

Sherman County Journal
Published Every Friday at
Moro, Oregon
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NATIONAL EDITORIAL
ASSOCIATION
OFFICIAL COUNTY PAPER
SUBSCRIPTION RATES
ONE YEAR \$3.00
JANUARY 1, 1960

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT SIXTIES

Economists blossom like paper hats and sound off like New Year's horns at the beginning of each year and what they say is always interesting for it gives a peek into the future (even if not always a full picture) and humans are interested in that.

This year the economists are saying that things will be better, that people will buy more, go into debt farther, boost the gross national product, work less and recreate more. That is, say the wisest ones of the prophesying brethren, if we do not succumb to inflation and can somehow settle the arms race.

So far not one of the economists noted has said a good word for inflation although some politicians like the idea of hurrying things along by that device. History teaches that it has always been disastrous to any nation, but politicians do not all read history.

Some note the present argument about the rate of our growth which is said to be around three per cent. If we want to grow faster we can save more money to invest in the economy. It is estimated that folks would have to invest ten percent in order to grow three percent and it now appears that they would rather spend it.

Economists do not generally believe that interest rates will go down very soon. Interest rates are higher nearly every place else and money goes where it is best treated so if we held our interest rate down more money would go to Europe which is booming and borrowing and we would have less to invest at home and could therefore grow only at a slower rate.

We may have a hard time being economically sound in 1960 because it is a political year when generous things are promised and maybe enacted. We can expect more social security payments and higher taxes for that most unsocial enterprise. But then, it has to go bust some time and the sooner the better.

The government is expected to be short of dollars. First because we are buying more than we are selling abroad, loaning or giving away more than we are getting and generally disporting ourselves in a way to bring on that financial disaster: inflation. Second because congress likes to spend other people's money and hesitates to levy taxes. The federal and many state governments are about at the end of their financial rope. That isn't bad, it is good. They will never be financially responsible as long as the taxpayers have a single obtainable dollar. The only good government is a busted government.

So the drunken sailor hasn't begun to sober up yet but he's on the last bottle and without funds to buy more.

ROCKEFELLER

The decision of Nelson Rockefeller to abandon hopes of becoming the Republican nominee is not surprising as it was done for a very apparent political reason: he found he couldn't win. Mr. Rockefeller has a very nice personality and a ready smile. His political training was obtained under the new deal and he has a paternal complex that causes him to think government should do everything for the citizen.

We do not like that philosophy no matter what the political label on the advocate. The Democrats are making as much as they can of Mr. Rockefeller's decision which is natural, but it won't be much. The voters have caught up with gimmick politics as it has been found too expensive.

Mr. Nixon now will bear the full brunt of Democratic criticism which is the penalty for being the apparent nominee. He must stand an extra six months of partisan sharp shooting. We know of no one who can stand it better. He is a politician which means that he is responsive to the public voice, the public demands, the public needs. And whether you like the name politician or not the attributes are desirable in a country with government for the people.

THE JOHN DAY

There is activity down on the John Day river as landowners are having their flats leveled preparatory to putting water on next year. It has been going on for some time without creating any more than cursory interest. Bob Hoynton has a new 30 acre field ready and more on the Jack Gibson place. Mike Murtha has a good sized field and Shelt Bures, who has been working at it for years, is doing some more.

It is reliably estimated that 215 acres along the John Day river are already under irrigation and that 400 acres more could be watered from the river with leveling and ditching. That estimate, we are sure, does not include the smaller flats.

The flats along the John Day have long been one of the county's neglected assets. Some of them contain 60 acres, enough for a big irrigated farm. We have always operated our cattle business along the John Day backwards, putting cattle onto the river in spring and feeding them dry feed on top in the winter. If feed was grown along the river cattle could winter there much better than on top where the wind blows much colder and the frost bites much deeper. It is nearly always warm along the river, warmer, anyway.

It is probable that the newly leveled land will be put into permanent pasture for cattle. However, that is probably not the best use for it. Any of the bottoms along the John Day will grow fine vegetables and fruit and will mature them earlier than any place in the northwest. What is lacking is transportation and land owners are building roads as well as they can so that will not long be so much of a handicap.

Sherman county now has more money than ever before in its 80 year history as an agricultural community. There is almost no farm debt, whereas land mortgages were the plague of the county for years. We now have the third generation on farms and it has benefited from the hard work and economy of its ancestors. It could well spend some money to develop the John Day valley so we could have another crop when the time comes that wheat is not so profitable.

PLANNING TROUBLES

The possibility that there may be another referendum on the Portland urban renewal project makes us ponder briefly on the troubles of planners in general. They are theorists, of course, and able to figure out a way to improve a given situation. Their trouble is in getting anyone to agree.

We suspect that many of them have no practical experience but are men who grew up without hardship, the scions of families able to send them to college without labor. Most of them were given a government job and became planners. Common folks who have to work for a living can't understand them and they can't understand common folks.

In a country where the people can have a voice in public affairs the job of planning entails public support. Making a plan to improve a rundown neighborhood with tax dollars is no trick. The idlers on the park benches know how to do it.

Making a plan good enough that the people who must pay the bill are satisfied is harder—much, much.

Rufus Personals

By Mrs. Geo. L. Fox

Christmas has come and gone, and the look of the weather in north Sherman county, it could have been Easter time. The sun shone here and it was warm, not at all the appearance of nearly the end of the year. However, at this writing on Tuesday the air was really nippy, and it looked as if King winter was peeking around our houses. Fog was hanging high overhead. However, we should not kick as areas all around here have reported the cold and hazardous highways on each side of us.

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Brackett took a truck load of young folks around caroling at the different homes Wednesday evening. Even the sprinkling of rain at that time didn't dim the young folks enthusiasm for fun. The residents were highly honored to have youth favor them.

The Rufus grade school had its Christmas program Dec. 22 at the school gym. The band under the direction of Douglas Jacox played: "Merry Christmas", "Away in the Manger", "Oh Come All Ye Faithful", "We Three Kings", and "Merry in F". Barbara Miller played a clarinet solo. Then Mr. Jacox lead the chorus in "Jingle Bells", "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem", and "Deck the Halls". Mr. Jacox had to appear at Moro the same night at a later time to direct the band there for the Christmas program, so he left as soon as

WANT ADS

CONSIGN your livestock to your local auction The Dalles Livestock Commission, Inc. Livestock sales every Wednesday at noon. Special community auctions of household, machinery, poultry, etc. the 1st Saturday of each month starting Dec. 5th. Phone CY 6-4672, The Dalles, Oregon. 5c tm

STATE WIDE PAINT CO. complete painting and decorating service, spray or brush. Phone CY 6-3977 or CY 6-5293, 1205 E. 12th St. Vern Campbell and Jack Null, The Dalles, Or. 38tfm

FOR Agricultural loans see The Dalles NFIA and the Mid-Columbia PCA, 4th & Court Street. CYpress 6-2468. 21-2c

Custom Slaughtering by appointment only. Meat cutting, wrapping, sharp freeze. Kenny's Market, Grass Valley, Oregon. Call ED 3-2345 for appointments

WANTED: Financial backing, fast-growing coast industry. For details write Leslie Woodriff, Box 222, Harbor, Oregon. 7-10p

WANTED: Saddle horse, Myrtle Smith, Grass Valley. 8-9p

FOR SALE: 40 heavy treated telephone poles, 25 to 30 feet long, also insulators, cross arms and hardware. T. L. Fields, Rufus, GI 5-2292. 9-10c

FOR SALE: Approx. 150 tons of Alfalfa-Grass Hay. Prefer to take cattle to pay. See Bill or Bob Rolfe, Grass Valley. 9c

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. Floyd Haines, Sec. Leo Watkins, Secretary

Bethlehem Chapter No. 78 O.E.S. Meets every second Thursday each month. Visiting members invited. Moro, Ore. Imogene Hailey, W. M. Dorothy Hcater, Secretary

Taylor LODGE A. F. & A. M. Wasco Meets First and Third Tuesdays. Visiting brethren welcome. Vinton Watkins, W. M. Elton Medler, Secretary

Lapine Rebekah Lodge No. 114 Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month. Visiting members welcome. Mary Brackett, N. G. Helen Martin, Secretary

HARLANDVIEW GRANGE Meets First and Third Mondays each month at 8:00 p. m.

OREGON'S CENTENNIAL ALBUM PAGE 42 JOHN WHITEAKER 1820-1902 OREGON'S FIRST STATE GOVERNOR (1859-62). HE OPENLY SYMPATHIZED WITH THE CONFEDERACY, FAILED OF RE-ELECTION

OREGON'S CENTENNIAL ALBUM PAGE 44 DANIEL CLARK 1824-1956 IOWA BORN, HE JOINED THE UNIVERSITY OF OREGON FACULTY IN 1921, HEADING THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY FROM 1940-1951. A MUCH-LOVED TEACHER, HE INSTILLED IN HIS STUDENTS ZEAL FOR SCHOLARSHIP

OREGON'S CENTENNIAL ALBUM PAGE 43 SAMUEL CHRISTOPHER LANCASTER 1864-1941 EDUCATED IN MISSISSIPPI AND TENNESSEE... HE CONTRACTED POLIO AND WAS HELPLESS FOR TWO YEARS (1885-88)...

OREGON'S CENTENNIAL ALBUM PAGE 45 JOSEPH GASTON 1832-1913 LAWYER, RAILROAD PROMOTER, JOURNALIST, HISTORIAN, GATE RAILROAD BETWEEN THE COLUMBIA RIVER AND CALIFORNIA...

Helen Bruckert, Master Florence Bruckert, Secretary Eureka Lodge No. 121 A.F.A. L. 1 Meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evenings each month. Visiting members cordially invited to meet with us. Ronald Powell, W. M. Clyde Gillmor, Secretary

LEGAL NOTICES NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been appointed as administratrix of the estate of Amandus D. von Borstel, deceased, and has qualified as such administratrix. All persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified and required to

present the same, duly verified, notice. The date of the first publication of this notice is December 11, 1959. within six months from the date of the first publication of this notice. The date of the first publication of this notice is December 11, 1959. EMILY von BORSTEL, Administratrix of the estate of Amandus D. von Borstel, deceased. BROWN & VAN VACTOR, The Dalles, Oregon Attorneys for Estate 6-9c

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