

# Sherman County Journal

Sixty-Eighth Year No. 10

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County Official Paper

## These Things We Note

By Giles L. French

Must say that so far this year reminds us a lot of the last one.

T T W N  
We read that it was Julius Caesar who changed New Year from December 21 to January 1. He made a mistake by chasing after Cleopatra, too.

T T W N  
The party in France that opposed taxes boosted its membership in parliament. Now that's an idea.

T T W N  
Unexpected answers: "If winter comes, can spring be far behind?" "Yes."

T T W N  
How many of the gadgets on an automobile are necessary or often used?

T T W N  
You can tell a person's age by his reaction to "There's nothing new under the sun" and "Something new has been added."

T T W N  
If our understanding of human nature is correct the Russians will eventually starve because of a shortage of ideas. No one there can use his mind to advance himself and bureaucracy does not encourage ideas in any country. Unless they are able to borrow ideas, they will fail.

T T W N  
The government, it is reported, intends to leave much of the Rogue river area in a primitive state. Well, everyone else has.

T T W N  
A store advertises mushrooms as the king of vegetables. Another advertising manager too fat for potatoes.

T T W N  
Wonder if the fellow who names hurricanes has been unfortunate with mothers in law?

T T W N  
The only reason for tax cuts is that they might curtail government spending and growth of government.

T T W N  
Pine timbermen are saying that porcupines are destroying their timber. It would seem that eating a Ponderosa pine would be punishment enough in itself without man making it a capital offense.

T T W N  
Portland seems determined to put its new center down town. Maybe not enough will come to make traffic dangerous if all the mad ones stay away.

T T W N  
If this old fashioned winter is preparation for an old fashioned spring we will spend judgment.

T T W N  
The state government is being sued on several different counts as counties protest some of the tax commission authority. There are pains to changing methods.

T T W N  
It takes an investment of about \$60,000 to bring a steady income of \$200 per month. That means savings of about \$2000 per year through a good part of an active life. Those who get \$200 a month or more from the government without working are doing very well.

T T W N  
Did anyone make a mistake last January in prophesying what was going to happen in 1955?

T T W N  
Pictures of fish and pictures of vegetables both promise that some one expects spring.

T T W N  
The New Year celebrations were said to be quieter this time. Do you suppose it never was necessary to drink a pint of liquor to ease the birth pains of a new year?

T T W N

**A BAG OF TOOLS**  
Isn't it strange  
That princes and kings,  
And clowns that caper,  
In sawdust rings,  
And common people  
Like you and me  
Are builders for eternity?

Each is given a bag of tools,  
A shapless mass,  
A book of rules;  
And each must make—  
Ere life is flown—  
A stumbling block  
Or a stepping stone.

—R. L. Sharpe

## Red Cross Aid For Flood Victims May Be Contributed

Mrs. Leo Watkins of Wasco, secretary of the Sherman county chapter American Red Cross, has received a letter from headquarters saying that a special drive will be conducted in Oregon and California on behalf of the flood sufferers of those two states.

Anyone wishing to contribute to the aid of those who lost from the recent floods may do so by sending a check to Mrs. Watkins or to Dr. Frank Reid at Moro or Rufus. He is the county chairman. Such funds will be forwarded to headquarters for help of the flood victims.

## Farmers May Not Pay S.S. Tax

Most self-employed farmers and ranchers will not establish eligibility for insurance benefits under the social security law until they make income tax declaration in January 1957, reports Manning Becker, Oregon State college farm management specialist.

It is possible, however, for farmers to become eligible in 1956 if they have earned as much as \$400 from farming in each of the calendar years 1955 and 1956. But along with this goes responsibility to report earnings from farming and to pay the 3 per cent social security tax not later than April 15.

The social security administration has suggested payments be made as early as possible. Becker believes most farmers will normally establish their eligibility next January when they report total earnings for 1956.

Where conditions warrant, retroactive insurance benefit payments will be made from the time the person became eligible. The form for making a report and remitting the required tax for social security insurance (schedule SE) comes with the federal income tax return, Form 1040. If your net earnings from farming were as much as \$400 in 1955, you are obliged to fill out and file this return and pay the social security tax, according to Becker, even if you do not owe any federal income tax for 1955.

Older farmers—those 65 or over—can retire after March 1956 and start getting monthly old-age insurance payments if they have met the earnings requirements and paid their tax. Other farmers, regardless of age, will acquire family protection in the form of monthly payments to surviving dependents in the event of their death, provided they meet the same requirements.

In either case, the payment of the social security tax must accompany the income tax declaration or return, Becker emphasizes. This responsibility is required by law.

Further information on social security taxes may be obtained from internal revenue service offices. Information about benefits may be obtained from social security district offices. If you don't know where these offices are, postmaster can tell you, says Becker.

## Plan For State Parks Advanced

Wm. M. Tugman chairman of the Governor's State Park Advisory committee announced this week that a hearing with regard to state parks will be held in February. The meeting is scheduled for February 24 and 25 from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m., in room 36, State Office Building, 1400 S. W. Sixth Avenue, Portland.

Tugman advised that all groups or individuals wishing to speak about state parks or discuss proposals with regard to the present administration of state parks should contact Wm. M. Tugman, Reedsport, Oregon, not later than February 15.

These groups or individuals are asked to supply the following information:

1. A written notice, indicating the name of spokesman, either individual or for a group; the name of the group and subject that the spokesman will discuss.
  2. File a written brief relative to their proposal or discussion.
  3. Estimate time for discussion of the subject (it is anticipated at this time that each individual will be limited to 30 minutes and each group to one hour).
- Tugman stressed the importance of this hearing in order that the Governor's State Park Advisory group may have the advice and counsel of individuals and groups interested in state parks.

## ASC Program To Be Fully Explained Jan. 12

The ACP program and how it can better meet the needs of Sherman county farmers will be outlined and discussed during a general meeting, Thursday, January 12, 1:30 p. m., county courthouse, Moro, County Agent Thompson, reports.

The meeting, one of four trial meetings to be held in the state, is sponsored by the Sherman county Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation committee. County and community committeemen of the ASC committee, soil conservation district supervisors, Sherman county Rural Advisory council, Land Use committee members, state and federal agency county representatives, and other farmers and business men are invited.

The object of the meeting is to determine how the ACP program and its funds can be made more useful and generally used by Sherman county farmers. Ralph J. Busse, ASC, county office manager indicates.

The ACP, or agricultural conservation program, is a federal program to assist farmers on a cost-sharing basis in adopting permanent conservation practices on the farm. The program is administered on the county level by county and community committeemen of the ASC committee with its office located in the courthouse. The 1956 county committee with direct responsibility is Frank von Borstel, David Richeiderfer and Russell Belshee.

Harvey Miller, chairman, state ASC committee, Ralph Beck, extension service and Sherwood Nicholas, farmer fieldman for the ASC committee for this area will attend the January 12 meeting.

The broad object of the national ACP program is to help meet the varied conservation problems confronting agriculture. Various conservation practices are adopted on a local basis, to assist farmers financially in performing needed practices on the farm. Cost-sharing generally amounts to 50% of the cost of establishing the practice.

With declining farm income the program offers needed assistance to county farmers. To meet these needs on a county basis, farmers are asked to assist in determining what approach should be taken to make the most use of the program.

## Wasco Girl Gets Honor At OSC

Cherrill W. Fields, Wasco freshman at Oregon State college, has been chosen for membership in the OSC chapter of Phrateres, national women's organization.

The group assists with Red Cross, Community Chest, Mothers weekend, and freshman orientation at OSC.

Miss Fields is majoring in recreation education at OSC. She is a 1955 graduate of Wasco high school.

## Winter of the Big Snow Was 1884-85 and The Sod Was Soaked To The Rocks

As the country was getting settled and the homesteaders were building their little box houses and little lean-to barns and putting up fence around their quarter sections the winter of 1884-85 came along to astound them.

The winter of 1884-85 wasn't so cold nor so destructive as were the hard winters previously recounted but it was the winter of the deep snow.

It snowed about Christmas time or before and it kept right on snowing for day after day. The grass was covered, then the fences with their little juniper posts and two strands of sagging wire and then the barns and the houses. Houses that were dug into the hillsides were unseen except for smoke early in the storm.

Homesteaders had some trouble looking after their stock but many had produced a crop or two and had a little stack of hay around which the few horses and cattle were glad to huddle. It was hard work getting around in four or five feet of snow.

Men who had to get out for one reason or another made skis or snowshoes on which to travel and many told about how the country looked. Everything was white gray the earth and the sky was so gray it was hard to tell where the

## Mrs Collis Moore In Race For Republican National Committee

Mrs. Collis P. Moore, Moro, said today that she would be a candidate for Republican National Committeewoman at the election in May of this year.

Mrs. Moore is Sherman county chairman and has been a member of the state central committee several times, the latest term being in its fourth year. She is the wife of Collis Moore, Moro wheat grower, and the mother of David Moore, student at Lewis & Clark college in Portland. She has been active in Woman's club organizations and sings in the Community church choir. She is an alumnus of the University of Oregon, attending when she was Miss Dorothy Huntley of Beaverton.

## More Unemployment Comp. Coming

Increased compensation checks now being computed for Oregon's currently unemployed will be delivered to claimants during the week beginning January 16. Amended claims under the new schedule in effect for the first week of 1956 will be taken starting next Monday, according to the State Unemployment Compensation commission, which has completed arrangements for the change-over in 26 local offices and many itinerant points.

Maximum weekly payment will increase to \$35 from the former \$25, while the average check is expected to be around \$29 against the former \$22. Allowable part earnings also have been raised—from a flat \$2 to a third of the weekly benefit amount. Maximum duration remains the same at 26 weeks in a benefit year.

While "seasonality" restrictions have been done away with by the amended law, nearly a sixth of the former claimants will be eliminated entirely by the rise in minimum base year earnings from \$400 to \$700 and the requirement that such earnings must be at least 37 times the weekly benefit amount.

In addition to these changes effective in 1956, the new disqualification and forfeiture clauses that became law last August 3 have resulted in postponing benefits for some claimants. Others have had benefits reduced or denied because of receiving old age insurance or retirement pay.

Final effect of these and other amendments probably will not be ascertained until the end of the current benefit year June 30, next. Estimates indicate payments may rise about 15 per cent or two millions this year, while an additional amount may be added when 25,000 employees of newly covered firms become eligible for compensation in 1957 or 1958.

To offset these expenditures, contributions of employers are expected to increase about six millions as a result of higher tax rates, wider coverage and additional taxation of individual earnings. If economic conditions do not change materially, the amended law is expected to halt the downward trend of the unemployment trust fund.

## John Rolfe New Fair Board Man Follows Eakin

John M. Rolfe of Grass Valley, although with residence between that town and Kent, was appointed as a member of the Sherman County Fair board by the county court at its first meeting of the year Wednesday, Mr. Rolfe is a son of the late T. M. Rolfe who was once a member of the fair board and was for years a consistent exhibitor of Percheron horses at this and other fairs throughout the northwest. He succeeds Harold D. Eakin, who announced some weeks ago that he would not be available for the job for another term.

Other appointments made by the court were Wallace May for a three year term on the budget committee. He had served last year on an interim appointment to succeed Vernon Miller who became county judge.

Walter Bruckert, T. Lester Johnson and Arzell Lemley will remain as members of the dog damage board. Lester Wilson, J. R. Yocum and Joe Peters will continue as road viewers and the Sherman County Journal will continue as the official paper of the county.

Election boards were appointed and few changes were made in the personnel of them. The jury list was picked Thursday.

Much of the time of the court was taken up with a discussion of repair of county roads damaged by the two run-offs this winter. Everyone wants his road repaired first which the court found difficult to promise. Court members spent Thursday morning looking over roads in the east side of the county, particularly in Hay canyon.

## Mrs. Elizabeth Potter Dies Wednesday

Mrs. Elizabeth Potter, widow of Antone Potter, died at a hospital in The Dalles Wednesday, January 4 at the age of 85 after an extended illness.

Mrs. Potter was born Elizabeth Jacks, September 11, 1870 in Nebraska, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Clay Jacks who moved to the then very new country that became Sherman county in 1880, being among the very first settlers here.

In 1886 she married Antone Potter who had come from California in 1882 and they lived at Klondike for the remainder of their wedded life. She attended school at the Jack's school house, a well known building in early days. It was just east of Klondike.

Mrs. Potter had an excellent memory and was able to recall many events of early days. Funeral services will be held Saturday at two o'clock from Smith Callaway's in The Dalles and interment will be in the Odd-Fellows cemetery there. Rev. Richard Bruner will officiate.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. Mayme Elliot of Klondike, and Mrs. Guy Weedman of Portland, one son, George, now of The Dalles, although one-time county judge of Sherman county and keeper of the family store at Klondike; a sister, Mrs. Alex McLeod of Spokane and a brother, Silbie Jacks of Baldwin Park, California; five grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

Mrs. Potter was a member of Annie Fulton chapter OES and the Wasco Methodist church. It was her request that contributions be made to the Wasco churches in lieu of flowers.

## FISH CARDS DUE

Attention salmon-steelhead anglers. The Oregon Game commission reminds all anglers that the current salmon-steelhead punch cards expire on December 31, 1955.

All of the license agencies throughout the state are prepared to receive the old cards and issue new ones which will remain valid during the 1956 calendar year.

Anglers possessing punch cards that expire at the end of December are required by law to return them to the game commission not later than February 15, 1956.

## CATTLEMEN TO MEET

The Sherman County Cattlemen's association executive committee will meet at 7:30 p. m., Monday, January 9, county court house, Moro. Plans for the annual meeting scheduled for January 31, will be completed. Consideration will be given to sponsorship of a Junior Rodeo for the coming year. Any folks interested are welcome to attend the meeting.

## Home Demonstration Agent Arranges Group Meeting

Mrs. Ina B. Hanson, Sherman county extension agent, will present the lesson "Buffet Meals" on Friday, January 6 for the project leaders of the extension units. The meeting will be held at the Jack Cushman home starting at 10:30 a. m. Mrs. Cushman and Mrs. K. A. Dunlap will assist Mrs. Hanson. Others who are expected to attend the meeting are Mrs. Dewey Thomas, Mrs. George Macnab of Wasco; Mrs. Beth Lake and Mrs. Ruth Vrana of Rufus; Mrs. Byron Stark and Annice Nogle of Kent; Mrs. Cecil Eakin and Mrs. Charlotte Barnett of Grass Valley; Mrs. Lloyd Wooderson of Moro.

These ladies will be hostesses when Mrs. Hanson presents the lesson to the units at their January meetings.

## Paul Syron Sells To Leo Roberts

Paul Syron sold his Chevron Gas Station to Leo Roberts of Wasco who took possession January 3. Mr. Syron had the station almost three years and Mr. Roberts had a Chevron Gas Station in Wasco for about two years. Mr. Syron will continue his garage business across the street from the Chevron Gas Station.

The Syrons bought the Tom Coyle house and will be moving in the near future. The Roberts will be moving to the house vacated by the Syrons.

## Ernest Eslinger Buried In The Dalles

Funeral services for Ernest Eslinger, 63, were held from the Moro church Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p. m. and interment was made in The Dalles.

Mr. Eslinger was born November 17, 1892 at Cedar Springs, Mo., and came to Sherman county with his parents in 1905 to live here most of the remainder of his life. He was married to Leta Newton in Moro in 1913 and to them were born two sons, Walter, a navy lieutenant stationed at Kodiak, Alaska, and Marcus of Springston, Idaho.

Deceased farmed for a time, owned the Vinton Hotel in Grass Valley, ran a pool hall, at the same place; was owner of a taxi service in The Dalles, managed a service station and since 1945 has been owner of the Moro Hotel.

Surviving are his widow, Leta, the two sons, three sister, Mrs. Myrtle Blagg of Grass Valley, Mrs. Maude Griffin, Eureka, Calif., and Mrs. Beulah Patterson of Eugene; three brothers, Claude of Forest Grove, Clem of Hillsboro and Pearlant of Cloverdale.

He was a member of the Masonic lodge and Eastern Star at Grass Valley.

## Bill Dugan Dies At Age of 84

Bill Dugan was buried in The Dalles Tuesday following his death Friday at a hospital in The Dalles.

Dugan's name was Wilburn Edgar Guenther and he was born in Princeton, Mo., March 16, 1871. He came to Kent in 1904 and for years ran the confectionery there and it was here he came to be called Dugan for reasons lost in history.

For the past two years Bill Dugan has lived in the county hospital in The Dalles and there he died of a heart attack at the age of 84.

## Adlai Stevenson To Make Oregon Talk

Adlai Stevenson has accepted the invitation of the Oregon State Democratic Central committee to make the annual Jefferson-Jackson speech in Portland February 11. It was announced today by Howard Morgan, state chairman.

The dinner will be a fund raising affair for the benefit of the Democratic party of Oregon. The invitation was extended to Governor Stevenson last August, before he had declared himself a candidate for the presidential nomination. Morgan stated that Stevenson's acceptance of this invitation does not signify Stevenson's intention to enter the Oregon primary although that subject is still under active discussion at Stevenson's Chicago headquarters.

## Weather Report Shows 1955 Had Many Extremes

Some may remember the weather of 1955 as dry and cool but records show it had the highest temperatures of any year since 1946 and rainfall was nearly an inch and a half above normal. Yet the all time low temperature for November was recorded and the monthly mean temperature for July was the coolest since 1916. Reminds us of the old saying "there's no such thing as bad weather; just different kinds of good."

Only January and September had monthly mean temperatures above normal. All other months varied from 0.2 degrees below normal for June to 6.6 degrees below normal for April. January was 1.7 degrees above normal and September was 0.5 degrees above normal.

The last spring frost was on May 14 and the first fall frost was on September 22, making a frost free period of 131 days compared to a normal of 148 days. The frost on September 22 was 13 days earlier than the average and the spring frost in May was 4 days later than the average date.

The hottest days of the year were July 13 and 14 with temperatures of 100 degrees. This was the first time the temperature had reached 100 since August 22, 1946. The coldest temperatures occurred the night prior to November 15 when the temperature was a minus 10 degrees. This is the coldest temperature recorded in November since records were started in Moro in 1911.

Rainfall for the calendar year ended 1.43 inches above normal with an even 13.00 inches falling in 1955. Five months, January, February, May, June and August had below normal precipitation. November and December were the wettest months with 2.82 December had rain on 20 of the 31 days and November had rain on 15 of the 30 days. The greatest amount fell on December 21 when 1.01 inches was recorded for the 24-hour period.

The rainfall for the crop year ending August 31, 1955 was 2.92 inches below normal with only 8.60 inches of rain falling since September 1, 1954. Rainfall for the growing season March 1 to July 31, 1955 was 3.81 inches which is .26 inches above normal.

## Snow Runs Down Creeks Wednesday

There was only about a quarter of an inch of moisture in the snow that fell Saturday night although there was nearly four inches of it. It has made the roads slick and dangerous and several wrecks were caused by the road surface condition. No one was seriously injured. A car went off the road just north of Kent and a young man wrecked a new car near DeMoss.

The weather moderated Tuesday night and some rain fell and Wednesday it all went down the creeks making a larger run-off in some places than did the one and a half inch that was lost last month.

A car carrier tipped over about a mile south of Grass Valley with its load of new Ford cars damaging the carrier and at least one of the cars. Drivers were not injured and the carrier was soon righted and hauled into a repair shop.

## Jim Kunsman Dead After Long Illness

William James Kunsman, 73, died in The Dalles Monday after a long illness. He was the elder of the Kunsman family that has lived in Sherman county for over 50 years.

He was born in Ohio December 25, 1882 and spent his younger years in this county before moving to The Dalles where he worked for the railroad, first the Great Southern that ran to Dufur and later for the Union Pacific.

Surviving are his widow, Daisy, two sons, Olen of Vancouver, Wn., and Glenn of The Dalles, one daughter, Mrs. Ralph Farmer of The Dalles; three sisters, May Barnum of The Dalles, Mrs. Mary Crossfield of Oakland, Calif., and Mrs. Blanche Landingham, Sheridan and three brothers, Harry of Moro, Irvin of Portland and Roy of The Dalles.

Funeral services were held Thursday with interment in The Dalles.