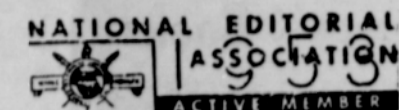


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OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER



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BUTCHERING

It used to happen about this time of year. The neighborhood all knew about it having been told and nearly all of them came. Thus it was a cooperative endeavor, the crew moving about from one farm to another.

Farmers used to get together to butcher the hogs each one had kept for winter's meat. Not much beef was eaten because there was no way to keep it except by trading quarters among the neighbors. Pork could be cured.

Some farmers, usually an elderly man took over the sticking job because he knew how. A cold day was preferred and a little snow made the job of dragging the dead but still kicking porker over to the vat, a tin bodied trough that usually made the rounds of the community easier. Water in it has been heating since dawn which wasn't too long for the snow in the pig's hair usually chilled it.

After some moving the hog about in the water by means of ropes the hair began to slip and he was rolled onto a platform of old boards or a hastily removed barn door. Workers fell to with scrapers and knives and slipped the hair off leaving a gleaming white skin.

With some grunting and heaving the carcass was hauled up to a scaffold and dressed by someone proficient in that art, while the others went back to the pen for another hog.

A day's work was the number needed, be it four or twelve. Women cooked dinner which, like community dinners of all kinds, was sufficient for twice the number present.

After a night of chilling there was the job of cutting up and grinding sausage and curing and smoking. Farmers seldom did a very good job because they wanted their meat to last into the following summer and that was too long.

Prosperity has done away with that community activity. Farmers eat more beef and have that killed by a professional and should they kill hogs the same professional gets the job. Then it is packed away in a cooler. Another one of the rural arts has been lost—to most farmers a good riddance.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

The mail box is full each day with unsealed envelopes bearing greetings from distant places; the annual run of Christmas cards. The word "run" is not used carelessly for it is like a run of salmon or of smelt, coming at a given season of the year.

They come in all sizes, large and small, wide and long and each has a message none the less welcome because stereotyped. Some friend remembered us whether in gratitude for something that happened during the year, curiosity to find out if we still lived, or because we had sent a card last year.

Christmas cards are a nuisance to busy postoffice clerks who must handle millions of them at the same time as other greetings in more substantial form are crowding the mail bags. And many people profess to think them useless and an affectation.

They are worth just as much as they are meant to convey. If sent in pleasant remembrance to a friend or old acquaintance they are as cheering as any thought. Most of them, no doubt, are so sent.

TIGHT PANTS

A newsmen, looking for something to brighten the pages, has discovered a fashion designer for men who says that men should wear pants high enough to show their socks and display the style of their shoes and that the pants should be cut narrower so as to be tighter.

No one should blame the designer. He is getting his idea from young men who wear overalls cut in what some one thinks is a western style. Participants in rodeos are wont to adorn themselves in pants so tight as to be practically disgraceful on the opposite sex. Young men have adopted the style and apparently with only one discouraging feature,

they can't get their hands in their pockets.

So much for the tightness which we are sure is not going to be accepted although as a relief from the prevalent slacks which are as lacking in grace as a draped Indian blanket, the trend may be an improvement.

Men are not going to wear their pants above their ankles, either. In fact, it is all many of them can do to keep them high enough to keep from dragging. Socks, as now made, are ill designed to become an outside garment, even the pseudo-Argyles are more like a poster than a painting. Besides it is winter.

TAXES DOWN

The monthly financial report of the Oregon state tax commission shows a reduction of over two million dollars when compared to the 1952 collections for the same five month period. Even so the collections are six million more than for 1950-51 when a total of \$14,231,969.95 was collected from both income and corporation taxes. This year the total is \$20,368,996.72.

Those who have the habit of looking for trouble can find lots of it in these preliminary returns and can deduce whatever dire predictions their imagination permits therefrom.

The fact remains that the 1951 and the 1953 legislatures went right on spending money. True, there was a backlog of money on hand which is not so large now, although it will probably turn out to be larger than expected.

There will come a time when the state will have to start curtailing its expenditures and that time should come at the same time individual citizens have to do the same. A government that keeps on spending when private incomes are low is out of touch with the realities. In cases of emergency some extra government aid may be necessary, but we have no emergency, only a leveling off of wartime inflation.

Anyone can trim a budget if he can stand the squawks and the legislature will trim the budget when there are more squawks on the economy side than on the spending side. Property tax payers are especially concerned for under the present law they are the next line of defense. If they do not wish to pay added taxes they should begin to organize to prevent it.

TRAFFIC DEATHS

Many of those who speak of the annual traffic toll blame speed for a large part of it. The record doesn't bear them out.

In the latest report from the state highway department showing 27 accidents and 34 deaths only two are directly ascribed to speed.

Most of the deaths were caused by carelessness of one kind or another.

Teaching drivers and pedestrians to be careful is a much harder job than teaching them to drive slowly. Learning to regard an automobile as a dangerous weapon might help but probably not much. People are careless about everything and always have been, remember the accidents with buggy teams because some of the rigging came loose and the innumerable accidents in the home.

NEWS CONFERENCE

President Eisenhower did himself a lot of good Wednesday when he permitted broadcasting of his news conference of that day. First, the nation received (those who listened) direct statements by the president and not the interpretations of news writers; second, the president showed that he was a sincere official, trying his best to do the best he could for the nation. His tone of voice, his frankness in acknowledging that he didn't know details, both showed him to be an honest citizen, and a courageous one.

This nation now has, according to story, enough bombs to surpass all the burned powder of past wars. Yet, a good sized earthquake might do more damage than all of it. Man wants to be careful he doesn't get too big for his britches.

This is a good time of year to find out from yourself whether or not you like as many people as like you.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE: The County Court of Sherman County, Oregon, has appointed William Harry Ragdale and John L. Seacy as joint executors of the estate of WILLIAM H. RAGDALE, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are required to present them with proper vouchers to the undersigned executors at the office of the County Clerk, Sherman County Court House, Moro, Oregon, within six months from December 18, 1953.

Moro Lodge No. 113 I.G.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

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

Bethlehem Chapter No. 18 O.E.S.
Meets every second and fourth Thursday in each month. Visiting members invited.
Mary O. Coons, W.M.
Gwen Ross, Secretary

Spencer & Libby
Funeral home
100 KELLY AVE.
A name closely associated in the public mind with dependability

WILLIAM HARRY RAGDALE
Executor
JOHN L. SEACY, Executor
PATTERSON, BUSH, & BRADLEY, Attorneys for Executors. 7-11c

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

All persons having claims against the Estate of Ralph P. Brishine, deceased, are hereby notified to present them, with the proper vouchers, and duly verified, to the undersigned, the duly appointed, qualified, and acting Executrix of the Estate of Ralph P. Brishine, deceased, at the office of T. Lester Johnson, attorney at law, Moro, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice, to-wit: December 11, 1953.
Havie Stella Brishine, Executrix
T. Lester Johnson, Attorney for Executrix. 6-9c

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR THE COUNTY OF SHERMAN
In the Matter of the Adoption of
Sheri Lynn Arstall, a minor
CITATION
To LUCY LORRAINE ARSTILL, mother of the above named minor: IN THE NAME OF THE STATE OF OREGON.

You are hereby notified that there has been filed in this Honorable Court a verified petition of William Harold Arstall and Marie Catherine Arstall, praying for an order of this Court declaring said minor child to be the adopted child of the petitioner, Marie Catherine Arstall.

Now, therefore, you are hereby cited and directed to appear in the County Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Sherman, at the court room thereof, in the court house in Moro, Oregon, on the 6th day of January, 1954, at 10:00 o'clock A. M. of that day, then and there to show cause, if any you have, why said minor child, Sheri Lynn Arstall, should not be by this Court declared to be the adopted child of the said Marie Catherine Arstall.

WITNESS, the Honorable C. A. Tom, Judge of the County Court of the State of Oregon, with the seal of said Court affixed, this 25th day of November, 1953.

ATTEST: Marie Hoskinson, Clerk
Sherman County Seal 5-6-7-8c

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WANT ADS

FOR SALE: Year old New Hampshire hens. \$1 each. Mrs. O. L. Martin, Moro. 7-8p
THIS IS YOUR LAST CHANCE
LIST your farm machinery now or before December 21 for Dave Spoonhour's big machinery auction sale to be at Arlington, Oregon about January 12.

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

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. 26fn

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WATKINS DEALERSHIP: Make up to \$500 a month and more if you qualify for the Watkins Dealership in Sherman county. Car or truck required. No money required. Write J. R. Watkins Company, 137 Dexter Ave., Seattle 9, Wash. 6-11c

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