

The Observer.

MORO, OREGON.

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FRIDAY, July 25, 1919

C. L. IRELAND, Manager.

Official Paper for Sherman County.



Court Rejects Road Bond Bids

Members of the Sherman county court met in special session last Saturday afternoon for the purpose of canvassing bids for the road bonds advertised for sale.

Five bidders were present and submitted bids as follows:

Keeler Bros., Portland; conditional bid of par, accrued interest and \$4500 premium.

Clark, Kendall & Co., Portland; par, accrued interest and \$1078 premium.

Joint bid from John E. Price & Co. and the Seattle National Bank, Seattle; par, accrued interest and \$300 premium.

Morris Bros., Portland; par, accrued interest and \$3165 premium.

Lumbermen's Trust Co., Portland; par, accrued interest and \$3300 premium.

The bid of Keeler Bros., not being submitted in accordance with the advertised terms, was not considered.

At the termination of an executive meeting of the court, following the opening of the bids, it was decided to reject all bids at this time. The court also decided to canvass the opinion of the county as to the utility of a serial bond in place of the 20-year term bond that they are now forced to sell if they comply with the terms of the road bond election.

It was the general opinion of the public that the court had the option of either selling a term bond or a serial bond, but when the time came to make the sale they had no option under the stated terms of the election notices and ballot but to sell for the full term of 20 years, with no choice of redemption until the time was ended.

It has been figured that Sherman county would lose approximately \$110,000 in interest, alone if term bonds were sold. Some members of the court had figured that the money could be loaned locally and this loss partially met, but others contend that this could not be done legally and, further, under the terms of the election there is no provision for a sinking fund with which to pay off these bonds at maturity, and any

fund set aside for that purpose could be used by any future court for something else.

The bond buyers themselves agreed and said that the court could secure a better bid for the term bonds at a later date and that a serial bond, if authorized, would be handled at a large saving to the county as a whole. They also agreed that the interest rate or term of any bond did not materially affect the price, these conditions being offset by bids based upon par value and premium offered above par.

Barlow Road to Be Rebuilt

July 29 bids will be opened in the local office of the federal bureau of public roads for the grading of 37 miles of what is known as the Mt. Hood loop road within the national forest. The estimated cost is \$514,000. The work is to be done under the direction of the United States forest service, but half the cost is to be borne by the state. The width of the road is to be 16 feet. No provision has yet been made for other than a dirt surface.

The project as advertised is divided into two units. One unit embraces the 14 miles between the western boundary of the forest near Rhododendron and the Summit house where the old Barlow road leaves the Oak Grove road. The second unit is between this point and the Hood River county boundary of the forest on the headwaters of the east fork of Hood river. Distance, 23 miles.

The first unit involves the reconstruction of an old road. The second unit provides for the construction of an altogether new road passing around the eastern base of Mount Hood to a connection with the Hood River county system of roads, and thence with the Columbia river highway, from which it derived its name, Mount Hood loop.

According to the survey made, the road will in no place have a heavier grade than 6 per cent. For most of the way it is less than 4 per cent. It is estimated that it will take two seasons to complete the grading.

Mrs. Alex Hunter is in Portland, called there by the illness of her eldest daughter.

Good Intensive Farming Pays.

This is the one year in recent Sherman county history that fully demonstrates that the right kind of farming done at the proper season always returns large dividends. The writer has visited the experiment station at various times in the past several years when Superintendent Stephens had invitations out for special days, such as the annual farmers' picnic, and in a majority of cases when the visitors came upon the farming exhibits showing the results of work from the best to the poorest and also the same work done at different periods during the season, a number always considered the exhibit as an endorsement of their work when finished late in the year. A number of times the exhibit had apparently served to justify a slackness in farm work when the yield from each piece of ground was not compared.

There are few spots on the face of the earth where it is possible to raise grain without considerable rain during the growing season, yet it is being done this year in Sherman county with no rain fall since April of material benefit to the crop.

Before May 1 there was a wonderful prospect for a bumper crop; it looked as though the wheat fields of Sherman county would return the largest yield of the county's history. Now, while the prospects for anything of the kind has gone into the discard, there is no doubt but that the wheat crop of a large part of Sherman county will be very good and in some cases come up to or exceed the average.

Usually the grower overestimates his crop. This year it was the opposite. Because of the lack of rain during the main growing season it was thought by a large number that the harvest would be short and the grain of inferior quality. The yield where threshing is now under way has, in the majority of cases, been a pleasant surprise. Fields that the owner felt dubious about the crop are turning out 12 to 15 bushels per acre and in a number of cases 20 and 25 bushels have been reported.

Despite the unfavorable weather conditions the majority of Sherman county farmers will make money this season in raising wheat. Conditions for raising a crop must be exceptionally good when this is possible, but in every case where an average crop is harvested this year you will find a farmer in charge who has profited from the work of the State and Federal Experiment Station at Moro. They have studied the effect of continuous, consistent intensive cultivation of their summer-fallow and have not been led wrong by an apparent yield on poor farmed land that did not hold up its end when comparison was made at the close of the harvest.

It costs as much cash outlay to plow and work land out of season as in season. There is very little saving made by poor farming in place of good farming and never any real saving when the crop year is closed.

Church Announcements

Presbyterian—Moro. Sunday school, 10.30 a.m. Preaching by Rev. B. F. Harper at 11.30 a.m. A joint congregational meeting of Monkland and Moro constituted of all members and supporters of the Presbyterian church will be held immediately following the morning service to consider the calling of a pastor. B. F. Harper, moderating.

Union services 8 p.m. at Methodist church, Rev. Harper delivering the sermon.

Christian Endeavor 7:15 p.m. Bible study at Methodist church Wednesday, 8 p.m.

At Monkland Sunday school, 2 p.m. Preaching at 3 p.m.

Elmer E. McVicker, Temporary Pastor.

Christian Science Society

Services will be held in the church building on Main street at 11 o'clock. Subject—"Truth."

Testimonial services are held Wednesday evenings at 8 o'clock.

Sunday school in room at rear entrance of church at 11 a.m. Pupils up to the age 20 are welcome to these classes.

The reading room at the rear entrance to the church building is open every Friday from 2 until 4 p.m., where the Bible and all authorized Christian Science literature may be read, bought or borrowed.

The public is cordially invited to attend the church services and visit the reading room.

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The great Department Store of Lipman-Wolfe & Co. of Portland is out after the Piano business of Oregon.

Just now we are having a big July sale on new and second-hand Pianos which has stirred the piano circles of the metropolis.

They are even bidding for the business of the country districts and make this startling BONE FIDE OFFER:

1st. We will save anyone \$100 in the purchase of an Upright Piano, a Player-Piano or a Baby Grand.

2d. We will have our expert choose for anyone a Piano that we positively guarantee, box it and pay the freight to destination covering a radius of 100 miles from Portland.

3d. We will pay the railroad fare both ways of anyone in Oregon or Washington who will go to Portland and choose a Piano on our sales floors.

PIANOS WE CARRY

Our lines consist of the most renowned standard makes of America. Our leader is the KNABE. We also represent the celebrated Francis Bacon Pianos in baby grands, players and uprights. One of our most popular lines is the five well-known pianos of "The House of Baldwin," which includes the Baldwin, Ellington, Hamilton, Howard and Monarch. Then we are agents for the Hazelton Bros. and the famous Autopiano. The Autopiano is probably the most popular and durable player-piano in the world. Already more than \$43,000,000 worth have been sold to the music-loving people of the globe.

OUR USED PIANOS

One may nearly always find a good bargain in a second-hand Piano in our piano exchange department. This month we are holding our semi-annual clean-up sale on these instruments. The prices are remarkably low.

WE GIVE TERMS

Investigate our selling plan and learn how to save money buying a Piano from our Piano Department.

We sell a brand new Baby Grand for \$595. Uprights and players priced accordingly. Ask to see our Player-Piano with the Ukulele attachment.

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O. C. PIERCE, Manager