

Oregon Historical Society
235 S. W. MARKET

Sherman County Journal

Sixty-First Year No. 24

Moro, Oregon, Friday, April 15, 1949

Official County Paper

These Things We Note

by Giles L. French

The chaplain says, "Success is not in never failing, but in always rising when we do fall."

Now comes the week when state income taxes must be paid. Never as much of a burden as the federal one they are never welcome, either. This year they are probably to be less. Oddly as it may seem, many people made little money last year what with floods, freezes and poor crops in man lines and reduced markets.

The old times pass away leaving the county to the youngsters. Much of the active element of the county is now third generation from the pioneers who came to settle the grass covered hills of Sherman county.

Alex Macnab, after a lifetime of work, went to his reward recently ending his days quietly, revered by his family. He provided a moral force in his community and an example of good citizenship without wish for reward, that those who follow him can emulate with profit to the county.

Off street parking is a problem in all cities and will continue to be for a long time. Workers can't expect to get their cars close to their work. One result has been the building of market areas outside the metropolitan areas of cities. Some of the biggest grocery stores are in the suburbs and furniture stores are often found far from the center of things, out where there is room enough to spread out and display goods through wide windows, not in an upstairs spot.

Implement dealers are also out of the towns and small insurance and real estate dealers can be found on the outskirts of cities along with some lawyers not affiliated with large firms.

Maybe that is the solution, a series of small towns held together by the same sewage and water mains. It might cost more but would be handier and much prettier.

Thenewspapers missed a bet in reporting the defeat of the bonus matter in the Oregon house last week. Heads of veteran organizations killed the bill themselves because they would rather try for a bigger one through the initiative. Veterans in the house arranged the vote themselves and particular ly the no roll call part.

It has been a bad deal all around with no one knowing what he wanted and then being unsatisfied when he got anything.

One must wonder how long it will be before public salaries will drop again. It was about 1924 when the state had its highest tax and that was some five or six years after the first World War, hat means that budgets should begin dropping now because the cost of living is going down. It wasn't until 1933, as we remember, that the big salary drop was taken by public employees. Every legislative session has raised salaries until employees and officers of state and county have come to look upon such action as necessary part of the biennial meetings.

Actually working conditions as far as state employees are concerned are among the best. The hours are not long and no one does very much. Besides they gather in the morning and in the afternoon for a cup of coffee and some chatter. Some need it, many do not.

What is noticeable is that few feel responsibility about their jobs. There is none of the urgency that comes to those who work for themselves and who know that something must be done or the banker and the sheriff will begin to call.

Working for the government is poor training and those who follow it overlong become lackadaisical. It is better to work for one's self, but conditions keep many from achieving that goal.

What the world lacks is a unified sense of morals. Science has gotten ahead of thought in other lines. A man feels no inner urge to live with his fellow man if

Varied Bills of 45th Session are Discussed by Giles French

Another Week May Finish Senate Tax Program Cools Welfare Job Takes Thought Appropriation Bills In Hopper Going Gets Tough

Another week may finish it, and again it might not.

The senate still has much work to do with unemployment compensation, the big education bill, welfare and some other bills that are not going to be easily decided. And senators like to talk. Some have proposed a recess until after Easter, but there is no enthusiasm for that as everyone wants to end completely as soon as possible.

Farmer members especially are anxious to go home—and some have and others call their home ranches by telephone every night to keep track on the plowing, the sowing and the branding.

These long sessions are making it practically impossible for actual producing farmers to run for the legislature. It was bad enough when the session ended in March. That is an unfortunate thing, too.

There are several reasons for the length of the session and all have a bearing and none are entirely responsible for the near 100 days of this 45th session. The state is growing rapidly and there are more things to decide upon, matters that used to come before the legislature every three or four sessions now appear biennially, here are many new members, neither house or senate organization is close knit, more men want to talk particularly about partisan things which have seldom been considered in Oregon legislatures. Heretofore Republicans and Democrats worked and voted together as individuals and representatives of their districts with seldom a thought of partisanship. Younger and more partisan men are breaking down this fine tradition.

The senate tax program came to the house the last of the week and was laid on the table for a cooling off period. Actually it would be possible to cut the budget nearly enough to get by without complete diversion of surplus funds. Ways and means have done very well but not as well as might. State employees, now under civil service, insist on more salary raises on top of the normal

increases under the system, welfare was a headache and the budget is too big. But probably nothing will be done about it now. By careful management there may be some balances left over at the end of the biennium—and they will be needed.

As to welfare the ways and means committee has done as good a job as possible. Pensioners will be cared for on the basis of need with \$50 being established as the necessary sum. They will have medicine and care. When they have ceased to need their property the state will have a claim to it. Another bill sets a schedule for aid to elders by their children. It will cost \$55,000,000, ten million more than in the last biennium, and five million less than was asked. Those who need the aid will be sure of getting it under this plan and there will be an opportunity to bar those who do not need it. The state has always been able to take care of those who needed it. It is the others who have raised the costs so high.

About 50 ways and means appropriation bills will be in the hoppers Monday and Tuesday and begin their short passage through the houses. Some say there will be lots of talking in an effort to delay the session.

One just doesn't vote against ways and means bills of importance. There must be appropriations for state institutions. Some of the minor bills can stand defeat. They generally go sailing through in a hurry after the members are satisfied with the first of them. If it seems that a reasonably good job has been done there are few questions.

So far one member of the house is in a hospital, a senator is taking a rest and one member of the lobby is recuperating from a heart attack. None has died so far. Nerves are getting frayed and tempers are far from smooth.

It may be that Oregon tries to finish its work too quickly, within a specified time (50 days is the limit of pay) when it would be better to try for care and excellence instead of speed. Other states have longer sessions also and California expects to get done in August. Washington ended in a hubbub with conference committees finishing the work.

Rufus Pioneer Buried Tuesday

Mrs. Cora Bartholomew, 86, of Rufus, Oregon died Thursday April 7th. Mrs. Bartholomew was born in St. Louis July 29, 1862 and came to Oregon in 1882. She lived on a farm three miles from Rufus until 1918 when they moved into town.

She was married to Frank Bartholomew September 2, 1903 at the Umattila House in The Dalles. Mrs. Bartholomew was a member of the Christian church of Wasco. In addition to her husband, she is survived by one sister, Agnes Andrews, Wasco, six nieces and five nephews.

Funeral services were held Tuesday from the Spencer and Libby chapel in The Dalles with the Rev. Stephens officiating. Interment was in Sunrise cemetery at Wasco.

LICENSE EXAMINER TO BE IN MORO, APRIL 21

A Drivers License Examiner will be on duty in Moro, Thursday, April 21, 1949, at the courthouse between the hours of 10 a. m. and 3 p. m., according to an announcement received from the secretary of state's office.

Persons wishing licenses or permits to drive are asked to get in touch with the examiner well ahead of the scheduled closing hour in order to assure completion of their applications with a minimum of delay.

E. E. BARNUM GOES TO HOSPITAL

Lester Barnum took his father E. E. Barnum to The Dalles Tuesday where he entered a hospital for treatment.

science and invention can give him power to overcome his neighbor.

At least that is a theory the philosophers are talking about. We need more thinkers who ponder on social and moral questions rather than on mechanical matters.

Road Improvement Needs Tax Aid

County Judge Tom called at the Journal office and reports the fact it will be at least 10 days before all roads in the north east part of the county will be passable.

The Bigelow road of five miles has not been touched. This road is completely gone and will have to be rebuilt, reports Judge Tom. Judge Tom reports that he has traveled 2280 miles over two-thirds of the county and reports bridges, culverts and drainage in dangerous condition.

He states, "If the taxpayers will favor the small special tax, I am sure we will save ourselves a bond issue and can do some permanent improvement."

"Old age assistance, welfare emergencies have twice over taken the 6% limitation. This new tax makes it possible for the cities to get their share of the tax money. The breakfast club, churches and granges have favored this move as the number one."

"The people as a whole look at this road program as a major project. It is a moral and financial responsibility necessary to the development of our natural resources. This program will be necessary for me to carry out my promise to the taxpayers."

OPEN HOUSE ATTRACTS MANY VISITORS

Mr. and Mrs. Wendel Balsiger held open house Sunday afternoon from two until five. About one hundred and twenty-five friends called to see the new house.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hopper of The Dalles visited Mrs. Hopper's sister Mrs. Doris Wilson over the weekend. On Sunday they were all in Yakima, Wash., for the day.

Mr. and Mrs. Grover Coffman drove to Pendleton for the weekend to visit Mrs. Coffman's daughter.



—Engraving and story courtesy Moro High Optimist

MORO HIGH SCHOOL MIXED CHORUS— which recently appeared in concert at the Moro High school gym.

The mixed chorus and the girls' glee presented their Spring concert March 24 under the direction of Gorman Rose. When asked his opinion of the concert Mr. Rose replied, "It was very good; I have no complaint whatsoever."

The chorus sang "Desert Song", "The Orchestra", "Kentucky Babe", "Bendermeier's Stream", "Stouthearted Men" and "Bless This House".

The glee club sang "Smoke Gets In Your Eyes", "Green Cathedral", "Thanks Be To God" and "O Lovely Night". The concert was well attended.

Kolbs Now Manage Moro Coffee Shop

Mr. and Mrs. James Kold are the new operators of the Moro Hotel Coffee shop, according to the advertisement in this issue of the Journal. The new operators state they will specialize in family dinners, and are serving a special Easter dinner Sunday. They have a large banquet room available for large parties. One of their specialties is to be Southern Fried Chicken dinners every Sunday. They will be open from 6:00 a. m. to 8 p. m.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Thompson and son Keith were in Portland over the weekend.

Mrs. Mollie McLachlan returned from Redmond last weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Aden Axtell went to Portland Friday where Aden will have a checkup on his injured leg.

About the County

5000 Fruit Trees Planted at Rufus

The Rufus orchard men, S. A. Wilson, Walt Morris and George Blackburne have put in around five thousand young fruit trees. They consisted of cherries, apricots and peach trees. Hale peaches seem to be preferred as they are not so perishable to handle.

Eugene C. Eaton presided when Rufus grange was in the first regular session of the month Thursday night. Two visitors, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Sathers of Moro were present. Mr. Sathers is the Sherman County Pomona master.

The farmers are continuing their plowing as fast as time permits. At the end of the week, some of the farmers were remarking how dry the soil was getting. It was remarked that with the big freeze of last winter, all the moisture ran off, therefore if there's any vegetation to take the moisture left in the ground, its found pretty dry there. Unless quite a bit of rain falls to help the coming crops, they may be lean this year. Some of the farmers have also been spraying their fields for weeds.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by the secretary, Mrs. Lois Steward. The agriculture report was given. George Fox reported on legislative matters that came up. Mrs. Ada Dingle, Home Ec. chairman, read the quarterly report, and reminded members of the Club meeting with Mrs. Herman Brackett Thursday afternoon. William Huck reported on some plumbing changes that would have to be made to meet the State Board of Health requirements. The State Inspector has been inspecting Rufus property and quite a few residents will have to make some changes. Secretary read the last quarterly report. The display table held a fine display of cream pitchers which attracted quite a bit of interest.

For the Lectures program R. T. Dingle gave the grange Motto, and a song "Te Grange Is Marching On" was sung by all. Following the meeting Bruce Winston field

County Court Sets Election Day

The Sherman County Court has set May 27, 1949 as the date for holding a special election to vote a 5 mill Road levy tax for a period of four years.

A 5 mill levy on the county valuation would raise in round figures \$48,000.00 which would mean a \$192,000.00 special road program. The regular road levy, coming under the six percent limitation, has been running around 3.7 mills producing about \$36,000.00 a year. This would give combined levy of between eight and nine mills or \$84,000.00 a year to build and repair roads.

This method of financing the road program was recommended earlier in the year by the Sherman County Club. They felt it to be much better than a long term bond issue that costs so much in interest before the bonds are paid.

man for the Boy Scouts of America and who lives in Hood River gave a talk on the principles of Scouting and what it takes to make a good Boy Scout. A pot luck supper was served by the ladies following the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Morris are being felicitated on the birth of a daughter, born April 2 in The Dalles. The baby weighed 5 lbs. and 1 1/2 ozs. and has been named Shirley Jean. Paternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Walt Morris and Maternal grandparents are Mrs. Mabel Auger of Portland and Roy Lash of The Dalles.

Continued on Page Four

Surprise Party Honors Birthday

A group of friends called at the home of Mrs. Bernard Martin Friday afternoon to surprise her on her birthday. Those present were Mrs. Donald von Borsel and daughter, Joy, Mrs. Elton Eakin and children, Mrs. Owen Eakin and children, Mrs. Vernon Eakin and children, Mrs. Myrtle Smith and son, Lowell, and Mrs. Donald Martin and children of Moro. The afternoon was spent visiting and with refreshments of cake, ice cream and coffee served later in the afternoon.

Mrs. Clyde Stradley entertained at a party at her home Friday afternoon honoring her mother, Mrs. Ernest Blaylock, on her birthday anniversary. Those present were her daughter, Mrs. Earl Sawtell of The Dalles, Mrs. Willis Brittain from Tygh Valley, Mrs. Frank Bayer, Mrs. Alfred Payne, Mrs. C. H. Maldaner, Mrs. T. M. Rolfe and Mrs. Boyce Blaylock. Mrs. Sawtell presented her mother with a gardenia corsage. The afternoon was spent visiting with refreshments of cake, ice cream and coffee served by the hostess.

A shower was given for Mrs. Orville Ruggles Monday afternoon at the I.O.O.F. hall by Mrs. Bernard Martin, assisted by Mrs. Lester Barnum. A short program

Continued on Page Four

Pheasant Raising Again 4-H Project

Oregon 4-H club members are again being offered the opportunity to raise pheasants for the Oregon State Game commission, State Club Leader L. J. Allen has announced.

Eggs will be shipped prepaid to any 4-H club member in Oregon who has the approval of his county extension agent to participate in the project. The game commission will pay club members one dollar apiece for all birds raised to condition for release at age 10 weeks.

Young pheasants will be released by an agent of the game commission with some of the birds to be freed on the club member's property if environmental conditions permit, Allen explains.

The purpose of the project is to teach club members to appreciate wildlife resources and encourage interest in wildlife conservation, Allen adds. County extension agents have complete details concerning the project.

Easter Cantata To Be Presented

Friday evening at 8 p. m. the choir of the Moro Community church will present an Easter cantata "Easter Angels". The choir is under the direction of Mrs. Kenneth Young with Mrs. Carroll Sayers organist.

Soloists in the group are Mrs. J.K. McKean soprano; Mrs. Ronald Powell and Mrs. William Coons, contralto; Gorman Rose and Russell Belshee tenor and Tom Fraser, baritone. A silver offering will be taken for the choir. Sunday morning at ten o'clock the Sunday School pupils will present their Easter program. Church services at eleven with special music.

Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Hayes have sold their home to Lawrence Kerby. They are moving into the apartment in the back of the variety store.

about folks you do know or would enjoy knowing

Shaniko Notes

Wednesday the ladies of the Home Economics Extension club met at the home of Mrs. Morris Brown of Bake Oven. Those who attended from Shaniko were Mrs. Glade Carrigan, Mrs. W. A. Rees, and Mrs. W. D. Hanks.

Mr. and Mrs. Andy Patjens were Portland visitors again this last week.

Mrs. Ed. Cunnion went to Portland to visit Mr. Cummin, who is in St. Vincent's hospital.

Sunday, April 3 Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Reeder had surprise visitors from Encinita, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Sam Long. Mrs. Long is Mr. Reeder's niece.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Jones of Moro were also guests of the Reeders Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Carrigan and Mr. Duncan McLennan were visitors in The Dalles Saturday to attend the funeral of George McClellan. The Carrigans visited in Dufur over Sunday with Mrs. Carrigan's parents, the Guytons.

Mrs. W. D. Hanks visited Antelope Friday instead of Saturday this last week to give lessons to her piano students.

Mr. and Mrs. James Phifer and children were Sunday afternoon and evening visitors at Grass Valley.

Bishop Barton of Bend and Rev. Gayle of Milton were Shaniko callers Tuesday on their way to Madras to see the new Episcopal church being built there.

Mr. Frank Harris went to Portland Saturday to bring Mr. and Mrs. Cummins home in their pick-up. Mr. Cummins is able to be around now after his operation.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Burg of Portland and Mr. and Mrs. Amos Fine of Madras were Sunday visitors at the home of Mrs. Burg's mother and Mr. Fine's grandmother, Mrs. Rosa Harris.

Mr. Lester Holt returned Tuesday morning from Klamath Falls where he was visiting his son, Frank, who is recovering from injuries received in an automobile accident last winter. He reports Frank is able to be around on a pair of crutches.

Easter services will be held at the school house at 5 o'clock, next Sunday, April 17.

Sunrise Services Planned Easter

Easter Sunrise services will be held Sunday morning, 5 a. m. at Gordon Ridge, west of Moro. The service will be sponsored by the Westminster Fellowship of the Moro Community church.

Keith Thompson, president of the group will be in charge. Speaker of the morning will be Rev. W. W. Gearhart.

The meeting will be followed by a breakfast served in the park.

County Health Officer Meets With P.T.A.

A good attendance and a very interesting meeting of the P.T.A. held at the school house in Kent Friday evening, featuring Dr. Harold T. Osterud, head of the Sherman-Masco County Health Unit, talked on County health service as related to school children and showed a film on health.

The Moro high school mixed chorus and glee club entertained with three numbers and a group of high school students gave a comedys kit.

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting in the lunch room.

CANCER CAMPAIGN GETS UNDERWAY IN MORO

Sherman county officials of the annual fund-raising campaign for the Oregon division, American Cancer society, are busy this week putting across the campaign according to Mrs. Ernest Estlinger, Sherman county chairman.

Sixty per cent of the money raised in Sherman county and throughout the rest of the state will be spent in Oregon, according to Mrs. Estlinger. The other 40 per cent will be spent as follows: 25 per cent to the national research program now being carried on in research centers of the country, and 15 per cent to the nationwide education program.

Sherman County History

By GILES L. FRENCH

(Continued from last week)

The ground cut could not have been over 500 acres. The only 28 inch threshers, run by horsepower, was owned by B. F. Medler and Julius Wieslick, and was the first in the county. It was a very crude outfit. It was not unusual to move from four to six miles for settlings that yielded only from 200 to 500 bushels. The farmers paid for the settling but not by the bushel. There was not a bushel of grain sold outside the county, as it was needed for bread and feed for the fall and winter of 1882-1883. In the fall of 1882 after the crops were in, the next consideration was wood for winter use. We concluded to go to Pine Hollow for juniper wood.

An estimate on the production of wheat in 1885 is 1,654,210 bushels which will indicate the rapidity with which the county was settled and how quickly its residents decided that the land was adaptable to that crop.

From 1880 to the present day the economic history of the county revolves closely around wheat. The development of this one time big bunchgrass area into a liberal wheat factory has been done within the memory of living men.

These new settlers were not homesteaders in the true sense of the word. Most of them bought some land besides taking up a homestead. There were several ways to acquire land. It could be bought from the railroad company which had been given scrip on certain lands; it could be pre-bought for cash; it could be obtained by the timber culture law (an early attempt to grow trees which resulted in many settlers getting land without the government getting anything) or it could be homesteaded. A great deal of Sherman county land was sold for cash. Prices are not known. The original blueprints, which are at hand, show only the first owners or the first homesteaders. Sometimes these latter sold their rights, relinquished in favor of some one who bought them out.

Nearly all of the so-called old families of the county came by 1885 although some did not arrive until 1890.

Continued in a later issue