

# HEPPNER HERALD

Volume 7. Heppner, Oregon, Tuesday, October 12, 1920. Number 24

## SERVICE COMMISSION HOLDS SESSION HERE

### PETITION FOR HIGHER RATES FROM POWER CO. CONSIDERED

Company Losing Money Claim; Poor Service Charged. Matter Under Advisement.

H. H. Corey, member of the Oregon Public Service commission, presided at a hearing in this city last Friday when the petition recently filed with the commission by the Heppner Light & Water Co., praying for relief from loss in the operation of their plant by the allowance of an increase in rates charged of approximately 25 per cent was considered.

Mr. Corey was accompanied by Mr. Green, a hydraulic and civil engineer, who represented the commission in investigating technical phases of the inquiry.

Sam E. Van Vactor conducted the hearing for the Light & Power Co., J. J. Nys, city attorney, appeared for the City of Heppner and F. H. Robinson, of Ione, represented that municipality.

H. V. Gates, president of the Company, and his son, O. B. Gates, who is also interested in the company, were also present.

The company offered its books and records from the office in evidence showing that under present conditions they are really operating at a loss due to the high cost of fuel, labor and other necessary supplies and materials.

A number of witnesses were examined on behalf of the city, their testimony being to the effect that the service is poor in some cases being hardly sufficient to operate motors where heavy machines are used. Among witnesses testifying along this line were Vawter Crawford, J. W. Fritsch, John Calmus and Mr. Thornton of the Heppner Garage. It is claimed by the company, however, that in some cases where complaint has been made, investigation disclosed the fact that motors not intended for this particular form of current are in use.

The point was also raised by members of the city council that during the negotiations for the sale of the water plant to the city several months ago, that Mr. Gates had made the statement that the water proposition was losing money for the company but that the light and power branch of the business was paying satisfactory returns. Mr. Gates admitted having made such a statement at that time but contended that at that time the operating expenses of the two branches had not been segregated and that after having done this experience proved to the company that the light and power branch was also running the company behind financially.

Mr. Gates also testified that the solution of the problem is to be found in the installation of a water power plant up the Willow Creek canyon where electric energy can be developed by water power, eliminating the heavy cost of steam operation. Such a plant, he declared, at this time of abnormally high priced construction will cost \$49,690, that the public service commission will allow the company but eight per cent return on such an investment and that, at this time, such an expenditure is prohibitive.

The hearing was concluded Friday evening and the matter was taken under advisement by Mr. Corey for consideration by the commission as a whole. It is probable a decision will be announced within a few weeks.

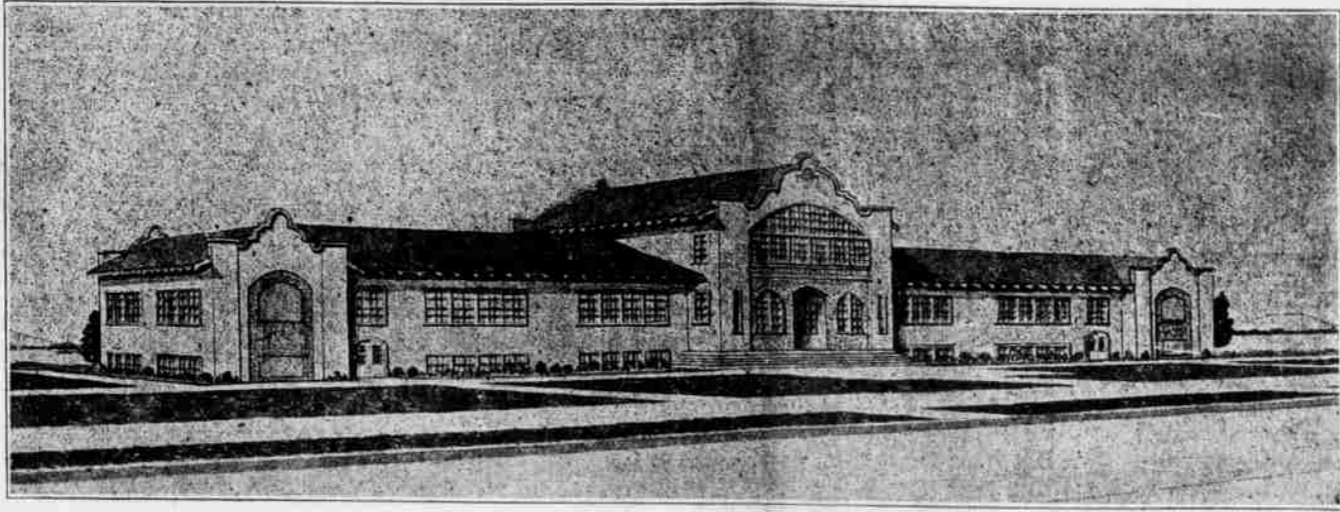
### CIVIC CLUB SOCIAL

The Civic Club will have a Social and business meeting combined next Friday afternoon, October 15, at 2:30 P. M., at the home of Mrs. H. E. Van Vactor. All members and persons interested are requested to be present.

ADA M. AYERS, Pres.

Frank Gilliam, senior partner in the firm of Gilliam & Hisebe, and one of Heppner's pioneer business men, has been seriously ill at his home for several days. He is reported slightly improved this morning.

**STAR TONIGHT (TUESDAY)**  
"Parlor, Bedroom and Bath." One big long laugh.



BOARDMAN PUBLIC SCHOOL 1920, SHOWING COMPLETED BUILDING.

## PORT DEVELOPMENT IMPORTANT MATTER

### COST OF PROJECT FALLS ON MULTNOMAH COUNTY

Measure Will Help All Producers in State by Increasing Ocean Commerce

Considerable interest is being aroused in all sections of the state over the initiative measure to be voted on November second, known as the "Port of Portland Dock Commission Consolidation Bill."

A determined effort is being put forth in Portland to thoroughly acquaint the people throughout the state with the importance of adopting this bill in November.

The measure provides for the consolidation of the Port of Portland and the Dock Commission of that city and gives to the consolidated body sufficient funds to dredge and maintain a 30 ft. channel in the Willamette and Columbia rivers from Portland to the sea. It also provides for the enlargement and betterment of the port facilities in the harbor at Portland.

The cost of this work will fall only upon the property within the Port of Portland, which is practically Multnomah county, but under the constitution of this state this taxing and bonding power cannot be granted to the Port of Portland except by the people of the state.

Sponsors for the bill point to the fact that if Portland ever becomes a great port of entry the entire state will greatly profit as a result. Oregon producers must have access to the sea and the only way to get the grain, wool, livestock products, lumber and other products of this state to the markets of the world is through the Port of Portland, which means cheaper freight and a greater return to the producer, which is the one thing that the whole state is interested in.

### "DRY" LAW APPLIED TO DEAD PHEASANTS

Morrow county is a closed district for the shooting of Mountain pheasants. Umatilla county has an open season. Heppner sportsmen naturally go across the county line for a share of the sport, the season being now open.

Hunters fortunate enough to get a "bag" must look sharp after crossing the line into this county with their quarry if the contention of Deputy Game Warden Walter Matison is correct. Last Sunday the deputy "pinched" a well known Heppner man for having two dead birds in his possession in closed territory. The case has not yet come to trial because of the absence of District Attorney Notson from the city, but may come up today.

Some lawyers claim that the case will not "stick" if it can be shown that the defendant came into possession of the birds legally.

It's sort of applying the "dry" law in a new way.

Jim Cary, Juniper canyon sheep man, is here on business this week.

## BOARDMAN PROJECT DISPLAYS PROGRESS

### School Buildings Typical of Community Development—Water, Soil and Sunshine Merge in Making Desert Bloom and Blossom as Rose

Typical of the wonderful community development of the Boardman irrigated district in northern Morrow county, are the two pictures of the Boardman community school presented on this page. The little shed-roofed shack at the bottom of the page represents the public school plant in operation at that place in 1916, only four short years ago, while the magnificent building pictured above, shows the completed building as it appears today.

The people who are developing the Boardman project are a cosmopolitan bunch, having been lured from many states to that section of present plenty and future promise, where water, soil and sunshine meet and merge their forces into a degree of productivity perhaps unequalled in any other spot in America. Once the brush is removed, the land leveled and water applied it seems that practically every variety of grains and grasses, fruit and flowers, root crops, vegetables, in fact everything that can be grown in the temperate zone, thrive and come to maturity in quick time and truly amazing quantity.

So far alfalfa is the principal commercial crop on the project, the present season's crop being estimated at around 8000 tons. The season's yield per acre is estimated at from 5 to 6 tons. Many of the fields have already yielded three cuttings and the fourth crop in some cases is ready for the mower.

The writer first visited Boardman in February, 1919, about 20 months ago and his latest visit made Thursday and Friday of last week, revealed most wonderful progress. Many new settlers have arrived and a large area of new land has been brought under cultivation and irrigation. Every farm is dotted with immense stacks of alfalfa hay and several baling crews are rushing the work of baling the product and putting it ready for market. A big hay warehouse is being erected near the depot by the Globe Milling Co. of Portland, with a capacity of 600 tons of hay which will be of great value to the producers. The people of Boardman have also recently joined with the hay producers of Hermiton, Irrigon and other irrigated

sections in forming a haygrowers association which will be useful in stabilizing prices and marketing the crop to advantage.

After driving several miles over the project Thursday afternoon the visitor realized that one factor in the changed appearance of the country since his first visit is the rapid growth of trees. Locusts, poplars and other shade trees that 20 months ago were mere switches, now tower in the air 15 or 20 feet and fruit trees also show a wonderful growth. A locust at the home of H. H. Weston, which was broken off at the ground last winter, shows a growth of good ten feet in one season which is not slow.

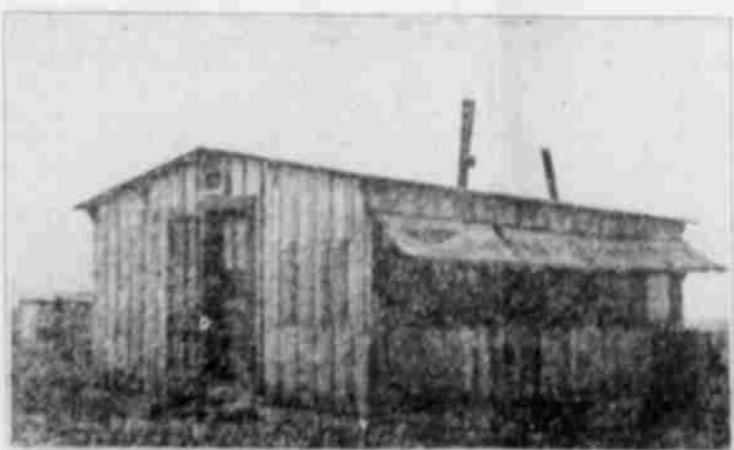
C. H. Dillabaugh, on whose ranch the barbecue was held last summer, is developing a fine place and specializing in blooded stock.

H. H. Crawford, a young civil engineer who came from Boise, Idaho, is developing a tract of 120 acres. Mr. Crawford was the first man to file on the project less than four years ago, and in view of the fact that since that time he went to France and helped win the war and was dangerously wounded by an explosion over there, he has made a great showing. His recovery was slow but in spite of all handicaps, he has cleared, leveled and seeded 60 acres of his ranch single-handed. Mr. Crawford's mother is with him and is one of the project's most enthusiastic boosters. Her flower garden is worth going to see.

T. E. Boyles is a recent settler. He came from the Palouse country where he owns a big wheat ranch but he has located at Boardman for keeps. He has just finished a modern 3-room residence equipped with every modern convenience including pressure water and electric lights and power. A gas engine operates the dynamo and pump. Mr. Boyles is a member of the school board.

Leslie Packard, a former Seattle business man is developing a fine tract and owns one of the best Jersey herds on the project.

Frank Otto is another old-timer. He was one of the first to get to work on his tract and is making a success. He is starting in the best (Continued on Fourth Page)



BOARDMAN PUBLIC SCHOOL 1916

## MIDDLE WEST BUREAU WILL MARKET WOOL

### 30,000,000 POUNDS ESTIMATE OF 1921 CROP

Growers of Country Asked to Cooperate in Advancing Interest of Industry

(By L. A. Hunt)

The delegates of the Middle Western Farm Bureau met at Manhattan, Kansas, September 21-22, and among other subjects took up the marketing of wool.

Soon after the organization of the Farm Bureau last spring, J. J. F. Waker was appointed chairman of the National Wool Marketing Committee for the Farm Bureau.

The committee has spent a very considerable time investigating marketing conditions and has submitted a partial plan for immediate operations. Under this plan the wool of the middle western states will be collected in seven central warehouses which will be cooperated together under the Federal Warehouse Act, in such a way that the wool receipts can be used to obtain money direct from the Federal Reserve Bank.

These states have incorporated States Wool Pools aggregating 30,000,000 pounds of wool. Thus in 1921 this will be combined in one pool and sold by one man.

When can Oregon get in line?

This committee found one large woolen mill which did not use one pound of virgin wool and have estimated that 75 per cent of woolen cloth on the market is shoddy, a very strong statement if true, as the vast percentage of this inferior cloth cannot but force a decline eventually in prices of woolen goods compared with cotton cloth.

This committee solicits the cooperation of the Wool Growers of the entire country and deserve to get it, for in six months they have caused more progress than all the agitation of the last five years.

### FARMERS BEWARE!

It has just been discovered that Mr. T. R. Miller, who claims to be a representative of the Oregon Poultry Association, is a Duke expert doing business in Morrow county in an effort to defraud poultry raisers of a lot of good money and to sell them a lot of sheep supplies at a very fancy price. The same company while they have been operating in Umatilla county for some time without detection were systematically picked out of Wasco county and most handsomely spanked by the farmers of Sherman county. We are sorry that we did not make the discovery of this money. Anyone interested in obtaining more authentic information concerning the same please get in touch with this office at once.

L. A. HUNT, County Agent.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Carter are taken from their Rhea creek ranch today.

**STAR TONIGHT (TUESDAY)**  
"Parlor, Bedroom and Bath." One big long laugh.

## NEW HOTEL MAY SOON OPEN FOR BUSINESS

### PAT FOLEY, SUCCESSFUL HOTEL MAN, CONSIDERING LEASE

Long Drawn Out Struggle For Needed Hostelry May Soon Be Ended

Heppner's fine new hotel, one of the most modern and best appointed buildings of its kind in eastern Oregon, may soon open.

Pat Foley, one of the most successful hotelmen in eastern Oregon, who for years operated the Foley hotel at La Grande, and who is now conducting two first-class hostleries in The Dalles, was in Heppner last Saturday looking over the new building and conferring with the board of directors of the hotel company with a view to taking a long time lease on the building and opening it for the accommodation of the traveling public without further delay.

A plan was worked out Saturday, it is understood, that seemed to be mutually satisfactory to Mr. Foley and the directors and Mr. Foley asked for a few days to consider the matter and confer with some of his associates before giving a final answer. The answer is expected within the week and it seemed to be the general feeling among local men interested that the deal will be consummated.

Perhaps no other loss occasioned by the big fire has been so keenly felt in Heppner and has caused as great actual loss in money, business and prestige as has the loss of the old Palace hotel, for while the old plant had its shortcomings it took care of the needs of the traveling public quite satisfactorily.

Construction of a new hotel had been delayed on account of war conditions and later high cost of building and tightened money conditions but the project was finally successfully financed and is now completed.

If the present deal goes through Heppner will soon again come into her own as a place where not only comfort but modern luxuries will be provided for travelers.

### AN ERROR CORRECTED.

Our esteemed contemporary, the Gazette-Times, takes exception to the Herald's statement last week to the effect that Mr. Harry Cummings "is a recognized leader of local republicanism," and in its usual fair and ungarbled style proceeds to describe the Herald as the "democratic press of Heppner," which is, perhaps the depth of newspaper depravity in the eyes of our neighbor. Being an independent newspaper and disposed to be fair to everybody the Herald is glad to correct its error. We should have said "Mr. Cummings and the editor of the Gazette-Times are recognized leaders of local republicanism," as it appears they are the only two people in Heppner who are disposed to take the Cummings' meeting seriously.

A sense of humor is sometimes a mighty fine thing to cultivate.

### PIONEER LADY HONORED

A pleasant social event was the afternoon party given last Saturday by Mrs. Lena Snell Shurtz, in honor of her mother, Mrs. R. F. Snell, the occasion being Mrs. Snell's eighty-fourth birthday.

Mrs. Snell is a pioneer resident of Gilliam county, her home being at Arbutus. She has been visiting her daughter in this city during the summer.

About forty guests were present and the afternoon from four to six was most pleasantly spent. Several vocal selections were given by Miss Gladys Lane, one of Heppner's most popular soloists, and readings were given by Miss Ruth Van Vactor and Miss Kathryn Partison. Most pleasing features of the program were recitations given by Alta and Alma Whisenand, of Arlington, 3-year-old twin grand-daughters of the guest of honor, the selections chosen by the two sisters being "Orphan Annie" and "The Haggerty Man."

Delicious refreshments were served following which birthday cake was cut and distributed. A lighted candle was also given each guest who, in turn, arose and expressed a wish for the continued health and happiness of the aged guest of honor.