

Sherman County Journal

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These Things We Note

by Giles L. French

"It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness."

The post-war needs such a philosophy. After wars too often comes a recurrence of the nihilist thought that all things are material, that nothing can be done. The Oregon Journal for Sunday had an excellent supplement on the world in the throes of post-war living from which one may learn much.

People who accept the philosophy that everything is dishonest, that one must selfishly "get" in this world and give as little as possible are aiding world decay and making for themselves a most unpleasant time.

Hope for the world, and for individual happiness, comes from a saner type of thinking.

"It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness."

Speaking of harvest, which everyone has been doing, this is an appropriate time to note that Tom Douma, who has lived in Sherman county for high onto half a century, has never worked in harvest. Not a day, he says.

Not even in the "good old days" when nearly every boy spent a few days at least driving derrick undergoing the wrath of over-worked farmers and the lethargy of horses untrained to reverse gear.

He did not succumb to the lure of sack sewing and wear a be-stringed needle in his hat to boast of his proficiency, neither did he become a header puncher or loader or anything having to do with harvest. He just passed year after year.

The reason is simple enough. Tom was busy putting up hay so he would have something to feed stock, the care and killing of which has kept him occupied. Odd though.

Attorney General Clark's investigation of prices may lead him right back to Washington. Maybe he should begin on the potato price, which appears to be ready for a repeat of the 1946 fiasco when customers were charged five and six cents for potatoes while the government had potatoes dumped and covered with kerosene.

Becoming more common these days is the commercial huckleberry picker. He or they may be individuals who have accumulated a visible portion of Mother Nature's stains on clothing and anatomy from long delayed Saturday night ablutions. Very natural but untidy.

We tend to commercialize everything. Formerly the Indian had a sort of monopoly on picking huckleberries for sale and the first of them that most natives of Sherman county ate were bought from a grunting squaw with a command of English limited apparently to "One Dollar."

Now the Indians pick for themselves and let the crowding white man feed them with the fruits of his ambition. The price has risen accordingly and \$3.00 for a gallon (6 1/2 pounds) is general.

Huckleberrying might well be kept as a sort of outdoor sport in which families engaged for an outing, but it won't. Sometimes these foreigners who criticize us for being so dollar minded make sense at that.

Of Lucinda Matlock, a hard-working mother of twelve, who died at 96 after a busy life of respectable activity Edgar Masters says:

"At ninety-six I had lived enough that is all."

And passed to a sweet repose. What is this I hear of sorrow and weariness.

Anger, discontent and drooping hopes?

Degenerate sons and daughters. Life is too strong for you—It takes life to love life."



PICTURE FOR BETSY ROSS HOME . . . Frank H. Mancini (left), representing the board of trustees of the Betsy Ross house on historic Arch street in Philadelphia, is shown accepting painting depicting Washington's visit to the house from L. J. Gunson who donated it. It will be hung permanently inside the little building where the American flag was born. Mrs. Frederick Stewart impersonates Betsy Ross and holds a duplicate of the original flag.

Tree and Shrub Nursery Plantings May Determine Best Varieties For Soil Control

The tree planting experiment produced later.

at the experiment station is still too small to attract much attention, although good growth has been made in the few years it has been planted.

It is a part of a soil conservation program which has established branch nurseries over the three northwest states to determine what kind of plants and trees will best serve to prevent water erosion in gullies, and what kind of shrubs and trees will best provide protection from wind and snow for farm buildings.

Trees of known characteristics are planted along the many new ones to give the supervisors an opportunity to appraise the value of the new. Conservation is the first aim, and ornamentation the second.

Last week John Schwendiman manager, and Hal Miller, forester were here to look over the Moro nursery. Miller explained that at Pullman, which is the headquarters for the project, they have 500 woody plants of which number about 100 have been put out in branch nurseries. There are 29 at the local station.

They are generally classified as erect shrubs, like Caragana; intermediate shrubs, like Russian Olive; deciduous trees like the Locust; evergreen trees like the pine, evergreen shrubs like juniper and many smaller plants for gully control.

Growing here are the common ones already well known to farmers of Sherman county and also some new ones. There is Russian mulberry and American plum, the latter of some value other than as a wind break. The wild plum of Lake county will be in.

More Beef, Fewer Hogs Slaughtered

Oregon's 1947 shorn wool production, is figured at 6,345,000 pounds based on reports of Oregon wool producers to the Crop Reporting Service. The reduction in this year's crop amounts to 455,000 pounds, a 7 percent decrease from a year ago. This year's crop production is 52 percent less than the 10-year (1936-45) average of 13,221,000 pounds.

A reduction in number of sheep shorn this season accounts for the smaller wool clip. The number of sheep shorn in Oregon in 1947, is estimated at 721,000 head, down 10 percent from the 1946 total of 800,000 head and less than half the 10-year average number shorn of 1,503,000 head.

Fleece weight per sheep in 1947, is 8.8 pounds, somewhat more than a year ago when the average was 8.5 pounds and just equal to the 10-year (1936-45) average. This year's fleeces were generally of good quality and many showed better length than a year ago.

There is southernwood, a native of the Balkans, which smells a bit like our high sage and grows faster. It is also less brittle when old and may be of use to farmers who decide to protect their farm buildings from the elements.

Evergreen trees have been growing well at the station and in several other plantings over the county for years. Some new kinds are on trial, including blue spruce and Scotch pine, but it is too early to appraise their value or tell whether they will replace Ponderosa Pine as the larger trees of a farm windbreak.

Curt Tom Writes of Red Cross Work

An interesting letter was received by Sherman County Red Cross Chapter chairman, Mrs. Frank von Borstel from C. A. Tom. Mr. Tom, a resident of Rufus, has been serving as a volunteer with the Red Cross First Aid and Safety program held at Benbow Lakes at Kapowsin, Washington.

For the past fifteen years Mr. Tom has acted as a volunteer first aid instructor for the Red Cross and has now been promoted to a National Director Instructor and will act in the capacity of a supervisor and will assist the school manager. Mr. Tom is president of the Life Buoy club and is a marshal of the school. He reports that sixteen different states were represented, one pupil coming from New York. Mr. Tom is a member of the Red Cross board of directors for Sherman county.

Wool Clip Down In Oregon and US

Total slaughter of meat animals in State and Federal licensed plants of Oregon during June was 14 percent more than in June a year ago, according to the Monthly Slaughter Report of the Oregon State Department of Agriculture and the Federal Crop Reporting Service. A total of 26,991,000 pounds of meat animals live weight, went through Oregon plants during June 1947. Cattle represented 66 percent of the total live weight slaughtered while hogs made up 22 percent, sheep and lambs 5 percent, and calves 7 percent.

In number of head, the cattle total for June was 19,100 head, 44 percent over June a year ago. Hog slaughter amounted to 23,100 head, 4 percent less than a year ago. Slaughter of sheep and lambs totaled 15,500 head or 56 percent less than a year ago while the number of calves amounted to 7,500 head, 42 percent above a year ago.

Price Moving Some Wheat As Harvest Draws To Close

Total amount of grain that has been warehoused in Sherman county cannot be known for a few weeks. Most important reason is that while nearly everyone is done or nearly so, some will not finish for two weeks.

Estimates are leaner than heretofore and if the county makes 2,500,000 bushels it will be a pleasant bit of news.

It is reported by Wendell Balgier, manager of the Moro Grain Growers, that about a fifth of the grain has been sold. This directly reflects satisfaction with the price which has been above \$2.00 for several days, being currently at \$2.08.

J S Taylors Retiring To Grass Valley

J. S. Taylor, who for 16 years served the Union Pacific as agent at Grass Valley has taken his retirement after 50 years service. Taylor started as operator at Creswell, Oregon, on the S. P. June 25, 1897, worked for the S. P. six years, coming to the O. R. & N., now the Union Pacific, September 3, 1903. He was employed at various places west of Huntington, including position as manager of the telegraph office Huntington, Oregon, manager and wire chief, Umatilla, early night chief and late night chief in the headquarters office of the U. P. in Portland. Final job was at Condon as agent.

He is located at Grass Valley where he says he will endeavor to catch up on his fishing which has been neglected while in the railroad game.

Four Main Factors Affect Farm Outlook

Several important factors related to the agricultural outlook are set forth in the mid-year economic report of the president to congress, says L. R. Breithaupt, extension agricultural economist at OSC. The report is the second to be transmitted in accordance with the Employment Act of 1946 and was prepared with the assistance of the Council of Economic Advisors and other government agencies.

The report states that "in view of the existing uncertainties in the farm outlook it is the duty of food growers, processors, and the government to keep the public currently informed of the real facts concerning our food supply." One such fact is there is "no general or present scarcity of farm and food products as a whole." Despite prospects for a smaller corn crop than the very large crop of 1946, "we may still obtain a total agricultural output as large as last year," the report says.

After pointing out that we are at a record high point in civilian production with 80 million civilian jobs filled, only 2 1/2 million workers unemployed and various other evidences of prosperity, warnings are sounded. According to the report, "The unprecedented prosperity of our nation must not be a cause for idle self-congratulation." It says that we must remember that full employment at a high price level is being sustained by temporary props such as:

- (1) reconversion demands of business.
- (2) backlog demands of consumers.
- (3) extensive use of savings and credits, and
- (4) an extraordinary excess of exports over imports.

As these props grow weaker, there will be need of many economic readjustments to attain a peace-time economy that is stable at a maximum level. These adjustments take time, but must be made before the lack of them results in serious unemployment and business decline, the report says.

The report adds that food exports helped boost prices, but that U. S. exports of all goods the first half of 1947 ran at a rate over a billion dollars a month in excess of imports. About half of the deficit was financed by the government. This prop is one that may weaken as the months go by.

Moro Council Votes To Dig Well; Restrict Irrigation

The city council of Moro voted Tuesday night to drill a new well on property on the west end of John Lamb's property near the alley between Mowry and Weaver streets. The location is 135 feet from the present well and the estimate of the water witch was that 100 gallons per minute could be obtained within 200 feet depth.

The hole will be 10 inch, large enough for an eight inch pump which should deliver the capacity of the well to the cistern even if the well produces as much as it is hoped.

Frank Bennett has been asked to drill the hole and he has said that he can come as soon as he finishes the hole he is drilling on the Jones place southwest of Grass Valley, which is now down to 557 feet, it was reported.

The council meeting was attended by a delegation, comprised mostly of women, who were anxious that something be done to give residents of the hill part of the town some water for domestic use.

Regulations were discussed by the council which decided to send printed notices to every house in town stating that there should be no irrigating until Monday, August 18. After that the town was to be permitted to water two days each week on the following basis: Residents of Zone one, northeast of Fourth Street may water Mondays and Thursdays; residents of Zone two, comprising the area between Third street (the Raymond building and G. Douma are on that street) and Fourth (the paved street up the hill) and across town (across the highway, the railroad and the canyon) may water Tuesdays and Thursdays; residents of Zone three, which includes the remainder of town being that part southwest of Third Street may water Wednesday and Saturdays.

No one is to water on permitted days except between five and eight o'clock p. m.

Notices were printed early Wednesday and taken to each house by Marshal Beardsley to insure that everyone will be notified.

The council also passed Ordinance 124 which closes Third Street between Scott and McCoy, which will be made into a parking space for school buses and other cars whose passengers are at school house. This ordinance was written as a safety measure to prevent accidents.

The marshal reported that work on the new toilets in the park is about completed.

George Wilsons Visit Two States In Sunday Flight

Mr and Mrs George Wilson spent Sunday on a flying trip through Eastern Oregon and southeastern Washington. They set their Taylorcraft airplane down briefly at Walla Walla, Washington, then landed at Harold Steen's Sky Ranch at Milton. Mr and Mrs Wilson spent several hours visiting with Mr and Mrs Steen, who is president of the Oregon Flying Farmers association. On the return trip they flew over Pendleton, Heppner, and Condon, reaching their own air strip at Kent, shortly before night fell.

Mrs C. J. Kulick was an over night visitor at the home of Mrs Emma Carlisle of The Dalles Monday.

Sunday school will be held at the Kent church at ten o'clock to be followed by a short sermon by the Rev. Earl Hastings. Every one is invited to attend and bring their children.

Ross Norton and Paul and Geo. Wilson Jr., left Saturday for one week at Christian camp at Cove. While there they will participate in the religious and recreational program sponsored by the camp. Mr and Mrs George Wilson motored to The Dalles Saturday with the boys where they entrained for Cove.

Judge and Mrs J. M. Wilson left Thursday for Portland where they remained overnight. Friday they spent at Wheeler, motoring on to Breitenbush Springs where they expect to be next day where they expect to

State Game Refuge Established On Walt Bruckert Farm

A state game refuge has been established in Hay Canyon on land belonging to Walter Bruckert, says Floyd Long of the state game commission staff and Mr. Bruckert.

The 414 acre preserve is in Hay Canyon below the elevator. It is bounded on the north by the road going into the Bruckert house from the Wasco-Condon road, on the east by a line north and south with the Bruckert buildings and on the south by the Bruckert line and on the west by the western line of his place. The refuge will be posted.

Some young birds have already been planted there by Mr Long who is the district agent for the commission in this area which comprises six counties. The Sherman County Rod and Gun club was active in getting the refuge established and efforts are being made to have others set aside.

Shriners Schedule Organization Meeting

Organization of the Mid-Columbia Shrine club will be done at a meeting Friday night, September 5 at the Gold Room in The Dalles Hotel, according to an announcement made today.

Sherman county Shriners are invited to join the club at this meeting when discussion of projects for the benefit of the Shrine hospital for crippled children and others will be discussed. Uniforms will be ordered for members.

Sherman Countians Asked To Trail Trip

Sunday, August 24 a trek will be made over the Barlow road with the start made from Sandy. The Kiwanis club of that city is sponsor.

The Oregon council of the American Pioneer Trails association through Walter Meacham, secretary, asks that Sherman countians interested in history, meet the party at Barlow creek or White river where lunch will be eaten.

Mr and Mrs J. C. Freeman had as guests this week Mrs May McKinney of Coalinga, California and Mr and Mrs Fred Schultz of Coulee Dam. The women are nieces of Mrs Freeman.

Raymond Kent of the SCS from Pendleton was a visitor in Moro Thursday.

Harvey Thompson and family have been at the beach for several days taking their annual vacation before school begins.

Mr and Mrs Robert Tatum and daughter, Bonnie and son, Jimmy and Mr and Mrs Amos Fine were Saturday evening visitors at the J. E. Norton home. Mr and Mrs Tatum and children remained over night.

The Rev and Mrs Earl Hastings were dinner guests Sunday at the J. E. Norton home.

Mrs Ben-Leatherwood and daughter, Sherre and son, Jim returned Wednesday to Sweet Home after a two weeks visit at the E. C. Smith home.

Mr and Mrs Jack McKay and daughter, Lois returned to Corvallis, Wednesday after a few days visit at the E. C. Smith home.

Mr and Mrs Roy Barnett of The Dalles and son, Lee and grandson Pat Jeffries were visitors Wednesday at the home of Mr and Mrs James Matthews.

Mrs Marie Smith of Grass Valley was a dinner guest Sunday at the home of Mr and Mrs Carl

Horse Show For Fair Program Made Certain

Riding clubs from six counties are expected to come to Moro during the Sherman county fair, September 19-21 to take part in the Columbia Basin Horse Show, which will be a part of the program of the fair.

There will be seven divisions for the competition and 17 classes.

For stock horses there will be the light and heavy classes and the \$100 stake for stock horses. There will be one day competition in these events. Children under 17 will have a class of stock horses also.

There will be two jump classes, one for children and one, a hurry scurry by pairs.

Three gaited saddle horses will have three competitive classes and five gaited saddle horses will have two.

In class 12 horses will be shown in pairs at walk, slow trot and canter with performance counting three-quarters and uniformity of horses the other quarter. Class 13 will have entries of four horses in each team and will be judged similarly.

The next three classes will be group contests also and the final class will be a drill of at least 16 horses, not to exceed ten minutes. Winners the first day will be eliminated.

Purses totalling \$1500 will be given for the show. Racing will also be included in the fair program and it is expected that some harness races can be arranged to give a wider variety of entertainment.

Regulations for the show have been printed and each contestant will be given one so he or she may be informed on the rules.

Officials will be Norman Fields & Merle Becket, arena directors; Bob Belshe, Howard Ross and Bernard Martin, stewards; B. A. Stevens, veterinarian; Joe Dodd, announcer; Doc Ragles, stock horse judge.

Boy Scouts of Rufus At Summer Camp

Seven boy scouts of the Rufus troop went to Camp Meriwether last weekend where they will spend one week. Dick Peck, Bill Smith, Howard and Jack Steward, Wayne Eaton accompanied Mr and Mrs Ernest Peck to the camp on Saturday. Roger Miller and Charles Wilson went with Mr and Mrs D. D. Williams Sunday morning. They will return home next Sunday.

Schadewitz. J. C. Wilson of Portland was a Sunday evening dinner guest at the home of Mr and Mrs Carl Schadewitz.

Edwin Smith, who has spent the last two months at the Lester Wilson home has returned to his parent's home in The Dalles.

Charles Swett of Rowena left Saturday after a two weeks visit at the home of his grandmother, Mrs Belle Hogue.

Mrs Marcus Eslinger and daughters of Grass Valley and Wren Hogue of Chillicothe visited Friday with Mrs Belle Hogue and Miss Gertrude Hogue.

Mr and Mrs Roy Barnett and son, Lee of The Dalles were Saturday evening dinner guests at the Bill Jeffries home.

Miss Jean Jeffries arrived Tuesday, from Dickinson, N. D. for an extended visit at the home of her brother and sister in law, Mr and Mrs Bill Jeffries.

Mrs Phil DeCoursey and Denny of Klickitat, Washington were overnight visitors at the Theo. von Borstel home Friday.

Mr and Mrs Theo. von Borstel, Miss Marie von Borstel, Miss Cassie Holmes, Mr Phil DeCoursey and son, Denny of Klickitat, Wn., Keith DeCoursey, C. J. Kulick and George von Borstel motored to High Rock Saturday for huckleberries. The group enjoyed a picnic lunch on the mountain, and on leaving the area had twelve gallons of berries.