

Sherman County Journal

Sixty-Seventh Year No. 11

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

By Giles L. French

"I know" she said of her husband, "Joe doesn't do much, but he does it around where I can watch him."

T W N

Never mind, Oregonians. We may not get much legislation but we'll get more than our share of the Congressional Record.

T W N

My Word! Now there's going to be a woman's barbershop singing contest. Not satisfied with taking over the shop, they take over all the time to keep one's women, wine and song separated.

T W N

There is great confusion around Salem these early days of the legislature and lucky is he who can find a pattern in it first.

T W N

We note that "decline in the art of conversation" as a subject of conversation is a sign of weakness.

T W N

A few more trips like that of Dag Hammarskjold's will about wind up that noble experiment, the United Nations.

T W N

We note that the dairymen are not going to try to get a new contract measure through the legislature and are happy about it. Milk is not a public utility; it is a food. The evils of monopoly hurt the dairymen more than the established price helped.

T W N

Grain men last week were publicly worrying about where to store the 1955 wheat crop. We suppose that is their job. But unless it rains a great deal more the worrying is useless.

T W N

The usual group has sent out a protest against a sales tax before a bill for one could be introduced. With wages at an average of \$83 per week in Oregon it may be that opposition to a sales tax is more emotional than mathematical.

T W N

My. Don't those new license plates show up like a flashlight in the dark?

T W N

"I ain't a rich man", said Uncle Emmett, "and I don't need anyone to help me spend my money, not even the government."

T W N

Every place in history one can read of the success of those who are individuals; never are the robots important. No matter how hard government tries to take away the duties of the individual there will be those who never fit into the general mold.

T W N

If there's anything that should be a monopoly it is weather forecasting. With more than one prophet in the field there is no one to cuss except oneself for reading the wrong prophet. When there was but one picking on him was fun.

T W N

Ways and Means committee heads say they can't cut the budget much. Maybe we need some men there who don't know they can't.

T W N

A state does just the same as an individual. It spends money when it has it, then it borrows as long as it can, then it gets economical because it has to pay its debts. It may not be wise but it is true.

T W N

We note that when "the people demand" something from government someone has almost invariably encouraged them to demand and that all too often the someone expects to get something out of it.

T W N

It may be perfectly proper for a football coach to resign right after he has been given a new car by appreciative fans but it looks odd. Yet, that is a good time to leave; if he stays long enough he will be lucky to get to take his car.

T W N

The president has requested legislation to make possible freer competition between transportation agencies. That is in the shippers' and consumers' interest.



Front row: left to right, Charles Knappes, new county commissioner, Vernon Miller, new county judge, Kenneth Sather, holdover commissioner, County Clerk Marie Hoskinson and road superintendent, Kendrick Dunlap, for the background for the new county court.

Moro Missionaries Organize For Year

The Moro Missionary society met at the home of Mrs. Alfred Solomon Wednesday afternoon, January 12, with Mrs. Ted Thompson, assisting hostess. Dessert of gingerbread with whipped cream and coffee was served to the ladies.

Mrs. Max Barzee presided at the business meeting during which the officers for 1955 were installed as follows: Mrs. Harry Pinkerton, president; Mrs. Ted Thompson, vice-president; Mrs. Russell Belshee, secretary; Mrs. Eugene Amidon will be treasurer but was not present to be installed. The chairmanship of departments will include Mrs. Maggie Barnum, Mrs. Edith Burnet, Mrs. Dewey Thompson, Mrs. Gwen Matteson, Mrs. Andrew Paulson, Mrs. Alfred Solomon and Mrs. Earl Gentry.

Mrs. Solomon had charge of the devotionals, stressing "The Ideal Woman" by scripture and discussion.

Gwen Matteson directed the program. Mrs. Genevieve Powell and Mrs. Velma McKean sang two numbers, accompanied by Mrs. Carroll Sayers. "Waltz of the Flowers" and "I Shall Not Pass Again This Way".

Information about Menaul mission school at Albuquerque, New Mexico, was told to the group.

Plans were made for the society to sponsor the "World Day of Prayer" service February 25 in the Moro church.

Burton Wood To Talk Here To Stockmen

Burton G. Wood, head, agricultural economic department, OSC, and a member of Secretary of Agriculture Benson's fourteen man advisory council, will be featured speaker at the Sherman County Cattlemen's association annual meeting, Odd-Fellows hall, Grass Valley, Friday, January 28, Howard Ross, president has announced.

The executive committee of the association is meeting Friday afternoon, January 14 to lay final plans for the program. Reports of the year's activities will be given by the president and secretary of the association, during the annual meeting. Plans are for films and additional speakers that will be of interest to livestock producers in Sherman county. Final program arrangements will be announced next week.

Wood is a national known authority in his field. Sherman cattlemen have not had the privilege to hear him on the local level before. Mr. Wood has appeared at meetings of the Wheat League, Production Credit, and other groups in the past. He is an outstanding speaker.

Present executive committee besides Ross include: Bill Jefferies, John Reckman, Elton Eakin, Bob Boynton, Marvin Thomas, Leland Medler, Leonard Fields and T. W. Thompson, secretary.

County Farm Income Down Slightly In 1954

Gross agricultural income for 1954 in Sherman county was maintained near the same level as the past 3 years, T. W. Thompson, county extension agent, reports.

The year's income was estimated at \$9,880,000. This is slightly lower than 1953 income of \$10,430,000. Expected lower income did not materialize with record wheat yields per acre and good prices for both wheat and barley. Livestock income declined most due to a decline in livestock prices and more feeding of cattle to finished grades or heavier weights.

Estimated income is divided into Cash Crops Receipts and Dairy, Meat Animals and Wool and Poultry. Grain crops harvested commanded 93.7% of the total income and livestock 5.8%. Tree fruits and hay crops are a minor income factor.

Grain crops harvested are based on 3,400,000 bushel of wheat, 900 tons of oats and 29,000 tons of barley. Most of the barley was produced on diverted acres thru restriction imposed on wheat seeding by the allotment program of the USDA. Wheat yields per acre were highest on record, amounting to 35.6 bushels per acre for a county average.

Estimated farm cash marketings were as follows. Wheat \$7,812,000; Oats \$40,500; Barley, \$1,413,000; Tree Fruits and Hay Crops \$40,000; Dairy Products, \$20,000 Meat Animals and Wool, \$491,300; Poultry, \$63,700.

Loan Periods End Near

Price support loans and purchase agreements on wheat, barley and oats produced in 1954 must be completed not later than January 31, according to Ralph J. Busse, office manager of the Sherman county ASC committee.

Farmers who expect to place their grain under CCC loan should file their applications within the next week in order to be sure of meeting the deadline. If the grain is farm-stored, time must be allowed for inspection of the structure and grading of the sample taken at time of inspection.

Six hundred seventy-one wheat loans totaling 2,038,425 bushels at a loan value of \$4,456,978, and 438 barley loans in amount of 804,376 bushels for a value of \$963,097 have been issued by the local office to December 15, 1954. Over 200 loan applications have been completed during the first two weeks of this month and indications are that by closing date the majority of producers in the county will have their grain under government price support.

Sam Coon Announces Economic Survey

Congressman Coon announced today that an economic survey by the Bureau of Census has been started and questionnaires will be received in the near future by businessmen, manufacturers and mineral industries of eastern Oregon.

The questionnaires on current business are being mailed from Washington, but are to be returned when completed to regional offices, he said.

The economic survey, Congressman Coon explained, is being conducted on a nationwide scale. It will afford current information to replace former census figures compiled for manufacturers in 1947 and for businesses in 1948.

County Agent Ends Year and Starts Another With New Problems

Activities of the Sherman county extension agent, and the general situation for 1954 was reported to the Sherman county Rural Advisory Council this week by T. W. Thompson, county agent. The high-lights of the year's activities, illustrated with colored slides, was discussed. The following points were outlined relative to extension activities and agriculture in general.

Gross farm income maintained near the 10 million dollar level even though 1/2 cut in wheat acreage occurred during 1954. Difference in acreage income from wheat to barley was in general compensated by the use of nitrogen fertilizer. Investigation of place and rates of nitrogen and other fertilizer materials was probably the most important work done by the extension office. Ten fertilizer plots were established throughout the county and re-established 1955 in cooperation with the USDA and OSC agricultural experiment station. The plots indicated an application of 40 pounds of nitrogen would increase yields by 12.7 bushels. Profit over cost of material on the 1954 Sherman county allotted acres of 100,000 would amount to \$12,100,000.

Control of rye and cheatgrass in fence rows with the application of Chloro IPC and other materials was found possible. Plots were established throughout the county to investigate control methods and various material. Plot work other than cheatgrass and rye was done on fall and spring annual weed spraying, quackgrass, Russian knapweed and 24-D and soil sterilant work on morning glory.

Establishment of conservation practices took on a new surge during the past year. Some farmers were plowing up grass while others were making plans for a

long time grass rotation with summer-fallow wheat. Some acreage of grass was seeded. Sod waterways using Pubescent wheat-grass really took hold with near 40 acres of actual waterways being established by farmers in the Wasco, Moro and Grass Valley area. The one best soil conservation practice—stubble mulch farming increased by 6,000 acres. More was learned as to how to prepare trashy fallow. Twenty four erosion, irrigation and stock water ponds were constructed mainly in the southern part of the county. Encouragement was given to all conservation practices. Six grass-legume nurseries were maintained with plans for new ones each year. Sagebrush ground was sprayed by chemical and removed by mechanical means.

Aphids were not a problem, but more concern is being given about wireworm damage. Smut was a minor factor with no more than \$14,000 loss for the whole county compared to \$300,000 in 1951. A new smut control material, Hepta Chloro Benzene, was recommended for trial basis and farm trials established. Elmar was by far the leading variety commending 85% of total wheat production. Golden second with 7%. The largest barley crop on record was produced for the county with slightly over a ton yield per acre county average. The wheat yield was highest on record amounting to 35.6 bushel per acre. A cereal nursery was maintained at Kent in cooperation with the station. The Sherman station field day and three farm tours were held to show farmers information on fertilizer, varieties, grass-legume and conservation practices.

Some difficulty was encountered with grain storage. Farm storage building plans and grain sanitation methods were extended to farm families. Other farm buildings, equipment and house plans were available. These were distributed for farm home improvement and windbreak planting. Several new windbreak plantings demonstrations were established.

Some new irrigated pasture was established where water was available to provide better summer feed or increase the cow herd. Progeny testing programs where cow and offspring are graded were maintained on two herds and twenty bulls checked for dwarfism using the profilometer. More feeding was being done to compensate for expected income drop. Considerable acreage of hay was cut. Early cutting of hay for higher protein was encouraged. New methods of hay making were beginning to work their way into the county.

The county was declared a Bang's District and nearly 3500 head of cattle tested for Brucellosis and in most cases T.B. The incidence of Bang's seems low and will give farmers an opportunity to work toward a Brucellosis accredited county.

A Cattleman of the Year was selected as well as a Conservation Man. A recognition banquet was held to honor and promote these men and program. A Junior Rodeo was held by Sherman Cattlemen's association, as well as a 4-H Meat Animal Auction Sale for county boys and girls.

Ninety four boys and girls completed 133 4-H club projects under the direction of voluntary local leaders and the extension service program. The club members projects were valued at \$21,900 with a profit or saving of \$6,000. Most club members were enrolled in livestock or clothing. Seventeen local leaders and most all parents,

Bov Scouts Spend Night Outdoors; Learn Camping Lore

Saturday morning around eight the Moro Boy Scouts Troop, under the supervision of Scoutmaster Harold Winegar, left the Presbyterian church with full pack for a two day winter outing. The boys hiked to a campsite near Nish east of DeMoss Springs, a distance of five and a half miles. After numerous stops to rest and readjust packs, the boys arrived at their destination a short time after noon. By 2:00, tents were rigged, campfires glowing, and old glory was flying from top a nearby hill.

The evening meal consisted of stew with hot chocolate. After policing of the area the boys gathered around the campfire for singing and games. By 9:30 all scouts were snug, deep in their sleeping bags, ready for a good night's sleep. Each scout prepared his own breakfast and lunch on Sunday. A compass course was arranged by Patrol leaders, Dale Archer and John Matteson which gave the scouts practice in the use of a compass. The camp was located near a group of abandoned farm buildings which would have made adequate shelter against extreme conditions if it would have been necessary. Sunday afternoon the troop arrived back in DeMoss Springs to awaiting transportation home. Scouts making the trip were Ronald Benson, John Gilman, John Matteson, Eddie Shoemaker, Gene Yeager, Phil Gilman, Bobby Cyphers, Gus Thoele, Vic Chipman, Gary Thompson, Keith Hockman, Tommy DeMoss, David Conlee and Dale Archer. Gene Colton, assistant scoutmaster, joined them Saturday afternoon.

Protein wheat higher

Ordinary protein wheat gained a cent at Portland. Prices are still about 7 cents a bushel below the effective loan rate, however, and growers continue to place most of their wheat under loan. Well over half of this year's Pacific Northwest crop was under loan by mid-December. January 31 is the loan deadline. Most No. 1 ordinary protein wheats were \$2.35 to \$2.36 a bushel, with Hard White Baart at \$2.40.

PCA Meets — Elects

The annual meeting of the Mid-Columbia Production Credit association was held in The Dalles last Saturday with A. B. Robertson, director, as the principal speaker. Walter Bailey, president of the association, gave a check to Mr. Robertson signifying that the local group had paid back all its obligations to the federal government and would be on its own hereafter.

About 165 attended the meeting which re-elected Riddell Lage of Hood River and Paul Davenport, Goldendale, as directors for another term. Walt Bailey and Lage were elected as president and vice president, respectively.

Moro Club Meets

The Moro Woman's club met last Thursday at the home of Mrs. Maggie Barnum. Following the business meeting Mrs. Harry Pinkerton told about some of the interesting places she visited on her recent trip to Canada and the eastern states. Mrs. Lester Conlee, who took the same trip, showed colored slides taken by her husband. Refreshments were served by Mrs. John Parker and Mrs. William Rodda. The next meeting will be February 3.

Journalism School Giving Scholarships

The University of Oregon school of journalism announces a new scholarship program which will enable deserving and qualified high school seniors to study journalism in the university.

According to Gordon A. Sabine, dean of the journalism school, four students will receive \$300 four-year scholarships next fall. These awards can be in addition to other scholarships the student may have received, Sabine stated. A "talent search" is being conducted in the state by the school to find students who possess talent in either the field of news or advertising and who are interested in journalism as a career.

Candidates will be narrowed down to ten finalists, who will be interviewed by journalists in their respective cities. The winners will be chosen from this group, and the remaining finalists will be given special consideration for one of the work scholarship programs carried on by the journalism school.

Meetings Planned To Inform About Farm Programs

Community meetings to discuss the various federal farm programs for wheat and how they will affect the individual farmer will be held January 18, Wasco; 19th at Grass Valley; and January 20th at Moro, T. W. Thompson, county agent has announced.

The Oregon Wheat Growers league requested community discussion meetings to give farmers an opportunity to determine how each program might affect him. The information meeting will involve the dissemination of concise, unbiased and factual information, concerning the various approaches used toward formation of a permanent National Farm Legislation with particular regard to wheat. The programs such as rigid supports, flexible supports, domestic parity, forward pricing, compensation payments, free markets and other programs will be discussed.

The Wasco meeting will be held at the City hall, January 18, the Grass Valley meeting at the Grass Valley Grain Growers office, and the Moro meeting at the county courthouse. Each meeting will start at 1:30 p. m. The agenda for each of the three meetings will be:

Introduction (purpose of meeting) County Agent; The Wheat Program, John Hilderbrand, county wheat grower; Alternative Programs, R. J. Beck, ass't director extension service; Instructions to Discussion Groups, County Agent; Feedback from Groups, Group Recorders; General Session, County Agent.

Similar meetings are being held at the same time in the other Columbia Basin counties. A training meeting for Wheat league representatives and agents from the Columbia Basin counties in Arlington, January 17. Ralph Beck, assistant director, OSC, extension service representative for state and federal programs will serve as resource and information person in Sherman county. The meetings will be discussion type in a real attempt to inform all farmers, interested in the various federal programs that would be considered by Congress. All are welcome and a good attendance is hoped for, states Thompson.

State Funds Size Given

Total funds in the Oregon state treasury at the end of 1954 showed a decline from \$139,987,472 at the end of 1953 to \$109,943,187, according to Sig Unander, state treasurer.

The drop was due in a larger part to the lowering of the general fund balance from \$41,473,672 to \$29,706,801; to a decline in the state unemployment compensation fund from \$70,616,073 to \$59,164,841 and to a reduction in the state building fund, due to expenditures on new buildings from \$4,966,013 to \$1,898,892.

Interest on state deposits and upon short-term investments credited to the general fund during the calendar year of 1954 totaled \$1,293,945, compared with \$1,561,187 during the year of 1953. Inheritance tax receipts grossed \$2,384,892 in 1954 as compared with \$2,567,120 in 1953.

At the end of the years 1953 and 1954, Treasurer Unander announced investments of permanent trust funds were as follows:

1953	1954	
\$32,357,660	\$31,922,441	
Industrial Accident Fund	\$23,309,443	\$24,951,067
Segregated Accident Fund	\$787,234	\$824,771
Restoration Fund	\$615,325	\$817,153
Oregon Forest Rehabilitation Sinking Fund	\$97,031	\$104,915
Judges Retirement Fund	\$5,537,950	\$6,234,089
Oregon War Veterans' Welfare Bond Sinking Fund	\$637,0031	\$945,323
State Sewer Bond Revolving Fund	\$49,183,875	\$53,286,377
Public Employee's Retirement Fund	\$40,218,789	\$22,000,266
State Highway Fund		

Pointing to the deficit in the general fund of the state, estimated for the 1955-57 biennium at \$45,000,000 without any consideration for building fund appropriations, Treasurer Unander said that a recent estimate of state deficit by the State Tax Commission of \$36,000,000 should be amended to include a possible state levy on property yielding \$30,000,000 to arrive at the true financial picture of the state.