

Sherman County Journal

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

By Gile L. French

Some folks like to live in a place where there's something doing whether they do it or not. Others prefer a place where there's nothing doing and help.

TTWN

To take from the poor and give to the rich is politically bad; to take from the rich and give to the poor is politically good. Neither is moral.

TTWN

Sixteen thousand state employees got pay raises the first of July. We recall being shocked a few years ago to learn that the state had 7,000 employees. Government is our fastest growing industry and perhaps the reason why other industry isn't coming here.

TTWN

The man at the bar was crying in his beer. "Why," said the bartender, "Should you be the only person in whom hope does not spring eternal?"

TTWN

Within the next week we should learn the answer to the great mystery of the yield of the 1957 wheat crop. It has been a mystery about as long as it can be.

TTWN

Newer and better machinery is making gadgets faster than ever before. But are not doing it cheaper as they should.

TTWN

Right and wrong cannot be determined by majority vote and therein lies a weakness of democracy.

TTWN

We wonder sometimes if workmen these days make as many mistakes as former generations of workmen did. Nowadays they work with thousands of inch whereas they used to work with feet and certainly an error of a thousandths of an inch isn't as great as an error of a foot, although it might have as bad an effect. The old hand workman of a generation ago did some wonderful work after years of apprenticeship. A suit of English tweed made by a Swede tailor was better than any thing easily available now. And some of the old carpentry will never be duplicated and the men who made the wheels for the Concord coaches did marvelous jobs although some of the wagon work was pretty poor. The question will never be settled but grandpa and grandson can argue about it forever.

TTWN

The air in the Deschutes gorge gets hot on summer days and by evening is ready to leave for higher points. Then the wind rushes up river or down as new air comes in to take the place of the lighter, heated air and the bunches of grass sway and the marksmanship of fishermen falls. By time the stars come out it is quiet again and the bats can chase the insects and the crickets can sing their good night song.

TTWN

Overheard: "Some men are so devoid of self confidence they chase women to build up their ego which is pretty hard on the women because there is no permanent cure."

TTWN

This nation is deciding right now whether it is going to be run by government or by gangsters, and gangs that in some cases represent the worst element in labor. So far the gangsters are ahead.

TTWN

Some men never get any help because no one can imagine them needing it.

TTWN

We hope someday this state is represented by senators who know enough to know that the way to get appropriations for this area is by calling names and making accusations.

TTWN

Basically the people are in control of inflation. As long as they buy everything they can prices will continue to go up. When they become tired of it they can quit buying and soon prices will go down. We hope they don't all go the same way at once.

TTWN

Coffee is coming down, we read, just as we were getting used to tea.



Recent visitors were four award winning 4-H members who took top honors in the statewide 4-H competition and won a trip to Washington. Accompanied by their leader, they visited the Nation's Capitol and are shown with

Congresswoman Edith Green and Congressman Al Ullman. Pictured are (left to right) Harold Seely of Hubbard; Cong. Ullman; Kay Bevans of Prairie City; the state 4-H leader, Mr. Burton S. Hutton of Corvallis; Myra Jean

McBride of Lebanon; Charles Foster of Hood River and Mrs. Green. Congressman Ullman expressed pleasure and pride that two of the young people were from the second district, which he represents.

Field Fire Burns Standing Grain In Emigrant Section

A wheat and barley fire destroyed about 70 acres on the Chester Coats and Dewey Thomas places Monday when fire burned near the Coats' combine and turned into an adjoining field. A few acres of Elton Medlers was also burned.

A crew of men from the neighborhood and from Wasco, with the community truck, responded to a call and surrounded the fire before it did more damage. All grain was insured, it was reported.

Clothing Drive On At Church

Any one who wishes may contribute to a clothing drive urged by the needs from Church World Service. Disasters, floods, tornadoes, etc., have depleted the supplies on hand.

A call goes out for good used clothing that is clean and mended. Wearing apparel for men and children is the greatest need, although girls and women's things are necessary also. Shoes for all, low heels preferred. Nothing unusable will be sent. These clothes are for our neighbors in nearby states.

Another call is for remnants and dress length yardage that may be sent to refugee camps where the refugees themselves are employed in sewing and tailoring.

A "second mile" gift would be the thread, needles, buttons, snap fasteners, safety pins, bias tape, other notions you may think you could use if you were in their place.

These, your gifts, are to be delivered to the Moro Community Presbyterian church.

If you want to help, but have no used clothing or remnants—a gift of money would be acceptable.

Presbyterian church.

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Harvest Starts With Good Yields Apparent From Early Returns

Grain is coming into the elevators in the north end of the county, both barley and wheat, and harvest has begun in Sherman county.

No fields of adequate size have been cut to make possible an estimate of the yield, but farmers say it is good. They judge by the distance traveled to get a truck load or fill the combine bin and by the weight. Test weights are running 59 to 60 pounds which is better than expected a week or two ago when many thought the crop would be light in test weight.

Winter barley yielded well, the well watched field of Eben Kee's near Grass Valley testing 49 and making over a ton and a half. Some barley was light, usually on the outside of fields but all of it will be eligible for a government loan it now appears.

Whether the crop will come up to earlier expectations or not cannot be foretold and probably depends on the weather's effect on the crop in the south end. So far that has been satisfactory with comparatively cool days with west wind.

Wasco Library To Have Benefit

The Wasco Library has planned a benefit dance to be given the evening of July 20 starting at 9:30 at the Wasco hall. Pritschau's orchestra, now of The Dalles, will make the music for the dance.

During the evening the American Legion Auxiliary will have a drawing for the chest, tickets for which have been on sale for some months.

Wood Preservative May Save Houses

A new "raincoat" that protects houses against weather damage, such as blistered paint and rotting wood, is now available as a water-repellent wood preservative, according to Charles Ross, OSC forestry specialist.

The representative is pentachlorophenol, often referred to simply as "penta." It is sold under various trade names, already mixed in a water repellent solution, or as a concentrate to be mixed according to directions on the label.

Wood siding, especially when it has not been recently painted, soaks up moisture rapidly when subjected to a driving rain or water running down over it. Tell-tale signs are paint blisters or streaky stains from wood, building paper or rusty nails.

Before repainting a house, Ross suggests scraping and sanding blistered areas. Then, before applying new paint, brush a penta water repellent preservative into overlap joints, buttends, and all joints on door and window trims and house corners. Penta treatment is especially important where old paint has loosened.

Excess penta that runs down over the paint should be wiped off with a cloth dampened with paint thinner. Allow the penta to dry thoroughly before the house is repainted.

Bridge Meeting Attended By Local Men In Olympia

B. H. Roberson and Judge Vernon Miller attended a meeting in Olympia, Washington Monday at which members of the state highway engineering force of Oregon and Washington, the Washington Toll Bridge authority and representatives of Klickitat and Sherman counties met with engineering and financing officials to talk about further plans for the Biggs rapid bridge.

A survey will be made later this summer and present plans are to put in the piers next year and proceed with construction as soon as possible.

Arrangements are proceeding on a suitable ferry across the Columbia near Rufus in order to accommodate the traffic.

Health Units To Give New Tests

The Wasco-Sherman health department will be holding a well child conference for infants and pre-school children in conjunction with the clinic for children entering the 1st grade this fall, Wednesday, July 17, at the school in Grass Valley at 1:30 p. m.

A like conference and clinic is scheduled for Wasco at the city hall Wednesday, July 24 at 1:30 p. m. A health film will be included.

Goldenrod forms, which are the health records for 1st grade children, may be obtained through the county school superintendent's office, and from Mrs. Harry Hooper in Grass Valley, and Mrs. Afton McIntyre in Wasco. It is urged that these forms be completed before attending the clinic. Immunizations will be offered those children attending the clinic.

First National Shows Drop In Deposits

A slight drop in deposits and loans were reported Wednesday by First National bank of Portland when the statewide bank released its June 29 quarterly statement of condition.

Total deposits of \$759,105,488 and loans amounting to \$419,261,810 were revealed by the 74 offices of the bank on the last business day of June. A year ago the bank reported deposits of \$774,376,788 and loans totaled \$426,600,519, C. B. Stephenson, bank president, said.

Figures released by the Sherman County branch of First National show that on June 29, 1957, deposits at the branch were \$2,449,376 and loans were \$450,950, according to R. E. Ferrell, manager.

Released at the same time were comparable totals for the branch for June 30, 1956. On that date, deposits were \$2,506,013 and loans totaled \$433,332.

Historically, deposit totals are at their low point each June, but the present two per cent decline reflects a combination of heavy consumer buying, the slow down in Oregon's forest products industries and large corporate tax payments to the government, the bank president said.

Assessment Done For 1957 Taxes; No Great Change

Some small changes have been made in the assessment roll figures for land in Sherman county because of the reappraisal program. Total land is now 526,689 acres of which 464,824 are taxable and 56,281 exempt because of government ownership. This is slightly over ten percent in the county that has the highest private ownership of land in the state. No division between tillable and non-tillable land will be made this year because of the change.

There are 4638 acres in roads and railroads and 944 acres in town sites.

The valuation of locally owned property, as distinct from utility property, is \$7,439,230 for real property and \$1,088,720 for personal property for a total of \$8,527,950. There is an item of \$7410 of property exempt because owned by a veteran's widow.

Of the real property \$76,340 is in townships and cities and \$5,939,810 is in real property outside cities. Improvements inside cities is valued at \$490,280 and outside cities is \$941,100.

The personal property is divided into \$138,540 in merchandise, commercial furniture and fixtures \$24,650, farm machinery \$689,200, miscellaneous machinery \$17,560, trailer houses \$5,930. There are 439 horses valued at \$9070, 9091 cattle at \$194,820, 1692 sheep at \$5340, 380 swine at \$1810, 4043 chickens at \$1390 to complete the property assessment of the county for the November tax bills.

Utility Ratios Made For Counties, Five Year Plan Posted

The 1957 utility assessment ratios, announced today by the Oregon State Tax Commission, show a definite easing of the sharp reductions of the past two years. The ratios, assigned by the commission to the various counties for use on utility property assessments, will continue to be reduced as in the past until the level of locally-assessed property is reached, a commission spokesman said, but the reduction will be spread out over several years.

Previous commission policy would have brought about full equalization in a single step this year, but a substitute plan, embodied in House Joint Resolution 44 was proposed and approved by the House. In the closing days of the session, the proposal failed to clear the Senate, but since that time approval of the policy contained in the resolution has been obtained from those in a position to advise the commission.

The basic purpose of the new plan is to slow the reductions so that a minimum of "unanticipated economic hardships" will result. There is no contention that the equalization should not be made, but the commission feels that it should be conducted over a longer period of time to allow a minimum disruption of the taxing processes.

To carry out this policy, the commission this year made adjustments in the relationship of each of the counties so that they will be the same amount out of line with locally-assessed property. In subsequent years the plan is to reduce the ratios by a definite amount each year. This year the ratios are approximately 120% of the ratios posted by the assessors and used on locally-assessed property. This means utilities will pay 20% more than other classes of property. Each year hereafter the assigned ratio will be reduced by 5% so that next year, the calculation will be on the basis of 115% of the posted ratio, unless there are other factors that affect the figure.

The ratios show a general reduction of about 5% over last year. Not all counties were reduced; 11 were increased from one to three ratio points, while 5 counties stayed the same. Twenty counties showed decreases ranging from 9 points in Jefferson county, 6 points in Baker county down to a 1 point drop for several counties.

Sherman county's assigned utility ratio will be 36 compared to 38 last year. The county posted ratio is 30.

Sherman Countians Give 58 Pints of Blood Thru Red Cross

The visit of the bloodmobile to Sherman county resulted in the giving of 58 pints of blood to be used by the ill of this county and this in spite of the busyness that accompanies the start of harvest. Another trip will be made in the fall.

Workers were Mrs. Chas. Burnet, Mrs. G. Douma, Mrs. Lyman Thompson, Mrs. Lester Conlee, Mrs. Collis Moore, Mrs. William Reid, Mrs. Ernest Houston, Mrs. C. F. Fields, Mrs. Dewey Thompson, Mrs. Tex Irzyk, Mrs. Earl Gentry, Mrs. Keith McDonald, Mrs. Orlov Martin, Mrs. Willard Leff, Mrs. Robert Boynton, Mrs. Harry Benson, Miss Dorothy Kelley, Miss Wilma Gentry, Mrs. Tony Miller and Clair Baalzer, when the bloodmobile came to the county, Tuesday, July 2.

Two donors received gallon pins, Mrs. Emma Jean Smith, Grass Valley and Ralph Busse, Moro.

Mrs. Jennie Foss Buried Thursday

Mrs. Jennie Katherine Foss, wife of John F. Foss, died in a hospital in The Dalles, Tuesday, July 9. Funeral services were held Thursday from the Moro Community church at 2:00 p. m. Jennie McCallum was born at Chippewa Falls, Wis., July 6, 1879, being just past 79 years at time of her death. With her parents, Daniel and Margaret McCallum, she came to Sherman county in 1883 living on the family homestead a few miles east of Moro. She had lived here 74 years.

Mr. and Mrs. Foss were married April 17, 1901. To them were born three daughters who survive: Mrs. Marguerite Kaseberg, Wasco, Mrs. Gwen Matteson, Moro and Mrs. Dorothy Helberg, Portland and one son, John Austin of Wasco. Seven grandchildren and one great grandchild also survive. Mrs. Foss was a member of the Moro Presbyterian church, the Missionary society, American Legion Auxiliary and Lupine Rebekah lodge.

Warehouse Owners May Have To Get License

A number of new warehouses constructed on Oregon farms prompt the state department of agriculture to advise that some of them may be subject to the public grain warehouse inspection and licensing law.

If farmers who have small warehouses or elevators on their farms accept grain of neighbors for paid storage or other consideration, they will need a warehouse license. Farmers who want to store grain on their own property need further information to determine whether their storage facility needs a license should write to the department's division of grain inspection in Portland. The address is 606 S. E. Ninth avenue.

New features of the state warehouse law added by the 1957 legislature will become effective August 20, according to T. Ralph Harry, chief of the grain inspection division. These deal with shortages, giving notice if a warehouse decides to quit business, causes for license refusal or revocation and exceptions to the restrictions on grain storage.

This legislation sets up how the department of agriculture shall proceed if its inspectors discover grain shortages. As an ultimate step, the department may petition the courts for appointment of a receiver to operate or liquidate the business.

After August 20, if any warehouse operator decides to quit business, he must give 30-days advance notice to all holders of warehouse receipts, to persons storing grain and to the state department of agriculture.

With respect to license actions, the amended law says the department may refuse to issue or revoke a license for (1) violation of failure to comply with any provisions of the warehouse act; (2) violation or failure to comply with any of the rules and regulations adopted under the act; and (3) failure to maintain the warehouse premises in a legal manner.

Copies of the amendments may be obtained from the department headquarters in Salem or from the grain division in Portland.

Experiments Vary On Station, Grass To Fertilizers

Not as many farmers attended the field day Tuesday as is usual, perhaps because of the imminence of harvest, but they were an interested group that asked questions and made comments.

First observed were the plots where different kinds of summer-fallow are used, moldboard plowed, trashy fallow and sweeps. Columbia wheat is grown there, a bearded, red chaffed, red kernelled wheat. Moldboard plowing beats trashy fallow unless nitrogen is applied although better stands can be obtained on trashy ground and there is less washing.

The Columbia wheat has a tendency toward footrot especially when fertilized and more research is needed to find out why, said Bill Hall.

Grass Plots Numerous

The grass plots showed several kinds of grass including some wheat grasses, Crested, Sherman, Topar intermediate and the native bunch grasses. Most of them were mature but had made good growth. Norman McClure who conducts grass experiments from Pullman headquarters, talked about them and answered questions.

On the old rate and date of seeding experiment Burt wheat was sown at fifteen day periods beginning September 1 and different kinds and rates of fertilizer applied. Burt is a strong strawed, white chaffed, white kernel wheat with some beards and loose straw.

Burt Not Accepted

Oats were growing on some shallow ground which is the kind that should be cropped every year if any land should, said Mr. Hall who pointed out that it was impossible to save any moisture in that depth of land. Nomad alfalfa is growing on summerfallow after it has been plowed for several years and crops are better where it grows.

Howard Mann, secretary to the Northwest Crop Improvement association, talked briefly about the winter wheat varieties saying that Burt has not been approved by millers to date but will be tested again. However, it has some characteristics that may make it suitable to India usages. Omar, the new club, with smut resistance, looked good with its red chaff and blunt heads about the same height as Elmar. Both have sucker heads.

Dean Swan told of a new chemical that may be used to kill all weeds now bothering wheat farmers. It comes from Switzerland and is too expensive for field use at present.

Tractor Driving Tested

Ladies of the Eastern Star served lunch to the visitors on the lawn of the station grounds and in the afternoon a tractor driving contest was held in the barn lot. It consisted of three parts: a quiz on tractor operation, an inspection of tractor for faulty parts and driving over a course designed to test the skill.

Drivers were required to hitch a two wheeled implement to the tractor and back through a narrow lane, drive a serpentine course and back through. Winners were Tom Higley, first; Steven Burnet, second and David Reid, third.

Rufus Residents Go To California

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Eaton of Rufus flew to San Francisco, Calif., Thursday July 4 to attend the wedding of their son Gayle Eugene Eaton to Miss Carol Cleo McCune, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brent McCune of Redwood City, Calif. The double ring ceremony was held at the Baptist church in Redwood City. Mr. and Mrs. Phil Jolly were respectively best man and matron of honor. Miss Barbara McCune, niece of the bride was flower girl. A reception after the wedding was held at the town guests were Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Conboy of Hermiston, aunt and uncle of the groom. The happy couple enjoyed a short honeymoon at Carmel by the sea, Mr. and Mrs. Eaton returned to Rufus Sunday and reported an enjoyable trip.