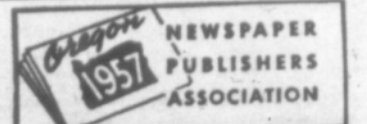


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Giles L. French Editor  
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OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER

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NOVEMBER 8, 1957

SEVENTIETH YEAR

When a man enters his seventieth year he is considered to be getting pretty well along in life. That is not so with a newspaper although a paper published in the American west is doing pretty well to have achieved so much age. There are 29 Oregon newspapers older than the Sherman County Journal.

The first paper in Sherman county was printed in Wasco with the traditional shirt-tail full of type and on a hand press which was modern enough for the times. In these days such equipment would be entirely inadequate and the Journal is rather proud of its machinery.

Looking over the old files—which extend back to 1893—it is not possible to say that newspapers have changed much in anything but improved machinery. There is less of what was called "personal" journalism which meant writing scurrilous items about other editors or political opponents. Editors are better psychologists in these times although not especially better humored. We do think yesterday's editors were more inclined to express themselves than they are now and may be the cost of machinery has had something to do with that.

Newspapers did the same things in 1888 that they do now. They reported the news of their neighbors and the events of their area. Without telephones and mail service and paved roads and radio and television the job was different even though the target was the same. Come to think of it, it is machinery and gadgets that have made the greatest change in newspaper publishing.

The Sherman County Journal has recorded events under all presidents from Benjamin Harrison to Dwight Eisenhower, has hailed with flamboyant prose the coming of the railroad, has boasted good roads, has noted the incorporation of cities, has marveled at the wonders of radio and recently been scornful of Sputnik. The depressions of 1894, 1907, 1922 and 1932 have been noted and the politics and economies of each defended or blamed; the aims of the community have been told, with occasional comment; deaths of the old and weary or the young and ambitious have been reported as well as the birth of thousands who in turn have grown old.

And so, we start another year

with the thought that we have filled a useful place in the county's history—for we are older than the county—and hopeful that we may continue to be useful to those about us.

CATCHING UP

Action of the senate taxation committee to approve an amendment to make the addition to the basic school fund a tax relief appropriation show that politicians are finally catching up with the state aid to schools plans in Oregon.

There are reasons for giving state aid to schools because in a state as varied as Oregon there are always districts with children and little taxable property. In Oregon this often occurs in districts in or near the national forest where there is non-taxable wealth. Some state aid is desirable. To say that the state should provide half of the money for schools is to set an arbitrary figure that is not realistic because there is no distribution formula that will give all schools the same percentage of state money.

We have had over emphasis on money in school affairs. School men should re-examine their administration to put the emphasis on teaching. The purpose of schools is to train—and if possible educate—the young to fit into the community and develop the fortunate few who can become leaders of thought and action. It is not based on finances, but on ideas. Education is a mental process.

The basic school law in Oregon has resulted in greatly expanded costs far above the average increase since the war because state money comes from afar and is easily spent. Teachers have been added and, it often appears, efficiency reduced. The formula for distribution of the state fund should be changed to depend on education to an extent that schools doing a good job would be assured of enough money while schools devoted to the frills could be curtailed. Trouble is that no one can define education.

Now it looks as if the taxpayer is being considered which he must be in the end and it is wise to consider him before he rebels. A taxpayer rebellion is a serious matter as it often swings too far. We are glad the senators have heard the word at last.

IBN SAUD'S DECISION

We read in the faithful press that Ibn Saud, the 55-year old king of Arabia, has changed his girl in marriage and that his mother is responsible for the decision.

It was a nice compliment for the bearded king to pay to his mother but we do not believe it. Women in Arabia seldom speak on such matters for it is a waste of time and Ibn Saud listens very little to women.

It seems more likely that the king took thought with himself and decided that the pleasures of a teenager's company might not be so lasting as first impression indicated. It may be normal for a man of 55 to look over a sleek 17 year old and wish he were young but to wish for the young is somewhat abnormal and we think the king's good sense dictated his own decision.

Slants From Session

By Nicky Tom

Special session, second week. I don't think anybody took Governor Holmes seriously when he predicted that the legislature could wind the session up in five days. Most of us are still hoping to be through by the end of this week but some feel that even this is wishful thinking.

The House last Thursday passed the Governor's tax relief bill on an almost straight line party vote. The Republican minority held out for a 25% reduction in taxes rather than the 10% in the bill.

The Senate tax measure has amended the bill to an even greater extent, however, rolling taxes back to the level of 1953. The bill in this form will almost surely pass the Senate, since Democratic Senators Ben Musa of The Dalles and Harry Bolvin of Klamath Falls are both voting with Republicans on the issue.

Sentiment is strong among some senators that they should delay action on the tax bill until the House considers the measure passed by the Senate last week to take away the state's power to levy a property tax. The bill passed the Senate 29 to 1, but it is feared that it will be clobbered in the House, as it was during the last session.

The opinion shared by many in regard to the automatic state tax (the law giving the tax commission the power to levy a state property tax in the event of a shortage in the general fund for that biennium) is that it acts as a psychological sword of Damocles over the heads of legislators.

The theory is that fear of what a state property tax would do to local communities causes the tax committees to write, and the individual members to vote, for, a much higher income tax rate than is necessary to run the state. Hence the surplus.

So at this point it remains to be seen which bill will be enacted first. Perhaps both of them will be taken care of before this reaches print.

The third legislative item of major importance is the bill to increase basic school support by \$10 per census child. This also passed the House last Thursday by 42 to 17, and was approved by the Senate tax committee 7 to 2. It came to the floor of the Senate for final action today but was sent back to committee for amendment.

There will be an effort to make sure that any increase given to basic at this point will give definite property tax relief. I wish I could explain how they plan to go about it but this one is truly beyond me, in view of the distribution formula which has been so hard on our part of

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the state. In making the motion to send the bill back to committee for amendment Senator Lowry said this morning, "In the past the philosophy has been that education should always receive first consideration without regard for the taxpayers. The situation has now reached the point where we must give consideration to those bearing the heavy tax load."

There is talk that the general fund budget at the next legislative session will be about \$330 million, or an increase of \$59 million, which is the same increase as we had between 1955 and 1957. This has probably been assured with the passage of the increase in basic.

Many feel that with such a program another tax increase will be inevitable, because the general fund budget is increasing at a faster rate than the growth of the state. Representative Guy Jones, Salem Democrat, stated that if the surplus is reduced to a level of from \$10 million to \$20 million the 1959 legislature will face a deficit of \$68 million. If this is so, why was this session called?

There has been a good deal of complaint on both sides of the party line fence about delays in the special session. House Republicans were blasted last week when they refused to suspension of the rules to speed up action on several bills by voting on the bills before they were printed. This would have saved one day. The next day the Democratic majority voted to adjourn from Thursday until Monday, over Republican protest. O consistency!

Dr. Frank D. Reid

Dentist  
Moro Hotel Bldg. JO 5-3561  
OFFICE HOURS  
TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY

Eureka Lodge No. 121 A.F.&A.M.

Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us.  
Paul Alley, W.M.

Joyde Gillmor, Secretary

Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome.  
L. Grabenhorst, NG  
Vada DeMoss, Sec.

Lapine Rebekah Lodge No. 116

HARLANDVIEW GRANGE  
Meets first and third Saturdays each month at 8 p.m.  
Orlow Martin, Master  
Agnes Benson, Secretary

Moro Lodge No. 113 I.O.O.F.

Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in I.O.O.F. hall. Transient and visiting brothers are cordially invited.  
Orlow Martin, N.G.  
Leo Watkins, Secretary

Bethlehem Chapter No. 78 O.E.S.

Meets every second Thursday each month. Visiting members invited. Moro, Oregon  
Genevieve Powell, W. M.  
Gwen Ross, Secretary

People's Column

Dear Friends:

One dollar a day wages for a farm worker! How does that sound to you farmers who are paying about \$10.00 for general farm laborers. Here, in this section of the Dominican Republic, you can hire all the help you want for this wage and servants in the home work for \$10.00 a month and board.

Wheat is not a common crop in this area, so I'll tell you something about harvesting rice on my "Father's" farm. My first day here, we climbed into my father's jeep pickup and went to his rice farm. I strained my eyes trying to locate a combine, or some other method of harvesting the rice as we drove along the bumpy lanes. After we had gone about a mile, my father stopped the jeep and motioned for me to go with him into the paddy. We waded through the mud, and finally arrived in a small area where a man was busily threshing the rice. As the man was threshing the rice, other men were cutting more with a hand sythe and piling it near the threshing mat.

Two systems are used in threshing the rice. In one, a man takes a bunch of rice in his hands and beats it on a stool or box until the grain is all beaten out. In the other, the rice is flayed with a stick until the same results are obtained.

I became extremely amused when trying to take a picture of this, for everytime I'd raise my camera, everyone would stop working and pose. Those out of camera range would attempt to get into the picture too; a trait common of rich to poor here.

From the threshing area, the rice was transported in sacks to a large concrete floor where it was spread to dry. After three or four days of drying, the rice was then tossed in the air for cleaning and then sacked for transportation to the polishing mill.

I must admit, this method of threshing, is much different from anything in Sherman county and at first I was a bit critical of the process. After I received a few facts, however, I decided it was the most satisfactory system for

this area. Here in Dom. Rep. nearly all machinery must be imported; mostly from the United States. The duty on imported items is from 50 to 100% of its value. Gasoline here costs 50 1/2 cents a gallon, diesel 27 cents, so fuel isn't cheap. Therefore, if a farm owner can hire help at \$1.00 a day or 60 cents for women, he would be foolish to mechanize on the small scale. I have been told of combines in the Northern Provinces of the country, but as yet I've not seen any.

Tomorrow, I move to my second family; a stockman, so I'll write about the cattle industry in the Dominican Republic. I can assure you now that there won't be anything about Herefords, for there aren't any here, or at least in this section.

Sincerely Yours,  
Bill Coats

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LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS  
All persons having claims against the Estate of Grace Darling Guthrie, deceased, are hereby notified to present them, with the proper vouchers and duly verified, to the undersigned, the duly appointed, qualified and acting Administrator, with the Will annexed, of the Estate of Grace Darling Guthrie, deceased, at his office in Moro, Oregon, within six months from the date of the first publication of this Notice, to-wit: October 25, 1957.

T. Lester Johnson  
Administrator, with the Will Annexed. 52-2c

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, Emma Dutton, Executrix of the Estate of Harley Dutton, deceased, has filed her First and Final Account and Petition for Distribution in said Estate and that Monday, the 25th day of November, 1957, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock A. M., in the County Court Room in the Court House at Moro, Sherman County, Oregon, has been fixed as the time and place for hearing of objections, if any, to said First and Final Account and Petition for Distribution, and the settlement thereof.

EMMA DUTTON  
Executrix of the Estate of Harley Dutton, Deceased  
Donald E. Heisler  
Attorney for Estate 51-2c

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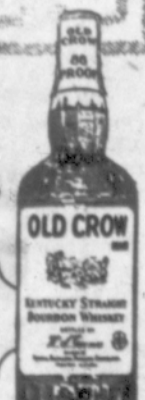
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