

Sherman County Journal

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

By Giles L. French

This generation has done a wonderful and efficient thing. It has simplified music by removing the necessity of time. Now nearly anyone can play it although few can listen, thus reversing the former condition.

TTWN

Effect of the firing of experienced employees in the automobile license division has been a slowing of service.

TTWN

"Slow Down and Live," is a slogan exactly opposite the previous needs of humans. Living has required greater speed of thought and nerve and muscle. Still does, in fact.

TTWN

Some day this week is independence day, not the Fourth of July, but the day the average American begins to work for himself. Since the first of the year he has been working for the government.

TTWN

Wonder how much of that rise in the price of steel will go for taxes and how much to stockholders?

TTWN

We doubt if the rejuvenation of moral sentiment in Portland was aided by the release of Mayor Schunk from the charge of perjury and think that that city has quite a ways to go before it again smells like a rose.

TTWN

Objection is now being made to building government dams for the benefit of aluminum companies.

TTWN

Governors, we read, are hesitant about accepting any change in federal-state relations. Which doesn't mean much except that we need some new governors.

TTWN

Inflation is a method used by government, intentionally or not, to acquire the savings of the careful. For war it is sometimes necessary; if used to buy votes or placate the careless it is indefensible.

TTWN

Perhaps the most important months of a life are those in which an individual learns that he must work for the things he wants.

TTWN

If a Sherman county wheat farmer isn't happy over the weather this year (hail excepted) there's no need for him to try for heaven.

TTWN

If the east, meaning Russia, gives more individual freedom and the west, meaning the United States, takes more away, how long before the twin shall meet?

TTWN

Overheard: "A woman doesn't care how big a liar a man is as long as he feels her she's pretty." "Arrogance is confidence gone to seed."

TTWN

We used to expect price rises when demand was big and supply small. Now it seems we get them when the demand is light and supply adequate just in order to keep up profits. That, we think, is uneconomic.

TTWN

Do you suppose American motor car makers will eventually become nothing but agents for foreign cars?

TTWN

The sun was said to have exploded Sunday. Accidentally that started the geo-physical year which will last 18 months. An exploding sun causes odd things.

TTWN

It seems like good times cost a lot.

TTWN

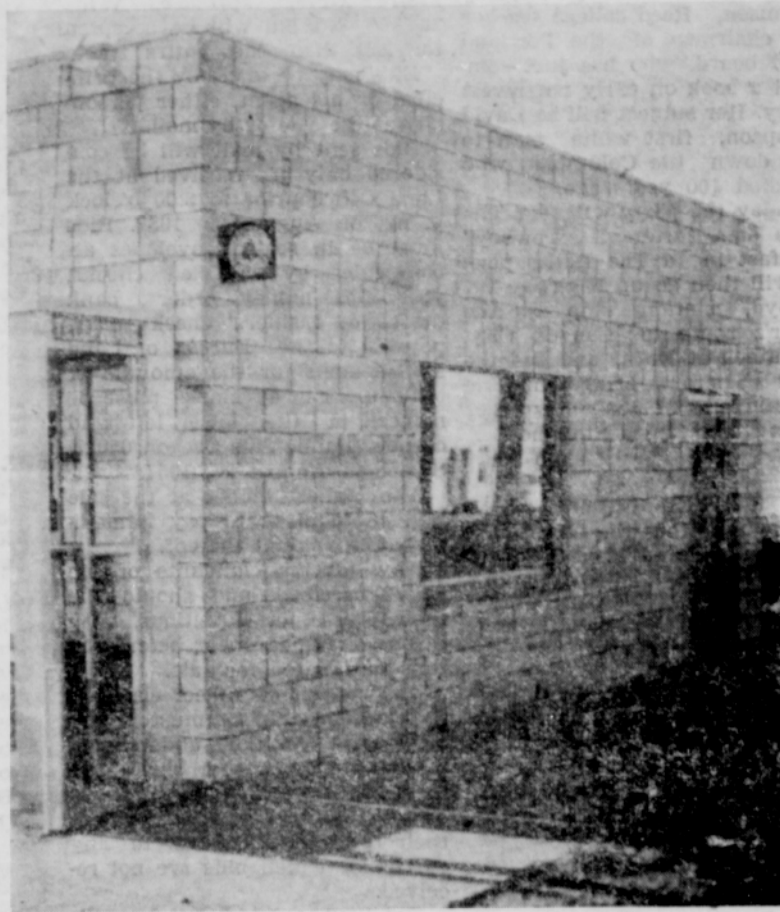
Women live six years longer than men. That's because the poor, downtrodden souls have work that is never done.

TTWN

Government would be much simpler and much cheaper if it was restricted to its original functions. When it tries to be economic adjuster, caretaker and nursemaid it gets into trouble.

TTWN

The reason there is continued inflation is that people are willing to pay more for things.



Grass Valley Postoffice Dedicated With Community Pride Showing In Program

The new Grass Valley postoffice, now in use several weeks, was officially dedicated Saturday afternoon with two programs. In the afternoon the flag was raised to signify acceptance by the government of the office, with short speeches and open house to show the new bank-type equipment now being installed in the newer post offices.

At 6:30 in the evening a great many citizens of the community turned out for a dinner and program in honor of the occasion. Orville Ruggles was the free and easy chairman for the occasion introducing Karen and Nancy Wilson for a musical number, Giles French for some history of the Grass Valley postoffice back to 1882 when it was established together with some notes about the history of the town, a skit by Anita Hooper and June Rolfe about a presumed day in the life of the postmaster, and Don Acton, assistant to the Oregon manager of the postal department. Mr. Acton told of the history of the postoffice saying that Benjamin Franklin had an early one in a tavern in Boston and that Samuel Osgood was the first postmaster general of the country.

He said that nation has 32,500 rural routes going over 1,500,000 miles of road daily, that the department takes in less than it pays out in its 38,000 postoffices, that it has 520,000 employees and does an annual business greater than General Motors. He said that Summerfield was a good postmaster general who had introduced modern business methods and saved millions of dollars thereby.

Land Values Climb Despite Lower Crop Prices; Average Farm Worth \$33,000

Values of farm land in Oregon and across the nation are still rising, reports Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at Oregon State college.

Oregon land values have come up more than a third since 1947, Mrs. Horrell said, and are now at the highest point on record. Value of farm land and buildings in the state, not counting livestock or farm machinery and equipment, now totals close to \$2 billion.

Average value per farm in the state is in the neighborhood of \$33,000, — about \$10,000 higher than the national average. On a per acre basis, however, Oregon farm lands rank 31st among the 48 states, having a value on Mar. 1 of \$84 per acre compared to better than \$94 per acre as a national average.

Looking over reports from the U. S. department of agriculture, Mrs. Horrell found that land values in 34 states, including Oregon, increased 2 or 3 per cent during the four-month period ending March 1. In general, there has been a steady uptrend in national farm real estate values since 1954, Mrs. Horrell said. The only exceptions have been those states seriously affected by drought.

The strong farm land values are supported by forces both in and out of agriculture, Mrs. Horrell believes. Within agriculture,

Of the money spent, which comes from a congressional appropriation, not from normal income, 77 per cent goes for wages, 17 per cent for transportation of mail and the remainder for other costs. Mrs. Allie Ruggles read a poetical history of the Baptist church from its organization in 1894 and mentioned the names of its 21 ministers.

Honors and a gift were presented to I. D. Pike, who was postmaster for 26½ years before his retirement in 1944 and to Matt Simon, who has been mail carrier since January 16, 1925.

June Was Warm Month and Dry

Believe it or not the month of June was a warm month compared to other Junes although furnaces ran nearly every evening in some houses. But it was warm the first of the month with a 92 on the 4th. Temperature was a 92 on the 13th for the coldest to give an average maximum of 75.2 degrees and an average minimum of 50 for a mean of 62.6 which is 1.3 degrees above the normal for June. There it is and even if you shivered the record shows you shouldn't.

It didn't rain much, only .11 which is .64 inch below normal and that was on the 5th mostly when .06 fell. For the crop year the total is 9.79 inches which is 1.47 below average. Even though June was warm and dry wheat looks good because it has been cool and wet and June didn't change it much.

There is an expanding technology based on a mechanized agriculture—and to make the most efficient use of their machinery, farmers are reaching out for more land.

Outside of agriculture, there is a high level of business activity, a rising price level, and need for space for the nation's growing population.

Ways to use grass as a conservation tool are listed in a new circular published by the Oregon State college extension service. Grass and legumes, planted together, form a "holding corporation" to hold soil firmly against erosion, the circular points out. This combination also helps build back organic matter that may have been lost from the soil, and enriches the land for following crops.

Illustrations in the circular show what can happen to land when the grass cover is lost, and point out how land can be recovered through correct use of grass and legumes. The circular's author, E. R. Jackman, OSC extension range crops specialist, also lists a variety of ways to develop and manage grass lands for maximum soil protection.

Oregon residents can get a copy of the circular, titled "Grass as a Conservation Tool," from their local county extension office or from the OSC bulletin clerk, Correll, at the OSC.

Home Ec Agent, Ina Hansen, Resigns After Two Years

Ina B. Hansen, Sherman county extension agent, home economics and 4-H, resigned effective June 30, T. W. Thompson, county agent, has announced. Mrs. Hansen has served as agent since August 1955.

The home extension unit program was initiated and has grown during Mrs. Hansen's tenure. Unit members now number 187 with seven active units in the county. The 4-H home economics has grown in number of girls participating. More important than members is the improvement in leader training and general improvement of club work done. One hundred ten Sherman county girls are actively enrolled in the 4-H home economics program. More attention to the girls club program has been possible under Mrs. Hansen's direction.

Reassignment of a replacement will be made as soon as possible, according to Gordon Hood, district extension agent, Corvallis. Extension agent's are Oregon State college staff members. New personnel are hired for county work by the college and placed in consent with the county court.

Agreement Made On River Fishing

Oregon Commission Chairman John C. Veatch and Acting Washington Fisheries Director Milo C. Bell said that Yakima, Umatilla and Warm Springs tribal organizations have agreed to the following stipulations:

Dip netting for salmon will be permitted below The Dalles dam in 1957, but other forms of fishing will not.

Commercial dip netting in the area will be permitted only during the times it is lawful to fish commercially in the main Columbia below Bonneville dam.

Subsistence dip netting will be permitted during commercial closures, but not for sale to tourists or others. Storage of fish taken during subsistence fishing periods for sale commercial open seasons will be prohibited.

The tribal organizations will cooperate in enforcing the agreement and initiating a system for recording subsistence catches.

In addition, both the state agencies and tribes reserved the right to adjust their positions according to future legal and conservation determinations, and the states agreed not to adopt closures which would have the effect solely of limiting the Indian dip net fishery.

The conservation agreement evolved from an initial conference May 3 among tribal counsel and representatives of the two state agencies, the attorney general of Wasco county, regarding the fate of historic Indian fisheries that have been erased or changed by completion of The Dalles dam. For the first time commercial gillnetting is prohibited above Bonneville dam, and dip netting is impossible at Celilo falls because of the powder dam impoundment.

Kenny Smouse Put On Wheat Commission

Kenneth J. Smouse, former president of the Oregon Wheat Growers League and prominent Morrow county wheat grower, was appointed Tuesday by Governor Robert D. Holmes to the Oregon Wheat Commission.

Smouse, a native of Ione where he still resides, has been engaged in farming his 1860 acre wheat ranch since the death of his father in 1943. He is a graduate of Ione public schools and Oregon State college where he received an engineering degree in 1938. He was employed by the U. S. Geological Survey from 1938 to 1943.

Active in the Grange, Smouse is a 25-year member of the Lexington Grange and a member of the Oregon State and National Grange. He has been director and president of the Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative since 1948, a director and secretary-treasurer of Jordan Electric company since 1945, and chairman of the board of supervisors of the Lexington Wind Erosion District since 1944. He is also treasurer of the Ione Community Chest and currently 4-H Agriculture club leader.

Smouse, a Democrat, succeeds Ralph McEwen Jr. of Athena as one of the Wheat Commission representatives from Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman, Wasco and Jefferson counties.

Grain Growers Attract Members With YO Show

The Moro Grain Growers held a memorable meeting last Saturday when members met at the new Sherman high school to listen to reports and transact annual business at 10:30 in the morning.

Nothing exciting occurred at the business meeting. Charley Story, auditor, read the annual report which showed a profit of \$79,905, for the past year. After some debate it was agreed to let the board of directors decide on further participation in the rain making program, which is as it has been in the past.

Dick Richards, manager of the North Pacific Grain Growers of Portland, spoke for a few minutes about the wheat business in the Northwest, telling of the dramatic removal of much wheat from this area during the past year and something about plans for the future.

Ted Thompson and Deva Pinkerton were re-elected as directors for a two-year term.

Then the grain growers became hosts to members and to some invited guests at a buffet lunch served by Lloyd Johnson and his crew of caterers. At two o'clock a bus load of Young Oregonians took the stage for a two hour show of tumbling, singing, music and dancing that delighted the crowd. The youngsters, between the ages of six to eighteen, performed well, some with almost professional style and the different events followed one another rapidly and with wide variation.

Fox and Kaseberg Make Honor Roll

George L. Fox of Rufus and Larry E. Kaseberg of Wasco have been listed — on the spring term scholastic honor roll released by Oregon State college.

To be eligible for honor roll listing, students must make at least a B plus average for the term.

Fox will be a senior in mechanical engineering next fall. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. George Fox of Rufus.

Kaseberg graduated this spring in agriculture. A 1953 graduate of Moro high school, he is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence E. Kaseberg of Wasco.

Unemployment Up; More Payments Given

The 1957-58 benefit year of the State Unemployment Compensation commission opened this week with a record number of claimants waiting to draw weekly payments that will average about \$25.50 higher than ever before.

More than 7,000 workers already have filed transitional claims coming directly from the 1956-57 benefit period just ending, while several thousand others soon will put in new claims. Continued claims will start during the week beginning July 8.

As a result of amendments made by the recent legislature, about 63 per cent of the better-paid covered workers will get higher weekly payments. The new maximum for a week of unemployment is \$40 against \$35 formerly. The minimum remains at \$15 and a few hundred persons with low wage credits will be unable to qualify for this amount under the revised schedule. Payments are expected to average \$32 a week against \$29.50 last year.

Other legislative changes taking effect include abolition of the forfeiture clause imposed in 1955 and the removal of deductions for federal social security payments. Workers over 65 years of age will be required to prove their attachment to the labor market, however.

Nearly 22,000 workers newly covered by unemployment insurance as a result of 1955 amendments will be eligible for benefits for the first time. Over 8,000 firms with two and three employees were brought under the law last year. New coverage approved by the 1957 legislature also brings in several hundred employees of cherry brining plants. Revised tax schedules and other changes take effect in 1958.

Reserves of the commission declined more than \$5,000,000 during the past year to about \$44,600,000 despite increased contributions from employers. Benefits passed \$24 millions, comparing with \$17,450,000 in taxes, while federal interest and payments under the Reed Act made up some of the difference.

Barley Price Set By ASC at \$1.05 Per Bushel for Crop

The local ASC committee announced that the CCC loan rate for 1957 crop barley was received this week. Barley stored on the farm and grading number two or better will be \$1.05 per bushel or \$43.75 a ton. Barley deposited in the warehouse during the period July 8 to July 29 will have a rate of 92 cents per bushel; deposited during July 30 to August 20 a rate of 93 cents per bushel, this rate is for barley grading number two or better. Discounts have also been announced for the lower grades. The 1957 rate is seven cents less than the 1956 price, but higher than the on the farm national average price of 94 cents per bushel announced by the Department of Agriculture last February.

Six Boys Leave For Jamboree

Six Sherman county boys left home Tuesday afternoon for Portland where Wednesday they took a train for Valley Forge to participate in the Boy Scout trip to Valley Forge, Pennsylvania with thousands of similar boys from all over the nation.

Going are Gary Thompson, Gene Schilling, Walter Nichols, Kenneth Parker, Tom Coats and Jim Thomas. School superintendent W. D. Baldwin, bearded for the trip, will accompany them as adviser, he being a twenty year veteran at scouting.

The boys will return July 27 full of experience and information about the history of their country.

Mrs. Verna Block Dies at 56

Mrs. Verna Block, 56, died at a hospital in The Dalles Sunday, June 30.

Verna Hays Block was born at Grass Valley July 3, 1900 and had lived there nearly all her life spending many years as telephone operator and proprietor of a small store. She married John Block and has lived in other parts of this area for short periods.

Surviving are her widower, her mother, Mrs. Carrie Hays, and four sisters, all of The Dalles. They are Mrs. Hattie Zehner, Mrs. Bertha Smith, Mrs. Sadie Alley and Mrs. Ruth Feely.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at one o'clock at Spencer & Libby Funeral Home in The Dalles with the Rev. Harold Westling officiating. The Rebekah lodge of Grass Valley were in charge of graveside services.

GRASS VALLEY NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Arzell Lemley were dinner guests Sunday evening at the Alfred Kock home.

Mrs. Ruth Hillerman and son, David, of Garden Grove, Calif., were over night guests Friday at the Arzell Lemley home.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Olds and Robbin drove to Portland Saturday afternoon to visit Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Perry and family and to keep a dental appointment Monday, returning Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. David Stump of Monmouth arrived Friday, June 21. Mrs. Stump stayed here with her parents, the Arzell Lemleys while Mr. Stump went to Fort Lewis for his training with the National Guard. Mrs. Stump left Friday for Portland where she met her husband and they returned home.

Mrs. Will Olds of Yuba City, is in Portland visiting her sister, Mrs. Eva Landry. They came up Tuesday and were dinner guests of Mrs. O. N. Ruggles, that evening they came to town for a get together with the Olds family, returning to Portland Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Len Garland were business visitors in Redmond Wednesday.

Barley Cutting Starts; Quality Poor

Some barley is being cut in Sherman county but in small quantities, so small that yields are impossible to estimate. Fred Dornmaier and Clem Weik started the first of the week. Tests made on barley quality on small amounts brought in to Moro for that purpose show winter barley to be of very poor quality. Some tested as low as 25 pounds per bushel and none was much over 40 pounds. Good barley tests around 46 crackers fifty years ago will pounds here and the government spend 100 times as much today loan is based on No 2, weight 45 and have one-hundredth as much fun.

Station Field Day Tour Set For Tuesday Morning

Field day at the station will start at 9:30 a. m. when visitors are asked to gather at the grounds to hear instructions and do the usual amount of hand shaking. The tour of the station plots will start at 10:00 o'clock.

This will be Tuesday, July 9, next Tuesday.

Those who have attended many field days will note the changes now evident. This one will show the effects of chemicals on crops whereas the ones a few years ago showed the effect of different methods of tillage.

Visitors will see results of spring application of anhydrous and aqua ammonia on winter wheat. This was done by dragging the applicators through the wheat which reduced the stand to some extent. Last year the yield was effected, perhaps more than this year. Reasons for conducting the experiment is that the later application gives opportunity to gauge the amount of moisture more accurately. Application was made April first.

Another experiment shows the effects of applying ammonium nitrate at four different stages in the crop season of two years. First application was on stubble after harvest to see if straw would break down chemically from the nitrogen, second was in the spring at plowing time, third was in the fall at seeding and fourth in the spring on the wheat.

There is a series of plots that are plowed late, in June and left rough. Because the land is dry few weeds grow and it is left as plowed until the next spring when it is sowed to spring grain. A good stand was obtained last spring and where fertilized looks good; where left unfertilized it is yellow. This year the plots were plowed June 20.

The old rate and date of seedling experiment is still being conducted although it is being divided and half nitrogen treated. Early seeding has often produced smaller yields and this may be eliminated by use of fertilizer to get earlier growth and keep out the cheat.

The new grass nursery will be shown and Bob Olson of Pullman will talk about grasses and the forage and seed yield tests being conducted there.

In the afternoon 4-H boys from the Sherman tractor club, two clubs from Wasco county and two clubs from Gilliam county, will contest at tractor driving in the barn lot of the station. All will be round wheeled tractors.

Ladies of the Eastern Star will serve lunch on the lawn at noon and there will be time for conversation and comparing of notes by those who have observed the sights on the tour.

Aptitude Tests For Band Offered

Bill Sievers of the Music Box of The Dalles is going to give aptitude tests for prospective band members during the summer which may help youngsters know their adaptability for different kinds of instruments.

Mr. Sievers is a graduate of the University of Oregon as a music major, played first trumpet in the army band at the presidio, first trumpet in the Honolulu Symphony orchestra and was director of instrumental music at Honolulu schools for 14 years before returning to The Dalles to be supervisor of music for two years. After that he started his own music store.

Fourth To Be Quiet Around Moro

There is every evidence that there will not be many more people in Moro on the Fourth of July than there were on the original date, back in 1776. Nearly everyone has plans for going someplace else.

But the highway will be filled with cars of those who are doing the very same thing, taking a four day holiday at lake or stream with fishing pole or merely a hammock depending on the age and disposition.

The boy who spent two-bits for soda pop and a string of firecrackers fifty years ago will spend 100 times as much today for the same things.