

Oregon Historical Society
230 S. W. MARKET

Sherman County Journal

Sixtieth Year No. 32

Moro, Oregon, Friday, June 11, 1948

Official County Paper

These Things We Note

by Giles L. French

It's worth the time of anyone to drive around over the mid-Columbia wheat country just to look at the wheat. It has never been better. Good land, poor land, good farming and bad, all have good crops. The wheat is big and dark thick and well headed and unless something happens the 1948 crop will be the best this area has produced.

Well, the world can use it. The grass is wonderful, too. Cheat grass is purple like the stems of Forty-Fold used to be in good years and as high as wheat often grows. The bunchgrass on the virgin hills looks like the old timers say it did when they first rode into this country before plows were introduced.

It was 1893, along in late summer when it began raining and kept it up, and kept it up until the grain sprouted in the stacks and the harvesters were unable to thresh.

The wheat was soft and it moided quickly when it was finally threshed. Some men performed an operation called "stovepiling" which meant that in a sack of saleable wheat they inserted a stove pipe, pulled the good grain from the inside of the pipe and filled it with moided grain. Warehousemen soon bought long prods that found the spoiled wheat. A whole crop wasn't worth hauling to Biggs or Grants where the only warehouses were located.

Then in 1894 was the first phenomenal crop for the wheat growers of Sherman county. It rained all fall, and the winter was a snowy one. The spring, if one is to judge from long distance reports was not so wet, but it rained in June. Wheat grew every place lots of it was volunteered for farmers didn't thresh enough for seed in many cases.

It was a year of flood, like 1948, and of big wheat and great promise. Now comes Father's day—and in the middle of the month. Properly it was invented after Mother's day and it is not so generally observed. There's not much to buy for father, a necktie to replace the one with spots on it, a pair of socks without holes, maybe a better cigar than the stogies he usually buys, some little gadget to show him he isn't forgotten. The latter probably represents the greatest good that comes from presents anyhow.

"Know then this truth (enough for man to know) Virtue alone is happiness below." So sayest Alexander Pope, one of England's wittiest. Another satirist, Young, wrote: "Be wise with speed; A fool at forty is a fool indeed."

From a page of bright remarks we glean this: About the only thing this country got out of the dove of peace was the bill. And: You can get a government bulletin on every subject, except on how to reduce the cost of government. Sam B. Pettigill.

How long has it been since you have thought about Vitamin B1? The past week has been the hall and rain period of June, not an uncommon thing, but this one has people scared worse than usual. Already hail has hit some fields in adjoining counties and the disasters of last year may be repeated. It seems to be the good years in which hail hits, maybe because it almost never rains at all in bad years.

Much more hail insurance is being taken out because the crop is more worth saving and because of one man said, "I've insured against hail, now it won't hit me."

We wonder how impressive is Mr. Truman in going about the country saying that congressmen had ought to stay in Washington. What's sauce for the goose—

We go to work To earn the dough To buy the bread To gain the strength To go to work

That congress passed the draft in an election year is proof a plenty that there will be a stronger draft law after November. There must be strong feeling that a larger army is necessary or there would have been no draft law passed before the party conventions.

About the County

about folks you do know or would enjoy knowing

Enough rain fell Thursday night and Friday morning to make the roads muddy. This came after the heat wave the first of the week.

Thursday after a week and a half stop on account of high water, the Union Pacific Greyhound buses started to detour their buses coming from the east to Rufus through Wasco and Grass Valley on their way to The Dalles and Portland.

Mrs E. E. Barnum returned home Friday after a ten day visit with relatives in Portland. Mr and Mrs Roland Johnson and Gordon Johnson brought her home after being in the city to attend the wedding of their father, C. W. (Chub) Johnson.

Mrs Carrie Christianson and sister were here from Eugene to visit Mrs R. C. Byers and other relatives last week.

Mrs Shirley Basheer of Portland is a guest of her sister and brother in law, Mr and Mrs A. H. McIntyre.

Mr and Mrs Gordon Rich of Portland were houseguests of the former's mother, Mrs Sadie Rich.

Andrew Shearer arrived home Tuesday from The Dalles where he is employed and will be home until the high water is over at The Dalles Port.

Mrs Jack Noonan cut an artery in her finger Sunday which required some stitching to close. Ed Vanett is here from Eugene for a brief visit with the Knighten family.

Mr and Mrs Jack Riley and infant son of La Grande were overnight guests Saturday of Mr and Mrs Gordon Reid. Riley is a brother of Mrs Reid. Mr and Mrs Gordon Reid were visiting relatives in La Grande last week.

Marvin Langford came Saturday from the Pacific Bible Institute at Seattle, Wn., to spend the weekend with his cousins, Mr and Mrs Fay Brackett. Marvin also stopped a few days at the home of Mr and Mrs L. E. Langford in The Dalles. His home is in Payette, Idaho.

Elton Medler left Friday by bus for Salem where he will pick up his mother's car which his sister, Phyllis, took down Memorial weekend when the buses were not running on account of the high water.

Going to The Dalles Saturday to get their daughter, Lorraine, was Mr and Mrs Bruce Millard. Lorraine had spent several days visiting her brother in law and sister, Mr and Mrs George Jensen of that city.

Dave Seibert was an overnight visitor in The Dalles last Friday. Seibert is employed on the LeLaud Medler farm.

Leaving Monday morning to attend summer school at the U. of O. was Miss Mary Brackett, daughter of Mr and Mrs Herman Brackett. Mary expects to be home again by July 22.

Alta Smith and daughter Donna and Clifford Trumbo were Sunday afternoon callers of Mr and Mrs James Fox.

Leaving Friday to spend the weekend in Eugene were Mr and Mrs Vernon Miller and sons, Roger, Don and Arnold. Both Mr and Mrs Miller are graduates of the university there and went to attend "Homecoming" as well as visit relatives. E. C. Eaton is doing the chores on their ranch during their absence.

Mr and Mrs George Harris motored to Seattle, Wash., to attend commencement exercises at the University of Washington, Saturday at which their son, Donald, received his B. S. degree in economics and business. There was a class of 1700, the largest in its history.

Mr and Mrs J. P. McClain of Albany were guests of the former's sister and brother in law, Mr and Mrs Archie Gosson and family. They were on their way home from a trip to New York.

The 5th & 6th graders held their picnic in the park Saturday. Guests were Carol Briggs, Corena Miller, Barbara Buck, Cherrie Fields, Glena Wallace, Lois Ann Everett, Joan Fridley, Donald McIntyre, LeRoy Stults, Billie and Buddy Root, Harvey Richards, Norman and Milton Fridley, Fredie Dormajer, Danny Miller, Mrs Fred Dormajer, Miss Jean Lang and Mrs Ted Everett.

Mrs Robert Belknap of St. Helens who is visiting her mother, Mrs Wilma Wilde, entertained with contract bridge Thursday evening.

Mr and Mrs Vernon VanGilder and daughter Emmajean, accompanied by Mrs S. M. McMillen motored to Lookout California, where they attended the wedding of their niece, Glovena Hines and visited Mrs Van Gilder's brothers.

Mr and Mrs Carl Casey and children of Dufur were Wednesday visitors at the home of Mr and Mrs George Blackburne. Accompanying them to Rufus was Audrey Blackburne, who is working as a nurses aid at The Dalles hospital, Wednesday being her day off.

Mrs Paul May will leave Sunday for San Francisco where she will attend the national convention of the American Red Cross in her capacity as chairman of the Sherman county unit. It will be a three day convention.

The Robert Belshee family held a reunion at the family home last Sunday.

Don King is on the farm again after a year spent in school at Stanford.

Mr and Mrs B. W. Guy of Portland were weekend guests of the latter's mother, Mrs Frank Lamborn and daughter and son in law, Mr and Mrs Albert Dormajer and Maxine.

Miss Jean Lang left for Portland Monday where she will attend summer school.

Mr and Mrs Marion Crews of Stevenson, Wn., were weekend guests of the former's parents, Mr and Mrs Everett Crews.

Leaving for Vancouver, Wash., Sunday after spending a week visiting his parents, Mr and Mrs R. H. McKean were Mr and Mrs Bill McKean and family.

Mrs Carl Tuggle motored to Seattle, Wash., Wednesday.

Miss Elaine slips tailored - 2.95 white taffeta formal half slips. Mrs Greta, The Dalles.

Mr and Mrs William Mills and son, Robert, were visiting old friends over the weekend. They were accompanied home by Vernon Van Gilder. Robert Mills will spend the harvest in Wasco.

Mr and Mrs Glenn Van Gilder and Mr and Mrs F. Jensen were weekend guests in Portland.

Mr and Mrs Peter Dufur moved into the Everett house.

James Riskowsky was a Portland and Salem visitor.

Mr and Mrs Ray Parrish who were weekend guests of her father, Frank Knox, were given a charivari Saturday after the dance.

"White Star" all nylon uniforms, ideal for hospital or restaurant wear - 12.95.

Greta, The Dalles. Max Williams was a Thursday overnight guest of his mother from Willowdale. He was accompanied by Mrs Williams, Friday, where they will make their home.

The Kaseberg family held its annual picnic at DeMoss park Sunday with the following present: Mr and Mrs Ed Kaseberg, Mr and Mrs L. E. Kaseberg, Patricia and Larry, Mr and Mrs Albert Kaseberg, Mr and Mrs Paulen Kaseberg, Lee, Terry and Alice, Mr and Mrs Floyd Root, Billie and Buddy, Mr and Mrs Pete Macnam and Loren, G. H. Root of The Dalles, Colleen Kaseberg of Eugene, Mr and Mrs Vern Mackin and son, Don, of San Bernardino, California, Kenneth Kaseberg and daughter, Barbara and niece, Susan of Portland.

Mrs Paulen Kaseberg and LeRoy Belshee are attending grand lodge of the Eastern Star at Portland.

They expect to have an emergency road from Stiles to The Dalles in 8 or 10 days.

Faded blue denim shorts and pedal pushers - 1.95 - 2.95 halters to match.

Greta, The Dalles. Mrs Trace Fields was hostess Wednesday to the Dorcas society of the Christian church. The meeting was held on the lawn and was the last one until fall.

Arriving Saturday were Mr and Mrs Stuart Johnson of Salem to spend a few days at the home of Mr and Mrs Trace Fields.

Mr and Mrs Tom Stephens of Monterey, California were here Wednesday for a visit with old friends. They were accompanied by Mrs Janet DeGraff of Portland.

Norman Fields made a business trip to Salem Tuesday night returning Wednesday noon. Jimmy and Sharon Belshe, children of Mr and Mrs Bob Belshe won third in the declamatory contest held at the state grange meeting in Astoria last week which gives them admission to the summer grange to be held at Tumalo Lake. The entire Belshe family were in Astoria for the convention.

A farewell dinner and party was given Saturday night by the people of the community, honoring Mr and Mrs D. D. Williams and family. About sixty people gathered at the grange hall for dinner. The long table was decorated in keeping with the wheat county and orchards at Rufus. Small tied bundles of wheat, and small wheat sacks were used with a little caterpillar tractor for a centerpiece. Limbs of red cherries were scattered here and there. Grange Master, George Fox, presented an electric clock, a gift of the community to Mr and Mrs Williams. The song, "School Days" was sung by the group. A mixer game was played followed by an old fashioned "Spelling Bee", the ladies against the men. The ladies came out victorious so for a penalty the men sang, "Old McDonald Had a Farm". Velda Guilford and Jessie Rice sang, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" accompanied by Mrs W. E. Rice at the piano.

Mr and Mrs Williams leave many friends in Rufus, both being teachers here the past four years, and taking an active part in the life of the community. Mr Williams took much interest in the Boy Scouts and organized the scout unit in Rufus, and served as their leader while here.

Mr Williams left Monday morning for summer school at the U. of O. in Eugene, while Mrs Williams and sons will remain in Rufus until July, when the family will move to Colton where Mr Williams will be principal in the school.

Richard Barnes, with his wife and daughter, visited friends in Moro the first of the week. Tookie is now on the police force at Hoquiam, Wash., and the other Barnes' boys are in that part of the country, also. Coming with him was Harold Thogerson, Portland policeman, also a former Moro youth. The Portland flood is really bad, says Harold.

Mrs E. Amidon and Mrs G. Douma were in Portland the first of the week as delegates to the state convention of the Eastern Star. Mrs Amidon was a member of the credentials committee.

Ernest Farrell of The Dalles was a weekend guest of H. E. Everett Sr. and Mr and Mrs Ted Everett.

Mr and Mrs O. E. Fay were here Wednesday to pay a brief visit to her uncle, L. L. Peetz. They came from Elmhurst, Illinois and left Thursday to visit Mr and Mrs Karl Landstrom in Portland.

Harold Brevig, former class mate and friend of Wyman French, stopped in Moro Thursday, accompanied by Mr and Mrs Gene Conklin. They were on their way to Wallawa.

L. V. Moore was taken to the mid-Columbia hospital last Friday after an attack at his home in Moro. He is reported to be improving.

Mr and Mrs Bill Williams and child of Renton, Washington, stopped Sunday night at the Coelsh farm while on their way to California. Bill will be remembered here as a high school boy who stayed one school year at Morrisons.

Mr and Mrs A. F. Balzer are in Portland this week while he is on his vacation from work for the Union Pacific.

Ralph Busse is in Portland for a couple of days to attend a conference of A. A. office managers about procedure.

Mr and Mrs Ed Alley are again operating the Grass Valley Confectionery as Mr and Mrs Paul Goddard are in Portland looking for a house to live in when school begins next September.

Mr and Mrs Lester Barnum returned from Portland last Friday bringing Helen Simon home accompanied by the two small daughters of Mr and Mrs Fred Kurilo Carol and Donna, who are to stay with their grandparents until the flood subsides. The Kurilo home is covered with water within two feet of the top of the roof.

Mr and Mrs A. S. Johnson were here after spending the weekend at Madras with Albert Pleumke and family. They came by to see the Columbia's high water.

SHANIKO By Mrs Maude Garrett Charles Browning went to The Dalles Wednesday to meet his mother, Mrs Maude Browning of Seattle, Wn., who visited here until Monday.

Mr and Mrs Arthur Hixson of Antelope visited the McLenons at the hotel Sunday. George McDonald of the Rooper ranch was also a visitor.

Frank Wagner went to Portland over the weekend returning Monday.

John Reeder spent Sunday in The Dalles visiting Mr and Mrs "Skeet" Dillinger and family, former Shaniko residents who are again residents of The Dalles.

The new Shaniko cafe is located on the west of town, not the east.

Mrs James Phifer went to the Doernbecher hospital to bring her daughter, Marjorie, home last Saturday.

Sherman Riders Program To Be Attraction Sunday

The Sherman County Riders will give a western horse show at the fair grounds next Sunday. This is one of a series of shows that are being held in towns having riding clubs in the mid-Columbia area. Points won count toward participation in the big meeting of the year which is to be held in conjunction with the Sherman county fair in September.

There will be races and games (all on horseback) and every effort is being made to run the events off quickly. Novelty races and stunts are also on the program. There are 25 events.

Horse show judges are R. A. Long of Fort Rock, and Giles E. Bennett of Government Camp.

The committee is Marjorie Van Gilder, Merle Becket, J. W. Coons, Sadie Rich, Harold Eakin and Bob Belshe. Entry blanks have been sent out and delegations from most of the riding clubs in this area are expected. Those in Washington have promised to come despite high water.

Donations for prizes have been made by nearly every business house in the county. The show will start at 1 p. m. daylight saving time.

Beef Cattle Tour Due Here June 25; All Invited

The second beef cattle tour to hit Sherman county ranches will be here Friday, June 25, when a party of stockmen will visit seven places.

The tour started in California and the party has been in southern Oregon, through the Willamette valley, into western and eastern Washington and eastern Oregon counties and will be on its way home by next Friday.

The Western Livestock Journal is sponsor of the tour and some of its editors and officials will be with the party.

Schedule for Sherman county: 9 a. m. Ralph Eakin's farm 10:30 a. m. Bernard Martin 12:00 Harold Eakin

Lunch at Grass Valley 2:00 p. m. Fred Cox & Son 3:30 p. m. Millard Eakin 5:00 p. m. Ted Ball

Anyone is welcome to make the tour with the visitors and if one wants to see Sherman county's livestock this is an opportunity not to be missed.

The Mideo purchase breeders are to meet the night of Friday, June 25, after the cattle tour has come on to Prineville.

Moisture Exceeds 1916 Record For Crop Year

Rains have hit most of Sherman county during the past week drenching the well soaked south end the most. Some hail has fallen but not enough to damage wheat in Sherman county.

At the experiment station, which has not been the wettest place in the county, a total of 1.45 inches of rain has fallen this month. This contrasts with a normal of .68. For the crop year the total is now 17.02, breaking the previous record established in famed and far-off 1916 when 16.62 inches of rain fell in the crop year. Other wet years were 1943 with 16.49 and 1928 with 14.22 inches.

Temperatures were up before the latest rains started and a high of 93 degrees was registered on the 7th, Monday.

Small cloud bursts have swollen creeks in parts of the county. Hay and Grass Valley canyons ran full Tuesday night washing out fences and some minor damage was done east of Moro and Grass Valley. Hail hit Tygh ridge Sunday and Tygh Valley had a flood. Storms of the past week washed out roads in Gilliam and Wheeler counties.

To add to the worries of farmers, now concerned over hay crops, hail possibilities and harvest weather, comes the threat of rust. There is some leaf rust in the county according to Merrill Oveson, station superintendent, who says it is not a serious form of the plant disease.

Republicans Invite All

A Republican picnic, sponsored by the Women's republican club will be held at DeMoss Springs park Sunday, June 27. Dinner and program will start at 12:30 in the afternoon, says Carl Melzer, chairman of the event.

Although the picnic is labeled a Republican one, the committee makes it plain that everyone will be welcome for discussions will not be on a partisan basis but on aspects of good government.

Sherman Countians Win Picnic Game

Sherman county softball players again demonstrated their superiority over the boys from Walther-Williams last Sunday when George Wilson, Sherman County Dodger won handily by a 19 to 3 score. The game went for seven innings although billed for five, but insistence by the crowd caused the players to continue. The score by then was a mere 9 to 1.

The game was but an interesting introduction to the barbecue that followed when Sherman countians dined on beef barbecue to a turn by LeRoy Wright, served by company employees and accompanied by other foods.

This was the second county picnic given by Walther-Williams company wherein it brought its crew to the Moro playground and invited all county citizens to come and play and eat with them. The weather was fine until rain fell late in the evening. Local players were Paulson, Searcy, 1st; T. Thompson 2nd; Thompson 3rd; Ed Vanett, ss; W. Knighten left; W. Melzer, cf; Bob and Jim Roberson rf.

Fire Burns Grass Along Columbia

Quite a stir was caused in the community when a fire was reported last Wednesday. An unidentified trailer on a tourist car reportedly caught fire four miles east of the John Day bridge, along the Columbia highway. After straining the fire along the way, the trailer was unhooked on the west side of the John Day bridge. The entire vehicle was burned with but the skeleton left unclaimed.

The most damage was done with the grass fire on the east side of the river. The fire burned many acres of the ranch land owned by Roy Phillipi. The land on which the trailer was abandoned belongs to Trace Fields. Men arrived soon enough to keep the fire under control, and not spread to the rank grass lands on the breaks of the west side of the John Day river.

It was most fortunate that Sherman county had just made a good fire guard. The fire burned along the Columbia river highway between the John Day and Rufus a spot which the tourist doesn't slight when throwing away burning cigarettes and matches. In the past, most of the local fires have started from the highway.

Legion-Auxiliary Helping Flood Victims

Mrs Craig Coyner, department president of the American Legion auxiliary enroute to her home in Bend from attending a series of meetings in Michell, Condon, Fosil and Arlington stopped to visit the George Bell unit of Kent. Mrs Frank von Borstel met her in Grass Valley and took her to the home of Mrs Frank Says near Moro where the meeting was held.

Mrs Coyner informed the members that the Child Welfare Center in Bend is serving as a distribution center of clothing for the Vanport flood victims. Mrs von Borstel reported that clothing was being collected in the Grass Valley and Kent area under the chairmanship of Mrs Emmajean Smith and that the Sherman county Red Cross had voted to pay the transportation on the clothing, which is being taken to the C and C store in Grass Valley.

The Legion and its auxiliary are sponsoring a shower at the park in Grass Valley, June 20th, for the Owens family.

New officers elected were: Mrs Marcus Eslinger, president; Mrs Robert Tatum, vice-president; Mrs Frank Says, 2nd vice-president; Mrs Donald von Borstel, secretary; Mrs J. E. Norton, treasurer; Mrs Jim Brown Sr., historian. The auxiliary will serve the supper at the Legion dance Saturday night June 19th.

Mrs Brown displayed an afghan which she is knitting and which will be raffled off together with other articles made by the members in the fall.

Delicious cakes and coffee made by the hostess were served to the members.

School Elections Many Angled

Next Monday will be held one of the most complicated elections ever conducted in Sherman county. It will be the annual school election for each of the districts.

There will also be a non-high school board election and a rural school board election as well as several elections to determine whether or not the district board may exceed the six percent limitation.

For the districts surrounding Moro there will be a special election to decide upon consolidation. This affects Moro, Erskine, Monkland, Harmony, Boardman and Fairview-Gorman.

There is no candidate for the non-high school post which is for the Grass Valley zone and voters must write in a candidate if one is to be elected.

The election for the rural school board is in the Wasco zone and Floyd Root is the only candidate who has filed for the position.

Refusal of the voters to approve the rural school district budget in April has made it necessary for each district that exceeded the six percent limitation in its budget to ask for approval by the voters of each district. In most cases the budgets are the same. Approval will bring in the same (or approximately the same) sums as would have been raised by the defeated budget but the money will be raised in each district and not over the entire county.

In addition to the above each district will vote on at least one new director.

GIRLS TO GIRLS' STATE

Mrs Arzell Lemley of Grass Valley Girls' State chairman of the Kent auxiliary announced this week the selection of two high school junior girls, Marie von Borstel and Connie Wilson, to attend Girls' State which will be held on the campus of Willamette university in Salem June 14 to 21. They will be two of the 175 girls who will receive a week of instruction in government and Americanism and good citizenship.

Mrs Dorothy McCulloch Lee, mayor-elect of Portland, will instruct in legislation and Mrs Kenneth Young of Moro will have charge of music. Two girls will be selected from this group to attend Girls' Nation held in Washington, D. C. with their expenses paid by the national organization of American Legion auxiliary.

COUNTY CLUB ELECTIONS

Unanimous approval of the work of the nominating committee made Allen Tom, president of the Sherman County club, at the meeting Wednesday morning. Merrill Oveson was chosen vice-president; J. A. Foss secretary; A. A. Dunlap, George Wilson and Carrel Bennett, directors by the same action.

It was agreed to hold a meeting of the executive committee soon to name committees for the coming year, which will begin with the September 15 meeting. Reports were made by committee chairmen present. Kenneth Young is again going to the National Education Association meeting and volunteered to take some wheat samples indicative of the county's product and this was given an OK by the club.

FATHERS & SONS DINE

Fathers and sons, 76 strong, met and dined at the Community church Wednesday night at the behest of the Mariner's club, with women from that organization providing the bounteous dinner.

The program consisted of a welcome on behalf of the fathers given by Collis Moore, for the shops by Dick Oveson, a barber shop quartet of Frank Says, Bill Hall and Alan and Dean Pinkerton and some slight of hand by Norman Fields.

Speaker of the evening was Rev. Robert A. Hutchinson of Hood River whose address contained a four point philosophy about the basic way of life as it pertains to both fathers and sons. Harry Pinkerton was master of ceremonies.

11 AT SUMMER SCHOOL

Eleven 4-H club children left Tuesday morning for Corvallis for the annual summer school taking Mrs Elizabeth Hartley along as chaperon. LeRoy Wright, county agent, will aid in supervision for the first week.

Attending from this county are Doran Fritts, Larry Kaseberg, LeRoy Martin, Duane Wright, Roger Ball, Duane Eakin, Merle Eakin, Willy Knighten, Carolyn Lemley, Margaret Reckman, Joan Oveson.

The schedule of broadcasts over radio station KOAC featuring the local boys and girls attending 4-H club summer school on the Oregon State college campus has been announced by L. J. Allen, state club leader.

Sherman county 4-H club members are scheduled to be heard Thursday evening, June 17 between 7:30 and 8 o'clock daylight saving time.