

HEPPNER HERALD

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CITY DADS OFFER GATES SUM OF \$15,000

Mayor Vaughan called a special meeting of the city council Monday evening to consider the Gates water proposition made a week ago. From information gathered during the week members of the council seemed to be of the opinion that the people generally favor the outright municipal ownership of the water system rather than a partnership as suggested by Mr. Gates.

The matter was discussed pretty thoroughly and the present contract between the Heppner Light and Water Co. and the city was examined. It was finally agreed to make Mr. Gates an offer to buy his company's interest in the water system at the price of \$15,000 that amount being in addition to the \$15,000 interest already held by the city in the water system. A resolution to that effect was adopted.

EDWARD NOTSON LANDS FROM FRANCE

S. E. Notson received a telegram from his son Edward Wednesday morning announcing his safe arrival at Newport News, Va., from France. Edward was with a regiment of field artillery on the Mexican border until a few months ago when the regiment was ordered to France. They got on the ocean just in time to be caught in the big storm in September and they were lucky to make port without having to swim for it. Edward's telegram stated that he had a letter from his brother, Lee, just before sailing and that he was all right. Lee has been in France about a year and has seen something of the war.

IONE BANK ELECTS OFFICERS

At the annual stockholders' meeting of the Bank of Ione, held January 9, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—J. E. Cronan.
Cashier—H. M. Cummins.
Assistant cashier—F. E. Cronan.
Directors—E. L. Padberg, M. R. Morgan, Aaron Peterson, W. J. Blake and J. E. Cronan.

Officers of the bank report a prosperous year's business.

SHEPHERDERS TO ORGANIZE

George Davis, expert shepherd, informs the Herald that the members of his craft are about to organize a union at Heppner. He says that farm hands and ordinary laborers are scabbing on the herders and they propose to organize and tell their competitors where to head in it. About a dozen herders got together Sunday morning and talked the matter over and a big news story is liable to break one of these days.

MONUMENT BUSINESS CHANGES HANDS

Wm. White & Co., leading merchants of Monument, have sold their general merchandise business in that town as well as all their other interests to William and Ella Hamilton, of Hamilton.

A SNAP FOR SOME RUSTLER

A party owning a good paying business, unable because of physical disability to handle it, offers his equipment, field and good will for \$1950. The owner is able to show any prospective purchaser that this business will pay any live man better than \$1.50 per hour. For further information inquire at the Herald Office.

Mr. and Mrs. Dell Ward who were seriously ill for some time have recovered and are on the streets again.

NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION

Department of the Interior, U. S. Land Office at The Dalles, Oregon January 10, 1919.

Notice is hereby given that Hollie Leathers, of Hardman, Oregon, who on February 24th 1914, made Homestead Entry, No. 612571, for NW 1/4 NW 1/4, Section 14, Township 6, South, Range 25, East, Willamette Meridian, has filed notice to make final three year Proof, to establish claim to the land above described, before C. C. Patterson, U. S. Commissioner, at Heppner, Oregon, on the 14th day of February 1919.

Claimant names as witnesses: Joseph Weisler, of Parkers Mill, Ore. Francis M. Miller, of Hardman Ore. Bert Bleakman, of Hardman Oregon. William Lowen of Hardan Oregon.
H. FRANK WOODCOCK,
REGISTER

RECENT DEATHS

White

Clarence M. White, a well known young attorney of Pendleton, died at St. Anthony hospital in that city Friday, January 3, 1919, aged about 40 years. Deceased was a native of York, Nebraska. He formerly resided in Heppner and for a time was deputy district attorney for this county when Judge G. W. Phelps was district attorney for Morrow and Umatilla counties. He is survived by his wife, a former Heppner girl, daughter of Mrs. W. W. Smead, and twin daughters. The remains were taken to Salem for burial where his parents, brothers and sisters reside.

Pleiss

Henry Pleiss died at the Heppner hospital Sunday night of influenza, aged 26 years 2 months and four days. He had been sick but a few days. He leaves a widow. The funeral was held this afternoon short services being held at the grave by Rev. H. A. Noyes.

STOCK RANCHES SELL

Stock ranches on upper Willow creek and Balm fork always seem to be in demand. Two important deals have recently been closed in that section involving some 8000 acres.

G. U. Krebs has sold his fine ranch containing 4350 acres to John C. McEntire. The land touches both Willow creek and Balm fork and embraces a large amount of fine wheat land. Mr. McEntire is one of the county's leading sheepmen and all that are familiar with his recent purchase agree that he made a good buy. The consideration was \$53,000 or about \$12 per acre. Mr. Krebs has moved to Portland to spend the winter.

Clark & Gray who bought the McEe ranch on Skinner creek some 18 months ago and who later disposed of a portion of the tract to C. A. Minor closed out the remaining 3700 acres to C. A. Minor & Jerm O'Conner. The consideration in this deal which included some stock was around \$50,000.

RETURNED FROM OVERSEAS

Burney Cox, son of Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Cox, of Rhea creek, returned to Heppner last evening after having spent the past nine months in England with the American Expeditionary forces. Burney is some peeved that he didn't get over to France where he could have gotten a taste of the real thing and been in at the finish but being a good soldier he had to go where he was told. Burney landed in New York the day President Wilson sailed for Europe and feels somewhat flattered that the president would not leave till he got back to sort of look after things.

WOODSON ATTENDS RECONSTRUCTION MEETING

Hon. C. E. Woodson, who will represent Morrow and Umatilla counties in the state legislature this winter, left for Salem the middle of the week going early in order to attend the reconstruction convention in Portland.

Mr. Woodson believes there will be many important questions connected with reconstruction work come before the legislature this winter and that the Portland meeting would aid members of the body in getting together on a program.

This district is fortunate in having a man of Mr. Woodson's ability and integrity as its representative at Salem. He is thorough and painstaking in his work, has a habit of going to the bottom of a subject and is intimately familiar with needs of the district.

Phill Cohn has moved his office into the office of the McRoberts-Cohn Auto company. It is not known yet definitely who will occupy the room he vacates.

Miss Shad, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Andrews is recovering from an operation for appendicitis. The trouble was manifested in its worst form and for several days her condition was critical.

RECEIVED. SENTENCE—Since confessing to moonshining Ed Berry has been sentenced by a jury of our best citizens and will commence serving his sentence as soon as the weather permits at painting, paperhanging or signs. Let him hang paint or sign for you. 37c

WHAT IS BEST FOR HEPPNER?

THAT HEPPNER is today without a sufficient supply of water to meet her needs is admitted by everyone. The question is no longer debatable. That the town must have more water, better water and less expensive water if it is ever to grow and prosper or even hold its present population and business is self evident. There was a time when Heppner, in common with most other towns in the cow country did not need water except in small quantities for making coffee and mixing sour dough. It was not in much favor as a beverage in those good old days neither did blue flannel shirts and overalls call for much extravagance in use of the fluid for laundry purposes. Conditions have changed however, and changed conditions always call for new methods in meeting them.

Mr. Gates' proposition, as published in the Herald last week, gives the people of Heppner a definite starting point from which to tackle the water problem. It is worth investigating. The proposal was evidently made in good faith by Mr. Gates and the people of Heppner should take hold of it in equally good faith and consider it and thresh it out from every angle. It is not a question of opposing or accepting the proposition simply because it was made by Mr. Gates who is president and principal owner of the Heppner Light & Water Co. It is a matter of deciding what is best for Heppner.

Mr. Gates' proposal is for a partnership between himself and the city under which a water supply would be acquired on upper Willow creek and after being used first to develop power for Mr. Gates' electric plant, would be piped to Heppner for domestic and other necessary purposes. Under this plan Mr. Gates would continue to own and operate the light and power plant and the city would, after 15 years, and upon payment to Mr. Gates of \$50,000 plus the cost of securing the water right and all right of way become the sole owner of the water system.

If the above plan is not satisfactory, however, Mr. Gates offers to sell the water system to the city on an arbitrated value and join with the city in building the canal from the intake to the point where he would use the water for power purposes, the city to build, own and operate the water system from that point in its entirety.

Still another proposition for Heppner to consider is whether or not it would be better for the town to own and operate both the water and electric plants; whether, after incurring the expense of bringing water from the mountains for municipal use which can be first used to develop electrical energy, it would be a good business proposition for the town to tackle the entire problem. In other words can the city generate its own electricity and deliver it to patrons cheaper than the patrons can buy it from Mr. Gates' company under rates governed by the Public Service Commission? Perhaps no man in Heppner is qualified to decide that matter; it is a question that can be intelligently answered only by an expert electrical engineer.

The Herald is strongly in favor of absolute municipal ownership of the water system. Water is one of the essentials of life and the only questions that should have weight in considering the proposition of supplying water to the people are those of purity, abundance and cost. Impure water threatens the health and lives of the people. Insufficient supply is a menace to their property from fire, to their lawns and gardens from drought and to their comfort and cleanliness from dust. Excessive cost imposes the heaviest burden on those least able to bear it.

When a municipal water supply is controlled by an individual or private corporation whose money is invested therein the question of dividends must of necessity enter into the business. Nobody should be expected to invest his money and give his time in supplying any commodity to the public at a loss or without profit. If he did so he would, sooner or later, "go broke" and the service would stop. The question of dividends or profits does not enter into the management of a municipally owned water system. The only concern in the management of such a plant is, or should be, to supply an abundance of the purest water possible to obtain at the lowest possible cost to the people.

No sensible farmer would buy water for his ranch from a neighbor and haul it home or even pump it from his own deep well at a heavy expense if it were possible for him, at a cost within his means, to pipe the water from a mountain spring to his house and barns and feed yards. But Heppner has been doing just that.

The Herald is not here to tell the people of

LOCAL ITEMS

City Marshal Curran reported that three "flu" flags waving to the Heppner breezes Saturday afternoon.

Matt Halverson, one of the big wheat farmers of the Ione country, was a business visitor in Heppner Monday.

The influenza is abating to such an extent the last few days that Superintendent Boltrott hopes it will be practicable to reopen the schools next Monday.

Miss Strick teacher of Domestic Science in the high school, who was reported to have resigned her position here to accept a place with the O. A. C., has decided to remain in Heppner and continue in her present position.

Miss Peggy O'Rourke went to Baker last Friday afternoon where she will spend a month visiting friends. Miss O'Rourke expects to make a visit to her old home in Ireland during the coming spring or as soon as ocean travel conditions become normal.

Emmett Cochran and Roy V. Whiteis made a business trip to Monument Friday returning Monday. Mr. Cochran went over to look after a band of cattle he is feeding there and Mr. Whiteis to look after his extensive insurance business in that section of Grant county.

City Marshal Curran tells this on himself: He was nailing up a white "flu" flag on the porch of a Heppner home one day last week when a small girl opened the door and inquired: "Mr. Marshal, don't you think it would look a lot better for you to put up the stars and stripes than that white rag?"

J. B. Sparks, movie magnate of Heppner and Condon, who is living in the Gilliam capital this winter, was in Heppner several days during the week. Mrs. Sparks and Sparks Junior are both "flu" victims at her mothers in Ione and as everything is closed tight in Condon J. B. is spending part of his time in Heppner because he likes the town.

W. T. Matlock went down to Ceell Friday to take another look at a little band of 4000 of his young breeding ewes he sent down from the Hager ranch to be wintered on the rich alfalfa hay for which the Ceell country is justly famous. "Bill" can't enjoy his meals quite right if he fails to admire that little band of ewes every day or two. Max Smith acted as chieftain in escorting the 4000 famous beauties to Ceell.

Prof. Boltrott has received a letter from Troy McCraw, former Heppner high school boy, who is now at the Mare Island naval training station. Troy wants an affidavit from the principal showing that he was a high school student at the time of his enlistment in the navy, as an aid in securing his discharge. Troy wants to get work on the outside as soon as possible in order to earn sufficient money to carry him through high school when it opens next fall.

DEMAND FOR TELEGRAPH OPERATORS

Young men and women trained in few months under the supervision of a successful Dispatcher Indorsed by Railroads. Opportunities to earn expenses. Write for Bulletin. Telegraph Dept., 218 Railway Exchange Bldg., Portland, Ore. 31d36

\$500 REWARD \$500

Notice is hereby given that I will pay a reward of Five Hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the arrest and conviction of any person or persons stealing any of my horses or cattle from my pastures or from the range.

Stock branded as follows: Horses, JK connected on right shoulder. Yearlings and 2-year-olds, bar over JK connected on right shoulder.

Cattle, JK connected on left hip and side. Yearlings and 2-year-olds, bar over JK connected on left hip and side.

JOHN KILKENNY,
Heppner, Ore.

Dated at Heppner, Oregon, May 10,

THE "VIRGINIAN" WAS WRITTEN IN HEPPNER

Owen Wister's story of western cowboy life, "The Virginian," which was and is the most popular and true to-life portrayal of the every day doings of the old time cowboy ever written and which is as popular in drama form as in the book, was on the bill at one of the Portland theatres last week which recalls the fact, not generally known, that the story was written in the old Palace Hotel in Heppner.

Mr. Wister, who is a native of New England, traveled extensively through the western cattle country in the early 90's gathering material for his book and while he chose Wyoming as the setting for his story perhaps because of the bigness of the great outdoors there, he came to eastern Oregon for most of his characters and local coloring. The leading character is said to have been found in Harney county but many of the thrilling scenes were picked up among the old cattlemen of the Heppner and John Day country.

The town of Ione is described in the story as the Wyoming town where the Virginian first met the "school ma'am" and where he later beat "Trampas" on a quick draw and got his man.

Old timers in Heppner remember Wister well although he did not mix much with "bunch" and made but a few close friends. He spent much time with J. W. Redington, who at that time was publisher of the Heppner Gazette and no doubt got many inspirations for his book from him. Redington was an old time western newspaperman and knew the cattle country intimately. He was a writer of ability and on occasion wielded a vitriolic pen. Phil Metcalf was running the Palace hotel at the time of Wister's visit here and he also aided the easterner in gathering "local color" for the story. Heppner was a rather "colorful" town in those days.

NEW AUTO CO. ORGANIZED

The McRoberts-Cohn Auto Company is the latest business firm to be established in Heppner with W. T. McRoberts and Harold Cohn as the partners and owners. The new firm will occupy the recently completed McRoberts building which is one of the largest and most modern garages in Eastern Oregon. In addition to ample storage room for cars in the front part of the building a spacious repair department will occupy the rear. This shop will be equipped with the most modern machinery and expert workmen only will be employed insuring first-class and quick service in all kinds of repairs.

Mr. McRoberts is one of Heppner's most successful business men having made a success of the livery and feed business and Mr. Cohn while yet a young man enjoys an enviable reputation as a successful auto salesman. The firm will handle several of the leading lines of cars and trucks and will no doubt enjoy an extensive and profitable business.

JULY 4 FIRE STILL SMOULDERS

The destructive fire that destroyed a large portion of Heppner last July 4th is still burning. The coal bins in the basement of the Palace hotel were well filled when the fire came and when the brick walls fell the burning coals were buried under the debris, making a sort of a coke oven. Smoke was discovered issuing from the bricks last Sunday and investigation shows that the fire is still smouldering. Now's that for "keeping the home fires burning!"

Mr. and Mrs. Tom O'Brien, of Butler creek, were in the city Saturday. Mr. O'Brien reports the influenza as having almost entirely abated in his neighborhood.

Heppner what to do. Most of them have been here longer than this paper has and their good judgment and business foresight can be relied on, once they undertake the solution of any problem. The province of a local newspaper is to direct the attention of its readers to matters of public concern which seem to call for study and solution in doing that in this matter of the water problem the Herald has an abiding faith that the ultimate verdict of the people will be exactly "what is best for Heppner."