

Sherman County Journal

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

By Giles L. French

It has been said: No one can explain a success; everyone explains a failure.

Everyone is earning—or getting—more money; not everyone is getting more things. And things are the measure of the living standard.

The steel strike was apparently caused by jealousy between labor leaders, meaning that McDonald had to get as much as Reuther did or lose face. It is probable that most strikes are caused the same way.

In recent years taxpayers have given many more dollars to schools than before; it now devolves on teachers and administrators to see that they give more education—whatever that is.

The Portland vice investigation has apparently deteriorated into a plaintive cry from the Journal for information about a tape recording and a question from the Oregonian about the whereabouts of Maloney.

The soil bank plan, we read, is getting off to a good start in some farming areas. It may not here and we may be lucky if it does not for we can produce more cheaply than many others and should continue to produce.

As an aid to inflation the big road program is a dandy.

As a form of government Russia is a repressive dictatorship and will not last long without change.

"If you let me," said the editorial writer to his boss, "I'll write an editorial so long nobody'll read it."

There is a shortage of teachers and there always will be as long as the supply is controlled by teachers and/or administrators. So get used to it.

We can't help but think the northwest would develop faster and better if the federal government would forget all about us and let us alone.

Some folks are kicking about the Fourth of July holiday coming in the middle of the week. Come to think of it the only holiday that always comes on the weekend is Sunday.

One thing we are not developing is independent ideas and nerve enough to support them.

It is popular these days to criticize the guilt by association assumption. Yet, it is not new. If you run with the bad bunch you get a bad name—and probably deserve it.

At the NEA meeting a woman asked for desegregation between men and women who whom she called the downtrodden minority. We are not so sure they are in the minority, nor downtrodden but the woman was. But the point is that this desegregation can be carried too far. Instead of merely considering it in relation to negroes it could apply to Jews, Japanese, Republicans in the south, red heads, who all have certain attributes that set them apart. One who is blackmailed from a lodge or excluded from a bridge club may protest segregation.

A labor leader says that capitalists are running the government and he doesn't like it. Wants to do it himself, no doubt.

Here half the year is gone and we're still paying for the last one.

Everyone needs a certain amount of praise now and then and the custom is to keep going until they get it, no matter where.

There's probably more money spent for packages than for food. Maybe the farmer ought to raise cartons instead of wheat.

Uncle Emmett: "I'm just a hopin' that before I die I'll find something as exciting as my first bottle of pop."

Man Killed When Car Driven Off Road Into Canyon

Winifred F. Parker, 50, was killed almost instantly Saturday night when he drove his car off Highway 97 about half a mile south of Biggs junction where a low rock wall is built along the creek in Spanish Hollow.

Mr. Parker was coming from Walla Walla to work for Max Belshe during harvest and was reported to have worked for a railroad company until poor eyesight made that no longer possible. No skid marks showed on the pavement.

The train crew saw the wreck in the creek bed and notified police who called an ambulance. Neither state police nor Norman Fields, nor the ambulance crew saw the wreck which was not visible from the highway and it was several hours before the body was found. Joe Drinkard found the wreck.

Mr. Parker is survived by his widow.

Better Roads, Bigger Accidents More Death

Traffic accidents and injuries in Oregon are running ahead of 1955 so far this year, the state traffic safety division reports from Salem. The state also has a 20 per cent increase in deaths for the first four months of the year.

By the end of April, latest month for which accident figures are available, 19,953 mishaps had been reported. The total for the same period in 1955 showed 19,675.

Those injured in accidents during the first four months totalled 4,618 as compared with 4,319 last year at the same time.

In an effort to reduce accidents during this period, Oregon has joined in a nationwide traffic program called "Slow Down and Live." Its aim is to reduce accidents traceable to what safety men call an "in a hurry" complex which results in such violations as unsafe passes, following too closely and excessive speed.

Cost of Packaging Cuts Farm Income

Population increases and growing demand for conveniences in food packaging and processing have added nearly one-half million new jobs in the nation's food marketing industry since 1950, reports Elvera Horrell, OSC agricultural extension economist.

The trend of built-in food convenience is causing a wide gap between prices farmers receive and the food price tag at the corner grocery, the economists says. In 1955, farmers received only 41 cents of each dollar spent for his produce—the other 59 cents going for rising costs of getting food from the farm to the family table.

About 400,000 more people were working in the marketing of farm-produced food last year than in 1950. And each food processing and marketing employee's earnings averaged about 28 per cent more per hour than in 1950.

Retail prices for domestic farm produced food now averages 20 per cent more than in 1950. Homemakers can trim the grocery bill by using time and energy for more home-processing of food, says Mrs. Horrell, or time and energy can be saved by paying for the services.

Coon Favors Highway Bill of 51 Billion

The federal highway bill which passed congress this week will mean an additional \$81,300,000 in federal funds for building roads in Oregon during the next three years, Congressman Sam Coon has learned.

"During this period a total of \$66,236,000 in federal funds will be available for work on the interstate highway system in Oregon, \$19,311,000 for primary roads, \$13,581,000 for secondary roads and \$5,091,000 for urban highways. This will make a total for Oregon of \$104,219,000." Coon added, "I have supported this legislation which will mean the completion of our interstate highway system and will help us modernize our roads. The pleasure motorist, business and industry will increase to new, high levels."

This increased federal highway building program will be financed on a "pay as you go" basis by such means as a one-cent increase in the federal excise tax on gasoline and diesel fuel, and by taxes on tires, retread materials and trucks.

Budget Approved By 72 Votes At Second Election

The unchanged county budget, calling for a total of \$187,636 of which \$65,426 is over the six per cent limitation was passed by the voters by a vote of 229 to 157 at the second election held on it June 30.

The total vote of 386 was almost exactly half the 773 of the election held on primary election day, May 18. Rufus voted in the same percentage it did before beating the budget by 19 yes and 26 no whereas it had previously defeated it by 38 to 53. In Kent, where it carried 35 to 16 it had been defeated 37 to 39, showing that two fewer supporters came to vote and 23 fewer opponents. The vote in Grass Valley was 44 yes to 19 no instead of 68 to 66 yes. In Moro the vote Saturday was 70 to 36 instead of the 138 to 81 in May showing that 68 supporters of the budget stayed home and 45 opponents. In Wasco where voters had beaten the budget 157 to 96 the vote was 61 to 60 for it this time showing a difference of 97 and 35.

Passage of the budget will permit the county court to go ahead with the road program and give the pay raises contemplated. The budget is smaller than the one approved last year.

Some members of the court have expressed approval of the plan to divide future budgets into sections so that voters can vote on the appropriations they desire and against those they do not favor and this will protect the most popular expenditures while eliminating the ones not liked by the voters.

Girls Going To Summer Camp

Sherrie Woods, Moro, will leave Saturday to be a life guard at the 4-H summer camp being held at the Methodist camp on Suttle lake July 8-13. Four-Hers who will leave Sunday are: Jannie McIntyre, Christy Woods, Mary Ann Thompson, Ann Hall, Karen Macnab, Mary Haven and Douglas Reid. Registration is from 1 p. m. to 5 p. m.

There will be 4-Hers from several of the surrounding counties attending at the same time. Kenneth Waud, Crook county 4-H agent will be in charge of the camp this year.

Boys and girls who attend will have an opportunity to take part in crafts, nature study, hikes, swimming, scavenger hunts, party games and folk dancing.

Thomas W. Thompson, county extension agent, will attend the last few days. Camp is officially over following the noon lunch on Friday, July 13.

Vaccinated Children Have Less Polio

Of four new cases of poliomyelitis reported to the state board of health for the week to June 23 three were paralytic type. Though all three were in the eligible age group none had received protective immunization.

Although there has been no polio reported in The Dalles to date this year, the county public health officer stresses that our state is still among the ten highest in polio rate. Immunization injections are proven safe and effective all doctors now agree and you are urged to see your private physician and begin the immunization. Children from one to 20 years are eligible, and all pregnant women.

It is pointed out that a child who has had an attack of polio may still suffer another polio infection from one of the other of the three virus strains, though this is very unusual. Parents of such children should consult their physician as to advisability of giving this child polio immunization. The local health officer feels that children with other chronic ailments such as diabetes, rheumatic or other heart disability and epileptic tendency especially need polio immunization so that their one serious disability may not be complicated possibly by the disability of polio.

While there is no official ruling, the local health officer feels that adults with the above conditions may advisably receive immunization on the same grounds. At present this remains a matter for the judgment of the individual doctor.

GOV. SMITH VISITS CONGRESSMEN



Governor and Mrs. Elmo E. Smith who have been attending the Governors' Conference in Atlantic City, stopped off on their way back to Salem, Oregon, to lunch with an Oregon Congressional group in Washington, D. C. Shown in the House of Representatives restaurant left to right: (seated) Mrs. Walter Norblad, Mrs. Elmo E. Smith, Mrs. Sam Coon, (standing) Governor Elmo E. Smith, Congressman Walter Norblad, Ed Armstrong, administrative assistant to the Governor, and Congressman Sam Coon.

New Wheat Varieties In Demand By Farmers Anxious To Try Something New

Applications for three thousand bushels of Omar and 250 bushels of Columbia wheat have been made by Sherman county farmers County Agent T. W. Thompson reports. Additional applications will be accepted if other farmers still desire to apply for a start of one of the new wheats or a grower who has already applied would like to raise number of bushels to be secured.

Anticipated allocation to Sherman county is based on estimated production of 2-25,000 bushels of Omar in the state. Sherman counties share can be a minimum of 23% or more depending on demand from other counties. We should be able to secure 4,600 bushels at a minimum, Thompson indicates, so if other folks want a supply, applications can still be made through one of the three cooperatives or the county agent's office.

Plans for allocation of the new varieties within the county, physical movement, and financial arrangements are being handled by a committee through Sherman County Wheat Growers association in cooperation with the county extension service. Committee members are Don Thompson, president of county association; Gordon Harper, Mac Hall, Joe Bibby, W. E. Hall, superintendent Sherman branch experiment station and T. W. Thompson, county agent.

Arrangements have been made with the Sherman Cooperative Grain Growers to handle the wheat for storage upon receipt from local growers and Pendleton farmers and distribution to growers who have applied. Upon notification of actual bushels available for Sherman county, growers

Old Fashioned Fourth Discarded For Quiet Holiday; Less Noise, Fewer Crowds

It may be assumed that generally people get what they want. This vagrant generation, mounted on wheels, dissatisfied with quiet, anxious for change, celebrates the national holiday with less fanfare than any other since the Declaration of Independence.

Where once every other little town was covered with flags and banners and prominent men read and orated for the crowds in the public square and fire crackers excited the horses, the citizens now hie to some quiet retreat or stay at home and hoe the garden.

The Fourth of July was a very peaceful day in Sherman county. There was no celebration and even the traffic on the highway was less than usual. Stores were closed and few remained at work.

The old fashioned Fourth of July celebration is gone with no immediate chance of revival. What happened to it may be debated, the usual fate of things not known or explainable. It was a time of visiting among neighbors who now see each other twice a week; it was a time for hearing an oration which the radio now provides every hour; it was a time for sitting or standing in a hot sun dressed in popular finery and now we prefer to lie in the shade; it suited a period when it was a treat to exercise gregarious tendencies whereas we now prefer to relax as hermits.

Citizens Attend Road Meeting On Behalf Of Condon-Wasco

County Judge Vernon Miller, John Hilderbrand and Wendell Balsiger attended a meeting in The Dalles last week to make plans for a hearing before the highway commission July 13 on improvement of the Condon-Wasco road. Van Reitmann of Gilliam county was also present. Request to the commission will be for regrading of the Sherman section of the road and eventual oiling. Reports are that the alignment will be changed and that it will go by Nish instead of Klondike.

4-H Clothing Girls May Compete

Sherman county 4-H girls enrolled in Clothing IV and V and Clothes for Fun and Sun will have an opportunity to take part in a wool sewing contest at the Sherman County Fair. Contestants make a seam and a hem in light-weight woolen material and in heavy weight material. Each contestant will be furnished two pieces of woolen material, one light weight such as wool crepe and one heavier piece such as suiting. Sewing machines, thread, seam binding, iron and pressing cloths will be furnished. Contestants must furnish shears, needles, thimbles and pin cushion.

On this contest accuracy of cutting count 10 points, work habits 10, skill in sewing 25, and pressing 10. All contestants work at the same time and will not be required to talk.

Mrs. Ina B. Hanson, Sherman county extension agent, stated that the time of the contest will be announced at a later date.

633,937,000 Miles Traveled In May

More than 633,937,000 miles were traveled on Oregon streets and highways. May also accounted for a high mark in travel for the year. On the basis of gasoline gallonage sales reports, the motor vehicle department said 633,937,121 miles were driven during the month.

Mileage figures are expected to continue an upward climb for the next few months as vacationists crowd highways. The high month for travel in Oregon last year was August when 731,349,872 miles were driven.

Needless to say, traffic officials reminded that heavy traffic loads call for increased driver attention if accidents, injuries and deaths are to be lowered.

Veterans Borrow At 4 Per Cent For Homes

Veterans of World War II and the Korean war borrowed \$1,323,500 from the state department of Veterans' Affairs in June for the acquisition of homes and farms, for the highest month since October, 1954.

The June figures make a total of \$84,247,374 loaned by the State of Oregon to war veterans for the purchase, refinancing or construction of homes and purchase or refinancing of farms since the program started in 1945. About one-fourth of the borrowers already have paid off their loans in full.

State loans are made to qualified veterans at 4 per cent interest. They may borrow up to \$9000 to acquire homes, or \$15,000 for farms, but not more than 75 per cent of the appraised value of the property.

Along with the loan goes a low cost mortgage cancellation life insurance policy, if the veteran wants it, to pay off the mortgage on his home in the event of his death. More than 91 per cent of the state's borrowers are covered by this insurance. Mortgages have been paid off on the homes of seven veterans who died after taking coverage since the March 1 effective date of the insurance.

BUSY BAKERS MEET

The Busy Bakers held a regular meeting at the home of Bonnie Tatum. All members were present except Bonnie Jefferies. The business meeting was held. We discussed having our next meeting at the home of Judy Mac Innes and decided on date of July 12.

Two visitors, Mrs. Tatum and Mrs. Helyer, were present. After the business meeting, the hostess served rice krispy squares and ice cream slices, popicles, and dillecups and koolade.

New Valuations Not Affecting Farm Assessment

Almost no change is perceptible in the valuations of Sherman county property because of the appraisal work that has been done. The net total value is \$8,420,470 compared to \$8,325,450 last year. This is without the valuation of the public utilities which is about \$1,500,000.

Land within cities is valued at \$68,930 instead of \$54,200; improvements within cities are valued at \$458,450 instead of \$370,120 showing an increase largely because of the arbitrary boost of 25 per cent given residence property in cities by the board of equalization.

Land outside cities is valued at \$5,994,210 whereas last year it was \$6,108,270. Improvements on land outside towns is \$778,610 opposed to \$716,680 last year. Again showing that improvements will pay a higher percentage of the total tax than before, and land less.

Merchandise and stock in trade is valued at \$144,170 instead of \$146,690; furniture and equipment is \$25,630 instead of \$22,350; farm machinery is \$670,600 instead of \$697,650; other machinery is \$44,090 instead of \$44,340 and seven trailer houses are taxed at \$4740.

The 631 horses (up from 485) are valued at \$9510, the 10,325 cattle at \$219,940 instead of 11,017 at \$242,050; there are a few more sheep and swine in the county and reported to the assessor but only 1574 of the first and 481 of the second. Valuations are \$4960 and \$1780. Poultry has declined in numbers from 6088 to 4748 and the valuation from \$2010 to \$1550. Veteran exemptions are \$6650 compared to \$3780 last year.

The assessor has listed exempt property worth \$594,000 which includes some 53,000 acres of federal land and land belonging to other government units and exempt agencies.

The land is therefore 61 per cent of the total value of the county and when combined with the farm improvements and the farm machinery is 88 percent of the total value of the county.

Harvest Expected In About Two Weeks

With normal weather—whatever that is—it is generally felt that harvesting will begin in Sherman county within two weeks but will not be going full blast for a month. First to be cut will be winter barley which lasted through and there's not much of that. Some early sown winter wheat is ripening fast and the spring barley is turning the bright silver that tells of maturity.

With no rain it is probable that cutting will be well over by the first of September for it is only a two or three week job on most ranches in these days of heavy machinery. Estimate is for a better than average crop, maybe 3,000,000 bushels of wheat and 50,000 tons of barley.

Clair Balzer New Head of Legion Post

About 60 people attended the Legion and Auxiliary picnic held at Hunt park at Tygh Valley Sunday. A pot luck dinner was served buffet style. After dinner they played baseball and the children waded in the creek.

The Legion held a short business meeting when they elected their officers. Clair Balzer was elected commander; George Geiser, first vice-commander; Harry Stark, second vice-commander; J. E. Norton, adjutant; Frank von Borstel, finance officer, Lyle Olds chaplain; Bill Johnson, sergeant-at-arms; Bob Tatum and Harold Owens, service officers.

They also elected delegates to the state convention to be held at Albany the last few days in July. Delegates elected were Frank von Borstel, J. E. Norton and Clair Balzer, alternates were Frank Haynes, George Geiser and George Helms.

Those attending from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. Guy Hoskinson from Palm Springs, Calif., and Mrs. C. von Borstel from Oregon City.

JACK HOWE LEADS

With less than half of the club year lapsed, John J. Howe, of The Dalles, a field representative for Mutual of New York, has qualified for the National Field club, company honor group, it was announced today.