

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

A column of news

About Government,
Politics and People

with special emphasis

on the Northwest

These are the days when bureau heads are taking their brief case to the director of the budget and reporting how much money they will require for fiscal 1948. Word has gone out that the bureau chiefs must be modest in their requests, to shave down the desired appropriation as much as possible. These orders come, of course, from the White House, for the director of the budget works under the President. Mr. Truman is anxious to show as small a budget, when Congress meets next month, as is consistent with national security and the efficient operation of the many bureaus. He wishes to do this to "beat the Republicans to the draw", for Republicans have announced that they intend cutting appropriations deeply.

One danger in sight, however, is that the Republicans may cut regardless of budget requests and reduce appropriations below the actual needs in the determination to carry out their promise. From what can be learned, the bureau chiefs are more conservative than they were in asking for 1947 fiscal money and it would appear that Mr. Truman will show a decided economical streak. There are some 25 billion dollars in one section of the budget that cannot be tampered with, such as interest on the national debt, national defense and veterans benefits and pensions. There is another section of the budget, which was 41 billion dollars for 1947 fiscal, that can be slashed almost 10 billion dollars without injuring anyone.

Department of Agriculture has asked for a three per cent increase in total acreage for 1947. This is for home as well as for relief. The department officials have in mind the building up of surplus out of the next year crop as well as sending food to several countries that will need the commodities. The ever-filled grainery policy is being revived, since the drain for relief to UNRRA has punched holes in the reserves. Where the relief will be sent will be within the province of the Department of State, and that department is becoming more particular than was UNRRA. The several years of bumper crops is about due for a collapse in the natural course of events and Agricultural Department wishes to place its own house in order before a shortage occurs.

National housing agency reported results of the housing program in 10 months of 1946. By November 1st, about 882,000 new dwelling units had been started, including 590,000 permanent dwellings. About 500,000 units had been completed, including 340,000 permanent structures. The report estimated that construction would be started on 1,000,000 new dwelling units this year (1946) compared to a goal of 1,200,000, 000.

The recent order of President Truman in removing practically all building restrictions in the construction of dwellings is expected to stimulate building and break the bottleneck which has caused the national housing program to lag.

A war department study of the veterans aid program recommended to improve operation of on-job training, educational aid and jobless pay. It is a well known fact that the GI Bill of Rights has many bugs in it and the new Congress will try to eliminate some of the abuses that are now prevalent.

Many changes were recently made in the surplus property rules which gave veterans preference in sales of surplus property. Articles reserved for veterans only, were cut from 356 to about 100. Motor vehicles and office equipment were left on the set-aside list. Preference certificates were made acceptable on a first-come basis, regardless of the chronological order of their issuance. No more certificates for items on the set-aside list will be issued because the certificates that are outstanding already out number the available autos, tractors, etc.

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Airport Engineer Wasco Basketball Team Wins Here To Offer Pair of Games This Week Advice and Aid

W. C. Hill, airport engineer of the State Board of Aeronautics, was in Moro Wednesday to talk about the possibility of developing an airport near Moro.

The board has put Moro on the project map for 1947 along with nine other towns in Oregon. Tentative cost of the port here is set at \$64,000 of which it is thought the federal government would provide 56 percent, the state 22 percent and the city and local airmen another 22 percent. Some of this could be done by labor.

A class I airport must be 400 feet wide and 2500 feet long in this altitude and may not have more than a 2 percent grade. A satisfactory site can likely be found if there is enough interest developed locally.

Mrs A C Thompson Buried Sunday

Mrs Andrew Thompson died at the family home in Moro last Thursday afternoon at the age of 89 years. She had been in failing health for several months.

Rosa Ann Henkle was born in Corvallis July 28, 1857 and was married in that city, November 11, 1879 to Andrew C. Thompson. They moved to Sherman county which has been their home for 60 years. They celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary here in 1944. For years Mrs. Thompson has been unable to see.

Surviving are her widower Andrew, three sons, Claude and Dewey of Moro and Jesse of Portland and one daughter, Mrs. Edna Meizer of Moro, 11 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Sunday from the Moro Community church, of which Mrs. Thompson had long been a faithful member, with interment in the Rose cemetery east of town. Rev. J. K. MacFarlane conducted the services.

Fishermen Smooth Road For Spring

A bunch of men who thought they would like to be fishermen next spring went out to the Reckman grade last Sunday morning and spent that meteorologically pleasant period shoveling dirt into trucks for the rough rocky places in the road.

Messrs Ginn, Roberson, Moore, Becket, Bibby, Olds, Eakin, Johnson et al report the road in very fine shape since through their efforts the big rocks were pushed out of the road and the little rocks covered with dirt. Previously Bill Holmes and Bill Jefferies had been down the grade with a grader and leveled it off nicely.

Unless there is too much fast moving water down or across the road from now on the prospective fishermen expect to get to the fish with more ease next season. Whether they get the fish or not depends on other factors not herein considered.

Kent Sunday School Starts Winter Season

The Kent community Sunday school is re-opening and is again holding Sunday school services. Services begin at 11 a.m. every Sunday, rain, sleet, wind, or blizzard. Every one is cordially invited to attend and help out. Attendance last Sunday, 23, fourteen of which were members of the beginners and primary groups. The annual Christmas services with treats for the children will be held Sunday, December 22. Come and bring the little folks.

Mr and Mrs W. B. Wilson and Norman and James and Mrs. Alfred Lyons were shopping in The Dalles Saturday, December 14.

The George Bell post of the American Legion and the women auxiliary held their annual Christmas party Saturday, December 14. The party was well attended by both "small fry" and adults. Gifts were exchanged by the adults and a treat and "Santa Claus" were supplied for were served by the Auxiliary ladies consisting of chili beans, cookies and coffee. Christmas carols

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The town basket ball team met to meet Friday and won the game by a score of 20 to 41. Those attending were Mr. and Mrs. Pete Macnab, Mr. and Mrs. Al Dormier, Mr. and Mrs. Darrell McQuillen, Arthur Watkins, Jean Lang and Robert Bish.

The town basket ball team played the Goldendale, Washington team Wednesday night in the school auditorium. Wasco won by a score of 25 to 35.

Mrs. Irene Callaway and Mrs. Catherine Sonnenberg attended the Sherman county O. E. S. Wednesday evening at Grass Valley. The features of the evening were riddle motions pictures and a magic act by Paul R. McCulloch of The Dalles. A dinner was served, the tables being decorated in the Christmas motif.

The Dorcas society of the Christian church ladies held its Christmas party at the home of Mrs. Sadie Rich. Roll call was answered by Christmas verses and poems. Refreshments were served and the tables and rooms decorated in the Christmas motif.

The Tillamook club met at the home of Mrs. T. L. Fields Thursday afternoon. A 1:30 dessert luncheon was served followed by an afternoon of bridge. High score was won by Mrs. W. A. Nisbet, low score going to Mrs. Andrew Shearer and the good luck prize was won by Mrs. S. J. Brock. The dining table was centered by a large birthday cake honoring Mrs. Nisbet's birthday, the rooms were decorated in the Christmas motif.

Mrs. B. Estelle Hailey left Wednesday for Portland to spend the Christmas holidays with her father, Henry Ford. She expects to return to Wasco after New Years.

Ray Woodworth of Beaverton is a house guest of his aunt Mrs. Esther Stanley.

The Sam Gordon club met Thursday afternoon at the home of Mrs. H. A. White. A 1:30 dessert luncheon was served followed by two tables of contract. High score was won by Mrs. Mabel White. The rooms and tables were decorated in the Christmas motif.

Mr and Mrs H. A. White were business visitors in Portland leaving Friday.

The Masonic lodge entertained the ladies of the Eastern Star Friday evening with a turkey dinner at Fraternity hall.

Judy Buck who has been visiting her aunt and uncle, Mr and Mrs Raymond Van Gilder, for the past two months left Saturday for the home of her parents, Mr and Mrs George Buck of Grants Pass.

Mr and Mrs G. H. Root returned from a months visit in California and Mexico.

The Eastern Star members served a 6:30 pot-luck dinner in the hall Tuesday evening.

Mr and Mrs Ernest Shull were Portland visitors, last week.

Sunday dinner guests at the home of Mr and Mrs Charles Fulton were Mr and Mrs Hugh Walker, Mrs. Guy Pound, and Mrs. Ella Hislop of The Dalles and Mrs. A. M. Huckin. The rooms and dining table were decorated in the Christmas motif.

The Senior Swing, annual formal dance, given by the high school Saturday night in the school auditorium was well attended. Music was furnished by Virgil Ottman and his orchestra.

STEPHENS' RITES HELD

Services for David Edmund Stephens were held from Callaway in The Dalles Monday afternoon which the body was taken to Portland for vault entombment. Many friends of Sherman county were down for the funeral which was also attended by many members of the families of Mr and Mrs Stephens. Edmund Stephens remained with his mother who is still in the hospital at Corvax, W. Rev. H. G. Hanson came up from Portland to give the sermon and Tom Fraser sang as a part of the musical program.

SHERIFF REPORTS TAXES

The report of Sheriff Fields to the State Tax Commission for the first quarter of the 1946/47 collection period shows a total of \$191,253.87 charged to the collector of which \$186,365.34 has been discharged from the roll, this being made up of \$180,799.61 turned to the treasurer and \$5585.73 given in rebates. This leaves \$4,868.53 delinquent on the first quarter.

Sales Tax Faith Reaffirmed By Wheat League

The Eastern Oregon Wheat League in annual session at La Grande, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of this week, re-affirmed its stand in favor of a sales tax by passing a resolution asking for a general sales tax with funds obtained therefrom to be used for the purpose of paying for the costs of the new school bill.

The same Taxation and Legislative committee favored larger trucks on the roads and passed the same ten point program for labor legislation as did the Farm Bureau at San Francisco. It also agreed that relatives of pensioners should pay some of the costs, that there should be no exempt property that makes income, that the assessor should collect taxes as well as compute them and that the county unit plan of school management should be adopted.

The Production, Marketing and Transportation committee requested expanded service from the Portland Grain Inspection office, endorsed and commended 4-H work, favored continued work toward successful chemurgy development, asked a regional cereal laboratory for the northwest, suggested that co-operatives be consolidated, that a program of producing better seed be started and that farmers growing it be given a bonus of \$1.00 per bushel therefore when cleaned and sacked and 50 cents when bulked, asked that farmers do not buy poor seed, recommended treating with ceresan, were positive in stating that soil conservation work should go on, asked the Port of Portland to expand facilities for unloading barges there, asked for a standing freight rate committee and recommended that something adequate be done toward weed control.

The Federal Programs committee spent some time discussing the Mitchell bill for the Columbia River Authority and passed a resolution favoring northwest continuation of any river development, was also requested. C. D. Conrad, secretary, reported on the northwest wheat council and reported plans for the stock show to be held next May in The Dalles.

Marvin Weatherford told of the freight rate hearing at which he appeared for the league, saying that the committee felt successful in that rates on wheat were only raised 15 percent whereas the general increase was 17.7 percent.

The wheat league passed the resolution based on the Jens Terjesen report of an interim committee appointed to study possibilities of levying a tax of 1/2 cents per bushel on all wheat to establish an Oregon Wheat commission. The \$75,000 thus raised would be used to study industrial uses, build pilot plants and laboratories, advertise specialty products, expand trade, study freight rates, develop feed uses.

The sessions were held in the Sackajawea hotel in LaGrande with an attendance at business meetings of about 200.

Attending from Sherman county were Frank vonBorstel, Lt. Roy Wright, Carl Meizer, Dewey Thompson, Mac Hall, Merrill Oveson and Giles French.

Mrs C A Buckley Dead At 83 Years

Graveside services for Mrs. Frances M. Buckley were held at Riverside cemetery in Portland Tuesday. She died in a hospital in The Dalles Sunday following an accident that resulted in a broken hip.

Mrs. Buckley was a pioneer of Sherman county having come here in 1884, a niece of A. Kerr, early day sheepman and partner of Charles A. Buckley, to whom she was married in 1887. She was born in Potsdam, New York, October 8, 1863.

During her life at Grass Valley Mrs. Buckley was a leader in social and fraternal activities and was one of the first accomplished pianists in that pioneer settlement.

Following the death of Mr. Buckley in 1925 she lived in Portland and later in The Dalles where she has made her home lately. Surviving is one son, Abel Conklin Buckley of The Dalles.

Lester Barnum Elected President Of Midco Group Past Surplus Wheat Removal Plans Held Poor

Members of Midco had a meeting at the court-house last Friday afternoon and discussed, sometimes with vigor, the problems that arose during the first year of its existence. Out of this discussion came plans for the 1947 show that will remove some of the objections, it is hoped.

The next show will be held September 20, probably during the fair, and will be limited to 100 head, of which 50 may be Herefords, and 25 each of Short-horns and Angus. Bob Teale was chosen as sales manager and C. W. Hickman, judge, and H. B. Sager, auctioneer, were also chosen to serve again.

A constitution and by-laws were adopted which specify that all entrance papers be accompanied by a \$20 entry fee. After the sale the costs will be prorated on a percentage basis. Any animals consigned must be a year old and if 3 years old must be accompanied by offspring. Any animal consigned must have been the property of the consignor for six months.

Elected to head the Midco for 1947 were Lester Barnum, president; Millard Eakin, vice-president; LeRoy Wright, secretary-treasurer; Harry Stearns, Prineville, Henry Yeager, Condon and Paulsen Kaseberg, Wasco, directors.

Dan McDermid Dies In Hospital

Donald (Dan) McDermid, Sherman county wheat farmer since 1906, was buried in The Dalles Tuesday following his death Friday, December 13.

Mr McDermid was born at Notaw, Ontario, Canada, May 15, 1877, a son of Donald and Margaret Campbell McDermid of Scotland and came to the United States 50 years ago. In 1906 he came to Sherman county and June 2, 1915 he was married to Grace Pinkerton. He farmed near Gordon Butte, where he was owner of land.

Surviving are his widow, two sons, Malcolm and Donald and one daughter, Mrs. Kenneth Blau and one grandson, all of Wasco, three brothers, John of Wasco, and Archie and Alex of Collingwood, Canada, two sisters, Mrs. Jeanette Brown of Rob Roy, Ontario and Mrs. Flora Greig of Chicago, and two cousins, Hugh Walker of The Dalles and Jeanie Curtis of Portland.

He was a member of Taylor Lodge A. F. & A. M. and of the Royal Arch Masons, No. 6 of The Dalles.

C. R. Callaway & Sons were in charge of the funeral, with Rev. F. L. Cannell giving the sermon. Pall bearers were Matt Schwendel, W. A. Nisbet, Lawrence Funk, Joe Hilderbrand, Arthur Sargent, and Harry Pinkerton. The Wasco lodge had charge of graveside rites and interment was in the Old-Fellows cemetery in The Dalles.

Wallace May Again Heads AAA Board

Wallace May was again chosen as chairman of the county AAA committee with O. G. Hilderbrand as vice chairman and Russell Belshie as member, at a meeting of the county delegates held at the court house last Friday. Frank vonBorstel is first alternate and Paulsen Kaseberg second alternate.

The annual organization meeting will be held December 31 at the court house to choose a secretary, treasurer and other employees and to plan some of the years work.

POSSE TO DINE

The Sherman County Sheriff's Posse will dine together at the hotel Saturday night as a means of celebrating its successful riding season which culminated in appearance at the Sherman County Fair in a well ordered drill, adding an interesting feature to the fair program which everyone hopes will be continued for future fairs.

Wayne Meizer was home on a furlough after finishing his basic course in the army. He returned to camp last Thursday.

Talk of the future of wheat was the prime subject at the annual wheat league meeting in La Grande the first of the week. Long range probabilities were not held hopeful but a satisfactory price for three years was felt certain. The imponderables of international affairs, of crops and of other wheat uses were held to hold the answer of the wheat farmer's future after that.

E. R. Jackman, extension specialist spoke Tuesday saying that there were four major problems of the Columbia Basin wheat grower: 1) soil maintenance, 2) production, 3) marketing and 4) wheat surpluses, on which he based his talk.

Wheat controls did not work, he said, in general farming areas although exclusive wheat farmers followed them. He presented this chart:

	average in thousand acres	1919-32	1934-35	1940-42
Oregon	1011	856	789	
Kansas	12062	7749	10383	
Illinois	1845	2077	1500	
Pennsylv.	956	975	852	

Farmers will recognize the years ad recall the program features.

Grain states cut acreage while general farming states increased. The total wheat acreage went to 61 million from 63 million and the carryover went from 82 million bushels in 1937 to 632 million in 1942. When the total acreage was set at 55 million by marketing quotas the total bushelage increased. Every state but Maine went over its quota. In the reduction program of 1934-35 the cost to the government was \$3 per bushel for every bushel not raised.

The "Don't Grow" idea didn't work.

The McNary-Haugen plan was vetoed and yet the grain, was shipped to foreign countries to which we loaned money. They didn't pay and the subsidy was actually and practically 100 percent instead of what it would have been under McNary-Haugen.

We had cheap wheat and foreign countries had tariffs. The "Export It" idea didn't work although foreign peoples needed the wheat. The idea is still tied up in complication not the least of which is the export quotas which permit this nation to export 80 million bushels.

The "Use It Here" idea depends on feeding and corn is always a cheaper grain than wheat.

We have tried giving it away and found it too costly; the farm board tried buying it and found that too costly; we tried not growing it and it didn't work and the voluntary program was too costly.

Jackman suggested that we might make it into alcohol despite the fact that alcohol can be made from anything. Yet it has many uses and its manufacture may be a solution.

E. J. Bell of the Farm Credit Administration, spoke Wednesday on a subject that had direct bearing on the future of the wheat farmer. He said our national stability depended on 1) a balanced budget and 2) maintain peace.

We can either have high price levels with restrictions or moderate price levels with few supports. If we export we must import. If we keep out imports we must use our grain at home. Regulation is inherent in price maintenance. Our adjustments to economic conditions will be made either by ourselves or by the government.

Every war since 1750, Mr. Bell showed by a chart, has been followed by high prices of farm products and everything else. Prices have always dropped after a war—and, to nearly the same level.

Neither from physical production nor market conditions can 90 percent price level be maintained with high production. We have produced as much wheat on 55 million acres as on much more and can easily overproduce.

The farmers' face a problem and they can either get their finances in shape and weather the storm—or can fail, concluded Bell.

Fred Entermile of the USDA gave the formula for crop control. When average exports plus average domestic consumption plus 15 percent level is reached there will be acreage allotments.

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