

Wasco News

Mrs. Joe Drinkard

The amateur hour went over with a big bang Saturday evening. There was a record crowd out to see and hear the singing, dancing and musical instrument playing. The program was divided into four sections. Sherrill Christopherson won first prize with the song "May the Good Lord Bless and Keep You." She was accompanied by her father and his electric guitar. Sandra Lee Hestard also sang a song "Mommy, I Gave Away the Baby" and won second prize. Mary Ann Haven and Tom Coats tied for third. In the second unit first prize went to Lily Vaughan for her tap-baton rendition of the Military March and Jeanette Belshe won second with her piano solo.

First prize in the third section was earned by a group of boys, Robby Hastings, Jack, Jim and David Wallace and the new teacher, John McCall. Miss Sharon Laughlin was given second prize for her song "A Wonderful Guy." The fourth and last section prizes went to Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Christopherson for their accordion-guitar duet and second to Mrs. John Buck for her piano solo.

It was difficult deciding on who to vote for as each number was enjoyed as much as the last. Last but far from the least on the program was the hilarious rendition of the Tennessee Waltz which the faculty and their spouses pantomimed. As a result of their very talented performance the local public is looking forward to a program of two one-act comedies on Thursday evening March 12. One will be played by the faculty and is entitled "His First Shave" and the second played by upper grade students is "Everything Off."

Miss Marlene Beem, Miss Glena Wallace, Miss Carol Briggs, Miss Lois Everett and Miss Vanghna Rothery, spent the week end in The Dalles visiting Glena's sister, Mrs. Charles Decker. We lost our latest barber but hope to have another in the near future.

Next week will bring the annual week of dedication services to the Methodist church. There will be services starting Sunday, Mar. 8 through Friday March 13.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Tugge attended the funeral services for Mrs. A. G. Putter at Centralia, Washington, last week and also visited relatives and friends at Olympia, Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Belshe of Moro and Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Wilson of The Dalles were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Reid.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Sargent, Miss Vivian Trounce and Mrs. Esther Stanley were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Tugge.

Mrs. Margaret Blau of The Dalles attended the American Legion auxiliary meeting here Monday.

Mrs. Guy Andrews has received word that her father, Alfred Barker, is critically ill at Hazard, Kentucky.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Wallace and daughters, Debbie and Helen, visited the Glen Wallace family part of the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Lutje and family were Sunday dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Watkins and family.

The third of a series on the "Life of St. Paul" was shown at the local Christian church Sunday evening. Also another film "Bible on the Table" was shown.

Mrs. V. A. Castagnola and daughter, Colleen, are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Fields. They will remain with them until she can join her husband on Guam.

Mrs. Wiley McDonald of The Dalles was a Monday caller of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Patrick and son, Michael.

Mrs. Keith McDonald is in Mid-Columbia hospital in The Dalles with pneumonia.

A committee has been appointed to start a campaign this week to raise funds for the church work. They hope to raise enough to add some badly needed Sunday school class rooms and other repairs and improvements. Besides the Sunday school room a recreation room for young people is planned.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Sargent were hosts at a birthday dinner recently in honor of Mrs. Esther Stanley on her 85th birthday. Other guests were Mrs. A. B. Potter, Mrs. Anna Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Van Gilder, Rev. and Mrs. H. Gravenor and Miss Trounce.

Mrs. Art Smith, Mrs. Gordon Harper and Mrs. G. A. Sargent attended the Daughters of the Nile social club party at the home of Mrs. Gowans in The Dalles.

Mrs. Louis Scholl of The Dalles visited friends here last week.

Annie Fulton Chapter No 124 held a stated communication February 24. An addenda was given under ground of the order in which all members renewed their obligation, to the order. Refreshments were served by Margaret Blau and Nerine Fields.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Barnett of Weston, were overnight guests of his brother in law and sister Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Fridley.

Mrs. Violet Hoeschele of Portland was a guest last week of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Van Gilder. While here she had showings of her line of lovely costume jewelry.

Mrs. Paul Patrick and son Michael and Wiley McDonald returned recently from a weeks trip to Vallejo, California where they visited her son Kenneth Kinder before his departure for the Hawaiian Islands. He is in the naval submarine service.

Mrs. Howard Pratt left Monday for Portland where she caught a plane for Cleveland and other cities in the middle west. She will visit friends and relatives before starting home with a new Plymouth.

Mr. and Mrs. Noel Hestard of Portland were weekend guests of Mr. and Mrs. Lefty Hestard and family.

Mrs. Vieda Van Gaasbeck is spending a few days at Blalock with Mr. and Mrs. Clark Van Gaasbeck.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Van Gilder have returned from a two weeks trip to Lookout, California, also Reno, Carson City, Virginia City and the Death Valley Scotty Castle.

Mr. and Mrs. Guy Andrews spent a few days last week visiting Mr. and Mrs. Chester Andrews near Portland. They expect to return to that city late this week where she will receive medical treatment.

VETS GET TAX CUT

Disabled veterans and war widows have until April 1 to apply for a \$1500 property tax exemption available under state law, the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs reported today. Application for the exemption must be filed with the county assessor in the county where the property is located.

The special exemption on homes or personal property is available to the following persons:

1. Any war veteran with a 40 percent disability or more, as certified by the Veterans Administration or a branch of the armed forces. The veteran must obtain this statement from the Portland VA regional office or from the branch of service from which he was retired and submit it to the county assessor when he applies for the tax exemption.

2. The unmarried widow of a war veteran. She must submit proof of the husband's military service and copies of the marriage and death certificates.

3. Any union veteran of the Mexican, Civil or Indian wars.

4. Any war veteran who, lacking a disability rating from the VA or the armed forces, submits a certified statement from his physician and the county health officer that he is 40 percent disabled. The veteran in this category is not entitled to the exemption if his gross income in the last calendar year exceeded \$2500.

Widows of Spanish-American war veterans receive an additional \$500 exemption, making a total exemption of \$2000.

The applicant must submit proof that the property is recorded in his name. The exemption applies to his homestead—that is, the property he owns and on which he resides—or to his personal property. Both the claim for the exemption and the supporting evidence must be submitted on or before the April 1 deadline.

Freight Rates Expected To Stay At High Point

The highest freight rates in history are in store for most farm products shipped by rail in 1953, according to M. D. Thomas, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college.

Thomas, in his latest Agricultural Situation and Outlook circular, says freight rates probably will never be much, if any, lower. Whether they go higher or not will be determined by general economic conditions and efforts of transportation companies, producers and consumers.

Higher freight rates will hurt farmers more in the future than they have so far, advises the economist. Rail freight rates have followed farm product prices up but they have never followed them down. When prices fall, it is hard to reduce transportation costs and marketing charges.

Thomas explains that for Oregon farmers, changes in freight rates have a double-barrelled effect. Costs of transportation come out of what consumers pay for Oregon farm products. Higher rates make returns to farmers lower than they would have been otherwise. Costs of transportation are also added to prices of many things Oregon farmers and consumers buy.

Oregon farmers whose products must be shipped long distances to market need to be thinking about the immediate and long-term effects of high distribution costs, advises Thomas.

The agricultural economist says these facts stand out clearly. Freight rates on farm products are higher than ever before. They are not likely to decline very much. Efforts may be made to secure additional increases. These may be countered by efforts of producer and consumer groups. Freight costs must be paid by consumers. They come out of returns to farmers. Increases discourage farm production and may force some farmers and shippers out of business.

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Feeder Cattle Now At All-time High

Feeder cattle set an all-time record in the U. S. as of January 1, but in Oregon fewer cattle are being fed, according to a review of U. S. department of agriculture figures at Oregon State college.

The USDA estimates there are 5,836,000 head on feed throughout the nation or 16 percent over a year ago. North Central states have a new record of 23 percent more on feed than in 1952. Iowa has reported a 27 percent increase and Nebraska, 40 percent.

The West, however, has a different story with a 2 percent drop for cattle over last year. Colorado and California, the most important feeding states in the West, showed decreases of 1 and 15 percent respectively.

Fewer cattle are being fed in Oregon, Utah and Washington while Arizona and Nevada show no change. Idaho, New Mexico, Montana and Wyoming have more cattle on feed and Texas and Oklahoma also report an increase in feed lot cattle.

Corn belt feeders intend to market their feeder stock at a faster rate than last year, with 41 percent of the January 1 inventory expected to hit the markets by April 1. However, marketings of better grades may be up only slightly in the next few months.

COUNTY RAMBLIN'S By T. W. Thompson.

Nomad alfalfa has received considerable publicity lately relative to its use with grass for dry-land pasture. Additional information needs to be gathered regarding its use & adaptability under various Oregon conditions. We would like to secure a few farmers here in Sherman county to participate in a "standard grazing trial" using Nomad and other alfalfas under dry-land conditions. Range lands at present do not have legume plants to supply nitrogen to increase forage production. An alfalfa that could survive under varying soil conditions during dry years would be a great benefit to our range and pasture lands.

The general plan for the grazing trials is to use Nomad, Rhizoma, and Sevelra in comparison to Ladak and Ranger alfalfa. The first mentioned varieties are all known to have the creeping habit. These alfalfas would be planted in combination with grass in five separate plots. One plot would be free from alfalfa to compare production in comparison to grass alone.

Information about these alfalfas relative to elevation, rainfall, soil, grazing method, resistance

to brush, type of stands, etc., is needed. We would appreciate farmers desiring to cooperate in these pasture trials to contact this office. It is hoped at least three trials scattered over the county may be started this spring. We would prefer ten acre or larger plots for the trials.

Wheat Certification

Wheat varieties approved for certification in Oregon for 1953 have been announced by H. E. Finnell, certification specialist. Varieties acceptable this year are Federation, Golden, Idaed, Brevor, Rex M. I., Elmar, Rio, White Federation 38, White Holland, and Baart 38. Sherman county farmers desiring to participate in the certification program have until June 1 to make their application for certification. Fee charges for wheat are \$2.50 application fee and 30c acre certification fee.

Wireworm Control for Potatoes

Potatoes in Sherman county are often damaged by wireworm. A newly approved chemical for wireworm control called "Aldrin" should be of help to the potato grower. On an acre basis from two to five pounds of this material is recommended when mixed with the upper four inches of soil. Art

Johnson plans to use a rotary tiller to mix the Aldrin into the soil for wireworm control. Plowing following application would bury the insecticide too deep to be effective.

The Bill Coons have obtained twenty head of bummer lambs from the Friday ranch, Antelope. A bummer lamb project is an excellent 4-H project for boys and girls. Lambs are readily obtained and with a little work the club member can clear a nice profit. A project could still be started for this year with exhibit at the county fair in September.

Rainboard planned

Talk about weather and rainfall is always a major topic with farm people. Many folks now have rain gauges. We are initiating a county rainboard in our office to list monthly rainfall records. We hope to secure rainfall information from farmers scattered throughout the county along with weather stations at Wasco, Moro, and Kent. We would appreciate any folks keeping rainfall records on their farms to cooperate in our rainfall board. We would need monthly records which will be posted in the court house hall where all people can compare rainfall information over the county.

Dr. Frank D. Reid
DENTIST
will not be in his office until April 1st. For appointments call Moro 302

The Gay Shop Opens February 3 with Lovely Spring and Summer merchandise, including Dresses, Blouses, Slips, Jackets Jewelry and Baby Gifts
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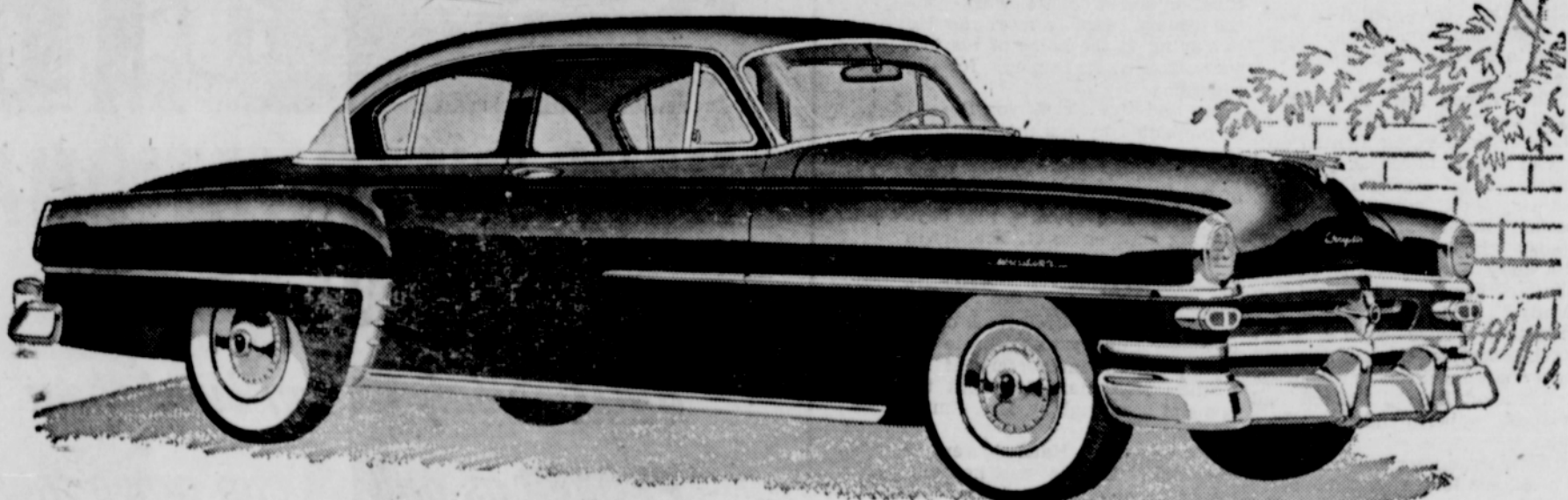
Before 1950, M. L. Neace and his sons Merwin and Lawrence, Dayton, Wash., farmers, rotated wheat and green peas—without a weed control or fertilizer program. (Morning glory had long infested their ranch.)

"This year, by fertilizing and weed spraying—under guidance of Warren Marshall, now head agronomist for Knettles Farm Management Service—we obtained the highest wheat yield I can remember. His advice as to kind and amount of fertilizer, time of application and amount of herbicide to use, the reclaiming of areas improperly treated with salt, and diagnosis of sulfur deficiency—PROVED VERY HELPFUL AND PROFITABLE."

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