

Sherman County Journal

Seventy-Second Year No. 13

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

Giles L. French

This snowy weather has taught us one thing; that almost nobody thinks almost nobody can drive a car on snow as well as they.

T T W N

One nice thing about an old timer is that you know the gossip of a bygone era, and can tell it as history instead of scandal.

T T W N

Now we suppose we have to worry about that ground hog.

T T W N

A new dealer is one who thinks it proper to spend public funds for personal political profit.

T T W N

Those who paint insignia on buildings at night can't amount to much. When caught they should be made to paint something in the daytime.

T T W N

From what we can tell from the pictures the main attraction of Gamble Benedict is her dollars.

T T W N

If you think the middle-of-the-road Eisenhower administration spent too much money (which it did) imagine the fix we'd be in if we had elected a "liberal".

T T W N

One of the biggest costs of government is the taking from those who do work and giving to those who don't. At the speed of increase you'd think that a majority were not working.

T T W N

From what we observe from our window it appears that the snow has lost its savor. Sliding down hill is not so popular. But it was perfect and the rage for awhile.

T T W N

All this year there has been snow on the ground. We have had what reasonably passes for a winter, the first in three years and it may continue for some time. After that we can expect a spring which is also something we have not had recently.

T T W N

The past 20 years have brought affluence to those who were not used to spending money. A generation used to spending may find the incomes insufficient.

T T W N

The principal new attraction on the lower John Day will be the long pool of slack water. Boatmen and picnickers are interested in the water; stockmen are interested in the grass. Boatmen will not eat much of the grass and cows will not drink much of the water. It seems easy to divide the interests.

T T W N

Elmo Smith, once governor, now publisher, would like to be national committeeman. If he wants to spend his money that way its OK by us.

T T W N

Everyone gets letters telling them what to do and what to buy to become a great man. May be good advice, too. But it is sort of a do-it-yourself project.

T T W N

You can't win. The social security that was supposed to make retirement easy caused inflation that makes retirement impossible.

T T W N

There's several Moro business men who will never say another word against snow, especially on a roof.

T T W N

When the sun starts back from its journey south it stretches the latter part of the day first. That is the tired part of the day. The fresh, bright part of the day is left short for six weeks.

T T W N

We are not going to believe that the Russians are three times better than us in missile making; not as long as the charge is made by politicians in a political year. Neither will we believe this nation is that far ahead.

T T W N

We commend the state administration for holding down expenses this past year. Anyone who spends a week in Salem knows it to be possible.

T T W N

An improvement is the move to increase salaries of long time school teachers. A few years ago the talk was about minimum salaries and no one could afford to stay on the job long.

ASC Honored, Ketter Elected By County Club

The meeting of the Sherman County club held Tuesday evening at the Masonic hall and catered by Beefo's was for the purpose of giving the state ASC officers an opportunity to publically present the staff of the Sherman county office with awards for service, accuracy, efficiency, good work habits and an orderly office, but several other matters took a good bit of the meeting time.

Jens Terjesen of Pendleton, former wheat league president and wheat commission chairman, and now chairman of the three man ASC board, presented the awards which were suitable for framing and were accompanied by a \$25.00 check for each of the officers. With him was Dan Verhagen, field supervisor for the mid-Columbia district of seven counties. Receiving the awards were Russell Belshee, chairman, George Wilson, vice-chairman, Delmer Smith, member, Ralph Busse, manager, Marie Balzer, secretary and Tille Geiser, office girl. No check was given Tommy Thompson, secretary, who works for the government in county agent capacity nor to Bob Hoskinson, who in the words of Terjesen, works so efficiently he only gets in part time.

Longest discussion was about the resolution the club would send to the U. S. Engineers when the hearing is held at Arlington March 3 about the recreational facilities to be provided on the John Day river. Frank Reid opened the discussion with an explanation of the entire project and what was being asked for the John Day. Leonard Fields had a proposed resolution prepared for and by stockmen who are interested in retaining grazing land. Result will be a resolution asking development for boatmen on the John Day pool with as much retention of private land holdings as possible.

The club also voted to appoint an industry committee to prepare information for the state planning commission and prospective industries that may be interested in this county after hearing a brief resume of the advantages the county possesses in the way of attractions for industry: water, electricity, transportation, gas. Election of officers resulted in selection of Frank J. Ketter as president, Jack Cushman, vice-president, Bill Hill, secretary, Harland McDonald, Lewis Hastings, Giles French, H. L. Owens, and Bob Ferrell, directors.

Mrs. Clair Balzer, Mrs. George Geiser Jr. and Mrs. Harold Hailey had baked a birthday cake in honor of Mrs. Ralph Busse and Mrs. Ray Kelso which was both a table decoration and a feature of the dessert.

On the industry committee new president Ketter appointed Giles French, Archie Cantrall and Clair Balzer.

Dewey Thompson Buried Tuesday

Funeral services for Dewey Thompson were held Tuesday afternoon at 1:30 from the Moro Community Presbyterian church following his death Saturday morning. Interment was in the Rose cemetery.

Dewey Thompson was born near Moro August 27, 1897, the third son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew C. Thompson, pioneers of the county. He attended Sherman county schools and started farming. He was married November 20, 1917 to Miss Inez Peake and lived on the farm until he moved to town in the 1930s.

He was active in farm organizations including the wheat league, was a member of Harlandview grange, served as school director, was deputy assessor, was on the board of the Moro Grain Growers, member of the equalization board and the county budget board and served on the city council. Since youth he has been an officer of the Moro Presbyterian church.

Surviving are his widow; three sons Ted, Don and Keith all of Moro; one sister, Mrs. Edna Melzer of Portland; a brother, Claud of Pomona, California; seven grand daughters and two grandsons.

Donations to the cancer fund may be made in his memory.

Moro Motors Destroyed in Fire



The smoking ruins of the Moro as daybreak lighted the scene of Chronicle, Motors Garage Monday morning the early morning fire. Picture by Alder.

Sherman Huskies Win Two More

The hustling Huskies rambled to another easy victory last Saturday to round out a week-end of outstanding triumphs on the basketball court. Settling an old score with the Blue Devils, the Huskies proved that they hadn't forgotten the tournament last year when Condon edged out Sherman by a single point. This time it was Sherman's turn to defeat the definitely out-classed Condon team, 56-31.

Sherman's starting five managed to grab an early lead and maintain it, as the score at the end of the first quarter showed the Huskies with a 12 point lead of 16-4.

Sherman went wild during the fast third quarter, scoring 17 points while holding Condon to 5. Blaylock, Duncan and Helyer clipped 2 apiece with Kaseberg and Royce both dumping in 5. Getting to see action in the last quarter were the Husky subs, Thomas, Mobley, Decker, Thompson, Fields and Griggs. It was in this period that Condon came out hitting good and clumped in 13 points while holding Sherman to 10.

Sherman 16 29 46 56
Condon 4 13 18 31

The Huskies chalked up another Deschutes League win Friday night as they toppled Lapine 79-21. The game was one-sided all the way, the Huskies forging ahead from the starting jump, with Decker at center, to the end of the game.

Coach Hoye put in a full quintet of reserves in the second quarter. The starting five were benched for the rest of the game, allowing every man on the squad a chance to play.

Sherman scoring honors went to Charles Griggs who hit 20 points, Terry Kaseberg with 13 and John Fields who scored 12. The Huskies' shooting average was an outstanding 50 per cent.

Sherman 21 34 53 79
Lapine 3 8 16 21

National Foundation Buys Polio Shots

The Sherman County Chapter of the National Foundation expended \$235.99 in 1959 all of which was for the payment of vaccine for 532 polio shots. The number receiving them is not given as some were booster shots. For 1960 the local chapter has set aside \$200 for the same purpose.

The 1959 campaign brought in a total of \$1377.35. Of this amount \$344.23 was sent to headquarters before the division was made leaving \$1033.02 to be divided. That left \$516.51 to be retained by the local chapter.

There being no polio cases in the county the expenditure for vaccine was the only one made. This information is abstracted from the report of R. E. Ferrell, treasurer.

Northwest Grain Men To Sponsor Elevator

At the meeting of grain growers organizations in Portland last week the North Pacific Grain Growers decided to sponsor construction of an export elevator at Longview, Wash., says Wendell Balsiger, one of the active supporters of the project.

The new elevator will have a capacity of 4,000,000 bushels and will cost in the neighborhood of \$5,000,000 including shipping facilities for loading ocean going ships and barges. Two million of the storage will be in a warehouse type building.

It is expected that the new elevator will handle some 30,000,000 bushels of northwest grain each year. It will be owned by the Port of Longview which will issue revenue bonds for financing, basing them on the contract with North Pacific.

Postoffice Department Will Call New Bids

The government, at long last, to reject all bids for construction of a postoffice building in Moro based on the architect's design on which the first bids were made.

Word from Portland headquarters is that the postoffice department expects to advertise for bids again in the near future. This time the bids will be for a simpler and less expensive structure than the one proposed before.

Town Threatened By Flying Brands 'Til Firemen Win

Fire destroyed the 100 x 100 ft. garage building occupied by Moro Motors, the trade name for Les Gray, who was sole owner, Monday morning and seriously threatened the business part of town lying northwest of Main street.

The siren sounded at 4:45 a. m. and the fire was already well under way. Les Gray had gone on a call with his tow truck between two and three o'clock and when he returned found the building ablaze. There was no chance for the hastily called firemen to save the garage which was filled with fire within minutes of the arrival of the fire truck and coupling of hoses.

But constant application of water kept the fire within the walls of the one story concrete structure. Brands from the burning tar roof flew for blocks and endangered buildings to the north and east although the southwest wind was not strong at the early morning hour.

The Wasco fire truck arrived in time to put a line up the alley behind the garage and control the fire in a small garage belonging to G. Douma that would have endangered the Bob Brisbane garage and the wooden buildings on First street housing the Sherman County Journal, the American Legion and Clarence Huls carpentry shop.

The A & Z Cabinet works occupied one corner of the garage building and was completely destroyed. It is owned by Ken Zachary and the name comes from that of Wendell Axtell and Ken Zachary. A stock of hardwood had just been put in the shop.

Smoke found its way through the brick wall separating the garage from the G. Douma grocery warehouse and filled the grocery itself. Although in line of the fire the Husky Hut, the Ranch and Home Store and Beefo's were not damaged. There was five or six inches of well packed snow on all roofs which saved many buildings from the flying brands. Had it been in dry summer there would have been little left of Moro.

The garage building was owned by Louis H. and Thelma Jensen of Eugene who also owned some of the equipment obtaining it from Cliff Chipman who leased to Gray and Shoemaker about three years ago. Insurance is said to be under \$25,000. Included in the loss were boats belonging to Paul Fraser which was insured and another belonging to Neil McIntyre, in process of construction, which was not insured.

In order to get his tow truck out to answer the call Gray had backed two trucks out into the street and they were saved. Cause of the fire is not known. One corner of the building was filled with discarded engines and pieces of discarded cars. There was also a good deal of electric wiring in the building.

The Moro garage was built in 1919 by Ray Goff with the financial aid of several Moro citizens including A. Rose, Roy Powell, and O. L. Belshe. It was the location for a Ford agency for years but was designed for and has been used as a garage during its 40 years of existence. It is not expected that the walls will be worth salvaging although the floor may be usable again.

Fire engines from Wasco, and Grass Valley manned with volunteers and an engine from The Dalles, called when it seemed unlikely the fire would be stopped, arrived after the fire was well controlled.

SCHOOL WAGES UP

The Sherman County School Boards Assn. met at the court house Monday evening for the annual discussion of teacher salaries.

After rather long discussion the recommendations of a committee which, itself, had discussed at length were adopted. This means a raise of \$50 for a B. A. degree, \$75 for additional training above a B. A. degree and \$100 for a master's degree.

No change was made in the experience pay.

Shelt Burres Donates \$20,000 To Research On Heart Ailments, Matching Cancer Gift

J. S. (Shelt) Burres, who last year gave \$20,000 for cancer research, this year presented Mrs. Anita Hooper with a check for \$20,000 for heart research. It was presented to Mrs. Hooper, chairman of the local heart fund, but specifically to be used for research so it is outside the drive funds.

Mr. Burres grew up in Sherman county whence his father came when Shelt was a small boy. He rode the ranges of southeastern Oregon when a young man and became a successful cowman in his own right. Now widowed, he

resides on the John Day river where he is developing some of the bottoms he owns for irrigation and dispensing his considerable fortune in the doing of good works. Few of Mr. Burres' contributions are known.

Because of a series of accidents he has lost both his legs but despite that he gets around the ranch with the aid of a driver, runs his ranch and has time to occasionally visit about the old days and tell some remarkable stories of times and persons of sixty years ago.