be double the one that prevailed before the war. A man needn't be too old to remember the excitement caused when Henry Ford guaranteed his workmen \$5.00 per day. That was about when a 14 hour a day forker could get that sum for a few weeks in harvest. Then some men began to get a dollar an hour for labor.

Labor, naturally, wasn't the only thing that went up. Manufactured goods are much higher, although not probably as high as labor percentage wise. Farm products are up, but the price of agricultural products depends on market so their prices may not remain high in the new price scale.

Eventually much the same balance between the different sections of our economy will be reached, with some exceptions depending on new methods that may permit lower comparative prices or changes that make for higher prices. The changing is the painful process.

This raise in the prices level has nothing to do with the increase in the standard of living. It brings no beneficial effect to a family to pay 70 cents for 35 cent beef, pay \$60 for a \$30 suit or double the price of a car, even if the income is double. The government might just as well print a two as a one on the dollar bills to achieve that sort of inflation.

The citizen gets nicked on his taxpaying because his exemption is going down instead of up. Unless he is in position to boost his income he suffers during the day.

If prices go up to fast there is certainty that there will be a depression to drop them again. So far, there isn't much evidence of that for nearly everyone has been on the band wagon until the economic balance isn't so far off. Neither labor, manufacturing or agriculture has failed to obtain a raise and we can go on quite a ways if all go together.

TAXES GOING UP AGAIN?

It was shortly after the last war that property taxes were the highest in Sherman county. In 1921 the total tax bill was \$355,104 and of this sum \$123,856 was for the state and elementary school fund.

Local and state property taxes stayed over \$300,000 nearly every year until 1931 and they dropped down to nothing for one period in 1941. Now they are on their way up again, the county roll being \$191,000 this year without any state or elementary school. These items are being taken care of by the income tax, which also has a surplus to be sent to the counties for schools.

During the last twelve or fourteen years the tendency has been for federal taxes to raise and state and local taxes to be reduced. The end to that trend may be in sight although the excessive federal debt may act as a deterrent to increased expenditures by other agencies.

Sherman county has gotten out of debt and the state is approaching that happy state. School districts in Sherman are all paid out except one and the cities are handling their bond issues with ease. All these governmental agencies have taken advantages of booming times to get out from under the load that the post-war period of the early twenties left them.

Property taxes are cheap now. In 1930 it took 614,875 bushels of wheat to pay the taxes. This year 110,000 bushels would do the job. It was a third of the crop in 1930; this year is some 4 percent. Under such conditions there is generally taxpayer agreement to added expenditures. Already the voters have approved some bills that will make the tax bill larger for years and may run over into the time when a quarter or a third of the crop is needed for tax-

The next few years may be the most dangerous for big tax rises, if the experience of World War I is to be followed again.

DOUBLE OR NOTHING

The press has informed us that it will require a dime to start the music rolling out of the juke box hereafter.

After long waiting it now develops that Uncle Eph was right and that there is a silver lining in each cloud, and the guy that wrote about compensation had his hat on straight after all. If permissible we'll take all our inflation on the juke box and if it takes a dollar from the sleek haired Johnny to start the saxophones moaning inside that lighted den of cacophony, it's okay by us.

Just how amusement house operators and restaurateurs fell to thinking that the normal human had to have music to eat by has been lost. It probably came from some glib talking salesman. Most of us prefer to dine in quiet.

Money being what it is, there may be no immediate effect. Some youth who desires a few minutes of musical excitement will probably give out with a dime as quickly as he did with a nickel. But the extra payment to Petrillo will tell in time and there will be occasional quietness, so we can hear the waitress rattle the dishes again. That sounds better.

TYRANNY OF THE MACHINE

The stories of the adept orientals whose use of the abacus was proven superior to that of Americans using a modern adding machine are lessons of value. We Americans have always been gadgeteers. A new spring knife, an electric shaver, almost any new dingus delights us like beads attracted the aborigine. Perhaps it comes from our Yankee ancestors.

Probably there are hours and hours of labor wasted making machines run to do a job when a little well applied elbow grease would do it much quicker and with as much physical ease, although not the spiritual elation that comes from having it done by machinery. Automatic, how wonderful!

Edgar Lee Masters told of one local inventor who spent his life gathering machinery and making it run only to philosophize that man had evolved through much the same process, when all he had to do was to provide himself with food and clothing. Which may be to say that most of the things we busy ourselves about are unnecessary.

And machines are tyrants. They must be fed raw material and finished goods must be taken away, piled, packed, shipped, billed. One would think the law of diminishing returns would catch up with our machinery some day. This inventing machines to do the work so we can go out and take enough exercise to be healthy would sound foolish to anyone but an American.

Now comes some limber fingered Japanese and Chinese lads with a small frame with wires and wooden beads and makes one of our most intricate gadgets look like an expensive piece of boondoggling. We've done so much work to get out of work and our little brown and yellow brothers make it seem such a long way toward a comparatively easy goal.

It would be funny if we were Chinese or Japanese, but we're not. And it is time for us to feel a little foolish.

In Other Days

From the Observer Dec. 9, 1927
Mr and Mrs Robert Jordan and two children were visitors here last weekend from Grandview, Oregon to meet a brother, George Jordan and wife, who are visiting here from Moscow, Idaho and whom they had not seen in 14 years.

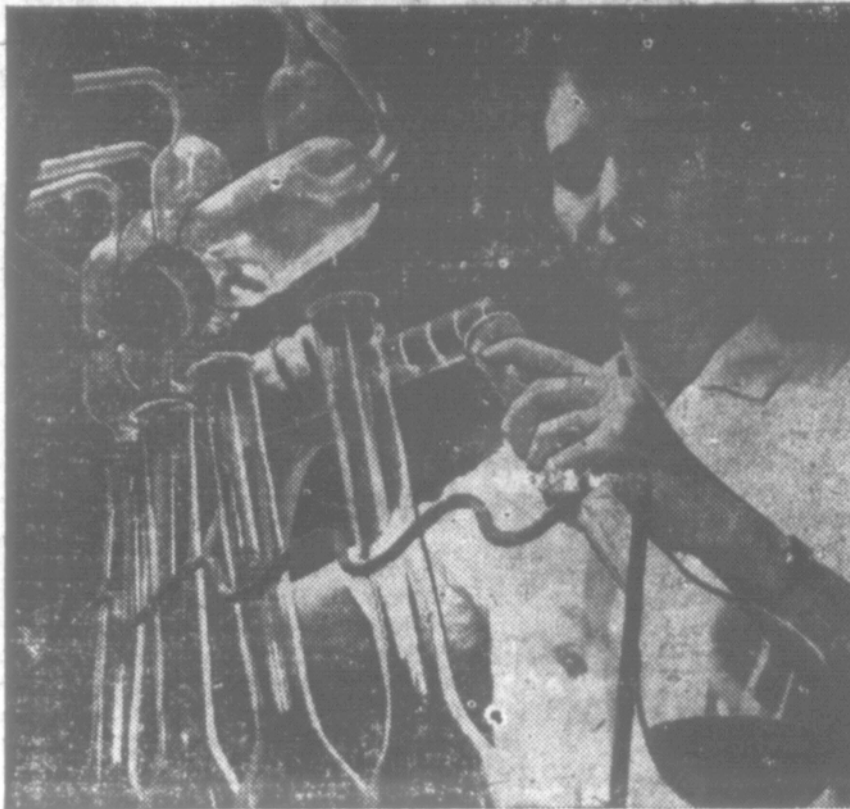
The basket social held at the grange hall last Thursday evening by Harlandview netted the treasury \$94.30. Homer Belshee did the honors as auctioneer. The program was exceptionally good. Judge J. T. Whalley and wife drove up from Portland last Sunday to visit their married daughters at Moro.

L. W. Amick returned home from Missouri Saturday morning more satisfied than ever with Oregon.

The young son of Mr and Mrs Fred Lucas of Lexington, who was reported to be sick last week at Wasco while visiting relatives during Thanksgiving, died last Friday of what was thought to be infantile paralysis.

The report printed below shows that all twenty-four schools in the county rank high in attendance.
Biglow 100
Rufus 97.5
Emigrant Springs 96.8
Wasco 97.1
Gorman 93.3

Scientific Research Looks for Cure



(Fairly Chandler Photo)

Tuberculosis has resisted efforts of scientists to find a drug which will cure tuberculosis, but the scientists refuse to be discouraged. Medical research hopes one day to conquer this deadly disease. Christmas Seal funds help finance medical research.

O. G. Hilderbrand Has Operation In The Dalles

O. G. Hilderbrand was operated on in The Dalles hospital Monday. Mrs Marie Barnett Cooper returned from the Dalles hospital after spending several months there.

The womens society of Christian service of the Methodist church will sponsor a bazaar in the basement of the church Saturday, December 14. A sale of fancy work will be held at 2:30 in the afternoon, followed by a dinner at 6:30.

Thanksgiving day dinner guests at the home of Mrs Lydia Darby were Mr and Mrs Kenneth Ferguson, Nancy, Sally and Judy, Mr and Mrs Wayne Darby, Joanne and Jimmy of Portland, Mr and Mrs C. W. Smith of Moro and Mr and Mrs George Harris.

Mr and Mrs Lawrence Edwards of Gresham were Thanksgiving guests at the home of Mrs Edwards parents, Rev and Mrs F. L. Cannell.

Kent	92.4
Shearer's	94.6
DeMoss	95.0
Gordon Ridge	100
Erskine	98.0
Moro	92.3
Monkland	93.7
Harmony	96.0
Fairview	93.3
Boardman	96.4
Grass Valley	96.3
Rutledge	94.2
Liberty	100
Michigan	100
Wilcox	97.7
Klondike	98.0
Rosebush	94.1
Buckley	97.0
Dobie Point	100

WASHINGTON NEWS

Continued from Page One
his advisers know, or at least feel sure, that the Republican Congress will defeat all such legislation, hence the GOP will have to take the blame. When 1948 rolls around, continues our prognosticator, the Democratic nominee for president, whoever he may be, will be able to point to many pieces of liberal legislation which were defeated by the Republicans and naturally, they will have a lot of explaining to do. The Republicans will not be nearly as popular in 1948 as they are now, continues this lawmaker, and he further predicts they will have a real battle on their hands to keep control of the Congress and elect a president, although it certainly doesn't look that way now.



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

How to Stop Worrying

I guess folks in our town do about as much worrying as in yours—over housing and prices, and crops, and jobs—and the little domestic problems that are always coming up.

Dad Hoakins, who's lived to the happy age of eighty, has a simple formula for stopping worry. About every problem, he asks himself: Is there anything I can do about it? If there is, he never postpones making a decision, or taking necessary action.

If there isn't anything he can do about it, he sets aside a "worrying

hour" after dinner, and gets his worrying over in one concentrated period. When that's over, he relaxes over a friendly glass of beer with Ma Hoakins—and they talk about pleasant things together, until bedtime.

From where I sit, that's a workable formula as you could find... right down to the mellow glass of beer that seems to wink away your worries.

Joe Marsh

land were weekend guests of the former's parents, Mr and Mrs W. R. Reid.

Mr and Mrs E. D. McKee were Thanksgiving guests of her sister and brother in law, Mr and Mrs George Van Gaasbeck.

Mr and Mrs Chester Coats and son, Tom, left Wednesday for Dayton, Wn., to spend the Thanksgiving weekend. They were accompanied to Portland by Mrs Irene Callaway and son, Larry, and Miss Clair Ball, who spent the weekend with Mrs Callaway's parents, Mr and Mrs William Carlston.

Mr and Mrs E. P. Rich and sons, Jack and Dean, spent Thanksgiving at the home of the latter's parents, Mr and Mrs Hill at Yakima, Washington.

Raymond Crews motored to Portland Friday and was accompanied home by his brother and sister in law, Mr and Mrs Marion Crews of Salem, who spent the weekend in Wasco and Grass Valley.

Thanksgiving dinner guests at the home of Mr and Mrs Jerry Morehouse were Mr and Mrs Max Williams, Mrs Mamie Elliott and daughter Mrs Eula Tuck.

Thanksgiving guests at the home of Mrs J. P. Yates were Mr and Mrs J. T. Johnson.

Mrs Bertha Moon of The Dalles spent the weekend with her son and daughter in law, Mr and Mrs George Moon.

Houseguests of Mrs Anna Lee are her brother, Mark Malner, and sister, Mrs Hanna Henrichs of Idaho.

Mr and Mrs Dale McLaughlin were Thanksgiving guests of Mr and Mrs Farrell Flach of The Dalles.

Irene and Billy Sott of Portland were Thanksgiving guests in Wasco.

Mr and Mrs O. W. Barnett and Jerry and Mrs B. Estelle Hailey returned from Portland Saturday.

Dinner guests Thanksgiving at the home of Mr and Mrs W. R. Reid were Mr and Mrs Bill Reid of Portland, Mr and Mrs Howard Conlee and Mr and Mrs Swaggart of Eugene.

Among those attending the Elks Thanksgiving dinner and dance were Mr and Mrs Francis Watkins Mr and Mrs Everett Watkins, Mr and Mrs Albert Kaseberg, Mr and Mrs Pete Macnab, Mr and Mrs John Foss, Mrs George Mattson, and Mrs Ida Gerlock.

—Buy Christmas Seals—
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Tires—Accessories

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163 162 182
WASCO OREGON

Bethlehem Chapter No. 78, O.E.F. Meets Every Second and Fourth Thursdays in each month. Visiting members are cordially invited to meet with us.
Helen Ruggles, W. M.
Edna Melzer, Secretary

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

Lureka Lodge No. 121 A.F. & A.M. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings 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, Sec.

Monday afternoon, Mr and Mrs Warner, ministers of the Christian church at The Dalles, and Mrs Guy Drill of Salem were callers on Mr and Mrs F. Claude Stephens at Wasco.

who were home for Thanksgiving were Clyde Fridley and Jerry Nisbet from Yakima, Jean Shull of La Grande, Fred Anderson of Willamette, Stanley Anderson, John Hilderbrand and Phyllis Medler of Corvallis.

CHURCHES

Moro Community Church
Sunday School 10:00 a. m.
Church Services 11:00 a. m.

Wasco Methodist Church
Sunday School at 10:00 a. m.
Morning Worship at 11:00 a. m.

F. L. Cannell, pastor.
Christian Science Society
Subject of Christian Science
Lesson Sermon 11:00 A. M.

"God the Only Cause and Creator"
Wednesday meetings—first and third Wednesdays of each month include testimonials of healing. The reading room in the rear of the church contains all authorized Christian Science literature which may be borrowed or purchased.

WASCO CHURCH OF CHRIST
10 a. m. Church Bible School
W. D. Watkins, Supt.
11 a. m. Divine Morning Worship
The message: "The Diving Foundation, Take Heed How You Build Thereon"
F. Claude Stephens, Minister

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LET NO SHADOW DARKEN YOUR DOOR
The possession of an overcoat or a sack full of groceries is usually proof of complete ownership. Such is not the case with land. Because of its immobility and permanence, as well as its variety of uses, land is peculiarly liable to complications and dispute.
A Commonwealth Insured Title protects your property against unsatisfied claims which often lurk among the mortgages, transfers, liens and other legal complications through which your property may have passed under former owners.
Every Commonwealth policy is guaranteed by funds deposited with the State of Oregon. When you buy, be sure your property has this protection.

Commonwealth Insured Title
SHERMAN COUNTY ABSTRACT COMPANY
Moro