

Sherman County Journal
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Giles L. French Editor
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AGRICULTURE'S PROBLEMS

Decision of the extension service to hold another county conference in Sherman county emphasizes the fact that the factors that make the basic decisions about farming are not agricultural problems at all.

The three factors that influence most farm decisions are the federal farm program, the attitude of the landlord and the taxes. None of them are agricultural.

The farm program started off as a means of giving farmers some money so they could keep up in the economic race; it has degenerated into a political handicap to all agriculture and for the life of us we do not see how farmers can get rid of it short of repealing the whole thing.

This county has always had about a half tenancy. Landlords want to make all the money they can, a perfectly natural ambition. Most landlords are former farmers of an elder age who worked hard to pay for their farms. Nevertheless they influence decisions for immediate gain and against plans for farm improvement.

Federal, and to lesser degree state, taxes cause farmers to stop and figure what might be left from any venture. No one, farmer or anyone else, is going to spend four hours a day looking after sheep or swine if the possible profit goes to Uncle Sam.

The extension service can show wheat farmers how much money can be made from feeding hogs and tell how short this area is in pork production. Landlords do not look favorable to investing in the new equipment involved and the taxes would take too much of the profit.

A farmer uses fertilizer in increasing amounts because he is limited in acreage and produces as many bushels as before. That decision comes from the federal farm program.

The problems of agriculture are not agricultural. Farmers can produce more than ever before. But they are confronted with economic and social problems that no one is prepared to discuss or to change.

FIRST FROST

The first real frost of the autumn season came Monday night to wilt the tomato vines, long past the time of usefulness. There have been times when the roofs were white for a brief time in the early dawn but Monday's was the first real frost.

We complain a bit about living in a cold country and most of it is without basis of fact; a country that normally goes to mid-October without a killing frost is not a very cold country. And as we recall it was early in April when the last frost occurred.

Our friends over in the Willamette valley make disparaging remarks about our climate from which we guess that they think eastern Oregon a land where it seldom rains, where the wind blows continuously, where the snow falls deep and the blistering sun sears crops and citizens all summer. Our Uncle Turk, now gone to his reward, used to say it was a good thing they thought that about our climate for it kept them from cluttering up the landscape.

It is true that there are few places where it is possible to produce forty bushels of wheat or eleven inches of rainfall as we do here and so far as we know that has never been explained. The important fact is that we do. There are few places where the bunch grass achieves so excellent a feed value as it does here. We doubt if a drop of Sherman county rain is any wetter than other rain drops but they do seem to go farther and we are convinced that Sherman county soil is superior. As of today we are well satisfied with our climate but we reserve the right to complain next winter if it gets really cold.

Japan is going to make watches for American firms. Cheaper, too. So you see, some one gets an advantage from our high wage scale.

SPUTNIK

Americans are unduly concerned about the Russian satellite that is presumably circling the earth at some tremendous speed. It weighs less than 200 pounds and is apparently going on and on until it wears out or burns up. Well, what if it does.

Americans have been such egotistical persons assuming that all knowledge reposed in them and citizens of other nations had secondary minds at best, if not actually a little laughable. That has been contrary to the facts. Russians have very fine scientific minds and have made some great discoveries in many fields of science. The French, the Germans, the English, also have fine scientists.

Why anyone has the right to assume that all scientific discoveries will be made in this country we do not know; there is no evidence to indicate that it has been so or will be so in the future.

The inferiority we feel over being beaten by the Russians in this one case might well be a good thing for American thinking and a blow to American egotism, which is no national asset in any case.

Other nations in the world, especially the smaller ones, apparently feel like baseball fans who wanted the New York Yankees to get beaten. They wanted a new champion, were tired of Yankee arrogance.

CHILLS AND FEVER

About this county this week there is a lot of chills and fever which is called, the common cold, flu, gripe or even Asian flu. There may be a vast difference between them; it would take a medical man to explain it and we wouldn't understand it anyway. But all are probably variations of the chills and fever all grandmas had to have cures for.

Young folks most often get stiff and sore from violent means and the soreness is in their muscles; their elders get sore in their joints—even bones—and when chills and fever attacks them they are miserable indeed.

Doctors, professional and amateur, all say that one with a fever should go to bed and stay there and when one has chills along with the fever, a warm bed is about the only place a victim can be comfortable. Although unable to make a winning case against the bed treatment—it feels so good—we are not at all sure it is the best treatment.

If one had the ambition to engage in some strenuous work so he could sweat the germs to the surface he might show a more aggressive attitude toward his illness. That reminds us of an old blacksmith who had rheumatism and when an attack came on him he went to his forge and pounded iron until he was relieved. He lived, hale and hearty, until he couldn't pound iron anymore and might have been living to this day had he kept his anvil.

The point is that we too often supinely accept illness and try to get along with it instead of meeting it boldly. The doctors and the old women have trained us otherwise and most of us believe them. For instance, this screed against acceptance of illness is written in time stolen from a nice warm bed of pain to which the advice of friends and relatives sent us.

STATE PROPERTY TAX

Although the special session will be composed of almost the identical ninety who made up the regular session it seems possible that it will repeal the automatic state property tax which Democratic members refused to consider on its merits last spring.

The worst thing about the state property tax is that it might be collected any time the legislature made a mistake in estimating income from any state tax or the tax commission raised its estimate higher than could be realized. It is a specific tax on property, real and personal, and is not distributed equitably among all citizens who derive benefits from state government.

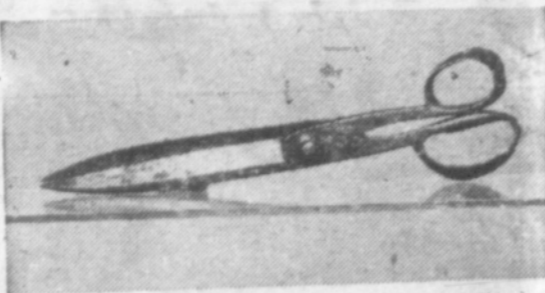
The campaign for its elimination has been going on for some ten years and in that time a great deal has been gained although the basic fact remains that the state property tax is automatic and could be collected without any action being taken.

Nearly every organization of farmers supports the idea of its repeal and many organizations appeared for the bill repealing it last spring. Many would again appear.

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This Week's HISTORY MYSTERY



Give the Name and Mission of the Ill-fated Ship that Brought these Tailor's Shears to Oregon.

CLUE: This particular sailing vessel, under the command of Captain Jonathan Thorn, came around the Horn and arrived off the Columbia bar on March 22, 1811.

ANSWER: It was the ship Tonquin sent to establish the fur post of John Jacob Astor in the Oregon country. In April of 1811, members of the Astor Company established Fort Astoria on the Columbia. The Tonquin then sailed up the coast and met disaster at Clatsop Harbor where natives massacred her crew. One crew member, seeing all was lost, blew up the ship and the Indians aboard her.

This column is presented weekly for the furtherance of historical interest and education by the OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY PORTLAND, OREGON

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Touring Boy Scout Writes of Experiences On European Jamboree Trip

Ron Roberts is a grandson of friend. We not only traded material things but spent many leisure hours trading information.

Blue Jeans Wanted
One of my most shocking and unusual experiences was when a French boy came into my tent and practically begged me to sell him my old and faded blue jeans.

The Jubilee-Jamboree, held in Warwickshire, England, August 1-12 commemorating Lord Baden-Powell on his hundredth birthday and also celebrating the 50th anniversary of his founding of the Boy Scout movement.

Over 80 countries of the free world were represented at this Jamboree by top scouts and scouters. The number of boys from each country varied from one from the Caroline Islands to nearly 1900 from Germany. Scouts now in "exile" living in Sweden and other countries, represented their homelands that are now behind the Iron Curtain.

When we arrived at Sutton Park we were escorted by the British scouters to our camp site in the sub-camp Copenhagen. There were five sub-camps which were named for the places in the world where previous Jamborees were held.

World Action Show

While the Jamboree at Valley Forge was a spectacular show of scout crafts and skills in which the Northwesterners unquestionably showed their superiority, the Jubilee in England stressed primarily the importance of world brotherhood in scouting and the making of foreign scout friends. However, our troop received a double ration of milk for having prepared the best campsite. Of course, we will have to admit that the American contingent had charcoal, charcoal stoves and ready-made plank tables, whereas the boys from the Belgian Congo, for example, threw up a thatched hut out of local native material, used wood to cook with, sat on rustic log benches and ate out of their laps.

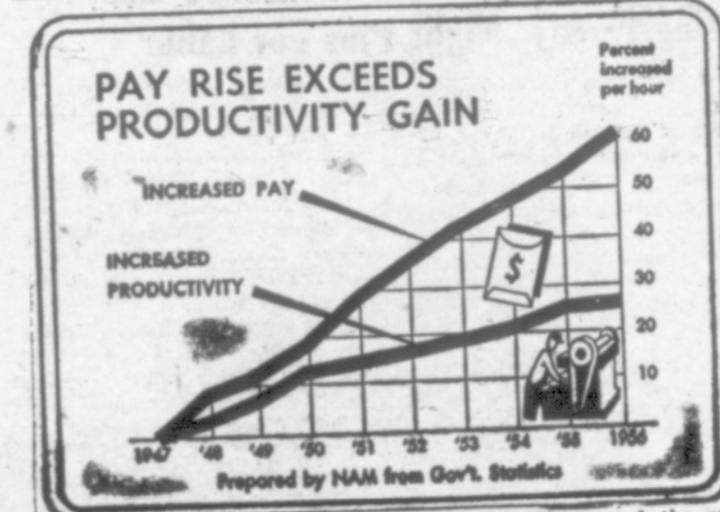
None of the camps would have received a prize the morning after an unseasonable rain-storm that deposited water at its height at the rate of one inch per hour. This put our sleeping bags in the dry cleaning establishment and me in the field hospital for two days with the Asian flu.

Some of the things that the foreign contingents sought in the way of trading material were American Scout belts, hats, and in fact, the whole uniform. I left home with four complete Boy Scout uniforms and came home with only one, and without my red jacket which was the well known trade mark of the Americans. But in their place I brought home English, German, Scottish, and Ceylon uniforms. Everything was traded from samples of Pacific sea water to expensive fur pelts. On one of my big trading sprees I met a boy from Ceylon who later became my best foreign

Dr. Frank D. Reid
Dentist
Moro Hotel Bldg. JO 5-3561
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A SMILING DUTCHMAN, Willem De Lint, became champion plowman of the world when he out-plowed 26 contestants from 14 countries at the World Plowing Contest in Peabees, Ohio. The 27-year-old Hollander acquired his plowing skill on a 125-acre farm which he and his father operate. Six of the top seven plowmen, including the world's champion, operated diesel tractors made by Ford in the contest which attracted close to 200,000 spectators.



PAY OUTGAINS PRODUCTIVITY — Extent that wages are climbing ahead of productivity output per hour is charted from U. S. Department of Commerce statistics. Degree of the spread between pay and productivity is believed a main force in current inflationary prices.

Deer Season Poorly Attended So Far

Unlike many years in the past the report on the opening of deer season from around the state indicates a shortage of hunters in many areas. A check by the regional supervisors of the game commission generally showed that the deer were there, but the hunters weren't. Of course, the second week end helped remedy this as will the either sex season on the 19th, 20th and 21st. And incidentally, if you plan on going out during this season, better check the synopsis for descriptions of the open areas. The map is only approximate, and if you want to hunt anywhere near the boundaries of the area, you should read the boundary description so you'll be sure of where you are.

In the far northeastern part of the state, the opening found the area dry and warm, but this didn't seriously hamper hunting for those who turned out. There was heavy frost at the higher elevations, and it's doubtful that things are going to warm up to any great extent.

Down in the sagebrush, rimrock regions of southeastern Oregon, again the report was of about half the normal number of hunters. Here it was also dry and warm for the opening, but rains have since arrived.

So, all in all the deer season got off to a rather slow start. This will probably make for a lower total kill for this year, but perhaps it will also make for less hunting accidents. Thus far the record is below past years, but we still have a couple of months of hunting left in the state.

Raindrop Camera Used At State

A "raindrop camera" and a mobile weather radar set will be used by Oregon State college meteorologists this winter for special studies on rainy weather.

Both studies are aimed at producing new and valuable findings on forecasting and observing weather with radar, according to Fred W. Decker, physicist who is in charge of both projects.

Radar is widely used now, Decker explained, to detect falling rain and storms. Commercial airliners are equipped with weather radar, he noted, and various other groups—armed forces, fire fighters, etc.—are interested in radar because of its usefulness in relation to weather conditions and forecasting.

The OSC weather radar unit, similar to the type built in planes, has been installed in a trailer especially designed and built in the physics department. Equipped with its own power supply for field operations, it will be used to make observations on storm patterns and movements in western Oregon. Pattern of rainfall in the coastal mountains will be

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF INTENT TO MODIFY PRECIPITATION BY ARTIFICIAL MEANS
Notice is hereby given that the Weather Modification Company, having its principal office at the Municipal Airport, San Jose, California, has entered into a contract with Tri-County Weather Research, Inc., of Condon, Oregon, to regulate precipitation and suppress hail in Sherman County by introduction of silver iodide crystals into super-cooled portions of clouds.

The silver iodide crystals will be generated by ground based equipment located in parts of Wasco, Sherman, Wheeler and Gilliam Counties except that, during a period from June 1, to August 31, 1958, air-borne equipment may be used in addition.

Area affected will include Sherman County and part of Wasco, Wheeler and Gilliam Counties. This operation will extend from September 20, 1957 to and including September 15, 1958.

Dated: This 9th day of October, 1957.

WEATHER MODIFICATION CO.

NOTICE OF FINAL ACCOUNT
Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon for Sherman County, his Final Account as Administrator of the Estate of W. D. Fuller, deceased, and that Wednesday, the 6th day of November, 1957, at ten o'clock A. M. of said day in the court room of the County Court in Moro, Sherman County, Oregon, have been fixed by the Court as the time and place for hearing objections to said Final Account and for the settlement of said estate.

T. Lester Johnson
Administrator
48-51c

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