

# Sherman County Journal

Sixty-Second Year No. 13

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Official County Paper

## These Things We Note

by Giles L. French

Perhaps the funniest thing in these United States is Ry-Krisp with butter on it.

A Texas editor in a verbal ink-slinging with the Oregonian says, "If all the water Texans drink for chasers on Saturday night were spilled into the Columbia river there wouldn't be a dam in Oregon by morning." So—Texans put water in their whiskey. Hum-ph.

Some years ago there was a bad spell of weather in November and local citizens remarked that it was a fine way to arrange a winter; because by getting used to real cold early the remainder of the winter would seem moderate. Since the eleven below of the first part of the storm this comparative mildness of 20 above makes one feel like spring is really on the way.

And speaking of spring a half a dozen persons said they wanted to start gardening when the chinook was blowing Saturday. We may be as independent as all get out about some things but we are slaves to the weather. When spring comes we dig in the dirt, when it's summer we lol in the sun, in the fall we rustle and in winter we shiver.

The president's proposal to reduce a part of the excise taxes and raise an extra billion from larger corporations would have the effect of transferring government costs from the consumers to the consumers, but so it wouldn't be noted on the bill.

Hiss, apparently, was guilty of denying that he was guilty.

We note that several towns are choosing senior citizens of the year and sometimes also junior citizens of the year. Perhaps in some places they choose women of the year although probably no senior in that class. All this no doubt adds something to the variety in headlines in the local newspaper and puts some citizens up for target for the next twelvemonth. Perhaps it does something else, probably not.

It is a proveable statement that the increase in the size of farms has helped to bring about our socialistic trend. A majority of the population resides in the cities where they hold jobs providing services instead of remaining in rural areas where they worked at production. They have lost the security that goes with land ownership and they are trying (successfully) to get it by the ballot. Concentration of ownership in agriculture and industry is bringing the same reward it has in other civilizations. It may go on to political disintegration, probably will. It generally does. Then some other race will move in, parcel out the land, and start all over again.

This is the kind of season when one might consider the Eskimo diet of whale blubber while doubtful about its taste and not entirely convinced that its appearance would contribute to appetite, it would surely put a covering over the ribs that would keep out the cold. We wonder if it would be improved with catsup.

Reports have it that the 1950 woman is going to look like the 1923 woman did, that being a corresponding year in relation to the end of a major war. We agree with others who have criticized the style to be, but do recall that in that distant day of 1923 the women looked pretty good. And we wonder if this criticism stems directly from liking for the curvaceous figure or partly from the emotional erosion of 27 years.

It seems odd that Mr. Acheson would be so loyal to his personal friends and hold to Mr. Hiss and be so cool toward China, a long time friend of the United States.

## Farm Train Gets Crowded With Farmers Here

The Union Pacific's farm information car was full to the back door Monday afternoon when the program offered by that company in conjunction with state and local agriculturists was given. It was estimated that over 80 attended.

Rex Warren, extension specialist in farm crops, talked about the danger of smut in seed wheat and gave percentages indicating the tremendous increase in smut in northwest wheat since Elgin became a popular wheat. Methods of treatment were also discussed. A motion picture showing how one mid-west farmer learned the value of seed treatment was shown by the company's machine.

Bill Hall, assistant at the local experiment station, reported that there are 25 races of smut, known by the kinds of wheat they attack. Smut is a spore plant that can cross like wheats making new smuts that can attack any wheat.

Elgin is not resistant to any smut but is has been crossed with Hymar, a smut resistant variety, and then recrossed three times on Elgin to produce Elmar which is resistant to 15 of the 25 smut races. Elmar will be released in Washington. Federation is resistant to five smuts, Rex to 15. Orofed is resistant to more kinds than Federation and is a better winter wheat if not seeded too early.

Temperatures affects smut growth, says Mr. Hall, because smut germinates best at 40 to 50 degrees and wheat at 50 to 60 degrees.

Bob Fletcher of the Northwest Crop Improvement association spoke about certification plans saying that the Sherman Grain Growers in the Wasco territory are building a seed mill capable of turning out well cleaned and treated seed. Plans for seed mills may be obtained from the association. Cost of producing pure seed would range from 15 to 35 cents over regular cost, he said.

Mr. Fletcher said that if mills in the northwest had the choice of any wheats they wanted they would grind 3 1/2 million bushels of Elgin, 3 million bushels of Triplet, 2 million of Idaed, 2 1/2 million of Fortyfold, and 5 million of Big Bend wheat. They now import 13 million bushels of Montana wheat to get protein. They would grind no Rex. Production is now cut from a capacity of 46 million bushels for northwest mills to around 22 million bushels.

Dwarf smut, the kind that stays stays active in the soil, is in Kliekkitt county and probably in Wasco county also, said Fletcher.

Rex Warren advised against the use of oil in weed spray mixtures as it sometimes cuts

## Missionary To Talk At Grass Valley Baptist Church

The Rev. Harris Johnson, missionary appointee to Belgian Congo, will speak at the Grass Valley Baptist church on January 29 at 11:00 a. m. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson will serve in the Congo with the Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission society, Chicago.



Mr. Johnson of Mankato, Minn., is a graduate of Seattle Pacific college, Seattle, Wash., and also received business training at Mankato Commercial college, Mankato. He spent two years in theological training at Bethel seminary, St. Paul, Minn.

For the past few months, Mr. Johnson has been working in the finance office of the mission headquarters. After a few months of deputation work, Mr. Johnson with his wife and daughter will leave for language study in Belgium before proceeding to Africa.

## GAME RULES CONSIDERED

Ninety percent of the wheat smut increase in the Pacific Northwest last year was due to dwarf smut-a variety which cannot be controlled by seed treatment—it has been estimated by Dr. C. S. Holton, USDA cereal chemist stationed at Washington State college.

From figures given him by the Pacific Northwest Grain Dealer association, Dr. Holton reports that 14 out of 35 wheat varieties grown in the area last year were smut free. Golden and Elgin contributed 86.4 percent of all smutty wheat reported.

## NEW CLUB FORMED

Seventeen boys were present at the 4-H club meeting at Rufus school last Thursday night. Donal Brislane, teacher at Rufus school is the 4-H leader. After the business meeting the boys enjoyed playing games. Brislane served the boys a lunch at the end of the evening.

If it must be used the wheat should be older than normal age when sprayed. If there is one annual weed per square foot spraying is recommended. Morning Glory may be controlled by treating July first and again in two weeks with 1 1/2 pounds of 2-4-D acid per acre.

George Penrose, agricultural agent for the Union Pacific, is in charge of the car and prepared the programs. Western states in which the company operates are included in the car itinerary which takes the greater part of each year.

## About the County about folks you do know or would enjoy knowing

The grange card party scheduled for last Friday was called off on account of the storm.

When the blizzard hit here Friday 13, it practically stopped everything. School was dismissed at 10:30 a. m. and the children sent home. All the children got home, but George Fox Jr., who has a north and south lane to travel over on his last lap of the school bus route. The snow had already drifted too much in this lane for travel. George, who had stayed with Paul Blackburne to attend the 4-H club meeting at Rufus school Thursday night, was invited back to Blackburnes' place after the storm blew up. Incidentally, it was the following Saturday before he got a ride up with Don and Bill Macnab in their truck, so that he could get home.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Olds, Mrs. Herman Ziegler and Mr. and Mrs. Art Schilling and daughter, Diane were business visitors in The Dalles Monday.

Your correspondent, who lives ten miles northeast of Rufus had no opportunity to mail a letter for nine days. Snow was drifted as high as the fence posts in places.

Before the snow fell, there was about an inch of frost in the ground, but it is found at this time, that the snow has taken the frost from the ground. From all indications most of this snow will do some good as far as the moisture in the ground is concerned.

Mr. and Mrs. Donald von Borstel and children spent Friday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gene Reynolds playing canasta.

Mrs. Ted von Borstel received word Tuesday from Dr. Short at Lebanon that his wife suffered a stroke on January 16 and was helpless. Mrs. Short will be remembered here as Mrs. Jeanie Wray, a former resident of Grass Valley.

The Valentine pinocle party sponsored by the American Legion and its auxiliary will be held at the Kent Legion hall Saturday, January 28 at 7:45 if the weather is permissible.

Mr. and Mrs. Ted von Borstel and son, Carl and James Rateau were business visitors in The Dalles Monday.

Mrs. Art Bibby went to The Dalles Friday to shop and to spend a few days visiting Mrs. Florin Coon returning home Monday. A good crowd attended the basketball game here in the local gym Monday night when Wasco town team defeated the Grass Valley Zebras by a score of 49 to 28.



"DAUGHTERS" OF ROTARY . . . These Burmese nurses, Hla Sten (left) and Ruby Thaw, have been unofficially adopted by the Jersey City Rotary club to save them from deportation—and almost certain death. Their visas have expired. Because of their political affiliations, they say, they would meet certain death in their Communist dominated homeland. The Rotarians hope they may be permitted to remain in the United States permanently under provisions of the displaced persons act.

## County Court Makes Appointments For County Jobs For New Year

1950 and filed. No further matters being at issue adjournment ensued.

CLAIMS PRESENTED AGAINST SHERMAN COUNTY, OREGON, GENERAL AND ROAD FUNDS FOR DECEMBER, 1949 APPROVED JAN. 4, TERM OF THE COUNTY COURT GENERAL FUND:

SHERIFF'S OFFICE: Norman E. Fields, \$37.20; West Coast Printing & Binding Co., \$51.67; Kilham Stationery & Printing Co., \$11.06; Norman E. Fields, \$60.00.

CLERK'S OFFICE: West Coast Printing & Binding Co., \$65.30; Oregon Voter, \$4.00.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE: West Coast Printing & Binding Co., \$66.97; Kilham Stationery & Printing Co., \$8.65.

COURTHOUSE: Elsie Jones, P.M., \$2.40; City of Moro, \$1.95; Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co., \$35.50; Pacific Power & Light Co., \$20.98; Ranch & Home Store, \$6.45; R. B. Hoskinson, \$5.00.

CIRCUIT COURT: Peter L. Di Curti, \$2.50; Gordon R. Griffiths, \$5.60.

COUNTY SCHOOLS: \$698.00 GOV'T TRAPPER: \$50.00 COUNTY AGENT: \$1642.50 COUNTY AUDIT: \$100.00 COUNTY JAIL: \$34.64 SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS: \$600.00 DEMOSS PARK: Pacific Power & Light Co., \$0.95.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY: West Coast Printing & Binding Co., \$10.30; T. Lester Johnson, \$12.50.

PREMIUM ON OFFICERS' BONDS: IR5Gvo BONDS: Giles L. French, \$50.00; George G. Updegraff, \$140.00; T. Lester Johnson, \$125.00.

RETIREMENT FUND: \$57.63 MISCELLANEOUS: State Industrial Accident Commission, \$9.26; First National Bank, \$132.00; State Tax Commission, \$17.22; Public Employees Retirement System, \$144.95; National Hospital Association, \$10.50.

ROAD FUND: WAGES: Frank Bazzel, \$245.55; E. McPherson, \$204.38; Earl Rehr \$216.22; H. A. Shields, \$245.02; R. F. Looney, \$246.11; A. H. Olson, \$107.81; Frank Bayer, \$220.94; First National Bank, \$61.10; State Tax Commission, \$16.26; Public Employees Retirement System, \$60.26.

REPAIRS: J. K. McKean Co., \$97.55; Sunset Motor Co., \$32.05; Interstate Tractor & Equipment Co., \$63.1; Arsthill-Monroe Pontiac, \$39.30.

TIRES & TUBES: Firestone Stores, \$105.33.

GENERAL SUPPLIES: McFadden Auto Parts, \$8.95; Mid-Columbia Equipment Co., \$50.95; Ranch & Home Store, \$1.50; Firestone Stores, \$8.57.

MISCELLANEOUS: State Industrial Accident Commission, \$66.56; Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co., \$7.10; City of Moro, \$1.75; Pacific Power & Light Co., \$3.16.

RETIREMENT FUND: \$39.77.

SPECIAL ROAD TAX FUND: GAS & OIL: Standard Oil Co., \$296.17.

## Soil Conservation District Officers Elected Tuesday

W. L. May was elected chairman of the Sherman County Soil Conservation District at an organization meeting of the board of supervisors Tuesday, January 24.

Vernon Miller was elected as vice-chairman and A. C. Kaseberg treasurer. Charles Kuypers and Luther Davis are the other two members of the five man board of supervisors. T. W. Thompson, county agent, was elected to serve as secretary for the board.

The supervisors choose the 3rd Tuesday of every month as their regular monthly meeting date. These meetings are open to the public and farmers are urged to attend.

The main business before the meeting dealt with the program and work plan for the district. Additional work will be done relative to these plans during coming meetings. After completion, the program and work plan will be presented to the Department of Agriculture. The acceptance of this long range soil and water conservation program by the department will allow technical service to be made available to county operators through federal agencies.

Howard Cushman, executive secretary of the State Soil Conservation committee served as the chairman for the first meeting and explained the duties of the supervisors and discussed the program and work plan that need be written by the supervisors. Tom Helseth, district representative of the Soil Conservation service, was present discussing the soil conservation service work with districts. George Mitchell, superintendent of the Moro experiment station, also attended.

## PRISONERS ELIGIBLE

Former prisoners of war entitled to benefits under the war claims act of 1948 may obtain application blanks from local veterans' agencies and service organizations, the Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs announced this week.

Forms received by the state veterans' department from the war claims commission have been distributed to county service officers and to the major veterans' organizations.

## BILL BIGGERSTAFF

Bill Biggerstaff, eldest of the four Biggerstaff brothers, who ran saloons in Moro years ago died at The Dalles last week following an operation.

He had been living in the Richmond country in Wheeler county and was taken to the hospital by Art Barzee. He was a native of Missouri and is survived by brothers Miles and John, both in California.

## SMUT FROM EIGIN

The Oregon State Game Commission announced today that the final angling regulations for 1950 will be set Friday, January 27, 1950, at 10:00 a. m., in the Portland office of the commission. Tentative regulations have been released, and any changes deemed necessary will be made at that time.

## Stockman Assumes Paul Bunyan Role For New York Lumbermen

The lumbermen's legendary for along spell better than any other invention of mine. It took today when Congressman Lowell Stockman of Oregon spoke to a convention of 4000 northeastern lumbermen in New York.

Representative Stockman's six feet, six inches, dressed in the loud checkered skirt and heavy boots of the lumberjack, gave to his tall tales on government, the characteristic Bunyan flavor. In the vernacular of Paul Bunyan himself, who claims he made all things, even government, the Congressman said, "When it came to government-making, I used sourdough as a starter, and that was the first mistake, because then I could not stop it from growing and growing, and rising and rising, until it got to be bigger than I was in no time at all. That's what I returned for today—to tell, and warn you about it.

"When I first contrived sourdough government, it served me

## More Snow Falls After Thaw Reduces First

Just when the people of Sherman county were beginning to relax a bit in the warm chinook that followed the freezing weather of a week ago the temperature dropped again and another storm began. The second series of Canadian winter was not so severe as the first one and zero was the coldest recorded. Little snow fell but some is promised.

It appeared Saturday and Sunday that those who had worried about the run-off while the mercury was at zero might have been correct. Warm sun and warm wind reduced the 18 or 20 inches of snow to five or six inches in a day and a night and the creek started running around Moro Sunday. Not a great deal of moisture was lost because Monday was cooler and Tuesday was colder. Much.

No thawing weather has occurred since Monday and the snow still remains making farmers happy because they want a blanket of snow over their crop. Reports from all sections of the county vary as to the percentage of moisture that got into the soil during the thawing weather. Around Kent, where there was presumably more frost, reports are that the run-off was considerable although quite a bit of snow remained. In the central part of the county most of the water was saved although Hay Canyon ran quite a stream Sunday. North of Gordon ridge there was not much frost and the snow went into the ground pretty well except that on the western part where the hills are steeper there was some run-off. Generally farmers are pleased, being used to seeing all of the snow go down the creeks.

The roads were entirely clear Monday before the second snow began and are now coated with a light snow covering that is not very dangerous at normal speeds. Some ice is on the roads in places. There was about an inch of water in the snow and a very little in the later snow. Temperatures Tuesday night were around zero but there is a promise of warmer weather in a day or so. Trucks were routed through Moro with the closing of the Columbia river highway at Starvation creek and while traffic has kept moving over the Wapinitia pass travel is slow and hazardous for cars. The river route was well blocked with ice and was closed for nearly two weeks for all but occasional travel. Both sides of the river were plugged. Snow began falling sometime Wednesday night and continued through the first part of Thursday. It was a real snow, falling at the rate of an inch an hour and in apparently large flakes although the temperature was but little above zero. The snow was fluffy and impeded traffic little until piled high. The six inches of new snow that were on the ground by noon Thursday had about doubled the snow on the ground and gave further protection for sown crops. There was little drifting except on more exposed ridges, there being little wind although the snow came from the east.