

Sherman County Journal

Sixty-Sixth Year No. 14

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

By Giles L. French

We note a picture of a Chinese PW being given a cup of tea in Formosa. It seems a weak greeting under the circumstances.

Now there's criticism of the new federal income tax proposal that would give a working mother additional tax reductions. Some want it to apply to anyone who works. You can't win, Mr. Reed.

There have been some occasions on which the Delty has felt badly over neglect to mention his name in our Oregon constitution; and then there have been others on which he felt relieved.

Mr. Dulles met a chimney sweep which is said to bring good luck. We hope he has other resources.

There's one nice thing about modern painting: the signature is usually as undecipherable as the picture.

Wonder how this nation can be expected to get along in the world with citizens admittedly unable to provide for their old age.

Cal Coolidge was quoted the other day to the effect that turning problems over to the government didn't settle them.

This is one of the years when we wish the superstition about the ground hog were correct. Were there any Aardvarks in this country they would not have seen their shadow when they came out of their burrows the morning of February 2. We are already trying to try into the future. Fortune tellers, superstitions, horoscopes, prophecies are all evidences of our desire to know what is going to happen tomorrow or next week. None are successful. What is going to happen depends most on what has happened; our difficulty is in properly appraising what has happened. Even a fairly clever writer of mystery fiction can fool us and nature has so much more in resources than any writer it is a wonder we guess the future at all.

Jimmy Roosevelt says he got sick and made a false affidavit. Trouble with electing him to office is that he might get sick again.

Did you ever stop to question why we have afternoon gowns, dinner gowns, night gowns and morning coats?

We do pretty well at wearing out the years for awhile and then we discover that the years are doing a better job than we.

Someone should send Mr. Molotov the book on how to win friends and influence people. He shows so little desire to get along that he must be non-cooperative by intent.

Where the name of juke box came from is not known to this writer, who, in the absence of other information presumes that it came from the family by that name which is well known to psychology students for being some what deficient in a number of ways.

Thinking of the coffee hula-baloos we wonder what an outcry would be raised over the price of a necessity.

It is perfectly alright to josh Molotov about what he said back in 1939 but we hope he doesn't do the same thing. This nation hasn't been exactly consistent for which we are thankful.

Once in a while we wish we had the kindness to be sorry for Dick Haymes, not often though.

It is a matter of fact that the inflation and "prosperity" of this nation was caused by war, not by new deal action. The nation was not prosperous in 1939 after seven years of attempted socialism. War increased our incomes, war gave us new gadgets, war brought big debt, war killed our sons.

Indian Slugs Tavern Owner Over Beer Sale

Theodore Frank Wilson, 24, Warm Springs Indian, surrendered to city police in The Dalles Wednesday when he learned that Sheriff Norman Fields of Sherman county wanted him in connection with assault on Charles Blake. He was given preliminary hearing before Justice Scott Thursday forenoon and bound over to the grand jury on \$500 bail. T. Leland Brown represented him. Charge is assault with a dangerous weapon. Blake had refused to sell beer after hours.

Charles Blake who runs the Fleck Orchard station and restaurant received severe scalp wounds at the hands of thugs early Wednesday morning. Blake who was the only one on duty in his restaurant and was behind the counter was struck from the rear by a cane in the hands of one of the two thugs, and as he staggered was struck again a glancing blow, both to the head. He went to the kitchen where all he could immediately find for a weapon was a hammer. Then facing his opponents from the kitchen door, he was a gruesome sight with blood oozing down his face from his scalp wounds, and the hammer in his hands threatened the men, so they were frightened and fled.

A couple patrons came by just after the trouble and helped Blake to clean and wash up a bit then they called Harland McDonald who lives close by to take him to a hospital in The Dalles where it was a long job to clean and stitch up his wounds. He was sent home again to remain quiet for awhile.

Young People To Host Convention

Young people of Moro Community Presbyterian church will be hosts this Sunday evening to youth groups of Sherman county churches. The gathering will begin at 5:00 p. m. with games led by Ronnie Benson and Don Miller, followed by a light supper prepared under the direction of Wilma Gentry and Susie Woods. A worship service planned by Larry Thompson and Tom Higley will close the evening. In conjunction with the worship service the sound color film "Fire Upon the Earth" will be shown.

Library Gets New Books As Gifts

Members of the Moro library board met January 15 for their monthly meeting.

Plans were made to hold a public benefit card party, Friday, February 5, at the Masonic hall, at which time bridge, pinocle and canasta will be played.

New books on the Memorial book shelf are: "This I Believe", Murrow; "Steamboat Gothic", Keyes; "Them Was the Days", McKeown, in memory of Ralph Brinslie; "Life is Worth Living", Sheen; and "Shadow on the Plains", Greve, in memory of W. H. Ragsdale.

Progress Claimed For Soil Conservation District In Snerman County In 1953

The past year was a year of progress in Sherman county conservation of soil and water resources as the farmers began to see the need, prodded by the very wet January with its record 1.71 rainfall in an 8 hour period, the lack of snow and freezing temperatures to bring the usual spring run-off. The cloudburst in Hay Canyon area followed by the wind starting a blow in part of the same area, the large supply of rain in the fall and winter months filling a large portion of the soil with water until run-off occurred.

Some practices being used to preserve these resources about the county and the amount of each are as follows: Several thousand acres were put in trashy fallow, 295 acres cropland seeded to grass, 97 acres of rangeland reseeded, 7 acres wildlife plantings, 8 dams and 2 irrigation reservoirs erected, 282 acres subsoiled. There may be other acreages not included in these figures not known by the writer.

During this eventful year soil surveys were made on 40,258 acres and resurveys on 33,250 acres bringing the total of 320,570 acres under survey or approximately 60.5% of the area in the county. The farm plans drawn

Moro Huskies Having Hard Luck Winning Basketball Games

Moro was defeated by Maupin 47 to 39 on the Maupin floor Friday night. Moro was having trouble finding the basket and the Huskies couldn't dump in enough points to beat the Redskins. Harold Duncan carried the scoring honors for Moro, while Richmond was high point man for Maupin.

Culver won a close hard fought game over the Moro Huskies 51 to 46 played on the Grass Valley floor Saturday night. Although Culver gained a margin in the early periods of the game, Moro fought back in the final period to close up the gap in the score. Don Miller was high point man for Moro with 14 points.

This win put Culver in a first place tie with St. Mary's while dropping the Huskies into fifth place.

B squad score Maupin 31 and Moro 48.

B squad score Culver 72 and Moro 42, ended two year winning streak.

Because of schedule changes caused by weather Moro will play Cascade Locks at the Locks next Tuesday.

Storage Problem Noted At OSC

New warning of the need to prepare for storing Oregon's 1954 grain crops comes from Ray Teal, OSC extension seed and grain marketing specialist.

Teal said Oregon bins and elevators hold at least 10 million more bushels of grain now than a year ago. The carry-over next summer will be 12 to 15 million bushels more than last unless more ways are found to move wheat in the next five months, he added.

Teal noted that besides the increase in carry-over, Oregon's grain crop harvest next summer may be almost as large as last year. Making up for the decrease in wheat because of planting restrictions will be more barley and oats.

He said the situation adds up to too little space to store grains, especially barley, unless more is constructed on farms where barley is grown or fed to livestock and poultry.

Latest U. S. crop reporting service figures show Oregon stocks of wheat on January 1 were almost 9 1/2 million bushels greater than a year earlier. Use and shipments from July through December were about one-fifth less than in the same period of 1952.

Bill Shearer Dies At Albany

Word was received by relatives Monday afternoon of the death of W. Y. (Bill) Shearer of Albany, Oregon. Funeral services were held Thursday afternoon in Albany. Husband of Sadie Shearer, who passed away November 29, Brother of Andy of The Dalles, John of Corvallis, Lawrence and Earl of Tangent, Sisters Lena and Carrie, of California.

Less Unemployment Now Than In 1950

Twenty-eight employment offices are getting off to an early start on the spring drive to find work for those displaced in seasonal letdowns. Additional employees are being sent from Salem headquarters of the State Unemployment Compensation commission to help with claims-taking so that trained employment service employees can make a concerted effort to line up temporary and permanent jobs.

"The program of employer visits is being stressed early this year to encourage everyone to hire more workers as soon as possible," said chairman T. Morris Dunne. "This campaign for job placement will be carried on vigorously throughout the state."

Although Oregon's claims load has been leveling off since late December, a sudden rise in initial claims (denoting new periods of unemployment) last week because of snow and ice over most of the state brought indications that weekly figures may go higher. Last week's 43,824 requests for compensation and 7,755 new claims compared with 53,592 and 10,936 respectively for the same period of 1950. The winter peak usually is reached late in January or February.

Compensation averaging around \$22.50 a week is paid to Oregon's insured workers. Approximately half of the labor force averaging about 675,000 is covered by the state's unemployment law. Jobs are secured, however, for all workers whether or not covered by the law. Last year more than 70,000 were placed in trade and industry, while over 230,000 referrals to seasonal farm activities were reported.

Harry Avery Will Talk To County Cattlemen, Feb. 18

Harry Avery, superintendent, Eastern Oregon livestock branch experiment station, Union, will speak on "Feeding Beef Cattle" during the Sherman County Cattlemen's association annual meeting, Thursday, February 18, at the Odd-Fellows hall, Grass Valley.

Feeding experiences of the Union station with grain and protein supplements will be outlined by Mr. Avery. The use of yeast feeds, urea, and urea-molasses mix will also be covered in the feeding discussion. Increased barley production and general surplus of feed grains makes a discussion of feeding cattle appropriate. Utilization of many new feeds by farmers bring a question mark as to the feeds that are most economical for actual feed value received.

Activities of the Oregon Cattlemen's association will be presented by Frank Beeson, executive secretary of the association. Mr. Beeson will give first hand account of the past year's work and projects the state association and planning. M. E. Knickerbocker, head, division of animal industry, state department of agriculture, will comment on the brand laws and the herd law as it applies to Sherman county.

Ladies of the Rebekah lodge will serve a lunch for the occasion. All cattlemen are urged to attend and join their friends and neighbors for the occasion. Films and slides will be shown during the all day event. Report of the years activities by the president and secretary and a general business meeting will be conducted.

Grass Valley Has Cub Scout Troops

About twenty-five parents attended the meeting at the school house Monday evening for the purpose of organizing Cub Scout packs.

Scoutmaster Jim Jones was present as was Dick Carson of The Dalles to help organize and instruct the unit. All boys from the age of 8 through 11 are eligible to join. Vernon Eakin is named interior representative. Ted Kelly is Cub Master and Willard Rolfe, assistant Cub Master.

Three packs were organized with Mrs. Sim Duncan, den mother and Mrs. James Easter, assistant of pack one; Mrs. Walter Davis, den mother and Mrs. Clyde Stradley, assistant of pack two; Mrs. Ivan Blagg, den mother and Mrs. Vernon Eakin, assistant of pack three. Den chiefs are Gene Schilling of pack one; Ronnie Davis of pack two; and Tommie Eakin of pack three. Refreshments were served later in the school cafeteria.

First National Gets To Top Position

The 88-year-old First National Bank of Portland will become the largest bank in the Pacific Northwest on February 8 by acquiring the banking business and assuming the deposit liabilities of its fifteen affiliated banks with eighteen offices scattered through out Oregon. C. B. Stephenson, First National president reported.

The acquisition will involve resources exceeding \$140 million, making the banking transaction the largest in the state's history.

The movie is subject to the final approval of the Comptroller of the Currency in Washington, D. C. and the superintendent of banks of the state of Oregon. Stephenson said.

With the new branches First National will have 67 banking offices in 51 Oregon cities, including 16 additional communities.

The board of directors has authorized a \$16 million increase in capital, to be made available through the sale of 400,000 additional shares of stock, subject to the approval of the stockholders, Stephenson revealed.

The proposal will be submitted to a special meeting of the stockholders on February 23 and if approved, stockholders of record as of the close of business on February 26, 1954 will receive the right to purchase an additional share for each three shares then owned, at the subscription price of \$40 per share.

The board of directors has indicated its intent to establish an annual dividend rate of \$2 per share on the 1,600,000 shares of stock to be outstanding when the financing is completed and to continue for such length of time as the board may deem appropriate for livestock feed along with ate and consistent with sound lower-priced grains, especially barley.

Wheat League Starts Telling What's Being Done About Freight Rates By Organization

This is the first of a series of articles about farmers and freight rates, prepared by the Oregon Wheat Growers league.

Oregon wheat farmers and ranchers, like everyone else in the U. S. who must depend on agriculture for a living, are in the squeeze today.

A combination of skyrocketing production and transportation costs, coupled with a nose-diving market, is making things tough for them.

The condition is especially acute in the wheat growing counties of this state. Unatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, Wasco and Jefferson counties are all feeling the pinch. Nor is it surprising that things have turned out this way.

As far back as 1946 every serious-thinking wheat rancher in the region has been aware of the gradual growth and development of conditions that would one day place him in the touchy position he occupies today.

Generally speaking, farmers of this day and age are well informed on the economic situation in both their own backyard and on the national and international fronts. That's one of the basic reasons for their interest in organizations that are working toward the solutions of problems that haunt the farmer of today.

One of the newest—and yet most successful—of these commodity groups is the Pacific Northwest Grain and Grain Products association. This organization was formed on September 15, 1948 and it speaks and works for not only the ranchers and farmers of Oregon, but also for those in Wash-

Sermons To Prepare For Mission Theme

Sermons by Rev. Alfred Solomon at Moro Community Presbyterian church for the next two Sundays will be preparation for the coming Spiritual Life Mission. Theme for the two sermons will be "Your God is too Small", based on the book of that name by J. B. Phillips. Inadequate conceptions of God as suggested by Phillips will be considered, under such names as "Resident Policeman", "Grand Old Man", "Managing Director", "Meek and Mild", "Heavenly Bossom" and "God-in-a-Box".

The Spiritual Life Mission to which this is an introduction will consist of five informal evening gatherings at the church beginning Sunday, February 14. Rev. Robert E. Williams of Redmond will speak each evening on the theme, "The Christian Answer to Life's Urgent Questions."

Contract Let For Rufus Buildings

Western Builders of The Dalles were awarded the contract to build three houses for teachers for the Rufus school district this week. The bid was \$16,900, which makes it possible for the district to finance the construction on their recently passed tax levy. Reason for building is that houses are so scarce at Rufus that it has been difficult to hire teachers. Location will be just west of the Rufus school.

Grain And Hay To Take Biggest Drop

Grain and hay growers will be hardest hit among Oregon farmers in 1954 with other phases of farming already past the worst of the shakedown in farm incomes, M. D. Thomas, OSC extension economist reports in latest "Agricultural Situation and Outlook."

Thomas says grain and hay growers' troubles will probably rebound in favor of livestock and poultry producers. He adds that while market receipts for both beef and milk may be slightly smaller than in 1953, smaller feed bills will even out net returns. Chickens and turkeys will also be favored by lower feed prices but may run into trouble if numbers are increased as much in other states as now seems likely.

The slash in Oregon's wheat acreage, required by marketing quotas, may reduce incomes for the state's wheat and barley raisers by at least \$10 million even though much of the land held out of wheat is put into other crops.

The grain income drop will be felt largely in Columbia basin counties but will extend into Klamath county and the Willamette valley. Oregon's 1953 wheat income of \$74 million headed the list for farm commodities. It accounted for nearly one-third of the total value of all crops.

Thomas believes some farmers to who have been raising hay for continue for such length of time as the board may deem appropriate for livestock feed along with ate and consistent with sound lower-priced grains, especially barley.

Snow Hangs Tough Melting Little Each Day

The weather for the past week has been such that those with long memories are already proclaiming this the best winter, or one of the best, they have ever seen.

First: there was no frost in the ground when the snow came; second: it didn't go off fast but gradually, protecting the wheat and soaking the ground; third: it hasn't been real cold except for one night.

This week has seen a very gradual melting of the snow and it is nearly gone in the southern part of the county. Farther north there is still from two to six inches on the ground. Sunday was a bright, sunny day that started the creeks to running and then it got colder and gave the ground a chance to catch up on its absorption.

The ground hog had no chance to see his shadow in the light fog that shrouded the earth which may indicate to some that spring is here. That question caused a bit of research by Bill Hall and Bob Hoskinson at the experiment station which produced these facts:

In the past 36 years there have been 23 cloudy ground hog days; eight part cloudy and five clear. The ground hog would have seen his shadow in 13 of the past 36 years. On the years he would have seen his shadow the average mean temperature in February was 33.3 degrees.

In the 23 years when the little marmot didn't see his shadow the average mean temperature in February was 35.4. Thus the superstition is correct to the extent of 2.1 degrees.

Further research showed that the average date of last killing frost was May 7 on years in which the ground hog didn't see his shadow and in years he did the average date was May 9. So the ground hog was right by two days of late spring frost.

New Cox Bull Winning Prizes

Fred Cox & Son received word that H. R. Publican Anxiety, the bull they recently bought at the Denver Hereford sale, had won first in his class at the Forth Worth, Texas stock show, had won first with another bull in the pair of bulls class, had won first in the pair of calves class (heifer and bull) and had been in a group of four that won first in the get of sire class.

Agreement on purchase was that the previous owner was to take the bull to three shows before delivering him to Cox & Son at Grass Valley, late this month or in March.

Water Use Talk To Be Held

Consideration of water resources of Sherman county for long time use will be given at a meeting for anyone interested starting 1:30 p. m., Monday, February 8, county courthouse, Moro. Discussion of water resources at this time is brought about by the study and public hearing by the State Water Resources committee at Arlington, February 15. The February 8 meeting is being sponsored by the Land Use and Crops committee of the Sherman County Rural Advisory Council.

The State Water Resources committee is charged with making specific recommendations regarding formulation of a state-wide coordinated system of water resources development. They will make a detailed report to the 1955 state legislature. Use of water covers many groups and concerns water for recreation and scenic attractions, domestic and municipal use, irrigation of agricultural lands, farm ponds and storage for beneficial use, fish and wild life propagation, fire protection, power and industrial development, adjudication of surface and ground water, and pollution abatement.

Particular concern to Sherman counties in the future use of water resources might concern the use of wells, dams, and springs for domestic and agricultural uses.

Farm people and those interested in wild life and recreational use of water are asked to attend. Development of any specific recommendation from Sherman county for presentation to the Water Resources committee will be formulated during this general meeting.