

Sherman County Journal

Seventy Fourth Year No. 10

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County Official Paper

These Things We Note

Giles L. French

A legislator from Baker county, bearing the name of Clint Haight, which will recall the coyote howling antics of his father, says he will introduce a bill to discard the beaver as state animal and substitute the jackrabbit and the grade as state flower and substitute the sagebrush. We do not favor the jackrabbit as a symbol of anything but some heathen fertility rite. Its prolificacy is its only weapon and it has the ability to flee from attack. Eastern Oregonians are not markedly prolific and let no one call them so cowardly as to run from danger. The coyote would be a better animal although a little on the sneaky side, still he is bold in combat if forced and his song at dawn is a bit of wild and free music we cherish in memory. As for the sage it would be far better than the Oregon grape which grows in but few places.

T T W N
President Kennedy has been made Time's man of the year. Proper that a news magazine would be the one to choose him who has tried the hardest to get into the news.

T T W N
The argument for third class mail at bargain rates seems to be that users want something for nothing.

T T W N
We remember a classic case of one way to balance a budget. The Oregon Ways and Means committee was working the clock around to balance the budget so the legislature could adjourn. The governor called in the tax commission and with the W&M group just raised the estimates of income. Lo, a balanced budget. It seems to have spread to Washington.

T T W N
The United Nations is an effort to do things by committee. It doesn't work. The world needs a policeman to keep order, not a committee to talk about it, but we are afraid to be a policeman and are afraid to let Russia do it.

T T W N
If we were a cow, or more so if a steer, we'd be mighty mad about the proposal of feed 'em enzymes to make the meat more tender. That is taking advantage of a critter's hunger to render him ready for slaughter.

T T W N
We wish the first baby born in Portland all the good wishes of the season and hope he achieves some more important distinction.

T T W N
Communism in practice is a personal dictatorship even though in theory it is a dictatorship of the proletariat. It is big government. The way to oppose communism is to oppose big government.

T T W N
Minnesota not only overpowered UCLA but squashed the aims of a flock of officials.

T T W N
We think car drivers do a good job to not kill more than they do considering the speed they drive and the carelessness they practice.

T T W N
Not much has been said about New Year's resolutions which is odd for they are usually mentioned more when made than when abandoned.

T T W N
The Saturday Evening Post admits trying to ape Life and Look. Judging from the results to date it might further imitate by using an L for the P.

T T W N
Southern California sports writers say the Rose bowl game was uninteresting. As one who doesn't care who beats UCLA we found it fine.

T T W N
When the government gets tired enough of meddling with agriculture that it is willing to turn the farmers loose there will be an end to the farm problem.



Miss Sharon Belshe, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Belshe of Moro, was honored by graduation from United Air Line Stewardess Training Center December 14. Mr. and Mrs. Belshe flew to Chicago on December 12 to be present for the ceremony at which time Mr. Belshe pinned the wings on his daughter.

Miss Belshe will be stationed at O'Hare field in Chicago.

Production Credit Agencies To Meet

The annual joint meeting of the Mid-Columbia Production Credit Association and the Federal Land Bank Association of The Dalles will be held in The Dalles, Saturday, January 13, 1962.

J. Merton Stein, manager of the two associations, said the meeting will be held at the Junior High School Gym and is expected to attract upwards of 250 persons. Registration is scheduled for 11 a. m. followed by a noon dinner and the annual business session.

Plans for the annual get-together were discussed in detail at a meeting held in December of a joint coordinating committee composed of two directors from each association. On this committee are Riddell Lage of Hood River, Carroll Sayrs of Moro, William D. Ketchum of The Dalles and Gordon N. Harper of Wasco. Mr. Lage is president of the Production Credit Association. Mr. Ketchum is president, and Mr. Harper a director of the Land Bank Association.

MARKET REPORT

Livestock receipts totaled 282 head. U. S. No. 2 and 3 hogs, 180 230 lbs. sold at \$17.50 to \$18.50. Feeder hogs \$14.00 to \$17.50. Registered sows sold at \$17.25 to \$17.30. Other heavy sows at \$11.35 to \$14.30. Weaner pigs \$4.50 to \$10.00 by the head.

Good whiteface steer calves 350 to 450 lbs. \$26.00 to \$27.75; 450 to 550 lbs. \$24.00 to \$26.00; 550 to 750 lbs. \$22.00 to \$24.75. Common kinds down to \$17.00. Holstein steers 600 to 800 lbs. \$17.70 to \$19.35.

Good 400 to 500 lb. heifer calves \$23.00 to \$24.20. Common kinds \$20.00 to \$23.00. Dairy types down to \$16.00 with Helsteins around 600 lbs. \$16.00 to \$18.00. Replacement heifers brought \$145.00 to \$185.00 on grades.

Standard young cows \$16.50 to \$18.50; utility \$13.00 to \$16.50; cutter and canner \$12.00 to \$13.50.

Boat Owners Must Get New License

The new annual boat license for pleasure and commercial craft registered in Oregon can now be purchased, the State Marine Board announces. The color of the 1962 license will be lemon-yellow.

The 1961 legislature amended the boating registration law whereby commercial boats are now on an equal basis with pleasure craft and no longer will be required to pay ad valorem tax upon licensing the boat. However, to avoid the tax, the owners must license their boats prior to Apr. 1.

The license fees for 1962 are: \$3.00 for manually propelled boats 12 ft. or longer (regardless of length over the basic 12 feet).

Motorboats less than 12 ft. in length, which are propelled by motors of eight (8) or more horsepower—\$3.00.

Motorboats and sailboats 12 feet or longer but less than 20 feet—\$5.00.

Motorboats and sailboats 20 feet or longer—\$5.00 plus \$1.00 for each foot or part of a foot in excess of 20 feet.

Sewage Lagoons Proposed As Solution To Small City Problem of Waste Disposal

Sewage lagoons are feasible as a low-cost method of sewage disposal in Oregon, research by Oregon State University shows, and studies will be continued in 1962 to provide additional information on lagoon capacity and operations.

The low-cost lagoons have been used widely in the Midwest and Southwest for years but their use in high rainfall regions has been limited by lack of research.

The OSU experiment, started in 1958 with the cooperation of Corvallis city and State Sanitary Authority, was the first to be tried in this type of climate. Nearly a dozen of the lagoons are now in Oregon.

A grant of \$9000 has been received by the OSU engineering experiment station from the National Institutes of Health to continue studies on lagoon operation factors in 1962.

Martin Northcraft and Fred J. Burgess of the engineering staff are in charge of the study. Reductions in sewage disposal

costs of from \$10 to \$20 per capita have been realized with the use of the lagoons in comparison with the traditional sewage plant treatment, the engineers noted. The lagoons must be carefully designed, however, taking into account such items as soil adaptability and ground water contamination problems, they stressed.

Control of mosquitoes and aquatic weeds requires proper maintenance procedures but do not present a problem, Burgess added. Present State Sanitary Authority standards recommend one acre of lagoon per 100 population.

During the coming year, the OSU engineers will study the effect of lagoon effluents on the stream into which they are discharged, and other public health aspects.

James E. Coats Dead In Portland Hospital

James E. Coats, former Sherman county, died in a Portland hospital Wednesday after a long illness. He was credit manager for Jantzen Knitting Mills, was born in Sherman county and attended school here, was a Veteran of World War II, serving in the air force, a graduate of Whitman college.

Mr. Coats was born June 24, 1924 at Rufus. Funeral services will be held at Colonial Mortuary in Portland Friday at 1 p. m.

Survivors are his widow, Beverly and three children, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Coats of Odell; two brothers, Chester of Wasco and William of Molalla; five sisters, Ida Rutschman, Day Ann Beck, Condon, Mary Eakin, Grass Valley, Lois Haskell, Portland and Nell Melzer, Moro.

Contributions to the cancer fund in his memory will be welcome.

December Normal In Most Things

December was a normal month completely matching the average in everything.

For instance the precipitation was 1.73 just 0.01 under normal. The highest temperature was 55 on the 30th and the average is 56.

The lowest temperature was 1 on the 11th and we can expect 14. Average maximum was 39 degrees and the average minimum was 28 for a monthly mean of 34.1 which is 0.05 above normal.

The wind averaged 3.8 MPH and that is 0.1 under the normal. What is not normal, however, is the crop year rainfall which now stands at 3.72 which is 1.37 below normal.

We did have a windy day, the 17th, when we had 358 miles of wind. We have had 454 miles of wind in December, notably Dec. 26, 1937 and the windiest day was May 2, 1930 with 502 miles of wind (it ruined wheat crop). The coldest December day was the 12th of 1919 when it was 20 below.

More Efficient Beef Production Held Possible With Different Grass Management

More beef from Eastern Oregon rangelands may be in the making as a result of research on grazing management in the area.

Oregon State University rangeland researchers have found that a new grazing system for crested wheatgrass can give excellent quality forage for about three out of the five months cattle are on the range and provide better grazing of native bunchgrass range for the other two months.

The new grazing system was developed at the Squaw Butte branch of the Oregon State agricultural experiment station. It is based on the fact that a rancher can manage crested wheatgrass to produce either one or two crops of stems on one year's moisture supply.

Don Hyder and Forrest Sneva, range conservationists at Squaw Butte, learned that the rancher can control the kind of stems produced—either coarse seed stalks or tender, leafy shoots without seed.

Carefully controlled grazing for "one-crop" production—in late May or June—yields a high amount of forage and can avoid so-called "wolf plants."

"Two-crop" management favors growth of highly palatable, leafy stems. It insures maximum early grazing at a time of critical need and also provides better quality late summer forage.

Here's how the "one-crop" and "two-crop" grazing systems work: In the "one-crop" system, begin grazing crested wheatgrass when seed heads are in the boot about May 20. Remove cattle when seed heads flower—around June 30. Adjust stocking rates so grazing is close and uniform to control "wolf plants"—an accumulation of old coarse, ungrazed stems.

In the "two-crop" system, begin grazing when grass is about six inches high—usually around May 1. Graze until seed heads are in the boot—about May 20. Hyder and Sneva emphasized that stocking rates should be adjusted so grazing is close about May 20. This stops further growth of wheatgrass seed stalks. If grazing is close enough and soil moisture is adequate, regrowth will be leafy.

Close grazing at the right time nips seed head development and forces the plant to start new growth. Moisture shortages in late June stop growth while the plant is still leafy, or before stems can be produced.

The second crop may be grazed moderately after leafy regrowth has cured in late July or August and September.

The range scientists propose a grazing system which combines "one-crop" and "two-crop" grazing as part of an overall range improvement and management plan. By using both systems, a rancher can take better advantage of the good characteristics of crested wheatgrass.

A rancher who fences his crested wheatgrass seedlings into three range units, for example, could "one-crop" a unit one year, "two-crop" it the next two years, and then "one-crop" it again.

By rotating the order of grazing annually, each seeded unit would be grazed "two-crop" for two years and "one-crop" for one year, in every three years. Since both cropping systems would be used on different areas in the same year, excellent quality forage would be provided.

Grazing could be started about May 1 on a "two-crop" unit; switched to the "one-crop" unit for late May and June; then back to the "two-crop" unit in September for a total of three-months' good grazing.

The other two-months—roughly July and August—would be made up by grazing native bunchgrass range. Here, again, is an added bonus since the system would improve the native range by decreasing the grazing load on it in early spring.

This "rest" is important to natural improvement of native ranges, the researchers stated.

Economic Survey Money Assured; Contract Due

Announcement was made in the Heppner Gazette-Times that a federal grant had been approved last week from the Housing and Home Finance Agency to the Mid-Columbia Planning Council for \$22,000 which is match money on a two for one basis to the \$11,000 that has been raised in the six counties of Hood River, Sherman, Morrow and Umatilla with Wasco and Gilliam not participating financially but still considered in the group because in the area.

Oscar Peterson, judge of Morrow county, is chairman of the council which has planned to contract with Ebasco services of San Francisco and Cornell, Howland, Hayes and Merryfield of Corvallis for an economic survey of the mid-Columbia area.

Purpose of the survey is to determine the best use of the resources of the six county area which has recently been in process of getting a Boeing plant near Boardman, has three major Columbia river dams, barge transportation on the Columbia river and a promise of ocean vessels part way, railroad and highway facilities second to none.

It is expected that a meeting will be called to sign the agreements with the survey companies; this month whereupon work could get under way after the hiring of a secretary whose salary is budgeted at \$8,000. The contracts have already been approved at a meeting December 14.

Bob Belshe's Return

Mr. and Mrs. Bob Belshe returned this week from an eleven state tour, which took them to Chicago to be with their daughter four days, then on to Detroit to pick up a new Chrysler. They traveled to the middle west to visit some of the Belshe family in Missouri, and as far south as Dallas, Texas, toured the Carlsbad Caverns in New Mexico and south to El Paso and Old Mexico. On to Phoenix, Arizona to enjoy Christmas Day with the John De Moss' in Sun City and home via Reno, Nevada. They report good weather and dry roads all the way. They report Oregon looks best of all the places they saw.

School Play Set For January 12

As students have returned to school from the recent flu epidemic, rehearsals have resumed for the Junior-Senior play, Friday, January 12, has been scheduled for the performance of "The Man on the Stairs". The first Junior-Senior play will be at 8:00 p. m. in the Sherman High School cafeteria. Paulette Willis and Dan Rolfe head the play cast. Others include: Monte Axtell, Vee Busse, Ann Hall, Janie Helgeson, Robert Powell, Bill Smith and Karen Tsubota.

Legislator Wants Change

Bloom on the sage will replace the Oregon grape as the state flower, and the populous jackrabbit will succeed the meager beaver as the state's animal symbol if eastern Oregon legislator Clinton Haight Jr., has his way.

Haight, Baker Democrat, who is chairman of the Legislative Interim Committee on Natural Resources, said Thursday he plans to introduce legislation at the 1963 session to bring about the changes.

Representative Haight, apparently chafing because of eastern Oregon's loss of representation as a result of the new reapportionment law, said the bountiful bunnies and the sage would give "the biggest, broadest and best" half of the state better recognition.

A House concurrent resolution to supersede an 1899 resolution originating in the Senate would be introduced by Haight to designate the sage as Oregon's official flower. "There's a lot more of it too, than Oregon grape, which is a western Oregon native," Haight said, "and besides that there's some indication that the Oregon grape should be exterminated as a spreader of wheat rust."

"As for the jackrabbits," he added, "everybody knows they can outrun and outproduce the beaver two to one and hardly ruffle a hare."

Harlandview Grange To Hear Student From Overseas

Harlandview Grange No. 682 will host a meeting for all Sherman county grangers at 2:00 p. m. Sunday, January 14. The purpose of the meeting is for instruction and all officers and committee members are urged to attend. All members are welcome. County Deputy Rolland Johnson will assist with the instruction.

On their regular social night, Monday, January 15, at 7:00 p. m. Harlandview Grangers will have an opportunity to hear Dale Martin, a foreign exchange student. Everyone welcome for an evening of visiting and entertainment.

During the winter months Harlandview Grange No. 682 will meet the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:00 p. m.

Local Boy With Presidential Party

A-2C Lewis C. Winnett, former boy of Dayton, Wn., was a member of President Kennedy's party in South America. Winnett was one of 30 men chosen to accompany the party from England Air Base in Louisiana. He is a jet aircraft mechanic. He just returned from a duty tour in Germany and the Azores. He has received two citations for his work and is due for promotion to Airman First Class early this year. He is a nephew of Mrs. Hattie Spencer, L. E. Winnett of Wasco and Ira Winnett of The Dalles.

Steelhead Fishermen Asked To Report

Salmon and steelhead anglers are reminded by the game commission that the time is at hand to return their 1961 punch cards. Information recorded on the cards is used to estimate the total annual catch of salmon and steelhead as well as the catch distribution by stream system. The law requires that punch cards be returned regardless of whether or not the holder caught any salmon or steelhead during the year.

Outlets for fishing and hunting licenses have been provided with boxes in which the cards may be placed. They can also be mailed directly to the game commission at 1634 S. W. Alder in Portland.

Martin's Dedicate New Residence

About 86 friends and neighbors called when Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Martin held open house at their new home in Grass Valley Sunday evening from 6:00 p. m. to 1 a. m. and New Year's day from 1 to 4 p. m. The house was beautifully decorated. Louise and Susan Eakin assisted about the rooms Sunday evening. Cake, coffee and punch and nuts were served. Among the out of town guests who called were Walt Davis and son, Tommy and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ferrigo and family of The Dalles, Clarence Higley and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Jaeger and son of Moro, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Padgett of Lakeview, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Hoskinson of Moro, Mr. and Mrs. Bill Jefferies, Mrs. A. von Borstel and Phil, Mr. and Mrs. Frank von Borstel, all from Kent and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Eakin of Condon.

More Electricity Used By Local People

Most local residents used more electricity during 1961 than they did a year ago to help perform household chores, light their homes and keep their families comfortable, according to Pacific Power & Light Company.

"The household served by the company used an average of 8,735 kilowatt hours of electricity in 1962, a new record of use, but many families use from 10,000 to 20,000 kilowatt hours a year in their 'electric living' homes," according to PP&L's district manager, A. M. Thrasher.

New Wheat Sown

Poor fall feed conditions for range and stubble pasture occurred this past year with the dry fall. Early snow created an early feed program. More than usual calving troubles may occur on some ranches where green feed has been lacking for several months. Those feeding alfalfa hay or other sources of Vitamin A will counteract this prospect, Thompson indicates.

Introduction of Gaines "shorty" wheat is the bright spot in the future for some growers. The newly released variety has outperformed Omar under Sherman station tests and shows partial strip rust resistance. Twenty-three growers planted 11,500 for production in 1962 in Sherman county. Currently, likewise, no active stripe rust infestations have been located in Sherman county or the Columbia Basin up until December 15, Thompson reports.

County Agent Finds Income Down From 1960

Sherman county gross farm income was reduced drastically during 1961 due to rust and extreme hot weather. Average wheat yields were the lowest since the pre-allotment year 1949, states, T. W. Thompson, county agent.

Gross farm income dropped to \$6,345,000, well below the eight million in 1960 and over ten million in 1952. Around six million estimated gross farm incomes occurred in 1949 and 1955, both dry year, reports Thompson. Wheat yields averaged 24.0 bu. per acre and barley 31.0 bushels. Yields this year were ten bushels under the past five year average of 35.6 and lowest since 1949, 23.7 bushels per acre. The average production per acre since 1926 is 24.5.

Rainfall Above Normal

Rainfall was two to five inches above normal for the '61 crop. The Sherman station recorded 15.74 inches compared to an average of 11.5 inches, Wasco 16.20 compared to 11.73 and Kent 13.28 compared to 10.68. Part of the above normal rainfall was lost by runoff creating the most serious erosion in several years. Soil loss measurement showed 50-100 tons per acre loss on some Walla Walla silt loam soils above 10% slope.

Wheat was produced on 95,000 acres for a total of 2,311,900 bu. Over a million bushels of barley was produced on 38,150 acres. The 1961 wheat production was the lowest since 1940. Combining barley and wheat bushelage of 3,500,000 shows only the smallest crop since 1950, a preallotment and fertilizer year.

Gross Farm Income Down

Gross estimated income for farm crops was \$5,374,540, livestock and poultry \$50,190 and horticultural crops \$20,000. Income for wheat amounted to \$4,170,000, barley \$1,113,000, beef cattle \$840,000, swine \$54,000 and sheep \$28,300, Thompson indicates.

Stripe rust was on the lips and minds of every Sherman county during 1961. The disease observed at Moro during World War I was most severe in the northern part of the county. Long debates will occur for years in the future as to the influence of heat and rust on this past year crop, Thompson states. Most specialists believe rust was the initial factor and excessive heat then contributed to the damage.

Crop Loss \$2,000,000

Information supplied by the four cooperative grain growers indicated a 33% reduction in yield over '59 and '60 crops. Sherman Cooperative Grain Growers reported a 61% average of the two previous crops, Moro 64% and Grass Valley 85%. Loss to Sherman county farmers ran nearly \$2,000,000.

Outlook for 1962 is uncertain. The extremely dry fall required most grain to be seeded in the dust. The early winter reduced rate of germination after rains with stands uncertain over much of the area January 1st. Erosion has already taken a heavy toll and corn leaf aphids have attacked some early grain with possible damage next spring uncertain.