

Sherman County Journal

Sixty-Ninth Year No. 6

Moro, Oregon Friday December 14, 1956

County Official Paper

These Things We Note

By Giles L. French.

Only the ignorant become arrogant.

T T W N

Oregonians got a good break when Orval Thompson took the job as adviser to Governor-elect Holmes. Thompson is a good citizen, intelligent, able and a Democrat instead of a new dealer.

T T W N

People will pay big taxes until they decide not to. They can stop it when they will.

T T W N

Usually those who object to being called socialists are.

T T W N

To some it is a pleasant sensation to have this country fail to go to the aid of England and France in a European war. They may be old fashioned for that was our policy for two generations. Yet, they can prove—to themselves anyway—that we never did any good in Europe.

T T W N

Some economists say that when money gets sick it never gets well. That means the dollar will never be worth 100 cents again.

T T W N

Probably the prophecies of the end of present Russian government are a little previous. But if Christmas, and believers in the American system are correct Russian communism will not survive.

T T W N

We suspect segregation was not started by the race the most talk is about.

T T W N

Russia won the most gold medals at the Olympics and showed themselves to be very fine athletes in many fields. May be tougher athletes than ours or maybe get more training. If we want to compete in what was once our favorite field we must do better.

T T W N

Probably George Sack considers life as valuable as anyone in Oregon. He knows he has but little left.

T T W N

Walter Reuther says he is going to ask for a big raise for auto workers when the contract expires. We hope he improves the quality of the work they do first.

T T W N

Maybe drinking coffee is a substitute for rolling cigarettes. Bosses used to complain about the time taken at the latter habit and now they gotta do something to keep from working.

T T W N

We can't get it out of our head that the Hungarians who should be helped are the ones who stayed home.

T T W N

If we had had emergency proclamations to help first settlers in Oregon neither they nor the government would have ever grown up.

T T W N

One of the oddest attitudes we've noticed is the opposition to buying Japanese goods. And right here where we are selling our wheat to Japan, too.

T T W N

Higher education in Oregon wants \$47,000,000 from the state, twice what it got six years ago and ten times what is used to spend. We wonder how the management compares to that of other public schools and other private schools.

T T W N

On Oregon assessor says those county officials object to state dictation. He must know why it started.

T T W N

Now that we have a lengthy report by a state committee on local government it might be a good idea to have a local committee make a report on state government.

T T W N

There is a vast field for compromise between the 15 Republican state senators and the 15 Democrat state senators. The side that gets the presidency will not be the side that gets the power; the ways and means and taxation committees and perhaps others will be charmed by party members opposed to the senate president when a fair compromise is found.

About the County

being news about people you know or know about

The Community card club met Monday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Don Macnab. Mrs. Frank Reid was co-hostess with Mrs. Macnab. The husbands were invited to this meeting and it was the club's Christmas party. Six tables of pinochle were in play with Art Watkins and Mrs. Dewey Thomas winning high prize, and Stuart Macnab and Mrs. Leroy Belshee low. After the game refreshments were served at the linen covered card tables. Names were drawn and the gift packages handed out and opened by all. Present for the evening besides the host and hostess were: Mr. and Mrs. Morris Burnett, Mr. and Mrs. Leland Medler, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Macnab, Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Thomas, Mr. and Mrs. George Macnab, Mr. and Mrs. Chet Coats, Mr. and Mrs. Elton Medler, Mr. and Mrs. Art Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Belshee, Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Macnab, Dr. and Mrs. F. D. Reid and Mr. and Mrs. George Fox.

The Rufus grangers enjoyed having dinner together last Thursday evening at the grange hall. Harland McDonald, master, called the meeting to order after the dinner.

Adeline McDonald reminded members of Home Ec club at the home of Mrs. Joe Morris. The lecturer, Mrs. Will Huck, will see about getting candy and nuts for the grange Christmas party Dec. 22 at 8 p. m. It was reported Mrs. Mary Wilson is in the hospital.

For the literary program Mrs. Grace Medler read "Neath the Mistletoe," "Remember" was read by Mrs. Bert Swigart. Mrs. Huck had a quiz session. Mr. and Mrs. Harland McDonald had a skit called "Xmas".

The master thanked all the officers for their support during the past year. He plans an officers meeting in January.

The grangers were reminded that a meeting to form a fire district is planned at the hall for December 17 at 2 p. m. All the people of the area should be interested in seeing we have suitable fire protection.

A reception honoring Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Patterson on their 40th wedding anniversary will be held Saturday, December 29th at the Grass Valley IOOF hall from 2:30 to 6:00 p. m.

The Grass Valley postoffice will be open all day Saturday December 15 and December 22 for the convenience of the public.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Donald MacInnes of Kent, a daughter in The Dalles, December 10.

The Thursday night bridge club met last week at the home of Mrs. Dewey Thomas with all members present. Mrs. John Foss won high prize and Mrs. Gerald Nisbet low.

Mr. and Mrs. Steve Ketter and Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Ketter all from Tacoma spent last weekend here visiting the former's son and daughter the Frank Kettters.

Gus Sondenaa and son, Elmer, of Toledo spent last weekend as guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. von Borstel.

Mrs. Gerald Nisbet honored her son, Billy, Saturday with a birthday party celebrating his fourth birthday. Besides his brother Bobby and sisters Ellen and Sharley, his great-grandmother Mrs. J. Royce, Mrs. Lloyd Gosson and Gayle and Greg, Mrs. Robert Nisbet and Elaine and Annette, Mrs. W. A. Nisbet and Albert and Arlene Dornier, enjoyed his cake, ice-cream and chocolate.

Robert Nisbet entered the Emanuel hospital in Portland last Thursday for surgery. He is expected home the end of the week.

The Thursday night pinochle club met December 6 at the home of Mrs. Gordon Hilderbrand with Mrs. Jerry Barnett as co-hostess. Other members present were Mrs. Dave Miller, Mrs. Douglas Shull, Mrs. Bill White, Mrs. Clyde Fridley, Mrs. Lloyd Gosson and Miss Cherrill Fields. The club is hoping to make the holiday season a happier one for some of the older folk in the locality. Refreshments of a molded Christmas salad with assorted wafers, tea and coffee was served. The next meeting will be a Christmas party held at the home of Miss Cherrill Fields December 18.

Wasco Rural PTA met last week at the Wasco grade school with Marjory Van Gilder, president, Mrs. Harold Engberg, treasurer, and Mrs. Lee Pearson, secretary, present, besides members and friends. Mrs. Harold Fowler gave a short talk on the history of the Boy Scouts. Miss Kaye Whipple entertained with a tap dance and Rev. Richard Bruner and Carmen Royse sang a duet. After the meeting a candy sale was held and Mrs. Warren Wilkinson and Mrs. Bob Bish served refreshments. The annual potluck dinner will be held in January the date to be announced later.

The Girl Scouts held their annual birthday party Monday in the Methodist church basement. Joan Fridley, a charter member cut the birthday cake, and four girls were invested with their tenderfoot badges. These girls were Patsy Wilkinson, Kathy Morrison, Karen Brock, and Maxine Dornier.

The county Christmas music festival will be held at Grass Valley Baptist church next Sunday, December 16 at 8:00 p. m. with the choirs of the county providing the music.

Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Brock have bought the Foster house in town and moved in a week ago Sunday. Mrs. Grace Busse and daughter Vee, of Moro, were Sunday guests at the home of her mother, Mrs. Grace Zevely.

Tillicums met at the home of Leona Van Gilder with Mrs. W. A. Nisbet winning high prize, Mrs. Harry Van Gilder second and Mrs. John Robinson low.

West Wind Riders Pick John Kellogg

The West Wind Riders met recently at the home of Glen Van Gilder, where they had election of officers. John Kellogg was re-elected president, James Clifton, vice president; Mrs. Leo Watkins, secretary; Mrs. Tom Moore, treasurer. Tom Moore was elected delegate to the MCSA. On the board of directors are Leo Watkins, Everett Winnett and Jack Jeffries. They are planning to have a family potluck January 6 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Watkins.

Moro Missionaries Elect New Slate

The Moro Missionary society held its Christmas meeting Wednesday at the church social room. Mrs. Ted Thompson, Mrs. Gwen Matteson and Mrs. Max Barzee served dessert of angel cake with whipped cream and strawberries to the 18 members and 3 guests. The room was attractively decorated in the holiday motif.

Mrs. Harry Pinkerton presided at the business meeting. Officers were elected for the coming year as follows: Mrs. Ernest Goodenberger, president; Mrs. Dewey Thompson, vice-president; Mrs. Russell Belshee, secretary; and Mrs. Eugene Amidon, treasurer. Plans were made to clean the church kitchen and dining room after the holidays. Also plans were started for the purchase of a new stove for the manse.

Mrs. Max Barzee led the devotionals, telling of our church's work in Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. Mrs. Goodenberger was director of the program which was a pageant "Christ, the Hope of the World," featuring madonnas of the different races as played by Mrs. Dewey Thompson, Mrs. Andrew Paulson, Mrs. Norman Gochnauer, Mrs. Ted Thompson, Mrs. Earl Gentry, Mrs. Maggie Barnum and Mrs. Russell Belshee. Christmas carols were played as background by Mrs. Harry Pinkerton.

Gifts were brought by the members to be sent to the Pendleton state hospital with value of \$30.00.

Rain Falls In Modest Quantities and Very Welcome to Farmers

Rain fell over most of Sherman county this week. Reports are of very big rains in places, especially at Grass Valley and north of Wasco. At the station the rainfall was .30 inch.

The warm weather of the week end and the west wind of Monday and Tuesday took the frost out of the ground well enough that whatever rain fell was saved.

John T. Johnson Buried At Wasco

John T. Johnson, 83, died last Saturday at a hospital in The Dalles and funeral services were held Tuesday from the Methodist church in Wasco with interment in Sunrise cemetery there.

Mr. Johnson was born at Farmington, Illinois, February 14, 1873 and was brought by his family to Oregon City when a boy. They came to Sherman county in 1885 and took up land. This has been his home since that time. He was a farmer most of his life, was once county surveyor, and warehouse manager.

He was married January 27, 1903 at Bement, Illinois and is survived by his widow, Cornelia H. of The Dalles and four children: Mrs. Victor L. Larsen of Spokane, Mrs. Ted Proudfoot of Alhambra, California, F. Harland of Twin Falls, Idaho and John T. Jr. of Medford and seven grandchildren. A brother, C. W. Johnson and a sister, Mrs. May Michaels, both of Aloha, also survive.

Hungarian Relief Funds Slow To Date

Donations for the Red Cross aid to Hungarians has been slow coming in to Dr. Frank Reid, Mrs. Leo Watkins and Kenny Crews, who are designated to receive such funds, reports county chairman Reid.

For that reason the campaign will continue for a time longer because Dr. Reid feels that there must be many persons in the county who are sufficiently sympathetic with the escapes from that country to give funds for their relief. All of the money collected will go to help Hungarians, most of whom are in Austrian refugee camps.

PCA Officials Met At Spokane

E. Riddell Lage, president, Carroll Sayrs, vice president and J. Merton Stein, secretary-treasurer of the Mid-Columbia Production Credit association attended a four state conference of PCA officials in Spokane December 11 and 12.

Mr. Stein said the meeting was called to review new procedures and policies under the farm credit act of 1956. This legislation, which becomes effective Jan. 1, 1957, opens the way for the production credit associations to eventually own the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Spokane, the institution through which the PCA's obtain the bulk of their loan funds.

The Social and Community Welfare committee of the The Elks lodge will again give the holidays another gala Christmas party. Arrangements have been made to have the party at the Civic Theatre Friday afternoon, December 21 at 1:30 p. m. Santa Claus will be there with stockings filled with goodies for all who attend.

All children everywhere are invited. An excellent program is being arranged. Cartoons will be shown, also a dog and elephant act is on the bill. Program will last approximately two hours.

Elks Giving Party For All Children

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Baptist Church To Have Christmas Fete

The Christmas program at the Baptist church in Grass Valley will be held at 7:00 on Sunday evening December 16. The program is under the direction of Mrs. Lester Wilson and Ed Fritts.

The program is planned to tell what should be given at Christmas. All of the children of the Sunday school will be taking part and the choir will be singing. The public is invited.

The county Christmas "Sing" will be held immediately following program.

Wheat Leaguers State Policies At Convention

Oregon wheat growers who attended the speeches made at the annual meeting of the Oregon Wheat Growers league in Portland last week end should feel optimistic. There were many things said about reduction of the surplus and much hope expressed.

B. N. Nanda, Indian consul at San Francisco, spoke at Friday's luncheon and told about his country and showed on a map where it grew the grains its huge population eats. India has hopes of importing 5,500,000 tons of wheat in the next five years but will have to pay for most of it in their own currency.

Dr. Toshio Oiso, head of the bureau of Sanitation and Nutrition, in Japan said that his government was working to get his natives to eat more wheat and less rice.

Both Japan and India have been importing northwest wheat under Public Law 480 which makes it possible for the United States to sell surplus agricultural commodities to foreign countries and take their currency in payment. Japan has been paying for some wheat in dollars.

Gordon Fraser, assistant administrator of the USDA foreign agriculture service, predicted in a speech to the wheat men that in a few years farmers could make a fuller use of their land.

He said that this nation must reduce its 1,300,000,000 bushel surplus of wheat and that plans to do that consisted of the soil bank and foreign export. Because of our present export policy, it is expected that on July 1, 1957 the surplus will be smaller for the first time in years. And if 11,000,000 acres of wheat land will be put into soil bank programs.

Riders Elect New Officers At Dinner

The Sherman County Riders held a potluck dinner in the basement of the Moro Community church December 3. Two guests were present, Lynn Douglas and Frank Herman of Hood River Saddle club.

Election of officers was held: Curly DeMoss, president; Bob Martin, vice-president; Sadie Rich secretary-treasurer; Fritz Watkins delegate to MCSA; Marjory Van Gilder, alternate delegate.

Farm Land Stays High Despite Prices

Farm land values, including those in Oregon, have gone up in most parts of the nation in spite of lower farm incomes in recent years.

Value of farm land in Oregon reached the highest point on record at mid-year, reports Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college. Farm lands in the state averaged a 2 percent rise between July 1955 and July 1956.

Nationally, farm land values have averaged a 3 per cent jump during the same period. Only six states, most of them in drought areas, did not show increases.

What's behind the rise in the value of farm land?

Mrs. Horrell says people who have analyzed the situation feel the rising land values are a result of a strong demand from farmers themselves for more land, the expansion of irrigation, and the feeling of many people that farm land may be a safe long-term investment. The demand for part-time farms and houses out in the country and urban and industrial expansion are also seen as factors supporting the higher farm land prices.

The expansion of urban and industrial developments out onto good farm land has started moving at a rate that alarms many agricultural leaders, Mrs. Horrell reports. The soil and water conservation advisory committee of the department of agriculture has decided to ask the USDA to take steps to help check this rapid conversion of good agricultural land to non-farm uses.

The committee estimates that about 17 million acres of good farm land have been taken over for industrial and urban housing use in the past 15 years. And they point out that this rate is being stepped up by the present emphasis on industrial decentralization and urban living.

the time will come more quickly when wheat farmers can use their land fully.

There are some problems attendant to all this, said Mr. Fraser, including the tightness of ocean shipping because of the Suez crisis which may make a shortage of ocean carriers and the fact that other exporting nations have wheat to sell and can compete with the U. S.

He said that one thing needed was salesmanship. The grain trade has been discouraged from selling abroad and there is great need for wheat growers to help establish a sales force to dispose of their surplus. He pointed to the success of dairy farmers who have gotten rid of much of their surplus by salesmanship. He pointed to South America as one place where more wheat could be sold as only eight pounds of bread are eaten per year by natives there.

Committees met Thursday and chairmen were able to report by Friday although some were scheduled Saturday. The taxation and legislation report asked that each county form an organization to keep informed about legislation and be prepared to go to Salem when called. It asked for repeal of the "automatic" property tax and wanted the state tax commission to have more judicial functions.

The committee reaffirmed its belief in the federal plan of senatorial apportionment, return of utility excise tax to counties, different distribution of road monies, opposed a homestead exemption, opposed state bond issues.

The Youth Activities committee asked that other grains be included in those eligible for feeds of stock at The Dalles show, asked for a trial for the merit system of grading and set the dates, June 2-3-4-5 1957 for the next show.

The Wheat Disposal and Transportation committee opposed tolls on water transportation, opposed freight rate increases, asked for higher charges for demurrage on freight cars, asked uniform rates on meat animals east-west and asked that more livestock be raised on "our family commercial" wheat farms.

The Production and Land Use committee asked for continued research and a laboratory at Pendleton for that purpose: it noted that the elimination of ASC payments for weed control had reduced the work toward killing of weeds and asked for more incentive payments; wanted better coordination of conservation practices.

Elected president was Raphael R. Raymond of Helix. Jack Smith, Condon was named vice-president and Frank Tubbs of Adams, second vice-president.

Health Association Asks Record Return

Regular Immunization Clinic, Health Department offices 9:00-10:30 a. m. Friday, December 14.

Friday, December 14, Mrs. June Kuder will visit the Oregon State Board of Health for in-service training. Mrs. Donald Dunn will substitute for Mrs. Kuder.

Parents of grades 1-2-7-8 are again urged to return the immunization permit forms sent out through Colonel Wright, Court Street, Junior High, Rowena, Mosier, Rufus, Antelope, Kent, Grass Valley, Moro and Wasco schools. These are to be returned to the respective schools.

City Families Eat, Drink More

City families spend about 75 per cent more for food and alcoholic beverages than farm families, reports Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college.

She says a 1955 survey by the U. S. department of agriculture showed rural families spent an average of \$17 a week, compared to \$30 a week spent by city families. Rural nonfarm families were in between, spending an average of \$24 a week for food and alcoholic beverages.

This doesn't mean farm families have smaller appetites, Mrs. Horrell hastens to add. They produce a part of their food on their farms and in their gardens. And farm families tend to buy fewer services in the form of processed foods and prepared meals.