

Sherman County Journal

Seventy-Second Year No. 10

Moro, Oregon Friday January 8, 1960

County Official Paper

These Things We Note

Giles L. French

This year is hardly different enough to be refreshing.

TTWN

The subject was polygamy but that doesn't matter. The jury decided that if it wasn't halted it would be difficult to eliminate. Natch.

TTWN

Now it is said man has invented a machine that can think. If every model works that is better than the Almighty did.

TTWN

Gad, being ruler of a nation nowadays is better than having a pocket full of credit cards.

TTWN

Running a labor union may be like riding a bicycle: you have to keep going to stay upright.

TTWN

Chairman Butler of the Democrats says they will campaign against Nixon's well known roughness of those who were soft on communism. They don't dare.

TTWN

Considering the economic rise of western Europe we might advise workers to go there for jobs; for steady work, not wages, however.

TTWN

They settled the steel strike which was good; and now they argue about who gets the credit, which is bad.

TTWN

An organization has begun agitation to make Mother's day last a week. Be careful, population statistics indicate it might be helpful to do away with them altogether for a while.

TTWN

We have a surplus of organizations that live on our fears. Be careful when you drive; don't swim beyond this line; don't go near atomic bombs. Gad, there's enough of them to have frustrated Lewis & Clark had those adventurous gentlemen lived in these times, such do-gooders either think most of us are fools or that they are gods. Being scared may save your life but it spoils living.

TTWN

The argument about growth will wax hot this next year. Fact is, if the nation wants to grow its citizens can save money and invest in American industry or agriculture. Trying to grow through larger taxes doesn't work, through larger taxes does not work. It does, however, produce a growth of timidity.

TTWN

Anyone should be able to join any union—if he can do the work. Just as anyone can start a newspaper or a hardware store.

TTWN

Dr. Krick said January would be warm and wet and then the U. S. Weather bureau said January would be dry and very cold. So far we've had a compromise; warm and dry. We hope the government is as wrong on this as usual.

TTWN

Football is a pretty slow game back in Wisconsin, deliberate and determined, but slow. Not good enough for export.

TTWN

A little car is good if you want to go a little way.

TTWN

Portland newspaper unions complain about the importation of workers to take the jobs they vacated. Such doings break their monopoly. Crying about opposition is not adult action.

TTWN

Portland papers are concerned about new buildings for the state higher educational institutions. Before building new ones we'd like a report on how fully the present ones are utilized.

TTWN

High wages sure put the pressure on poor workers. It's bad enough to be poor for nothing but when you're poor for something it's hard to find a buyer.

TTWN

It isn't making up your mind that causes worry. It's worry that makes decisions slow.

Pacific Power Off Friday For Station Start at Grass Valley

Users of Pacific Power & Light power in the Grass Valley and Kent region are going to be out of juice next Friday morning from 12:01 a. m. until 2:00 a. m. while linemen switch over to the new substation built at Grass Valley, just west of the railroad tracks on Market Street.

The new station is just completed at a cost of around \$40,000 in an effort by the company to improve the lines of this county to give better service to customers.

Two Burned When Gas Explodes

Lee Gunnels and Ed Sullivan came close to serious injury last Thursday afternoon while painting the small office used by the Pacific Power & Light company. Fumes from a pan of cleaning solvent exploded when an electric heater went on and the pan caught fire. The men suffered burns on their hands in putting out flames. One wall was moved back an inch or so and the entire office is much more in need of painting than before.

Sullivan went to the hospital overnight and both have their hands heavily bandaged and will stay away from paint for a few days.

Lagoons For Sewage Disposal Well Tried

Satisfactory operation since 1958 of an oxidation lagoon for disposal of sewage and industrial waste has brought a new three year grant to Oregon State College for additional studies on how the low-cost lagoons might be used best in the future by communities and small industries of Western Oregon.

The new grant to the OSC engineering experiment station is for \$27,000 from the National Institutes of Health. It will be used for studies of lagoon design, loading capacity, and other operational problems and possibilities.

Inexpensive to build and operate, the lagoons have found favor with small communities and industries which are unable to afford sewage treatment plants. Other larger communities are using them to expand existing facilities, Burgess noted. Reductions in sewage disposal lagoon is 2.3 acres in size with varying depths to three feet. It is constructed adjacent to the Corvallis sewage treatment plant. Various loading rates that would meet the needs of communities or small industries have been tried and found feasible in the preliminary research.

Snow Conditions Make Dry Season Prophecy Easy To Make

The April-September streamflow outlook for Hood River valley and Wasco county streams is poor, according to a report released today by W. T. Frost, snow survey supervisor for U. S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station and State Engineer, State of Oregon. Snow survey measurements indicate less water content than was measured at this time last year. The water content of the snow as measured this month is slightly lower than last year's January 1st measurement and only 17 percent of the 1943-57 average. By January 1st there is usually a little less than two-fifths of the total accumulation of snow on the ground. This year there is less than one-tenth of the total "snow-crop" accounted for.

Although some snow has fallen since these measurements were made, it is very doubtful that subsequent storms will be heavy enough to overcome this shortage.

Soils on most of the watershed are drier than a year ago due to below normal precipitation during the October, November and December period.

Higher elevation mountain soils were moderately wetted by rains in 1960, Mrs. Horrell said, although this should be only about half as sharp as this year's drop.

Taxes Divided To Spending Units By Officials

County sheriff George Geiser Jr. has turned over to the county treasurer, Mrs. Darwin VanGilder and the funds collected from taxes for 1959 totaling \$606,582.69. The total was \$625,334.48 less rebates of \$18,751.79.

The rebate is generally three per cent but for taxes paid after the 15th of November, is less.

The Rural School Board received, less rebate, \$181,657.04, the Sherman High Special fund \$76,580.99, SHS regular \$83,704.72, School Dist. No. 3, \$128,170.89, SD7 \$48,789.99, SD9 \$17,426.95, SD17 \$38,978.38, SD23 \$4,587.74.

City of Wasco \$3722.11; Moro \$7827.60; Grass Valley \$3876.95.

The county general fund received \$130,011.20 less \$3898.64 in rebate of which \$72,287.72 went to the general fund and the following sums were credited to the four road funds: No. 1 (outside the towns) \$49,131.31; Wasco, \$1700.87; Moro \$1647.04; Grass Valley, \$1345.62 rebates of \$18,751.79.

Farm Prices Down Slightly In Fall

Oregon farm prices averaged slightly lower during November, while national farm prices dropped more sharply, reports Mrs. Elvera Horrell, extension agricultural economist at OSC.

Prices received by the state's farmers for their products slipped one-half of one percent last month as small rises in prices for farm crops failed to offset sharp drops in prices for livestock and livestock products, Mrs. Horrell found as she studied reports from the U. S. department of agriculture. They are still nearly 3 per cent higher than a year earlier, however.

Beef cattle, calves, hogs, lambs, and wool all brought lower prices to Oregon farmers last month, Mrs. Horrell said. Sheep was the only item in the meat-animal class to show an upturn. As a result, meat-animal prices fell as much as 7 per cent during last month and now stand 12 per cent under meat-animal prices in the state a year ago.

Prices paid for farm crops in the state last month continued upward for the second straight month, with increases reported on all crops except feed grains, Mrs. Horrell added. Prices on feed grains dipped as lower barley prices more than offset higher prices paid for corn and oats.

Nationally, farm prices dropped 2 per cent during November with meat animals, cotton, and oranges carrying most of the responsibility for the drop. Biggest upturns came in milk, potatoes, wheat, turkeys, and soybeans, Mrs. Horrell said, but these were not enough to stem the lower price trend.

As a result, national farm prices now stand 7 percent below a year ago and the lowest since March 1947.

While prices received by the nation's farmers tumbled, prices paid by the farmers crept up another notch—one-third of one percent. But this was enough to push the government's yardstick for measuring farm costs one percent about a year ago and within one percent of the all-time high.

With prices farmers receive down, and prices they pay up, farm-product purchasing power lost ground last month. The parity ratio—the government's yardstick for measuring the relationship between prices received and prices paid by farmers—dropped to 77 in November, 2 points below a month earlier and 5 points below a year ago.

This is the lowest parity ratio since August 1940, Mrs. Horrell pointed out.

When all accounts are added up this year, USDA economists say national net farm income may fall below last year by as much as 15 percent. Biggest reasons for the drop, the economists say are lowered cash receipts, caused by heavier supplies and lower prices; elimination of the acreage reserve; and a higher farm operating bill, pushed up by higher prices on industrial goods and higher overhead costs.

The USDA experts expect an even further drop in farm income were moderately wetted by rains in 1960, Mrs. Horrell said, although this should be only about half as sharp as this year's drop.



Members of the December "Frostbite" cruise of Sherman county boatmen who went to Ar-

Bids on Biggs Bridge Asked By Toll Authority Wednesday

Bids for the construction of the Biggs Rapids bridge across the Columbia by the Washington Toll Bridge Authority were requested January 6 and will be opened February 9 at Olympia, Wash.

Purpose of bids is to determine an actual amount for which the span can be built. When that is done bonds will be sold to pay for the structure which will form the last link on Highway 97 between Mexico and Canada. Crossing the Columbia is now done by ferry.

Men interested in financing the bridge by purchase of the revenue bonds that will be issued to pay for it are coming next week and it is expected that work will proceed by spring.

Short Course In Stock Production Here

First session of the Livestock short course will get underway next Friday, January 15 at 10:30 a. m., reports County Agent T. W. Thompson. The event is being sponsored by the Sherman County Cattlemen's Association and the Sherman County Extension Service. Programs will be held each Friday for five weeks between the hours of 10 a. m. and 3 p. m.

Pre-registration for the event has been requested. Registration can be made through Sherman County Cattlemen's executive committee members or the Sherman county agent's office.

Subjects to be covered include: Livestock Improvement through Genetics and Selection (covering fundamentals of genetics, inherited traits and environmental influence, practical application of genetics, and the Oregon Beef Cattle Improvement program), January 15. Physiology of Livestock Reproduction—January 22, covering fundamentals of 11 v e r s t o c k physiology, interaction of hormones, function of organs, possibility and problems of artificial insemination, and managing livestock for maximum efficiency of reproduction. Livestock Feeds and Feeding, January 29—to include fundamentals of nutrition; basic nutritional allowances for maintenance; balancing rations and supplemental feeding, and feed preparation and feed additives.

Economics of production, February 5. Final program has not been completed, but will include presentation of economic information on various type livestock and management programs of local interest.

Animal Health—February 12—to include pest and insect control and livestock disease prevention and cure.

Most instructions will be Research or Extension personnel from the Animal Husbandry, Veterinarian, Agriculture Economics, Farm Management, and Entomology departments. Questions and answer sessions will be held during the entire five week program.

1960 Fishing Rules Up For Study

Oregon's sport fishing regulations for 1960 will be tentatively set following a public hearing on Friday, January 8. The hearing will be held at the game commission's Portland office, 1634 S. W. Alder, and is scheduled to begin at 10 a. m.

During the hearing, winter and summer angling rules for all game fish will be covered. Following a two-week interval and publication of the tentative rules, a second hearing will be called by the commission on January 22 after which the final regulations for the 1960 season will be adopted.

All persons interested are invited to attend.

December Very Dry At Local Station

Total precipitation for December was .43 inch, a long ways below the average of 1.74. The most for any day was the 24th when .18 inch fell. The crop year total now stands at 2.13 which is 2.96 below normal. That is greatest moisture shortage since January 1957 when we were 3.63 below.

The highest temperature was 58 on the 15th and the lowest was 17 on the 6th, 28th and 29th. Long time average is for a high of 55 and a low of 25. Average maximum for 40.2, average minimum 25.9 for a monthly mean of 33.1 which is .06 above normal.

Lloyd Henrichs Named New Fair Board Member

Lloyd Henrichs was named to the fair board by the county court, accepting the appointment Thursday forenoon.

Work of the county court entails several appointments at the first of the year as law directs. The Sherman county court met Tuesday and Wednesday this week to have plenty of time for them. Done was the picking of 500 names for the jury panel which is a time consuming job.

Also named were T. Lester Johnson and Arzell Lemley to the dog board; the Sherman County Journal to be the official newspaper; J. K. McKean to serve another three year term on the budget committee, Mrs. Roland Johnson to serve another term on the planning commission; Loren Winnett, deputy sheriff, to be truant officer.

The court received petition asking for appointment of a committee to study and write a county charter, sold 80 acres of tax foreclosed land to R. H. Schilling and heard a petition from James Brown for road improvement.

A welfare meeting took up a part of the afternoon and the court heard Frank Reid speak for the planning commission and the recreation committee of the Sherman County club asking for court aid to get a small park at the mouth of the John Day river for boat launching. Also desired is a highway and railroad bridge 20 feet above the water so boats could enter the river and sufficient outlets from the highway.

The court decided to return Friday for further discussions of the appointments which include a new fair board member to replace Jack Cushman who will not serve longer or several new members to make the board larger and more representative of county interests. Also probable is the appointment of a committee to write a county charter.

Health Unit Plans Conference At G. V.

The monthly meeting of the Sherman county Health Advisory Council took place on January 6 at Beefe's, restaurant, Mrs. Lester Wilson presiding. The county court members and Mr. I. D. Reterson, sanitation engineer, also attended.

A pre-school well-child conference will be held in Grass Valley on January 13, from 10 a. m. to 12 noon, at the grade school. This conference will be for the benefit of the communities of Kent, Grass Valley and Moro. Committee heads are Mrs. Harley McKay, Kent; Mrs. Clyde Stradley, Grass Valley; and Mrs. Dale Harrison, Moro.

The schedule for polio shots and also booster shots was announced. It is as follows: January 18, 11 a. m. to 12 noon, Antelope; 1 p. m. to 2 p. m., Kent; Jan. 19, 10:30 a. m. to 12 noon, Grass Valley; 1 p. m. to 2:30 p. m., Moro; January 20, 9 a. m. to 10 a. m., Rufus and 11 a. m. to 12 noon, Wasco.

Mr. Reterson announced that a planning meeting for a mosquito-control, or Vector district, will be held at 8 o'clock at the Rufus grade school on January 14. At this meeting, the people concerned can accept or reject the district. Mr. Clair Balzer, assessor, will attend to explain the cost involved. Mr. Reterson urged that there be a good attendance, since mosquito-control has become such a problem.

Kent Precipitation Averages 10.75 Inch

J. E. Norton, weather watcher at Kent, has computed the 1959 figures for his station and sent in comparisons with other years. They show very dry it has been this fall. From September 1 to December 31 in past years the precipitation has been: 1953—4.63; 1954—3.36; 1955—5.78; 1956—2.19; 1957—6.26; 1958—4.16; 1959—1.94.

The 35-year average precipitation at Kent for the crop year, September 1 to August 31 is 10.75 inches. In recent years it has been 1952—12.21; 1953—10.51; 1954—8.35; 1955—14.68; 1956—11.43; 1957—15.99; 1958—10.35.

Tale of Old Baseball Game Comes From Walter Parry, Early Day Shortstop

Walter F. Parry was raised around Moro, his father being the postmaster for years. Now Walter Parry, elderly and reminiscent, likes to write to those remaining here who he remembers and occasionally he has an interesting story to tell. In a letter to Elvin Barnum he told about a baseball game at Goldendale.

"I remember Ed Meach he pitched his last game for Moro back in 1902 on the 4th of July over in Goldendale. We won the game and made a world's record in getting out of the park.

Any Sherar was umpiring and the crowd was pretty sore at him going into the ninth inning with the score 3-2 in favor of Moro and two out. But Meach walked the next batter and the next got a single to right field putting a runner on first and one on third. On the next pitch both runners started to run and our catcher threw down to second base. I was playing shortstop and ran across and dove for the ball. It stuck in my glove and I dove for the runner sliding behind me but missed him about three feet. The umpire bawled: "You're out" and I swung around and ran for our wagon past third base.

The whole team was running and the fans were yelling "Kill that umpire." But he was running, too. Dolph Heydt was first to make the bus and had to go up the stairs. I was just behind him, then came Andy Sherar and when we were about halfway up they grabbed him and yelled, "Kill that umpire". So Dolph and I turned around and grabbed him and yanked him on to the floor of the bus and O. P. Hulse yelled to the driver, "Go, go go" and up town we went.

Finally the umpire got up and sat down and said, "What's the matter with that crowd? You had that fellow out didn't you?" I shook my head and replied, "No, Andy, I missed him by three feet."

Andy swore at me all the way up town because he was really trying to give Goldendale a square deal.

Years later in Portland a man from Goldendale told me that Walter Moore had won \$500.00 on that game, but win or lose Mr. Moore never said a word about a ball game. The next year, 1903, J. O. Elrod got up that crack team but Ed Meach didn't pitch. Earl Sanders and Danny Shay were the battery. That was the team J. O. Elrod won \$500.00 on at Wasco.

When basketball in Sherman School. The year, according to the writing on the ball was 1915-16. Players were Chester Andersen, Cloys Moore, Lee Stewart, Carlton Ross and Johnnie Searcy, all less agile now than then. (Mollie McLachlan picture).

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