

Help support Heppner Business  
Men who help support Heppner.

# HEPPNER HERALD

Central Oregon gets on and off  
the train at Heppner Gateway.

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## DESTRUCTIVE FIRE CAUSES \$25000 LOSS

The most destructive fire in the history of Heppner occurred Monday afternoon entailing a loss of from \$25,000 to \$30,000.

The fire started in the rear of the opera-house building at Gale and Willow streets, and so rapidly did it spread that before water could be turned on the entire building was in flames. A high wind from the north prevailed at the time and for awhile it looked as though the entire town was doomed.

The opera house was a very high two-story building and the high wind carried firebrands all over the upper end of town, starting innumerable grass and roof fires but vigilant citizens put them out as fast as started.

B. G. Sigsbee and Oscar Otto had a narrow escape from death in the opera house, on the second floor of which Sigsbee had his photograph studio. They were in the studio at the front of the building, while the only stairway reaches the upper floor at the rear, and before they knew of the fire escape was cut off by way of the stairway. When they were discovered at the window a short ladder was procured and by holding it above their heads the rescuers were able to make it reach high enough for the endangered men to let themselves down from the window ledge until their feet reached the ladder and they climbed down to safety. Otto was the first to make the trip and he was almost overcome with the smoke. Sigsbee was pretty badly singed and blistered before he got down, but both were fortunate.

The fire immediately spread back to Luther Huston's and Mrs. Marlatt's residences, both of which were total losses. It also quickly jumped Willow street to the south and wiped out the Coates residence with most of its contents. Mrs. Coates' new piano was moved out on the street and there allowed to burn.

The Gonty residence, next to the south from Coates', was on fire several times but was saved and the fire on that side of Gale street stopped there. Across Gale street the city hall was soon on fire as were the bell tower and city jail. The jail is of concrete walls but the roof was not fireproof and it burned off. The old M. & M. building, occupied by a restaurant and rooming house, was quickly wiped out but the concrete walls and fireproof roof of the Roberts building, occupied by the Gazette-Times printing office and the telephone exchange, withstood the heat and stopped further progress in that direction. Minor & Co.'s warehouse went next with Schwartz' stable and ice house quickly following. The back end of McRobert's livery barn was burned off but by a miracle the hosemen controlled the flames at that point.

South of Willow street the old rink building, owned by Frank Roberts and occupied by John Vaughn as a storage place for automobiles, was quickly in flames and some hard and hot work was done there saving the old crippled cars. Back of the rink and fronting on Willow street were three buildings owned by Clyde Wells and occupied by Bradford the painter and Hill's garage, all of which were practically total losses. Some hot work was done in that quarter in saving the Main street frontage of that block. The substantial brick

## COUNTY R. C. DRIVE MAKES FINE SHOWING

The second Red Cross drive in Morrow county was very successful, the quota for the county being exceeded by more than \$2500. Following is the amounts raised in each district in cash and pledges:

	Pledges	Cash
Heppner	\$835 50	\$4682 65
Ione	5 00	1776 42
Lexington	384 00	1761 25
Hardman	56 50	705 95
Eightmile	19 00	989 75
Lena	4 00	371 00
Pine City	—	558 00
Irrigon	83 00	148 00
Boardman	12 00	184 25
	\$1349 00	\$11,177 27
	A grand total of \$12,526 27.	

Masonic building, however, stood the test and a small army of willing workers fought the flames to a fare-you-well and finally won the battle.

When the fire started the wind was coming straight up Gale street and had it not veered more into the east, thus carrying the firebrands away from the buildings and more up on the hillside nothing could have saved the upper end of the town.

Early in the game a firebrand from the opera house was carried by the high wind and dropped on the roof of the water reservoir, far up on the hillside.

Dick Johns, employed in the Hill garage, who roomed in the Shelly Baldwin residence, went to his room to save his personal belongings and was severely burned about the head and face as he was leaving the building. He is in the hospital.

The opera house building, owned by Frank Gilliam and Robert Hynd, had been insured for \$2500 but the insurance expired a few days ago and had not been renewed.

The old rink building had been sold by Frank Roberts to Leo Hill for \$2250. The deed had been prepared that day by Woodson & Sweek and was to have been delivered during the afternoon. There was no insurance.

The losses, as nearly as can be approximated at this writing, are:

Opera house	\$6000
Frank Roberts, rink	1000
Clyde Wells, 3 buildings	2000
M. & M. building	1500
City Hall, etc	3500
Minor & Co., warehouse	2500
Henry Schwartz, ice house	500
W. T. McRoberts, barn	250
Luther Huston, residence	2500
Mrs. Marlatt	2000
Claude Coates	1500
Shelly Baldwin	2000
M. J. Bradford, paint shop	600
Leo Hill, garage	—
B. G. Sigsbee, studio	1500

J. B. Sparks and W. H. Parkinon, who each occupied house-keeping apartments in the opera house building, lost everything thing in the way of household goods, clothing, etc.

Origin of the fire has not been definitely fixed except that it started from a spark in some excelsior and other rubbish which lay against the wall of the shed lean to on the opera house. One report says that a box of hot ashes had been put outside, another that rubbish was being burned in a neighboring yard. J. H. Cox, who was working nearby, saw the fire and was able to extinguish it on the ground, but not before it had caught on the edge of the roof above his reach. At that time, he says, a quart of water and a short ladder would have stopped it, but before he could secure either it was too late.

## Subscriptions Are Now Due

June 1st is the date upon which a large number of subscriptions to the Heppner Herald become due and we take this means of calling attention to that fact for the reason that a little matter like \$1.50 is easily overlooked by many people who are always busy with other things.

The country newspaper business is not exactly a profiteering stunt under present war conditions, and it is an open secret that every country publisher in Oregon needs every cent of subscription money due him as well as a year in advance in order to make it possible for him to pay his bills promptly, contribute to the Red Cross, buy an occasional Liberty Bond and generally to hold up his end of community affairs as a reputable citizen should.

The newspaper business is a legitimate business—as much so as raising wheat, growing stock, running a store or operating a bank, and yet if the people engaged in these pursuits were obliged to dispose of their products, their merchandise or their money in small amounts of a dollar or two in a place, and if their customers often forgot about the matter because it involved such a small amount they would, perhaps, come to the time when they would not only realize the aggregate importance of a vast number of small accounts but would take steps to induce their customers to come to a similar realization.

Such is the purpose of this article—to make it plain to every subscriber who is in arrears or whose subscription is about to expire, that the Herald needs this money, even if it is in the individual case but a small sum and that it is only a straight business proposition that the attention of subscribers should be called to the situation, and that they should promptly send in a check or call at the office and secure a receipt for the amount due.

The subscription price of the Herald has not been advanced, as has the price of almost every other article you could mention. It is still only \$1.50 a year and for that small amount the publisher is making every effort to make the paper a real news medium for Morrow county, as well as to make it a reputable business concern in the city of Heppner.

To those who are a year or more in arrears the Herald is sending statements of account and it is expected that settlement will be made at as early a date as possible. Should any statement be in error in any particular it will be cheerfully corrected when called to our attention.

## HEPPNER HIGH WILL GRADUATE 11 TONIGHT

Tonight, at the Heppner high school auditorium, 11 young people will receive their diplomas as graduates of Heppner high school. They are: Loa Briggs, Isabelle Wilson, Neva Hayes, Florence Ralston, Anza Doherty, Norma Frederic, Arthur Campbell, Carnett Barratt, Vawter Crawford, jr., Leo Nicholson, Norton Winward, Earl Gordon.

The commencement exercises to be given at the auditorium this evening at 8 o'clock follow:

1. Piano Solo—  
"Fifth Nocturne" (Leybach)  
Elizabeth Phelps.
2. Song—"Drift My Bark"  
Girls of Eighth Grade.
3. Vocal Solo, "Matinata" (Tosti)  
Neva Chidsey.
4. Commencement Address.  
Rev. R. E. Gannall,  
First M. E. Church, Pendleton.
5. Chorus, "Come Where the Lillies Bloom" (Thompson)  
High School Chorus.
6. Presentation of Diplomas.  
W. B. Barratt.
7. Chorus, "The New Hail Columbia" (Chadwick)  
High School Chorus.

### Runaway Victim Recovering

William Geise, of near Hardman, who was thought to be fatally injured when his team ran away on a steep grade near Rock creek last Friday, is reported to be rapidly recovering from the effects of his terrible experience and is now considered out of danger. Ernest Wyland, who was with him at the time was not seriously injured. Geise was hurled from the wagon over an almost perpendicular bluff and fell and rolled over rocks and ledges 500 feet to the bottom. Searchers were two hours finding the injured man and he did not recover consciousness for many hours. The team escaped with minor injuries.

## STREET WORK BEING PUSHED RAPIDLY

Street improvement work is progressing rapidly and Mayor Smead reports that the rock will be mostly all in place as far as the city limits near the depot by the end of the week. The two blocks on May and Main streets, already finished, seem to be giving good satisfaction and the number of those who predicted they would not stand the traffic is growing less.

However, the city officials are figuring on giving the three blocks on Main street and one block on May street a light coat of asphalt to be sprinkled with a light covering of the finest rock screenings and then thoroughly rolled; the idea being to bind the fine material on the surface and give it a chance to pack and cement together. A trial of this sort of finish will probably be made at once and if it proves satisfactory after a few weeks the four blocks will be so treated. It is said such a finish will cost only about \$1000 for the four blocks.

A movement is also on foot for the improvement of the county road leading from the city limits up the canyon toward Heppner flat and Hardman. This is the principal wheat road leading into Heppner, and it is also said to be about the worst piece of road in the county at certain seasons. The city, according to Mayor Smead, is willing to improve Main street to the city limits if the county will improve the county road through the bad section. It is said that one prominent farmer on Rhea creek has advised the city authorities that he is willing to guarantee a donation of at least \$500 from his immediate neighborhood to aid in the improvement if the county will go ahead with it. It sounds like a reasonable proposition.

### Information About the Home Guard

C. L. Sweek, adjutant of the Morrow county Home Guard gives the following valuable information concerning the organization: The Guard is organized under the sheriff and subject only to his command. Members take an oath similar to that taken by deputy sheriffs. Members are supposed to attend drill twice a week unless excused but any reasonable excuse is accepted as the members are busy men whose business sometimes necessitates their absence. The object is to protect life and property in Morrow county, and should occasion arise members will guard warehouses, wheat fields, etc., without charge.

The organization has received the approval of the Governor, but in order to become a member of the state organization each unit must have 65 members regular attendants at drill. Heppner Guard has 70 members enrolled but not more than 50 are regular attendants at drill. We need more men in order to make up a state unit and receive state aid. All present members are busy men who are giving up their time at a personal sacrifice. Those who are not members should become such and the excuse that they have not the time is not valid, for present members are taking the time.

All Henderson, La Princess and Gossard corsets, regularly priced at from \$2.00 to \$10.00, now on sale at greatly reduced prices. Call and make your selections early.

Mrs. L. G. HEPPNER.

### School Closes Successful Term

The upper Willow Creek school, taught by E. S. Payne, closed Wednesday with a basket picnic in the beautiful grove on Skinner creek. Practically all the residents of the district were present and a most enjoyable day was spent. Old fashioned picnic games were played before dinner and everyone had a fine appetite for the sumptuous spread which was served by the ladies of the neighborhood. Following the dinner F. R. Brown, county agricultural agent, made a splendid address explaining his work in the county, following which it was decided that the community would not organize a council but would act with Heppner in that work.

S. E. Notson, chairman of the County Food Conservation Committee, also spoke along the lines of his work and made plain the urgent need for conservation of wheat and cured meats for the next few months. His address was right to the point and was well received. Mrs. Shurt, county school superintendent, was also present and spoke very entertainingly of the Junior Red Cross work in the schools, urging the ladies of the district to keep the work alive during the summer vacation so the children will be ready for work next fall with out any lost time.

E. S. Payne, who has been the successful teacher for the past two years, presided at the speaking exercises and also reported that every pupil in the school had signed a pledge to buy a 25-cent Thrift Stamp during the vacation period. Mr. Payne's work

**Young Men Must Register Who? All men 21 years old. When? June 5th. Where? With your local board. Failure to register means a year in jail.**

**Registration Day for all men 21 years old is June 5 if you are away from home, apply now to nearest Draft Board. Protect yourself and do it now.**

**Young Man! Illness will not excuse you from registering on June 5. If too sick to register in person, send a friend to your local board to fill out your card.**

The following registrars have been appointed and you should call upon them and be registered June 5th:

- F. H. Robinson, Ione.
- W. O. Hill, Lexington.
- G. A. Bleakman, Hardman and Parker's Mill district.
- W. R. Walpole, for Irrigon and vicinity.
- J. A. Gibbons for Boardman and vicinity.
- E. O. Neill for Pine City and vicinity (at Neill's home.)
- John Brosnan for Lena and vicinity (at Brosnan's home.)
- T. H. Lowe for Cecil and vicinity.

Local Board at Heppner for Heppner and vicinity.

**MORROW COUNTY LOCAL BOARD.**

in the district is highly spoken of by patrons of the school, as well as by the school superintendent.

### Morrow County School Notes

The graduating exercises of the Union high school of Hardman were held at the church on Tuesday evening, May 14.

The program began by all present singing "America," followed by a salutatory address by Miss Bertha Hays, "The Class History" by Miss Pearl Ward, "Class Prophecy" by Miss Eva McDonald (oration), "America" by Archie Beudolt.

Miss Dorothy Pattison rendered in her pleasing voice, "Somewhere in France Is Daddy," accompanied on the piano by Miss Muriel Cason, both from Heppner. She was heartily encored and responded by singing "The Dreamship."

Following this was the class motto "Forward," an oration by Beryl Prophet, oration, "Americanism" by Miss Eva McDonald, and the valedictory by Miss Naomi Wyland. These essays and orations were entirely original and reflect great credit upon both the teacher and the pupils.

The principal, Bernard Pohr, delivered an address on "The University Trained Man," which portrayed to the class the advantages of a higher education.

Following this Dr. George Van Waters delivered a very excellent address to the class, the County School Superintendent made a few remarks, the class then presented their diplomas by Dr. Van Waters and the exercises closed by all singing our national hymn, "The Star Spangled Banner."

The members of the graduating class, their teacher, the speakers and musicians, were invited to a beautiful banquet in Odd Fellows hall in honor of the graduates.

LENA SNEEL SHURTELL, County School Supt.