Oregon Historical Society
235 S. W. MARKET

Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Ninth Year No. 9 | Moro, Oregon, Friday, January 3, 1947 | Official County Paper

A column of news

About Government, Politics and People

with especial emphasis

on the Northwest

Considering himself a liberal Republican Senator, Joseph Ball, of Minnesota, has been busy preparing bills to introduce on the general subject of labor. In 1944, Ball jumped the track; he did not consider Thomas Dewey sufficiently liberal, so he came out and publicly supported Franklin D. Roosevelt for his last election. Now he is back in the Republican fold and although he went down the line for Mr Roosevelt, his subsequent conduct in labor matters has cost him the support of that segment. Senator Ball, a former newspaper man, has been specializing in labor legislation since he entered the Senate. For one thing, he is opposed to the closed shop and regards it as an infringement of the rights of an individual worker. He will have something to say on that when the time comes, for in his opinion it curbs liberalism also. Nor is he satisfied with the Wagner Labor Act and he wants to revise that law. His principal objection is that it does not give the employer a square deal and he insists an employer should have the right to discuss with his workers, matters which affect them both. This is now impossible because of the interpretations of the National Labor Relations Board. If labor wants to go on a strike, the Senator opines that an employer is entitled to resort to any legal means to prevent the strike. And he doesn't want federal labor courts to act as compulsory arbitrators. All this sounds as though Senator Ball is anti-labor, but he is not; what he is striving to do is workout legislation which will be fair to both sides and he wishes to correct what he regards as injustices. Ball is more of a reformer than a liberal.

There is no shortage of help in sight to assist the new Congress. Now arriving on every train from all parts of the country are deserving Republicans, anxious to have their names placed upon the payroll. The last of the Republicans were ousted back in 1932 when the new dealers swarmed in and took over, with every new dealer having a "clearance" from his national committeeman, state chairman, county chairman and members of the county committee. That was the war, Jim Farley worked it out, and it enabled the local party organization a voice in the appointments. The Republicans are not so particular but they are just as anxious to get jobs.

* * *

More honored in the branch than the observance, is the 1942 law which prohibits a government official from accepting gifts from a war contractor. The Senator voted against that law when it passed. This is one of the most serious charges against Senator (The Man) Bilbo and the Senate says that he forgot about it later. During the war, Washington was constantly filled with gossip about the pay-off received by officials for doing favors for holders of war contracts. There was never any serious investigation of these rumors, so they can be accepted as facts or as fantasies. The stories could be heard in any cocktail lounge in the District of Columbia. Aside from folding money, war contractors found other ways of expressing their appreciation. A case of Scotch, a series of expensive dinners, neither of which was regarded as a violation of the law of 1942, was not an uncommon occurrence. Instances of a war contractor giving money, that came to light officially, have been rare. One of the first was when a war contractor testified he gave a check to John Coffee, which Coffee informed an investigating committee was merely a contribution to his campaign.

The constituents of the Washington representative decided to eliminate him as a member of the Washington delegation. Senator Bilbo's explanation was that war contractors contributed to the campaign of Wall Doxey, who was

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Wasco Wins From Moro In Basketball Game

The Wasco American Legion basketball team defeated the Moro Breakfast club five on the Moro floor by a 36 to 29 score Monday night in what proved to be an exciting game.

Moro led at the quarter but from then until the middle of the final quarter were almost totally unable to hit the basket at all, making but six points in the middle of the game.

Wasco was paced by Dormaier who played under the basket most of the game. Belshee of Moro succeeded in making long shots from the middle of the floor after forwards Thompson and Shipley and center Jewel stopped hitting their throws.

Wasco		Moro
Dormaier	F	Shipley
McDermid	F	D. Thompson
S. Macnab	C	Jewel
P. Macnab	G	T. Thompson
M. McDermid	G	Belshee

Subs: D. Richelderfer F; H. Richedefer G, Colesch G. Frank Sayrs, referee.

Boy Scout Troop Meeting Dated

M. M. Oveson, leader of the Boy Scout movement in the Moro community, announces that there will be a general meeting at the Community church next Monday night, January 6, for re-organization.

Ross Taylor of the state headquarters in Portland will be here. Parents of eligible boys and all others interested in Boy Scouts are asked to attend the meeting which will begin at 7:30 in the evening.

SHANIKO NEWS

Walter Young returned to Shaniko for the holidays visiting old friends. He has been to Missouri, Texas and Southern California visiting relatives and friends.

Among those leaving for the holidays were Fred and Edward Buf to Portland, Dalay Lanis to Tacoma, Joe and Tom Morelli to The Dalles and Portland.

Miss Jean Brown, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. J. Brown is home from school at LaGrande.

Mrs Rosa Harris has as her guests her niece Miss Juanita Quirm from Bingen, Washington and her brother, Dave Wilson, who has returned to the valley to visit other relatives.

A number of Shaniko citizens were guests at the dance given at Antelope Christmas night. Among those attending were Mr and Mrs Chas. Carrigan, Pat McCulloch, Margaret Olsen, and Bob Garrett, John Reeder, Mr and Mrs W. D. Hanks, Mr Young, and Mrs Amanda Fine.

Last Saturday night December the 21st, the local Hotel was the scene of a dance given by the proprietor Gerald Johnson. Every one who attended reported a very enjoyable time.

William Bardenhagen of Grass Valley was a visitor at the Philan home Friday afternoon and evening

Frank Wagner went to The Dalles Saturday to get his new Cheyrolet pickup. He has had his order in for five years.

Duncan McClemmon was a visitor to Antelope for few days this week.

Mr H. Spalinger has returned from his visit to Portland.

Bob Garrett was a visitor at Grass Valley Friday and Saturday of this week.

Dinner guests at the home of Mr and Mrs G. H. Reeder for Christmas were Mr and Mrs R. H. Reeder and son, Jack of Portland, Mr and Mrs J. T. Jones and daughter, Doris of Moro and Mr and Mrs G. B. Hood of Tygh Valley and their son Mike. Mrs Hood being the grand-daughter and little Mike the great-grandson made the four generations at the Reeder home.

The Morelli boys, Joe and Tom, were visitors Christmas at their fathers and sisters home in Portland. Another brother one of the twins returning with them for the week here at the ranch. The boys have returned to Portland to be with their folks for New Years.

Mrs Garrett and sons were guests Christmas day at the home of Mr and Mrs James Phifer.

Mrs W. A. Rees returned from the hospital at The Dalles on Saturday.

KILROY WON STREETCAR . . . Winner of a contest sponsored by American Transit association with letter on subject, "Kilroy Was Here," James Kilroy, Halifax, Mass., his wife and nine children take over their prize—a streetcar. The car will be moved from the Boston elevated yards to Halifax, where the Kilroys will remodel and use it for an addition to their present home. The youngsters claim it will make an ideal play room.

Wheat League Looks To Harder Times Ahead

Planning toward the time when wheat may again pile up in burdensome surpluses in this country, the Eastern Oregon Wheat league is asking legislation to create an Oregon Wheat commission to study and promote greater use of wheat produced in this state. The proposal is to finance the commissoin by a tax of one half cent per bushel on all wheat entering commercial channels, estimated to yield about $75,000 annually.

Members of the commission would all be wheat growers—three from the Columbia basin, one from other eastern Oregon counties and one from western Oregon. They would administer the money collected for the following purposes:

Study of industrial uses of wheat, construction of pilot plants or laboratories if necessary, advertising the special wheats grown in Oregon so as to attract more eastern mills, trade expansion for special pastry flours in foreign countries, particularly South America and the Orient; cooperation with federal research laboratories and state experiment stations, studies of transportation rates and initiation of measures to iron out injustices, study of national wheat programs and support of the most feasible of long-range plans, and development of enlarged feed outlets for wheat.

A committee appointed last year to study wheat disposal and market development, headed by Jens Terjeson, Pendleton, also proposed that wheat growers of Washington and Idaho join in a unified regional program. This is desirable, the committee held because the nation is geared to produce more wheat than can be used in this country for food, feed and seed.

Present markets are based on emergency disposal abroad of surpluses which can not be expected to continue, the league decided, while acreage control is costly and tends to intensify depressions by reducing labor in all wheat industries.

The league protested the presidential order of last August limiting expenditures for flood control and river and harbor development and urged construction of dams at The Dalles, John Day, and Arlington on the Columbia.

New officers of the league are Marion Weatherford, Arlington, president; Ralph McEwen, Jr., Haines, vice-president; C. D. Conrad, Baker county agent, secretary-treasurer; and LeRoy C. Wright, Sherman county agent, assistant secretary. The 1947 meeting will be at Baker.

DIVIDEND PAID

Directors of Investors Mutual, Inc., America's largest balanced type open-end investment fund, here today declared a regular quarterly dividend distribution, from net earnings, of 12 cents a share, payable January 21, 1947 to shareholders of record December 31, 1946. This is the first quarterly distribution of the current fiscal year. R. O. Croskey is local agent for the group.

Linden Mersinger left Thursday for Corvallis to continue his studies at Oregon State.

Women's Club Reschedules Husbands' Night

Moro Woman's club held its annual Christmas party with a large attendance. A box of toys for the children at Doernbecher hospital was collected and sent. The silver offering for the Farm Home at Corvallis amounted to twenty dollars.

The following program was arranged by Mrs Robert May, Mrs W. D. Wallan and Edith Burnet, Piano solo, Mrs Jas. McFarlane, recitation, Linda Rae Schilling; piano solo, Sandra May; recitation Deanna Martin; Christmas skit, Lavelle and Linda Rae Schilling; piano solo, Donna Kay Sparling.

The program was interspersed by group singing of Christmas carols.

Each member received a white elephant gift. Tea was served with decorations in keeping with Christmas. Mrs E. H. Moore and Elizabeth Schaeffer pouring. Hostesses were Mrs Harvey Thompson, Mrs Louie Sather, Mrs Blaine Miller, Mrs Ted Thompson and Mrs Earl Gentry.

Husbands Night will be held Saturday night, January 11, the place to be announced later. Each member is requested to bring a pie.

Mrs Hattie Chrisman Buried In The Dalles

Funeral services for Mrs Hattie Chrisman, widow of the late Hugh Chrisman, former Sherman county sheriff, was held Monday in The Dalles with interment in the Odd-Fellows cemetery there.

Mrs Chrisman was born in Springfield, Illinois, August 13, 1869 and came to Oregon at an early age. For many years she lived at Rufus moving to Moro in 1920 when Mr Chrisman became sheriff. They moved to The Dalles in 1933. Surviving are two sons, William of Portland and Hugh Verne of The Dalles and one daughter, Mrs Annie Blackburn of Portland, two grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Mrs Chrisman was a member of the Methodist church and the Eastern Star lodge.

GRASS VALLEY CLUB MEETS

The Woman's community club met at the Masonic hall Friday afternoon when the programs were planned for several meetings Mrs Floye vonBorstel will be in charge of the next meeting on Friday, January 10, at the Masonic hall at 2 o'clock, every one is welcome.

Dinner guests at the home of Mr and Mrs C. W. Fields Sunday were Mr and Mrs Damon Fields and son, Mr and Mrs Leonard Fields and children, Mr and Mrs Earl Fields and daughter and Mona Kaseberg, all from Wasco and Mr and Mrs Norman Fields and daughter from Moro.

Mrs Charles Davis returned home Saturday from Portland where she spent Christmas week with her parents, Mr and Mrs Walter Roy.

Mr and Mrs Tom Coyle and Mr and Mrs Norris Gilkison were dinner guests at the home of Mr and Mrs Harold Eakin Christmas day.

Mr and Mrs Eben Kee spent Christmas with his brother in law and sister, Mr and Mrs Loy Cochran in Portland.

Legislative Battle May Be About Several Problems

It often occurs that pre-season ideas about what will be important are wrong. Sometimes the problems that are most publicized are resolved with little debate because of the thought given them and something little discussed causes arguments all during the session.

This year the writers are saying that taxes will take a leading role, which is reasonably safe because taxes are usually a big part of the legislature's job. When the ways and means committees have determined how much money is actually needed it may prove possible to pass a tax measure with ease.

It will be recalled by those who watch legislature that this is the year for it to pass a sales tax bill. One is passed every other year at the session held two years after the previous one was defeated. Some emergency always makes its passage absolutely necessary. The people always vote the new tax down, not being sufficiently impressed by the seriousness of the emergency.

Solution of the problem placed in the laps of the legislature by the passage of two school bills will take time. Five or six plans for distribution of the $15,000,000 have been proposed, most of them having been concocted by residents of populous areas. None of them are acceptable to adherents of other plans.

There is certainly going to be a lot said about relief problems in Oregon. Proposed budget for this item alone for the biennium is $26,000,000 or more than twice what it was last time. Liquor money won't reach and there is a disposition discernible, particularly among county courts, to investigate claims more thoroughly.

The entire social benefit program may be questioned as employers want to know why they have to pay unemployment compensation and yet cannot hire men. Perhaps there can be some tightening of the procedure whereby those who live on funds obtained from taxation of one kind or another are paid.

The proposal to tax, own or in some manner obtain revenue from slot and pin ball machines, and to increase the take from dog and horse races may cause quite a fight.

So far neglected in consideration of legislative problems is probable changes in the Bang's disease law which hasn't been working very well and which applies to health. Whether the state is to have a part in developing aviation is another possible problem, mixed up as it is in gasoline taxes, new fields, federal laws.

There will be plenty of problems. No period of changes such as follow a war is without them. Eventually they get to the legislature.

The 1947 session of the Oregon legislature will begin January 13. It is expected to be a long and difficult one.

AAA Group Names Office Force

AAA officials of the county met December 30 at the court house to complete the 1947 program and elect officers. No changes were made in the officers Wallace May being chairman of the county committee, O. G. Hilderbrand vice-chairman and Russell Belshee the other member. LeRoy Wright was appointed secretary and Ralph Busse assistant secretary and treasurer.

There will be a county wide meeting January 29 to which both county and community committee men are invited. Any others may come as the meeting is open. Members expect to attend the AAA conference to be held in Pendleton February 4 and 5.

VFW HAS MORE MEMBERS

Membership of the Veterans of Foreign Wars has increased to 19,645, ten times the membership on the rolls of the organization in 1936, according to Ben Burns, membership chairman for the department of VFW.

There are now a total of 143 VFW posts throughout the state.

Lou Peetz Loses Leg From Road Crew Accident

L. L. Peetz underwent an operation in Portland December 27 for the removal of his leg, which was taken off above the knee. Infection caused by an accident when a heavy plank was dropped on his foot was the primary cause of the operation. Mr Peetz, county road master, continued to work for several weeks after his accident but as the injured toe and foot did not heal the operation was found necessary. He has been in Portland hospital since early in December. Reports are that he is getting along very well since the operation.

Rufus Boy Home On Furlough

Pvt. Stacey A. Wilson arrived home Friday morning from Greenville, S. C. on a furlough from the army. He will leave here January 8 to report back to Greenville.

Mrs Margaret Knox and son, Willard Leff had Christmas dinner with Mr and Mrs Charles Kuypers.

Grant Boice, who is stationed at Bremerton, Wash., with the navy, was here to spend Christmas with his wife, Mrs Boice (Catherine Tom).

Mr and Mrs Mobley of Cliffs, Wash., were Christmas day guests of Mr and Mrs R. T. Dingle.

Mr and Mrs C. A. Tom and Mr and Mrs Grant Boice were guests on Christmas day at the home of Mrs Tom's brother and family in The Dalles, Mr and Mrs Dick White.

Mr and Mrs Harvey McClain were visitors in Yakima, Wash., on Christmas day.

Mr and Mrs Ted Reed were guests on Christmas day of Mrs Reed's folks in Klickitat, Wash.

Mr and Mrs Gordon Reid are visiting with Mrs Reid's family in LaGrande.

Mr and Mrs Dorsey Miller and family were guests at the home of Mrs Mae Fowler on Christmas evening.

Mr and Mrs George Jensen and family were dinner guests of Mr and Mrs Carl Thompson on Christmas.

Mr and Mrs Bruce Millard and family journeyed to Portland for Christmas holidays to be with their son and family, Mr and Mrs Edward Millard.

Mrs Alta Smith, daughters Donna and Darlene, and Clifford Trumbo spent Christmas in Goldendale, Wash., with relatives.

Mr and Mrs Allen Tom and family went to Portland to be with Mrs Tom's folks during the Christmas holidays.

Mr and Mrs Dick Yocum and daughter Shirley went to Heppner Sunday to visit Mr Yocum's parents, Mr and Mrs J. M. Yocum

Mrs Elizabeth Kuypers was a Sunday dinner guest at the home of Mr and Mrs James Tate.

Christmas day guests at the home of Mr and Mrs Leland Medler were Mr and Mrs Alex Macnab, Bob, Tom, Pat, Rose, and Joanne Macnab, and Dr. and Mrs John Macnab and family, all of The Dalles, Mr and Mrs Pete Macnab, Mr and Mrs Bill Macnab and family, and Frank Medler.

Mr and Mrs John Addington of Dufur and Mr and Mrs Jewel Herin and daughter Shirley were guests of Mr and Mrs Don Macnab on Christmas day.

Mr and Mrs Joe Morris and family went to Corvallis Friday where they will visit with friends and relatives until Monday when they will return home.

Mr and Mrs Carl Rutschman of Stayton, who are visiting at the home of Mrs Rutschman's parents, Mr and Mrs C. E. Coats during the holidays, were Friday afternoon guests of Mr and Mrs James Tate.

Mr and Mrs David Reid of The Dalles were visitors at the home of Mr and Mrs James Tate Friday.

Judge J. M. Wilson of Kent and Commissioner Vernon Miller of Rufus attended the meeting of the league of Oregon counties held in The Dalles Tuesday for the purpose of acquainting members of the organization about the program of the association and to inform the legislators of the district about the league's program. Judge Wilson was chosen as the district's member on the executive committee. Legislators from Hood River, Wasco, and Sherman county also attended.

1946 Weather Dry, Warm, Quiet Comparatively

The year 1946 ended without much rainfall for the farmers of Sherman county. Whereas the normal precipitation at the experiment station is 11.28 the year just ended brought but 8.03 inches. Only one saving month made 1946 a good crop year; that was 1.56 inches of rain in June when the the normal is .66. Except for March the year was short of moisture in every other important month.

The year also brought the driest December on record with but .42 inches of rain. The normal is four times that, a solid 1.68. Driest December before last month was in 1930 when 1.53 inches fell.

Since the beginning of the crop year September 1 the county has had but 2.69 inches of rain as against a normal fall of 4.97 which shows that farmer complaints about dry ground are well founded.

Total rainfall of 8.03 makes 1946 the fourth lowest year on record, only 1930 with 6.69 inches, 1935 with 6.72 inches and 1939 with 6.43 inches being drier. In 1944 only 8.07 inches of rain fell and yet the 1945 crop was good enough so despair is not yet due, however.

102 Top Temperature

Temperatures reached 100 degrees three times during the year, being at 102 on July 20. Highest temperature ever recorded at the station was in 1939 when the thermometer went to 111 degrees. Coldest temperature was just this week when 11 degrees above was recorded at the station. Coldest day before that was 20 degrees in January of 1946. Back in 1919 20 degrees below was read in Moro.

Yet 1946 was a quiet year although there were the usual complaints about that wind. Average wind velocity was 4.6 miles per hour and the average was 6.1. May was the only month that exceeded the average, that month having 6.3 miles per hour, partly caused by a 12.8 miles an hour wind on May 8.

155 Growers Collect On Insurance

The elements stirred up a witches' brew of perverse weather to account for most of the relatively light losses on insured Oregon wheat farms this year, says Murl E. Cummings, state director for the federal crop insurance corporation, in a report on the 1946 insurance program.

Although one of the most favorable growing seasons in many years produced a record wheat crop, nine varieties of adverse weather conditions caused most losses for which 155 growers collected on their crop insurance policies, Cummings reported.

Frost and cold spring weather figured in almost half of the losses, while the combination drouth and hot weather was the year's crop enemy No. 2. Excessive moisture, hot winds, winterkill, winds and hail also contributed to crop damage.

Birds, bugs and worms also nibbled at the crop. Nine indemnities were paid for cutworm damage, 8 for Hessian fly, and one for pheasants. Plant disease caused 8 losses—rust, root rot and smut.

Severe erosion caused losses on three farms, and six insured operators collected for flood damage. Weeds and shortage of irrigation water complete the list of 19 hazards for which indemnities were paid during the year.

Gilliam was the only one of the 20 insured counties in which no losses were reported. Clackamas county with 25 had the most losses, but Umatilla farmers collected the most indemnities. Sherman and Klamath were second and third in amount of indemnities.

Largest single indemnity was paid to a Deschutes county grower, who collected 2425 bushels frost damage. Most of the indemnities were small and covered only partial losses, however, and the total amount paid to insured growers was only 38,000 bushels about one-fourth of the total premiums paid. This means, Cummings pointed out, that the state is accumulating a substantial reserve to cover losses in less favorable crop years.