

# Heppner Gazette Times

Volume 52, Number 48.

HEPPNER, OREGON, THURSDAY, FEB. 4, 1937.

Subscription \$2.00 a Year

## Elks' Lodge History Recalled at 40th Birthday Meet

Frank Roberts, Charter Member, Given Life Membership.

Frank Roberts received an honorary life membership in Heppner lodge 358, B. P. O. Elks, at its 40th birthday anniversary meeting last Thursday evening. He was awarded the honor as one of two charter members still on the lodge rolls. The other, L. L. Matlock, who was to receive a similar card at the same time, was prevented from attending by convalescence from a severe attack of pneumonia at the home of a sister in Portland. He will receive his card later.

Illness and inclement weather held down attendance, but more than sixty lodge members participated in the event.

Masons, Knights of Pythias, Woodmen of the World and other lodges had already arrived on the scene in Heppner before the Elks received their charter on January 27, 1897. But that day was a gala one in the annals of the city as a special train brought a horde of antlered brothers from neighboring cities to take part in the ceremonies at Knights of Pythias hall in the old Fair building, according to the historical paper read by J. O. Turner.

Before acquiring its \$40,000 home in 1918, the lodge met for several years in the Odd Fellows hall. Phill Cohn, one of the charter members, made the motion which started the new building. Frank Gilliam, another charter member, served continuously as treasurer until after the building was completed, a service of more than twenty years. A. W. Patterson was the first exalted ruler.

Mr. Turner paid tribute to many men who had given distinguished service, as well as to the part the lodge has played in the progress of the community. So difficult was the job of naming all who might deserve mention, however, that he attempted only some of the highlights.

In the 40 years, the lodge initiated 999 candidates, he cited from the records.

Names of the 28 charter members were given as follows: A. W. Patterson, printer; Phill Cohn, pharmacist, warehouseman and grain dealer; George Conser, banker; J. A. Patterson, locomotive engineer; T. R. Lyons, salesman; J. C. Borchers, saloon keeper; J. W. Horner, saddle maker; Leslie L. Matlock, stockman; R. C. Wills, furniture dealer; P. O. Borg, jeweler; E. W. Rhea, merchant; William Dunn, railroad man; Frank Gilliam, hardware merchant; E. J. Slocum, druggist; H. Dunn; J. J. Harris, plumber; Frank Roberts, saloon keeper; Wilson E. Brock, druggist; W. R. Irwin, merchant; E. H. Slocum, sawmill; Joseph Mueller, musician; E. L. Matlock, stockman, saloon keeper, and later sheriff; S. W. Spencer, farmer, later banker; E. L. Freeland, real estate, later banker; S. P. Garrigues, hardware.

The roster of exalted rulers from the beginning includes A. W. Patterson, W. E. Brock, E. L. Freeland, S. W. Spencer, R. F. Hynd, Henry Blackman, Frank Roberts, P. O. Borg, Percy Garrigues, Lewis Kinney, Phil Metschan, Jr., Harry Johnson, W. E. Pruyn, Harry Duncan, W. A. Hayes, Jay Vale, Gus Mallory, Edgar Ayers, W. A. Richardson, H. H. Hoffman, H. T. Allison, F. A. McMennamin, Charles B. Cox, Dean T. Goodman, E. E. Gilliam, C. L. Sweek, F. W. Turner, Gay M. Anderson, C. J. D. Bauman, H. A. Cohn, Earl W. Gordon, L. Van Marter, J. G. Barratt, D. A. Wilson, J. O. Turner, J. G. Thomson, Jr., Harry Tamblin, Jasper V. Crawford.

For the anniversary program, D. A. McAtee and W. E. Pruyn, other

## GRAZING DISTRICT ELECTS OFFICERS

Consideration of Applications on North End Tract Set for February 17 and 18.

Five directors for the Morrow Grazing association were elected at a meeting of the users of range in Oregon Grazing District No. 7, held at the courthouse last Saturday. William Kilkenny, Heppner, was elected for a five-year term. John Krebs and Jack Hynd of Cecil were elected for the four- and three-year terms respectively, and L. D. Neill and Chas. Bartholomew, Echo, were elected for the two- and one year terms respectively. At each annual meeting hereafter, one director will be elected for a term of five years. The same five men were elected as a board of advisors for the management of the government land lying within the district. William Kilkenny was elected as the advisor for three years, John Krebs and Jack Hynd for two years each, and L. D. Neill and Chas. Bartholomew for one year each.

Marvin Klemme, regional grazer at Burns, outlined the method of handling public domain lands. First preference for the use of government land, Mr. Klemme said, would go to those operators with dependent, commensurable property who have been using such public domain lands. Mr. Klemme pointed out that all rights on public domain lands, under provisions of the Taylor Grazing act, are property rights and not individual rights.

On February 18 and 19, grazing officials will consider applications for grazing permits within the district, and all such applications should be at the county agent's office on or before February 17.

## Sub-District Hoop Tourney Here, 26-27

Heppner will entertain the sub-district class B basketball tournament here Feb. 26-27, announces Alden Blankenship, superintendent. Entering the competition will be teams from Ione, Lexington, Condon, Boardman, Fossil and Heppner. Arlington, being host for the district tournament the following week end, will play in that event without participating in the sub-tournament.

While Heppner's squad has been upset with illness, and one veteran, Don Turner, completed his playing career at mid-term, Blankenship believed Heppner's chances of emerging victorious from the local tournament to be good. Some of the green material is fast developing and the squad is looking forward to getting another chance to mix it with Arlington after two defeats. Heppner has defeated in the season's play all the teams which will compete here, except Fossil. The game scheduled with Fossil last week end was cancelled but Fossil and Lexington played with one point margin and as Heppner twice defeated Lexington, little trouble is expected from the Wheeler county lads. Boardman will be the toughest team to beat, it was believed.

Blankenship asks the community to support the tournament, as it is expected to be self-supporting. Failure to provide visiting teams' and other expenses will make it harder for Heppner to draw tournaments in the future.

long time members were given an honorary place in the chairs along with Mr. Roberts by C. J. D. Bauman who presided. A high school mixed quartet, Miss Marjorie Parker, Miss Kathryn Parker, Gerald Cason and Charles Cox, sang, accompanied by Miss Juanita Leathers. Another entertaining feature was the lodge quartet, F. W. Turner, Joseph Belanger, Blaine E. Isom and Dr. R. C. Lawrence. Following the program a clam feed was enjoyed.

The anniversary program was in charge of C. J. D. Bauman, L. E. Bisbee and Charles B. Cox.

## 75 at Lexington Meeting Talk Erosion Control

Trashy Fallow Success Told in Letter; Bad Roads Impede.

On horseback, on foot, and in a few cases by automobile, about seventy-five men found their way to the Lexington grange hall last Friday for an all-day meeting of the Columbia basin wheat farmers to discuss farm practices as they affect soil erosion.

H. V. Smouse, chairman of the advisory board for the Lexington Erosion Control district, outlined the work done in that district during the past two years to control blows. Mr. Smouse pointed out that in the north end of the county where blows have been most prevalent, some 4,000 acres of land were furrowed as emergency treatment to stop blows. Through the cooperation of the county court, some eight miles of roadsides were oiled to keep the sand from shifting. Through the cooperation of the soil conservation camp at Heppner, about three miles of roadsides were strawed. Following harvest, all straw was left on probably 70,000 acres of land to be carried over in 1937 as trashy summerfallow, Mr. Smouse said. Effective as the Lexington district had been, its usefulness was seriously curtailed in one of two unfortunate cases through lack of cooperation on the part of the land owners, with the result that thousands of dollars of unnecessary damage was sustained. Mr. Smouse pointed out that legislation had been prepared and would be submitted to the present session of the legislature which would permit the establishment of blow control districts so that such unnecessary losses as occurred last spring might be reduced to a minimum. Since the Friday meeting, this bill of which Mr. Smouse spoke, has been introduced into the legislature jointly by Representatives E. R. Fatland and Giles French. Mr. Smouse discussed the trip taken to Douglas county, Washington, last spring by twenty-six farmers from Morrow county to observe farming methods around Waterville, which have been very effective in controlling blows, and have resulted in the reclaiming of thousands of acres of land formerly abandoned as being too light and too dry to farm.

Following the luncheon, served by the ladies of the Lexington grange, a series of lantern slides made from pictures taken within Morrow county were shown by Joe Belanger, county agent. These slides were on two main subjects—wind erosion and water erosion, and served as a basis for the afternoon discussion. While the meeting was essentially a discussion nature and with no attempt being made to arrive at one solution of all difficulties, nevertheless, out of the whole discussion one fact stood out plainly, that being that trash on the surface and in the top few inches of the soil is the most effective.

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## 23 Inches of Snow, 1.55 Inches Moisture

Total snowfall in Heppner for January measured 23 inches, reports Len L. Gilliam, government weather observer. Total moisture content was given at 1.55 inches.

High winds last night and again today continued the thaw with slight evidence of run-off from the hills, the water apparently being almost all absorbed by the thirsty ground.

Charles Becket was in town Friday, just getting back from a trip to Portland, and was not able to get to the farm in Eight Mile due to the roads being closed by snow.

## COUNTY RAISES \$522 IN DRIVE

Incomplete Returns Almost Double County Quota for Eastern Flood Victims.

A total of \$522.38 had been sent yesterday to national Red Cross headquarters from Morrow county, reported R. Allan Bean, county chapter chairman. Several points had not yet been heard from and individual contributions were still coming in with promise that the county quota of \$300 would be doubled.

Indicative of the humanitarian spirit in the county were several contributions of more than \$20. Those reporting with amounts from each place, yesterday, to make up the total of \$522.38 were:

R. Allan Bean, Heppner	\$192.31
W. D. Campbell, Lexington	123.52
Mrs. T. E. Peterson, Ione	125.30
Mrs. Herbert Hynd, Cecil	27.75
Tom Caldwell, Irrigon	16.00
Mrs. Zoe Bauernfeind, Morgan	27.00
Mrs. E. E. Rugg, Rhea Creek	15.00

Mr. Bean complimented the spontaneous response of Morrow county people. Much of the money was given voluntarily without solicitation. There is still no limit in sight to the amount of relief which may be required as rehabilitation has only started.

## Farmers to Hear 1937 Program Explained

A county-wide meeting of farmers has been called at Leach hall, Lexington, Friday, Feb. 12, beginning at 1:30 p. m., to hear explanation of the 1937 agricultural conservation program, announces Joseph Belanger, county agent. All sections except Boardman and Irrigon are asked to attend.

"In some ways the new program is simpler than last year's. In other ways it is more complicated," Belanger said. "Work sheets signed for last year's program will carry over for this year, so those who filled out work sheets last year will not need to do so for 1937.

"In general, the same practices which qualified a man for payment in 1936 will be the same for 1937 with one notable exception," said Belanger. The exception, he emphasized, is, "In 1937 wheat cannot be plowed down as a green manure crop. Rye is the only one of the small grains that can be plowed down to qualify as green manure. Crested wheat grass seeded for 1936 compliance qualifies for exactly the same payment in 1937 even where no additional seeding is made."

## President's Ball Nets County \$93

With total receipts of \$200, and expenses of \$65.75, the net return from the President's Ball Saturday evening was \$134.25, of which 70 percent or \$93.97 remains in Morrow county to combat infantile paralysis, announces Dr. A. D. McMurdo, chairman of the event. The ball was well attended considering the severe weather, and Dr. McMurdo thanks the public and his helpers for the fine showing.

Expenses included \$36.50 for orchestra, \$22.50 for hall rent and \$6.75 for incidentals.

A feature of the evening was the cake sale, with V. R. Runnion as auctioneer. Each of the six cakes averaged more than \$3 selling for a total of \$18.50. Those making cakes were Mrs. Annie Clowry, Miss Mildred Clowry, Mrs. Paul Hisler, Mrs. Dennis McNamee, Mrs. H. O. Tenney and Mrs. A. D. McMurdo.

## GROUNDHOG ACTS.

The result of Mr. Groundhog's work was quickly seen in Heppner Tuesday. After brilliant sunshine for a time in the morning, the skies became overcast shortly after noon and by the middle of the afternoon winter had started on another six long weeks with a fall of fine snow.

## Mahoney to Salem In Interests of Flood Control

Court Gives \$50 to Work for Appropriation for Engineer.

Hoping for an appropriation to assist the state engineer in taking preliminary steps toward establishment of a flood control district in Morrow county, the county court yesterday voted \$50 expense money to P. W. Mahoney whom they asked to go to Salem to work for the appropriation.

Mr. Mahoney, head of a citizen's committee appointed some time ago to work for construction of flood control dams on Willow and Rhea creeks, and S. E. Notson, Lions club representative, appeared before the court and told the story which led to the court's action.

Army engineers have already made surveys and drawn up specifications for two flood control dams, one at the Scherzinger place on Rhea creek and the other just below the mouth of Balm fork on Willow creek, Mr. Mahoney explained. However, before the government will consider further action, it requires that some competent authority provide the necessary sites and assume the upkeep after the dams are constructed. Then, if the projects are okehed, the government will stand the cost of dam construction.

Advice from State Engineer C. E. Stricklin a few months ago indicated the proper course for providing the local administrative authority was the organization of a flood control district. A state law provides for setting up such districts, and authorizes the engineer to call an election on being served with a petition signed by ten property holders within the territory proposed to be included in a district. Such expense is authorized to be defrayed from "proper funds in the hands of the state engineer if such funds are available." The hitch comes, Mr. Mahoney explained, because no funds for the purpose have heretofore been appropriated.

He had been given the assurance of Mr. Stricklin that his office was willing to cooperate in every way possible, but that it could do nothing toward organizing the district until funds were made available. It is for the purpose of getting such funds, if possible, that the court felt justified in paying Mr. Mahoney's expenses to Salem. Mr. Mahoney expects to leave Monday.

The committee stressed, and the court acquiesced in the assertion that past flood experiences here, including the major disaster of 1903 when 223 lives were lost, prove the extreme need for the flood control dams.

Establishment of the district—should a majority of the landowners within the proposed boundaries vote for its establishment if and when the election is called—is only a primary step in the program. There will still remain the matter of "selling" the federal government and complying with all required "red tape."

A large popular sentiment in favor of the projects has heretofore been expressed not only by residents of Heppner, but by farmers on the creeks who have many times suffered losses from flood damage.

## PRESENTATION DELAYED.

Engineer Hayes was unable to make it over from Pendleton Monday to present the completed draft of the proposed street improvement project before the council. Closed roads prevented his coming. His draft will be used to make application for PWA assistance. Time of the council was taken up in discussion of various departments of city work.