

Sherman County Journal

Sixty-First Year No. 23

Moro, Oregon, Friday, April 8, 1949

Official County Paper

These Things We Note

by Giles L. French

When readers can read of the passage of bills from the ways and means committee they can be assured that the legislators are soon to adjourn. These bills do not come out until the whole bill has been totaled and some means of paying for it has been decided upon, either by cash or credit. They will start about Wednesday (did start perhaps).

Efforts of the ways and means committee to hold salaries down by meeting the demands of the civil service board and then cutting appropriations have run into trouble around Salem, although the idea is a good one. It would handicap the most efficient offices, however, for they would be the ones most hurt. Effect would be to raise pay but reduce number of employees because of lack of funds. Good idea if it can be done.

The sun shines on the grass in block-wide Willson park, the evergreen trees have put out new and lighter colored leaves, leaves on the elms are growing and Sunday it was spring, really spring, for the first day this year.

Men are wearing brighter garb these days. Red shirts of flaming hue and green and blue colors to make the rainbow jealous can be seen often. It's about time. The male of other species wears the colors and lets the female go about in the greys and browns of inconspicuousness. But that man should suddenly turn from the speckled kind of Plymouth Rock he so recently was to the brightness of the China rooster is a bit of a shock even to spring.

Perhaps bright colors are hunting colors (and we are not speaking of deer hunting) and during the war years the women wore them and now it is the men. Could be. But whatever the reason the men are wearing some bright shirts.

A lot of interim committees are being planned. It is one way of giving legislatures of the future some new information about a certain subject. The highway committee of last session was very successful and it turned in a study of much value to the state. Already written are resolutions for committees to study education, taxation, highways, public institutions (killed) and several other subjects.

A further study of taxation is sorely needed but it should not be conducted behind closed doors as was the last one. Half the value of interim committees is the education they give the public and the members and the legislature. Oregon's property tax isn't bad; its income tax provisions do very well, but its business tax (corporate excise) is weak and poorly drawn. It taxes corporation only when other forms of business organization go free. Assessment methods on which the property tax is based also need some adjustment.

Prices are coming down in many lines, even cooking gas. Canned goods can be bought more cheaply, clothing is on sale and household equipment is coming down as dealers try to unload their stocks before prices drop more. Even automobile prices are getting down to a better size. That is usually considered good news, but it will not make the people any happier. Those who can be successful under one price level will do so under another and those who are always broke when prices are high will be always broke when prices are low. Workers on salaries will be better off as prices drop, but in general the family that cannot live on \$2,400 will find as much difficulty living on \$3600.

Off-street parking is something that will have to be settled soon. Either that or mass transportation will have to be devised. There isn't any chance that people who live in a ten story apartment house can park their cars close; workers in a ten story office building have the same trouble. Cars get bigger and buildings higher. In big cities office men drive an hour and a half to get

Varied Bills of 45th Session are Discussed by Giles French

Tax System Changed

Danger to property tax shown
Highway money division on way
Adjournment has handicap

The senate's version of how to change the tax system was revealed late last week and passed by the members of that body with small debate and smaller understanding.

Let there be undue criticism of the senators let us hasten to say that understanding the revised House bills 5 and 424 is a job requiring some long days or a well prepared and lightning mind. Actually the bills divert the income and excise tax funds to the general fund for legislative appropriation, but do so in language so involved that sponsors are able to say with some show of truth that the bills preserve the tax-offset provision.

Unless HJR 9 is also passed the property tax payer will have suffered irreparable damage from the hands of the senate taxation committee. What members of that group expect to do about HJR 9 is not being told and discussions about it are couched in terms as indeterminate as are the bills on the other parts of the tax program.

Briefly the senate has divided income and excise funds both past and present, has spent income tax funds first, even though there is much less legality and morality about spending them at all, has diverted money unnecessarily, has approved two measures more difficult to understand than any other part of Oregon tax law, which has been often attacked as too hard to understand.

The senate has missed an opportunity to take a step toward simplification and has, in fact, backed up several steps. Perhaps, and probably, it will be passed by the house as it is was by the senate. Not because it is good or because it is understood, but because the members are tired and anxious to get home, because they will not read it, because few would understand it if they did. Thus it has proven that it is often as valuable to think last in a legislative session as to think best.

The bill to change the method of dividing highway moneys to the counties had another hard week but did come out of the highway committee which is more

than any similar bill has ever done. As of now it would give Multnomah county 3/4 of its regular share and divide the difference which would give some \$400,000 to other counties. The terms of division for cities give Portland 2/3 of its share. A half dozen methods of dividing the funds were figured out but none could get enough votes to get out of committee.

This isn't much, and it is a long way from final enactment yet, but it is a start.

The senate approved the bill giving clubs the right to keep and sell hard liquor (the master locker plan) with some provisions which lighten the Knox law somewhat, but not so extensively as at first expected.

The senate has passed out HB193, the bill for an additional \$30 per month for census children for schools. The money would be paid on a strict TDM (total days membership) basis which provides another handicap to eastern Oregon. It may pass the senate if teachers are able to obtain pledges as they did in the house and then it will have to go to the people.

Adjournment now seems ten days away, perhaps the night before Easter or thereabouts. The senate still has unemployment compensation, workmen's compensation, game, highways, final on education and taxation and some other smaller stuff. The house has the bonus, now not nearly so popular as when first debated. When means of financing is added to it it isn't so popular which is like the old conservative policy of reading the right side of the menu first.

What is handicapping the senate is the eternal and interminable talking of Senators Carson of Marion and Neuberger of Multnomah who have spent half of the entire senate's debate time and show no signs of slackening their gab. Neither is a good talker, seldom does either have anything of moment to contribute, but each is enamored with the sound of his own voice and impressed with the jewel-like quality of their ideas.

Training Meet For 4-H Club

There will be a training meeting for Four-H club livestock leaders at the Courthouse, Friday night at 8 p. m. Cal Monroe, state Four-H club leader will be here Saturday night at 8 p. m. at the high school auditorium in Moro there is to be a fun night for all Four-H club members, parents and leaders. The Happy Hustlers Beef Club of Condon will give a demonstration of a model Four-H club meeting. During the evening there will be music and games followed by refreshments.

PORTLAND'S SHERMAN COUNTY CLUB TO MEET

The Sherman county luncheon group will meet at the Portland hotel in the Mirror room on April 13 at 12 o'clock. All present and former residents of Sherman county are most welcome, reports Esta M. Powell, president of the unit.

FORMER PRINTER VISITS JOURNAL OFFICE

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Jackman and son, Robert, from McMinnville were held up Friday last week for an hour or so in Moro while blasting was done on the highway. Mrs. Jackman and son visited the Journal office. Inasmuch as Mrs. Jackman had been raised in a print shop she felt right at home. She had not been at a case of type for 25 years but a little practice the position of the letters came back to her. She grasped securely the composing stick and had that deft toss with which body type is put back in its proper place, and had forgotten where goes etain and shrdlu.

Mr. Maude Garrett and son, Bill, motored to The Dalles Wednesday to see Mrs. Garrett's father, Mr. W. J. Crozier off on the bus for Snokomish, Wash.,

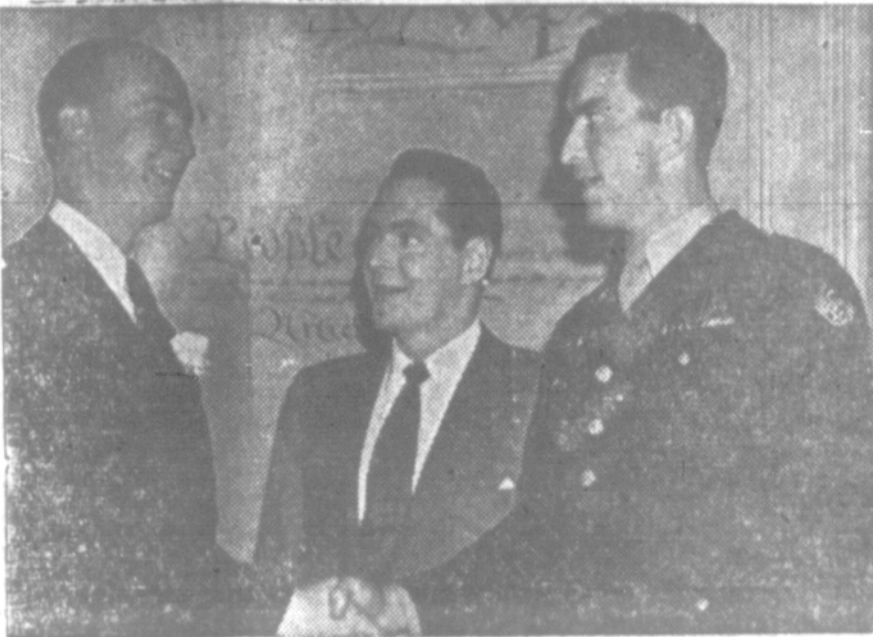
Aid Started On Wheat Storage

Congressman Lowell Stockman, of the 2nd Congressional district of Oregon, has introduced a bill in the House of Representatives to permit the Commodity Credit Corporation to build facilities for storing wheat and other agricultural commodities at primary points close to the farms and ranches where such commodities are grown.

Congressman Stockman stated, "I believe the Commodity Credit Corporation should not be hamstrung, because of lack of storage facilities, in carrying out its programs to aid the farmers. I also think these storage facilities should be constructed near the farms where the commodities are produced. This would not only relieve the congestion at the terminal points in the large cities, but would make it easier for the railroads to distribute cars to those points, and handle the shipping of the commodities during the peak seasons."

The Congressman further stated, "Wheat storage facilities in the district I represent were seriously inadequate during the 1948 season. In the town of Condon, Oregon, alone, for instance, there is wheat storage space available for 1,115,000 bushels, but in 1948 it was necessary to pile on the ground in the open 228,000 bushels, while over 100,000 bushels were shipped out. It is such primary points as Condon, and other points near the production areas, which are in need of increased storage facilities to carry out the program of the Commodity Credit Corporation, which sometimes holds its products in storage over two seasons."

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DISTANCE LENDS ENCHANTMENT . . . The two top men in the field of long-distances flying met each other during a nationally-broadcast radio program in New York. On left is Capt. Bill Odum, who flew non-stop from Hawaii to New Jersey, 5,000 miles, to break all such records for non-stop light plane flights. At right is Capt. James Gallagher, commander of "Lucky Lady II", B-50 long range U.S. bomber that flew non-stop around the world, refueling in flight.

Ivan Blagg Heads Symphonic Choir Local VFW Post Well Appreciated

The VFW post of Moro has elected Ivan Blagg commander, Jim Brown, senior vice, Richard Holdaway as junior vice, Bill Brinkert as adjutant and quartermaster, Bob Boyington as post advocate, Norris Gilkison as historian and service officer, Elton Lane, chaplain, and George DeMoss as officer of the day. Color guard is William Pausch while Richard O'Meara and Don Smith are color bearers. The post surgeon is Joseph Rittner.

Trustee of one year term is Clarence Spencer, two year, John Rust and three year, Willard Harper.

Mr. and Mrs. George Mitchell have as guests over the weekend Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Hertz and son, Donald, Mr. and Mrs. Al Koepper, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Temple, all of Pendleton. On Sunday Mr. and Mrs. John Searcy of Hillsboro, Harry Ragsdale of Portland and Mr. and Mrs. Wm. H. Ragsdale of The Dalles called on them.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Reseberg Jr. and baby, Mr. Walter Reseberg Sr. and Mrs. Questad, all of Seattle visited this weekend with the Ivan Kirkelles'. Mrs. Kirkelle and Mrs. Reseberg are sisters. Mrs. Questad, Mrs. Kirkelle's mother remained for a longer visit.

Mrs. W. C. Schilling and daughters Lavelle and Linda of Cottage Grove visited her mother Mrs. F. L. Burnet last week.

About the County Rufus Folks Note Spring Signs

With a thought towards the future, the farmers are turning Mother Earth under with their plows. This land will be seeded this fall with the hopes of a harvest in another year. These warm days, when the mercury has climbed up a bit, has done a lot to dry out the ground that was left wet for so long after the winter weather.

At the Rufus orchards the fragrant apricot blossoms are in full bloom, and if the amount of blossoms is a sign, there will be plenty of apricots this year. The peach blossoms are just beginning to peek out here and there.

Mr. and Mrs. Delos Williams and family were visiting Rufus friends last weekend. Williams is the former principal of Rufus school where Mrs. Williams also taught. They are making their home in Colton now where Williams is principal of the school.

Wally Joe Morris was an overnight guest of Jimmy Fox Monday night. They are school mates. The Community Sewing club will meet with Mrs. James Tate Wednesday afternoon.

There will be a card party at the Rufus grange hall Saturday night, April 9 at 8 o'clock.

Mrs. Clara White and daughter, Virginia of Portland spent the weekend in Rufus being guests of Mrs. Elizabeth Kuypers.

The 42 telephone line was out Sunday and Monday, so it was impossible for your correspondent to gather the news.

Americanization Day Gifts From France Held by VFW Aux. For Sherman Co. At Courthouse

The VFW Auxiliary held its regular meeting April 4 at the VFW hall with President Beatrice Howell presiding and 11 members present.

A program was held in observance of Americanization Day and Army Day. A reading was given by Hattie Spencer. A poem was read by Grace Busse and the Gettysburg address was read by Beatrice Howell. Plans were completed for installation of officers to be held later this month.

Former County Judge J. M. Wilson was at the courthouse Wednesday to bring the box of gifts sent from France, on the French "Thank You" train, to Sherman county.

This collection includes several pictures, hand paintings, prints and etchings. Some of the pictures have been drawn by school children. There are a number of books and pamphlets, two carved wooden plaques from the city of Cherbourg and several envelopes of stamps from a collection. There is a picture in a small antique frame of Jules Massenot sent by Simone Conoseur whose card says she lived in Portland, Oregon, 1928 to 1931. There is also a box of semicolored sand painting material whose card reads "French Souvenir.—Langlet, a soldier of war 1914-1918.

This display is in the county courtroom at present and may be seen by those interested.

On Monday, April 18th at 2:00 p. m. the registered voters of Sherman county will vote on the question of exceeding the 6% limitation or base in the amount of \$111,503.00, according to the report from the Sherman county school superintendent's office.

If the vote is in favor of the levy it will mean an 18 mill county wide levy by the Rural School district. The Rural School Board did not accept the school's budgets in total, but left some of the levies to be made locally. Judging from the consolidated levies of the other counties of the state last year this will probably be the lowest county levy in the state for school purposes.

Sherman county will receive \$2,000 less money this year from the Basic School Support Fund due to a change in the formula for paying transportation.

Expenditures are necessarily greater this year due to the improvements that have to be made to meet standardization requirements. All schools were inspected last fall and given conditional standardization. Very little money has been spent during the past ten or fifteen years in the schools to modernize their plants and equipment.

The inspections pointed out the weakness in the Sherman county schools and steps must be taken to correct these deficiencies in order to draw state school funds.

Sherman county can well afford to have standard schools with their levy being the lowest in the state. Most counties had an equalized levy in the 30 mill bracket last year with the highest at 57.24 mills.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Douma left Wednesday for Corvallis to visit his mother, Mrs. R. Douma.

Mr. and Mrs. Mac Bull had their two grandsons here from Condon, over the school holiday.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ginn and two children, Richard and Rosemary of Spokane, Wash. spent this week visiting the Harold Ginn.

County Agent Tom Thompson moved his family into the Claude Thompson house Monday.

Kelly Wilson of Eugene spent his spring vacation with his mother Mrs. Doris Wilson at Moro and his grandparents Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wilson of Kent.

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Continued on Page Four

Netta Mackay Funeral Held

Funeral services were held Saturday, April 2, 1949 in Portland, for Mrs. Netta Mackay, 66, wife of Circuit Judge D. N. Mackay of Condon.

Mrs. Mackay's health has been failing for the past three years, during which time she lived with her daughter, Mrs. Rex Eastman, in Portland. Judge Mackay was with his wife at the time of her death.

Mrs. Mackay had lived in Condon for more than 30 years. She was a member of the Condon chapter order of the Eastern Star.

Sherman County History

By GILES L. FRENCH

A correspondent writing from Spanish Hollow wrote to The Dalles Times November 4, 1880 to say: "As a result of settling of these bunch grass plains there were 62 votes cast at Eaton's on election day, besides there were 10 or 15 who absented themselves. A majority of them have settled here within the last year. As I ride over the hills I meet on every hand new houses and improvements. They have just completed a school house; had church services in it last Sunday, when 50 settlers assembled with lunch baskets, etc., and spent the day in getting acquainted with each other.

"A thief marred their pleasure by going through the houses of Messrs Biggs and Love while the inmates were at church, robbing the former of \$600 and the latter of a pistol. He did the job like an experienced hand at the business. The theft has created considerable excitement and the settlers have formed a vigilance committee and all future thieves will be found dangling from the end of a rope, labeled with their occupation by a "court and jury" of vigilantes."

A justice of peace and constable were then serving the Eaton precinct.

In February the correspondent wrote again to report on the winter saying: "The winter has been long and the stock is dying fast. Cattle and sheep are faring poorly. I think fully one half of these have died. If some of your merchants would come out here and start a store I think it would pay them. There is no store that amounts to anything on this side of the DesChutes river where we can get foods by the wholesale. There is a movement in the direction of getting a post route from Grant's Landing to Bakeoven, with offices along the road. This will be of great benefit to the settlers in this section. The man who starts the first store will "hit the nail on the head."

"Of the permanent settlers who can be remembered or who stayed long enough to make a mark there were Graham at the mouth of the Deschutes, the Fultons, William Walker, Sam Price, Jesse Eaton, Girkling, James Pierson,

Continued on Page Four