

Sherman County Journal

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Giles L. French Editor

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OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER

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FEBRUARY 17, 1950

WHEAT BILL

Lowell Stockman has introduced the Oregon Wheat League's bill for the certificate plan into the house and soon wheat growers can look the thing over and see what they think of it. Copies of the actual bill should be available here soon.

It guarantees 60 percent of parity or about \$1.25. Above that the wheat is sold on the market but anyone buying it for food must pay an additional sum of not more than 60 cents. Export wheat can be moved at the above price. Domestic wheat, for food, will take a higher price.

If there was an agreement between wheat growers as strong as some industrial groups have the law would not be necessary. Farmers could control the local price anyway. It is expected that there would be little acreage reduction by government order under the plan although there is provision for it. The low price for about half the wheat is thought to be a sufficient deterrent to surplus acreages.

One thing it would do is drive high cost lands out of the wheat business and to return the production of wheat to places where it can be done most advantageously. That should help such natural wheat producing areas as the mid-Columbia basin.

NATIONAL TAX BILL

There are some things in the president's tax proposals that should be adopted. For years men and companies who take oil and materials out of the ground have profited well through the method of allowing deductions for depletion. It is probable that the president goes too far when he asks that the entire reduction be removed for there is some reason for it, but it has always been higher than appears justified.

The war time excise taxes should be repealed in entirety instead of partially. There can be no peace time justification for making the user of the telephone and the railroad pay extra taxes. Probably there are few drug items or clothing items that should be taxed. If there should be a luxury tax on fur coats there are other things that could be taxed as wisely.

What the nation needs is some tax reduction. It can use it especially now when prices are dropping. As long as scarcity held prices up there was no particular reason for abolishing the excise taxes, but since manufacturers have seen fit to reduce their costs—and profits—the government might give the consumer a break and stop taxing.

So far no one has made any plans for cutting the \$263 billion debt and many an American who is used to paying what he owes may well wonder if the administration intends to pay it at all. It is still refunding and will have to do more of it when war bonds become due in larger quantities. Mr. Ponzi couldn't do any better.

91 YEARS A STATE

Oregon was admitted to the union February 14, 1859 and will soon reach the first hundred year mark as a state.

Joseph Lane was appointed governor by President Polk and although he served twice he resigned after a few months in both cases. There was little need for state government anyway judged from present standards. Sherman county was originally in the Clackamas district, a rather thin district that ran from the Willamette river to the Rocky mountains and above a line drawn east from the mouth of the Pudding river.

There was no need for government here at all for the very simple reason that there were few people. William Graham and his brood of seven children were settling at the mouth of the Deschutes or were about to because they were there when the census taker came around in the summer of 1860. It was two years before Tom Scott built his cabin, at the crossing on the

John Day.

The county was covered with bunch grass higher and thicker than grew anywhere and the valleys produced greener grasses like the tall rye grass that grew in the bottom where Dr. Rollins was to chart the town called Grass Valley. The only mark of the white man was the deep tracks left by the wagon trains that had crossed the county or pulled the length of Grass Valley canyon in search of a road to the valley. Many were afraid to float down the Columbia from The Dalles.

The fact that Oregon was a state meant nothing to the Indians who trekked across this county dragging their travois loaded with dried salmon. There was good hunting in those days for an Indian could slide through the tall grass to within narrow distance of the deer and antelope that populated the well grassed land.

Men from the states along the Mississippi who had made the long trip across the plains were growing restless among the tall firs in the valley and remembered the grass covered hills they had passed. By 1859 some of them were moving back to The Dalles and up the creeks in Wasco county which was formed in 1854. There were soldiers stationed at The Dalles most of the time, to afford protection from Indians.

The decade of the fifties in the 19th century was the last for Sherman county without occupation by white men. A few trappers went along the rivers in search of beaver; small companies of soldiers rode through or across it. The seed pods of the tall bunchgrass stroked the bellies of the horses and settled to the earth in winter to cover it with a cushion.

The long years of grass were a preparation for the wheat growers to come.

POSTAL DEFICIT

There is a bill in congress to raise postage rates. That is not particularly newsworthy because such bills are common enough. The postoffice department had a 263 million deficit in 1947, \$310 million in 1948 and an expected \$500 million in 1949. That isn't surprising either. The whole government has a deficit.

It may be difficult back in Washington to tell why a deficit exists in the postoffice department. Were the federal legislators on the receiving end of a lot of the stuff that comes from government agencies they would soon realize the reason for deficits.

Government agencies do the darnest things. This office and perhaps every other such office in the country regularly receives a huge brown envelope (about 12 x 20 which contains a very stout and durable piece of heavy brown cardboard approximately the same size as the envelope and an advertising mat about a quarter that big.

Dozens and dozens of letters of all sizes and descriptions come from government agencies. That it is sent at all is surprising; that it is sent so expensively is shocking.

The reason the postoffice department runs a deficit is that other government agencies make no contribution for the free stuff sent through the postoffices. Three cents is enough to send a letter and a department frank is not enough to send a letter. If the departments and bureaus were made to pay the postal system could break even.

WHEN

News that the tax on personal incomes dropped by some two billion dollars in 1949 will surprise almost no one.

When the 1950 returns are added up a further drop should not be surprising even to a hopeful government. People are just not so prosperous as during the war years.

It may take some time but even this administration will eventually come to realize that it is impossible to pay out a million dollars, for example, and levy a tax high enough to get it back. Any economy, if free, has periods of rising and periods of falling. Since history has been recorded wars have been followed by lowered economic conditions within a few years. Because of the cold war, huge gifts (in the name of loans) to Europe and much domestic stimulation by inflation incomes have been kept up for five years.

Unless this administration has discovered some economic law heretofore hidden from all searchers who have inhabited this globe there will be a recession following World War II. A 12 percent drop in personal income taxes may forestall it. It could.

Yet by some new or excessive stimulation, some gargantuan spending, greater even than the record breaking spending of the past five years the fatal day may be postponed a short time.



Taken For a Ride

The 263 billion dollar debt will make itself felt either if paid honestly or repudiated through inflation. There is no known way to escape it. The habit of easy living can easily be changed by reduced incomes although developing habits of thrift after a spending period is usually painful.

We are at most a 40 hour nation and cannot expect to produce as much goods as a nation that works steady with the same tools.

At the end of the next fiscal year we will have increased our national debt about as much as the total debt increase caused by the first World War. We're going to pay for it. Either the investors, who are us, or the spenders, who are us.

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A.F. & A.M. Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us. C. S. Bennett, W. M. H. B. Pinkerton, Secretary

Moro Lodge No. 113 L.O.O.F. Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in L.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited to meet with us. Leo Watkins, N. G. John DeMoss, Secretary

Bethlehem Chapter No. 78. O.E.S. Meets every second and fourth Thursday in each month; visiting members invited. Moro, Oregon Olive Young, W. M. Naomi Van Gilder, Secretary

In Days of Old

From the Grass Valley Journal February 18, 1921

A wage scale has been set for eastern Oregon for the coming year: Common farm help \$40 and board. Married men \$60 to \$70, tractor men \$4 per day, cooks \$30 per month.

Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Davis had a five valentine in the form of a nice seven pound boy Monday morning, February 14. Last week J. B. Coon bought the brick block occupied by the billiard rooms from Sam Baker.

Arthur Justesen lost the end of a finger while setting up machinery for the Kent elevator.

From the Observer, Feb. 17, 1911 After the farmer's impromptu banquet at the O. L. Belshe farm Sunday it was resolved that some effort should be made to attract young women to Sherman county as domestics and eventually as wives.

Much of the fall sown wheat is reported dead, but others say it has lots of whiskers on it below the ground.

Out at Monkland L. J. Pape set his incubator last week and Andrew Thompson bought a fine black team from Perry Astell.

From the Observer, Feb. 20, 1931 On invitation from a joint committee from Gilliam, Wheeler and Morrow counties W. C. Bryant, J. B. Adams and W. S. Powell were to drive to Condon Saturday to help with organization of a tax reduction league.

Three experienced farm men living now in The Dalles want work of any kind at any reasonable wage.

A. A. Dunlap has moved the former confectionery store in Kent to the former location of his Kent Trading company and will reopen for business.

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome. Helen Kruger, N. G. Lucille May, Sec.

Beautiful Doris Dodson for spring in linen, with applique jacket.

GRETA, The Dalles

NOTICE OF FINAL HEARING

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Sherman County his Final and Supplemental Final Account as Administrator, with the will annexed, of the Estate of William M. Van Patten, deceased, and that Monday, the 20th day of March 1950, at 10:00 o'clock A. M. of said day, at the court room, in the court house in Moro, Sherman County, Oregon, have been fixed by the court as the time and place for hearing of objections to said Final and Supplemental Final Account and for the settlement of said estate.

Notice is hereby given that Charles A. Tom, Administrator of the Estate of Cora E. Bartholomew, deceased, has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Sherman County, his Final Account and the Court has set the 13th day of March 1950 in the Office of the County Clerk in the Court House at Moro, Oregon, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock a. m. as the time and place for the settlement of said accounting and hearing objections to the same, if any.

Charles A. Tom Administrator

T. Lester Johnson Administrator with Will Annexed. 16-19c

J. Tracy Barton The Dalles, Oregon Attorney for the Estate

See our new line of blouses sportswear for the juniors, Nationally advertised hosiery Scarfs in a riot of colors Quality Shop

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NOTICE OF NON-HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in compliance with section 111-1244, O.C.L.A., to the legal voters of the Nonhigh School District of Sherman County, Oregon, that a meeting will be held at the Courthouse in Moro, Oregon, on the 13th day of March, 1950, at 10:00 o'clock a. m. for the purpose of discussing the budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1950, and ending June 30, 1951, hereinafter set forth.

BUDGET ESTIMATED RECEIPTS

1. Estimated available cash on hand at beginning of the year for which this budget is made is	\$ 2746.44
2. Estimated receipts from delinquent taxes	None
3. Amounts received from other sources	3837.16
Basic School Fund	
Total	\$ 10990.72

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES

1. Tuition	\$ 11,345.28
2. Transportation	3,200.00
3. Personal Service (Clerical—Legal)	22.50
4. Postage, Telegraph, Telephone	6.00
5. Supplies and Printing	20.00
6. Election and Publicity	75.00
7. Travel	
8. Interest on Warrants or other	
9. Other Miscellaneous Expenses	500.00
10. Emergency	
Totals	\$ 15,168.78

SUMMARY OF ESTIMATED EXPENDITURES, RECEIPTS, AND AVAILABLE CASH BALANCES AND TAX LEVY

I. Total estimated expenditures	\$ 15,168.78
II. Deduct total estimated receipts and available cash balances	1,090.72
III. Amount necessary to balance the budget	14,078.06
IV. Deduct deficit forwarded to next fiscal year	
V. Balance to be raised by taxation	
VI. Add estimated amount of taxes that will not be collected during the fiscal year for which this budget is made	422.34
VII. Total estimated tax levy for the ensuing fiscal year	\$ 14,500.40

INDEBTEDNESS

1. Amount of warrant indebtedness on warrants issued and endorsed "not paid for want of funds"	None	Dated Feb. 15, 1950 Signed Willy W. Knighten Clerk
2. Amount of other indebtedness	None	Kenneth Fridley Chairman, Board of Directors
3. Total Indebtedness (sum of items 1, 2)	None	

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Answering promptly—giving others a full minute to answer her call—are first on Janie's list of aids to service.

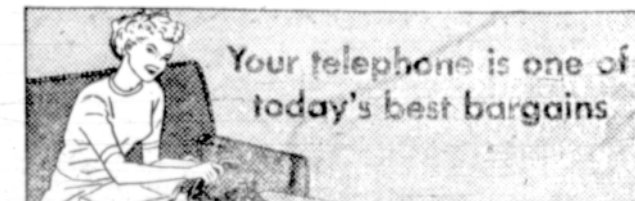
How Janie helps herself to better service



1. "Allowing a little time between calls," says Janie, "gives others a chance to call me . . . and it's a nice party-line courtesy, too." So when she's getting the gang together for a picnic, or for any reason needs to make calls in a row, she waits several minutes between each one. "It's simple to make friends with others on our line. I just use the telephone the way I like them to."

2. Looking up numbers, Janie knows, is really important. "So easy to get them mixed up," she explains. "Why, I was just sure Babs' number was 8145 . . . but when I called her I got the dog store. Turned out her number was 8415. So unless I'm really sure of a number, I'm going to look it up in the telephone book." That's a good tip for all of us—teen-agers, and grown-ups.

3. Getting the most from the telephone—and helping others get better service—depends in part on every telephone user. Facilities have doubled in the West in ten years. Your telephone is today one of your most valuable servants . . . saving time, saving steps. And it still does its job for just a few pennies a call.



Your telephone is one of today's best bargains

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph Company