

Sherman County Journal

Sixty-Ninth Year No. 7

Moro, Oregon Friday December 21, 1956

County Official Paper

These Things We Note

About the County being news about people you know or know about

Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Reid and Mrs. Bill Reid of The Dalles, returned recently from a trip to San Francisco.

Mrs. Crystal Munro has come to the W. R. Reid home for an indefinite stay.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Wilkinson, Karen, Patsy and Gary made a visit to Madras last week to visit Mrs. Wilkinson's brother, Lyle Young.

Mr. and Mrs. Clem Welk and children will be Christmas day guests at the Dale Laughlin home, Sharon Laughlin is expected home from the University of Washington for the holidays, also.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rothery, Maria and Paul, and Mrs. Russell Smith and son all of Ephrata, Wn., and Keith Landers, attending Linfield college in McMinnville, will all be Christmas guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Vinton Watkins.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Nisbet are expecting Mr. and Mrs. Gene McCaughy and Cynthia of Portland and Mr. and Mrs. D. McCaughy of Kent and Mr. and Mrs. Clyde H. Kelley, Teresa and Stuart for the day on Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Warren Wilkinson and family will entertain Mr. and Mrs. Donald Wilkinson of The Dalles, Lyle Young of Madras on Christmas day. For the rest of the Christmas vacation the Wilkinsons are planning to go to La Grande for a family get-together with Mr. and Mrs. Willard Hill and Mr. and Mrs. G. V. Wilkinson.

Christmas dinner guests of the Leo Watkins will be Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Watkins, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Haines and Mr. and Mrs. John Buck and Johnny of Moro.

Dorcas society met last week at the home of Mrs. Harold Engberg with Mrs. Leo Watkins as co-hostess. This meeting was their annual Christmas party and gift exchange. During the business meeting they voted to send money to the Hungarian relief through CARE, and also to send money to the McKinley Mission. In election of officers for the coming year, Margery Van Gilder was re-elected president; Selma Watkins, vice president; Edith Brock, secretary; and Madelyn Barnett, treasurer.

Mr. and Mrs. John Hilderbrand and family are moving back into their ranch house this week after having it completely remodeled and redecorated.

The Wasco Methodist church will hold its annual Christmas program next Sunday evening at 7:30.

Wasco grade school held its annual Christmas program Thursday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry VanGilder will be Christmas day guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur VanGilder and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Thomas and family are expecting Mr. and Mrs. Norman Gochauer, Sterling and Darlene on Christmas day.

Linda Christianson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bon Christianson celebrated her birthday Wednesday, with her kindergarten friends present.

Tom Coats celebrated his thirtieth birthday Sunday by taking a group of friends to Dinty's for dinner, later to a show in The Dalles.

Darrel Melzer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Melzer, celebrated his birthday at school Thursday with all his kindergarten friends present. His mother furnished cake and ice cream for the guests.

Mrs. Bernard Martin and daughter, Deanna, and Ramona Davis of The Dalles were in Portland Saturday on business.

The annual Christmas barn dance sponsored by the Grass Valley Rebekah lodge was held at the IOOF hall Saturday night everyone having a good time. The hall was decorated with a Christmas tree and other decorations in keeping with the holiday. The music was furnished by Leroy Belshee on saxophone and his daughter Jeanette at the piano, Gene Contrall, trumpet, and Keith Mobley drums. Spudnuts and coffee were served.

Mr. and Mrs. Len Garland received word recently that their son, Harold Garland, A-2c of Forbes Air Base was transferred to Newfoundland.

A meeting of the Ground Observer Corp was held last Monday at the J. E. Norton home at Kent. Sgt. Bragg was present to explain the work of the corp. Refreshments were served at the close.

Mrs. Kenneth Crews will drive to The Dalles Saturday to meet her mother, Mrs. Henry Roth, who will arrive from Olympia, Wn., to spend Christmas here with them.

The Grass Valley Baptist church held its Christmas program Sunday evening at 7 p. m. with a good crowd attending. The Grass Valley choir sang "We Three Kings of Orient Are", "Silent Night" and "Joy to the World", under the direction of Mrs. Elton Eakin; a prayer by the Rev. Donald Leach; song "Hark Herald the Angels Sing" by the congregation; a play "Three Gifts of Christmas" by the whole Sunday school, readers were Florene Crews, Danya Rolfe, Judy MacInnes, Julia Bayer and Charles Bothwell, Mrs. Orville Ruggles was organist with music by the choir throughout the play, an instrumental trio Nancy and Karen Wilson and Betty Bothwell played "There's a Song in the Air", closing with a vocal solo "What Shall I Give Thee Master" by Don Earl.

A large crowd attended the Christmas program Friday afternoon when the Kent school presented its program, consisting of a choral reading "Suit for Santa" by the intermediate room under the direction of Mrs. Josephine Parkhurst; a play "Christmas Under the Hill" by the primary room under the direction of Mrs. Sellah Rooper; a play "What is Christmas" by the intermediate room under the direction of Mrs. Parkhurst; a play "His Christmas Welcome" by the upper grades under the direction of Eugene Knott; the band under the direction of Mr. Knott played "Cathedral Hour" and "Christmas March"; Linda Helyer played a piano solo "Dreaming of a White Christmas". The women of the home extension unit had treats for the children. Those attending from Grass Valley were Mrs. Gordon Lemley and children, Kenneth and Janice, Mrs. Frank E. Bayer, Mr. and Mrs. Willard Barnett, Mrs. W. D. Barnett, Mrs. Marie Bardenhagen, Mrs. Orville Ruggles and son, Phillip, Mrs. Harold Owens and children, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Barnett of The Dalles and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Sather of Moro.

Cub Scouts of Den 1 including Skeet Brander, John Johnson, Kenneth Lemley, Dean Ruggles, Dick Barnum, Tom Barnum, Gail Stradley and John P. Reckman and Den Chief, Jimmy Duncan, met at the home of Mrs. Frank E. Bayer after school December 10. The time was spent singing Christmas carols, playing games and making Christmas wreaths. Refreshments brought by Mrs. John Reckman were served by the Scouts.

The home extension unit met in the school cafeteria Thursday afternoon with nine members and one visitor, Mrs. Bob Marvin of Moro present. Mrs. Boyce Blaylock, chairman, conducted the business meeting. Mrs. Marvin demonstrated the art of wrapping and decorating packages. Cookies & coffee were served at the close by Mrs. Sim Duncan as hostess. Members present were Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Blaylock, Mrs. Jack Adams, Mrs. Harry Stark, Mrs. Willard Rolfe, Mrs. Harold Owens, Mrs. H. N. Riggs, Mrs. Wallace May and Mrs. George Benson.

Mrs. Gerald Blagg returned home Saturday from Las Vegas, Nev., after taking her grandson, Mike Rolopez to his parents, after spending sometime with them.

Miss Carolyn Lemley arrived Wednesday from Monmouth to spend the Christmas holiday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arzell Lemley.

Mrs. Bob Rolfe was chosen hostess at a party at the home of Mrs. Frank Ketter the evening of December 10 when she demonstrated the Studio Girl cosmetics.

Mrs. Willard Barnett won the door prize. Other guests included Mrs. Harry Hooper, Mrs. John Rolfe, Mrs. William Brinkert, Mrs. John Buehler, and Mrs. F. E. Bayer. Cake and coffee were served by the hostess.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Todd, Mrs. Dick Reckman, Mrs. Carl Breeding and Mrs. Frank E. Bayer were business visitors in Portland December 11. Mrs. Breeding stayed down for the rest of the week to visit her daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Deway Thomas are planning to entertain Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Fridley and family, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Fridley and Joan, Mr. and Mrs. Charley Wallace of Moro on Christmas day.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Nisbet are expecting Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Nisbet, Nancy, Wayne, and Bill, from Ephrata, Wn., sometime during the Christmas holidays.

Mr. and Mrs. Clair Balzer of Moro gave a dinner Sunday honoring his mother, Mrs. A. F. Balzer of Grass Valley on her birthday anniversary. Other guests included Mr. Balzer, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Hartmann of Wasco and Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Bruckert of Moro.

Mrs. Lester Wilson and Ed Fritts were chairmen and were assisted by Sunday school teachers and women of the church. Following the program the County Ministerial association held a song fest.

Mrs. Joe Morris had her dining room attractively decorated for the dessert luncheon when she entertained the Home Ec club at her home Thursday afternoon. Colorful candles and greenery made the centerpiece on a holiday colored tablecloth. Nut cups were used. Individual fruit cake centered with a favor for decoration was served with pink sherbet and coffee.

The club members will have a dinner at the grange hall January 10 at 6:30 p. m. to honor the husbands and families. The Year Books have arrived and will be given out the next time when the new program is made out.

Mrs. Harland-McDonald the new chairman was installed by Mrs. Bob Byrd. Then the new chairman appointed Grace Medler, Alta Smith, and Mrs. Walt Morris on the Year Book committee. The group sent a get-well card to Carl Thompson who is ill in the hospital. Mrs. McDonald is to order some wool dusters for the club to sell. The members made up a box of Christmas gifts which were sent to the patients at the Pendleton hospital. The club members each exchanged presents also.

Gifts were placed on a long lace covered table for Mrs. Bob Byrd when she was honored at a pink and blue shower at the Rufus grange hall Friday afternoon. Hostesses for the affair were Mrs. Alta Smith, Mrs. Curtis Neal and Mrs. Bill Huck.

For the program Pamela Miller sang a song accompanied on the piano by Grace Franklin. Mrs. Trace Fields gave a reading. The extra gifts were placed in a blue crepe paper covered baby buggy and wheeled to the guest of honor. Then Mrs. Byrd opened her many gayly wrapped gifts in front of a large group of friends. Mrs. Bob Morris assisted Mrs. Byrd in opening and recording them. The gifts were passed around a group forming a circle for all to see.

The Fossil high school came to have a game of basketball with the Sherman high school at Grass Valley Saturday night. At the preliminary game the JV's of Sherman were ahead all the way. However only one point was between them at the first quarter which stood 11 to 10. At the whistle Sherman had a margin of 47 to 36 points.

There was some hard playing during the Varsity game with the score also 11-10 at the end of the first quarter. But then Sherman gained five points at the half, and at the end they had scored 52 points to Fossil's 40. Harold Eakin was high point man with 15, Louis Miller 12 and Jimmy Fox with 7 for third place. The students had a sock dance to a record player at the end of the game.

The Rufus church of the Nazarenes is working on its Christmas program to be given at the church Sunday evening.

Mrs. Bob Rolfe was chosen hostess at a party at the home of Mrs. Frank Ketter the evening of December 10 when she demonstrated the Studio Girl cosmetics.

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Patrons Helping Grade School Grounds for Field

Within a short time Sherman county is going to have a new school building, the first in a long time.

Already there is a great interest in it and many citizens and school patrons have been through the building to appraise its conveniences, the immense size of the gym and the big auditorium.

Farmers with dirt moving equipment have been doing some extra work on the grounds of late. When the plans were made they included grading for a football field and this has been done by the contractors. Local citizens felt that there should also be room for a track and a baseball diamond and have donated their work and the use of their machinery to grade additional ground. This consists mostly of moving dirt up the hill toward the new highway.

The county road crew has a dirt carrier and tractor pusher on the job. Stan Coelsch, with a tractor, has been helping with the plans. Others with machinery are Leland Medler, Frank Reid, Joe Heater, Tex Irzyk, Keck McKee, Frank Sayrs, Harold Eakin, Moore Bros., Boyce Blaylock, Frank Bayer Jr. & Joe Hammond are driving county machinery and Claud Bayer the Moore Bros.

It is now expected that classes will begin in the new building by the first of the year or shortly thereafter as all that remains to be done is some of the cleaning up and finishing work. An open house and dedication program will be held, probably in January.

Mrs. Anna Lee Buried In Wasco Monday

Mrs. Anna Lee, 82, died Thursday after a long illness and funeral services were held at the Methodist church in Wasco Monday afternoon with Rev. R. E. Bruner officiating. Interment was in Sunrise cemetery.

Mrs. Lee was born Anna Meiners July 28, 1874 in Illinois and came to Pendleton when a girl to reside there until coming to Wasco about 60 years ago to make her permanent home. She was a member of the Methodist church, Frank Brown unit American Legion Auxiliary, Annie Fulton chapter OES, and the Sherman County Historical society.

Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. A. J. Smith, grand daughter, Mrs. Floyd Rathbun, a grandson, Delmer Smith, all of Wasco and ten great grandchildren, two brothers William R. Meiners of Pendleton and Henry J. Meiners of Walla Walla, Washington.

Classes In Equipment Handling Open

Northwest Technical Institute of Oregon, Inc., 2900 N.E. 132 Ave. Portland, announced today it would conduct a heavy equipment operation class beginning January 14 in a program intended to supply trained operators for construction projects.

The starting date for the first class was pushed ahead to help alleviate the shortage of heavy equipment operators in this area. The \$27-billion dollar highway program and increased construction of other types have caused contractors a huge operator problem. The shortage of qualified personnel has been due to lack of training facilities in this type of work.

The course is licensed by the state of Oregon and will be the first of its type on the Pacific Coast.

Baptists Schedule Christmas Program

With Christmas so near the Baptist church of Grass Valley will give special attention to the historical event of the birth of the Christ child. In the morning service there will be several special musical numbers and the pastor, Rev. Don Leach will be speaking on the subject, "His Name Shall be Called the Mighty God." In the evening service the young people will be presenting a skit dealing about the writing of the carol, "Away in a Manger."

At this season of the year when we all spend more time considering the person of Jesus we ought to put forth all effort possible to attend Christian Christmas services.

Week Brings Rain To Make Total of .80 inch for Month

The experiment station has recorded .80 inch of rain for the month of December, already better than November. During the past week 23 inch has fallen there being .15 on the 17th and .08 on the 18th.

These rains came at night and were fairly heavy but not so much on the rain gauge as farmers hoped for. The ground is open and none of the welcome moisture was lost.

Kent Extension Classes Meet

The monthly meeting of the Kent extension unit met at the home of Mrs. John Reckman December 13.

After the business meeting and a potluck luncheon the hostess Mrs. Reckman demonstrated the making of several kinds of Christmas candy for the pleasure of the five members and two visitors present. The visitors were Mrs. Ben Maxfield, Kent and Mrs. Art Watkins from Wasco.

It was decided with the money made from the food sale we would sack Christmas candy to be given the Kent grade school after their Christmas program.

Our next meeting will be "Color Texture and You" at the home of Mrs. Max Nogle January 10. All ladies of the community are invited to attend.

Moro Women Meet To Hear of Trip

The Moro Woman's club met in the social room of the church Thursday, December 13, holding their annual silver tea and guest day.

Mrs. R. Olsen, director had arranged the following program: solos "Over The Rainbow" and "Count Your Blessings Instead of Sheep" by Mrs. Cloyd Duncan; Mrs. Collis Moore gave an interesting account of her experiences on her trip to Gettysburg and the home of President and Mrs. Eisenhower, as a national committee woman.

Refreshments of cake, coffee, tea, nuts and mints were served by the hostesses, Mrs. Lloyd Hendrichs, Mrs. Louis Sather, Mrs. Gladys Morrison and Mrs. Daisy Byers.

Mrs. Anna Moore and Mrs. A. Douma presided at the tea table which was attractively decorated with a Christmas centerpiece and antique silver candle holders.

The next meeting will be January 3 at Mrs. Maggie Barnum's home, with Mrs. Dewey Thompson as director.

Wasco Woman's Club Have Christmas Day

The Wasco Woman's Study club was called to order by the president, Mrs. Vinton Watkins, at the home of Mrs. B. Estelle Halley.

Mrs. T. Lester Johnson and Mrs. Pearl Grosscup were co-hostesses. The meeting was opened with the Lord's Prayer said in unison with Mrs. Trace Fields leading.

Seventeen members answered roll call with a favorite verse from the Bible. Mrs. Tom Moore and Mrs. Crystal Monroe were guests.

After the business meeting, the president turned the club over to Mrs. Lloyd Royse, chairman of the program committee and Mrs. Art Watkins. They presented the following program: The Story of Christmas, The Bible, Luke II, Esther Royse; Hope of Christmas, Charles Templeton read by Esther Royse from the Reader's Digest; group singing, Mrs. Halley at the piano, trombone solo "Jupiter" by Betty Haven with Carmen Royse at the piano; reading "Don't Do Your Christmas Shopping Early" by Nellie Fields; duet "Silver Bells" Carmen Royse and Evelyn Moore with Betty Haven at the piano; record player, "Mistletoe Kiss", "Night Before Christmas", "Silent Night"; game, Christmas Yuletide, five minutes to make the most words from these letters. First place went to Mabel Haven, second to Helen Bruckert, third to Carmen Royse.

After the game, Christmas music was played softly while refreshments of cake, nuts, mints, tea and coffee were served from the table decorated with Christmas greens and candles.

The Rufus grade school plan to have a community Christmas song fest at their program Friday night.

Hearing Results In Postponment Of Court Decision

The hearing held Monday at Rufus to aid the county in making up its mind about the desirability of calling an election for formation of a Rural Fire Protection district in the territory north of the Base line resulted in no decision. At the end of two hours of questions and answers Judge Vernon Miller appointed a commission of five to bring in the arguments to the court January 3.

Named were John Hilderbrand, chairman, L. E. Kaseberg, Art Watkins, Harland McDonald and Rolland Johnson.

The meeting consisted entirely of questions asked by citizens who were for or against the proposal and answers by visitors who came from outside the county. Among these were H. E. Marqueling of the Oregon Rating bureau who said that unclassified territory took a No. 10 rating and had a rate of \$1.06 per \$100 of insurance on a Class D dwelling. That many rural fire districts had a 9A or 9B rating which reduced the rate to 86 or 96 cents. The rating bureau is now engaged in studying rural fire districts in an effort to find out how much to reduce rates within certain distances from the fire house.

(The rating bureau attempts to establish rates based on risks and will not establish a rate until improvement is made in equipment, manpower and water supply.)

John Weber and Kenneth Palmer of the Odell rural fire district, told of their experience and organization of their volunteer company.

Questions Regard Rates

Most of the questions had to do with possible reductions in insurance rates on both buildings and grain instead of the chances of saving property from loss of fire.

M. J. Gibson, deputy state fire marshal, told something of the organization of rural fire protection districts which, he said, have the power to levy not more than a four mill tax except by specific vote of the property owners of the district who may approve as much as ten mills by majority vote.

There were questions about how far from a fire house reduced fire insurance rates would apply and the question was not answered although four and a half miles was given as the usual distance. Some said that 15 minutes from a firehouse was used for some rates.

County Assessor Clair Balzer said the valuation of the proposed district was \$3,200,000 and at four mills it could raise \$12,825.

The proposed district would encompass about 400 square miles and be the largest in Oregon which now has one of 256 square miles.

Mr. Gibson pointed to the success of fire protection districts all over Oregon and said the state department approved them. There are now 173 in the state, most of which cooperate with a city to obtain manpower and quarters for the fire equipment. Robert Young of the Meeke Insurance company of Hillsboro said he was anxious to see a district formed.

A test vote was taken to obtain sentiment for formation of a district and it resulted in 24 voting for a vote and one opposing. Although about 50 were present not all voted, not even all residents of the district.

Mrs. Ina Hanson Now Extension Secretary

Officers of Oregon county extension agents' association for 1957 were announced Thursday at the annual OSC agricultural conference.

Walter Jendrzewski, Klamath county extension agent, was elected president of the agricultural agents' association.

Rizpah Douglass, Josephine county extension agent in home economics, will complete a two-year term as president of the Oregon home demonstration agents' association. New officers are Margaret Allyn, Columbia county, vice president; Ina Hanson, Sherman county, secretary.

Draft Office Closed

Selective service system local board No. 26 The Dalles Oregon, will be closed until January 2, 1957. The office will be open January 2, 3, and 4, and will be closed until January 11 at 8:30 a. m. when regular office hours will be resumed.