

## BIG LOCKS PROGRAM FAVORED BY CLUB

### Saving Would be Made Thru Lower Freight Rates, Believed.

## SCHOOL PLAN CITED

### More State Support and Equalization of Distribution Given as Tax Levelling Measure.

The Heppner Commercial club has added a resolution to the flood of recommendations being sent from eastern Oregon proposing the construction of locks of sufficient size to permit the entrance of ocean going vessels when the Bonneville dam is built. Such locks would be fully compensated for by the resultant saving in freight rates, believed S. E. Notson, commercial club president, who put the question when the Lions club meeting Monday was turned temporarily into a meeting of the commercial club.

The principal feature of the Lions club program was a discussion of school finances led by Edward F. Bloom, superintendent of the local schools. Mr. Bloom cited what has been done by adjoining states in substantiation of a contention that the state of Oregon should provide for a larger proportion of the general school finances.

He pointed out that at present the only state support for elementary schools in Oregon comes from the interest on the irreducible school fund built up from the original land grants. Last year this support amounted to \$1.11 per pupil. He quoted Washington in particular as having provided for a much larger amount of state support for its schools through allowing for this purpose a proportion of the revenue raised from a privilege tax bill passed by its last legislature.

He showed how the distribution of Oregon's school money works an injustice on some districts while favoring others. The distribution of Oregon's school money works an injustice on some districts while favoring others. The distribution is made on the basis of assessed valuation of the districts and not according to population. Therefore, the richer districts, whether or not they have many children to educate, get a larger share of the money, and are not forced to levy as high a special district tax as are the poorer districts. He believed the state should go further in providing elementary school funds and should apportion the money on the basis of population in order to better equalize the burden.

In a short discussion following Mr. Bloom's presentation of the problem, members of the club generally expressed themselves in agreement with more centralized control of school finances looking to economy and more equal opportunity for an education by rural, town and city children.

J. O. Turner, one of the district's representatives in the legislature, followed Mr. Bloom, expressing appreciation for the suggestions that had been given and welcoming all the information his constituency has to offer in the light of the coming special session. He cited shortly some of the problems the coming session is up against, stressing the present truck and bus bill as one law that would have to be ironed out.

It appeared likely to Mr. Turner that if the steering committee wasn't mighty active, the major purpose of the session, that of providing emergency relief measures, would be crowded well out of the picture by the numerous other issues in the offing.

G. A. Bleakman spoke briefly on elk hunting, giving it as his idea as a hunter with 40 years experience, that it would not be wise to close the elk season next year, but that it would be well to move both the elk and deer seasons ahead into August. The meat is better at the earlier date, there would not be so much slaughtering, and it could be taken care of well enough, he said.

The club recognized birthdays of two of its members, W. W. Smead, oldest member, and M. L. Case, whose birth anniversaries occurred last week.

**MOVE TO GRANTS PASS.**  
Dr. and Mrs. J. Perry Conder left Heppner recently to make their future home at Grants Pass. The family home had been made here for many years, for the most of which time Dr. Conder had followed the practice of mechano-therapy and naturopathy and was prominent in religious and political circles. The well-wishes of many friends accompany them to their new home.

**BEND EDITOR VISITS.**  
Judge Robert W. Sawyer, editor of the Bend Bulletin, former county judge of Deschutes county, former member of the state highway commission, and otherwise prominently identified with state political and newspaper activities, was in Heppner yesterday. He was on a tour of the eastern Oregon section regarding the pulse of the people in regard to the tax collection problem.

## Facts of County Finance Given by State Reports

Morrow county, with a percentage of delinquency of 47.35 in collection of taxes levied on the 1932 rolls, exceeds the state average 1932 tax delinquency of 39.99 percent, according to a report issued by the state tax commission with figures as of September 6, 1933. The estimated amount of taxes delinquent in this county for the 1932 rolls as of the date given is \$82,025.13.

The percentage of delinquency has grown in this county each year since 1930, when the report shows a delinquency on the 1929 rolls of 14.33 percent. For the 1930 rolls the delinquency shown is 30.14 percent, and for the 1931 rolls, 38.27 percent.

The total net indebtedness of Morrow county as reported by the state treasurer for July 1, 1933, was \$511,806.37. With the county's assessed valuation given at \$12,375,808, a debt ratio of 4.12 percent is shown, representing an increase of 21 percent over the 1932 ratio.

The report shows the city of Heppner to have a net indebtedness of \$77,000, representing a like amount of bonded indebtedness. The city's net debt ratio, with assessed valuation given at \$880,415, is 8.75 percent, an increase of 34 percent over 1932.

Heppner is shown not to have the highest debt ratio of any city or town in Morrow county. Boardman with a net debt of \$5,500 and valuation of \$95,955 has a ratio of 14.88 percent, an increase of 3.98 percent, for the highest. Lexington, with a net debt of \$1,876 and valuation of \$98,715, has a ratio of 1.90 percent for the lowest. Ione has a debt ratio of 6.05, with total net indebtedness of \$10,332 and valuation of \$170,639.

The bonded indebtedness of school districts in Morrow county is shown by a report from the office of the state superintendent of public instruction to total \$200,100 for 1933 or \$900 less than for 1932. The total warrant indebtedness of all the districts in the county for 1933 is shown to be \$136,643.35, or \$58,224.75 greater than the total warrant indebtedness for 1932.

## LEXINGTON

**By BEULAH B. NICHOLS.**  
Election of officers was held at the meeting of Lexington grange Saturday evening. The new officers are: Master, Harvey Miller; overseer, Orville Cutsforth; lecturer, Laura Rice; steward, E. A. Kelly; assistant steward, Lawrence Beach; lady assistant steward, Beulah Nichols; chaplain, Elsie Beach; treasurer, R. B. Rice; secretary, Lena Kelly; gate keeper, Norman Nelson; Ceres, Lorraine Beach; Pomona, Pearl Devine; Flora, Tena Scott.

Installation of the new officers will be held on the evening of December 9th and Willows and Rhea Creek granges have been invited to bring their officers for a joint installation with Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Cox of Heppner were elected to membership in the grange. The grange adopted a resolution favoring the development of the Umatilla Rapids and the Snake river to Asotin, Wash.

Some excitement was caused in Lexington Wednesday afternoon when the R. B. Wilcox house caught fire. A small hole was burned in the roof before the fire was extinguished.

Lexington was quite deserted Saturday due to a large number of the population going to Portland to witness the O. S. C.-Oregon football game. Those from here who spent the week end in the metropolis were Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dinges, Mr. and Mrs. Karl Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hunt, Mrs. Elsie M. Beach, Ralph Jackson, Vernon Warner, Wayne McMillan, Gwen Evans, Vernon Scott, Sam McMillan, Don Pointer, Eula McMillan, Laurel Beach, Clarence Carmichael, Harold Beach, Vernon Munkers, Ralph Phillips and S. G. McMillan.

Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Burchell entertained the high school faculty and play cast at a delicious turkey dinner Thursday evening. The guests included Mr. and Mrs. Jas. H. Williams, Mrs. C. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Johnson, Laurel Beach, Freda Hammel, Tille Nelson, Rosa Thornburg, Faye Luttrell, Erma Lane, Alfred Van Winkle, Vester Thornburg and Jack McMillan.

Miss Erma Lane visited friends in Heppner over the week end. The Rebekah Three Link club will give a dance at the hall Saturday night, music to be furnished by Bud's Jazz band. Supper will be served at midnight.

Mrs. Raymond Jeub arrived Sunday evening from Coquille and is visiting relatives here. Mrs. Jeub will be remembered as Miss Maxine Gentry.

Some remodeling was done at the local telephone office last week. Clark Davis did the work.

## Back the Budget--

**T**HE Heppner schools must operate at least 160 days this year in order to receive more than \$4000 of high school tuition money already allotted them. This money would not be forthcoming if the schools were forced to close before the prescribed 160 days.

That defeat of the budget at the special election next Monday would mean the closing of the schools in less than 160 days of operation this year is almost certain, as well as preclude the possibility of holding school at all next year.

The \$4000 mentioned represents but a fraction of the loss that would be entailed should this happen. Besides the high school tuition money, which comes from a special tax levied for that specific purpose, the district would lose out on a still larger amount of elementary school tuition money paid it by the outlying districts now transporting pupils to Heppner.

But clear aside from these revenues that come to the district directly and help make it possible to have standard grade and high schools here, consideration should be given to the demoralizing effects that closing of the schools most surely would have.

The big problem of what to do with the children would be uppermost. A few people who could afford to send their children elsewhere to school would do so. A few people who feel competent of instructing their children themselves might attempt that course, but most surely would find the task a large one and the results far from satisfactory. But it is probable a large percentage of the children would be left much to their own resources.

The unguided vigor of youth is known to social leaders to result in greater demands upon the juvenile courts, a demand that in some instances has caused a greater drain upon the tax coffers than that of the schools themselves. It is here that the danger lies. It is here where the sound thinking men and women of Heppner have a responsibility and a duty that cannot be lightly dodged. It is here where Nero may fiddle, or where Rome may be built.

Every taxpayer in school district No. One should attend the meeting next Monday. If it is possible to find places where the budget may be further pruned a sane discussion of the budget items will reveal that. But after the budget has been thoroughly discussed and pruned it should be passed to make Heppner safe for democracy and progress.

## Benefit Smoker Slated At Lexington for 18th

On Saturday, November 18, at 7:30 p. m., the wrestling and boxing benefit smoker will be held at the Lexington gymnasium under the direction of George Gillis, who promises something new and different. Several Multnomah club members will be here to put on exhibition matches and Lexington, Heppner and Ione will all be well represented.

Wrestling: Laverne Wright, Lexington, vs. Timmons, Heppner; Ellwyn Peck, Lex. vs. Asa Shaw, Lex.; Lee Stauffer, Multnomah club, Portland, vs. George Gillis, Lex.; Ole Allstott, Heppner, vs. Earl Gillis, Portland, state high school champion and P. N. A. runner-up. Referee, Harvey Bauman.

Boxing: Virgil Smith, Lex. vs. John Hanna, Heppner; Lee Shaw, Lex. vs. Finley Gibbs, Lex.; Harding Smith, Lex. vs. Clayton Davis, Lex.; Paul Jones, Multnomah club, Portland, vs. Dan Gillis, Bachelor club, Portland; Dale Yocum, Lex. vs. Lyle Allyn, Lex. Referee, George Mabee, Heppner.

Other matches will be arranged before Saturday. The admission will be children 15c, adults 35c. Proceeds to be used to buy a wrestling mat.

## License Drawing Slated Nov. 27th; \$5 Is Car Fee

Automobile owners in Oregon will receive reminders this week of the approach of another registration year, when more than 250,000 letters are released in the mails by Hal E. Hoss, secretary of state.

A two-month license may be purchased for \$5.00 for private passenger cars to be registered for the year 1934, the new rate being the lowest enjoyed by car owners for many years. A return to the earlier plan of registering motor vehicles on a calendar-year basis brings a renewal season twice within the twelve months, as well as restoring Oregon to a registration year on a similar schedule with other states in the union.

"Those desiring to make applications for plates for the new season at an early date may send in their remittances and their registration cards, properly signed, at any time and plates will be mailed from Salem to reach the applicants on December 15, the first date on which 1934 licenses may be used," suggests Mr. Hoss.

A drawing for low license numbers will be held on November 27, and all applications received at that time will be included. Special numbers will not be assigned in order to continue the expeditious handling of plates.

## BOY SCOUTS TO CHURCH.

On next Sunday morning, November 19, the Boy Scouts of Heppner, headed by Scoutmaster Philip Ford, will attend the Heppner Church of Christ in a body, and will be seated in a section of the church auditorium especially reserved for them. The services will be designed to be particularly fitting for this occasion, and the general public is invited to attend and show appreciation of this great secular movement for the benefit of the youth of the nation and the world.

## IONE

By MARGARET BLAKE

R. E. Harbison of Cottage Grove was in town a day or so last week. Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Misner and Mrs. Fred Mankin and son drove to Portland Sunday to visit Mrs. Holmes Gabbart, daughter of the Misners who underwent a major operation at a Portland hospital during the past week. She is reported to be doing as well as could be expected considering the seriousness of her illness.

Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Feldman were business visitors in Walla Walla on Monday.

Mrs. Hugh Smith entertained with six tables of bridge at the auxiliary room Monday afternoon. The guests were Mesdames Paul O'Meara, Dixon Smith, C. W. McNamara, Bert Mason, W. A. Wilcox, Clyde Denny, Kenneth Blake, Earl Blake, H. D. McCurdy, Victor Rietmann, Omar Rietmann, C. W. Swanson, V. G. Peterson, Cleo Drake, Frank Lundell, Geo. Tucker, W. R. Corley, M. E. Cotter, Louis Bergvein, Roy Feely, Carl Allyn and Miss Norma Swanson. High score was won by Mrs. C. W. Swanson and low by Mrs. Dixon Smith. Delicious refreshments of salad and wafers were served.

C. H. Freeman of the State Industrial Accident commission of Salem was in town Monday until Wednesday auditing the time books of the farmers of this locality.

George Tucker went to Arlington Saturday afternoon to referee the football game played in that city between Heppner and Hermiston as a part of the celebration staged by the Legion and Auxiliary of Arlington on Armistice Day.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Harris of the Park hotel are taking a short vacation in Portland. During their absence Mr. and Mrs. Cole Smith are in charge of the hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Ekleberry have returned from a visit of several weeks at their old home in Iowa.

C. W. Swanson and his son Carlton and Louis Bergvein drove to Portland Friday, returning Sunday. Ordie Farrens has returned to Portland after visiting his mother, Mrs. Helen Farrens, for a few days. Mr. and Mrs. Keithly Blake and daughter returned to Ione after a visit of two weeks at the home of Roy Blake in Kinzira, Ore.

Mrs. J. E. Swanson, Mrs. Garland Swanson and Norman Swanson spent the week end with relatives at Salem.

Mrs. Victor Peterson entertained a small group of friends at luncheon at her home in Heppner last Thursday. Guests were Mrs. H. D. McCurdy, Mrs. George Tucker, Mrs. Victor Peterson, Mrs. Louis Bergvein, Mrs. D. M. Ward and Mrs. J. T. Knappenberg. After luncheon several progressions of contract were played with Mrs. Bert Mason winning high score for the play.

Miss Mildred Smith who is employed in The Dalles spent Sunday with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cole Smith.

W. S. Smith of Lyle, Wn., has been saying hello to old friends in Ione during the past week.

J. A. Harbke of Portland was a business visitor in Ione last week. Mr. and Mrs. Louis Balsiger spent the past week visiting relatives at Newberg.

Among those going down to Portland for the U. O. S. C. game last Saturday were Paul Smouse, Charles Carlson, George Ely, Earl McCabe and Verner Troedson.

Milton Morgan, Jr., Richard Lundell, Cecil Padberg and Joe Englemann returned the first of the week from Portland.

Lee Beckner was a business visitor in Portland the past week. Word has been received from Mrs. Lee Beckner and Mrs. Roy Lieualien who are driving to West Virginia for a visit at the old home of Mrs. Beckner that they had enjoyed wonderful weather and excellent driving conditions as far as they had travelled when they wrote at Salt Lake City.

Eric Bergstrom has purchased the Esteb place adjoining his farm in the Gooseberry district.

Funeral services for Mrs. Ross Perry who died at her home near Ione on Nov. 14 were held at the congregational church last Friday afternoon with Rev. Joseph Pope of Heppner delivering the sermon. Special musical numbers were sung by Mrs. Walter Roberts, Mrs. Paul Balsiger and Louis and Paul Balsiger, accompanied by Mrs. Louis Balsiger. Interment was made in the I. O. O. F. cemetery. Mrs. Perry leaves her husband, Ross Perry, two daughters, Rosabelle and Mignonette, and a son, Robert, to mourn her passing.

Miss Lucy Spittle spent the past week end in Portland visiting with friends and incidentally attending the big football game.

Mrs. Harriet Brown spent the week end with her sister, Mrs. Kilcup on Butter creek.

The carnival and program which the grade school is giving to raise funds for serving hot lunches at school will be given on December 15. No effort is being spared to make this affair a huge success. Next Monday, Nov. 20, it is planned to begin serving these hot lunches and no charge will be made to grade school pupils. One hot dish will be served to supplement the lunch brought by each child.

Mrs. Tom Perry of Portland came from that city to attend the funeral of Mrs. Ross Perry. "Here is as Hero Does," a play by Emile Gehring, will be given at the high school at the gym on Wednesday, Nov. 29. The following students have been chosen for the

## Morrow Men to be Used On Spray Road Work

"Only Morrow county men will be employed on the Heppner-Rock creek sector of the Heppner-Spray road, the contract for which was awarded at Portland yesterday, so long as qualified men are available here," said Carl E. Caulfield, Portland, field supervisor for the National Reemployment service, who was in Heppner this morning. The work end of the PWA projects is in charge of the service represented by Mr. Caulfield.

Residents of the county will get first call with war veterans with dependents getting preference in the work, Mr. Caulfield said. Registration will be open immediately at the county judge's office in Heppner, at Hardman, Ione and Boardman. It is expected the work will start between Nov. 25 and Dec. 1.

In registering, veterans should present their service discharges or other evidence of their war service, Mr. Caulfield said.

## Bids Let for Work on Spray, Wasco Routes

Saxton & Looney, address not given, were named by this morning's Oregonian as the successful bidder on the 3.1 miles of grading on the Hardman-Rock creek sector of the Heppner-Spray road. This bid of \$34,533.70, is part of a total of \$500,000 in contracts let by the state highway commission yesterday.

A contract for the building of a bridge across Six Mile creek and six treaties, all on the Heppner-Condor-Wasco road, was let to P. H. May for \$16,774.50.

The contracts let yesterday are to be paid from the \$6,106,000 of PWA money allotted Oregon, of which all but \$2,700,000 has been let in contracts, and the balance is budgeted for, the Oregonian report says.

## Copies of Oregon Budgets Sought by State League

Eugene, Ore.—Valuable information on many problems before Oregon cities and towns will be made available to these municipalities through the operation of a "clearing house" to be established here at the office of Herman Kehrl, secretary of the League of Oregon Cities, and of the University of Oregon municipal research. Mr. Kehrl has issued a request for copies of the budgets of all cities in Oregon, and a large number have already been received.

Information on what other cities are doing on such matters as collection of delinquent taxes, sources of income, fire protection, police protection and other affairs will be compiled, and by a study of this compilation many municipalities may be able to make considerable savings, it is pointed out. Cities which have not yet sent in copies of their budget are urged to do so at once.

## President Asks Aid For Annual Roll Call

"When our people in any section of the country are faced with the perils and suffering which follow so swiftly in the wake of disaster, they look with one accord to the American Red Cross for instant and efficient relief. They have never looked in vain," said President Roosevelt recently.

"Those of us who are willing to lend a helping hand in time of emergency to others less fortunate than ourselves, look to this great national relief agency as our representative in the hour of need. It does not disappoint us. It is an historic institution closely allied with your government, and its president is always the president of the United States.

"Just now the Red Cross is asking every adult American to lend his or her support to the Red Cross service through individual memberships. The record of the Red Cross is one we may all be proud of. In the past year sufferers of 117 disasters have been cared for. Five million families have benefited by distribution of relief materials. A million Americans have served as volunteers under the Red Cross banner.

"I earnestly urge you to respond most generously to the annual Red Cross roll call. We must do our part to keep the Red Cross ready, day or night, for service."

## MOVE TO TOPPENISH.

Ray Wise, co-partner in the Sanitary Bakery here for several years, departed the first of the week with his family for Toppenish, Wash., where they will make their home. Mr. Wise disposed of his interests in the local bakery to his brother and former partner, Cecil Wise, who will continue to operate the local bakery. The well wishes of the many friends of the Wise family accompany them to their new, and old, home. The Wises formerly lived at Toppenish before coming to Heppner.

Richard Peterson was in the city this morning from the farm home over near Kimberley in the John Day section. "We don't have fog over on the river," Richard said.

cast: Leo Young, Eva Swanson, Foster Odum, Dimple Crabtree, Bert Akers, Robert Botts, Doris Allstott, Donald Helker, Harriet Helker, Walter Bristow and Miriam Hale. After to play the auxiliary will give a dance at Legion hall.

## FINANCE PROBLEM TO FACE GROWERS

### Land Bank President to Give Address on Subject at Moro Meet.

## OVERHEAD IS HEAVY

### Government Relief Measures, Organization of Credit Associations Among Subjects Up.

The Eastern Oregon Wheat league conference at Moro, December 8-9, will attempt to get to the heart of the farm finance problem as it affects eastern Oregon wheat growers. Recognizing this as one of the outstanding problems of the day, the league's executive committee has arranged to devote the entire afternoon of the first day to the presentation of the problem, to a discussion of the government measures already invoked to help in the solution, and to a discussion of any proposed measures.

E. M. Ehrhardt, president of the Federal Land Bank of Spokane, has accepted an invitation to deliver one of the principal addresses of the afternoon on "Farm Finances." Someone, probably Geo. N. Peck, of the National Farm Credit administration, will discuss the organization of production credit associations.

All those in attendance—and Moro is preparing to entertain a big crowd—will be fully informed on the types of loans now available to farmers through government agencies, and it will be attempted to unravel all red tape in an understandable manner.

Three types of loans were made available to farmers through the Emergency Farm Mortgage act of 1933, to be administered by the federal land banks and the land bank commissioner under the farm credit administration. These loans were for the purpose, first, to refinance indebtedness of farmers; second, to provide working capital for farm operations; and, third, to redeem or repurchase foreclosed farm property. While the machinery for making these loans has been in operation for some time, the executive committee feels there is not sufficient general understanding of the set-up to make the relief as far-reaching as it should be.

Statistics from the United States department of agriculture show that in this section of the northwest the annual mortgage charge is more than twice the amount of all taxes paid. In Oregon the total farm mortgage indebtedness increased from 34 million dollars in 1910 to 115 million in 1930, though the latter figure is somewhat less than the peak reached in 1928.

"The burden of annual fixed charges resting upon farmers depends, of course, upon the relationship of these charges to the farm income available for meeting them," Secretary Wallace has said in commenting on the problem. "As compared with the pre-war situation fixed charges in the form of interest on farm debt and taxes on farm property are roughly 2 1/2 times as large, while the gross income in 1933 falls nearly 25 percent below the pre-war figures. Furthermore, these charges must be met out of the income remaining after current farm and family expenditures are deducted, and still further, they can be paid only from cash income."

This gives some of the reason why the executive committee deems the farm finance problem vital enough to demand half a day of the conference time at Moro. Other vital problems will be up, too, for the discussion of which Moro has provided good quarters. Assurance is also given that adequate rooming and eating facilities will be provided for all who attend—and the latch strings hang on the outside.

## Expert to Aid Work Of Cities in Oregon

Eugene, Ore.—Cities and municipalities of Oregon and Washington will have the service of an expert consultant during the next six months, it was announced here recently by Herman Kehrl, director of the University of Oregon bureau of municipal research and executive secretary of the League of Oregon Cities. Funds to provide for this work have been obtained from the Rockefeller Foundation, and the expert will be sponsored by the American Municipal association.

The consultant will devote the first two months in aiding Oregon and Washington cities in making applications for loans from the national Public Works administration. He will assist cities in making out their formal applications, preparing final plans and working out other details necessary to obtain a portion of the federal funds.

Work of the consultant later on will be to assist cities in solving such problems as the collection of taxes, tax delinquencies, allocation of budgets and others. He will work in close cooperation with the municipal research bureau of the university and with the office of the executive secretary of the League of Oregon Cities.