

Sherman County Journal

Sixty-Third Year No. 37

Moro, Oregon Friday, July 20, 1951

Official County Paper

These Things We Note

by Giles L. French

The hotel clerk with the bullet proof belly is not so exceptional. Old timers used to recall that once in Grass Valley Frank Watkins who played the role of local bad man, shot Indian Pete in a similar spot although presumably not with a .32 which was a rabbit gun in the more robust days of which we write. Pete wore a heavy leather belt and although the shot startled him and caused him to get out of town pronto, he returned in a week or two with his blood blister healed. It is said that his spirit never healed, but there is no proof that he was present the night that Watkins slept permanently because of a pick through his head.

T T W N

In stationary threshing days harvest hands lined up on the sidewalks in long strings with their beds to rest against. The ones with money visited the saloons; the ones without camped in a nearby grove. They went out in bunches, a threshman hiring a dozen at a time, sack-sewers with needles, forkers with patched knees, teamsters with a distinctive smell. Quite different than nowadays when men willing to drive truck or operate a combine look neat and clean. One suspicion that they would expect a bath everyday instead of every harvest season.

T T W N

We note that many writers think Red China will pry its way to a seat in the United Nations assembly. If so it means that we have lost another peace.

T T W N

Actually it is surprising the small number of veterans who take the loans provided by the state, probably under ten per cent. Maybe it would be possible to find a form of compensation better adapted to the majority.

T T W N

Senator Kefauver in running for president has a neat campaign topic. He is against sin. He wasn't against it enough to keep him from resigning the job before taking definite action, but he is against sin.

T T W N

Getting rid of a king is much simpler in Europe than is used to be as evidenced by the change in Belgium. Other employment is equally lucrative, less restrictive on time and probably as secure.

T T W N

The big Kansas flood is said to be twice as expensive as the one in 1937. Probably true, a dollar is worth about half as much.

T T W N

Well, Milton Berle has had a similar effect on those who merely heard him. Pity the girl.

T T W N

A generation ago Sherman countians got their fruit from Rufus or from small farms along the John Day or Deschutes. The fruit growers brought it up in spring wagons or the residents drove down to get it.

Lately that has not been the style. We buy fruit as we need it, paying for packing, shipping and sorting and also buying a neat little box which had no value. This county produces plenty of fruit as one can see by reading the report on the agricultural census published this week. We have easy transportation and good roads. If necessary or even advisable, we could save some money by going back to old practices.

If we had some good instruction in personal relationships it would reduce the confession and sex magazine sale a great deal.

T T W N

It does seem to be a particularly foolish time to develop a taste for horse meat. The horse is a declining animal there being four colts born in this county in 1950 while 2654 calves were being born. Horses that go to the killers are usually of an age to inspire reverence instead of appetite. As a means of declaring independence from and disrespect to beef raisers the eating of horse meat may be justified; as a practical source of animal protein it is a joke.



ADONIS OFF TO BIG HOUSE . . . Joe Adams (left), racket king, who was sentenced to from two to three years for violating New Jersey's gambling laws, enters a deputy's car for the trip to the state prison to begin serving his sentence. The halless man in rear is James "Tigger" Lynch, who was sentenced with Adams. In addition to the prison term, Adams was fined \$15,000. This is the first time in jail for the racket boss.

Census Bureau Has Things To Report About Sherman County

The preliminary report of the census bureau on the 1950 agricultural census for Sherman county is, in some places, hard to orient with the facts. Difficulty of making generalizations for the entire nation make some of the information inapplicable to any county. Yet out of the total of 275 farms reported only 212 are reported as getting electricity from a power line.

Where are there 63 farms in Sherman county without the REA or private utility service?

Out of a given total of 531,200 acres in the county 92.7 per cent is in farms or 492,293 acres, considerably greater than the 468,464 that was in farms in 1945. The average size farm is 1790 acres, a growth from 1604 in 1945, 1194 in 1935 and 1179 in 1930. Crop acreage has varied little for 20 years.

Farmers reporting were modest about reporting value of farms the average in 1950 being \$59,571. It was \$51,992 in 1945; \$25,384 in 1935 and \$40,201 in 1930. Per acre value, including buildings was \$34.09 in 1930 and \$32.93 in 1950. (Presumably this is more psychological than economic.)

Within the county there were 556 horses reported to the census takers. In 1930 there were 4729. Also there were 11,299 cattle reported and 3932 in 1930. Farmers reported 468 motor trucks, 93 wheel tractors, 231 crawler tractors and 308 automobiles, which hardly puts the 275 Sherman county farmers in the two car family class. There were 173 grain combines.

Of irrigated land there are 322 acres on 16 farms and 75 acres are dampened with sprinklers. Oddly for a wheat county there are reported harvested in 1950: (in pounds) walnuts 200, grapes 4250; apricots 130,930; plums 6000; cherries 124,338; peaches 136,450; indicating that we do not have to import fruit.

We butchered fewer cattle and hogs than in 1944 by a marked reduction, hogs butchering Sharon Martin, Kent, and William Hall, Moro, have been listed on the spring term scholastic honor roll at Oregon State college.

Both earned a grade average of 3.5 points or better. A 3.5 is halfway between an A and B average.

having dropped from 558 to 295 in 1949. This presumably did not affect the consumption of meat, but accounts for commercial butchers.

As farm expenditures farm-

GOLD DISCOVERY NOTED

The 100th anniversary of gold discovery in Jacksonville, Ore., which for a time made Jacksonville the most populous town in Oregon, will be celebrated this year August 4 and 5.

At the same time the Southern Oregon Historical society will observe the first anniversary of dedication of old Jackson county court house in Jacksonville as a public museum.

ers reporting spent \$117,008 for machine hire; \$368,250 for hired labor; \$81,502 for stock feed; \$127,042 for purchase of stock; \$86,289 for purchase of seed, bulbs, plants, etc.; \$236,476 for gas and oil; \$128,514 for tractor repair and \$159,902 for other machinery repair.

Cattle on farms had dropped from 1945 to 1950 according to the census the figures being 138,820 in 1945 and 11,299 in 1950, whole milk sold had dropped from 255,274 pounds to 85,023 in 1945; hogs from 2296 to 1285; breeding ewes from 1276 to 614; wool from 25,992 pounds to 5,074 pounds; chickens from 15,165 to 8,373; turkeys from 1932 to 20. Bushels of winter wheat threshed, 2,495,908 in 1944, 2,526,723 in 1949; spring wheat 551,092 in 1944, 255,262 in 1949.

From which information for each county in the nation government agents will determine the trends of agriculture and, perhaps, the legislative and bureaucratic needs for its direction.

Farm Safety Week Brings Warnings

For the state's farms to be safe places to live and work, rural residents must think safety, declares F. E. Price, dean and director of agriculture at Oregon State college who adds that July 22 to 28 is National Farm Safety Week.

Commission figures are confined to accidents covered by the Workmen's Compensation act. In 1950, there were about 11,000 agriculture accidents carried by the State Industrial Accident Commission.

Last year, farm accidents reported to the commission totaled 2,221, just slightly fewer than were reported in 1949. Of this total, 1,474 represented "time loss" claims, 652 involved no absence from work. Four accidents were fatal.

There were 10 fatal farm accidents covered by the compensation law in 1945.

An encouraging note in the accident commission figures, Dean Price explains is the fact that fatal accidents have tended to decline each year since 1945. Total accidents, meanwhile, have stayed approximately the same—about 2000 annually.

Dale Laughlin Opens Men's Clothing Store

Dale Laughlin, having sold his bread route to Clem Welk, has opened a men's clothing store in Wasco in the building formerly occupied by the Wasco Cafe. He has a stock of clothing for men and boys including shoes and appropriate work clothes.

Hunting Regulations Change Little For Coming Season

Tentative hunting regulations were made by the Oregon State Game commission recently. They include a continued ban on deer hunting in Sherman county. Many more deer are being seen in this county than for 50 years and it may be possible to open a short season here in a few years.

There will be a special season again in the southwest part of Wasco county, from Dufur south to the Wapinitia highway, east to the Dalles-Criterion road, west to the county line. Limit of 800 permits will be issued. Date December 1 to 5.

China Pheasants may be hunted in Sherman county from October 19 to November 4 with a limit of three cocks per day or nine for the season. No hungarians, quail or grouse may be hunted here.

Drivers Need Licenses More After Aug. 2

A sharp warning to persons who are driving automobiles in this state without a legal operator's license, or none at all, that Oregon's new Motor Vehicle Safety Responsibility Law will deal harshly with them was issued today by the secretary of state's office.

It is estimated that as many as 100,000 unlicensed drivers are operating automobiles at the present time. Many of them, probably are young drivers who take over the wheel of the family car, not realizing the serious chances they are taking both with the state's driver licensing law and the Safety Responsibility law, which becomes effective August 2. Others are willful law violators who deserve severe punishment. Here is exactly what the new law provides in such cases:

"If a person has no license, but by final order or judgment is convicted of or forfeits any bail or collateral deposited to secure an appearance for trial for an offense requiring the suspension or revocation of license, or for driving a motor vehicle upon the highways without being licensed to do so, or for driving an unregistered vehicle upon the highways, no license shall be thereafter be registered in the name of such person as owner unless he shall give and thereafter maintain for a period of three years proof of financial responsibility."

MACHINERY DANGEROUS

Machinery and its use continues to be the leading cause of accidental death on the farm, says Thomas W. Thompson, county agent, who is calling attention to the fact that the week of July 22 to 28 is National Farm Safety Week.

A recent survey made by the U. S. Department of Agriculture found that almost half, 48 per cent, of the farm fatalities were associated with use of farm machinery. Second highest death cause was attributed to animals which accounted for 17 percent of the fatal accidents.

The remainder, 35 percent, were from miscellaneous causes burns, drownings, poisons and so on.

Chances for males to become involved in farm accidents which prove fatal is about 15 times greater than it is for women, Thompson states.

Purpose for farm safety week is to point out the annual toll in lost lives and work days attributed to accidents, and to call attention to the fact that most accidents are preventable. The week's 1951 theme is, "adopt safe practices."

In terms of fatal accidents per 100,000 farm persons, the Pacific coast states are well above the southern states, just below the high fatality areas, the middle Atlantic and mountain states. Accidents in this region take an annual 12 persons per 100,000 the survey shows.

Most dangerous area to live, the survey shows, is the mountain states where 15 persons per 100,000 farm people lost their lives during the eight year period covered.

Most dangerous age from that standpoint of accidental death frequency is the 50 to 59 year old group.

Early Harvest Returns Indicate Crop Yields Among Highest In History Of County; May Beat 1948

There are a lot of estimators who are saying that the 1951 wheat crop in Sherman county will be bigger than that of 1948 when the county raised over 4,500,000 bushels.

Early reports on the yields substantiate these estimates. The certain loss from smut, the later spring wheat in the south end, and some rather ordinary looking fields have kept estimates down for some who usually view the crop with an appraising eye.

Returns from the Bucholtz and Meier and other fields on the point east of Moro are over 35 bushels which would indicate a huge crop as that is not usually a high yielding section. At Wasco the crop is running over

40 bushels on early reports.

Ralph Busse, PMA, says there are approximately 135,000 acres of land in grain this year of which 20 to 25 percent is in spring grain and perhaps as much as 10,000 in barley. In 1948 it was estimated that there were 134,000 acres of grain with some 4,000 in barley.

In estimating wheat and barley are thrown together as salable grain because barley is about as profitable as wheat and is never a large factor in any year.

If the county should harvest an average of 30 bushels on 135,000 acres the total crop would be 4,050,000 bushels. Should the average be 35 bushels

he crop would beat 1948. The difficulty of such an estimate is that a county average of 35 bushels is hard to believe. Yet it was not far from a fact in 1948. One difficulty in estimating is that not many are used to looking at such crops in wheat.

Fear for the possible damage to spring grain was pretty well removed by the rain of July 5 which made that crop safe except for some later and greener fields.

Anyway the wheat is rolling in, 87 loads at Hay Canyon Monday, and elevators are filling up at a rapid rate in the areas where cutting has started. By next week harvesting will be general on winter wheat.

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

Game Agent Talks To Boosters

Elwood (Zeke) Madden, local representative of the state game commission, told members of the Boosters club what the program of the commission for Sherman county is to be at the meeting held Wednesday morning. He is presently engaged in planting cover for game birds and will later plant some fish in ponds and streams in the county.

Norman Fields briefly discussed the program for curtailing speeding throughout the county, a practice so prevalent that it is considered a menace. City officials have planned concerted action about it and the sheriff reported from his law enforcement office.

No meetings will be held until after harvest it was decided.

Dolores Fox Engaged To Gilliam Man

Mr. and Mrs. George L. Fox of Wasco announce the engagement of their daughter, Dolores Rosemary to James Earl Weatherford, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Weatherford of Arlington. The news was recently announced at Sigma Kappa sorority, and Delta Chi fraternity at Oregon State of which the young couple are members. Miss Fox is a graduate of St. Mary's academy in The Dalles and attended Seattle university for two years then one year at Oregon State. She is now employed by the J. C. Penny company in The Dalles. Mr. Weatherford is a graduate of Arlington high school and a 1951 graduate of Oregon State and is associated with his father on their ranch near Arlington. No date for the wedding has been set.

Eat It, Is Advised

Is a home freezer a paying proposition? That depends on what kinds and quantities of food are frozen, whether the food is home-grown or bought, and how the freezer is used, says Mary Beth Minden, home management specialist.

One of the hardest lessons for the freezer owner to learn is to use stored food, not save it, says Miss Minden. Studies show that a rapid turnover of food is the best practice. The family that lives out of the freezer as much as possible is usually the one that gets the most for the money invested.

For many families, however, the expense of the freezer will be balanced by its convenience. The time saved in marketing and preparing meals, and the satisfaction of enjoying a variety of fresh-flavored, nutritious foods throughout the year are big points in its favor.

EXAMINER COMING

A drivers license examiner will be on duty in Moro Tuesday July 24, at the courthouse during the hours of 10 a. m. to 3 p. m.

CARD OF THANKS

I take this means of giving my thanks to the neighbors who came to help put out the fire and save my buildings last Saturday.

J. S. Fritts