

The Observer.

MORO, OREGON.

Official Paper for Sherman County.

FRIDAY, December 22, 1916

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Moro, Oregon, July 25, 1891.

C. L. IRELAND, Manager.

If you do not read The Observer, why not?

We would like to have you take it, and we know it would be profitable to you to become a subscriber. We send it two years for \$2.50; one year \$1.50; 12¢ a month isn't much. Try it. Order by postal card, and pay for it when you can.

We will not be responsible for the neglect of subscribers to notify us of changes in their address. Nor will the notification of a Postmaster that the subscriber has "Removed" settle the bill of a delinquent.

Church and Society notices FREE, except when for money making purposes. Such notices at regular rates at the option of the publishers.

At any time when requested to do so, the paper will be discontinued. But we expect that all arrears will be paid before such request is made. It is easy to ask us for a statement, which will be cheerfully rendered at any time.

An interstate road association has been formed by the states of Montana, Idaho and Washington, with the object of obtaining all-year-round highways.

Attorney W. C. Bryant left Wednesday for Salem to attend a meeting of the committee to investigate the County Unit System of school administration pursuant to senate resolution adopted by the state senate February 16, 1915. The other members of the committee are Senator Hawley of Polk, Senator Vinton of Yamhill, Senator Bishop of Marion and two from outside the legislature, of whom Mr. Bryant is one. It is intended to redraft a measure presented at the last legislature by which the office of county school superintendent is made appointive instead of elective and that all school affairs of the various counties be administered by a central body in place of the numerous school districts and directors as now.

Other changes are also contemplated in school law and customs.

Gasoline From Oil Shales.

In anticipation of the day when, on account of the advancing cost of gasoline and other products obtained from petroleum, it might be found commercially profitable to utilize some of the enormous supply of petroleum to be derived from the distillation of the vast deposits of so-called hydrocarbon shales of the Green River formation of northwestern Colorado and northeastern Utah, the Geological Survey has for three years been making field investigations of these deposits. The examinations have been accompanied by mapping of the areas of hydrocarbon shales and by field measurements and distillation tests as will afford primary information concerning the amount and richness of the region.

Very rough but cautious calculations indicate that the distillation of shale from beds over 3 feet thick in Colorado alone will yield more than 20,000,000,000 gallons of crude oil, from which more than 2,000,000,000 barrels of gasoline can be extracted by ordinary methods, and a larger amount can be secured by using the Rittman process.

Court Refuses Herrick's Claims.

Representative Sinnott and Webster Ballinger, the latter an attorney for some of the Sherman county settlers, went into the United States District of Columbia Supreme Court and defeated the effort of Attorney Sam Herrick to tie up the appropriations to pay the old Sherman county claims.

Mr. Herrick, as attorney for some claimants, sought to enjoin the Secretary of the Treasury from paying his clients until he had received 20 per cent of their respective claims. Representative Sinnott produced one of Herrick's contracts, showing that under it he was to receive no fee until 30 days after the claims had been paid by the government.

The secretary of the treasury is now free to pay all claims allowed by Congress. Herrick will have to go into the Oregon courts to sue for his 20 per cent fee, inasmuch as the federal law limits attorneys to a fee not exceeding 5 per cent.

Rabbit Hunt Won by McCoy.

The annual contest hunt held by members of the Moro Rod and Gun Club was decided last Friday in favor of the W. T. McCoy side. Promptly at 8 o'clock the doors were closed and the counting of points by the judges in the presence of the two hunt captains was started. Following is the schedule of points brought in by the two opposing sides:

McCoy points	Johnson points
Geese..... 450	300
Coyotes..... 1000	2000
Ravens..... 1250	1000
H. Owls..... 4000	5500
Owls..... 100	700
Hawks..... 1050	1500
Maggies..... 8550	1650
Rabbits..... 12150	14850
Rats..... 500	200
Sparrows..... 1430	5510
Weasels.....	150
Porcupines.....	150
Evans..... 6250	
OL Belshee.....	820
Rejected..... 1050	100
Total..... 36730	34330

For a time there was considerable feeling by some over the disposal of the bag of game sent in by M. L. Evans during the afternoon of the hunt. Mr. Evans did not expect to be in town before the count occurred and phoned for one of his side to come after his sack, but one of the other side got the message and went after the game. It happened that the one to whom the sack was delivered had a brother on the McCoy side, and Mr. Evans confused the two. Not being "legally swiped" it was counted on the side Evans belonged to.

Just as the doors closed O. L. Belshee drove up in a borrowed auto, having been delayed by a puncture with his machine. His game was at first refused because of not arriving in time; later it was accepted to offset the misunderstanding about the Evans sack of game.

A few on Johnson's side, before the count, were looking for a place to put a few bets that they had won, with no takers.

Capt. Rutledge brought in a young bird which some called an American eagle and others a hawk. It had been roosting with the chickens in the W. M. Walker hen house, east of Grass Valley, for the week previous to the hunt. The first objection that it had seen necessary to make a meal off a chicken.

The spectacular feature of the hunt was an auto party of hunters shooting magpies by moonlight on Rock creek, Gilliam county, shortly after midnight the morning of the hunt.

Roy Benson got two rabbits with one shot; he saw the first rabbit and after he shot heard a noise like a child crying; he thought he had shot a pupil belonging to a school house which he could see a short distance away. Roy said it made him feel "creepy," but when he went toward the sound he found a second rabbit a short distance from the first.

O. B. Messinger declared the day before that he would not miss the hunt for a lot, that he had been working too hard shoveling coal and needed a rest; he took his auto along Gordon butte to the head of Rattlesnake grade and spent two hours or more shoveling snow when he became fast in a large drift half way to the head of the grade. That is all the game Ben saw that day.

Game of all kind was scarce in the county this year and a large number who went out after it had to come back without discharging a shot. The best hunting was in Gilliam county. A large bag of game was sent in from Umatilla county, but too late to be served at the count.

Different county officers, through their various state associations, are petitioning the state legislature to increase their tenure of office from two to four years. This same measure was voted down by the people at the 1914 election. We might be in favor of the proposal if the measure eliminated all elections now occurring with those offices for which a change is wanted. To make it consistent all 6-year terms should be made 8 years, otherwise we shall be having a state election for the purpose of filling one or two lonesome offices. If we retain the election machinery it might also be better to use it for the general good of the county.

Who Eats the Chestnuts?

When people realize that no initiative measure is proposed and worked for by anyone unless they have more than passing interest in its success, and that if it should be successful that they will benefit by money spent to secure its approval by the people, then will the proper conception of what the initiative is be fully taken into consideration.

We do not wish to be understood as discrediting the fact that since the initiative has been part of the legislative working system of Oregon, some measures have become laws that otherwise would never have had a chance. Nevertheless, these same laws were proposed and worked up mainly by people who were receiving good wages for the time spent and who were also successful in securing the assistance of others on moral and common meeting ground.

Yet it should be considered by all that those who appeal to the initiative to boost their schemes, good or otherwise, are simply appealing to a body of people likened to a legislature composed of so many elements that the immensity of numbers precludes the study necessary to intelligent discrimination.

We have in mind a few in this county who were actively interested in the tax limitation measure voted on last month. They contended it would reduce taxes and the reduction of taxes caught their fancy. It does yet. Our contention was that it would increase taxes and be of no direct benefit to the people at large. We believe it will yet work that way.

Because of the new tax limitation law it is noticed that some component part of nearly every county in the state is talking of the issuance of bonds with which to raise money to finance their obligations ordinarily taken care of by a tax. This goes on up from school districts and cities to the state government and bears out our contention that the measure is and was primarily a measure forcing the issuance of bonds with which to secure the financing of the affairs of the different departments of the state and counties.

The issuance of bonds under the tax limitation measure was a carefully planned procedure. As can be proven by the fact that there is no limit to the amount of tax that can be levied for the payment of interest on bonded indebtedness. It was foreseen that bonds had to be voted; that they would be voted; and that the people who pretend to think, and do not, would be satisfied with the saving of a tax levy that in turn must be levied for the interest on bonds for money secured to do the work that the original tax would have performed if the tax had been legal.

Debate Dates are Set.

In a few days debaters from 67 Oregon high schools will be hard at it. Many teams have been working for weeks on this year's subject, which is:

"Resolved that Oregon should adopt a health insurance law embodying the essential features of the Standard Bill of the American Association for Labor Legislation."

The league officers intend that the debates within the districts shall be ended in time to permit final dual debates among winners on February 2. Elimination of schools is very rapid under the district plan of organization.

The top two teams will debate for the University of Oregon cup, which carries the league championship, at the University of Oregon at Eugene next May. Crook county high school at Prineville, holds the cup at present. The schedule for this district, designated as the Upper Columbia follows:

January 26—Triangular (negative team travels): Prineville vs. Culver; Madras vs. Prineville; Culver vs. Madras; Wasco vs. Moro; The Dalles vs. Wasco; Moro vs. The Dalles. Final dual debate, among winners, February 2d.

The new auto license tags are being delivered to owners in the county. The first shipment of tags to leave Salem included all numbers up to 8200, filled 132 mail sacks, weighed more than 8000 pounds and cost a jiny to each tag for postage.

More High School Notes.

The high school and Mr. Bowman's room will have a Christmas tree in the high school room Friday afternoon, Dec. 22.

The boys' and girls' basket ball teams will play the boys' and girls' teams of Grass Valley at Grass Valley Friday eve, Dec. 22.

The debating teams are making slow progress, and as the debate comes three weeks after Christmas it does not look very favorable.

Abbie Mortensen has been out of school for some time helping her folks move to Monkland. She is expected back in school after the holidays.

A play has been sent for and will be given by the M. H. S. students after Christmas.

To Our Patrons and Friends.

Thinking that possibly we might not be able to reach, by personal interview, all of our friends and customers, we take this means of advising you that we have sold our general merchandise business at Kent to Mr. J. H. Wilson and Mr. B. M. Sias, who will conduct the business under the trade name of The Kent Trading Company, and will take over the business on January 1, 1917. We will close our store on Saturday night, the 23d of December, and the same will be kept closed until we take inventory of the stocks of merchandise and transfer the plant to our successors.

In view of the fact that the store is to be closed for several days after Christmas, we would suggest to our customers that they so arrange their shopping that they be not inconvenienced by the fact of our closing for inventory. We wish to thank you for the loyal support you have given us during all of the years we have been located at Kent, and if we have ever failed you in any point we trust that you will overlook that fact and remember it against us no more. We trust that you will accord our successors the same loyal support you have given us.

Again thanking you for your friendship and help, we beg to remain, Very truly yours,
Kent Commercial Co.
By Louis J. Gates, proprietor.

Deafness Cannot Be Cured

by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflammation of the mucous lining of the Eustachian tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a running ear or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; else it will become chronic, and will be cured only by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous membrane.

We will give One Hundred Dollars for any case of Deafness (caused by catarrh) that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. Send for circulars, free.

P. J. CHERRY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.

Sold by Druggists. Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Bargain in Registered Stock

A number of young Polan-China pigs, eligible to register, are offered for sale at \$12.50 each. For particulars inquire of J. T. Ashby, Grass Valley, Ore.

Brown Leghorn Roosters.

A few Brown Leghorn roosters for sale at a reasonable price. Write or phone to Clarence Sparling, 31d22 Moro, Oregon.

Farm Land Bargain.

160 acres half mile from town; 149 acres in summer fallow; 80 acres seeded; balance ready to drill. The crop on this place will nearly pay for the land at present prices. Price \$40 per acre, with \$1000 cash and \$1000 in the fall of 1917; terms on balance to suit purchaser. Inquire of Alex Hunter, Moro, Ore.

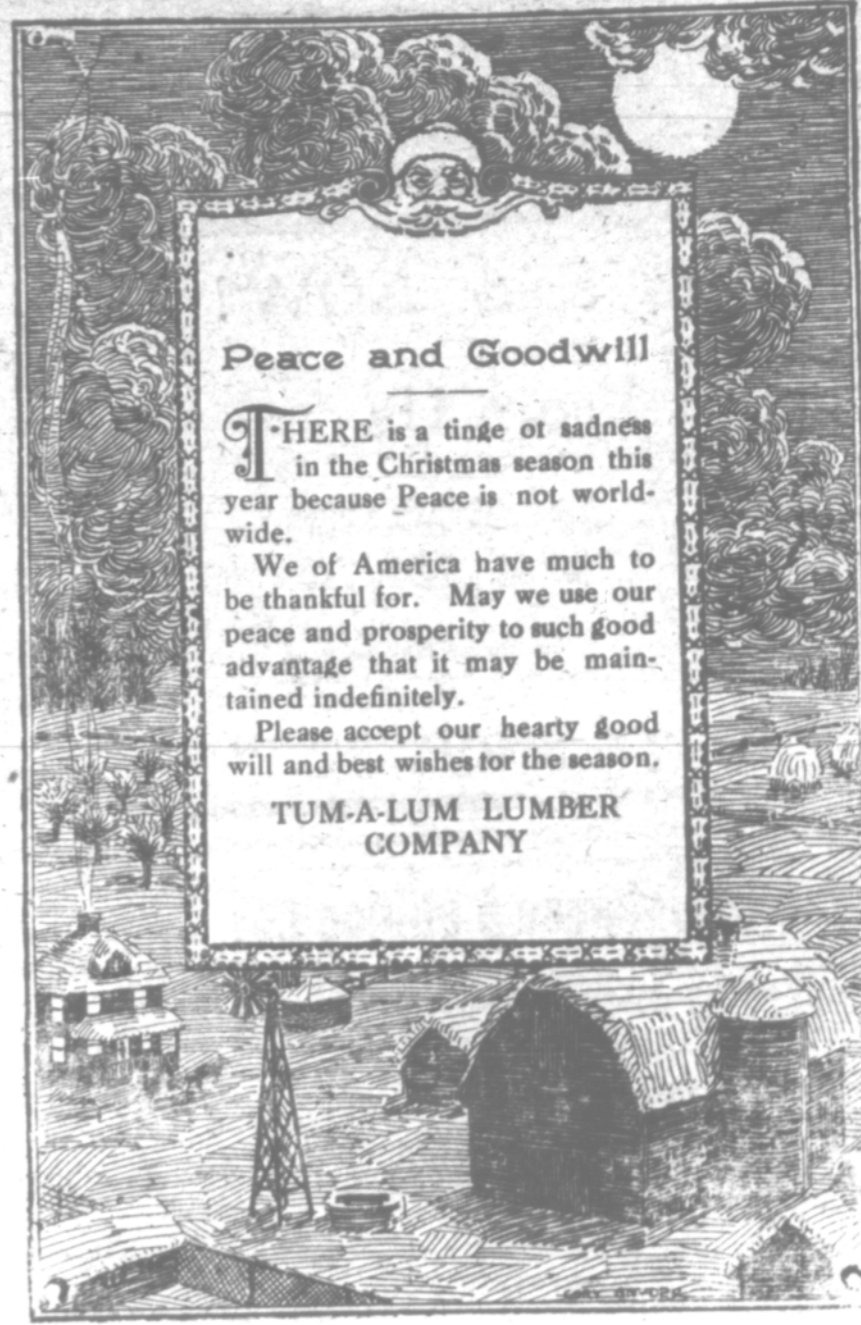
Notice of Sale of Stray.

Come to my place near Klondike, in Sherman county, Oregon, a red heifer, age between a yearling and a 2-year-old, has left ear cut "V" on point, with no visible brands.

The owner of the above described animal is hereby notified to call for the same, prove property, pay charges, and take it away. Otherwise it will be sold as provided by law at the farm named in this advertisement to the highest bidder for cash at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of Tuesday, January 2, 1917. W. R. Reid, 21d22 Klondike, Ore.

For Rent or Sale

A residence in Moro. Will sell at a bargain and give terms to suit. Two lots 100x100 feet in fine location, can be made a very pleasant home. Inquire of J. M. Parry, Moro n3f



Peace and Goodwill

THERE is a tinge of sadness in the Christmas season this year because Peace is not world-wide.

We of America have much to be thankful for. May we use our peace and prosperity to such good advantage that it may be maintained indefinitely.

Please accept our hearty good will and best wishes for the season.

TUM-A-LUM LUMBER COMPANY

\$50.00 Reward.

A reward of \$50.00 will be paid to any person or persons furnishing evidence of the violation of any provision of the prohibition law in Sherman county sufficient to warrant an indictment by the Grand Jury. C. M. Huddleston, District Attorney.

Undertaking Supplies

Caskets and Robes always on hand; special supplies and caskets ordered at any time. Sam Brisbane, Moro, Oregon.

Travelers at Biggs

Should try our famous chicken plate dinner; all kinds of nice sandwich, pie, cake, good coffee. Willard Lunch Counter

Livery Automobile Service

To or from any point, particularly Sherman county. Experienced driver and car always ready. Phone me at my expense from any place. Reasonable charges with plenty of time given commercial men to "make" towns. GEORGE ELLARD, Grass Valley, Oregon.

Mortgage Loans On Improved Farms

At the lowest rates and on long time. Repayable in such instalments as the borrower may wish. Liberal prepayment terms arranged. No commissions charged. Loans closed promptly. Mortgages purchased.

WM. MacMASTER
701 Corbett Bldg.
PORTLAND, OREGON.

Get on the Firing Line



If you want to succeed in life you must know what is new in business and industry, in invention, and science. Get out of the rut; get on the firing line. Read

Popular Science Monthly

the most interesting and useful magazine, and the biggest money's worth. Every month 300 Pictures—300 Articles all for only 15 cents. All the new ideas and inventions in electricity and wireless, in automobiles and aeroplanes, in shipwork and in farming, and in machinery. How to make things at home. 30 pages every month, including reprints, poultry houses, furniture, automobile shop repairs, etc. It is full of money-making, stop-saving ideas. It is written in plain English for men and boys. 15 Cents a Copy—\$1.50 a Year. Get it from a newsdealer or write direct to Popular Science Monthly, 384 Fourth Ave., N.Y. FREE sample copy free if you send 2¢ stamp for postage and mention this paper.



DON'T carry around a great amount of currency. If you do you are beset by two great evils. One is the temptation to spend readily. A man with \$100 in currency in his pocket is freer to spend than the man with a ten dollar bill than he is to draw a ten dollar check.

The other evil is the bait offered to thieves. A man who is known to carry a large sum of money in his possession never can tell when he will be set upon by a highwayman. The wealthiest men in the country seldom carry large amounts of cash. When you accumulate a goodly amount of currency deposit it in the bank at once.

THAT IS THE SAFEST PLACE FOR IT.

"Bank of Moro" MORO, OREGON

IF YOU GET THE HABIT

of coming to this store for your

Furniture, Hardware, Wagons, Buggies and Farm Implements

you will not only find it a habit hard to break, but one that you will not want to break.

We have many customers who have contracted that habit, and they are glad of it.

Won't you get the habit? We are prepared to make it very much to your advantage.

At least, come in and let us "show you."

GINN, COLEMAN & CO. MORO, OREGON