

Sherman County Journal

Sixty-Seventh Year No. 10

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

By Giles L. French

Happy the holidays are over again and we can go back to work. Not that holidays are not pleasant in their place but it is much better that we have 300 days of work and 65 of rest than if it were the reverse.

T T W N

Now the magazine writers are taking after the kids again and writing profitable articles about juvenile delinquency. Heck, all delinquency is juvenile and the old folks do as much as anyone.

T T W N

We seem to have developed two schools of weather prophets one saying that this month will be dry and another that it will be wet. Probably neither will be right by very much.

T T W N

We hope the Democrats and Republicans in the Oregon legislature will forget they are one or the other until after the session. We the people will appreciate that.

T T W N

Folks age faster in the United States than anywhere else. That's because more changes are made in a normal lifetime here than anywhere. If a man could live under the same conditions for 60 years he could keep up with the times.

T T W N

Many new men are being sworn into office these days right after the first of the year. No doubt they feel fine. To them we can only repeat what we have said before: that doing the job well is a much greater honor than being elected.

T T W N

As soon as we get a few luxuries they become necessities until we can never live luxuriously.

T T W N

Don't worry. The prophecy that there will be 750 persons to the square mile won't happen in your lifetime.

T T W N

While the United States is not yet in the position of France so far as obtaining parliamentary majorities is concerned it is not in a good position. So long as a minority of a very few can make policy by the switching of their votes the country is in danger. All too often those who switch from one side to the other are not the most stable members of a legislative body. We will have better government when one party has a workable majority.

T T W N

The troubles of Milan Smith of Pendleton, now assistant to Secretary Benson and the agriculture department in general, over charges of racial discrimination cause us to note that the inferior complexes of non-Aryans cause them more trouble than anything else.

T T W N

Government manipulation of margin requirements had brought about a drop in the stock market. It is likely that the market was getting too high but investors might have determined that instead of the government.

T T W N

Most frequently heard radio expression these days: "There's a whistle on the play."

T T W N

We believe that a newspaper editor is barred from pleading misquotation out of professional courtesy. But sometimes we wish we weren't.

T T W N

Somehow, perhaps from just living, we have come to have a great respect for those who are uneducated in the formal sense and who have nevertheless accumulated wisdom, which beats education all hollow.

T T W N

If someone would take some pretty pictures of scenes around here more of us could stay home in mental and emotional comfort.

T T W N

Someone should have warned us that if man kept on inventing and discovering he would perfect something he was afraid of, something he didn't need, something that could destroy him and all his works.

Weed Man Named To Station Post; Succeeds Bayer

Appointment of a weed-control research worker for the Columbia Basin has been announced jointly by OSC agricultural experiment station and its branch stations at Pendleton and Moro.

Dean Swann, recent graduate of the university of Wyoming in chemical weed control, was named to the position January 1, succeeding David Bayer who resigned September 1 to resume study for an advanced degree.

Swann will headquarter at the Pendleton branch station which is supervised by Merrill Oveson, but he will also conduct weed research in western basin counties under supervision of W. E. Hall of the Sherman branch experiment station at Moro.

In announcing the appointment F. E. Price, director of the OSC experiment station, said major emphasis will be placed on "development of control measures for weeds now causing heavy losses in the Columbia Basin wheat-producing area." Swann's research program will be conducted in cooperation with the OSC farm crop department.

Swann completed undergraduate work at the university of Wyoming in 1952 and instructed in vocational agriculture at Chadron, Nebraska, for one year before returning to the university of Wyoming for his M. S. degree. He is married and has two children.

Moro TV Club Elects Officers

The Moro TV club held a meeting last Thursday night and approved some actions which will be incorporated into a set of by-laws to be written for the cooperative association which has brought television to several residents of Moro.

It was agreed to make a charge of \$150 for anyone hooking on to the lines already constructed. Suggestions that a service charge be made were turned down when officers said it would not be necessary if a few new customers joined to enable the club to pay its bills.

Officers elected are Harry Benson, president; Ray Kelso, vice-president; Robert Marvin, secretary-treasurer and George Giesler and Dewey Thompson members of the executive committee.

At the annual meeting of the ASC nominating committees last week the same men were elected to serve as the county committee. These are Frank von Borstel, David Richelderfer and Russell Belshee who have been on the job for some years.

Social Security Now Compulsory For All Farmers and Farm Workers By New Law

Most farmers and farm workers in Oregon are affected by amendments to the federal social security law passed by congress in 1954, reports Manning Backer, farm management specialist at OSC. The law now brings federal old-age and survivors insurance to most farm families.

Beginning this month, persons who farm for themselves will be included in social security if they make as much as \$400 a year profit from their farming operations, the specialist explains. Farm workers are included if they are paid cash wages of \$100 a year or more by any one farmer.

Farm earnings may now count toward social security benefits for both farmers and their families. These benefits are in monthly payments in old age, and monthly payments to survivors in case of the breadwinner's death. A lump-sum payment will also be made at the time of an insured person's death, at any age. This payment may range from \$90 to \$225 says Backer.

Farmers must have worked under social security for at least 1 1/2 years before being entitled to any of its benefits. These benefits are payable to a retired individual at age 65 or to his survivors.

The specialist points out that these benefits aren't paid automatically, however. It is necessary to claim them. Information on how to do this is available from local

County Agent Recounts Services Offered And Work Done By His Organization

A new year is upon us and before it is very far along, I would like to extend to each and every one a very healthy and happy New Year. With the new year it seems an opportune time to remind folks of the place, and the services available from your county extension agent's office, county courthouse, Moro. The county agent is a representative of OSC, and the United States department of agriculture, in the various coun-

Oscar N. Ruggles Dies In Portland

Oscar N. Ruggles, 72, died at a hospital in Portland Monday after a long illness. He was a native of Sherman county having been born in Moro in the winter of 1882-83, one of the first children to be born here. His parents had come from California the fall before. They took up land east of Grass Valley and Oscar grew up there and on the John Day where Phil Ruggles, his father, moved after leaving the wheat land.

He farmed and later bought the Finnegan ranch with Charles Belshee, whom he bought out later. It has been his home for many years and he has been engaged in raising cattle and some wheat.

Surviving are his widow, Allie, nee Huls; a son, Orville, on the home ranch; two daughters, Mrs. Zela McKinney, Ione, Mrs. Charlotte Barnett, Grass Valley; five grandsons, two brothers, Starr of Stayton, Walter of Heppner; three sisters, Mrs. Lois Olds of California, Mrs. Eva Landry of Portland and Mrs. Lu Brown.

Funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at the Grass Valley Baptist church in Grass Valley with interment in the Odd-Fellows cemetery at Moro.

Cub Scouts To See New Picture

The Cub Scout moving picture, "Letter to Loretta" will be shown at the Grass Valley school the evening of January 13 at 7:30 with the Cub Scout leaders and boys of the Grass Valley and Moro troops as sponsors. Dick Carson, scout executive of The Dalles, will bring the film up for the showing.

This picture grew from a letter written by a small boy to Loretta Young, movie actress, who had the play written and put it on a television program from which it has been adapted. It has been in great demand and sponsors feel lucky to have it here.

Ted Kelly is leader of the Grass Valley Cubs and Henry Grabenhorst is leader of the Moro troop which is just getting started in the work. Although everyone is invited boys of the troops and their parents are especially urged to attend.

ties. General and technical information on various subjects are available at the asking, with individual assistance given, and council rendered as desired.

All the items available, from the county extension office do not seem appropriate or possible, but an individual farmer might secure identification of weeds, insects, plants or diseases of grains, flowers, shrubs or horticultural crops. Recommendations as to control of disease and insect pests along with recommended varieties for seeding and rates. A soils testing laboratory exists at Corvallis, where complete analysis of the soil can be made, to determine its needs. The college does not run nitrate tests, at this time, for determination and recommendations from this test for nitrogen application. A poultry disease laboratory is maintained to identify and render recommendations as to poultry disease control. A diagnostic animal industry laboratory exists to diagnose and recommend control, or determine control for diseases of horses, sheep, cattle and swine. A plant clinic was formed this past year, to more orderly handle diseased plants that were causing difficulty for individual farmers. Other services of this nature are available, and are rendered upon request of the individual.

Bulletins Available

Oregon State college extension and experiment station bulletins, USDA bulletins are available, on various subjects for farm people. Blue prints of farm buildings and equipment and farm homes are available at a small fee. Farm record books and also made available for Oregon conditions. Special information is secured and recommended from extension specialists or experiment station research workers.

Farm demonstrations are carried on throughout the year relative to the various fields of agriculture as they are important to the individual county and community. The over-all extension program for the county is coordinated by the Sherman county Rural Advisory Council. This council consists of the chairman and vice-chairman of various committees, as determined by the council itself. This committee is meeting January 12 to look forward to the coming year, and extend recommendations as to the extension program for 1955. The council consists of chairman and vice-chairman of a Land Use, Weed, Farm Home and Rural Life, Livestock, Crops and 4-H Leaders associations.

Questions Answered

If you have problems or questions that the county extension office or OSC, might extend, please let us know. We will do our best to answer them.

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Rural Council To Meet January 12

The Sherman county Rural Advisory Council will meet at 10:00 a. m. January 12, county courthouse, Moro, County Agent T. W. Thompson reports. W. L. May, chairman of the council will preside.

Gordon Hood, state extension agent, Corvallis, will comment on trends in agriculture. T. W. Thompson, county extension agent, will report on the extension program during the past year and show slides of some of the activities, demonstrations and problems facing county farmers. The various committees of the council will review their activities during the past year.

The council is organized to develop and aid in carrying on a county rural (farm home and youth) program in cooperation with the extension service of OSC, that will study agricultural and rural living problems, formulating programs to meet them and outline a yearly extension program. The chairman and vice-chairman of several committees, as selected by the council from the council membership. Committees are: Land Use, Weeds and Farm Home and Rural Life. Other members are the president and vice-president of the Cattlemen's association and president of the 4-H Leaders association. The president and vice-president of the Wheat Association are being asked to participate this year.

Sherman County Club Starts With Plans for Progress

The Sherman County club was started again Monday night when interested Sherman countians met at the call of Vernon Miller, president, to elect officers and talk over a program to fulfill the needs of the county in its economic, social and civic improvement.

The constitution was changed to permit meetings to be held at any time when called by the executive committee.

The report of the nominating committee was adopted resulting in the election of Giles French, president; Collis Moore, vice-president; B. C. Baumgartner, secretary-treasurer; John Decker, L. E. Kaseberg, L. P. Haven and Charles Burnet were chosen as directors.

If arrangements can be made the first meeting will be one about highways with a member of the highway commission as speaker. Meetings will be held when there is business to be done, when weather is suitable and speakers are available.

Wilson Says Rain Making Delayed

George Wilson, county representative on the rain making board for the three mid-Columbia counties, reports that activities were stopped as of January 1 and will not be started again until April 1. Reason for this is that there is not enough money for continuous operation because Morrow county has not made full contribution.

Because the organization prefers to be active in the second quarter of the year instead of the first, the work has been delayed three months so that available money can be spent at a more needed time.

Markets For Grain Good At Portland

Pacific Northwest markets were little changed from last week. Demand was seasonally slow. But the light offerings held prices mostly steady. At Portland, gains showed up in high protein hard winter wheat from Montana. Other wheat was generally unchanged. On December 29, cash sales of No. 1 Soft White, White Club, and Western White brought \$2.34 a bushel. No. 1 Hard White ordinary protein was \$2.35, while 12 per cent protein brought \$2.50 to \$2.53. No. 1 Hard White Baart, ordinary protein, was quoted at \$2.39 to \$2.40, with 12 per cent protein at \$2.47 to \$2.48 a bushel. These quotations are based on coast delivery, 15-day shipment.

Traffic Accidents Less In Oregon

Oregon's 11-month traffic accident and injury count was released today by the secretary of state's office.

The toll: 50,010 accidents and 11,660 persons injured. In 1953, reports covering the same period show that 59,880 accidents and 13,505 injuries had occurred in the state.

November traffic accounted for 4,739 mishaps and 1,172 injuries. The November accident breakdown by locations shows:

In urban areas — 1,268 accidents, 204 injuries. In rural locations — 1,315 accidents, 683 injuries. In Portland — 2,156 accidents, 385 injuries.

As reported earlier, traffic deaths through November number 365, as compared with 354 at the same time a year ago.

GRANGE MEETS

The Harlandview grange new year party even though it was held in the juvenile hall after the stove blew up and scattered soot over the main room. After dinner a meeting was held followed by card playing until 8:30. Mr. and Mrs. Atley Wilson and Mr. and Mrs. Roland Johnson with a few others, were present from Rufus and Mr. and Mrs. Howard Belshee, charter members, were up from The Dalles. Help will be needed to make the grange hall ready for the January 15 meeting.

Late Rains Make December Moisture Total .60 Inch

December finally ended with a total of .60 inch of rainfall, much more than the .15 originally reported. The final three days brought .45 inch of rain.

Despite this the month ends with a shortage of 1.07 inch and the total for the crop year is 3.7 which is 1.79 below the normal for the first four months of the winter wheat crop year.

A light snow fell Tuesday afternoon, enough to make the roads slick and give some protection to the wheat. Not much snow was expected that day by the weather prophets although more is looked for later in the week.

Ted Gamble Made War Bond Head

Ted R. Gamble, Portland business man and former treasury coordinator of war bond sales, was this week appointed by Secretary of the Treasury Humphrey to be chairman of bond sales in Oregon relieving E. C. Sammons, who has held that post for nearly 12 years.

A new quota for Oregon was announced at the same time. The state is expected to buy \$45,100,000 for 1955 which makes Sherman county's share \$95,000. This is higher than it has been. In order to keep the nation's bonds current it will be necessary to dispose of \$5,500,000,000 in E and H bonds during 1955. This will make for safer financing than sales to banks.

Joe Morrison Buried Here Tuesday

Funeral services for Joseph B. Morrison were held at Arlington Tuesday morning following by interment at the Moro cemetery. Mr. Morrison died of a heart attack Friday, December 31 at his home in Arlington.

Joe Morrison was born in Pennsylvania February 19, 1865, the son of an early day minister who came to this county in 1896 bringing his numerous family. He lived in Hay Canyon when a young man, married Jennie Belshee, and farmed many places in the county, living in both Moro and Grass Valley.

About 30 years ago he moved to Gilliam county which has been his home since that time and where he and members of his family have farms.

Surviving are his widow, Mae; three sons, Clarence of Wasco, James of Portland, Jodie of Arlington; daughters, Marie Wilcox, Salem, Marguerite Christianson, Moro, Lillian Montague, Milwaukie, Mary Alice Clark, Albany; a brother, James of Portland; three sisters, Nancy Thompson, Bremerton, Wn.; Margaret Bates, Corvallis, Maude Keenan, Sacramento, California.

He was an Elk and a pioneer of Wasco county.

Mid-Columbia PCA Meeting Announced

More than 200 farmers and their wives from Hood River, Sherman, Wasco, Gilliam and Wheeler counties in Oregon and Klickitat and Skamania counties in Washington are expected to attend the annual meeting of the Mid-Columbia Production Credit association at the civic auditorium in The Dalles, January 8, J. Merton Stein secretary-treasurer, said this week.

As previously announced, this year's meeting will feature the paying off of the government's investment in association capital stock. As a member-owned institution, Mr. Stein, said, the PCA will operate on its own capital and reserves and will pay its full share of taxes, including federal income taxes.

A. B. Roberson, vice president of the Production Credit Corporation of Spokane, will be featured speaker at the business meeting following a dinner at noon. Members will elect two new directors to succeed Paul Davenport and Riddell Lage, whose terms expire December 31. Nominations for directors will be presented by a committee composed of members present from Hood River and Klickitat counties. Nominations also can be made from the floor.

New County Officers Sworn In Wednesday

A majority of a new county court was sworn into office Wednesday forenoon with some definite promises to the public of action to be taken during its term of office. County Clerk Marie Hoskinson swore Vernon Miller in as county judge and Charles Kuypers as county commissioner with neither the crowd nor the fanfare that occasionally accompanies such affairs.

Prior to the swearing-in ceremony the outgoing county court, Judge C. A. Tom, Commissioners Donald Martin and Kenneth Sather, approved the bills for December and finished the work for the end of 1954 while the new court looked on. Sather, two year veteran, remains as county commissioner.

Judge Tom expressed confidence in his successor and offered any aid that he could give the new men. He said he was closing 53 years of public service with pleasure in his accomplishments and satisfaction that he had no further official duties.

The new court entered into their duties with caution. Members will meet Friday and make some appointments that were delayed while prospective candidates are interviewed. Among these is a member of the fair board to replace Kenneth Fridley whose other labors kept him from accepting re-appointment, and a member of the budget committee to succeed Miller.

Without debate the Sherman County Journal was named county official newspaper; J. R. Yocum, J. F. Peters and Lester Wilson were appointed read viewers, Norman Fields, truant officer and Walter Bruckert, T. Lester Johnson and Arzell Lemley on the dog damage board.

Ivan Blagg reported that the Grass Valley PTA wanted better health service and Bob Boynton asked for some improvement to the road to the John Day river.

Federal Employees Under State U.C.C.

First claims from former federal workers for unemployment insurance benefits are being taken this week by the Oregon Unemployment Compensation commission. Under the law passed by the recent congress, these payments will come from federal appropriations but will be made through employment offices of the state agencies. Benefits paid to unemployed workers up until June 30, 1954, are based on 1953 wage credits. After mid-year, 1954 will be the base year.

Former federal workers who have not filed a claim during the 1953-4 benefit year must serve one waiting week before drawing benefits. Those who have a current claim may be entitled to additional payments if their 1953 wage credits are sufficient.

About 18,000 federal workers in Oregon are being brought under coverage of unemployment insurance, adding to the 410,000 workers already eligible on the basis of 1953 wage credits. Several thousand others who are veterans of the Korean action also are being paid on a supplementary basis by the Oregon commission.

During 1954, just over \$24 millions was paid to unemployed workers covered by the state law and about \$1,260,000 from federal funds to Korean veterans. No estimate yet has been made of amounts under the third program just being established, but reimbursement will be made by the federal government for benefits paid based on previous federal earnings.

Some federal groups already have been informed of their rights and responsibilities under the new program and others are being notified by their agencies and by state commission representatives. Claimants should have social security numbers, notices of personal action, and address of the most recent payroll office. Further detailed information concerning job opportunities and benefit payments may be obtained at any of the 26 local offices of the Oregon commission.