

Sherman County Journal

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

By Giles L. French

The tactics of McCarthy are really the tactics of communists and of the pseudo-liberals of this country. Attack, attack, attack. Just let some one express a doctrine opposed to our own little group of egg-heads and he is sure to get the treatment.

T T W N

Some advertisements now feature men with beards. Maybe it is going to be the style. Just the same we cannot help but remember the remark of some cynic to the effect that no man with a chin ever grew a beard.

T T W N

What, we wonder, is going to happen to the campaign to make a villain of all business? And what, we also wonder, would happen if it were successful? The middle class has been the backbone of the most civilized nations.

T T W N

Either the weather or the styles cause the women to wear more clothes this summer.

T T W N

Even at \$2.24 (which the farmer doesn't get) the farmer's share in a loaf of bread is less than three cents. Wheat is worth 3.7 a pound and bread is 78 percent wheat. Also the pound loaf of bread now weighs 15 ounces making the farmer's share a mere 2.7 cents.

T T W N

In baseball only one team is ever good enough and experts can find some faults there. That isn't so peculiar, either. It is hard to be good enough any place.

T T W N

Apparently the visiting English leaders made it plain that they were in favor of co-operation, that is, that we co-operate with them.

T T W N

It says here: You're not as smart as a squirrel unless you lay something away for the time when the nuts are harder to find.

T T W N

The man who sent us a booklet describing tools for trimming trees was wasting his money. Neither do we contemplate a trip to that swank hostelry in Bermuda. Too much working and too much resting are both tiring.

T T W N

Esra Benson advises dairymen to get out and sell their products. The function of middlemen, distributors and wholesalers used to be selling and the advice should go to them also. One of the faults of the whole farm program is that no one had to work hard to make a living.

T T W N

They used to say, "If you want anything done right, do it yourself." Nowadays if you want anything done at all you have to do it yourself.

T T W N

That photographer who took Adlai's picture with that horse is no new dealer. He caught them looking just alike.

T T W N

Elevation of Senator Guy Cordon to be chairman of the interior affairs committee of the senate is of distinct value to Oregon as it gives him additional power to aid timber and bring more dams to Oregon.

T T W N

In law a man is innocent until proven guilty; in gossip a man is guilty until proven innocent.

T T W N

England thinks it might be able to reform Russia if they resumed trade which is like marrying a man to reform him. The United States thinks any contact with Russia is contaminating. So they decided to disagree.

T T W N

Nevada is an excellent location for an earthquake. It couldn't do much harm and might do a lot of good shaking it out level.

T T W N

From the one time land of sunshine this area is getting to be the land of the midday mist.

T T W N

Reports are that harvest will begin next week on a few farms, not much off schedule. It happens every year.



SHERMAN COUNTY 4-H STUDENTS who went to summer school this year were, (left to right) first row: Mary Mobley, Sharon Belshe, Mary Jean Duncan, Jean Ross, Gertrude Buether,

Nancy Decker, Peggy Marie Reckmann, Mavis Miller; second row: Deanna Martin, Lee Kaseberg, Tommy Higley, Sterling Goch-nauer, Stephen Burnet, Wilma Gentry; third row: Mrs. Ted Trimble, Jeanette Belshe, Sherry Fraser, Sally Fields, Susan Woods, Diane Schilling, Susan Baumgartner, Tommy Thompson.

Assessor Finds Property Less

The report of the assessor on property in Sherman county is completed although changes are made nearly every day. Reason for this peculiar situation is that the United States is buying land along the Columbia and has already taken 174.26 acres off the tax roll in large chunks and many smaller lots totaling about 200 acres.

The report shows 267,210.02 acres of tillable land valued at \$5,696,840 for an average of \$21.32 per acre. Non-tillable land is 194,671.76 acres, worth \$294,110 at the average price of \$1.51.

City lots are valued at \$53,050, improvements on them \$410,510 and improvements in the country of \$618,170. Total lands assessed at \$461,882.78. Value of real property is \$7,072,680.

The personal property total is \$1,143,390 and the total of locally assessed property is \$8,216,070 of which \$4,240 is exempt.

Personal property consists of movable machinery \$18,750, merchandise \$149,550, farm implements \$671,460, furniture and equipment \$23,880, horses 434 worth \$6470 or \$14.91 each; cattle, 9697 of them, worth \$259,460 at \$26.76 each; 1264 sheep worth \$4330; 320 hogs worth \$2590 and 6748 poultry worth \$2430.

This shows a reduction from the assessment rolls of last year when the locally assessed property was worth \$8,850,770 and the exemptions were \$5340.

There have been reductions in improvements on unplatted land, slightly on city improvements, on movable machinery, merchandise, farm equipment, and a large drop in horse and cattle valuations. Horses last year were valued at \$33.43 and cattle at \$57.33.

Blinked Notice Not Always Safe

Trucking firms have urged the Oregon State Motor association to caution all motorists against the misconception that truck light signals, intended only to facilitate communication between company truck drivers, are unreliable to passenger car drivers because it is now apparent that no two trucking firms use the same blinker code.

The danger of confusing these signals resulting in increased perils of passing on the assumption that the highway is "all-clear" has caused several major trucking concerns to advise the motor club that what might otherwise be regarded as a courtesy to the motoring public might easily result in a serious highway accident. Some truck drivers do blink their lights as an "all clear" for motorists, but this is a responsibility they assume individually.

"Even if there were a uniform code," a spokesman for one trucking firm points out, "and even if it were readily understood by the motorist, it would be unwise to depend on the judgment of just any truck driver ahead of you to give an 'all clear' signal." This applies to day as well as night-time signals.

"In giving signals to the car behind," the spokesman said, "a truck driver assumes a moral, if not a legal, responsibility for the successful or unsuccessful completion of the passing maneuver, and from his glance at the rear view mirror no truck driver can be said to be in a position to gauge accurately the ability of the car or its driver to pass safely at the time and place that the truck driver considers appropriate."

Summerfallow Aid May Bring Another 6000 Acres Here

The published wheat allotment for Sherman county is to be \$9,907 acres, instead of the 101,197 of this year, but this is without the probability of an additional 60,000 acres that will come if congress passes the law keeping summerfallow farmers to the same reduction as others. If this bill should pass Sherman county could expect an increase of about 6000 acres.

Exempt Property Must Be Listed

For several years it has been mandatory that assessors make a list of property in their counties that is exempt from taxation. The valuation of such property is usually low on the books of all counties. It is not included in assessed totals and is made because the legislature wanted to know how much property was escaping taxation.

In Sherman county the federal government has \$81,940 exempt, the state \$15,500, the county \$27,730, the cities \$7430, the schools \$73,600, literary and benevolent societies \$7430, churches \$10,270 and cemetery associations \$740.

CCC Loans Will Be Higher

The CCC wheat loan for the 1954 crop announced this week by the local ASC committee indicates that farmers will receive 1 cent more a bushel for their wheat going under price support in Sherman county than was received last year. The farm-stored loan rate for number 1 white club, soft white and western white will be \$2.28 per bushel.

The loan rate for warehouse wheat is based upon the date that the wheat is delivered to the warehouse. Number 1 wheat deposited in the elevator to July 25 will have a rate of \$2.17; deposited during the period July 25 to August 23 a rate of \$2.18; and a rate of \$2.19 for wheat delivered from August 24 to September 22. The rate for hard white wheat will be 2 cents higher than the above rates. As in previous years loans and purchase agreements will be available to January 31. The interest has been reduced to 3 1/2 percent on redeemed loans and the maturity date has been advanced to March 31, 1955 from April 30.

The Sherman county loan rate for barley grading number 2 or better will be \$1.29 per bushel stored on the farm. Barley deposited in the warehouse during the period June 25 to July 24 will have a rate of \$1.16; and during the period July 25 to August 23 a rate of \$1.17 per bushel. This rate is for barley testing number 2 or better. Number 3 barley will have a discount of 3 cents per bushel, and number 4 a 6 cent discount. To be eligible for loan rate the barley must be number 5 or better and have a test weight of not less than 40 pounds. These loans are available to January 31, 1955.

The loan rate for oats going under loan in Sherman county will be 83 cents per bushel for number 3 or better stored on the farm. Oats delivered to the warehouse during the period June 25 to August 23 will have 74 cents per bushel. Loans and purchase agreements are available on oats to January 31, 1955.

Fair Board Offers Plaque For Wheat

The fair board met Wednesday night to open bids for the wiring that is to be done in nearly all of the buildings on the grounds. Bids ranged from \$2400 to \$2800 and the board wanted some more information before letting the contract so will delay for a few days.

The board decided to offer a plaque to the exhibitor of the best sample of wheat. This will be a 15 pound sample, the best of all the varieties exhibited. The plaque will be suitably engraved and be worthy of the effort required to save and display the wheat.

Judges for livestock and pavilion were discussed and also race judges but it will take some time before these can be secured.

Don Anderson was asked to take complete charge of the gates and grandstand in order that members of the board be relieved of that job which they do not have time to superintend.

Discussion of the audit was had with the board making changes in their accounting to meet many of the objections made by the county auditor. Strict accounting practices are not always possible during the rush of fair week but the board will obtain forms from the state office to see if they can meet the recommendations of C. R. Logan, auditor.

Fertilizer Trials Many This Year

Fertilizer trial plots, grain and grass nurseries in the Grass Valley-Kent area may be observed during a farm tour Thursday, July 15, 1:30 p. m. County Agent T. W. Thompson reports. This tour is an opportunity for farmers in this area to see results of different rates of fertilizer and abilities of various grasses and grains to produce. Farmers attending are asked to assemble at the Grass Valley Grain Growers office, Grass Valley, to start the tour and consolidate transportation.

Nitrogen, phosphorous, and sulphur fertilizer trials on the Frank Ketter, John Reckman and Owen Eakin ranches will be visited. Nitrogen fertilizer applied in the fall and spring at 20, 40, 60, and 80 pounds of actual nitrogen per acre will be observed on the plots. One of the plots has a soil depth of two feet. All plots are on fall sown wheat on summer fallow ground.

Spring and fall grain nurseries on the Kenneth Sather ranch south of Kent will be inspected. Fifteen varieties of winter wheat, seven of spring wheat and four each of barley and oats will be observed. This is the fifth year for the nursery on the Sather ranch. Grain nurseries of this type are established throughout the Columbia basin in conjunction with the Sherman branch experiment station to observe and test new and old varieties.

Grass nurseries on the Wilcox ranch of Luther Davis and the George Wilson farm will be observed. Several dry land grasses and legumes have been planted for comparison purposes.

Cheatgrass control along roadways and use of soil sterilants around buildings of the Grass Valley Grain Growers will also be observed.

Farmers in the Grass Valley-Kent area interested in fertilization are encouraged to attend. Any and all farmers are welcome to accompany this informal visit of trial and plot work.

Field Trip Made By 50 At Experiment Farm

About 50 farmers, from Sherman county and adjoining counties, spent almost three hours in the wind atop the experiment station hill Wednesday afternoon looking at the crops. They also heard descriptions of the wheat, barley, oats and safflower growing on the numerous plots.

Bill Hall, superintendent, explained the method used to handle the heavy stubble on the fertilizer trials and pointed out the possible difference that the application of nitrates might make.

Nomad alfalfa, said the voice over the microphone, has a persistent tendency that makes it keep on growing even after it is plowed. Good tonnage has been obtained from some of the alfalfa plots in recent years.

In the nursery a few rows of the new dwarf wheat were shown but they had little appeal for farmers who inspected them. They have not yet any definite characteristics; some are bearded, some long headed, some short. Yields are reported very good but the wheat is not stabilized and it is certainly short for some kinds of land.

Safflower, a crop that has been grown here for some time, looks good, there is a possibility that it may become a commercial crop here as a California firm would like to contract for 10,000 acres in Oregon. It might be successful on diverted acres as it produces an oil that is better than linseed oil for varnishes as it never turns yellow with age. The disadvantage of it is that it is hard to keep weeds out of.

A soil smut experiment was shown along with the nursery that rated some of the more common preventative chemicals.

Grasses, especially pubescent wheat grass, looked fine and the seed has a good sale right now when farmers are putting in sodded waterways on land taken out of wheat.

The winter wheat trials and the winter and spring barleys were shown. Winter barley lived through the winter this year and stands are much better than usual.

The tour ended with light refreshments on the lawn at the station headquarters where trees gave shelter from the wind.

Oregon Gets 799,907 For Wheat Acreage

Oregon's share of the national 55 million acre wheat acreage allotment is a shade under 800,000 acres, Arnold Bodtker, Oregon administrative officer for the agricultural stabilization committee, announced late last week. Vote by the nation's wheat farmers July 23 will determine whether restrictions will go into effect.

New allotments for both the state and the nation are down 11 percent from the 1954 figures. The proposed 1955 figure for Oregon is 37 percent less than the actual acreage planted in 1953 before production controls were applied, according to Oregon State college extension economists.

The figure given for Oregon is 799,603 acres, while the 1954 allotment was 898,563 acres.

State and county ASC committees are breaking down the figures into individual farm allotments. In general, farms that raised wheat in any of the last three years will be assigned acreage allotments. Then, if the nationwide producer vote carries on July 23, the marketing quota for each farm will be the wheat actually produced on allotted acres.

The 55 million acre wheat crop proposed nationally would be a drop of seven million acres from the current year.

To become effective, at least two-thirds of the growers voting in the July 23 referendum will have to give their approval. Growers eligible to vote are those intending to plant more than 15 acres of wheat in 1955 and whose normal production is 200 bushels or more. They are the only ones subject to the quotas.

Shelt Burres Hurt When Thrown From Horse On John Day

J. S. (Shelt) Burres, nearly 80, was thrown from a horse a few miles above his home on the John Day last Thursday and is in a hospital in The Dalles with a broken hip and eight cracked ribs. Shelt was riding on his range alone. When the horse returned, Henry, Shelt's employee, took another horse and went in search of his employer and found him on a small island up river.

Reports are that Mr. Burres is getting along very well everything considered.

Olds Family Has Annual Gathering

The Olds family reunion was held at the school house Sunday, July 4. A potluck dinner was served about 1 o'clock. The afternoon was spent visiting. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Hall of Long Beach, Calif., Mr. and Mrs. Bert Brown from Tygh Valley, Mr. Emmie Slaucker, Portland; Frank Olds, Milton; Mr. and Mrs. Burhead and family, St. Helens; Mr. and Mrs. Vivian Rust, Wasco; Mr. and Mrs. M. Hassfurther and family, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Lockhart, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Ira Messinger, The Dalles; Mrs. Freda Messinger and family, The Dalles; Mr. and Mrs. William Messinger and family, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. V. Ray Messinger, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. James Noonan and family, Seattle; Carroll Noonan, St. Helens; Mr. and Mrs. J. Ray Messinger and son, Caricopa, Calif.; Mrs. Vera Taylor, Yakima; Mr. and Mrs. Marion Crews, Stevenson, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Brown and daughter, Hermiston; Mr. and Mrs. George Balzer and family, Wamie; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Noonan, Moro; Mrs. Florence Cook, The Dalles; Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Nahouse, McCoy; Mrs. Ella Myers, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. A. Russell, The Dalles; Mrs. Lorena Eaves and daughter, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Dell Olds, Mr. and Mrs. Earl Olds and son, Robin, C. B. Olds and Lyle Olds, all from Grass Valley. Some of the group were dinner guests that evening at the Dell Olds home.

ANOTHER FISH BILL

Completed initiative petitions with sufficient certified names on the coastal streams initiative petition were filed with the Secretary of State in Salem July 1. This insures the fact that Oregonians will determine in November whether or not they wish to abolish commercial salmon fishing on the small coastal rivers south of the Columbia river. The Columbia is not affected.

Filed simultaneously were expense sheets of the five sponsors and the parties handling the campaign. These show a total of less than \$500 spent during the signature drive and but \$150 of this was in form of cash donation.

Between 47,000 and 50,000 Oregonians signed the petitions, with errors in signing and non-registered persons accounting for the difference between certified and gross names.

Sherman County Beats Cancer Quota

Due to the generosity of the Sherman county people and the persistent efforts of the local chairmen and co-workers, the recent cancer fund campaign exceeded the goal in Sherman county. \$1,691.41 was contributed this year, according to the report of Mrs. Frank von Borstel, county chairman. Last year \$1232.37 was contributed.

Among the local chairmen and co-workers making this gain possible were: Mrs. B. E. Hailey of Wasco area, assisted by Mrs. Dewey Thomas, Mrs. Hugh White, Mrs. Walter Bruckert, Mrs. Norman Gochnauer and Mrs. Jean Brown; Mrs. Earl Gentry and Mrs. Orlow Martin co-chairmen of the Moro area, assisted by Mrs. E. Eslinger, county vice-chairman, Mrs. Bob Belshe, Mrs. Loy Cochran, Mrs. R. E. Marvin, Mrs. Harold Ginn, Mrs. Carol Sayrs, Mrs. Chas. Burnet, Mrs. Lawrence Kenny and Mrs. Clair Balzer; Mrs. Eben Kee, chairman of Grass Valley area, assisted by Mrs. Herman Peters, Mrs. John Rolfe, Mrs. Art Schilling, Mrs. Sam Davis and Mrs. Edgar Alley; Mrs. Art Bibby chairman of the Kent area, assisted by Mrs. Harley McKay, Mrs. J. E. Norton and Mrs. Loyd Koley.

Levying Board Deletes Fund For New Home Agent

The county court, sitting as the levying board, and the budget committee Thursday morning removed the disputed item of \$3000 for a home demonstration agent from the budget.

The decision came without a vote, the six men agreeing, that inasmuch as there was argument about the item and apparently considerable opposition, that a woman in the position would have to overcome public sentiment to such a degree that she could not do an acceptable job.

The opposition became vocal Wednesday morning when the court met for final hearing on the budget and a group of people came in to protest the home demonstration agent appropriation. Among them were Clara Kock, Bob Boynton and Mrs. Boynton, Harvey Thompson and Mrs. Thompson, Carroll Sayrs, Mrs. Dean Pinkerton and Mrs. Collis Moore. Amandus von Borstel later made a protest. They said this was no time to increase the budget and doubted the necessity for a home demonstration agent in Sherman county.

Mrs. Helen Bruckert and Tommy Thompson defended the appropriation which was wanted to help club agents and give them more adequate leadership.

The court addressed a letter to the advocates of the appropriation saying that if a petition was circulated to put the matter on the November ballot the court would approve it.

The levying board postponed action until Thursday, partly because Kenneth Sather, county commissioner was absent on account of an accident to his foot which necessitated hospitalization for a day.

The budget board recommended to the county court that it take \$3000 from the machinery fund and put it in the road paving fund where it can be used to match state money.

Howard Coon Buried At Grass Valley

Howard Coon, former resident of Grass Valley, died at his home near Sandy July 3 and was buried at the Grass Valley cemetery July 6.

Clarence Howard Coon was born June 17, 1875 and spent his younger years around Grass Valley where he was renowned as a rider of bad horses. He farmed for many years and raised his family there.

Surviving are his widow Edna (Stanton), five children, three sons and two daughters, two brothers, J. B., now in a rest home in Hood River, Leslie in Grants Pass and many nieces and nephews.

World War II Vets Get Bonuses Paid

The Oregon World War II bonus division, which numbered 77 employees during the rush of bonus payments, marked the close of its third year of operations by reducing its staff to one person, H. C. Saalfeld, director of the state department of Veterans' Affairs, announced this week.

Bonus claims have been paid to 126,557 World War II ex-servicemen or their survivors totaling \$50,300,600 since the first payments went in the mail on June 18, 1952.

The state veterans' department started organizing its bonus division in May, 1951, and mailed out the first application blanks the following October, but payments were delayed nearly nine months by a federal government ban on veterans' bonuses as a check on inflation.

When the ban was lifted the bonus division mailed out some 45,000 payments totaling \$18,000,000 in one weekend rush.

The bonus division was scheduled to close its doors a year ago but its life was extended when the 1953 legislature gave veterans another year to file claims. An additional 2,946 veterans and next of kin applied as the result of the deadline extension. The final deadline was December 31, 1953.

About 75 letters of inquiry received every month from Korean veterans must be answered, informing them that the Oregon bonus is being paid for World War II service only.