

Sherman County Journal

Sixty-Fourth Year No. 25

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

By Giles L. French

The sun has been shining in eastern Oregon and the hills are getting green, giving the cattle a chance to get away from the dwindling hay stacks. Hay has been scarce in some places in the final weeks of feeding.

Where sage covers the hills, if any, cattle may be seen but where there is no sage the grass looks luxuriant. Which means that when a way is found to remove the sage the grazing area of Oregon can produce many times as many cattle as at present.

Probably there is no place in the whole country where people are as friendly as in the towns of eastern Oregon. People speak to strangers as if welcoming them to town and no one is a stranger unless he wills it himself.

Farmers of the bottoms and irrigated land are putting in grass for irrigated pastures and getting ready to plant potatoes and other row crops and the land looks rich and level and well worked. Peas are up in Umatilla county and by the first of June the vines will be cut and hauled to the canneries where the peas will be processed and the straw piled to await a winter's stock feeding.

Billboards announce the names and advertise the pictures of political candidates, sometimes in the most barren places, as if truly the city candidates expected the jack rabbits to vote.

T T W N
The horse, once acclaimed as man's best friend, is being hunted like a wild animal and driven from the ranges over which he once carried man in caring for cattle and sheep. Isn't that a great note, and isn't it a warning to man's other friends? Verily, historical service is unrecognized and promises for the future get the rewards.

T T W N
To some spring means baseball or track, to some it means grass on the hills, to some new lambs, to some horse races to bet on, to some gardening or golf.

T T W N
A woman has sued for divorce because her husband beat her every day. It had gone on for 23 years. We suppose she just couldn't get used to it.

T T W N
Every day now there is news to indicate that the administration is trying to start inflation again by removal of some controls. It is considered desirable in an election year to have inflation and besides deflation seemed very close for a time with prices dropping all over the place.

T T W N
How much of what we believe—or even what we "know"—is based on prejudice?

T T W N
It was the longest winter, the shortest spring, and the hottest April in many parts of the state.

T T W N
It may be that the Oregon presidential primary will decide more who the voters do not want than who they do want.

T T W N
We have a strong inclination to believe what both sides say in the battle over supremacy going on among the Oregon Democrats.

T T W N
Wonder why someone doesn't invent a musical auto horn.

Delegates Attending State Federation of Women's Clubs

Delegates from the Moro Women's club to the convention of the Oregon Federation of Women's clubs to be held in Portland, April 30, May 1 and 2, at the Multnomah Hotel are Mrs. T. H. Fraser and Mrs. Homer Townsend. Mrs. Townsend will sing a group of solos Wednesday afternoon, accompanied by Mrs. Carroll Sayre. Mr. T. H. Fraser will sing two baritone numbers at the banquet Wednesday evening, accompanied by Mrs. John Stockdale, (Sybil Belshe), Mrs. Eugene Amidon will attend the convention and be chairman of the election board. Mrs. Harry Pinkerton will attend, also and will act in the capacity of state music chairman.

Citizens Put School Building Project Up To Board of Directors

The question, "Shall Moro build a new school building?" was put up to the board of directors of the local school Friday evening when the Parent-Teacher association requested that the officials call a special election to give the voters an opportunity to express their wishes in the matter.

A special committee consisting of Vernon Miller, Charles Burnett, Harvey Thompson, Russell Belshe and Verne Arstall reported its findings to the group Friday evening, and it was after hearing the report that the PTA decided it was time for definite action.

The committee, after considerable investigation, arrived at the conclusion that to get the kind of building needed and wanted would run in cost anywhere from \$200,000 to \$250,000, depending on the type of construction and the special features involved. Financing could be handled on a 10-year plan, starting with a 10-mill levy the first year.

The PTA asked the committee to continue and to work with the school board, members of which are Ernest Woods, chairman, and Paul Fraser and Lloyd Henrichs.

Tri-County Group To Discuss Rain Making Progress

Rain making, pro and con, will be discussed fully at the annual meeting of Tri-County Weather Research June 5, directors announced following a meeting in Arlington last week. A preliminary evaluation of the cloud seeding project in Gilliam, Morrow and Sherman counties will be presented by R. T. Beaumont, OSC meteorologist. Beaumont is evaluating the project for OSC experiment station at the request of the Oregon Wheat Commission. The commission has given the college \$8,000 to conduct the evaluation.

Dr. Irving P. Krick, head of the Water Resources Development Corp., who is doing the cloud seeding for Tri-County will present a report June 5 of their activities since September 1, 1951. The present contract runs from September 1, 1951 to June 30, 1952.

To date Krick's generators have operated a total of 92 days. He has used 18 generators in the project. Most of them have been operating west and south of the area in an effort to keep all clouds passing properly "nucleated" with silver iodide crystals. A daily report of generator operations has been filed with the Tri-County research office.

Tri-County directors expressed concern over the unusually dry weather in March and April. Harry Duval, Heppner, reported it very dry in his section. Ralph Crum, Ione, said only five inches of precipitation has fallen on his ranch since September 1. Rainmakers contend clouds suited to artificial nucleation have not passed over the area in recent weeks. They point out that cloud seeding only increases precipitation from a given rain storm.

Without clouds that are going to rain some anyway, they say favorable results cannot be expected. Dr. Vincent Schaefer, GE scientist, who has pioneered research in rain making, will not be at the meeting. Directors invited Schaefer, but previous commitments will keep him from attending. "I personally am rather optimistic that eventually it will be possible to do a number of interesting things in your area, with respect to precipitation," Doctor Schaefer wrote Ernest Kirsh, corresponding secretary.

GET TOGETHER SCHEDULED AT KENT THIS EVENING

A community get-together to which the people of the county have been invited is scheduled for 8 o'clock this evening (Friday, May 2) at the Kent Rebekah hall. Guest speakers for the occasion will be two young missionaries enroute to Borneo. Our informants said children are included in the invitation, suggesting that parents should not stay at home but come and bring the kiddies.

There will be Divine worship in the Grass Valley Methodist church next Sunday afternoon, May 4, at 3 p. m.

Remember The Date--Wednesday, May 7--Clean-up Day

Rainfall In April 'Wav Below Normal

Rainfall in April was mainly conspicuous in its absence, according to George Mitchell, who keeps tab on the weather at the Moro experiment station. The gauge at the station showed that a total of .18 of an inch fell during the month, mostly Monday night of this week. The normal precipitation for the month is .76 of an inch.

Records at the station show that there have been five drier Aprils than the one just past since checking of the weather has been done there.

If there was a shortage of moisture there was no lack of variety in temperatures. During the last week of the month the mercury soared up to 79 degrees on the 21st, and as a parting gesture dropped to 21 above on the 29th.

MARION COUNTY 4-H'ER INVITED TO SPEAK HERE

Glen Klein, International Farm Youth-Exchange, formerly a Marion county 4-H club boy, will address Sherman county 4-H boys and girls and friends Wednesday, May 7 at 8:00 p. m. in the Moro Public school building. All county people are invited.

Young Klein visited New Zealand for six months living with farm families observing agriculture and family and community life there. In fulfillment of his obligation he will relate his experiences in New Zealand.

Land Ec Committee Plans Study Existing Tax Appraisal Set-up

The Land Economics committee of the Sherman County Agricultural Council initiated plans to study present tax appraisals of tillable farm land at a Monday afternoon meeting, Dewey Thompson, chairman reports.

County Assessor Clair Balzer, was asked to prepare a county map listing ownership and present farm land tax appraisals. The committee will meet upon completion of this map and appoint community chairmen in each community. This chairman will meet with fellow farmers in his area to determine inequalities in farmland tax appraisals in their area.

Organization of the Land Economics committee was felt desirable in view of State Tax Commission's reappraisal program. A study of tax appraisals will enable more intelligent recommendation when they decide to reappraise Sherman county land.

The committee went on record favoring a greater appropriation to the county assessor to allow farm contact regarding property valuation for tax rolls. Discrepancy in real property on the tax rolls and the 1950 agricultural census were voted by the committee. The board of equalization and assessor were asked to give consideration to revision of assessed valuation of tillable land planted to grass for conservation purposes.

Miss Watkins Brings Home Four of Six Trapshoot Trophies

Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Watkins and daughter, Shirley, arrived home from the Reno, Nevada, trapshoot Monday. Helen Watkins brought home four out of the six beautiful trophies that were on display for women winners. Two were imported hand-tooled shoulder purses (one natural, one green) with small sterling plaques on the front side and the trap title inscribed thereon; another trophy was a sterling rimmed plate with hand painted flower on the center of the enclosed Franciscan china; one was a solid sterling silver belt, hand etched, with sterling buckle that had 5 miniature chip glass nuggets inlaid under a small glass frame for protection.

Her most honored win was the Ladies' Golden West Grand American Singles title by a score of 192 x 200.

Miss Shirley Watkins was given a very valuable "keepsake" silver dollar which has never been in circulation and was minted in Carson City, Nevada in 1878. The other daughter, Phyllis, spent the week with her grand parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Strong of Moro.

Grass Valley Post Office Job Open

The United States Civil Service Commission announces an examination for the filling of the position of Postmaster at the Post Office of Grass Valley, Oregon. Application forms may be obtained at the post office for which this examination is held or from the U. S. Civil Service Commission in Washington, D. C. Applications must be on file with the commission not later than May 15, 1952.

Mrs. Bon Christlanson was hostess for a birthday dinner Wednesday evening honoring her husband and Miss Vivette Sparling on their anniversaries. Guests included Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Sparling, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Christianson, Mrs. Daisy Byers, John Stewart, Miss Diane Christianson, and Warren Rudig.

All is in readiness for the big cleanup day, Wednesday, May 7. The Moro Booster club's committees have the situation well in hand and with the cooperation of the townspeople there is every reason to believe that the winter's accumulation of trash and debris will vanish, leaving the town people spic and span for another season.

Citizens are urged to have their rakes, shovels and whatever else is needed at hand and ready to sail into the cleanup job immediately following the club breakfast at the Moro hotel. This will be approximately 7:30 a. m.—just the right time to start a good day's work.

Remember the date, the time of day and be on hand to make the little old home town as clean and bright as the grain fields surrounding it.

Wheat Commission To Educate Hindus In Proper Uses of Wheat

Many of India's people are in a state of famine although they have U. S. wheat within their grasp that could alleviate that hunger.

The Oregon Wheat commission is taking steps to avoid such a "boomerang" of the wheat export program to the Far East by financing a station wagon automobile which will make it possible for staff members of an Indian educational institution to reach starving Indians and show them how wheat can be used for food. It will be known as the "Oregon wheat car".

The Far East Grain mission led by E. J. Bell in 1949 found that improper cooking of wheat had made it unpalatable and unpopular with Indians, who prepared it as they would rice.

Joining with the commission in the program is the Miller's National Federation, which has contributed \$5000 to the Womens Christian college, Madras, India, to hire personnel and pay expenses for additional research and extension work. The commission is appropriating \$3000.

It is estimated that more than 70% of Oregon-grown wheat is exported, most going to Asiatic nations. India was the biggest single importer last year, taking more than 28 million bushels.

Keenan Case Settled Out of Court Tuesday

A special session of the circuit court, called to hear the suit of Alvin Keenan vs. Arthur Keenan and others, did not materialize here Tuesday when the attending parties got together and settled their differences out of court. The case arose over the settlement of the estate of the late Bernard and Lydia Keenan and involved property at the site of Dinty's on the Columbia.

Present for the hearing were Judge E. H. Howell and Mrs. Marjorie Allen White, court reporter, from Canyon City, and T. Lester Johnson of Wasco, district attorney.

The regular term of court set for May 5 has been postponed until May 20 due to press of business in other parts of Judge Howell's district.

MEET YOUR CANDIDATES

A special invitation is extended to Sherman countians to attend an open house or "meet your candidates" by The Dalles Unit of the Republican Women's Federation, at Hotel Dalles 3:30 to 7:30 p. m. Saturday, May 3. All are urged to come as you are.

Wasco Residents Plan Perpetual Care for Cemetery

Citizens of Wasco and surrounding territory have formed a cemetery association and have set Monday, May 5, as the date for the first annual meeting. The meeting will be called at 2:30 p. m. in the Wasco city hall. Adoption of by-laws and election of officers will be the order of business and the sponsors are hopeful that all having an interest, directly and indirectly, in the cemetery will make it a point to be on hand at this meeting.

Purpose back of the organization is to attain perpetual care and beautification of Sunrise cemetery.

PHEASANT HATCHING LOCAL 4-H PROJECT

The eye that watched the hen will belong to 4-H members hatching pheasant eggs this year. This 4-H club pheasant project is to give members an appreciation of wildlife resources and encourage interest in wildlife conservation. The state game commission cooperates by furnishing eggs from the regional farms for hatching. Pheasants are purchased from the 4-H members by the commission for one dollar at 10 weeks of age.

Sherman county boys and girls desiring to participate should contact the county agent's office in Moro. An individual is allowed 200 eggs to be provided by the Ontario farm and will be delivered promptly upon request.

Second Half School Fund Distributed

Funds in the amount of \$25,997.39, representing the second half of the basic school support fund for the fiscal year 1951-52, were received early this week at the office of Willy Knighten, county school superintendent, who has mailed checks to the several districts.

The second half check is approximately one-half the amount received in the fall, the total for the year being \$77,934.61.

School Budget For 52-53 Operations Exceeds \$235,000

Operation of the rural school district of Sherman county for the fiscal year will cost the taxpayers \$235,943.13 if the budget to be submitted to the voters on Monday, May 19 is approved.

The \$235,943.13 is the overall picture but it is not the sum the voters will be called upon to pay, inasmuch as \$77,934.61 will be provided from the basic school fund, but the balance of \$158,008.52 is the amount in excess of the six percent limitation, and this is what the voters are called upon to approve.

Total estimated expenditures submitted by the budget committee run as follows:

General control, \$3,755.00; instruction—teaching \$137,675.00; operation of plant, \$31,788.00; maintenance and repairs, \$16,924.00; auxiliary, agencies \$60,455.00; fixed charges, \$11,859.29; capital outlays, \$1,600.00; debt service, \$150.00; emergency, \$7,625.00; total general fund disbursements, \$271,831.29.

School bus depreciation reserve, \$21,400.00; special reserve, \$7,369.00. Total estimated expenditures, \$300,600.29. Total receipts, \$80,610.52. Amount necessary to balance the budget, \$219,989.77; add: estimated taxes that will not be collected due to 3% rebate, \$7,206.76. Total estimated tax levy, \$227,196.53; non-high school \$1,046.60, superintendent's office, \$7,700.00; total amount of levy, \$235,934.13, less base, \$77,934.61, leaves amount in excess of six percent limitation, \$158,008.52.

Problems Of Public School Aired At P-TA-OEA Meeting

Sherman county educators and friends of education attended and participated in the citizens educational conference held in the civic auditorium in The Dalles from 10 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Saturday. Included in the group were Mr. and Mrs. Willy Knighten and Mr. and Mrs. Homer J. E. Townsend, Moro and Mrs. Sarah Glannon-Atti, Rufus, representing the schools; Allen Tom, Rufus, lay representative, and Mrs. Donald Clodfelter, Grass Valley, P-TA association.

Mr. Knighten held two spots on the program, discussing public school personnel and participating in a panel discussion of school problems. Other members of the panel, presided over by Mayor Marshall Nelson of The Dalles, were State Senator R. D. Holmes of Clatsop county; State Rep. John Housnell of Hood River county, and Paul Collins, research chairman of the OEA.

Mayor Nelson left one thought with the conference that might bear fruit in the years to come. He suggested that Oregon might relieve its crowded public school situation by lengthening the school term and moving students through grade and high school faster. He did not say how long the term should be but pointed out that in Switzerland boys and girls 14 years old have the equivalent of a high school education after attending school 50 weeks out of the year for eight years.

EXAMINER COMING

A drivers license examiner will be on duty in Moro Tuesday May 13 at the courthouse, hours 10 a. m. to 3 p. m.

Equestrienne In Race For "Miss Sherman"



If comely Sharon Coons of Palamino, "Candy" the beautiful Moro was a boastful girl, she could rightly claim title of the best jockey in the mid-Columbia area without fear of contradiction.

But, the 16-year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Coons who this week entered the Miss Sherman County contest and show here Sunday, June 8, is content just to keep on winning horse races without glory.

Against male competition in the various county fairs in this area, Sharon is unbeaten in 12 starts. And, in 1949, the Wasco county fair horse judges were so impressed with her performance that they awarded her the junior division horsemanship trophy. At the time Sharon was only 14 years old.

Miss Coons, who hopes to pre-side over the 1952 Sherman County Fair here Sept. 12, 13, and 14, was born in The Dalles on May 9, 1935.

Mother is Deputy Sheriff
Five years ago her family moved to Moro. Her father is manager of the fairgrounds and her mother is secretary of the fair board and deputy sheriff. Mrs. Coons is one of two women in the state who holds the job of serving as a deputy.

Sharon's brother, Jim, aged seven, is already a good rider. Jim is planning to show his skill of roping at the Miss Sherman County show by roping and tying a calf.

Those attending the show will also see Sharon riding her sleek

Services Held At Longview For Mrs. Gertrude P. Gore

Mrs. Gertrude P. Gore, 66, of 503-19th Ave., Longview, Wash., died suddenly of a heart attack on April 9, 1952. Rev. A. A. Harriman, who was a pastor at Wasco 25 years ago officiated for her funeral services.

Mrs. Gore was born at Klondike April 27, 1885 and lived in Wasco many years before moving to Longview, Wash., where she has resided for the past 20 years. She was a member of the First Christian church, the Rebekah lodge and was commander of the Army Mothers of Longview.

Survivors include her widower, Charles; three sons, Archie of Longview, Guy C. of Tacoma and Robert of Longview; two daughters, Mrs. Viola Anderson of Longview and Mrs. Geraldine Church of Newark, N. J.; a brother, Guy Pickard of Blalock; three sisters, Mrs. F. C. Mathais of Outlook, Wash., Mrs. R. M. Jones of Princeton B. C. and Mrs. Earl Hoag of Blalock.

GOING ON FIELD TRIP

Mr. and Mrs. Willy Knighten, Moro and Mrs. Alta Crowley, Grass Valley are leaving Friday afternoon for the Malheur bird refuge where a class in natural history will study bird life of the region under the guidance of Dr. Ruth Hopson of the University of Oregon extension division natural history of Oregon. The field trip will include people from many sections of the state.