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Directed Verdict Clears A. C. Ball In Damage Suit

Sentence Passed on Brannon, Reid in Circuit Court.

A. C. Ball was cleared of all liability in a \$28,000 damage suit on directed verdict of Judge C. L. Sweek in circuit court yesterday. Ball was co-defendant with Clarence Brenner and Veda Brenner in a suit wherein John Eubanks of Ione asked indemnity for injuries received a few months ago when he was run over by the Ball truck, driven by Mrs. Brenner. Judge Sweek directed the verdict clearing Ball on failure of plaintiff to show sufficient evidence of liability. P. W. Mahoney and John Kilkenny were counsel for defendant, and Mark Weatherford of Albany represented the plaintiff.

Returning its verdict in favor of the defendants Clarence and Veda Brenner at 9 o'clock last night, the jury also cleared them of all liability in connection with the Eubanks accident.

Jury in the case of State of Oregon vs. Leslie Brannon on charge of simple assault returned a verdict of guilty Monday and Brannon was sentenced to three months in the county jail. Serving on the jury were A. H. Nelson, foreman; Ralph Beamer, Cleve Van Schoiack, F. C. Frederickson, Hanson Hughes, A. P. Parker, Russell Moore, W. O. Bayless, C. Melville, J. I. Hanna, Jesse Warfield and George Evans.

Frank Reid, indicted May 31, 1935, on charge of obtaining property under false pretenses, plead guilty on arraignment Tuesday and was sentenced to one year in the state penitentiary.

The new grand jury was convened Tuesday by Judge Sweek, and reported yesterday asking for more time in which to consider matters before them, without making any recommendations. Empaneled were J. I. Hanna, foreman, Russell Moore, Geo. N. Ely, Robert Smith, H. E. Clark, Hanson Hughes and W. O. Bayless.

Decrees of divorce were granted by the court in the cases of Georgia V. Langdon vs. Ross Langdon, and Gladys Saling vs. Earl Saling.

Deputy Grand Officer Commends Elks Lodge

Oscar Effenberg of Tillamook, district deputy grand exalted ruler, Oregon north, made his official visit to Heppner lodge 358, B. P. O. Elks Monday evening, and was greeted by a large attendance of the membership. He brought a personal message from David A. Sholtz, grand exalted ruler and governor of Florida, emphasizing the important place of Elksdom in society, and he congratulated Heppner lodge on the sound basis its finances had been placed in the last year, and on its activities generally.

Featuring the entertainment program were three three-round boxing bouts in which Alton "Pete" Christenson and Jackie Cantwell fought to a draw, and LaGear and Chosey took decisions from Louis Fry and Spencer Gordon, respectively. The last four boys are local CCC's. The exhibition of Chosey and Gordon was especially good, it was reported.

TURKEY SHOOT SUNDAY.

Heppner Rod and Gun club has slated another turkey shoot at its grounds six miles below town on the highway next Sunday. Both trap and rifle shooting will be the order.

Vi Rae LaFore of Freewater and Glenn Rust of Weston were married in this city Tuesday by Judge W. T. Campbell.

LIONS COOPERATE IN DECORATING

Citizens' Committee, Fire Boys
Reported Active; Judge Sweek
Cites Columbia River Work.

Wholehearted response from business men and city government was reported at the Monday Lions luncheon to the movement to make the city's main thoroughfare reflect the spirit of Christmas. The meeting slated by the club last Friday evening in cooperation with other interested citizens brought forth a good attendance, and resulted in the appointment of a committee, headed by J. Logie Richardson, to supervise decorating operations, including the stringing of wires laden with evergreen boughs on either side of the street. Assisting on the committee from the club were F. W. Turner and Dr. L. D. Tibbles.

On behalf of the city government, the fire boys volunteered to help with the work. They had already been responsible for placing two large trees in Main street intersections.

Judge C. L. Sweek, recently retired president of Inland Empire Waterways association as well as a former president of the club, was a guest and spoke briefly on the waterways program. It was his belief that the association had not deserted the Umatilla Rapids project in announcing at the recent Arlington meeting that it would withhold endorsements of any special projects until after the hearing on the proposed high dam at The Dalles, which was held Tuesday. He believed the association's object to be that of supporting the most logical and feasible course of river development to the end that advantages from its use for transportation, power and irrigation may be realized as rapidly as possible.

Citizens Contribute Work in Decorating

J. Logie Richardson, chairman of the city Christmas decorating committee, expresses pleasure with the fine cooperation received on every hand.

To the Boy Scouts goes credit for helping get the trees and boughs, of whom Donald Fell, Hubert Hudson, Riley Munkers, Arthur Vance, Bill Blake, Howard Bryant, Billie McCaleb and Jack Merrill were active. Mr. Richardson and F. W. Turner used their cars, and were assisted by Procks with their truck and Ralph Barton in cutting and hauling the greenery. They have asked and received the help of business houses in stringing boughs on wires in front of each establishment.

The fire boys, headed by Chief Mark Merrill, have been assisting largely in the work. And special mention also goes to Harold Becket for making a large metal star for one of the trees.

Ed Burchell Wins Honorary Award

Oregon State College, Corvallis, Dec. 9.—Ed Burchell of Lexington, junior in education at Oregon State college, was recently awarded the Sigma Delta Chi cup, a trophy presented to the student in beginning journalism who shows himself to be the most versatile reporter.

Burchell earned this award when he took journalism spring term. He had a total of 708 inches printed in the Oregon State Barometer and other publications.

Burchell was made night editor of the Barometer during the fall term and will continue this job next term.

CHRISTMAS DANCE SET.

Heppner lodge 358, B. P. O. Elks, has scheduled a dance for Christmas evening at its hall, with music by Kauffman's orchestra.

Harold and Ervin Anderson of Gooseberry were calling here today.

Surfacing Project Will Go to PWA If Acceptable

Tentative Agreement Made with Engineer; City Plan Talked.

Plans of Heppner's street surfacing project progressed Monday evening to the point where tentative agreement was made with Frank Hayes, engineer of Pendleton, to make the necessary preliminary survey and prepare a draft of the project for application for PWA assistance.

Definite arrangements could not be made with the engineer Monday as legal action can be taken only at a regular council meeting. It is expected the action may be ratified next Monday evening when the council meets in regular session.

If the project can be placed under PWA, the government would stand 45 percent of the cost. The city has budgeted a sufficient amount to stand the other 55 percent to cover all the principal streets of the city, said Mayor Jones. Should PWA help not be available, the program would have to be restricted this year to the amount of work which the budgeted funds would cover.

Weather Takes Hand Supplies Some Joy— Also Bit of Grief

Light precipitation of rain, with snow in the higher regions, this week added its share of cheer to the season as farmers and stockmen saw famishing fields and ranges lap up the badly needed thirst-quencher. But the showers were interspersed with high winds that caused some grief, especially to the decorating fire boys.

Twice the large tree they placed at the intersection of Main and May streets blew over. Though anchored with large boulders, the tree was unable to withstand Saturday night's heavy blow or last night's gale.

All told the weather is unsettled, and this leads many to hope that Morrow county may yet have a white Christmas.

Stores to be Open Evenings, 23rd, 24th

For the convenience of last minute shoppers, Heppner merchants have announced they will keep stores open Wednesday and Thursday evenings, the 23rd and 24th.

HAS MASTOID ATTACK.

Wright Saling was brought to the city Tuesday by his son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Scott, in serious physical condition, suffering what was feared to be an attack of mastoid trouble. He had gone to Dundee the week before to spend the Christmas holidays with the Scotts. When the trouble developed he was brought back home for medical attention. Mr. and Mrs. Scott with their baby reside on a farm near Dundee, and Mr. Scott reported that section to be getting a good soaking after the longest dry spell in forty years. They are former residents of this county.

XMAS PARTY ENJOYED.

A large number of the Methodist congregation enjoyed a Christmas party at the church Monday evening. The affair was featured by a family style dinner.

Application for marriage license was made at the clerk's office Tuesday by Leon Totorica of this city and Genevieve Morgan of Newberg.

OIL TO RHEA CREEK BEING REQUESTED

Commissioners Parker and Peck
in Portland Today to Meet State
Highway Commission.

Frank S. Parker and George N. Peck, county commissioners, are in Portland today to appear before the state highway commission to ask aid for Morrow county roads.

They expected to ask specifically that the state regrade and oil the Heppner-Hardman road as far as Rhea creek, straighten out some curves and complete a fill on the Hardman hill, and assist in completing the Heppner-Condon road. All this work is on state secondary highways and badly needed, the commissioners believe. They were in Pendleton Tuesday to confer with E. B. Aldrich, eastern Oregon commission member, on the matter. The court has the word of the commission that everything is set to start work of oiling the Lexington-Jarmon road in the spring.

Mr. Parker and Mr. Peck were also in The Dalles Saturday to attend a district meeting of the state association of judges and commissioners which recommended appointment of a legislative interim committee to study the tax situation with a view to revising assessment and collection procedure.

Masonic Orders Set Joint Installation

Joint installation of officers and annual turkey dinner for A. F. & A. Masons and Eastern Star will be held Monday evening, Dec. 21. The dinner, for Masons and wives and members of Eastern Star and their escorts will be served at 6:30. Officers to be installed later in the evening are:

Eastern Star: Virginia Turner, worthy matron; C. J. D. Bauman, worthy patron; Mary Patterson, associate matron; Harold Buhman, associate patron; Faye Ferguson, conductress; Madge Thomson, associate conductress; Muriel Vaughn, secretary; Emma Evans, treasurer; Gertrude Parker, chaplain; Carna Campbell, marshal; Etta Parker, Adah; Lotta Tibbles, Ruth; Nancy Cox, Esther; Oma Cox, Martha; Ella Benge, Electa; Anna Schafer, warden; Lynn Tibbles, sentinel; Coramae Ferguson, organist.

A. F. & A. M.: J. O. Turner, worshipful master; W. Vawter Parker, senior warden; J. O. Peterson, junior warden; Frank S. Parker, treasurer; Spencer Crawford, secretary; Archie C. Ball, senior deacon; Harold Buhman, junior deacon; C. J. D. Bauman, marshal, and W. D. Campbell, tyler. Other appointive officers will be announced later.

Wool Ladies Elect; Vote Christmas Cheer

Mrs. Walter Becket of Eight Mile was elected president of Morrow County Wool Growers auxiliary when officers for the new year were named at luncheon at the Lucas Place, Friday. Other officers are Mrs. Frank E. Parker, vice-president; Mrs. C. W. McNamer, secretary, and Mrs. Frank Wilkinson, treasurer.

Mrs. Harriet K. Mahoney, first president of the local unit, and former president of the state organization, was endorsed for the national presidency. To attend state convention at Ontario in January as delegate will be either Mrs. W. O. Bayless, Mrs. Glenn Jones, Mrs. J. G. Barratt or Mrs. E. L. Morton. Assistance was voted the county Christmas welfare committee through supplying caps, mittens, stockings or other articles. The meeting was largely attended by members and friends.

Dr. J. A. Reuter of The Dalles was in the city as a witness in the Eubanks damage suit in circuit court this week.

Elves and Brownies Descend on City As Holiday Nears

Stores and Churches, Shoppers, Decora- tions Reflect Spirit.

Not a long stretch of the imagination is required to see little elves and brownies representative of joy and happiness prancing about Heppner streets and homes as the city has adorned itself in holiday attire.

A fairyland wood of evergreen trees, fringed with fir boughs and scintillating, colorful lights, Main street is resplendent. Charming displays of seasonal merchandise in store windows, all set off in the Christmas motif, add much to the appeal. And throughout the residential district, twinkling colored lights on Christmas trees in yards and homes attest further the nearness of Santa's arrival—just eight days away.

The gay throng of shoppers is daily becoming larger, with faces from all over the county, all reflecting an added warmth of cheer, mingled in their numbers. Storekeepers have displayed much attractive gift merchandise with which to serve the public desires, and to add to the service announce they will keep shops open evenings on the 23rd and 24th.

Churches have taken the lead in dispensing widespread cheer, having organized a "sunshine" division to remember the less fortunate as well as slating the usual programs and treats for their immediate congregations.

Climaxing the church celebration will be a program by the combined protestant church choirs at the Christian church Sunday evening, beginning at 7:30. Young people of the several congregations will meet at the same place at 5:30 to sing carols. At 6:30 they will have a union study hour. All church services Sunday will celebrate Christ's nativity, and other programs are slated at various times, notice of which is given in the church notices.

'Jewels of the Desert' Slated for Tomorrow

"Jewels of the Desert," desert romance-mystery told in musical story, is the presentation of the combined high school choruses to be given at the gym-auditorium tomorrow evening beginning at 8 o'clock.

An interesting musical comedy, the operetta has its setting in Sheik Abdullah's oasis of date palms. Romance evolves mystery as police of two continents try to outwit a band of desperadoes, the Touareg.

Both girls' and boys' glee clubs are in the choruses supporting the main cast. Dancers under direction of Miss Mitchell will also help to make the presentation interesting and entertaining. Marjorie Parker is piano accompanist.

Illness has caused the cast to be altered several times in the course of preparation, and the lead roles are now slated to be taken as follows:

Abdullah, owner of many caravans, Andy Shoun; Professor Lythe, whose chief interest seems to be "bugs," Billy McCaleb; Nana, beautiful desert child, Dora Bailey; Caesar, colored "genman" from U. S. A., Gerald Cason; Miss Lythe, the professor's devoted sister, Maxine McCurdy; Betty, capricious daughter of the professor, Harriet Hager; Carrieall, Nana's devoted nurse, Ruth Cowins; Lieutenant Andrews, of the English expeditionary forces, Norton King; Cheeks, the Lieutenant's Arab boy, Jackson Gilliam; Lady Grady, just over from London, Katherine Parker; first Arab, Don Turner; Benarulah, whose chief interest seems to be Nana, Ellis Williams.