

Sherman County Journal
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Giles L. French Editor

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ROAD TAX

For two years Sherman county has raised a special fund for roads by levying six mills on property outside the towns. The levy has been made through use of an old law which was written for use in the days when road districts were small and residents of them few. It provided that ten residents of a road district may petition the county court to call a meeting and that those present at the meeting may levy up to ten mills on the property of the district.

The county began to use this system after special levies had been defeated by the voters.

The 1953 legislature amended the law under which levies had been made for the past two years. Hereafter an election will be held in addition to the meeting and everyone can vote, not merely those who attend the meeting. The legislature failed to provide that the election should be held at the usual polling places so only one polling place is necessary.

In Sherman county a board of five men was appointed at the first tax levying meeting to supervise the expenditure of the money. The law says that it shall be expended under the supervision of the county court. The five man board has no legal standing and gains its authority by consent of the voters and the court.

It seems likely that this county will need additional road funds for the next year. The purchase of a rock crusher and plans for grading and rocking several roads indicate an intent to improve the county roads that cannot be performed without more money than is likely to be available from the regular budget. It would be possible to hold an election under the amended law or to pass a levy over the six percent limitation by a vote of the people. But a vote of some kind will be necessary.

There is possibly one exception to the above. The law will not go into effect until July 21, that being 90 days after the end of the legislative session. It would be possible to legally make a levy at a meeting under the old law. Whether it would be legal to collect the tax in November after the method of levying the tax was invalid is a question for the courts.

The meeting has been called. It remains to be seen whether the citizens who attend will want to continue on a doubtful basis or hold an election and be sure of legality.

USELESS LAWS

The people are very wise. If law or edict or resolution is passed that seems useless to them they merely pay no attention to it. Officers who are, after all, elected by the people fall into stride and nothing is done. There exists another law filed away in the archives where it does no harm.

Thousands of such have been passed with the best of intentions and a surplus of hope that some small part of the world could be

saved by a law. The record is not such.

Some years ago the Oregon legislature passed a law making it a misdemeanor to drive slow along a highway without pulling off every so often to let the impatient go by. Fine idea, poor law. This session a law was passed making it mandatory to fly the Oregon flag over public buildings. Tish, tish. The janitor of the city hall won't even put out the United States flag on Memorial day.

The people pick out the laws they want to obey and let the majority of them lay quietly on the books and we guess that that is what democracy really means; the people are the boss after all.

NATURAL RESOURCES

This is a period in which we are hearing a lot about the socialistic theory that the government should retain all oil, gas, timber, land and other valuable portions of the public domain and manage it.

There is no question that such valuables as are on public property are owned by the government, and no question that that means all of us. Each of us owns the trees, the iron, the oil or a part of it.

So what. Shall we keep it and develop it by governmental ownership? The record shows that to be very inefficient. It is wasteful and expensive and beneficial only to the politicians who have jobs to dispense and money to play with.

Shall we sell it? In many cases there is no way to tell what it is worth because it is undeveloped. Selling is alright for some types of property and the taxes from it are often greater than the profit that would be made by government management, which is notoriously inefficient.

Leasing it or permitting development by private companies on some sort of royalty basis works well in many cases. Timber can be sold and the land retained for future foresting. Range land can be leased if it is desired to keep control of it.

The debate, (if that is the name for it) about off-shore oil finds socialist senators casting doubt on the integrity of private business which has been so much more responsible for making this country great than government. These socialists assume that a man working for government, whether in an elective or appointive position, is naturally more honest and more efficient than anyone could be working for a private firm. That is not so.

Management of business demands efficiency to produce profit. Profit goes into research, taxes and income to the owners. Management of government tries to make political profit which is much worse than monetary profit. It pays no taxes and seldom makes any thing for the government.

PARK PROJECT

Now that the town has had a large part of its unsightly things removed to the junk yard the next project before the citizens is the rebuilding of the park.

Moro one time had a presentable park but the lack of water, attention and the changing of the water course through it have made it useless as a park. A covering of soil has buried the lawn and the stoves have been destroyed.

We are pretty definitely of the opinion that the upkeep of a park in a town of this size is not the job of the city alone. It must have the support and active aid of such citizens who want a park. This is because there is so great a need for volunteer labor.

The young people have become interested, especially the high school group and if they want to they can make a success of the project. The city now has sufficient water—or so it appears. It

can provide some of the material needed and the interested citizens, old and young, can arrange for most of the work.

In that way, and with that kind of continuing interest, the folks of this community can have a park. If the job comes to be the job of any small group it will be of temporary existence.

RUFUS ITEMS

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Thompson live in their trailer house beside John Mathieson's house. Mrs. Thompson has been weeding and taking care of Mom Kuypers' flowers which are pretty now. Mrs. Kuypers is reported resting comfortably at the Wasco county hospital where she's been most of the time since suffering a stroke nearly two years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Langford of The Dalles were Thursday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fay Brackett.

Atlee Wilson, degree captain, had a grange degree team practice at the hall Sunday afternoon.

Moro Lodge No. 113 I.O.O.F.
 Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited.
 John E. DeMoss, N.G.
 Leo Watkins, Secretary

Bethlehem Chapter No. 78 O.E.S.
 Meets every second and fourth Thursday in each month; visiting members invited. Moro, Oregon.
 Mary O. Coons, W.M.
 Gwen Ross, Secretary

Lupine Rebekah Lodge No. 116
 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome.
 Mollie McLachlan, N.G.
 Helen Martin, Sec.

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A.F. & A.M.
 Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us.
 Robert Belshe, W.M.
 H. B. Pinkerton, Secretary

Dr. Frank D. Reid
 DENTIST
 OFFICE DAYS
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday
 Moro Hotel Bldg.

WANT ADS

Heavy studded steel T posts, 6 1/2 foot, \$2 cents. See Moro Lumber and Fuel Co.

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CUSTOM SLAUGHTERING — Meat cutting, wrapping, sharp freeze. C & C Food Store, Grass Valley, Oregon. 47-tfn

FOR SALE: Cedar Posts 30c per foot. Amos R. Robinson, Wemme, Oregon. 26-8p

FOR SALE: 4 bedroom house, 3 lots, garage, 40' x 20' shop; electric heater & range, oil heater & 265 gal. fuel tank, all goes for \$4750.00. Ivan Kirkelle Moro, Oregon. 26-tfn

WANTED: Reliable man with car part or full time, to call on farmers in Sherman county, \$15 to \$20 in a day. No experience or capital required. Write today. McNESS CO., Dept. B, 2423 Magnolia St., Oakland 7, Cal. 26-7

WE USUALLY OWN and offer for sale at prevailing market prices, the ownership stock shares of Meier & Frank Co., Pacific Power & Light, Consolidated Fr'ghtways, Arden Farms, and numerous others. Free analysis furnished. Income yields up to 7 percent, payable quarterly. Taxwise advantages afforded.

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FOR SALE: Good irrigated pasture, hay and cattle ranches, Umatilla county. From 10 acres on up to good sized places; good water rights, low altitude, long growing season, paved and market roads, mail and school bus routes; electricity and telephone; all have improvements. For further particulars please call or write W. H. Morrison, Realtor, Phone 475 or 1607, P. O. Box 781, Pendleton, Ore. 27-8c

LOST: Boston Terrier in Wasco Sunday night, cataract on one eye. Name: Mike. Notify Bon Christianson, Moro or J. O. Stanek, The Dalles 27c

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LEGAL NOTICES

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION
 Meeting of the Board of Equalization for Sherman County.

To the taxpayers of Sherman County, Oregon:
 Notice is hereby given that the Board of Equalization for Sherman County, Oregon, will attend at the County Court Room of the Sherman County Court House, Moro, State of Oregon, on the second Monday of May, or May 11, 1953, and publicly examine the assessment rolls, correct all errors in valuation, description or qualities of lands, lots or oth-

er property assessed by such assessor; and it shall be the duty of persons interested to appear at the time and place appointed. Each petition or application for the reduction of a particular assessment shall be in writing verified by the oath of the applicant or his attorney, and shall be filed with the board within the first week it is by law required to be in session; and any petition or application not so made, verified and filed shall not be considered or acted upon by the board. Each such petition or application shall state thereon the address to which notice of the action of the Board of Equalization shall be sent.

CLAIR L. BALZER
 Sherman County Assessor
 25-7c

NOTICE OF DISTRICT ROAD MEETING, DISTRICT NO. 1, SHERMAN COUNTY, OREGON

NOTICE is hereby given that in pursuance of a petition duly signed by the required number of freeholders and bona-fide residents of Road District No. 1, Sherman County, Oregon, and presented to the County Court of Sherman County, Oregon, a district road meeting of the legal voters of said Road District No. 1 will be held in the circuit court room of the courthouse in Moro, Oregon, on Monday, May 11, 1953, at the hour of 2:00 P. M., for the purpose of voting an additional tax not to exceed 10 mills on the dollar on all taxable property in said road district, the fund to be raised by such additional tax to be expended under the supervision of the County Court upon the roads within said road district within one year from the collection of said tax.

This notice is given in pursuance of an order of the County Court for Sherman County, Oregon, duly made and entered on April 1, 1953.

Dated this 22nd day of April, 1953.

C. A. Tom
 County Judge
 25-27c

NOTICE OF SCHOOL ELECTION in the RURAL SCHOOL DISTRICT of SHERMAN COUNTY, OREGON, upon QUESTION of INCREASING TAX LEVY over Amount Limited by Section 11, Article XI, State Constitution

Notice is hereby given that an election will be held Monday, May 18, 1953, by the Rural School District of Sherman County, Oregon, in all component school districts of said Rural School Dis-

trict. The election will begin at 2:00 p.m. and will be held in the school house in each of said component districts. The purpose of the election is to submit to the legal voters of the rural school district the question of increasing the tax levy for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1953, over the amount limited by Section 11, Article XI, of the Constitution.

The reasons for increasing such levy are: The Rural School District base is too low to permit the raising of sufficient funds for operating the schools.

The amount of tax, in excess of the six per cent limitation proposed to be levied by the rural school district of Sherman County, Oregon, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1953, is \$169,795.46. Dated this 21 day of April, 1953.

ATTEST: Willy W. Knighten
 Secretary, Rural School Board
 C. O. Burnet
 Chairman, Rural School Board
 24-27c

NOTICE OF FINAL HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Sherman County his Final Report and Account as Administrator, with the will annexed, of the estate of Bismark Scholl, Deceased, and that Saturday, May 23, 1953, at ten o'clock A. M. of said day, at the County Courtroom in the Courthouse, at Moro, Oregon, has been fixed by the Court as the time and place for hearing of objections to said Final Report and Account and the settlement of said estate.

Geo. G. Updegraff
 24-7c

NOTICE OF HEARING ON FINAL ACCOUNT
 Estate No. 568

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned administrator of the estate of Thomas M. Garrett, deceased, has filed in the County Court of Sherman County, Oregon, her final account in said estate, and that said Court has fixed the 8th day of June, 1953, at the hour of ten o'clock A. M. on said day, and the court room of said Court, as the time and place for hearing objections, if any, to said final account and for the settlement thereof.

Dated and first published this 5th day of May, 1953.
 Date of last publication June 5, 1953.
 PEARL GARRETT, Administrator, Grass Valley, Oregon
 A. J. Moore, Bend, Oregon
 Attorney for Administrator
 27-31c

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