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Sherman County Journal

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

By Giles L. French

Actually we never own anything except ourselves. All our land and houses and similar belongings will be here after we are gone. Ownership is merely tenancy and the average life of ownership of land is but eight years. We belong to the earth, not the earth to us.

Well, a summer ought to be hot and a winter ought to be cold. There's always something strange and unnatural about a cool summer or a warm winter, something that makes us wonder if more unnatural things aren't coming.

We think it highly improper that the government refuses to let Vivian Kellems into court with her refusal to pay withholding taxes.

Why worry so much about getting everyone to vote when the pollsters can estimate within a few percent of the total vote by carefully chosen samples. If a well distributed ten percent voted the results would probably be the same.

Farms are growing larger in size and fewer in number which is probably progress toward efficiency and economic production. Socially it may be different.

Overheard: "she sang like a nesting crow"; "so old he never laughed, seldom swore"; "as buxom as an unworked Belgian, and for the same reason"; "like a puppy he wanted to be loved by everyone; like a puppy he showed it".

We wonder whether there is really a drought in the south or if the government merely wants to distribute some money.

Some morning soon the householder in coming in from his round of chores is going to go into the closet or behind the door and find his coat.

One of the saddest stories we remember is that one about the lonesome man who entered a restaurant and informed the waitress that he wanted two fried eggs and a few kind words. She brought the eggs and he reminded her of the other part of his order, to which she replied, "Don't eat the eggs." Why is that sad? Because humans, from the youngest child to the doddering oldsters are so anxious for a few kind words.

We read a lot about the end of gambling because of the federal tax on it. We have much more respect for the ingenuity and adaptability of gamblers than that. It will take constant watching to make them earn their living.

No need to worry about Truman's failure to pick a successful senatorial candidate in his native Missouri. As long as he can pick presidential candidates.

The rain that fell briefly and so well scattered Monday morning was merely a threat. Nature put on its blue and cheerful face shortly afterwards. It was in a way a threat and a warning that the crop that nature has made possible plentiful moisture should be gathered speedily.

Folks used to be too pious to waltz; now some are too active for that dance.

One test of the sort of person you are is: What would you do if you had nothing to do?

We suppose that an up-to-date school will soon have a TV set. So many of our entertainments have been found to be absolutely necessary to education including playgrounds, radio, trips. One could almost finish college without encountering the sterner facts of life.

By the time a man's memory gets long enough to use the people are doing the same things all over again.

Eating Was Main Problem of Early Visitors To This County; Was Poor Here

The first white men who saw Sherman county were just looking. They were explorers, mountaineers who had restless feet that took them toward any new range of mountains and up or down any new river. They went like tourists who set out to see the country.

Lewis & Clark drifted down the river in large canoes, paying little attention to the land, which they could not see from their viewpoint. They had hunters out looking for deer and elk and antelope and in their absence were in the habit of buying dogs from the poor, ill-fed Indians who camped in small groups along the northern shore. Lewis & Clark's men thought they felt better on a diet of dog than on a diet of salmon. (Astoria papers please do not copy.)

Hunters and fur traders from the Northwest company and the Hudson Bay company moved across this land always on their way to streams abounding in beaver or timbered hills where they could find deer.

Food was an ever pressing problem to the first men of the northwest. They had to kill it every day or do without. There was no way to keep meat except to eat it and they did well with their eating when the food was available. Sherman county provided little food, for there was only grass on the hills and the antelope and deer could see a long way.

Parties that set out with 50

Library Story Hour Continues Popular

The Wednesday evening "Story Hour" at the Moro library is a popular event with the community children - 28 attending this week. Mrs. Paul Gypfers and Mrs. Kenneth McKean were the readers this far.

Two more books have been added to the "Memorial Shelf" in memory of Frank Scherrer. They are: "Teen-age Outdoor Stories" and "The Boy Scouts Book of Adventurous Youth". Contributors to the operating fund of the Moro Library association have been the Chris Schultz American Legion auxiliary, the Junior Ladies club, the Moro P.T.A., the Harlandview grange, Bethlehem chapter, O.E.S., and Mrs. W. F. Jackson.

School Site Selected South of City

The school meeting of District 17 held Friday night for the purpose of voting on a location for the new high school approved the site on McKean land across the highway from Belshes's by a vote of 48 to 1.

Just where on the land the building and grounds will be located was not decided as there is something like a half mile available. Possible straightening of the highway and possible need for city water will be considered by the board in choosing the site.

If You Haven't All Your Buttons, Make 'em

If you can't find buttons to match your linen or butcher linen dress, make bone ring covered buttons, advises Miss Murie Scales, extension clothing specialist at Oregon State college. They are smart looking and easy to make.

Select a bone ring the size of the button you need. To cover it, cut a disc of fabric twice the diameter of the ring. Gather the edge of the fabric, using a double thread. Then place the ring on the inside of the fabric. Draw up the gathering thread tightly and fasten it securely.

To trim the button, use heavy thread such as button hole twist or embroidery thread. Miss Scales recommends. Make small back stitches around the inner edge of the ring, pulling the thread tightly after each stitch.

To finish the back of the button, cut a disc of fabric the same size as the button, and overcast the edges. Draw up the thread so that the raw edges turn in. Whipstitch this piece to the underside of the bone ring button, covering all raw edges.

Fertilization Not Evenly Successful In Station Tests

This business of testing the results of fertilization grows more complicated. George Mitchell, superintendent of the experiment station, has just released figures on the 1952 trials.

First, the test plots yielded 42.7 bushels per acre. Second, ammonium nitrate at 20 actual pounds per acre made 49.9 bushels. Third, anhydrous ammonia applied at the rate of 20 actual pounds made 46.1 bushels; at 40 pounds 49.0 bushels; at 60 pounds 51.0 bushels.

Ammonium nitrate was applied in the spring with these results 20 pounds 43.5 bushels; 40 pounds 45.6 bushels; 60 pounds 49.2 bushels. The check plots are an average of 18 plots and yields are an average of six plots.

In 1951 there was no gain after an application of 10 pounds of actual nitrate. Considering the cost of fertilizer and the cost of application there is a financial gain this year from it. There may not be if both years are considered.

In June of this year there was three times the normal rainfall for that month, which might have been a factor.

There are many farmers who are certain that fertilization is of great benefit to their fields although positive proof of it has not yet been proven by experimental methods.

Korean Veterans Closer To Parity

Veterans of service since the start of the Korean conflict may now obtain forms locally on which to apply for mustering-out payments under the Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1952, the Oregon department of Veterans' Affairs announced today.

The state veterans' department has reproduced a supply of the application blanks and is distributing them to Oregon's county service officers. The department will also furnish them to veterans on request.

Mustering-out pay is provided in the new "GI bill" for personnel discharged from active duty in the armed forces since June 27, 1950, whether they had received mustering-out pay for World War II service or not. Applications are now being accepted by the various branches of the armed services.

The payments amount to \$100 for veterans with less than 60 days' active service; \$200 for those with 60 days or more of active service in the United States only; and \$300 for veterans with 60 days or more of active service, some of which was outside the United States or in Alaska. Payments to discharged veterans will be in a lump sum. Those still on active duty will receive \$100 at discharge and the remainder, if any, in \$100 monthly installments.

GRASS VALLEY NEWS

Mrs. A. A. Dunlap has as her guests her brother and sister in law Mr. and Mrs. John Haynes of Carlton who arrived Sunday. Howard Pierce of Portland arrived Sunday and will work at the elevator again this year.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence May left Thursday for their home in Astoria after spending his ten day leave here with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wallace May. Mrs. May took them to The Dalles where they took the train.

Mrs. Frances Mathews and son, Teddy, arrived Wednesday from Seattle, Wn., to visit her mother, Mrs. T. M. Rolfe.

Miss Laverne Wilke of Goldendale spent the weekend here with her aunt, Mrs. C. R. Anderson. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Perrigo and daughters went to Portland Tuesday on business.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Pike went to Portland Monday evening on business returning Tuesday. W. C. Schilling left Friday for his home in Cottage Grove to spend a few days before returning here the last of the week. The Baptist Mission Circle met at the church Thursday afternoon July 24 with seven members present. The ladies spent the afternoon piecing quilts. Mrs. Charles Meyers led the devotion. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Sam Stark. Mr. and Mrs. Walter Koch of Oregon City were here last week visiting relatives.

Marines Move Out Of The Dalles

The U.S. Marine corps recruiting office in The Dalles has received orders to close its doors. Technical Sergeant Lee Foss said he would leave for an undisclosed assignment, and would like to take this opportunity to extend his thanks to his many friends and associates for the splendid cooperation afforded him and the marine corps during his stay in The Dalles.

The station will be discontinued indefinitely, and if any information or assistance is ever desired from the marine corps, it can be obtained by writing or calling the U. S. Marine Recruiting Station, Room 208 New Court House, Portland, Oregon.

Officer Reports Show County Finances

In this issue is the report of the county treasurer, which, when taken with the report of the county clerk, gives a complete picture of the county's finances during the past year.

Readers will note that the county had \$39,095.60 on hand from various road funds on July 1. To this will be added the \$67,400 of the money budgeted for the road fund last June minus \$5000 declared as cash. This will give the county approximately \$100,000 to spend on roads by next July.

The sums given and the items concerned are public money and any taxpayer may ask the county clerk or the treasurer about any of them.

WASCO

By Mrs. Joe Drinkard

Miss Joanne Watkins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Watkins was guest of honor at a bridal shower given her by Miss Joan Fridley and Miss Betty Dormaier at the Fridley home. Other guests were Miss Carol Briles, Miss Sharon Laughlin, Miss Barbara Buck, Miss Vaughna Rothery, Miss Lois Everett, Mrs. Lloyd Gosson, Mrs. Eugene Gosson of The Dalles, Mrs. Leo Watkins and Mrs. Donald Thompson of Moro. Games were played and clothes were given as prizes. A grand prize was given the holder of the most clothes tags which was Mrs. Donald Thompson. Refreshments were served by the hostesses at the end of the afternoon.

F. C. Givens of Castle Rock, Wn., accompanied by his brother-in-law and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Symmons of Amarillo, Texas, came recently and returned the Givens' children Johnny, Bill and Kathryn to their home. The children had spent six weeks at the Bruckert ranch.



This picture of the broken convex, one side concave and one side straight. The upper elevator shows how the wheat part of the concrete work did spill out from pressure of its weight. Approximately 30,000 bushels were in the four sided removed bin, two sides of which were

Utility Valuations Smaller Part of County's Total

Valuation of public utilities in Sherman county has been decreased by the state tax commission for the coming tax year according to information received by county assessor Clair Balzer this week.

Actual valuation is not less but it is assessed at less because of a change in the county ratio, a change that was made in all counties in an effort at equalization.

In the 1951 legislature a bill was introduced to make utilities pay an excise tax to the state as other corporations do. They protested that their valuations were higher than privately held property and the state tax commission is apparently moving to equalize the apparent discrepancy.

Largest utility is the Union Pacific which is valued at \$1,257,292.50 although the figure includes \$8453.50 of Oregon Trunk. Valuation of the main line is \$44,520 per mile and valuation of the branch line is \$6360, with yard and side being approximately half as much per mile.

The Western Union telegraph company is valued at \$7281.21 and the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company at \$133,165.68, which includes 1,444 miles at \$92.22 per mile. The Rufus water company is assessed at \$1908 and the Maryhill Ferry at \$4390.

The Pacific Power & Light company is held worth for assessment purposes \$173,650.

Valuations are based on a 52 percent ratio, lower by five than was used last year. Utility valuations are made each year by the state tax commission; other property is revalued at the will of the assessor.

Unemployment Up In Oregon

Unemployment in Oregon is running from 15 to 30 percent higher than a year ago and no serious shortage of harvest workers is expected for at least another week or two, according to reports from local offices of the State Unemployment Compensation commission.

Claims for compensation filed since the beginning of the 1952-3 benefit year July 1 have reached 14,787 as compared with 12,603 a year ago, while payments to insured workers last month totalled \$469,156, an increase of 31 percent over the same period of 1951.

Only one area, McMinnville, now has an actual shortage of harvest help, although Salem, Eugene and other valley offices anticipate heavy demands by mid-August. Labor surpluses were reported from practically all districts despite considerable bean picking during the past week.

Gearhart Leaving Moro Church for Ojai, California

Rev. William W. Gearhart has received a call from the Community Presbyterian church of Ojai, California and was released by the local church to accept it. The Gearharts will leave about the middle of September to accept the call.

The church at Ojai has over 250 members and a good plant and manse for Christian work, reports Mr. Gearhart who also said that he was sorry to leave the friends he has made during his stay in Moro.

The local church board agreed at its meeting Sunday to improve the manse here to make it more modern. At the regular meeting August 17 a committee will be named to search for a minister to fill the place being vacated by Rev. Gearhart.

Portland Conservation Class Comes For Practical Information

A class in conservation led by Dr. Ruth E. Hopson, instructor in Portland's summer session of Oregon State System of Higher Education came to the W. E. Bruckert ranch to see a farm conservation plan in actual operation.

They toured the ranch Saturday afternoon and discussed the various operations with Henry Grabenhorst, supervisor of Sherman county's conservation district and Zeke Madden, field man from the Oregon State Game commission.

The party spent the night at the Bruckert home.

Sunday morning they spent several hours at the Sherman county branch of the experiment station at Moro where Mr. and Mrs. George Mitchell showed and explained various experiments, after which the party returned to Portland.

Among those attending were two former Sherman countians, Errol Reece, supervisor of schools for Multnomah county and Ernest Webb of Beaverton. Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Knighten and daughter Anajean joined the group Saturday evening.

Driving Off Road Most Dangerous

What type of Oregon traffic accident is most likely to kill?

It depends on where you are, reports the state traffic safety division. If you're on the road outside of any city or town, running off the roadway will land you in the morgue more certainly than any other type of mishap. Colliding with one other car will do it almost, but not quite, as certainly.

In town, the surest way to end it all in traffic is to run, walk or step into the path of an oncoming car. Last year, city pedestrian fatalities in Oregon totaled 42, as compared with 31 victims of fatal two-car collisions.

On the "open highway" last year, running off the roadway claimed 105 lives while two-car collisions inflicted an even 100 deaths, reversing the pattern noted the year before when vehicular collisions led in fatalities. The division said a total of 75,147 accidents were reported in 1951, a new all-time high for Oregon.



U.S. JETS PERFORM FOR QUEEN . . . In Athens, Greece, Frederika, the queen of the Greek people, watches the maneuver patterns of a formation of American jet fighter airplanes over the Eleusina airport. Present at the ceremony, which was marked by the turning over of a squadron of American jets to the Greek air force, were Greek and foreign officials. The jets are to be used by the Greeks in the defense of their homeland from any aggressor who may strike.