

Sherman County Journal

Seventieth Year No. 14

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

Giles L. French

As soon as the ground dries out a little, it will be time to plant a few radish seeds. They may grow up to be hot little things but a gardener can't wait.

T T W N

Football, basketball and politics are always full of upsets and our ordinary folks have our upsets, too.

T T W N

We would be happier if politics settled as many problems as it causes.

T T W N

Eastern Oregonians are separated from western Oregon in a peculiar way. They get their TV from Washington and their radio from California.

T T W N

You can probably get by at bluffing in poker better than in life.

T T W N

Dressmakers are changing the styles of women's clothes at a time when many find it difficult to buy. So they will look old fashioned and womanly instead of modern and baggy.

T T W N

Democrats and Republicans used to get along together except for a couple of months before an election. Now they only get along for a couple of months after an election. But the divisions among them are about equal to the divisions between them.

T T W N

It may be time to challenge the theory that people commit crimes because they are poor. It looks like crimes are also committed by those who are rich and over privileged. In reality an underprivileged person has a goal and can go no place but up; an over privileged one has no place to go but down.

T T W N

It is perfectly all right to have a conference with the Russians if we enter with the expectancy of getting nothing out of it and the express understanding that we will not believe anything they say.

T T W N

Stocks are staying up pretty well indicating that investors are not afraid of the future of the country.

T T W N

The way to learn to write, it is said, is to write and write and write, day after day, for years. It helps to have something to say, but the writing is the expression of it and different. And, maybe, doing any other thing depends on practice, too.

T T W N

Teachers of other subjects than sciences—the humanities—are saying that would be very bad if we all become cold and practical scientists and forgot to be humans.

T T W N

Judging by the value of its stock the Rose City Transit company has been making little money from Portland's bus system and might be glad to quit unless it gets a raise. The question then is whether bus riders should pay for the actual cost of their transportation or the public should help pay for it.

T T W N

We thought last fall we'd appoint ourselves travel editor and go to Mexico but the publisher overruled it and now we are glad he did. So far we haven't had much trouble with winter weather right here.

T T W N

Every city and every county has a stake in the controversy over the Portland traction dispute for if the state can control Portland it can control other towns.

T T W N

Governor Meyner pleads for more practical politicians. That's the trouble with politicians; they are too practical, too anxious to please what seems the majority and too feeble to do what must be done.

T T W N

We will probably spend too much time and sympathy arguing about what made Starkweather kill eleven persons and also too much time ending his career permanently.

Rufus School Robbed of Pupil Savings Funds

Sometime after the Rufus PTA meeting Monday night and 8 a. m. Tuesday the Rufus school was broken into. A window was broken in the boys' rest room, then the intruder or intruders went up to the office forcing the door and pried open a locked file where cash was kept. Around ninety dollars was taken. Forty some dollars of this amount was taken in the last day or so by the children selling chances on a raffle item in which way they hoped to raise some money. Some school lunch money and other cash from selling magazines comprised the rest of the money taken. This was reported to the State Police who are investigating.

Bouquet of Flowers Prove Spring Here?

We hate to brag about the weather for fear it might turn against us but this is the truth. We saw it.

Mrs. Darwin VanGilder brought into the office a small bouquet of flowers picked blooming in her yard. There was a small rose, a rock daphne, a snap dragon and a carnation. Some have been blooming all winter.

Any comment after the visual evidence of a splendid winter would be superfluous.

Predators Kill Stock Although Fewer

Known livestock losses from predatory animals during the last three months of 1957 totaled 471 head of animals and poultry, including 229 sheep, three goats, 136 chickens, five geese, 97 turkeys and one duck. These figures come from Mel Smith, district agent for the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and M. E. Knickerbocker, animal division chief of the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

These totals should not be considered all the livestock losses due to predators; they are ones actually found by the federal-state predator hunters. In addition to livestock and poultry losses, 16 game animals and birds were found killed. Twelve of the game animals were deer.

Coyotes were way ahead in the list of predators causing the most losses of animals and birds. Dogs, bobcats and fox were next in that order. Raccoons were in fifth position and caused 22 of the poultry losses discovered by the hunters.

County Agent Finds Many Items About Farming of Sherman County Interest

Twenty Sherman countians attended the National Association of Wheat Growers meeting in Spokane this week. Floyd Root has served as vice-president during the past two years. The meeting concluded Friday noon with committee reports and election of officers.

Business Institute of Cooperatives for Coop members, employees and managers will be held February 25, Cherry Park Grange, The Dalles, W. T. Balsiger, manager, Moro Grain Growers, heads up local arrangements of the Institute between Hood River, Wasco and Sherman counties.

The annual Sherman County Soil Conservation district meeting has been set for Tuesday, afternoon February 18, county courthouse, Moro. The local board completed plans for the program and the annual report the first of the week. W. L. May, is chairman. Other supervisors are: Luther Davis, John Shipley, Albert Kaseberg and Charles Kuypers.

The Sherman County 1958 ACP funds allocations has been set at \$33,490. These funds are administered by the County ASC committee through their office in the courthouse. ACP practices have been set to assist farmers in establishing permanent land use or other improvement practices. Practices and their rates of assistance will be included in the annual hand book which will be mailed to each operator in the near future. Assistance is generally 50% of the cost of establishing the practice or structure.

Russell Beishee, vice-chairman, County ASC committee and office secretary Mrs. Marie Balzer attended the annual ASC meeting in Gearhart last week. David

Ground Hog Finds Dull Morning On Coming Out Day

A ground hog with 20-20 vision and sufficient persistence might have seen something resembling a shadow had he remained above deck until the middle of Sunday afternoon. If, as legend has it, he comes out of his winter's hibernation early in the morning of February 2 and remains unless he sees his shadow immediately, he is still about.

Last year we made the mistake of reporting that the ground hog legend had nothing to do with Sherman county for none of the marmots lived here. We were corrected by hunters who knew of several habitations of them.

In some parts of the county the sun is said to have shone and there it may be winter. Around Moro, however, we have the blessing of the ground hog to go ahead and have spring. There will be no six weeks more of winter, no freezing nights, no blinding snow but the balmy air of the vernal season. Thanks, ground hog.

Court Pays Bills; Hears of Welfare

The county court met Wednesday on regularly established schedule by state law and heard of a meeting to be held Thursday in The Dalles concerning county participation in unemployment compensation. Sherman county does not take part but may under an act of the last legislature.

Payment of bills and routine matters occupied the court during the morning session and welfare matters took up most of the afternoon.

Beef Referendum Starts February 10

Ballot forms for the beef commission referendum to be held from February 10 to 24 will be mailed by the state department of agriculture this weekend to nearly 4250 Oregon cattlemen who registered to vote.

Paul T. Rowell, the department market development chief, said more than half of Oregon's cattle population on January 1, 1957 is represented by those who registered. Producers may either mail their ballots directly to the department at Salem or deposit them in ballot boxes in any county extension agent's office. County agents will forward the sealed ballots to Salem.

Any registered cattle producer who does not receive his ballot form in the mail by February 10 may obtain one from any county agent or from the department of agriculture in Salem.

County Agent Finds Many Items About Farming of Sherman County Interest

Richeldefer and George Wilson, other members of the committee were unable to attend. Office manager, Ralph Busse, stuck close to home to assist his better half with their new, as Ralph calls it, "Satellite", Barry Emil.

Final production figures for 1957 have been completed and results should be of interest. Sherman county produced the highest average wheat yield in history in 1957. Seventy-nine thousand acres of wheat produced 2,845,000 bushels for a thirty-six bushel per acre average. The acreage to wheat in 1957 was the smallest in over thirty years. The acreage reserve program took out 12,000 acres of wheat under the allotment which went into barley. This acreage thus gave us the largest barley acreage and production in history. About 42,000 tons of barley, 1200 tons of oats, and 430 tons of mixed grain was produced.

Understanding of a few basic facts about range grass is necessary before an individual can start a range improvement program. Without understanding, improvement is usually short lived. Here are eight basic facts about range grass outlined in a new Extension Bulletin "Grass is Wealth". Perennial grasses are more dependable than annuals; root growth determines the top growth; spring growth is critical; cutting grass to the ground kills it; the mature dry growth is low in protein; about half the natural growth is needed to control erosion; to get water into the ground, and to allow for seed setting and growth of young seedlings; it takes about 800 pounds of water to produce a pound of grass; range grass growth is seasonal; livestock eat every day.



Winners of the parliamentary drill at Sherman high school first FFA gathering of ten schools of the Blue Mountain district was the McEwan team of Athena. They are Tom Moore, Nick Simpson and Terry Millian. Steve Hodgen was absent.

National Wheat Men Meet In Spokane

The National Association of Wheat Growers' eighth annual convention is being held Feb. 4-7, at the Davenport Hotel in Spokane, Washington.

Governor Albert D. Rosellini opened the meeting at 1:15 p. m., welcoming the convention to the State of Washington. Following the opening address, Herb Hughes, president of the NAWG from Imperial, Nebraska presented a charter of membership to the Idaho Wheat Growers Association.

Howard J. Doggett of the CSS, U. S. Department of Agriculture, discussed the Soil Bank program. General sessions on marketing and National Farm program completed the first day activities.

Thursday, men of national prominence highlighted the program. Dr. John Shallenberger from Kansas State college and Gwynn Garnett, administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service, spoke during the morning session. During the afternoon, the wheat growers heard Howard Pyle, deputy assistant to President Eisenhower.

Ernest Robert Rosse, noted world traveler from Philadelphia highlighted current national and international events with a bit of humor and inspiration during the golden harvest banquet Thursday evening.

Jack Smith, Condon, president of the Oregon Wheat Growers, reported that Floyd Root, Wasco, and Raphael Raymond, Helix, are delegates to the convention. Al Jensen, Pendleton, Paul Kaseberg, Wasco, and Morris Wilson, Condon.

Days of Long Ago Remembered Thursday As Two Ladies Mark Birthdays

Two elderly ladies of Moro had birthdays Thursday, February 6 when one of them, Mrs. Anna Moore was 83 and the other Mrs. Elvin Barnum was 80. Neither was born in what is now Sherman county. Mrs. Barnum came in 1881 when she was three and Mrs. Moore in 1884 when she was nine. Mrs. Barnum is a daughter of the late Julius Medler, who homesteaded north of Wasco and Mrs. Moore a daughter of the late Marion Powell who homesteaded west of Moro.

In those days a little girl could hide in the tall bunchgrass that waved on the hill tops where nothing but wheat has grown for years. And a little girl, running to the top of a hill could feel the cool wind on her face, sweet and clean and dustless, for the land was not plowed except in the few places where homesteaders had turned the sod over with awkward plows.

In the early eighties when little girls were dressed for church or some other dress-up occasion they wore stiff dresses like their mothers but were not put into the whalebone straight jackets of a feminine figure at the expense of a pained expression. If grandma's picture looks stern, remember that grand daughter would look stern too, in the same clothes.

There were school houses where teachers taught the three Rs to eight grades of children who walked as much as four or five miles to get there. They learned to write neatly and with greater

Election Precincts Changed In County

Mrs. Marie Hoskinson, county clerk, was empowered by the last legislature to rearrange election precincts in the county.

With the advice and consent of the court she has made election precincts to coincide with school districts. This will make a change in the voting place for several farmers who have lived in one school district and been forced to vote in another town. Inasmuch as in this county, school districts are divided as to natural community centers the new arrangement of election precincts will fit easily.

Election precinct numbers will also be changed. Rufus will be No. 1, Wasco No. 2, Moro No. 3, Grass Valley No. 4, Kent No. 5.

New Telephone Books Put Out Here

Delivery of new telephone directories for Moro and other communities in Sherman, Gilliam and Wasco counties started Feb. 3.

The 1958 directories have been mailed to Pacific Telephone customers at Moro, The Dalles, Arlington, Grass Valley, Wasco and other nearby towns according to manager Cal Horn.

About 235 directories have been mailed to Moro, 6000 to The Dalles, 350 to Arlington, 200 to Grass Valley and 260 to Wasco.

Continuing the pictorial theme of past years, the directory cover has a picture on it of river barges passing through the navigation lock at The Dalles dam. The cover is reproduced in green with a leatherette design printed on it.

precision than in this day and to figure and to read. School terms lasted for three months and two of them a year were all that hard pressed parents could be expected to provide. Children were taught to work and learning was secondary.

Girls could work in the house, wash dishes, wash the heavy clothing of outdoor men, darn and patch. They could tend the potatoes, gather eggs and dig the vegetables from the garden that furnished much of the living for six months of the year. Had it not been for the dried corn, the preserved fruits, the stores of root crops in the cellar in the fall the table would have been bare during the winter for it was a long way to the few stores and there wasn't any money anyway. Meat was home-cured pork and beef and chicken raised by motherly hens who stole away to hiding places of their own to hatch their progeny.

Eighty years have brought electric ovens for which no wood need be split, automobiles that do not need to be harnessed before a journey, vacuum cleaners that do not scatter the dust as did a broom, food in cans and packages instead of in gardens and pig pens. And still we venture the thought that Thursday when these two reflected back on the years their minds turned more to the hard packed school yards of the eighties and the dances over the store buildings in the nineties and the sleighrides of yore more to the physical comforts time has brought.

FFA Contests Draw Ten Teams to Sherman High

Representatives of Future Farmers of America chapters from ten schools gathered at Sherman high school Saturday in their blue and gold jackets to hold the first speaking and parliamentary drill contest.

The public speaking contest started in the morning with ten boys giving talks on subjects having to do with agriculture. Winner of this event was Eugene Hickman of Pendleton who spoke on "Restoring Our Grassland Resources", second was Ron Slusarenko of McLoughlin high at Milton-Freewater and third was Tom Moore of McEwan high at Athena.

In the afternoon the parliamentary drill contest was held. Each chapter had a team of six boys who sat in specified places according to a previously arranged schedule. Chairmen were chosen from each school and the 18 member group in each separate contest vied aggressively for the floor and a chance to make their motions or debate them. Winner of this contest was McEwan of Athena with Wy'east second and Boardman third. The winning team was composed of Tom Moore, Harold Nichols, Dan Moore, Nick Simpson, Terry McMillan and Steve Hodgen.

Judges were Carl Floten and Bud Tibbets of The Dalles, both former ag teachers, and Earl Knight of Sherwood, now teaching FFA work.

In other contests Wy'east was judged the best for scrap book with Pendleton second and Hermiston third. For secretary's minutes Mac Hi was first, Pendleton second and Sherman third. For treasurer's books Wy'east was first, MacHi second and Pendleton third. Winner of the banners for overall excellence was Pendleton, Wy'east and MacHi.

The ten schools represented were Wy'east, The Dalles, Sherman, Heppner, Stanfield, Hermiston, Pendleton, McEwan, MacHi, and Boardman.

Republicans Invited To Party Dinner

W. R. Reid, county Republican chairman, has issued an invitation to Sherman county party members to attend one of the two Republican dinners to be held in Portland on Lincoln's birthday.

There will be two of them, one at the Columbia Athletic club where the cost will be approximately \$3.00 and the other at the Multnomah hotel which will be a fund raising dinner with a price tag of \$100.

Republicans who wish to attend should tell Mr. Reid or it by February 9 so he can inform Mr. Alen Green, Multnomah county chairman who is in charge of arrangements.

Wily Knighten Gets Play Part at EOCE

Wily Knighten Jr., Eastern Oregon college sophomore from Moro, is cast in the EOCE theatre production of "Inherit the Wind," which dramatizes the famous Scopes Monkey trial of 1925. The play, under the direction of Dr. Alvin R. Kaiser, professor of speech and dramatics, is scheduled for March 6, 7, and 8.

Mr. Knighten, majoring in physics at EOCE is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wily W. Knighten of Moro.

PP&L To Spend \$58,000,000 In Year

Pacific Power & Light company will spend \$58,000,000 during 1958 to complete new power generating plants and to expand and improve electric services for its customers. It was announced Wednesday by Art Thrasher, district manager for the company.

This will mark a new record high in construction expenditures for the third consecutive year.

The major portion of the 1958 amount is earmarked for new power plants and expansions which will add 350,000 kilowatts of electric generating capacity to the company's resources for customer needs by the end of the year, it was reported.

Work on power development projects and related transmission lines will require \$42,179,000 of the total, he said.

New distribution lines, substations, transformers, poles and installations of other customer-service equipment will require \$11,189,000 of the record amount.