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Sherman County Journal

Sixty-Sixth Year No. 9

Moro, Oregon Friday, January 1, 1954

County Official Pa

These Things We Note

By Giles L. French

Wealth is often suspected of being the father of arrogance. T T W N

The trouble about learning is what you already know; and the trouble with what you already know is that it may not be correct. T T W N

Uncle Emmett thinks he has found a solution for too much government: why not send congressmen to foreign countries permanently? T T W N

Days of peace may not be so profitable as days of war but there's no blood on the money. T T W N

Who do you suppose "brainwashed" that Missouri Republican turned Democrat? T T W N

The government hasn't moved to do anything about the huge crop of babies although it is adding to public expense at a great rate. T T W N

All this talk about recession or not leads to the belief that we can have which ever one we work to get. T T W N

Portlanders are finding that if you use an automobile too much you have to use it all the time. T T W N

Doesn't it beat the deuce how men strive to keep away from the security of our prisons? T T W N

The longer one has kept bad habits the harder they will be to change, just in case someone would like to make some New Year resolutions. T T W N

Too bad that fellow Shoulders is in trouble. He has such an appropriate name for a cop. And by the way do you happen to know of a policeman by the name of Feet; that would be better yet. T T W N

In the boxing game they used to draw the color line and a darn good thing they did for now the colored boys have most of the championships. T T W N

Frankie Sinatra's troubles cause us to doubt whether a voice is the best thing to hold a wife with or not. T T W N

The best thing about Syngman Rhee is his age. T T W N

From what we note about the new Bonneville administrator we'll bet that Bonneville will be less in the news than it has been, Mr. Pearl not looking like a man who likes hot water. T T W N

Uncle Emmett says that some men love their wives because they know they are too mean to ever get another one. T T W N

Wonder what a cop thinks about New Years eve; probably about what the celebrant thinks about it January 1. T T W N

A news story says that Americans are spending twice as much for liquor as for religion and charity and education. Well, says the cynic, they wouldn't give that much if they weren't drunk. T T W N

Movie men couldn't make the films better so they made the screen bigger. T T W N

We feel sorry for Barbara Huton and maybe that is because we feel sorry for the men she has married. T T W N

Under "Good Reading" in the Oregon Journal is notice of a story about a Rose Queen's injured knee. The editor is no royalist, we note. T T W N

One of the common ills of American politics is that too many blatherskites get elected by their interperate talk. T T W N

This is a time of year for wondering about oneself, his past and future. How many blame themselves, how many the conditions, how many others for their bad luck? T T W N

A private power man often wants public power too; a public power man wants the whole thing. T T W N

Happy New Year. T T W N

Tax Man of the Year Highway 97 Gets Improvement In State Program



Edward B. Hamilton, Polk county clerk, has been named Oregon's first "taxpayers' man of the year" by Oregon Business & Tax Research for conspicuous service as an elected tax-spending public official.

His citation by the taxpayers' association was for turning back to the county \$4,479 or 24.8 per cent of his 1953-54 \$18,000 budget while adding efficiency features to his office operation. Mr. Hamilton's 1954-55 budget was only \$17,864 with a 10 per cent staff salary increase included.

"Mr. Hamilton's conspicuous service as clerk was proof that public business can be operated on a private business economy basis," F. H. Young, the taxpayer association's manager asserted. "The amount of dollars saved was not large but to spend less than permitted was unusual." Hamilton has had lumber company experience, was an employee of the Oregon WW I vets' commission. Ill health forced him off a farm and into county politics.

Hamilton's community service, according to the Oregon Business & Tax Research announcement, includes draft board chairman, county budget committee, Legion post commander, county welfare board, National Guard battalion major.

Naming a "taxpayers' man of the year" will be an annual recognition by Oregon Business & Tax Research.

Oregon Crops Good In Most Fields

A year-end look at Oregon crop values in 1953 shows many of the state's farmers fared quite well in spite of the declining price level. Marion Thomas, extension agricultural economist at OSC, says there were some striking gains over 1952.

Changing supply and demand conditions, coupled with a break from the weather, brought more money into the pockets of strawberry, cherry and Bartlett pear growers, the economists reports.

The 6-million dollar take from cherries was nearly double the rather disappointing return in 1952. This year's all-time record strawberry crop was worth almost 10 million dollars, or about 1 1/2 million more than the year before. Bartlett pears found better-than-usual fresh market outlets, largely due to a short crop in California, and brought growers a gross of better than 5 million—up a full million from 1952.

Wheat, long the state's leading cash crop, set new highs, Thomas states. A record crop, benefiting from government support prices, rated a farm value of more than 73 million dollars.

No other crop came near the wheat total, reports the economist although vegetables for processing showed consistent gains over 1952. Processors paid out more than 7 million dollars for snap beans, 5 million for green peas, and 2 1/2 million for Oregon sweet corn.

The total for these three crops was about a million dollars greater than the previous year. Oregon's most important seed crop, ryegrass, came up with higher prices and smaller production but kept total value about the 5 million dollar level.

In sharp contrast with these gains, Thomas reports lower values of several other important crops. Light yields cut walnut and filbert returns almost in half; lower prices are having a similar effect on potatoes and onions; and removal of supports on clover seeds let the bottom fall out of the market in 1953. Values of other crops like hops, peppermint, hay and barley also dipped sharply during the year.

ABOUT THE COUNTY

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Waldroff of Sunnyside, Wash., were here for the Christmas holidays with her sister, Mrs. Stan Coelsch and her mother, Mrs. Gladys Morrison.

Miss Edith Paulson, primary teacher, spent the school holidays in Portland on business.

Mrs. Ruby Grabbe of San Francisco presented the Grass Valley-Kent Boy Scout Troop 362 with a ten foot American flag at a recent meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Olan Stark and family, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Peters and sons Herman and Arden, Mrs. W. D. Barnett and Mr. and Mrs. Willard Barnett and son, Keith spent Christmas eve at the Harold Owens home.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Thompson went to Portland Wednesday to be there in time for the big bowl games Friday. They weren't the only ones. The lure of television took several to the city.

Highway 97 Gets Improvement In State Program

All but a few miles of Highway 97 from the Columbia river to California is in process of being realigned by the state highway commission according to a strip map received from Commissioner Charles H. Reynolds of LaGrande.

Some of the work will be done within the next four or five years and by that time the entire road will have been changed. The project calls for realigning the road between Moro and Kent in 1957-58 although it has been surveyed. Work will also be done farther north and surveys will be run below Wasco to straighten out the canyon road.

Only work scheduled for this county this year is the rebuilding of the underpass south of Moro where preliminary work has already been started. This is a \$103,000 job and badly needed because of the danger of the narrow and crooked bit of road.

Next April a contract is to be let for improvement of the Shanks Junction Willowdale section which will cost \$1,000,000 and eliminate some turns. A change is due north of Terrebonne where the short turn at Crooked river will be eliminated and the highway south of Bend is being straightened to make this route one of the fastest and straightest in the state.

It is called a truck route because the huge trucks moving freight from north to south favor this road with its easy grades and infrequent turns.

Sherman County Fails In Bond Buying

Oregon residents continued their "savings spree" last month by setting aside over \$2 million 333 thousand in series E and H savings bonds.

"This represents a 40 per cent increase over the corresponding period in 1952", according to Giles French, county chairman, "and reflects one of the highest monthly increases since the end of World War II."

County sales during November in E and H series bonds amounted to \$8,154.

He pointed out that the healthy savings bonds pattern in Oregon was also reflected across the nation. Almost \$440 million in series E and H bonds were sold, an increase of 25 per cent over November of last year. "November redemptions of matured and unmaturing bonds were \$25 million less than sales."

US Bank Sending Trust Expert

The United States National bank's trust department is now planning its 1954 series of estate and trust forums.

Residents of Moro and surrounding community will be invited to the forum which will be presented in The Dalles, E. C. Sammons, U. S. National president, announced. Similar meetings held in the past have been well attended by men and women interested in estate planning and economical management.

The U. S. National has pioneered in Oregon in bringing trust information to the general public through these forums. During the past four years, attendance has totaled nearly 8,000.

The new series will be held in the evening and will be open to both men and women. Exact time and place for The Dalles meeting will be announced later, according to C. A. Reynolds, manager of The Dalles branch.

The need for a will, misconceptions regarding estate planning and administration, danger of tax pyramiding effect on estate when not properly planned will be among the subjects discussed.

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John Struthers, a 16 year old junior at Lincoln high school in Portland, became the 2000th member of the First National Bank of Portland's family of this week, C. B. Stephenson, bank president announced.

The youth is president of the Achievers Bank of Portland, a Junior Achievement company counseled by First National. Two months ago Struthers presented Stephenson with a share of stock in the Achievers bank which the

banker had purchased, and since that time the young man has been keeping close tab on the progress of First National stock sales, awaiting his opportunity to purchase a share and became the 2000th stockholder.

A survey taken at the time of the share of stock to Struthers revealed that more than 84 per cent of the bank's shareholders are residents of the state of Oregon.

More Wine Drunk Less Whiskey

Apparent consumption in Oregon of table wines increased 22% during the last fiscal year, according to an analysis by the Oregon liquor control commission while gallonage sales of whiskey and other distilled spirits declined .5%, and malt beverage consumption showed a slight increase of .25%. Gallonage sales of dessert wines increased 6%.

Collection of privilege taxes on 884,137.38 barrels of malt beverages—each barrel containing 31 gallons—indicates apparent consumption of 27,408,258 gallons for the year ending June 30, 1953. Tax collections on table wines indicate consumption of 851,150 gallons of wine containing not more than 14% alcohol by volume an increase of 22%. Table wines are sold to the public by licensees of the commission. Sales of dessert wines of greater alcoholic content which are sold exclusively by OLCC stores and agencies reached 150,128 gallons, a 6% increase as compared with the preceding fiscal year.

Sales of spirituous liquor, such as whiskey, amounted to 1,997,078 gallons during the fiscal year, a decline of 10,137 gallons or .5%.

Livestock Industry To Meet At Corvallis

Representatives of the entire livestock and meat industry are meeting at Corvallis on January 6 and 7, 1954 to develop a better working relationship among all segments of the industry from producer through consumer.

The recent break in livestock prices, position in the cattle and hog cycle, reduced lamb prices despite low sheep numbers; The cost-price squeeze confronting all segments of the livestock and meat industry, increasing costs of marketing services, and possible opportunities for market promotional work prompted action to be taken at this time.

Six committees have been organized and are participating. They are consumers, producers, livestock marketing agencies, packers, retailers and labor. Each of these groups has been asked to take part because all are integral parts of the livestock and meat industry. Because of their interdependence, any recommendations should consider the welfare of each—thus calling for the active participation by all groups.

Questions which have been raised include: Market information on livestock and meats, our present concepts of quality in terms of consumer demand, advertising and promotion relating to consumer information, cost, state and federal laws on livestock and meat marketing, and mutual understanding of the position of other groups.

The role of the extension service in this pre-conference work is to provide facilities and personnel to assist, and not to promote or set policies.

Boy Scout Board PASSES Six On Eagle Scout Test

An Eagle board of review was held at Grass Valley Monday night with Kenneth Libby, chairman of this district, heading a board of officers and citizens who questioned a group of candidates for Eagle Scout honors.

Board members were Gordon Acker, John McGraw, Dr. J. Minnick, Charles Harmon, James Mapes, Laurence Wiley, from the Dalles, J. E. Norton, L. E. Pinkney, B. C. Pinkney, Marcus Eslinger and Eugene Knott from Sherman county together with Jim Jones and Harold Eakin, master and assistant of Troop 362, Grass Valley and Kent.

Boys passing the test were Gene Cantrall, Larry Easter, Harry Eakin, Larry Kaseberg, Ronald Rolfe and Gene Knott who will become official Eagle Scouts at a court of honor which will probably be held in February.

Cloud Seeding Going Ahead; Not Proven

Important advances in the technique for analyzing results of cloud seeding are reported by three OSC physicists. They believe their improved method will yield a much better measurement of the merits of "rain making."

To date, using their technique on an analysis of cloud seeding efforts in Sherman, Gilliam, and Morrow counties, the meteorologists have not found any spectacular increases in rainfall which could be credited to the seeding.

After considering the use of the modern tools for measuring the rainfall—including radar—the OSC scientists have retained the old-fashioned standard rain gauge as still the most reliable indicator.

To analyze the results of the commercial cloud seeding operations in the tri-county area, they have compared average daily precipitation amounts at nine official stations in the "target area" with average amounts at stations along a line from Portland to Eugene.

Daily precipitation figures are handled statistically in a "multiple factor formula" which includes important new features in checking results. The formula takes into account various weather factors such as the air flow pattern, location of the storm center, upper air conditions and general precipitation pattern in the northwest.

With the system, therefore, they are able to say how much precipitation would have been provided each day by nature alone in the three counties.

The three scientists, Fred W. Decker, John A. Day and Russell L. Lincoln, have been working on their system this year for the OSC agricultural experiment station. The Oregon wheat commission is financing the study.

Cloud seeding operations have been conducted in the eri-county region since September 1950, under a series of contracts between the wheat growers and various commercial cloud seeding firms.

Cpl. Herman Peters came home Thursday from Fort Lewis and spent the Christmas weekend with his parents Mr. and Mrs. Herman Peters.

Tom Reese Has Letter From Almost Forgotten Fultonville, Early Dav Postoffice

Tom S. Reese has a letter which adds something to the rather scanty information that is available about Fultonville. His letter is one written by his late wife's uncle, Oak Starns, August 31, 1884 and he prefaced it with the place name Fultonville and then added Wasco, Oregon. It was written to Robert Starns at Monroe, Oregon.

Fultonville was a postoffice established by James Fulton who came across the Deschutes river in 1882 to purchase the north quarter of Section 25, A. L. Fulton bought the southeast quarter of adjoining Section 26 in Township 2 North, 15 East of Willamette Meridian. Later maps show ownership as residing in C. F. Fulton.

The location of Fultonville is near the site of the cabins owned by Mrs. Walter Carlisle. A townsite was platted after a fashion although no trace of official or unofficial map remains. One lot was sold, Lot 2, Block 1, and the absence of a map makes it impossible to tell exactly where it was or is—for that deed was not recorded here.

The first postmaster was James Fulton who served from January

5, 1882 until August 25, 1885 when Thomas J. Miller succeeded him. The office was closed September 22, 1886 and papers directed to Biggs. Alice S. Huck apparently received a commission as postmaster August 3, 1911 but the national archives indicate that this order was rescinded.

There was also a postoffice called Deschutes near the mouth of that river. Its first postmaster was Rosa Burrell who started distributing letters February 20, 1888 and turned the work over to Fred A. Phelps December 14, 1892 and he kept it active until October 14, 1893 when the department directed papers to be sent to Biggs. Exact location of the Deschutes postoffice is not known although there must be elder residents who would remember.

There was a postoffice known as Deschutes Bridge established in 1860 but it was at what is now Sherar's Bridge and John Moran was postmaster.

Mr. Reese has an older letter, one written in a fine practiced hand to E. Wadsworth at Star Point, Oregon Territory on July 25, 1855 from a relative at Tillamook. Ten cents was paid for postage.

Storage Problem Worry For Elevator Men

The grain storage problem may easily become the most important one in this county for 1954. At the moment it's pressing on the minds of elevator managers and directors and by July may be very serious for farmers. A meeting is to be held at Grass Valley early this month at which membership will decide whether to build some more storage facilities or whether the farmers will be able to care for their own barley crop.

At Moro a letter has been sent to members of the cooperative telling the facts of the storage problem. It is hoped to be able to move some grain out so that a normal crop can be handled by use of the old flat houses.

Wasco has its problems also with everything full and little wheat being sold or moved by the Commodity Credit corporation which will own it by May 1.

Efforts are being made by the CCC to utilize ships docked at Astoria for storage of grain but so far this has not been made very easy. The harbor where the ships are now docked is not deep enough to hold loaded vessels and it would be necessary to find a new moorage if they were used to hold the surplus grain of the northwest.

It is possible that nature will care for the storage problem with a dry spring or a few days of hot wind. Prospects at the beginning of the year, however are favorable and it seems likely that wheat and barley will be stored outside or in bins if the crop materializes.

Local elevator coops have already built storage far in excess of normal uses. The county can store almost twice the average crop and further construction is not considered economic.

UP Orders More Diesel Engines

Placement of the largest single diesel locomotive order ever given one firm by a railroad was announced today by the Union Pacific railroad. The order is for 205 units, at a total cost of \$35,769,410.

Upon completion of delivery of the locomotives, expected to be by June 1, 1954, the railroad's main line between Omaha and the Pacific coast will be completely dieselized for through traffic said President Arthur E. Stoddard, who made the announcement.

The order, placed with the Electro-Motive Division of General Motors Corp., comprises 190 freight and 15 passenger locomotive units. Stoddard said.

The freight locomotives alone represent a total horsepower of 332,500 and theoretically are capable of pulling a 60 mile long train of 6,270 cars.

First deliveries of the new locomotives will begin shortly after January 1, with a total of 40 scheduled to be placed in service during the month.

Coon Has Place In Merchant Marine

Congressman Coon today announced that competitive examinations for entrance to the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York, will be held throughout the country on April 5, 1954.

He points out that the Merchant Marine Academy offers young men between 16 1/2 and 21 years of age a four year course of training, a college degree of bachelor of science, a license as United States Merchant Marine officer, and a commission as Ensign, U. S. Naval Reserve.

He recommends that all boys interested in an appointment write immediately to Supervisor, U. S. Merchant Marine Cadet Corps, Department of Commerce, Washington 25, D. C. Completed applications must be received by March 15, 1954.

Candidates for the academy must be single and in good physical condition.

GRASS VALLEY NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Kelly of Portland spent Wednesday visiting at the home of their son in law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Rolfe.

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Otness and family of Astoria spent the holiday and weekend at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Rust.