

Wagon Historical Society
235 S. W. MARKET

Sherman County Journal

Sixtieth Year No. 13

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Official County Paper

These Things We Note

by Giles L. French

We suggest that you read the county clerk's semi-annual report in this issue and hunt up an issue of a week or so ago and read the treasurer's report. There is no better way to become acquainted with your business—your government's business, on the level one most comes in contact with it.

Sherman county officers make very good reports.

There is an important question that has never been settled in Oregon. That is do we want more people here or not?

The Chambers of Commerce and realty men based on the state and the numbers of settlers who are coming here and point to the sale of farms and houses. Perhaps Sherman county is as little affected as any county by this but it is almost impossible to either buy or rent a house here. We have the sort of economy that attracts few new comers who would need enough money to retire to California in order to get started. One must have a farm owning father or marry a farmer's daughter to start farming here.

Maybe we should mind it, but we don't.

There is a sizeable bunch of people all over the state who say we have enough people in Oregon already. More will make the taxes higher will make the fishing and hunting harder and will fill the roads with cars. Let 'em stay in Oklahoma (or Iowa).

General Eisenhower expressed himself very well in retiring definitely from party politics. Military men, those who have made it a life work, should not aspire to political position, just, as the general said.

Perhaps he didn't clarify anything but his own position which was enough.

Now the field is left to Taft, Dewey and Stassen, with whatever others may get support from a state or two. Taft is the best informed man in the senate; Dewey a good administrator and Stassen a westerner who might appeal to voters west of the Mississippi. Whichever one is elected will have plenty of trouble straightening out the mess we're in.

WASCO TEAM TO A.A.U.

The Wasco American Legion basketball team has had a very successful season so far with ten games behind them and one loss, which puts Condon and Wasco in a tie as contenders of the A.A.U. tournament which is to be held in The Dalles this year instead of Portland. This game with Condon will be played off sometime in February at The Dalles. The Wasco American Legion team was in the same spot last year and was beaten in the play off with Condon by one point. It is hoped this doesn't happen this year. Both are strong teams and will offer any team in the tournament plenty of competition.

NEW WELLS

The city well was put into operation Tuesday night for the first time. Work of installation was completed earlier by Ernest Woods, the last operation being the connecting of the pipe into the cistern. Although the cistern was nearly empty when the pumps were started, it was completely full the next morning. Drilling for water by the city of Wasco was begun this week by the Janssen drilling outfit from Beaverton who are starting with a 14" bit immediately south of the city proper.

YOUNGSTERS TO GATHER

The recently organized Sherman County Christian Youth Fellowship will meet at the Moro Community Presbyterian church on Saturday, January 31st. The group is composed of the teenagers and young adults of the six churches of the county, together with their advisors and pastors. The coming event will be a 5:30 dinner meeting the church dining room at which time the representative committee will make its report of the proposed organization plans. Shelton Fritts Jr. of Grass Valley will preside as president. Patricia Kaseberg of Wasco is vice-president and Jessie Rice of Rufus is secretary-treasurer. Following the business session Mr. Howard Fowler of Portland will give a talk on the International Christian Youth conference at Oslo, Norway, held during the last summer and to which he was a delegate. The talk will be illustrated by colored picture slides. He represents the Oregon Christian Youth Council.

Kent American Legion Post Provides Military Rites For Comrade's Funeral

By Mrs Lester Wilson
George Bell Legion post conducted graveside services Saturday for Eugene Norton who died Thursday in The Dalles hospital after a short illness. Interment was in the IOOF cemetery at Kent.

The Rev. and Mrs Earl Hastings spent the past week at the northwest preacher's parliament of the Disciples of Christ at Eugene. They returned to The Dalles Friday where they were overnight guests at the home of Mr and Mrs George Hastings.

Judge and Mrs J. M. Wilson were dinner guests at the home of Mr and Mrs J. H. Wilson of The Dalles Sunday.

Mr and Mrs Willy Knighten and son, Willy Jr., of Moro were dinner guests Sunday at the home of Mr and Mrs Frank on Borstel.

Louis Staton of Eugene was a week end guest at the home of Mr and Mrs George Wilson.

Mrs Frank von Borstel attended an American Legion Auxiliary conference in Roseburg and in Salem while enroute home from San Francisco. She was met in Portland by Mr von Borstel and they motored to Kent Tuesday.

Mrs C. J. Kulek of The Dalles came a week ago to pay an extended visit at the home of her parents, Mr and Mrs Theo. von Borstel.

Mr and Mrs Jesse Helyer entertained Sunday with a buffet dinner and an afternoon of pinocle. Those present were Mr and Mrs Dick Holdaway and daughter, Doris of Moro, Mr and Mrs Norris Gikison, and Mr and Mrs Earl Olds of Grass Valley and Mr and Mrs Bill Jefferson and family, and Mr and Mrs Lester Wilson and family.

Mrs Frank von Borstel motored to Portland Monday to attend a meeting of the committee for Mrs Laura Goode for national auxiliary president. It was held at the Portland post No. 1 club building.

The George Bell Legion post and the ladies auxiliary held a joint meeting Thursday night at the Legion hall. After the business session the evening was spent playing cards. High scores for the evening were held by Mrs Gene Reynolds and Harry Guy. Refreshment of sandwiches, cake and coffee were served.

Mr and Mrs Paul Smith of Redmond were overnight guests Friday night at the Bill Jefferson's home and Saturday night at the E. C. Smith home.

Mrs Florence Clark, daughter of Mr and Mrs Grover Young underwent an operation last Wednesday at the Providence hospital in Portland.

Week-end guests at the J. E. Norton home were Miss Rena Norton, Miss Alta Norton, Mrs Ruth Harrison and Larry Harrison.

Mr and Mrs Grover Young entertained Sunday with a birthday dinner in honor of their son, Harry. Those present were

Granges Initiate New Members At Harlandview

By Mrs George Fox

Harland View grange met January 23 in regular session with master Bob Belshe in the chair. Members from the two subordinate granges, Kent and Rufus, brought candidates to be initiated in the first and second degrees of the order. The candidates from Harland View were Carrie Nelson, Elmer Nelson and Nadine Reynolds, Jack Lyons, Tom and John Belloni from Kent, and from Rufus were Mr and Mrs Frank Smith, Mr and Mrs Pete Finley, Mr and Mrs H. R. Hanson, Mr and Mrs John Fulton, James Marr, Mrs Lois Steward, Wayne Eaton, and Mr and Mrs Archie Brand. Owing to the death of a grange member, Eugene Norton at Kent, some of the candidates from there were unable to come.

It was unanimously voted by Harland-View members to change the by-laws to read that their regular grange meeting be the first and third Saturday night instead of the present second and fourth Fridays of the month.

Louis Sather and Bob Belshe reported on the master's school held last Sunday at Ramsey Park, near Dufur, which they both attended. Mrs Laura Sather gave a report on the two day lecturer's school held in Corvallis which she and her husband attended during the month of January.

George Fox, master of the Rufus grange extended an invitation to Harland-View and Kent granges to bring their candidates to Rufus February 13 in order that they might receive the third and fourth degrees of the order. A delicious lunch consisting of potato salad, sandwiches, cake, jelly and coffee was served to the approximately eighty people present.

SHERMAN COUNTIANS

The next meeting of the Sherman County club will be at the Moro Hotel next Wednesday morning at 6:30 a.m. and a varied program has been arranged. Speaking will be Kenneth Fridley who will talk about the work of the conference committee on schools and the reasoning that brought forth the recently adopted report of that group. Merrill Oveson who will talk about weed killing chemicals, their history, potency and methods of application. A progress report will be made on the program of the club which is interested in the interim committee hearing.

WHEAT ON WAY

The Sherman county carload of wheat has arrived at Seattle according to word received by George W. Harris, manager of the Sherman co-op at Wasco, and has been loaded. The ship will dock at Portland Feb. 1.

Local People Air Voices In Briefed Conference Reports

Wallace Kadderly, farm hour broadcaster of KGW, Portland, with his technician, Earl Peterson, were here Tuesday afternoon to attend the planning conference and make a tape recording of briefed statements of committee chairmen. This interview was broadcast Wednesday morning over the regular farm hour time 7 a.m. and was heard by regular listeners as well as some who awoke early in order to hear the voices of neighbors.

Extension Workers Praise Conference

Mary Beth Minden home management specialist, at Oregon State told of the national shortage of housing in the United States resulting in a great number of old houses being used. Educated people demand better living conditions resulting in more demand on producers of goods. Jean Scheel, extension assistant, said that a few years ago farm experts used to run after the experts for more information about farming. Planning is needed in any business, he said, and much is needed for business like farming that is affected by so many trends and conditions.

Dica Murray Ost Succumbs Sunday

Dica Murray Ost of 1223 Eugene St., Hood River, passed away Sunday night following a two weeks illness.

Mrs Ost was born October 20, 1882 in La Fayette, Yamhill county, Oregon. She lived most of her life in Sherman county. She was married in December of 1924 to W. H. Ost who preceded her in death.

Survivors are two sisters, Mrs A. R. Rehman of Everett, Wash., and Mrs Casha Yates of Wasco; one brother, Allan Murray of Hood River; one nephew and three nieces.

Funeral services were held in Hood River from Anderson's chapel at 3 o'clock Wednesday with interment in the Idle Wild cemetery in Hood River. Rev. E. F. Brownlee of the Alliance church conducted the services.

RED CROSS TO MEET

Sherman chapter Red Cross will hold a meeting February 2 at 8:00 p.m. at the courthouse. Mr. Richard Evans will speak on the "Purpose of Planning 1948 Funds Campaign". He will be able to tell of recent developments in the Red Cross national program. The regional director, Clyde Baird feels that his assistance will be of benefit to the chapter.

Who Own The County

The Land Use committee under Vernon Miller brought in reports on several subjects with Paulen Kaseberg, Allan Tom, Ormond Hilderbrand and Giles French reporting on some of them.

Miller laid the background by giving the ownership of Sherman county farm land as follows: 85% or 454,000 acres privately owned.

80% or 438,000 acres in farms. 65% or 290,000 acres tillable. 15% or 80,000 federally owned.

Of the ownership he said that 54% or 159,400 acres are locally owned.

46% or 135,000 acres are absentee owned.

34% of farms owner operated. 66% of farms are tenant operated.

29% of the land, 85,600 acres are owner operated.

71% of the land, 209,600 acres are tenant operated.

There are 577 farms in the county operated by 273 operators who farm an average of 1500 acres of which 1100 acres are tilled. An average crop of 10,000 bushels costs \$6,000 to produce.

A study of soil conservation districts in Gilliam and Wasco

Conference Committees Report To County Group

Sherman county farmers 150 strong labored from ten in the morning until after six in the evening Tuesday at approving and changing the long considered reports of six committees that had been working for three months on various phases of Sherman county life and business.

Most of the reports were accepted although there was debate and changes in some of them. Wallace May acted as chairman and after a preliminary statement by Leroy Wright, giving the historical background of the conference, introduced Kenneth Fridley, chairman of the controversial school committee who reported for that active group.

Program Outlined

That report was in outline form as follows: We recommend

1. Complete separation of elementary and high schools.
2. Strengthening and enrichment of elementary and high school lunch program and adequate physical fitness program.
3. Separation of elementary and high school transportation where possible.
4. Specialized instruction in music in grade and high school.
5. Immediate establishment of central 4-year high school and a 6-year high school when possible.
6. Enrichment of curriculum in high school to include:
 - a. Industrial Arts
 - b. Mechanical Drawing
 - c. Shop
 - d. Home making
 - e. Music
 - f. Agriculture thru Smith-Hughes work
 - g. Adequate physical fitness program.

Fridley had praised the county's leadership in fields of agriculture, financial ability to pay, liberality to many activities and said that it could provide its own children with good educations at a lower millage than many cities.

The report was accepted after some discussion but with no dissent.

Allan Tom began his report on weeds by saying that 65,000 acres in Sherman county were weed infested and that between a fifth and a sixth of the county was greatly concerned in the problem.

His committee had agreed that every method of combatting weeds should be used. 2) cultivation methods should be used when possible and chemicals as a good second choice. 3) operators should own their own out-fitting them to treat at the proper time and with the amounts desired. 4) farm operators should inform themselves about both annual and perennial weeds and continue their interest until the menace was under control. 5) county court should appoint a weed inspector.

Of the chemicals the committee thought 2,4-D the best although it is a comparatively new weed killer, sodium chlorate is useful as a second choice and the soil fumigants third, largely because of cost. Care must be used in buying chemicals because of variation in the amount of active ingredient contained therein.

For perennial weeds the amines of 2,4-D are best and the operators are better for annual weeds in spraying weeds 10 to 15 gallons per acre is the most suitable amount in this country where water is a problem and a pressure of 30 to 60 pounds was recommended. A good outfit should have a 25 foot boom and a 300 gallon tank. A 20 foot boom moving at 3 1/2 MPH will spray 8 acres per hour. Enough filters are necessary to keep the flow even and snarvers must be cleaned as the chemicals are corroding to metals.

Report made by District Attorney pertaining to collection of fire insurance carried on residence at Experiment Station lost by fire.

Assessor confers with court pertaining to replacement of office assistant and of working in conjunction with Assessor's office.

APPOINTMENTS MADE FOR CURRENT YEAR: Sheriff Norman E. Fields appointed Truant Officer.

A. J. Bucholtz re-appointed as County Fair Board member for three year term.

DeMoss Memorial Park Board of Supervisors to consist of County Court.

County Road Viewers: James T. Brown, Al B. Pinkerton, and Donald Martin.

County Dog Damage Indemnity Board: W. E. Bruckert, Tom H. Douma, and Kenneth Sather.

Sherman County Journal appointed as County Official Newspaper.

County Election Precincts Board members re-appointed with four exceptions.

Charles R. Logan re-appointed as County Auditor to cover period from January 1 to June 30th inclusive of the current year.

Circuit Court Jury list for 1948 consisting of 200 names selected. No further matters being at issue adjournment ensued.

committee later with the thought that one might be formed in Sherman county.

The committee asked that taxes be levied on an equitable basis, that the tax relationship between counties be surveyed, that the business tax be studied.

The transportation group recommended that rural roads be graveled with school bus routes first, mail routes second and then market roads; the 150-200 bushel truck was favored over larger sizes and any increase in railroad rates should be on a poundage basis instead of a percentage basis the sub-committee said.

The crops committee, under Dewey Thompson did not get to make its complete report because the day ended before the program.

It consisted of a study of world crop prospects in which it was shown that the normal use of wheat in the United States was about 8,500,000 bushels and that crops of twice that size were being grown, a condition that would certainly cause over-production when the remainder of the world recovered.

There will always be some nations that cannot feed their people, but the tariff situation often makes this impractical. The northwest produces 100,000,000 bushels of which half is surplus Oregon raises a fifth of this total.

Moisture Most Important

Merrill Oveson told of the amount of moisture needed to produce wheat, saying that 2.6 bushels of wheat can be grown on one-inch of moisture, as an average. Nitrogen is the second limiting factor, following rainfall. Intensive tillage will increase nitrogen content.

High soil moisture and high nitrogen makes high yields. High soil moisture, and low nitrogen makes low yields.

Low soil moisture and high nitrogen makes low yields. Low soil moisture and low nitrogen makes low yields.

In 1947 there was 99,150 acres in winter wheat, 32,200 in spring wheat, 130,100 in summer fallow, 4,800 in barley, 300 in oats, 2550 in cropland pasture, 17,500 in Crested wheat, 625 in alfalfa, 7,500 in grain hay, 60 in orchard and garden and 500 in idle cropland.

Harold Eakin for the livestock committee found that cattle had increased while hogs and sheep had declined in numbers here. Many younger stockmen have operated on a constantly rising market so long he's been the up swing in cattle prices.

Farmers intending to enter the cattle business should choose favored breed but look for good size, thick body, deep flesh, blocky and early maturing types. The use of better bulls was emphasized. It is necessary to obtain a 90% calf crop to succeed.

Sherman county could keep 25,000 beef cattle on the basis of feed needs enumerated on 75 acres of stubble per cow, 30 acres of grass, 25 acres of Crested wheat grass or 25 acres of seeded pasture. Each cow should have a ton of hay per winter or more and up to 3 tons of good chaff, for feeding either cattle or hogs.

Good equipment and conditions should be provided. More sheep could profitably be kept on most Sherman county farms the group reported.

The demand for light horses is such that 70,000 are needed annually for replacements. Of the five main breeds the Morgan and Arabian were favored although the Quarter Horse, the American Saddle and Thoroughbred were considered. The climate and conditions in Sherman county were declared very favorable to the production of good horses.

Health Aid Proposed

The Farm and Rural Life committee was concerned greatly over the health situation, here remarking that there was neither doctor, nurse nor dentist. A move to hire a county nurse was started with recommendation that \$5,000 be appropriated therefor. Suggestions for examinations of children and for disease prevention were given by Mrs. Walter Bruckert, chairman in her report.

Truman Strong of a sub-committee reported on home beautification possibilities saying that painting and repairing were paramount. Planting and care of shrubs and flowers is also needed and many varieties can be successfully grown here.

Expansion of the 4H club program was recommended by Mrs. Alfred Kock's sub-committee which said that each community should provide enough club leaders for all activities the children wish to engage in. More projects should be made available said Mrs. Kock with emphasis on health, homes, gardens.