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Sherman County Journal

Seventy-Second Year No. 38

Moro, Oregon Friday July 22, 1960

County Official Paper

These Things We Note

Giles L. French

Folks used to brag about having "graded" schools. Now it is getting to be the style to boast of non-graded schools—which seems smarter.

TTWN

Now we will have the highly egotistical Mr. Rockefeller before the public eye for a week in what may well be his last appearance.

TTWN

Neither party to date has recognized a truth about our economy; the rewards of success are too small; the penalties for failure are too light.

TTWN

We note that we will almost certainly have younger men in high office next year and that has been the situation in almost every election in 180 years.

TTWN

The old minority groups are the deep south, labor, farmers, and many smaller ones. The trick has been to combine enough to win. Business has often considered a majority group because everyone was affected by business, but in these days business is falling victim to government.

TTWN

August, also, is to be hot and dry or so some prophets say. We can stand it in July and August but please, not for another entire year.

TTWN

Charley Sprague says farmers are unjustly maligned over farm subsidies. True. Farmers didn't create the mess they have to live in—the politicians did. In fact, few farmers profit from it.

TTWN

Radicals rioting make it necessary for government to become stronger so there can be order. But government is afraid it might lose popularity which may be just exactly wrong. The world may be waiting for a nation that will lead.

TTWN

Retail sales are up, we read, but not growing as fast as incomes. Do you know where the difference goes? Taxes.

TTWN

Selection of Washington's Senator Jackson as Democratic chairman is a compliment to the west and only that for Kennedy will run the show.

TTWN

If, for any reason, we are doomed or hired to go into the wilds to make our living we hope the powers that be will let us take a Boy Scout's handbook.

TTWN

The reason that state's income tax receipts are bigger is that taxpayers had to pay it all at once.

TTWN

This is a bad time to have some new proposal made affecting this country. We are busy harvesting. It is similar to other nations taking advantage of the United States when it is taking a year off to elect a president. In this case the interim committees are cooking up a school bill to end all state payments to Sherman and Gilliam counties, a sort of a taxation without compensation business.

TTWN

We were just reading about a successful campaign which entailed trips to Washington by representatives of a group. It made us wonder if congress, itself, isn't getting to be a bureau instead of a legislative body. Sending representatives to Washington is getting to be useful only to have a man there to tell us when to bring on the arguments.

TTWN

Paying everyone and anyone a minimum of \$1.25 per hour does not exalt labor; it merely belittles the dollar.

TTWN

Although the surplus is gratifying, an ordinary citizen wonders how even our accomplished bureaucracy could spend eighty billion dollars without leaving a little surplus. It must be admitted they do well, though.

TTWN

The only reason for thinking Russia has better arms than we have is that some want to think it so. We could blow 'em to hell—and probably will.

Postoffice Job Nearing Finish

McVicker, the younger, was here this week to make some changes in the new postoffice building to make it acceptable to the government. These include installing an oil furnace instead of a gas furnace—a dispute that may go to Washington before it is settled—and painting a darker strip around part of the interior.

Postmaster Johnson reports that all the equipment has been delivered and that the man who installs it for the department will come up from Portland soon to put it together in approved manner. After that it may be possible to move into the new postoffice.

State Gets More Interest Money

State Treasurer Howard C. Belton today announced that interest earnings credited to the General Fund during the first six months of this year (1960), were \$1,152,581.37 greater than they were for the same period of last year. This represents an increase of 92.5 per cent in interest earned, and is a quarter of a million dollars more than was collected in income taxes from the 135,250 returns of reported incomes of \$2,000 or less in 1958, the last year for which figures are available.

Scots To Gather For National Games

It will be a bonnie day in Portland Saturday, July 23, when Pacific Northwest Scotsmen, several hundred strong, gather there for participation in the annual Highland Games to be held on the Lincoln high school athletic field at SW 18th and Salmon Streets.

Always an event of colorful pageantry, the games will feature dancing and piping competition for all ages as well as pipe band competition with five or six bands competing. Traditional Scottish dances, including the Highland Fling and Sword Dance, will alternate with the skirl of the bagpipes, bringing delight to all those who have a love for Auld Scotia.

There will also be competition in caber tossing and hammer throwing. Among the participants in the various events will be a number of scotsmen from Western Canada.

Preliminaries are scheduled for 10 a. m. with the main competition beginning at 1:30 p. m.

Sponsoring the annual get-together of the clan is Clan Macleod, No. 122, Order of Scottish clans. Admission to the competition is \$1.

Queen Knows What Shrine Games Are For



Queen Janet Remillard will reign over festivities of the annual Shrine Football Game for A-2 and B class schools in Pendleton, August 20, according to an announcement by W. C. Stram, pageant director.

Queen Janet will be 13 years old August 24 and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Phil Remillard, Athena. She graduated from the Athena elementary school this spring and will attend McEwen high school in September, along with her twin sister, Jeanne.

Queen Janet was in the Shrine Hospital at Portland from May until August 1959, and she will return for further treatment this September. She underwent corrective surgery on a progressive deformity of the toes of her left foot.

She was Shrine Hospital Queen at the Portland Rose Festival in 1959 while a patient there. Proceeds of the football game go to the Shrine Hospital for children in Portland which is supported entirely by donations of Shriners and such fund raising benefits.

Former Resident Dies In Detroit

Elmer Edward Dodson, 48, who went to school in Wasco from the sixth grade through high school and attended Linfield where he was an athlete, was buried at McMinnville Monday following his death in Detroit July 11. He was a detective sergeant on the police force there. His father was James B. Dodson who was a principal of Wasco schools for years.

Fires Destroy 1200 Acres of Grain More Thousands of Grass, Buildings And Other Farm Equipment

The biggest fire in point of destruction in Sherman county so far this harvest occurred Monday. It started in Spanish Hollow a short distance up from Biggs and quickly burned the grass in the bottom and jumped Highway 97 on a rising wind to burn up to the flat to the east. Before night it had gone clear to Girkling canyon a distance of five miles, despite the efforts of dozens of men, whatever equipment was available and plows and trucks galore.

Altogether it ran over the bigger part of eight sections of land most of which was grass land but which included about 500 acres of grain on the Griesinger land farmed by Fred Dormaier and over 300 acres of grain on the Curt Tom place farmed by Allen Tom and grass on the west side of Girkling canyon.

In addition to wheat and barley it burned all the buildings except the dwelling and some farm equipment on the place farmed by Dormaier, three barns, two filled with hay, and a machine shed on the Tom place. Both houses there were saved. In addition mile after mile of fence is destroyed and thousands of acres of grass.

To complicate matters and divide the available men there were two other fires burning at the same time. A fire on the Fritz Watkins land burned about 100 acres of barley and an estimated 20 acres of wheat and was only halted by summerfallow.

Also a fire on the Marie Barnett Cooper land southeast of Klondike burned between 200 and 300 acres before being surrounded. The Hilderbrand boys farm this land. This fire ran for about two miles and burned barley and wheat.

The fire burned some poles of the Pacific Power & Light company and stopped service until they could be replaced so Rufus could have power again. Crews worked all night.

Men in Wasco and Rufus area are getting pretty tired of fighting fire which has occupied almost half the time of the more vigorous for a week or more. The wind has been blowing hard nearly every afternoon.

Thursday morning fire burned 20 or 30 acres of wheat on the land south of Wasco owned by Mrs. L. P. Haven before fire fighters could get it out. Cause is presently unknown.

Temperatures in eastern Oregon for the first of July were from two to six degrees above normal—five at Moro—and that was a bad time for it.

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Fires Alarm North End Correspondent

It seems as if the northern end of Sherman County is determined to get wiped-out with fire this year. The fire Monday which started in Biggs canyon only needed the encouragement of the brisk west wind to bring it the five mile span to Rufus. The fire fighting equipment centered around the Allen Tom buildings for awhile, when the fire came swooping past. All the area's fire fighting equipment was out as well as the Arlington fire truck. The men used tractors whenever they could plow fire breaks to protect the houses south of Rufus. It burned all of Harland McDonald's, and Virgil Matney's cattle pasture as well as pasture lands of numerous farmers. Some wheat was burned, too. The fire burned nearly to the charred range hills which was burned off so recently. Now from Rufus any way you look in our county you see what a vicious fire can do to our land.

This area has never had so much trouble with fire before. Some of the farmers who have had fires large or small say they are most afraid to pull into the fields with the rigs.

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Over 100 Degrees Makes Weekend Hot

Temperatures at the experiment station near Moro reached 101 degrees last Sunday after being an even 100 Saturday. It dropped off to a comparatively cool 98 by Monday and has been going down since.

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Citizens Buying More US Bonds

"More United States Savings Bonds are held by American people than ever before in the 19-year history of the program," State Bond Chairman Prudeaux said today when announcing state Savings Bond sales for the month of June.

"County sales for June were \$8947 and for the first six months of the year they amount to \$77,098," the State Chairman said.

June sales in Oregon jumped substantially over those of a year ago. They were \$2,678,104 compared to \$2,664,958 last June," he continued. "State sales for the first-half of the year totaled \$18,270,195."

In commenting on the value of Savings Bonds holdings to the community, he said that "more than \$72-billion in United States Savings Bonds has been used in the past 19 years to improve or buy new homes, for education, retirement, and other benefits for the savers and their families."

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