

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

These Things We Note

by Giles L. French

The 90 cadets have been dishonest, liars because they broke their word, thieves because they took educational opportunities they did not deserve. It is no excuse that others are also dishonest or that conditions made dishonesty easy. No honor can be retrieved by whining; some might be regained by recanting and repenting.

T T W N
We cannot help but wonder what would be the composite senatorial reaction to Wayne Morse's broken jaw.

T T W N
The young man who came to Portland recently to seek a cure for hiccups is deserving of sympathy, not only because of the annoyance of the attack but also the persistence of those who have cures for it. After three years it may be presumed that he is well past the stage when drinking water, encasing his head in a paper bag until the oxygen is exhausted, being startled, standing on his head, running until out of breath, eating onions, would do any good. The experience of a pretty fair amateur hiccupper of our acquaintance is that they are of little use in a normal case of say two or three days. It seems possible that in three years some use could have been found for so active a muscle as the one that kept the stomach bouncing for so long. He might make a good churn for small quantities of butter, with proper electrical attachments he could turn signs off and on, or he could amuse the baby. Ordinary use of the hiccups is to warn the victim that the stomach is ready for Sunday and has had enough of Saturday night.

T T W N
If those Texas women really mean business and do not lose their nerve they may bring about some change in the accepted federal policy of making every employer an income tax collector, a policy that is of very doubtful legality.

T T W N
Direct controls are in effect because of the desire of the nation's administrators to show their authority and to hide their inefficiency. The indirect controls would do the job better but would not be so spectacular, nor so politically valuable.

T T W N
Just saw a picture of an editor wearing a big flowing necktie, looked kinda old fashioned and distinctive like. Most editors these days look like anyone else which may be lack of professional pride or a desire for anonymity.

T T W N
Up at Antelope there's going to be a celebration Saturday and Sunday. It is for former residents who can recall the days when Antelope had two hotels and no one ever slept on week ends. Big livery stables took care of the transportation, there were enough saloons to care for the thirst and poker games took care of the money. A dance in Antelope in those days required ruggedness of character and physique for the shepherders and cowpokes who came in from the far hills didn't ride to town for a spot of tea or a game of drop-the-handkerchief. People used to get shot in the hamlet and the Irish and the Scotch were willing with their fists. Now they are going to revive it for a night and a day and we hope the casualties are light.

T T W N
If one were to adopt the theory that he could commit any sin anyone else had committed, there wouldn't be much of good conduct left.

T T W N
Gamblers blown up, Reds arrested, peace talks gone awry, government still spending and asking for more, raids on dope peddlers and other kinds, students cheating. Won't someone do something honest to make a headline?

New Valuations May Make Bonding Easier And More Expensive Says OB&TR

Are present, cheap-dollar property values normal and sufficiently permanent to be used safely as the base for assessing and taxing purposes? Oregon's State Tax Commission is gambling that they are, Oregon Business & Tax Research through F. H. Young, manager, asserted in commenting on the commission's recent lowering of county assessment ratios and on its July 31 directive to assessors to use "true cash value as of today" in revising taxable property values "at the earliest possible time."

"Hard hit property taxpayers will need protection against higher bonding limits, and taxpayer approval by handfuls of voters if assessed valuations are suddenly lifted to an inflation level," the taxpayer organization declared. "Revival of the property qualification for bond and tax voting may have to be considered."

Four reasons impelled the State Tax Commission recently to revise county ratios downward, according to the Oregon Business & Tax Research statement. They were:

Faculty Fixed For School Season

The faculty for the 1951-52 school year has been hired and are awaiting the beginning of school September 10. Two new teachers have been added to the faculty, Miss Linnie May Serling of Gardner, a primary teacher who has graduated from the University of Oregon and Mrs. Della O. Lindsay, who will teach homemaking. She graduated from the University of Idaho and comes from Hood River.

There will be six full time teachers in high school and Donald Anderson who will teach chemistry. They are Homer J. W. Townsend, principal who will teach social sciences. A graduate of the University of Oregon with a Masters degree.

Archie W. McCrae, librarian and teacher of commercial subjects and social sciences. Mrs. Shelly Robertson, English; Francis Keyes, band, glee club, mathematics; James Johnson, coach, science, mathematics; Mrs. Lindsey, homemaking.

Other grade teachers will be Mrs. Doris Ellis third and fourth; Mrs. Grace Zevely, fifth and sixth and Mr. Anderson, seventh and eighth.

Sheriff Selling State Licenses Now

The Sherman county sheriff's office is now a branch office for the secretary of state, says Norman Fields, who will issue car licenses and also chauffeur, driver and other licenses needed by automobile operators. PUC blanks and tax forms, farmer and T licenses may be obtained. Exempt licenses used by county vehicles and school buses must be obtained from the Salem office.

The sheriff calls attention to the new fee schedule which went into effect August 2 and which raises fees for use of cars and for drivers.

Blueberry Production Now Made Easier

With public interest in blueberry culture increasing in the Northwest, the Oregon State college experiment station has issued a new bulletin describing problems and requirements of commercial blueberry production in Oregon.

"Growing Blueberries in Oregon" which is officially station bulletin 499, points out the early success of hundreds of blueberry plantings in Oregon but cautions that only time will tell how widely this crop is adapted for commercial planting. C. A. Bolter, assistant horticulturist at OSC, is author of the 26-page bulletin.

Among the problems discussed in the publication are climatic and soil requirements, mulching, irrigation, location, varieties, planting, fertilizing, pruning, insect and disease pests, and harvesting and marketing. Copies are available for distribution at county extension offices or directly from OSC.

- 1) To stabilize property assessment levels, within and between counties, in anticipation of a state property tax.
- 2) To prod assessors toward ironing out assessment inequalities.
- 3) To partially close the gap between assessment levels on utility and all other property categories.
- 4) To tie assessed values to today's and not to 1939-41 pre-war appraisals.

"Taxpayers can't object to the Tax Commission's laudable, overdue effort to eventually equalize property assessments," the taxpayer association admitted. "But no new taxing wealth is created by a quick jump in taxable values. Ballooned assessments invite going deeper in debt. They create a false sense of local government security. If history repeats and a recession follows this Stalin-defense spending spurge, will assessed value decline as 'true cash values' slide off? Probably not."

"Oregon's Tax Commission in effect asks that assessments be geared permanently to a 'cold-war' value level, a level which could be 'pretty tough on low and non-income properties.'"

"Assessment ratios, like Missouri mules, have little pride of ancestry and no hope of posterity," Young commented. "But they are important far beyond the public's understanding of them. Ratios determine the amount of utility property value a county can tax. They influence a county's share of any state levied property tax. Ratios are the Tax Commission's calculated percentage of assessed values to 'true cash value' in each county."

Wheat Supplies Big in Northwest

Wheat supplies for the 1951-52 crop year in Oregon, Washington and north Idaho will be around 3 million bushels larger than last season, if the July 1 forecast on this year's crop is realized. While carryover stocks at the first of July, estimated at around 24.8 million bushels, were slightly over 5 million less than a year ago, the forecast for the 1951 crop at that date, of 109.4 million bushels was nearly 9 million bushels more than was harvested in 1950. Disappearance of Pacific Northwest wheat during the 1950-51 season totaled around 126 million which far exceeded disappearances during each of the 4 previous seasons and was about 17% greater than in 1949-50. The greater disappearance reflected the sharp increase in export movement, particularly during the last quarter of the crop year ended June 30. Based on July 1 estimates, the acreage of the 1951 all wheat crop is about 8% larger than last year and totaled 4,158,000 acres. Wheat prices at Portland averaged about \$2.26 per bushel for No. 1 Soft White during July compared with \$2.16 in July 1950, \$2.11 in July 1949 and \$1.52 per bushel the 10 year (1940-49) average.

The 1951 wheat crop in the Pacific Northwest was estimated at around 109.4 million bushels based on July 1 conditions. This compares with the 1950 crop of 100.8 million and the average of about 93.1 million bushels. The total acreage of all wheat for this year harvest was estimated at 4,158,000 acres or about 8% greater than was harvested in 1950. The spring wheat acreage for harvest this season estimated at 1,151,000 acres, was over 32% greater than was harvested in 1950 and reflected the heavy reseeded of spring wheat following the damage to fall wheat from winter-killing, particularly in Washington. The spring wheat crop was forecast on July 1 at nearly 16.9 million bushels compared with around 18 million in July 1950 and 21 million the 10 year average. The 1951 crop of winter wheat, however, was estimated at 82.5 million bushels or about the same as harvested in 1950 but 10.5 million bushels greater than the average.

COUNTY QUOTA \$165

The Sherman county quota for the Red Cross on behalf of the Kansas flood victims is \$165, says Mrs. Willy Knighten. No campaign will be made to obtain this amount but those who are able and willing to contribute may do so by sending money to Mrs. Knighten.

Yield of Spring Wheat Too Low For Record Crop

Those best acquainted with wheat yields and probable intake of the elevators now feel sure that the 1951 crop will be smaller than that of fabulous 1948.

George Harris of the Sherman Co-op Grain Growers and Arnold Dunlap of the Grass Valley Grain Growers do not expect the crop to equal that of three years ago which totaled in excess of 4,500,000 bushels. In the central part of the county yields are probably as good or better than ever before although nothing will be certain until harvest is over and farm bins have been checked.

At Wasco the co-op has some 1,200,000 already in storage and the first of the week was taking it in at a rate of 65,000 bushels daily. This cannot continue long for many are finishing every day. Mr. Harris expects around 1,600,000 bushels whereas he warehoused 1,900,000 in 1948.

At Moro Wendell Balsiger reports about 1,000,000 as of the middle of the week and harvest has quite a ways to go with yields still good.

At Grass Valley the spring grain is making 20 bushels which is not good enough to hold up the average to 35 bushels. Winter wheat, at Grass Valley did well with returns up to 35 bushels and some more than that, but the average will be about 25. Light spring wheat, hit by frost and perhaps drought, is given as the reason. Not more than 800,000 bushels are expected by the Grass Valley Grain Growers.

With farm storage it does not now appear that the county will have trouble reaching a total of 4,000,000 bushels and it may be more than that figure. Total wheat income should approach \$10,000,000.

Phone Company Asks For Rate Raise Again

Pacific Telephone today filed with Oregon Public Utilities Commissioner George H. Flagg, an application for increased rates totalling \$5,188,000 annually, which after estimated federal income taxes, would net the company approximately \$2,500,000.

"This repricing request," said F. A. Dresslar, vice president and general manager, "is necessary to meet sharply mounting costs, including the 10% wage increase recently negotiated with the Union."

The increases apply to both toll and exchange and the public and semi-public coin box rate is raised from 5c to 10c.

The company also announced dismissal of its Circuit Court suit against Commissioner Flagg's order of last December denying a rate application made in April 1950.

"The court case is outdated—sweeping changes in the business and economic conditions affecting our operations having taken place in the 15 months since the 1950 rate application was filed," Dresslar said. "Today's application—the only one the company now has before the commissioner brings up to date the company's urgent need for added revenues."

The present and proposed rates excluding the federal excise tax, for Moro and Wasco for the company's principal types of service are as follows:

MORO & WASCO BUSINESS		
Type of Service	Present	Proposed
One-Party	4.75	6.00
Two-Party	4.00	5.00
Suburban	3.50	4.50
Farmer Line	1.25	1.60

MORO & WASCO RESIDENCE		
Type of Service	Present	Proposed
One-Party	3.75	4.15
Two-Party	3.00	3.35
Four-Party	2.50	2.80
Suburban	2.75	3.05
Farmer Line	.75	1.05

The present and proposed rates, excluding the federal excise tax, for Grass Valley for the company's principal types of service are as follows:

GRASS VALLEY BUSINESS		
Type of	Rate	



MRS. NO... Mrs. Jacob Malik is shown with her husband, chief Soviet delegate at the United Nations, as Mr. Malik hosted at a formal dinner party at the Waldorf Astoria hotel in New York recently. This was the monthly dinner of the security council which is always hosted by the president of the security council. Malik was president for the month preceding the dinner. Shortly before this, Malik was inaccessible for trace talks, pleading illness.

Patricia Kaseberg's Announcement Party Held on Lawn at Home of Parents

Announcement of the engagement of Miss Patricia Ann Kaseberg to Richard Lee Skiles was made at a lawn party July 28 at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Kaseberg near Wasco.

Information of the engagement was made to the 60 guests as they arrived by presenting them with a cream and a light red rosebud tied with bronze, pink and blue ribbon which was indicative of the joining of two Greek letter societies, Delta Gamma and Beta Theta Pi, whose flowers are both roses. Miss Kaseberg is vice-president of DG and Mr. Skiles of the Betas at Oregon State college where both are seniors.

Misses Sandra Foss and Alice Kaseberg presented the announcements which also contain

Wasco In Contested Game; Flag Won

Next Sunday the Wasco American Legion baseball club will meet Klickitat in the final game of the league season. It is a game that was protested earlier in the season and for this reason only the final four innings will count in the standings although a full nine innings will be played. The first game was protested in the sixth.

Wasco has had a very successful season, winning eleven games. The proposed two day series of games between the Wheat-Timber and the Central Oregon and Mid-Columbia leagues has not been definitely decided. If it is not held Wasco will play an All-Star team from the Mid-Columbia league Sunday, August 19. Winners of the leagues are Fossil and probably Lakeview.

CRUSADE FOR FREEDOM QUOTAS GIVEN COUNTY

Oregon's quota in the 1951 Crusade of Freedom will be voluntary contributions of \$40,000 and the signatures of 130,000 Oregonians pledged to support Radio Free Europe in "spiking" false Communist propaganda in countries behind the Iron Curtain and in Asia, it is announced by T. Lawson McCall, state campaign chairman.

McCall said also that progress is being made in setting up of a strong state Crusade organization.

GRASS VALLEY RESIDENCE		
Type of Service	Present	Proposed
One-Party	4.25	5.50
Two-Party	3.75	4.50
Suburban	3.25	4.25
Farmer Line	1.25	1.50

GRASS VALLEY BUSINESS		
Type of	Rate	

Wycliffe E. Rice Drowned After Fall From Ferry

The body of Wycliffe Rice was found by dredgers Tuesday at 12:40 p. m. by a crew consisting of Sheriff Norman Fields, Walter Storey and I. C. Robinson of Goldendale, Jim Spencer of Maryhill and Bill Myer of Rufus. It was near the Oregon shore and in tangled barbed wire. The Coast Guard and White Salmon fire department squad had assisted also.

Mr. Rice was born November 25, 1909 and had lived in eastern Washington for many years. Funeral services were conducted Wednesday at Goldendale and interment was made Thursday at Palouse, Washington.

Wycliffe E. Rice, 42, who has worked on the Maryhill Ferry for the past several years, was found missing Saturday afternoon as his family waited to take him home when he went off duty.

As it was reported the ferry piloted by Ted Reid of Rufus had left the Washington shore making for the Oregon shore. As the pilot brought his ferry to dock, there was no one present to tie it up, so Pilot Reid after setting the river boat in position went to tie up the ferry himself and investigate. He found Rice missing and after inquiries from the passengers some one said they had seen a man swimming below the ferry, but not too far from shore. There is a rocky point in the river that juts out at this place. But it is said, there is a strong undertow at this spot and that the current seems to swing back towards the Washington side.

Mr. Rice was the minister of the church of the Nazarene in Rufus until a couple of years ago when on account of ill health he had to give it up. Mr. Rice together with his wife Xythe and their three children, Jessie, Vincent and Patty, have made their home in Rufus for the past few years, coming here from Idaho. Jessie graduated from Rufus high school a year ago and last year attended college at Nampa, Idaho. She has been working during the summer vacation in Salem, and had come home this weekend to be with her parents.

Vincent graduated the eighth grade at Rufus this year and had worked for an uncle in Idaho during vacation, but he, too, had been home with his parents for a few days. Patricia is a pre school age child.

The Rice family had decided to leave Rufus for a place in Idaho. As it was reported, Mr. Rice had given notice to the ferry officials and they expected to move the last of August. They have been living on the H. H. Brackett place in the county south of Rufus, about five miles since he retired as minister of the church.

Pensions Possible For Federal Aides

The number of old-age and survivors insurance beneficiaries in the eleven county area administered by the LaGrande social security office increased greatly in the first six months after amendments to the Social Security Act became effective last September.

A tabulation recently completed shows that as of February 28, 1951, there were 26 men, women, and children in Sherman county receiving \$877 monthly. Vernon A. Welo, manager of the LaGrande office, pointed out that the reason for the proportionately greater rise in account of payments was that the new law, effective last September, not only made many additional persons eligible for payment but also very substantially increased the general level of benefits.

These payments are from the federal program of insurance, supported by the worker and his employer with payroll taxes, and have no reference to the state-operated public assistance programs, which are also sponsored by the Social Security Act. Mr. Welo reported that the Federal Security Agency estimates that as of June 30 for the first time more than four million persons were receiving monthly benefits, reflecting an increase of more than a million since the amendments went into effect last September 1.