

Heppner Gazette Times

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Tillamook Men Take Helm of Heppner Mining Co.

Office Moves to Coast City; Portland Men Lease Property.

Heppner Mining company, headed for more than 30 years by the late Dan Stalter of this city, will have its headquarters in the future at Tillamook. Officers and a board of directors composed mainly of Tillamook men were named at the annual meeting of the company at the courthouse Tuesday.

They are Jas. Williams, president; Carl Schultz, vice-president; M. B. Ackley, secretary; Max Schultz, treasurer; directors, Jas. Williams, O. K. Tittle, O. A. Schultz (all of Tillamook), and S. J. Devine and Orrin Wright of Heppner.

Mining property of the company located in the Greenhorn mountains near Austin has been leased to Bunker and Sons of Portland. They expect to put in machinery and start working the mine just as soon as the weather permits.

Devine served as president the last year, and J. O. Hager of this city has been secretary-treasurer for many years. Williams, Tittle, O. A. Schultz, from Tillamook, and H. K. Bunker of Portland were here for the meeting.

Thomas Rhea Dies; Gave Name to Creek

Funeral services were held at Hillsboro yesterday for Thomas A. Rhea, one of the founders of First National Bank of Heppner, and one of the early settlers on Rhea creek which received its name from him and his brother, the late Columbus A. Rhea. Mr. Rhea had been a resident of Hillsboro for many years, and he died there on Sunday. He is survived by the widow, Lydia Bigelow Rhea, a daughter, Mrs. Cora Bagley Lampkin of Portland, and one brother, James Rhea of Hillsboro. Mr. Rhea was an uncle of Mrs. Josie Jones and Mrs. Leta Babb of this city, being a brother of the late Mrs. James N. Luper, mother of Mrs. Babb, while his brother, C. A. Rhea, was the father of Mrs. Jones.

Mr. Rhea was the son of E. W. and Catherine (Milliorn) Rhea, being born in Greene county, Missouri. The family moved to Oregon in 1852 while Mr. Rhea was still a babe, settling at Powells valley. The following spring they removed to the forks of the Willamette river where they took up donation claims. There young Thomas was educated in the public schools and there also his mother died in 1858. In 1866 they moved near Eugene and two years later Thomas started out for himself, coming to Morrow county. Working as a cowboy, he went to Nevada the next year after arriving here, returning in a year to launch into the cow business on his own from a small beginning. He established his headquarters on the creek which later took his name, where he took as a donation claim land now operated by Jason Biddle.

In 1879 he sold his cattle and bought sheep, starting with 1500 head. In 1884 he took a band of 8000 head to Montana, selling them there. As one of the founders of First National Bank of Heppner, he served for several years as vice-president of that institution, while his brother, C. A., was president. Besides stock in the bank he once owned a fine residence in Heppner, some property in Lexington and land below Cecil on Willow creek.

An excerpt from a history of the county says anent Mr. Rhea: "Rhea creek was named after him and his brother and in an early day they

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Sporting Blood Rises When Geese "Take in Town"

Sporting blood of Main street denizens immediately boiled when two large geese sailed along beneath the street lights Tuesday afternoon.

Nonchalance was registered by the beautiful birds as they landed in the middle of the street near the intersection of Center street.

Speculation wagged tongues as to what caused the birds to start "taking in the town." Some of those more familiar with the barn lot suspicioned they had taken "French leave" from somebody's coop.

That suspicion was verified when Harve Coxen came down town looking for a couple of geese that had escaped from his barn. Not so tame, however, the geese continued honking about at a late hour in the evening when all attempts to catch them were frustrated.

ROAD SITUATION MUCH IMPROVED

Most Arteries Now Passable, Judge Reports; Snowbound Folks Arrive in Town.

County roads were about all passable yesterday, reported Judge Bert Johnson, who has had a busy time the last few weeks giving his personal attention to the needs of every section to accommodate everyone as fast as possible.

The situation was greatly complicated by new snow drifts forming about as fast as old ones could be cleared out of the way, and county equipment proved altogether inadequate for the job. Much valuable assistance was given by the state rotary plows and the CCC bulldozer, Mr. Johnson said. The CCC boys cleared the road out to the Barratt place on Little Butter creek, and yesterday were on a circle route through the Swaggart butte country expecting to work back through Blackhorse clearing the road which comes into town at the F. S. Parker place.

The wires to the judge's office have been kept hot by those wanting help on their roads and others seeking to know road conditions in various parts of the county. The condition has been such, however, that definite information in most cases was impossible. To those seeking help, the answer could only be, "We're doing all we can."

After the Hardman road had been cleared several times, E. E. Rugg brought word to town Tuesday that winds Monday night had formed new drifts. G. A. Bleakman, Hardman stage driver who has been going over the road for fifty years, said conditions this winter were the worst in his experience.

One of the last sections to be cleared up is that in Gooseberry, but it was getting attention yesterday, Mr. Johnson said. Dynamite was being used in places to loosen ice packs in the road.

Opening of the rural arteries has been reflected this week by visits to town by many people who had been snowbound for several weeks.

SNOW IN MOUNTAINS.

R. H. Steers was in town Tuesday, coming in from the Harry French mountain ranch. He reported 47 inches of snow there when he left, the greatest depth reached before this season being 55 inches. He recently took out medicine to Mrs. Foster Collins, his sister, who was sick with flu at Camas prairie, making the entire distance from Hardman to the Collins place on snowshoes, and he stated it was a stiff chore. French would like to have some one rent enough rough land in the north end of the county on which to pile the snow which he has and doesn't need, Steers reported.

Get results with G. T. want ads.

Farmers Bank Stockholders Retain Gault

Liquidation Shows Good Handling as Deposits All Repaid.

Stockholders of Farmers & Stockgrowers National Bank of Heppner, forced into liquidation in the recent depression, voted 328 to 10 in favor of retaining J. L. Gault as receiver to complete liquidation in their behalf. They met at the receiver's office Tuesday.

Remaining assets listed at \$18,000 now will be applied toward repayment on the stock assessment, as depositors' claims against the bank, with interest, have been fully satisfied. In addition to depositors being repaid dollar for dollar on every cent deposited, they received 7.59 percent interest from the time the bank closed until the amount of deposits had been repaid.

Indicative of the satisfactory handling of the bank's liquidation by Mr. Gault was the unanimous vote in his behalf of every stockholder who had paid his assessment.

The good condition of the bank's assets as revealed by the liquidation led stockholders to opine again that the bank never should have closed. The element of fear pervading the public in the depression causing people to mistrust banking institutions generally, and hitting the Farmers bank in particular because withdrawals heavily outweighed deposits, was taken as the only reason for its failure.

There appears possibility that those stockholders who paid their assessments will now be repaid in full, making liquidation of the local bank one of the most outstanding liquidations in the country.

Condon-Heppner FFA Smoker Set

The local F. F. A. chapter is holding a smoker in the high school gym Friday, Feb. 12, at 8:00 p. m., with the F. F. A. of Condon.

The list of bouts follows: Clayton Wright vs. Matt Cooney, Floyd Williams vs. Donald Smith, Howard Patton vs. Dick Montague, Jack Reiser vs. Andrew Shoun, Earl Crisman vs. Harry Staltnow, Willie Stone vs. Paul Cimmioti.

As an added attraction some of the local CCC boys will stage two boxing matches and one wrestling match.

It is hoped that this smoker will be a financial success and with the help and cooperation of the general public it will be, say the sponsors. Future smokers will be based upon the success of this one.

HAUL OUT FEED.

D. O. Justus and son Nels were in the city Monday for feed and supplies, having been snowbound at the Hinton creek farm for a week. They were thankful for the help they received in getting the road open. They trucked out eight tons of sheep cubes this week. While not right up against it for feed, they were forced to dig into hay which had been reserved for the lambing season, and a break in the weather would be acceptable.

SNOWBOUND SIX WEEKS.

Members of the Olaf Bergstrom family in the city Monday from the Eight Mile farm reported being snowbound for six weeks, it being the first time they had made it to town since New Years day. They found it necessary to go through fields coming in as the road had not been opened through, the plow having made it only as far as the Stanton farm.

Ray Drake came in from the Sand Hollow farm Tuesday.

It Is a Small World Emphasized by Red Cross Package

When W. M. Christensen out on Guam island in mid-Pacific received one of the Christmas packages prepared by the county Red Cross chapter, he thought, "I have been in Heppner but forget when it was."

He wrote on the return card to Josephine Mahoney, last year's chapter chairman:

"I received the Christmas package okeh and appreciated it. Quite a coincidence that you were from my home state. I live at Marion, 16 miles south of Salem. I have been in Heppner but forgotten when it was."

Christensen was stationed at the U. S. Naval hospital, Guam, M. I., when the package was received.

LIONS ENDORSE RIVER WORK PLAN

Hearing at Lewiston May Aid Bill in Congress; Club Gives Basketball Tourney Trophy.

Heppner Lions resolved in favor of the Inland Empire Waterways association's plan for improvement of the Columbia river, Monday, sending its endorsement to be presented with those of many farm, commercial and service organizations at a hearing to be held by the army board of engineers at Lewiston, Idaho, on the 16th.

S. E. Notson was appointed by the club to formulate a further statement showing the needs of Heppner for river improvement, to be presented at the same time. It is hoped by the waterways association to make a sufficient showing at the Lewiston hearing to aid the passage of a bill in congress prepared by Senators McNary and Steiwer of Oregon and Senator Bone of Washington which has incorporated the association's plan of development, including a continuing appropriation over a period of years until the development is completed. The association would leave the program of development entirely in the hands of the army engineers, without favoring any of the pet projects of different localities.

The club also added its endorsement of legislation at Salem intended to make tie-ups of transportation facilities through strikes, such as the maritime strike just completed, impossible in the future. The club expressed no partisanship as between labor and employers but believed such legislation is needed in the public interest. Producers especially have been made to suffer heavy financial loss because of the strike tie-ups, it was pointed out.

Giving its backing to the sub-district basketball tournament here the 26th and 27th, the club voted to provide a trophy for the winning team. Selection of the trophy was left in the hands of Alden Blankenship and Spencer Crawford.

S. E. Notson reported favorable consideration by the county court of the proposal to send a representative to Salem to work for an appropriation which would assist with organization of a flood control district. P. W. Mahoney, the court's representative, left for Salem Sunday night.

The high school mixed quartet, Misses Kathryn and Marjorie Parker, Gerald Cason and Charles Cox, sang two songs, accompanied by Norbert Peavy.

FEEL PORT SENTIMENT.

Rev. H. B. Thomas, mayor of Boardman, Frank Barlow, representing the city also, and Paul Smith, representing the grange, were in Heppner yesterday feeling out sentiment up this way on construction of a loading wharf on the river at Boardman. They hope to see river boats stopping at Boardman to load and unload cargo in the not distant future.

Weston Men Buy Ford Agency From Walter Blackburn

Milsom-Banister Motor Co. Enters Automotive Field.

Milsom-Banister Motor Co. appeared on the scene this week as Ford dealers succeeding Blackburn Motor company. Transfer of the business was being made yesterday after a deal completed by Morrow County Realty company through Walter Eubanks and H. L. Duvall.

The agency was checked this week by a factory representative, and J. S. Cooper, Ontario auditor, was assisting Walter Blackburn, retiring owner, in making the transfer.

The change in ownership brings two new families to Heppner. H. J. (Jack) Milsom and R. C. Banister, who take over the business, both come from Weston. Milsom, long prominent in Eastern Oregon automotive circles, has been with the Gentry Motor company at Weston for the last year—a firm, by the way, operated by Emery Gentry, former Heppner boy. Banister has farmed near Weston. Both men have high standing in Umatilla county. Milsom is especially familiar with this territory, having served it as automotive salesman out of Pendleton for six years before going to Weston.

A further real estate transfer is reported by the realty company with purchase of the Chas. W. Smith residence property by Banister.

Both new owners are married with families and expect to establish residences here as soon as moving arrangements can be completed. Mr. and Mrs. Milsom have two daughters, Irene and Cora May, who have finished high school, while Mr. and Mrs. Banister have three children who will all attend school.

Blackburn expects to remain here for several months, at least, while he looks after details in connection with closing his business.

The new owners will give complete Ford sales and service, and no immediate changes in shop personnel is anticipated.

Harry Jones Buried In Rites Here Today

Funeral services are being conducted from All Saints' church at 2:30 this afternoon for Harry Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Jones, Morrow county pioneers, who died Friday in Seattle. Rev. John Dawson of Good Shepherd Episcopal church of Portland is officiating minister. Graveside services are in charge of Heppner Post 87, American Legion.

William Harry Jones was born in Pendleton, Aug. 19, 1893. His parents were early pioneers on Butter creek where the family home was made for many years, and young Harry attended the Heppner schools. He later graduated from Hill Military academy, Portland. He became interested in aviation, secured his pilot's license at Redwood City, Cal., from where he enlisted and during the World war served as flying instructor at Mather field, California. After the war he was employed by DeVarney Bros., and later was in the air mail service. He went to Portland in 1921 and was connected with Clark-Kendall, bond brokers, later going to Seattle in the same business. Ill health forced him to retire from business several years ago. He is survived by a son, Kermit Henry, 14, and sister, Mrs. Stella Bailey of Portland. Mrs. Bailey is here for the services.

E. E. Rugg and Orian Wright were among Rhea creek ranchers transacting business in the city yesterday.