

# HEPPNER HERALD

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## EXCAVATION RECALLS INDIAN TROUBLE DAYS

### WORKMEN ON ELKS' BUILDING UNCOVER REMAINS OF FORT

Stockade Built in 1878 to Protect Settlers From Redskins On War Path

Workmen engaged in excavating the foundation for the Elks' building last week uncovered the remains of several posts which formed a portion of the fort built by Heppner people during the summer of 1878 as a protection for their women and children against the attacks of hostile Indians then on the war path, thereby recalling to many old settlers the thrilling days and nights of that period when the Red man was on his last big rampage throughout the Inland Empire. The fort was rather hastily constructed of strong posts set firmly in the ground then planked up to a height of seven or eight feet and banked up with earth on the inside. The structure was covered with planks and earth. It was large enough to hold some 200 people and numerous "port holes" were provided through which the hardy frontiersmen could draw a bead on any skulking Indian that might show himself.

George W. Swaggart, who was a resident of Heppner in the troublous days of 1878, and who is still a hale and hearty pioneer citizen of the city, talked interestingly of the Indian days to a Herald reporter last Saturday while inspecting the relics of the former stronghold and according to his story if the people of those pioneer days had their hardships they also had a certain degree of compensation in the way of fun, frolic and jokes.

When the hostile Indians invaded this section of Oregon, Mr. Swaggart said, the settlers from Rhea and Willow brook, Hinton creek and Big and Little Butter creeks moved their families to Heppner and went into camp. Some 200 people gathered at this point and their camp were pitched along the creek for a mile. When it was decided that a stronghold should be built for the protection of the women and children the men all turned to with a will and the structure was soon completed.

The next move was to organize a body of fighting men and soon every able-bodied man in the settlement had enlisted. Uncle Jack Morrow, one of the first settlers of the county and sometimes known as the father of Heppner, was elected as commanding officer of the company and one morning, mounted on a fine white saddle horse he called out his command on Main street for review and also to give instructions relative to the coming campaign. After lining his men up along the street Mr. Morrow rode away for a few moments to look after some other matter, and when he returned not a man of his command was in sight. They had all adjourned to the three saloons then in existence, to get a drink. Uncle Jack was furious; he called them all out and lined them up and then opened up on the bunch in real, old frontier fashion.

"You booze-guzzling pirates," he shouted; "you can all go where you'll never have cold feet again and I don't care a whoop if the redskins come in and scalp the last one of you." They gave their chief three rousing cheers, however, told him they would stick to the last ditch and were acquitted of being A. W. O. L.

One day some of the fellows who had just arrived from the sheep camps indulged in redsye more well than wisely and got noisy. The three saloon men, of whom Mr. Swaggart was one, got together and decided in the interest of the public weal to close their places. Within 24 hours, however, Mr. Swaggart said it looked like every son of a gun in camp had a bottle and they were all stepping high in the air and so in the interest of sobriety and war-time preparedness the saloons were reopened.

No attack was ever made on Heppner but several sheep herders were killed by the hostiles in the foothills near the timber line which was as far as the Indians cared to venture.

Sentries were placed to guard the camp at night during the trouble and one night it fell to Bill Dutton, and an Englishman whose name has been forgotten to stand guard. Whether it happened to be the day the saloons were closed is not now remembered.

## HENRY S. NEEL KILLED WHEN CAR GOES OVER

### WELL-KNOWN STOCKMAN MEETS DEATH ON GRADE

Details Lacking But Believed Auto Left Grade On Bad Curve

Friends of Henry S. Neel, in this city, were shocked and grieved Sunday evening when a telephone message received here from John Day announced his death which occurred several hours after his car left the steep and devious grade on the road between John Day and Canyon City. Mr. Neel was caught beneath the heavy car and so crushed that death resulted as above stated.

Particulars of the unfortunate affair are lacking but it is believed that in negotiating the hill Mr. Neel lost control of his car or the steering gear failed him on one of the many bad curves and the machine turned turtle.

Emmett Moore, also of Lone Rock, was with Mr. Neel when the accident happened and he was only slightly injured.

Mr. Neel was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Neel, who are respected pioneers of the Lone Rock section and was married, and his widow and two children, Mrs. Roy Ashbaugh and Scott Neel, survive him.

The funeral will be held at Lone Rock tomorrow (Wednesday) at 2:00 o'clock under the auspices of Heppner lodge of Elks of which deceased was a member.

### ATTENDANCE CROWDS THE 3000 MARK

With a gain of more than 100 per cent in attendance over that of 1915—the last normal college year before the war—O. A. C. opened its doors Monday, September 22, to more than 2000 students. A total of 2682 young men and women were reported up to noon of the fourth day. Of this number 725 were registered in engineering, 537 in agriculture, 457 in some economics, 473 in commerce, and the others in various subjects. The men outnumbered the women about 2 1/2 times.

hered but anyway when the Canyon stage rolled in just before day break the driver narrowly missed running over two recumbent forms in the road. Stopping his team he first thought he had found two dead men but later discovered they were only sound asleep. When the alarm was given at the saloons a bunch of rangers got together and reported the affair to Uncle Jack, gravely demanding that the slumbering guards be forthwith court-martialed and shot. Uncle Jack, being well versed in the general habits of the settlers, replied that a court-martial might be all right but that he thought the culprits were pretty well shot already and let it go at that.

One day a party of tenderfeet were doing some scouting.

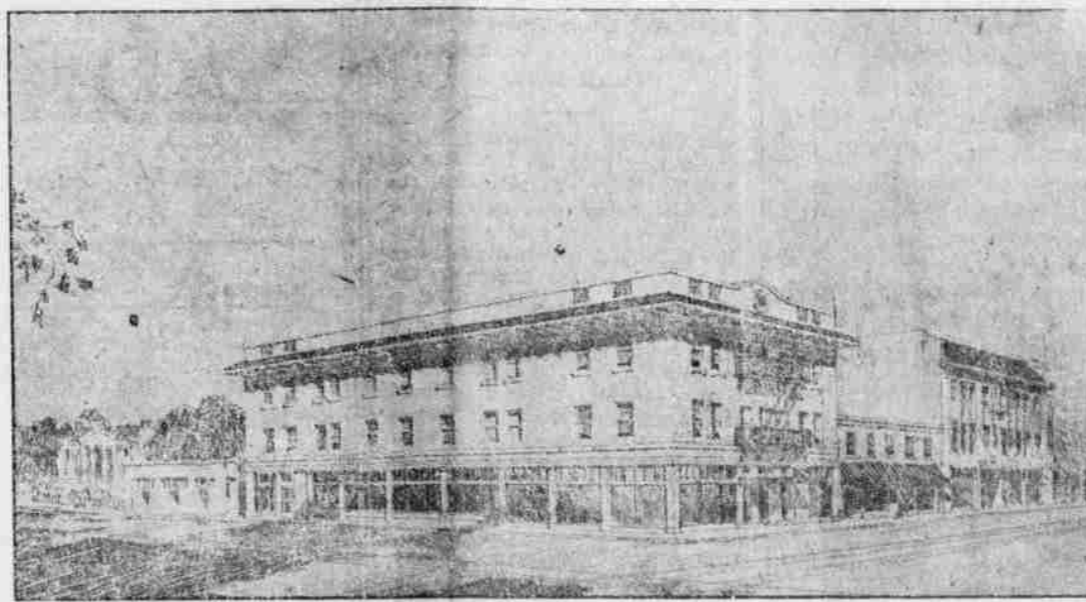
When they ran on to a party of Columbia River squaws (that tribe had always been friendly to the whites) who had been out picking wool. They had heard of the hostiles and were scurrying for their home camp on the Columbia for safety.

Indians all looked alike to the tenderfeet, however, and they captured the squaws and brought them into camp as prisoners of war. The old squaws were badly scared and in desperation one of them mounted a pony and made a sensational attempt to escape. Her captors followed and brought her back, fortunately without shooting her, and the old timers interested and the squaws were sent on their way rejoicing.

It was during this time that a sheepman named Jewell and another man were killed at Willow springs on Butter creek. Jewell had been riding looking after his sheep and when he reached home was putting his horse in the barn when an Indian concealed in the stall shot him. Jewell got away and hid in the brush for several days and was finally found and taken to Pendleton. He had a bad wound in the thigh but was on the road to recovery when word came in that a big fight was on near Pendleton and so Jewell was he that excitement and check the news gave him caused his death in a short time.

Bruce Kelly, now a prosperous sheepman of Heppner, was a small boy at the time and he and his mother were among the campers in Heppner during the trouble.

## Building of Heppner's New \$82,000 Hotel Now Assured



### MORROW CO. CAPTURES HONORS AT STATE FAIR

County Agent L. A. Hunt has returned from the State fair at Salem bringing word that the Morrow County exhibit captured the blue ribbon and a \$150 cash prize at the big show, carrying away similar honors and simoleons at the Land Products show at Gresham the previous week.

Mr. Hunt accompanied W. W. Smead to the two big exhibitions in charge of the Morrow County exhibit and he returns much pleased with the results accomplished. Mr. Smead has had charge of this county's exhibit at the western Oregon shows for several years and is recognized as an expert in arranging attractive and prize-winning exhibits. Mrs. Lena Snell Shurte also attended the state fair in charge of the county school exhibits. Mr. Hunt states that while the school award had not been made when he left the fair Friday evening it was generally conceded that Boardman school would carry off the honors in that that division. Mr. Smead and Mrs. Shurte have not yet returned.

### BUILDING NOTES

The walls of the Gilliam & Bisbee building are almost completed and T. G. Dennisee, superintendent of construction, is crowding the work along.

The building is a "Moose" in size, of first-class construction and will stand as a monument to the enterprise of its builders who, regardless of high prices of labor and material are in this way doing their bit in the reconstruction of Heppner.

Things are looking quite business-like around the new Elks' building where Contractor Traver is demonstrating the fact that he knows a thing or two about keeping building operations moving along. At the rate things are now going the boys will need to begin arrangements for their house-warming party long before the idea of March roll around which was the original date set for completion of the building.

Mrs. Esther Turner, who recently bought the Ayers dwelling on Chase street, is proving what an intelligent and energetic woman can do when she undertakes a project. With the aid of a small army of carpenters, painters and other artisans, Mrs. Turner is building on and adding to the former domicile for one family until she is making of it an apartment house with room for six or seven families with plenty room left for board in which to operate a first-class boarding house.

While active work has not yet actually started on the new hotel it is good to know that the old buildings are all out of the way and the "deck cleared for action."

Read The Herald for all the news

## NO MORE HOTEL DELAY NEEDED MONEY ASSURED

### BUSINESS MEN GUARANTEE \$82,000 YET REQUIRED

"Show-Down" Meeting Held Saturday When 20 Citizens Got Behind Project For Keeps

The new Heppner hotel is assured. That matter was definitely settled at a meeting of original stockholders held in I. O. O. F. hall last Saturday evening when a report of the present situation was made by C. L. Sweek, secretary-treasurer of the hotel company and after discussing the situation rather fully the 20 men present agreed to guarantee the amount of stock subscriptions yet needed and get active construction work started without further delay.

According to Mr. Sweek's report there was already subscribed stock in the hotel company to the amount of \$34,300. The cost of the lot and building complete is fixed at \$82,000. Of this amount 50 per cent, or \$41,000 will be secured in the form of a loan from a loan company in Salt Lake conditional on stock being subscribed locally in an equal amount.

The amount of stock already subscribed left a deficit of \$47,700 but as there will be some other necessary expenses incident to organization, etc., it was decided to guarantee the raising of \$8,000 more and with but one dissenting voice the proposition was adopted. Every man of the twenty is now bound in the amount of \$400 to see the project through to a successful termination and every man Jack of them is now constituted an active committee of one to sell stock to his neighbors. No doubt was expressed but that when the matter is put up to the loyal citizens of Heppner who have not yet subscribed they will get behind the hotel project and speedily take their town out of slow-town class by doing their part in financing this much-needed institution.

John F. Vaughn was chairman of the meeting and in his introductory remarks he made plain the position Heppner has placed herself in by hesitating and dillydallying about building a hotel. Mr. Vaughn, as chairman of the building committee has given a lot of time and energy to the project but he declared he was ready to go the limit or as much further as may be necessary to secure a first-class hotel for Heppner.

Other speakers expressed similar views and after the guarantee was made the building committee got busy compiling a list of business men and citizens who are well able to take stock in a hotel who have not yet done so. These men will all be interviewed within the next few days and doubtless the complete financing of the hotel in a way that will work so hardship on any one but which will give every man who owns property, or conducts a business or expects to continue to live in Heppner the opportunity of doing his town a real service.

### NOTICE TO TAX-PAYERS

Monday, Oct. 6, 1919, is the last day on which the 1918 taxes can be paid without additional costs. After that date one per cent interest is required and after Nov. 6th the law requires a penalty of five per cent to be charged. It is hoped that few will be on the delinquent list.

E. M. SHUTT, Sheriff.

### JAMES H. WYLAND PASSES

James H. Wyland, a pioneer stockman of the Hardman county, died at his home Tuesday of last week following a stroke of paralysis which attacked him the previous Saturday while riding horseback not far from his home.

He is survived by a widow, Mrs. Leora Wyland, one son, E. K. Wyland, and two daughters, Mrs. Epplar Geise and Miss Naoma Wyland. Funeral services were held in the Federated church in this city Thursday morning, Rev. H. A. Noyes conducting the services which were under the direction of Hardman Lodge I. O. O. F.

Interment was in the Masonic cemetery.

James Huston Wayland was born near Oregon City, December 27, 1860. He lived in and around Portland until he was 16 years old when he came to eastern Oregon where he has since resided. He was married to Miss Leora Keithley November 6, 1884. In addition to the children named above one son, James Stewart Wayland, was drowned in the Heppner flood.

### RESTAURANT REMOVAL TEMPORARY PROCEEDING

There having been some criticism of the action of the city council in permitting the removal of the old restaurant building to another location within the fire limits it is only fair to all parties interested to state that the removal was permitted only as a temporary proposition and as a matter of expediency in providing more accommodations for the public in securing meals. The two restaurants have been crowded beyond their capacity ever since the fire and with the big influx of men the building boom now started will bring to the town it was considered a matter of public welfare to provide more accommodations along that line.

The permit granted Messrs. Vaughn and White to move the building is only temporary and can be recalled by the council at any time and this will doubtless be done as soon as other and better accommodations are provided.

### MOVE TO NEWBERG

C. E. Jones and family departed from Heppner last Thursday morning for Newberg, Oregon, where Mr. Jones recently purchased a practically new two-story, nine-room, bungalow home built on the latest lines and with all modern improvements. The property includes five good sized lots set to fruit and Mr. Jones thinks makes an ideal home.

Mr. Jones will return to Morrow county as soon as he gets his family settled in their new home, to look after some business affairs and as he still retains his realty interests here it is no safe bet that the family will not return to Heppner sooner or later.

### FORMER RESIDENT VISITS

J. C. Stapleton, a former well known resident of this place, when he owned the old Minor ranch, near the depot, is a visitor here this week from Clackamas, Oregon, where he now resides. Mr. Stapleton is visiting his daughter, Mrs. W. E. Cummings.

Classified ads on page 5.

## CITY'S GRAVITY WATER LINE NOW ASSURED

### ENGINEER SMITH HOLDS CONFERENCE WITH COUNCIL

"Plenty Water"—Smith. "Plenty Money"—Mayor. Everybody Joins in Chorus, "Get Busy"

It was a mighty interesting meeting at the council chamber Monday night when Capt. C. A. Smith, of Burns & McDonnell, drainage engineers of Kansas City, in charge of the engineering work for the gravity water system discussed the project with the mayor and councilmen.

Capt. Smith made the preliminary surveys here last summer and returned a few days ago to investigate the source of supply at the end of perhaps the driest season in the history of Morrow county.

Capt. Smith reports that at the forks of Willow creek he finds an ample water supply for all city needs for years to come and that without by any means draining the creek of its full flow.

For the purpose of replacing the amount of water taken from Willow creek for city purposes Capt. Smith also took measurements of the water flow in Ditch creek and made surveys for a pipe line by which the water from that stream will be diverted into Willow creek thereby avoiding any interference with the sanctity of old irrigation water rights on Willow creek.

Contrary to idle reports and street rumors Capt. Smith found a very considerable flow of water in Ditch creek at this time and the cost of diverting the flow to Willow creek will be practically nominal. This fact will have a tendency to overcome any antagonism to the city's project among the land owners along the creek.

Capt. Smith favors redwood pipe for the main pipe line from the source of supply to Heppner strongly advised against the use of concrete pipe unless the contractor would give a binding guarantee on the stability of his work. Concrete pipe for such purposes seems to be yet something of an experiment and the price of steel or cast iron pipe is practically prohibitive.

Capt. Smith left this morning for Portland to confer with the state board of health on matters pertaining to the water system but will return in a few days before going east.

Mr. Hickey, an experienced construction engineer who has had charge of the construction of a gravity system at Everett, Washington, for several years, is now here and will remain in Heppner as resident engineer for Burns & McDonnell during the construction of the Heppner system.

A resolution was passed Monday evening calling an election for October 25th for the purpose of amending the city charter to the extent of legalizing and safeguarding the municipally owned gravity water project. Water bonds in the amount of \$100,000 will be authorized at the same election.

The resolution above referred to is published in this issue of the Herald and should be carefully read by every voter and property-owner in the city.

Mayor Yunglin and the members of council express confidence that the bonds will be authorized by the voters and the city has assurance that the bonds will sell at a handsome premium. When Capt. Smith assured the council that he had found plenty of water the mayor replied, "we have plenty of money to build it, now get busy," and all present joined in the chorus, "Get busy."

### FORMER TEACHER TREATS SENIORS FOR CLASS

Members of the senior class of Heppner high were remembered in a very acceptable manner the other day when Mrs. Albert Ironquist, of Hood River, sent the class a box of Iron River apples. Mrs. Ironquist, (nee Miss Struck), was former teacher of domestic sciences and art in the high school and last year was the very much beloved class advisor of the class of '20 the present seniors. A letter from Mrs. Ironquist accompanying the present stated that the apples were picked by her own hands and specially packed for the class by her husband, which fact no doubt added an additional quality to the flavor and toothsome of the fruit.