

Sherman County Journal

Sixtieth Year No. 10

Moro, Oregon, Friday, January 9, 1948

Official County Paper

These Things We Note

by Giles L. French

In Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, Ask what I shall give thee.

And Solomon said: Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to judge thy people, that I may discern between good and bad; for who is able to judge this thy so great a people.

And the speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this thing.

And God said unto him, Because thou hast asked this thing, and hast not asked for thyself long life; neither hast asked riches for thyself; nor hast asked the life of thine enemies; but hast asked for thyself understanding to discern judgment.

Behold, I have done according to thy words: lo, I have given thee a wise and an understanding heart; so that there was none like thee before thee, neither after thee shall any arise like unto thee. Kings I, 5-12.

One of the first historians, Herodotus, observed that soft countries made soft men. It still seems to be true, not only as to tribes, races, but as to individuals. The struggling wheat farmer of the 30s held on for dear life and prepared the basis for his prosperity in the 40s.

Perhaps there is nothing more pleasant than to be spoiled by prosperity, at least, the examples of men or peoples or economic classes that have refused to be spoiled and insisted on retaining the hard way of life are very few.

There is nothing that a hungry tribe or nation likes better than to run across a nice fat, lazy opponent. The human race is a pack of economic cannibals. Interesting time for then the prophets come out of hiding (a month before the ground-hog) and tell in solemn phrases just what the people may expect in the coming year. They rate about as well as does the aardvark (fancy ground-hog). The same serious prognosticators who last May said there would be a depression in late 1947 now put on the rosy glasses and say that 1948 will be prosperous clear through. If they're going to be wrong, we like 'em pessimistic.

Maybe we'd better take a hand in this prophesy stuff ourselves. If prices and wages stay up there will be talk of inflation and high prices and wages. In other words if one gets high prices and wages he'll probably have to pay high prices and wages.

If we keep on sending food-stuffs over to Europe the short ages here will be more pronounced.

Production is going to catch up sometime because production is high. It will catch up more quickly if high prices retard demand.

The papers say that the eggless Thursdays are to be dropped from the food program. Meatless Tuesdays are to remain.

We did used to know of a man who even at home stood up when he heard the national anthem, but so far the only ones we know of who observe the restrictions about eggs and meat are the unfortunates in state and federal institutions who can't help themselves.

Probably the people didn't consider it unpatriotic to eat eggs, and interest in starving European hardly lasts from the picture of one well-fed Frenchman to the next page.

The European Recovery Plan (ERP) new title of the Marshall plan is being trimmed down for size by congress from 22 to 17 to an undetermined number of billions is pretty serious wearing away of the high hopes of European governments. But a billion is a billion.

At least two deer have been shot in Sherman county this fall, reports the sheriff. The season was closed. Nothing but the hams were taken in each case. We used to think you had to go outside the county to find "sportsmen" of that quality.

Wheat League Executive Committee Starts Work By Appointing Goops To Study

Wheat league directors pondered many questions at the first meeting since the annual convocation at Pendleton Tuesday and Wednesday. Attempting to plan to carry out the recommendations of the wheat farmers who met in Baker in December caused a full two days of discussion and resulted in plans being made on several subjects.

The problem of obtaining pure seed since grain is handled in bulk is becoming more acute. A movement to encourage 4-H club boys to produce pure seed may solve some of the difficulty but the committee named a group to study the matter and report at the next annual meeting on means of obtaining and keeping good seed wheat. Paulen Kaseberg, Wasco; Jack Smith Condon; Ralph Terjesen, Pendleton and Merrill Conley, Cove, were named.

An approach to what might be a more complete study of Oregon's tax problems was made when an interim committee was appointed to report on tax exemptions in Oregon. Morris Wilson, Condon; Giles French, Moro; and Ernest Fatland, Condon were chosen to make this study.

The committee decided to ask the state and federal governments to permit farmers to spread good years over five tax payments as another approach to tax policy.

A request will be sent to the federal governments for an increase in soil conservation payments, to \$300,000, which would double funds now available for that purpose. More education on soil conservation was needed, said the committee and this might be done through pictures.

The Commodity Credit Corporation is asked to establish loan rates on May first based on April first parity in the future. Last year the rates were not announced until July.

A bulletin telling of the work of all three agencies having to do with soil erosion was asked. The soil conservation service, the extension service and the experiment station were asked to collaborate on such a publication. A committee wants to study machinery used for soil conservation practices desirable, suitable use and possible fertilizers.

Marion Weatherford, past president, James Beamer of Pendleton and Ralph McEwan, president of Haines, will follow up action already taken on freight rates and try to have rates based on a straight lift instead of a percentage increase, which, they told, penalizes the western grain grower.

More research is being sought by the wheat league and government officials will be asked to keep enough soft wheat in the northwest to feed the stock being grown in this area. Orville Whitney of Milton and Bob Cutsforth of Lexington, Jerry

Wood of Weston were named to study possible substitute crops for the wheat area.

January 20 a meeting will be held in The Dalles with city officials there to plan for the youth livestock show for which a date of June 8-9 was chosen by the executive committee. Serving on the show committee will be Millard Eakin, Virgil Larson, Harvey McAllister, Eugene Courtney and Grant Perry. A home economics show will be included to give girls a chance to show their ability at baking from Oregon wheat.

An interim committee to work with wheat grower groups in Washington and Idaho will include Marion Weatherford, past president; Paulen Kaseberg, vice president; Donald McKinnis, Lester King, and Orville Cutsforth.

Kent News

Frank Jr. and Jack, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank von Borstel were home, over the Christmas holidays. Frank Jr. who completed his work at OSC last term and was an honor student with a point rating of 3.63 left for Roseburg. He has accepted a permanent position as county club agent for Douglas county. Jack von Borstel returned to Corvallis Saturday where he is working for his Master's degree and instructing in zoology.

George Wilson Jr. entertained a group of his friends Friday evening at the newly completed home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Wilson Sr. The evening was spent playing parlor games after which refreshments of sandwiches, ice cream, cake and coca cola were served. The guest list included the Misses Cella Belloni, Carol Norton, Darlene McAllister, Dorothy Brown, Dorothy Wilson, and Masters Kelly Wilson, Ross Norton, Billy Smith, Leroy Martin and Paul Wilson, brother of the host.

A school meeting was held Monday afternoon at the school house for the purpose of approving the budget. Jay McKay, chairman of the school board presided. The budget was accepted.

Bill Jefferies and Joe Bibby attended a meeting of the Rod and Gun club directors in Moro Monday evening.

Mrs. Keith DeCoursey who has been visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ted von Borstel left New Years day for St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton where she will continue her nurses training for the next three months. She has just completed a three months training period at the State Mental hospital in Salem.

Mrs. Frank von Borstel attended Sherman Chapter Red Cross meeting in Moro Monday evening. Mrs. von Borstel, chapter chairman turned in approximately 50 Ditty bags which had been completed by the Wheatland Rebekah lodge at Kent. Discussion for the evening centered around the forth-coming Red Cross drive.

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Norton motored to The Dalles Monday to obtain medical attention for their small daughter, Nancy Lee who has been suffering from a severe cold.

The yearly essay contest, sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary has been announced in the schools. The title for this year's contest is "Our American Heritage—Liberty." Poppys have already been received by the Kent Auxiliary in preparation for this year's poppy sales.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Smith were Sunday afternoon callers at the home of Dr. and Mrs. E. Noel Smith in The Dalles.

Leo Kambal and W. L. Brown of The Dalles were guests at the Lester Wilson home Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. James Earl and sons, Richard and Donald were dinner guests Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Lyons.

Miss Adele Buchanan left New Years day for Madison, Wisconsin where she is a student at the university of Wisconsin. Miss Buchanan has been spending the holidays with her mother, Mrs. Etta Buchanan, and her sister Miss Marion Buchanan.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Barnett of The Dalles were dinner guests New Years day at the home of their son in law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Jefferies.

Rain Starts 1948 On Well Soaked Path of Old Year

The year 1948 so far seems determined to carry on where 1947 left off in the matter of rainfall for the fields of Sherman county. Heavy rains Monday and Tuesday of this week brought 1.41 inches of rainfall to the experiment station and probably a larger fall to the north end of the county.

This, with the .58 inch that had fallen earlier in the year makes a total of 1.99 inches for January, a month in which 1.59 is normal.

Rainfall since the beginning of the crop year, September 1, has been 10.39 at the station near Moro and reports are that it is 10.9 at the Wasco station kept by Mrs. Dora Moore.

Farmers are not unanimous in cheering for this January rain which came to unfrozen fields already well soaked with moisture. There is complaint of serious run-off especially from sown fields that were worked very much at seeding time. Some big ditches can be found.

Although the canyons ran full of water Tuesday night and part of Wednesday a comparatively small percentage of the rainfall went down to the rivers leaving the larger part to stay on very wet land.

Womans Club Hears Of Early Schools

The Tuesday meeting of the Moro Woman's club was made interesting by a talk on early Sherman county schools by Willy W. Knighten, county school superintendent, who told of the first schools of the county held in settlers homes with some young woman of the community or an itinerant young man as teacher.

Later school houses were built and school terms of three months were taught, sometimes two of them in a year. Teachers were poorly trained by modern standards, an eighth grade diploma being enough to assure a job. Wages were \$30 to \$35 per month with board from seven to ten dollars.

The Grass Valley Baptist Academy was established in 1894. Mr. Knighten said, and continued until 1905 giving usual high school courses to students from Sherman county and adjoining counties. Tax supported high schools were not established until after the close of the academy.

Anglers, Nimrods Bill Dinner, Talk

The Rod and Gun club has chosen January 19 as the date and the Grass Valley Masonic hall as the place for the get-together of members says B. H. Robertson, president, following a directors meeting held Monday night at Moro.

Cards will be sent out requesting members to bring specified foods.

The 116 members will be enlightened and entertained by the chief biologist of the fish section who will tell about methods of propagating fish and distributing them. Pictures of Oregon lakes and streams and of methods of raising fish will also be shown.

Members will be admitted by key.

U.S. Bank Has Over \$12,000,000 Deposits

The United States National Bank of Portland, in its report to the Comptroller of the Currency as of December 31, 1947, again leads the state in total deposits with a gain of close to 25 million dollars over the corresponding call date in 1946. C. A. Reynolds, manager of The Dalles Branch, has announced.

According to Mr. Reynolds, the total deposits of The Dalles branch now stands at \$12,079,545.68. Total Loans and Discounts, \$1,925,064.37.

The latest loan and discount figure for Oregon's largest financial institution is \$126,765,986, which represents a gain, also, of \$14,939,701 over the loan and discount figure of a year ago.

State School Man Talks To Patrons About Problem

Meetings of parents and patrons of Sherman county schools were held Wednesday night at Grass Valley and Thursday night at Wasco when Carrol B. Howe of the state department of education spoke.

He stated that he was not promoting the county school system on behalf of the state department but was explaining its method because it was an issue here as it is in several other counties of the state.

Mr. Howe has taught in Klamath county, the past eleven years at Henley, and is conversant with the operation of the county school law, now under discussion here.

Mr. Howe explained the law saying the board of five would have the same powers as does any school board with authority to hire teachers, levy taxes, maintain buildings and operate schools. It is a county board instead of a local board. The powers differ very little. They would have the same position as to schools as the county court does to all county business.

Consolidation of management into one board does not necessarily mean the consolidation of schools. The board has the power to operate as many schools as may be needed.

Advantages of the county school system that are especially important to smaller, rural counties is 1) financial, in fact tax levies for improvements need not be a burden when levied over a large tax base with adequate valuation. Bond issues should not be necessary for ordinary improvement, 2) specialized teachers may be employed and used in all schools under the county system thus giving all children an opportunity to have instruction in music, domestic and industrial arts and sciences. Lincoln county has a special librarian, 3) transportation can be managed much better on a county wide basis than when each district must maintain a bus, 4) buying of supplies can be done more economically by one board than by several, 5) each child in the county has an equal opportunity, probably the most important objective of all.

A board elected for five years with one retiring each year unless re-elected gives a longer planning period for a school system, Mr. Howe said, and yet gives voters an opportunity to make changes when desired. Any board member may be recalled, or all of them.

Darlene Macheel was taken to The Dalles hospital Sunday and Joe Drinkard was taken to a hospital Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Alley had as dinner guests New Years day to celebrate Mr. Alley's birthday anniversary, Mr. and Mrs. John Block, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Alley and daughter and Bill Luttrell of Pendleton.

Mrs. Danae Watkins was a New Years guest at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. McMillen.

Christmas guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Watkins were Mr. and Mrs. Francis Watkins and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. John Foss and children and Mrs. John Truman Strong of Moro, and Mrs. L. E. Dehler and Joe Hines were dinner guests New Years day in The Dalles at the home of Mrs. Dehler's daughter and son in law, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Alsop.

Leroy Martin was an overnight guest at the home of George Wilson, Jr. last Friday.

The New Years eve dance given by the George Bell post at Kent was a decided success. It was estimated that around five hundred people attended. Noise makers and paper caps were distributed to welcome in the new year. The old practice of occupation was heartily indulged by the younger members of the community. At intermission the ladies auxiliary served a chicken pie supper.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Carlson are the parents of a son, Gary Roger born in The Dalles December 27th. Mrs. Carlson was the former Cleo Laffoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sears and daughters returned to Los Angeles after a several weeks visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Decker.

Miss Mary Lou Lyons, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Lyons of Kent and Dick Earl, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Earl of Grass Valley were married New Years day at 2 o'clock at the Baptist parsonage by the Rev. Howard A. Schilling.

The bride wore a white wool dressmaker suit with a white feather trimmed hat and wore an orchid corsage. Her sister, Sammy Lyons, was her attendant and wore a blue wool dressmaker suit with a gardenia corsage. Don Earl, brother of the groom, was best man.

The young couple left immediately for LaGrande where both are students at Eastern Oregon College of Education.

Others attending the wedding were Mr. and Mrs. James Earl, Mrs. Alfred Lyons and Mrs. Howard Schilling.

Mrs. Hazel Bargfield of Portland sent the New Year holiday with her sister and brother in law, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kaseberg and E. W. Watkins and families.

Deposits Here Over Two Million On January Call Date

Sherman county's part of the deposits of the First National bank, whose statement is published in this issue is \$2,309,027.80 of which the larger part is made up of the following items: demand deposits \$1,804,182.37; deposits of public bodies \$300,006.75; savings deposits \$170,966.41.

Loans and discounts from the local bank total \$213,006.19. Total deposits of over two and a quarter million is a high figure for the local bank at any call date.

BOHMS-SPENCER WEDDING

Miss Idalia Spencer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Spencer and Rex Bohms, son of Mr. and Mrs. Williams Mohms of Echo, were married December 29th by S. Claude Stephens at the parsonage of the Christian church.

Members of the immediate families were present. Mrs. Leonard Maurus Jr., sister of the bride and Frank Dallas, friend of the groom, were attendants. After a dinner at the home of the bride's parents the young couple left for a short wedding trip. They will make their home near Echo.

KENT DEFEATS MORO

The superior height of Jerry Wilson resulted in a 40 to 36 win of the Kent town team over Moro town team at Kent Monday. Jerry accounted for 19 of his team's points most being scored by tip-ins from under the basket. Gordon Kunke, Moro high school coach, passed the losers with 18.

The contest was quite even throughout with differences in scores being four points or less during most of the game.

In a preliminary game the Moro grade team won from the Kent grade team. Jimmy Robertson, Moro forward, was able to find the basket with seven counters and added one free throw for good measure. Norton scored four baskets for Kent.

ABOUT THE COUNTY

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Knott are being congratulated on the birth of a daughter, Patricia Ann, born at The Dalles hospital Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. John MacInnis were overnight visitors at the home of their son in law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Chet Mars of Wamic. Two granddaughters, Betty and Barbara Mars, who had been visiting at the MacInnis home in Kent returned with them to their home at Wamic.

Mrs. Fred Justesen is seriously ill at her home near Kent with influenza.

Darlene Macheel was taken to The Dalles hospital Sunday and Joe Drinkard was taken to a hospital Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Alley had as dinner guests New Years day to celebrate Mr. Alley's birthday anniversary, Mr. and Mrs. John Block, Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Alley and daughter and Bill Luttrell of Pendleton.

Mrs. Danae Watkins was a New Years guest at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. McMillen.

Christmas guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Watkins were Mr. and Mrs. Francis Watkins and daughters, Mr. and Mrs. John Foss and children and Mrs. John Truman Strong of Moro, and Mrs. L. E. Dehler and Joe Hines were dinner guests New Years day in The Dalles at the home of Mrs. Dehler's daughter and son in law, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Alsop.

Leroy Martin was an overnight guest at the home of George Wilson, Jr. last Friday.

The New Years eve dance given by the George Bell post at Kent was a decided success. It was estimated that around five hundred people attended. Noise makers and paper caps were distributed to welcome in the new year. The old practice of occupation was heartily indulged by the younger members of the community. At intermission the ladies auxiliary served a chicken pie supper.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted Carlson are the parents of a son, Gary Roger born in The Dalles December 27th. Mrs. Carlson was the former Cleo Laffoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Sears and daughters returned to Los Angeles after a several weeks visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Decker.

Mrs. Hazel Bargfield of Portland sent the New Year holiday with her sister and brother in law, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kaseberg and E. W. Watkins and families.

County School Law Vote Petition Started by Group

Two school meetings were held Monday at the court house by the education committee and a policy was adopted for future action. The location of plant committee discussed proposals for different locations but could arrive at no decision, probably because it has no authority to hire proper advisors who could figure the differences between sites. Matters of water supply, insurance, sewage, utilities, roads were discussed.

The publicity committee after some discussion voted unanimously on a motion "that the committee proceed to prepare a petition for adoption of the county school system to be voted in April and that proper information be disseminated to obtain a favorable vote thereon."

Preliminary plans for getting this information to the public were adopted. Explanation of the county school law will be made available to every voter in the county and any questions regarding its operation will be answered by members of the committee. Speakers from the state office will be asked to appear, but the main work on behalf of the new system will be done by local citizens themselves, who expressed themselves as feeling that this was a Sherman county problem that could be better handled by Sherman county people.

It was stated that if an election is held in April the system can be put into effect in May, directors elected at the annual school meeting in June and a bond issue for needed facilities voted in November. Reason for haste is the plenitude of money which might as well be saved from federal tax in prosperous times.

No accurate estimate of the cost of a county high school building can be made until plans are drawn and costs determined. Buildings of similar size are being built for less than \$250,000, it was reported.

Details were pushed aside by the committee, which held to the main idea of obtaining a vote on a county wide school system as a first step in obtaining better education for Sherman county children.

ABOUT THE COUNTY

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Watkins left Friday for Los Angeles, Cal., where they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Walsh. New Years they attended the football game at Pasadena. Francis reports the game interesting even though one-sided.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Bekkedahl and family were visitors in Portland for New Year holidays, returning Monday to Kent. While there they visited at the homes of Mr. and Mrs. William Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Volna Guyton, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Mitchell.

Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Sather returned to Corvallis Sunday after a weeks visit at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Keneth Sather.

At a double header evening of basketball the Kent town team defeated the Moro team, 40 to 36 Tuesday on the home floor with Jerry Wilson Jr. scoring leader with 20 points. Other members of the squad were Alfred Payne, manager, Hans Bardenhagen, Frank Payne, John Buether, Loyd Kelly and Bill Barry.

Kent grade school lost its game to Moro grade school with a score of 25 to 27. The local boys made a good showing with Ross Norton high point man. Other members of the team were Rodney Rolfe, Leroy Martin, Billy Smith and Doran Fritts.

Mr. and Mrs. John Reckman were over night guests New Years eve at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reckman of Sandy.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Young and son, Harry, were business visitors in The Dalles Saturday.

Vincent Belloni, small son of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Belloni suffered a fractured collar bone in the New Year day wind storm. It was reported that a garage door caught in a sudden gust of wind, struck him and knocked him over with the resultant injury. Considerable damage was caused in the community by the high winds which kept Russian thistles flying and windmills turned off most of the day. Telephone wires were blown down and the telephone was blown from the I.O.O.F. hall.