

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**

Washington, D.C., Jan. 16.—Republican ranks are showing some cracks. They are not of one mind on many issues. This was the situation during the new deal with the southern Democrats. The strategy of the Democrats now will be to encourage dissension in the ranks of the majority party; to cause confusion and promote rival fealties. Democrats may be expected to swing back and forth, supporting one Republican's plan at one time and another Republican's proposal at another to widen the cracks in the hope of disorganizing the Republicans and increasing the belligerence of the latter among themselves. In short, the Democrats would delight in seeing a miniature civil war in the Republican camp.

This is similar to the tactics practiced by the Republican minority when President Roosevelt attempted his ill-starred effort to pack the supreme court. Democrats were divided on this issue, so the Republicans kept their mouths shut and encouraged the anti-packing Democrats to carry the ball. The Democrats killed the bill, which was exactly what the Republicans desired.

President Truman plans to place controversial issues directly in the lap of the Republican congress. If the decisions of congress are unpopular, the Republicans must shoulder the blame; if the reaction is favorable the president can point to his leadership in suggesting the problems to be solved. In a general way, this is the policy concocted in the White House to build up the Truman cause before the Democratic nominating convention in 1948.

Already, among the top ranking Republicans there is a clash of personalities and ambitions. There are in the senate, for instance, more Republicans secretly hoping to hit the jackpot in 1948 than are generally known. Two or three Republican senators are recognized as presidential timber although they disdain any design on the nomination at this time, but there are at least a dozen others who think they can qualify as the party's "strong man," or at least be nominated for vice-president. In nursing this ambition, their course of action to attain publicity on a national scale will be interesting to observe and they will not hesitate to toss a monkey wrench into paths of the presumptive leaders.

When he advised the congress not to lower war taxes President Truman started something. Reduction of taxes has been advocated by the Republican steering committee and unless congress makes good and shaves down the present rates the party will be in an awkward position in 1948. On the other hand, the president has the veto and he can apply it to a tax reduction bill if he deems it necessary.

The attitude of President Truman is somewhat of a surprise, for it had been understood that he favored a lowering of income taxes although no percentage was suggested. There is in prospect a distinct clash between the White House and the lawmakers on the hill over this question. The American taxpayer has been praying for a lightening of the load and expects some reduction. The president takes the stand that, while the country is still prosperous, it is inadvisable to cut taxes but instead they should be held at the war level in order to raise funds to reduce the national debt. There is also a drive to eliminate luxury taxes, but sentiment is not universal in the congress. Some luxury taxes, as on whisky, furs, cosmetics, etc., bring the treasury a large sum, something more than two million dollars, and it is argued that on these items the general public is not affected, for no one has to buy mink coats or whisky, and those who do can afford to pay the luxury tax. The cosmetics tax is somewhat different, for cosmetics have now, with women, become necessities and not luxuries.

Labor organs have already opened their barrage against the legislation proposed to abolish the

Committee Appointments Made At Salem

Committee appointments given legislators from this district were announced Monday morning by the presiding officers of the senate and house. Senator Fatland drew heavy assignments from Marshall Cornett, senate president, being chairman of the Assessment and Taxation committee and a member of the committee on Alcoholic Control, Banking, Education, Roads and Highways and Rules. These six committees are enough to keep the senator busy for the session.

Over in the house Giles French is to be vice-chairman of the Labor and Industries committee and a member of State and Federal Relations and Elections and Reappointment.

Sharing in the general movement against appointment of eastern Oregon men to committee places, Henry Peterson was given the vice-chairmanship of Agriculture and membership on Commerce and Transportation and Food and Livestock.

Reducing committees in the house to 24 cut the number of committees for each member of that body to an average of three.

Joint Installation Held At Grass Valley

Joint installation of the I.O.O.F. lodge No. 131 and the Rebekah lodge No. 118 was held at the Odd Fellow hall Wednesday evening, January 8. New officers for the Odd Fellows are Orville Ruggles, noble grand; Willard Barnett, vice grand; Alton Coye, secretary-treasurer; Herman Peters, warden; John Rolfe, conductor; Bill Pausch, chaplain; Boyce Blaylock, inside guardian; Arch Cantrall, outside guardian; Fritz Rhewer, RSS; Clyde Stradley, LSS; Lester Barnum, RSN; Alfred Payne, LSN; Edgar Alley, RSVG; Frank Bayer, LSVG; Installing officers were Boyce Blaylock, district deputy president and John Rolfe, district deputy marshal.

New officers for the Rebekahs were Katherine Blaylock, noble grand; Verna Block, vice grand; Helen Olds, secretary; Clara Kock, treasurer; Charlotte Barnett, Warden; Alice Smith, conductor; Juanita Ruelles, chaplain; Eva Cantrall, musician; Mayme Bayer and Cora Perrigo, right and left supporter noble grand; Ada Easter and Dorothy Perry, right and left supporter vice grand; Doris Coyle, inside guardian; Jacques von Borstel outside guardian. Installing officers were Clara Rolfe, district deputy president; and Mayme Bayer, district deputy marshal.

Gasoline Use Goes Higher

Gasoline use for the first eleven months of 1946 soared to an all-time high in the state of Oregon. It has been announced by Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell Jr. Not counting December, the year saw over four million miles of automobile travel.

The summer months brought the heaviest travel, with August recording the top gasoline consumption, almost 40,000,000 gallons. Gas sales for the eleven-month period exceeded 345,000,000 gallons. From this sale the state netted over \$15,000,000 in tax receipts after refunds were made on fuel used off the highways.

"The four billion miles rolled up by Oregon cars in the first eleven months of 1946 give us some idea of what mileages are going to be in the near future," Farrell said. "You have to remember that so far new car production hasn't begun to reach normal highs. You can remember what the highways will be like when everyone who can afford a car will have one."

The secretary of state pointed out that the looming traffic boom behooves every safety and enforcement agency to marshal all its forces for the fight against property damage, injuries, and death.

Word received here Thursday was that Mr. and Mrs. Dale Johnston are the proud parents of a baby girl, born January 10, weighing in at a little over 8 lbs. and named Lynn Roffey. The couple live in Eugene.

A GI Fishing Boat Takes Shape in Island



Building their own fishing boat gives them something to do in their off-duty time and will afford them lots of pleasure. The Regular Army now offers qualified men 17 to 34 years of age, inclusive, security now and for the future with retirement benefits of up to \$155.25 a month for the rest of their lives.

Snow Falls, Roads Slippery and Drifted

Temperature fell to 2 below zero Tuesday night, according to reports received from the experiment station. This is the coldest on record, this winter. This temperature drop followed a series of snow flurries which covered the county earlier this week. About seven inches fell at Moro and wind caused some drifting in most parts of the county. The county highway crew was out Sunday night clearing the roads.

Moisture content as recorded at the station was five hundredth on the 10th, three hundredth on the 12th, and 25 hundredth on the 13th.

Grange Warns Against Increasing Rates

The well-being of every Northwest citizen is threatened by the current campaign to force Bonneville Power administration to increase its rates, according to Morton Tompkins, Master of the Oregon State Grange.

"This is not a question of public versus private power. It is a move on the part of eastern and mid-west industry to keep the Pacific Northwest in the status of a backward empire," he asserted.

"The standard Bonneville rate produced net revenue in excess of \$4,000,000 last year, which is at a rate more than ample to amortize the investment of the government within the time limit," Tompkins asserts.

"Low-cost power is the life blood of the Northwest's industrial economy. Without it, we will be at the mercy of the industrial empires of the east and mid-west which have been built up through utilization of resources of coal and oil which we in the Northwest do not have," Tompkins concluded.

Questions Answered For Veterans

Q. I am going to school under the G.I. Bill. I find I am unable to keep up my assignments because of failing sight. Will the VA pay for a reader to assist me?

A. No. Veterans with visual impairment are eligible for reader service only if they are enrolled under the Vocational Rehabilitation Act (Public Law 16).

Q. Are there any restrictions in Government insurance on the type of work I do?

A. No. The insured may engage in any occupation, no matter how hazardous, live where he likes, and travel any way he chooses, without affecting the value or cost of his insurance policy.

Q. I am a foreign-born American citizen, a veteran of World War II. Will I continue to receive my disability compensation if I visit the land of my birth?

A. Yes. However, you may have to report in due course for a physical examination to determine whether it should continue.

MORO WOMENS CLUB MEETS

The Moro Women's Club will meet Friday the 17th at 2 p.m. at the Clubhouse at a regular meeting. The topic for discussion will be International Relations directed by Mrs. Lloyd Heinrichs.

Margaret Barnett Marries In The Dalles

Miss Margaret Barnett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Barnett, of Grass Valley and Bill Johnson, of Coulee Dam, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Johnson of Montana were married in The Dalles Saturday, January 11 at 1 o'clock by Father Roden.

The bride wore a black dress maker suit with white accessories and wore a corsage of white carnations, her sister, Mrs. J. E. Alley, who was her attendant, wore a navy blue suit with white accessories and wore a corsage of white gardenias. Alvin Detrick of Coulee Dam was best man for the groom.

Those attending the wedding were Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Barnett, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Alley and Mrs. Marie Smith of Grass Valley, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Gains, Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Payne and Miss Joanne Nicholson of Portland.

They returned to Grass Valley after the ceremony where a reception was held at the Odd Fellow hall. Mrs. Willard Barnett was receptionist.

The hand embroidered linen cloth covered table was centered with the decorated three tiered wedding cake topped with a miniature bride and groom. White flowers in crystal swan vases and white candles were at each end of the table. After the bridal couple cut the first piece of cake the bride's cousin, Mrs. R. C. Gains, cut and served the cake assisted by Miss Joanne Nicholson, Mrs. Gordon Lemley, Mrs. James Paster, Mrs. Orville Ruggles, Miss Doris Jones and Mrs. Frank Payne, Mrs. H. P. Payne of Portland poured.

The young couple received a telegram of congratulations from his parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. W. Johnson from Montana.

They left for a short wedding trip and will return to make their home at Coulee Dam where he is employed.

May 10. Hood River wins track meet. Redmond second. 9 o'clock curfew to sound. Road to Deschutes river started from the back of the Engstrom place.

May 17. County taxes to be slightly higher next tax year. Pure bred cattle sale preparation being made. Cancer drive ends successfully.

May 24. Man dies in trailer fire on old Ginn Coleman lots. Stockman, Farrell and Kinsey win majorities in this county.

May 31. 34 eighth graders graduate. Sen. Fatland speaks for memorial of public interest. Barn and equipment burns on Hart ranch.

June 7. 1926 Moro High School class reunited. Historical society holds picnic at DeMoss springs. Non-High Board meets to discuss high school matters. Liquor store moved to Percy Thompson's store.

June 14. Grass Valley, Rosebush and Rutledge vote for consolidation, Buckley against consolidation of school district. No rain. Fair board plans program of races and bucking.

June 21. O'Meara store burns down with huge losses. Hall damages crop in streak six miles long near Grass Valley. Rain in other parts made .80 inch.

June 28. Leslie Wilson and Reed Ellis Rudin try robbery of car. Carl F. Peetz Memorial organ program arranged. Farmers can put wheat in pure Co-ops safely. Sherman Riders discuss revival.

Summary For First Six Months Of Past Year

New Stores Opened, Changes Made, City Hall Painted

The following is a review of news items of the past year.

Jan. 4. Joe Peters sworn in as County Commissioner, December moisture larger than normal.

Jan. 11. County Tops List in per capita sales; second in percentage of E bond quota. City committee consider steps toward repairing Legion Hall.

Jan. 18. Reorganization of the Moro Breakfast Club. Moro Hotel Coffee Shop opened. Rebekahs install officers.

Jan. 25. Two inches or more of snow fell on unfrozen ground. Contract for \$296,845 approved by headquarters for construction of 265 miles of REA line.

Feb. 1. Ziegler sells store to Ivan Blagg and Alton Coyle. Cantrall sells barber shop to Slim Duncan, B. C. Baumgartner buys Karnes building to open electrical shop. REA expects 288 miles of new and rebuilt lines, 237 new customers, a total of \$314,500.

Feb. 8. C. C. Wilson resigns as sheriff, Norman Fields successor. School District votes to lease recreation field. VFW wives organize.

Feb. 15. Fair board meet for first meeting. AAA committee considers report about weeds and erosion matters. Barley produces more grain than wheat on average.

Feb. 22. County fair dates set as September 26-29. Breakfast club committees become active in community affairs.

Mar. 1. Moro place 4th in district basketball race. Bob Christlan given up by Army Air Force Sen. Fatland to speak at Republican meeting. Moisture ahead of normal although February was low.

Mar. 8. Court starts payments on new road machinery. Vernon Shipley tells of experience in commando outfit to Breakfast club.

Mar. 15. Pioneer program planned. Legionnaires celebrate 27th birthday of order. High school seniors present "Broken Dishes."

Mar. 22. Moro Grain Growers shipping grain to empty elevators. Bill Close resigns as bank manager, Merle Beckett to return.

Mar. 29. Governor Snell reviews county history in talk starting the Sherman county Historical society. County has but 2.3 percent of untaxed property.

Apr. 5. VFW Auxiliary inaugurates unit at meeting. Breakfast Club to sponsor baseball team. Moisture better than average.

Apr. 12. County USDA asks movement of farm stored wheat. Mrs. Geo. Moorehead discusses health at Women's club guest day.

Apr. 19. Moro Hall has coat of paint. Weed killing experiment now being tried. Breakfast club guests of The Dalles Kiwanians.

Apr. 26. Blue Cross men explain plan to county. County court votes to accept the state retirement plan for employees. 15 teams to meet in Moro for track meet on May 3.

May 3. Wasco baseball team loses first game to Fossil. Army engineers approve dam at Big Eddy. Mrs. Tom Fraser chosen mother as representative of Moro.

Prices Rise Greatest In Woolen Goods

Clothing prices continued to rise in the stores patronized by farmers, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture from November 15 to December 15. Advances were rather general, but were greatest in woolen goods, as a strong demand for the relatively small supply of men's suits still prevailed. Footwear and cotton and rayon goods also were higher. Post-Christmas sales may have lowered clothing prices somewhat subsequently but trade reports indicate that so far sharp mark-downs have been confined largely to women's wear. Household operation expenses increased a little during the month ended December 15, principally because of a further rise in the price of soap, though other items made some increase.

Last Rites For Kate Stephens Held Monday

Funeral services were held for Mrs. Kate Izatt Stephens in Portland Monday at the Lincoln Memorial Park with interment beside her late husband, David E. Stephens. Rev H G Hanson conducted the services Mrs Stephens went to Corvallis from Colfax, Wn in December to live with her daughter, Mrs Karl G. Peterson. She died in a local hospital Thursday night, January 9, following an extended illness, only a month after the passing of her husband.

She was born in Logan, Utah, in 1883 as Katherine Izatt and attended the Utah State Agricultural College. She married on June 10, 1906 to Mr. Stephens who was connected with the Utah State college. In 1909 they moved to Washington, D.C., where Mr. Stephens worked in the cereal office until 1912 when they came to Sherman county to take over the experiment station. While in Moro Mrs. Stephens was active in the Moro Women's Club being president in 1926-27, was a Past Matron in the Eastern Star, and took great interest in the 4-H club cooking class. In 1938 they went back to Washington, D.C., and in 1942 returned to the Northwest at Pullman, Wn.

Surviving are two sons, Edmund of Washington, D.C., Tom in Monterey, California, two daughters, Jean (Peterson) of Corvallis and Janet (DeGraff) of Portland; seven grandchildren; two brothers and two sisters.

Oregon Traffic Toll Highest In History

Oregon's 1946 traffic death toll stood at 478 dead today, the highest fatality rate in the history of the state, according to Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell Jr., who said the present figure is tentative and may go higher.

The previous high toll was for the year 1941 when 399 persons were killed in street and highway accidents. The 1946 toll is 20 percent over the 1941 figure, and represents an increase of 36 percent over the 1945 total of 352 deaths.

Farrell said there were more motor vehicle accidents in this state during the first nine months of 1946 than for the entire year of 1945. During that period, 43,167 accidents were reported, compared to 42,922 for the entire year of 1945.

The secretary of state predicted the 1946 accident list would be approximately 60,000.

"Increased traffic volume, higher average speeds on rural highways, and dangerous driving practices contributed to the tragic increase for 1946," Farrell said. "In many instances, traffic volumes are 80 per cent or more over the volumes for 1945. The increase may be attributed to the increase in rural accidents, since accidents in cities have not shown an increase."

larger and fewer. There may be sub committees, a poor practice, but there will likely be a little more speed. However, the success or failure of a legislature depends on the members—nothing else.



CLEARED OF NAZI CHARGE ... C. L. Drexel, 51, once indicted by a federal grand jury as a traitor to the U. S. for broadcasting Nazi propaganda, is shown as she arrived at New York City cleared of all charges made against her.

Legislator Relates Starting Session Happenings

Governor Snell Speaks On Many Matters; Namely, Taxation

Governor Snell gave his second "state of the state" speech today before the joint assembly of senators and representatives and found it better received than was his first one.

The matter of taxation was uppermost in the minds of the legislators and is also the first problem in the minds of the people of the state. On that subject the governor was specific in some things and general in others. He praised the tax study committee but found himself in disagreement with a part of the report. He did, however, recommend that the report be carefully studied because it contained much research material that will be valuable.

How to obtain the money for the state's needs is still a problem despite the governor's speech. He recommended that the excise tax income be put in the general fund. This would approximately balance the budget. At present these funds are put in with income tax returns and both are used to reduce the property tax. Under the governor's proposal property taxpayers would be some \$8 or 9,000,000 closer to paying state property taxes. That may be too close.

It would be like taking money from one pocket and putting it in the other, a practice that is not recommended to build up one's income.

Use of the building fund to alleviate the state's finances would be borrowing from the future on a somewhat similar basis. Both would save the score but could not cure it.

The governor had other recommendations that will be found easier to accept. He would establish a boys camp for wayward youth who might be easier to rehabilitate there than in the Woodburn school, which has a very slight reputation as a reformatory. He also wants a new place in the prison for first offenders, which has long been recommended but not accepted because of finances.

Tourist travel aid, zoning laws, and several other problems were mentioned and in many cases the governor requested the legislature to pass necessary legislation for them. Many will undoubtedly be passed, if the funds can be found in the welter of demands for more things for less money.

On the subject of labor the governor was more specific than before. He did not ask for abolition of the closed shop, but did say that many abuses of present labor laws had made it mandatory that something be done. Monopolies, either on the part of employers or employees, he said, cannot be permitted in a democratic land. Higher payments for those under unemployment compensation and workmen's compensation was asked by the governor in light of the present cost of living.

Before the governor came in to the joint session to make his talk both houses had organized by electing the officers needed to carry on the work of the session. The house immediately passed an appropriation bill for its own expense, a bill permitting Justice Brand to go to Germany as a judge over war trials, and several resolutions of little importance.

Quality of the two houses seems high, perhaps more of the employer class and the professional class than is proper to represent the people of the state adequately. There is but one avowed speaker for labor in the house.

Weather in Salem is more miserable than usual, being damp with heavy flakes of snow falling to make the streets slick and the sidewalks wet. Incidentally, it is strange that mankind has been able to develop wonderful machinery, comforts of all kinds, the atomic bomb and yet cannot make a level sidewalk. All of them in Salem hold an inch of water carefully in the center so legislators may be as wet on the feet as the average constituent considers them in other matters.

Change to 24 committees in the house crowded many oldtimers from chairmanships just as the same action did in the United States senate. Committees are