

Sherman County Journal

Fifty-Ninth Year No. 18

Moro, Oregon, Friday, March 7, 1947

Official County Paper

A column of news
About Government,
Politics and People
with especial emphasis
on the Northwest

When Gen. George Marshall was sent to China to try to compose the differences between the nationalists and the communists it was difficult to send UNRRA supplies to the back of the country because of lack of transportation facilities. Marshall made a request for 50,000 tons of steel rails. When UNRRA finally was able to locate this quantity of steel, instead of sending the rails to China they were sent to Yugoslavia. As the rails were moving east across the Atlantic an American vessel was moving west to the United States carrying the bodies of the American flyers who had been shot down by Yugoslavia troops. Tito, the dictator, was then defying the United States while at the same time receiving this material assistance from American taxpayers, who paid for the tonnage of steel rails. All this is aired in the report by a special committee which is investigating the disposition of surplus property.

Current head of the industrial rehabilitation division of UNRRA is Norman Leon Gold, Canadian born, who became a naturalized citizen in 1937. However, three years before he became a citizen he worked for Henry Wallace in the department of agriculture. Top man of the program in control is Mr. Weisman, a native of Yugoslavia. The fuel branch is headed by Mr. Uderiski, a pole, hired by Mr. Gold from the Greek mission. Materials and equipment branch is under Mr. Rodney, a Russian engineer.

Only a few weeks ago UNRRA purchased in Boston, for Yugoslavia, \$140,000 of such construction equipment as wheelbarrows, shovels, tractor blades, picks, etc. Eighteen months ago three airplanes were bought at Love Field, Dallas, Texas, for Yugoslavia. Someone is paid \$75 a day for turning the engines over for one hour, and this has been going on for a year and six months. UNRRA also purchased for \$750,000 some 17 airplanes to establish a private air line in China. Mechanics have been sent to Manila to service the planes. This, it appears, is stretching the policy of "relief" rather far.

All these are matters which are coming up in congress just when President Truman is suggesting that congress appropriate a major sum to be used in relief when UNRRA goes out of business in a few months. These tales, taken from congressional reports, cause some members to wonder if relief is worth while.

Assurances of increased sugar allotments may not have something to do with the candy imports from abroad. While the American people have been curtailed on sugar, candy manufacturers abroad have been shipping in large quantities, their imports now being greater than for years past. It is apparent that the foreign manufacturers have been able to obtain sugar when domestic manufacturers have been limited and thousands of candy stores in the United States can be open on a few hours a week because they are unable to carry a stock to meet demands.

Col. J. M. Johnson, director of ODT, says there are about 700,000 boxcars available today when there is need for 100,000 more. During the war cars were being produced at the rate of 4000 to 5000 a month, but now production is down to 2900 and there are 7000 cars being used up every month. The life of a boxcar is 25 years, but most of those now in use are older than 26 years. About half the cars of all types are boxcars and the present demand is insistent.

The people will be hostile soon, declared the colonel, if the boxcar shortage is not remedied. They will kick in congress, to ICC and to every railroad agency. Colonel Johnson says he has been fighting a battle for five years trying to get more boxcars and he has battles with the war production board and every other agency to obtain steel and other materials. He has seen thousands of boxcars manufactured for European de-

Red Cross Elects New Officials

The Red Cross Unit met Monday, March 3 at the Court house in Moro and elected officers for the coming year. Mrs. Frank von Borstel was re-elected as chairman and Mrs. T. W. Alley will be vice-chairman, with Charles Ruggles as secretary and Mrs. Paul May, treasurer.

The directors for the year will be A. A. Dunlap, Mrs. Ed Alley, J. E. Norton, John M. DeMoss, Mrs. A. H. McIntyre, C. A. Tom, R. T. Dingle, Dewey Thompson, Mrs. T. Lester Johnson.

Committee chairmen were appointed as follows: Mrs. Willy Knighten, Production; Willy Knighten, Home Service; M. M. Oveson, First Aid and Accident Prevention; Mrs. A. F. Balzer, Publicity; A. A. Dunlap, Disaster Relief; Mrs. Dewey Thomas, Junior Red Cross; Mrs. A. H. McIntyre, Home Nursing.

County School Men Meet Monday

The county school boards met Monday night at the Court House and discussed salaries for elementary and high school teachers. Every school was represented and all principals were present. It was agreed to pay \$2800 to elementary teachers and \$2800 to all high school teachers, with \$100 increase for each year of service. The Music Committee made arrangements for a county music festival to be held in May.

P.P.&L TO INSTALL NEW EQUIPMENT

With materials and equipment due to arrive within the next 60 to 90 days, Pacific Power & Light company will double the capacity of the substation serving Moro this year. R. P. Brisbane, local manager for the company, announced Wednesday.

New equipment to be installed here will include a bank of transformers twice the size of existing facilities, a voltage regulator, and a reclosing-type oil circuit breaker.

Brisbane said the voltage regulator, which serves much the same purpose on power lines that shock absorbers do on a car, will smooth out "bumps" in the flow of electric service that might be caused by heavy electrically-driven equipment.

The additions to the power system here are part of a \$3,874,000 system-wide construction program scheduled for completion this year by Pacific Power & Light company. The 1947 building program is the largest in the company's history.

39 LIVES TAKEN IN

ACCIDENTS DURING JANUARY

Oregon lost 39 lives in motor car accidents during January, it has been disclosed by Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell Jr.

As always, the great majority of these were in rural areas. The 39 deaths this past January compare with 27 in the same month of the previous year. Speed and skids growing out of speed dominated the death picture. Over half the fatalities came in wrecks in which the car collided with no other moving object, but overturned, left the road, or smashed into an immovable obstacle.

"You don't have to be an expert to tell this adds up to plain bad driving," said Farrell.

He also pointed out that the location of the accidents underscored the need of more highway patrol, since only 12 of the 39 deaths occurred inside any city or town.

DRIVERS' LICENSE

EXAMINER TO BE HERE

A drivers licence examiner is scheduled to be on duty in Moro Thursday, March 13, 1947, at the courthouse between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., according to an announcement received from the Secretary of State's office.

Persons wishing licenses or permits to drive are asked to get in touch with the examiner well ahead of the scheduled closing hour in order to assure completion of their application with a minimum of delay.



SEEK LOST GOLD MINE—Mr. and Mrs. William J. Midgah of Joplin, Mo., are shown with pack burro they will use on their trek into the Superstition mountain area of Arizona in search of the famous Lost Dutchman gold mine. The 59-year-old pistol packin' grandmother blew into Phoenix with a yellowed map to the mine handed down by her great-great uncle.

Boys Lose In Tournament

By Dick Oveson

Moro High's title hopes were quickly crushed at The Dalles last Thursday afternoon as the Parkdale Mountaineers rolled over the Huskies 54-34. Parkdale took a quick lead and never headed although Moro stayed close behind until the first part of the fourth quarter.

Moro had a terrible time finding the basket. The Huskies missed easy shot after easy shot and topped this off by missing 15 out of 25 free throws. Parkdale held a six point half time margin and nearly lost this as the Huskies came roaring back to chop the Mountaineer lead to 2 points. This was the closest the Huskies came to the lead all afternoon.

Moro was slightly handicapped by lack of height under the basket and its inability to hit the basket. Bayer led the Huskies in his final game as he picked up 11.

EXPERIMENTAL TURKEY

BROODERS IN PROCESS

Construction of an experimental turkey brooder house with some unusual features is proceeding at Oregon State college on a 50-acre tract near the college dairy barn on Oak Creek road west of Corvallis.

The first 160 Broad Breasted Bronze hens have been obtained to start the research breeding flock to be used in the study of better methods of breeding, management, feeding and disease control. A new 10,000-egg capacity incubator has been installed in the poultry building.

The new brooder house is designed to brood 1700 poulters "off the floor," while a second unit to be constructed later will make possible "on the floor" brooding for comparison. A feed unit is planned for grain grinding, mixing and storage.

The turkey research project will be supported by both state and private funds, the legislature two years ago having provided money for plant construction. One part of the project deals with breeding and management factors related to hatchability of turkey eggs. It is supported by a \$20,000 grant from the Swift and Co. foundation.

The brooding unit under construction is 30x64 feet in size, insulated, and has trussed rafters for construction, leaving the interior free from posts or other supports. This permits easy removal of in-sulated pens, facilitates cleaning and makes the structure suitable for other uses after the brooding season.

Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Balsiger were in Portland attending a meeting of the Grain Growers' Association Wednesday evening. Frank Peters and sons are here from Sherwood visiting with his sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Ginn and his records in our office are concrete proof.

Moisture For Crop Year Very Low

The month of February was drier than normal and the moisture that has fallen since September 1, when the crop year began is about 46 per cent behind schedule.

At the station 4.6 inches of moisture has been recorded and the average or normal crop year precipitation for this period is 7.80. Last year reports for the crop year were 8.26 which was greater than normal.

February has an average precipitation of 1.25 but this February only brought .85. So far no sample tests have been made at the station to determine the actual moisture condition.

As for temperature during February, 15 degrees was the coldest and that was on the 27th while the maximum temperature was 61 degrees on the 24th.

GI LOAN INTEREST

INCOME TAX EXEMPT

Veterans may deduct in their federal income tax report the 4 percent gratuity payments made by the Veterans Administration as credit on G.I. loans, the VA has announced.

In addition, interest paid on G.I. loans may be listed as a deduction by the veteran regardless of whether the interest actually was paid with the gratuity.

Originally, the GI bill provided for payment by the VA of the first year's interest on the guaranteed portion of the loan. Revised in December, 1945, the law now provides that the VA may pay the lender, for credit to the veteran's account to be applied on reduction of the loan principle, an amount equal to 4 per cent of the guaranteed or insured portion of the loan.

Skids Cause Fifteen Deaths In Oregon

Skids killed 15 people in Oregon cars during the first month of this winter, it has been announced by Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell Jr.

"An alarmingly high percentage of those killed recently have been in cars sliding out of control on wet or icy surfaces," said Farrell.

The sentiment appears to be growing that some recognition of Oregon's diverse geographical structure, and its differences in educational opportunities will be considered in the senate. In the house the basic school matter was considered merely in the light of testimony of those who passed it, and their ideas were not broadened by much other evidence.

The senate committee has a fine opportunity to write a bill that will not only combine the ideas behind the bills before it, but will in addition, take into consideration the needs of high cost districts. As a practical matter, one of the highest changes on our educational system is inefficiency, usually in organization. Perhaps nothing that can be written into a law will ever correct this.

Legislator Discusses Tax Program

Rumor Of Gasoline Tax To Pay Cities And Counties

To watchers of the legislature, if any there be, it must seem that it goes on and on, day after day, week after week, without progress. It seems that way to most of the members, too, although a faint, dim picture of what may be done begins to show through the fog some days.

There will probably be a sales tax bill, and it now appears that it will be bad. It apparently tries to be all things to all taxpayers and therefore results in being the hodge-podge that such attempts usually are. It will levy a three percent sales tax with food exempted, will raise the income tax exemptions, and put on a property tax limitation.

Dismissing for the moment—or until our lawyer comes along—the illegality of putting three such divergent matters into one bill, the tax is probably too high, certainly should not make any exemptions and property tax limitations just don't work. Thus a 40 mill limit would be a nice drawing card for votes, but no one in the 22nd district has ever, as far as can be known ever paid 40 mills, except perhaps on town property. That is an appeal to the city taxpayer. As in Washington it would result in vastly increased assessments until the rate was an actual 60 mills.

Furthermore, there is no assurance that the men who must finance any sales tax campaign will get behind this one and spend the \$50,000 needed to make it pass. The guessing is that they will not. In any event it is no measure with which to settle the tax problems of the legislature.

Spoken of around the fringes of the badly frustrated house assessment and taxation committee is a new cigarette tax of 2 cents per pack, which would make the cost of a smoke around one cent.

There are rumors of a new tax on gasoline of a cent to pay the cities and counties the money they are demanding from the state highway commission. Attempts to make one dollar do the work of two usually result in failure and the effort to give additional millions to cities and counties from highway funds while expecting the development of through highways is entirely futile.

When the state permitted its political subdivisions to organize—and even aided that movement by appropriating some \$60,000 to the bureau of municipal research—it led with its chin. Now these same organizations come biennially to the legislature trying to change the laws so their units get more of the tax moneys. There is now a bill here permitting the organization of school boards into a state wide organization which if passed will create another pressure group.

The distribution of the basic school money bill is now in the senate where some analysis of it will be attempted. Its return to the senate floor may await the passage by the house of some amendments to HB80 of the 1945 session, inasmuch as the financial arrangements of districts are inescapably mixed in the two.

The sentiment appears to be growing that some recognition of Oregon's diverse geographical structure, and its differences in educational opportunities will be considered in the senate. In the house the basic school matter was considered merely in the light of testimony of those who passed it, and their ideas were not broadened by much other evidence.

The senate committee has a fine opportunity to write a bill that will not only combine the ideas behind the bills before it, but will in addition, take into consideration the needs of high cost districts. As a practical matter, one of the highest changes on our educational system is inefficiency, usually in organization. Perhaps nothing that can be written into a law will ever correct this.

Guessing as to when the session will end has started but it will take three weeks more unless the committees just throw up their hands and go home. Labor bills are still in the first house,

County Court Holds Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the County Court was conducted by Commissioners Miller and Peters as Judge Wilson is confined to his home with influenza. One delegation appeared regarding an easement given to a road out beyond Kent but no action was taken in regard to the issue.

James B. Coon, formerly of The Dalles, accepted position as County Road Foreman succeeding L. L. Pestz.

Some tax foreclosed property around Wasco was sold and a deed was issued to Albert Tate for other tax foreclosed property. The County Agent's report was submitted and accepted and the report of the Fair Board was submitted but is being held for explanation. Routine county matters were discussed and the accumulation of bills paid.

Vets Questions Answered

Q. I am a disabled veteran and have completed my on-the-job training course, but have not been able to get a job. Am I entitled to receive unemployment compensation under the GI bill?

A. Yes The Servicemen's Readjustment Act (GI Bill) provides that you draw adjusted unemployment compensation up to a maximum of 52 weeks, provided that you are able and available for work at the time. The number of weeks of readjustment allowance payable to you is determined by the length of your service. The service must have been 90 days or more between September 16, 1940 and the end of World War II.

Q. As a World War I veteran with a nonservice-connected disability, which does not permit me to work regularly, am I entitled to a pension?

A. Your only pension relief is through the law which gives you the right to a pension of \$60 per month, provided you are permanently and totally disabled and unable to follow a substantially gainful occupation. This pension is not payable if your income exceeds \$1000 if single, or \$2500 if married or with minor children.

Q. I am a World War II veteran taking a school course that requires three hours per week. Am I entitled to receive subsistence allowance under the G.I. Bill.

A. If you are taking an undergraduate course at a college or university you are eligible for one-quarter of the full subsistence allowance, but if it is a high school or vocational school course less than six hours per week, you are not eligible for subsistence allowance.

meaning that they have not been progressed at all. The only thing that has indicated life is the passage of the educational distribution bill over to the senate from the house.

Incidentally, watch the senate committees on taxation, education, labor for what will probably be final action.



NEW TENNIS QUEEN . . . Pauline Bets, California star, who took the world's women's tennis crown at Wimbledon, England, when she defeated Louise Brough, Beverly Hills, Calif., in straight sets in what was an all-American final.

Breakfast Club Appoints New Committees

Next Program To Be Sponsored By The Initiation Committee

The Breakfast Club met Wednesday morning and enjoyed a performance by Magician Norman Fields. Along the line of business was discussed the idea of getting Trailways Bus Line to get later service back on schedule. As of March 1, this 10:30 bus was discontinued making the last bus from The Dalles at 2:30 in the afternoon. This proposal was sent to committee.

Committee appointments were made by the Executive committee giving each a chairman and vice-chairman. On the Public Affairs is Giles French and Theodore Johnson; Agriculture, Merrill M. Oveson and Carroll Sayrs; Recreation, Carrel S. Bennett and Andrew Paulson; Community Welfare, Ernest Woods and Michael Mulick; Education, Willy W. Knighten and Jacob Ferguson; Legislative, T. Lester Johnson and Dewey Thompson; Finance, B. H. Roberson and Wendell Balsiger; and Membership, Ed Eaves and Kerneith Zachary.

Out-of-town members are Paul Goddard, T. Lester Johnson and A. A. Dunlap. The next meeting will be March 19 with the initiation committee preparing the program which may be given in the evening. This committee consists of Vernon Flatt, G. Douma and Harry Benson. The program committee for April 2 will be Theodore Johnson and Max Barzee.

NEXT OF KIN

TO BE NOTIFIED

Letters will be sent this week to more than 20,000 next of kin of American dead who now rest in 15 of the 200 temporary military cemeteries overseas as the first step in determining the final resting places of those who died outside the continental limits of the United States during World War II, the war department announced today.

Forms on which next of kin will be asked to indicate where they wish final burial to be made will be inclosed in the letters, according to Major General T. B. Larkin, The Quartermaster General of the army, chief of the American Graves Registration Service. Similar letters and forms will be sent over a period of 18 months to all next of kin of World War II dead whose remains have been recovered and positively identified.

Only a portion of the next of kin of armed forces personnel buried in the cemeteries at Henri Chapelle, Belgium, and Cambridge, England, will be sent letters initially, due to operational considerations. In the future, however, the letters of inquiry will be sent to all concerned.

Letters sent to next of kin will be signed by General Larkin. In addition to the form on which the decision as to final burial will be indicated, the letter will also include a pamphlet giving information on the program for return and final burial of World War II dead, a pamphlet describing permanent military cemeteries overseas and national cemeteries in the United States, and a franked envelope. Next of kin have been asked to fill out the disposition of remains form within 30 days and to return it in the franked, self-addressed envelope.

Next of kin may choose to have the remains of World War II armed forces personnel who died overseas returned to the United States for burial in a private cemetery; returned to the United States for burial in a national cemetery; buried in a permanent United States military cemetery overseas; or buried in a private cemetery in a foreign country which is the homeland of the deceased or of the next of kin.

MINISTER TO VISIT HERE SUNDAY

George Christian, Secretary of the Oregon Council of churches will be guest minister at the Moro Community Church on Sunday, March 9th. This is a splendid opportunity for everyone in the community to hear a fine scholar and minister. His theme will be "Why a United Protestantism?"