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JASPER V. CRAWFORD, Editor
SPENCER CRAWFORD, Manager

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Official Paper for Morrow County

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Can There Be Another Flood?

MANY people still living in Morrow county have aching hearts caused by the loss of relatives or friends in the Heppner flood disaster of 1903. Still so vividly impressed upon their memory is the picture that they do not care to be reminded of the shocking experience. But these people would gladly welcome any measure which might reasonably be employed in preventing a recurrence of that debacle.

While some of the factors which contributed to the heavy loss of life and property in that disaster have been eliminated, such as the lack of communication facilities and the prevalence of residences on the banks of the creek, still there is no certainty that as much or more water may not descend upon the Willow creek valley at some time in the future. If and when it does there is no guarantee that it will not take another toll of life.

This is a fact which any thinking person must admit, whether he believes that nothing but ill can come from saying it. Heppner has suffered an ill reputation because of the 1903 calamity, and has lost numerous prospective residents because of the fear it instilled. The flood undoubtedly caused others to move away, in all reflecting an economic loss greater than that from immediate flood damage, not counting the irreparable loss of life and resultant sorrow.

Next to the Willow creek valley, the Rhea creek valley has been harder hit by floods than any other section of the county. In the flood of April 29, 1934, thousands of dollars in losses were sustained by farmers on that creek, while a large volume of water also swept through Heppner, doing much damage. George Peck, county commissioner, is authority for the statement that had the whole storm hit less than a mile farther over on the Heppner side of the divide, the Rhea creek water would have been added to that coming down Willow creek to make a volume much larger than that in the disastrous flood of 1903.

In many cases, those who have experienced floods before know how helpless man may be in their path.

There now seems a good opportunity to minimize flood dangers on Willow and Rhea creeks if everyone will cooperate in the attempt to bring about construction of control dams at sites already recommended by army engineers.

Tentative plans and specifications are already on file with the board of army engineers in Washington. The need now is for establishment of a flood control district to provide the necessary sites and take over maintenance of the dams, if and when completed; and to convince the powers that be in Washington that the dams are necessary and justifiable.

In another column Judge Bert Johnson asks for the cooperation of everyone. Can there be any doubt of the justification?

IONE

By MARGARET BLAKE

The Ladies Aid of the Congregational church met Thursday at the home of Mrs. Laxton McMurray. Ladies present were Mrs. Paul G. Balsiger, Mrs. Edward Keller, Mrs. Harvey Ring, Mrs. J. E. Swanson, Mrs. Charles Reno, Mrs. Harry Yarnell, Mrs. Eugene Van Horn, Mrs. Bert Mason and Miss Emmer Maynard. The society will meet next week at the home of Mrs. Garland Swanson.

Laxton McMurray has purchased the Cochran building, occupied by the Allyn barber shop and pastime, from the World War Veterans' State Aid commission.

Mrs. Ella Davidson, who has been spending the winter in Heppner with her daughter, Mrs. H. D. McCurdy, returned to her home in Ione Thursday.

A party composed of Misses Anita Baumgartner and Lorraine Reed, and Joe Engelman, Donald Heliker and Norman Everson drove to Portland for the week end in the Everson car. They returned Sunday in a new car which Mr. Everson purchased while in the city.

Three inches of snow, containing .32 inches of moisture, fell here Saturday evening in a short time. Wind which blew later in the night drifted the snow in places. School busses experienced considerable difficulty in getting to town Monday morning, due to drifts in the roads.

Mrs. Robert Smith, who has been a patient at the hospital in Pendleton for the last week, was brought home Sunday. She is feeling better, but is not fully recovered from an attack of influenza.

Mrs. John Osteen and little son Alfred of Heppner are visiting at the home of her mother, Mrs. Minnie Forbes.

Mrs. Herbert Hynd of Cecil went to The Dalles Sunday in company with Mr. and Mrs. Harold Buhman of Heppner who visited their father, George McDuffee, who is a patient at the hospital there.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hynd, Jr., of Weston were Sunday guests of Mr. Hynd's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hynd, at Cecil.

While not so well attended as was hoped for, the dance given by the Willows grange at Cecil Saturday evening was a very pleasant affair, and much enjoyed by those who braved the storm to get there.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin Bauernfeind and family spent Sunday at Boardman where they visited at the Elvin Ely home.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Swanson are in Seattle where they are visiting Mr. Swanson's sisters. Mr. Swanson is receiving medical attention, and is reported to be somewhat improved.

Six tables of cards were in play at the benefit party given by the junior class Friday evening. Prizes were won by Mrs. J. E. Swanson and Mrs. Carl Allyn at bridge and by Lee Howell and Mrs. Roy Brown at pinocle.

R. E. Jones of Ukiah was a business visitor in Ione Saturday.

Miss Jeanne Huston was a visitor at the high school Friday.

J. V. Blake, principal of the school at Canyonville, was a visitor here Sunday.

Mrs. George E. Tucker and Mrs. Cleo Drake attended a birthday dinner in honor of Mrs. Kenneth Blake at Heppner Friday. Mrs. Victor G. Peterson and Mrs. H. D. McCurdy were hostesses.

Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Linn were dinner guests at the home of their son, Elmer Griffith, Sunday.

Norton Lundell, who was so seriously injured in an automobile accident in November, has so far improved that he is able to ride down town in a car, and spend some time at the garage.

Walter Bristow and his uncle, Roland Wade, are in Nampa, Idaho, where they are visiting at the home of Mr. Bristow's brother, Edmond Bristow.

Lee Howell came over from Walla Walla to spend the week end with his family. He expects to be located at Pomeroy, Wash., after the first of March. Mr. and Mrs. John Botts and Mrs. Botts' little child came over from Pendleton with him.

A shower was given at the Legion hall Saturday evening for Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Stefani, who recently lost their household goods by fire. They

were presented with many handsome and useful gifts.

Mrs. Pauline Boyer is working at Arlington.

Mr. and Mrs. Lee Howell were visitors in Heppner Saturday where they called on Mr. Howell's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Howell, and on Mrs. Kenneth Blake.

Harold Kincaid and Louis Buschke made a trip by truck to Portland the last of the week.

The I. O. O. F. lodge at Morgan installed the following officers on Thursday evening: E. G. Miller, N. G.; W. G. Palmateer, V. G.; Martin Bauernfeind, secretary; J. A. Troedson, treasurer. W. T. Lowe was installing officer.

Miss Juanita Odom spent the week end with Miss Katherine Griffith and attended the Cecil dance.

Jack Ranks, "one man dramatist," presented a program at the school house Saturday evening.

The cooked food sale, conducted by the freshman and sophomore classes Saturday, realized the sum of \$11.45 for the high school.

Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Ward passed through town Tuesday enroute to their home in Heppner from Portland where they spent several weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Tachell have moved to Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. John Blake who have spent the past three weeks visiting relatives here returned to Freewater Sunday. Mr. Blake is employed on the construction of a school gymnasium near there and had been unable to work during the recent bad weather.

Clarence C. Rogers and Virgil Crawford of Kinzua were guests at the Park hotel Saturday night.

Garland Swanson is driving a new car.

Mrs. E. J. Blake returned Tuesday from Portland where she had spent the past two weeks near her father, Rev. J. L. Jones, who is seriously ill. Rev. Jones was making satisfactory progress toward recovery.

Relatives have received word that Joe Mason, a former resident, has been quite ill at his home in Prineville and was taken last Friday to the Veterans' hospital in Portland for medical care.

Mr. and Mrs. Neil Shuirman of Flint, Mich., arrived Monday night for a visit with Mrs. Shuirman's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Feldman. The Shuirmans have been visiting relatives in California.

Oscar Bergstrom came up from his home in Portland Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Berl Akers who have been quarantined at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Ely with scarlet fever, have recovered and returned to their farm home in Gooseberry.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul G. Balsiger returned recently from an extended visit in the east with their daughter, Mrs. Paul Koehring and family, in Indiana, and with Mrs. Balsiger's mother in Illinois.

WILLOWS GRANGE NEWS.

The dance at Willows grange hall Saturday night was well attended and all report a good time.

The lecturer's program at Cecil, Saturday night, Feb. 27, will be a birthday party for historical and poetic characters including Washington, Lincoln, Longfellow, Lowell, Dickens, Daniel Boone, and many others whose birthdays occur in February. After the program there will be a social evening. The public is cordially invited to the program to begin at 9 p. m. All who wish may come in old-fashioned attire as grangers plan on wearing old-fashioned costumes for this meeting and for the entire evening.

RANGE MEETING SET.

Governor Martin has called a meeting of interested persons over the state to be held at Salem next Tuesday for the purpose of discussing the handling of state-owned grazing lands. The meeting is expected to affect the future policy of handling grazing on state-owned lands.

Ralph Jones, connected with the former Blackburn-Jones Motor company, was a business visitor in the city Saturday, accompanied by Mrs. Jones. They now live in Ukiah where both are employed in the school. They drove to Heppner over the lower route from Pendleton by way of Echo, staying Friday night at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Stanfield, parents of Mrs. Jones.

LEXINGTON

By EDITH EDWARDS

Miss Jean Crawford was ill at the home of Mrs. Roy Johnson last week.

The pupils of the 7th and 8th grades held a valentine party Thursday evening in the gymnasium. Games were played and refreshments served later in the evening.

The high school basketball team played two practice games with the Heppner CCC team last Wednesday. The CCC team won both games.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. D. Campbell spent the week end with Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Ingles at Boardman.

Mrs. Alta Brown of Heppner visited at the home of her sister, Mrs. Roy Johnson, last Friday.

The Lexington high school basketball team motored to Fossil Friday evening, coming home with a victory of 22 to 14 over the Fossil team.

Mrs. Arnold Pieper left Monday morning for Portland to visit relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Palmer of Ione were visitors in Lexington last Friday.

Mrs. Lee Sprinkel, Mrs. Fred Wehmeyer and two grandchildren of Heppner were visiting in Lexington last Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. John Lasich, Jr., and baby daughter left this week for Tigard to make their home.

Dr. Clyde Dunham of Portland is a guest at the Roy Johnson home. Archie Padberg underwent a major operation at the Heppner hospital last week.

Mildred Hunt has returned to her home from the Heppner hospital.

W. B. Tucker returned home on Thursday from Portland, where he has been with his daughter, Beulah Nichols.

Mr. and Mrs. Millard Nolan moved to Heppner Saturday to make their home.

Lyle Allyn, Jack Van Winkle, Kenneth Peck and Kenneth Palmer were in Arlington one day this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Ruhl returned home from Portland Sunday. They were accompanied by Mrs. Rose Eskelson of Medford.

Lester White returned home Sunday from McMinnville where he has been employed.

Mrs. Myles Martin returned home Sunday from the hospital at The Dalles where she recently underwent a major operation.

The Home Economics club of the Lexington grange met Thursday afternoon at the grange hall. Only four members were present.

Word was received here last week of the death of Frank Gentry in Portland from a heart attack. Mr. Gentry was a former resident of this McCoy remained to visit her mother.

Walter Cochran of Ione had an accident last Thursday afternoon in front of the service station when he ran into a telephone pole to avoid hitting children crossing the highway.

John Carroll of Pendleton was here on business Friday.

Mrs. A. M. Edwards left Wednesday morning for Spokane to visit relatives.

(Too late for last week)

The high school students have started publishing a student body newspaper. Each class is taking turns and the edition is to come out every two weeks.

Beulah Nichols is recovering slowly from her recent operation in the Good Samaritan hospital in Portland.

The Lexington high school basketball team met defeat twice last week on their home floor. Tuesday night they met the Boardman Yellow Jackets and were defeated by a score of 48-10. Friday night Arlington won their game by a score of 28-20.

Charles Breshears slipped on the ice Friday morning at his home and sprained his ankle.

Henry Rauch, Jr., has returned to school after his recent illness with pneumonia.

The busses are all able to get in to school now and the attendance is back to normal again.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Ingles of Boardman were week-end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William D. Campbell.

Joyce Biddle is spending the week with Wilma Tucker.

Mrs. Vernon Scott and baby visit-

ed her mother, Mrs. Lee Sprinkel, in Heppner Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. William Smethurst and daughter visited in Stanfield last week.

Edna Rauch spent Monday night with Wilma Tucker.

Joyce Biddle was ill at her home last week.

The people of Lexington are skating around on the ice this week, as the snow has practically all melted and frozen.

Heppner grade and high school basketball teams defeated the Lexington teams on our home floor last Monday evening. The grade school game was a very close one with the final score being 14-13 in Heppner's favor. The Heppner Mustangs defeated the Lexington Jackrabbits by a score of 23-7.

Mr. and Mrs. Otto Ruhl left Tuesday morning for the valley. Mr. Ruhl will go on to Medford while Mrs. Ruhl will visit her mother in Portland.

Doris and Grace Burchell of Corvallis arrived Tuesday morning for a visit with their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Johnson.

IRRIGON

By MRS. W. C. ISOM

Wayne Caldwell, who is now in the employ of his brother, Vern, Caldwell, at Portland, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Tom Caldwell, as he was passing through town on a business trip into Idaho the last of the week. Bobby Brace accompanied him on the trip.

The basketball games between the grade and high school teams of Irrigon and Stanfield were played on the home floor Friday night. The score for the grade game was 4 to 6 in Irrigon's favor and the high school score was 24 to 28 in favor of the home team.

P. C. Bishop who has been quite ill with an attack of flu is improving slowly.

Mrs. Lyle Eddy was substitute teacher in the intermediate grades at Umatilla Monday, taking Miss Christenson's place, the latter being indisposed from shock as a result of the auto wreck she was in near Boardman the last of the week.

Mrs. Stella Paulson is visiting relatives in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Rev. Koontz will begin a series of revival meetings at the Pentecostal church Sunday, Feb. 21, to which the public is cordially invited.

Clara Louise Caldwell is absent from school this week with an attack of pink eye.

Mrs. Eisman of Portland, who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. Harry Smith, for some time, returned home the last of the week.

Jas. Arnsburg and Ray Lamoreaux were business visitors in Hermiston Saturday.

Benny McCoy and mother motored down from Imbler Sunday. Benny returned home Monday and Mrs. McCoy remained to visit her mother, Mrs. J. A. Grabel, and other relatives.

R. V. Jones had the misfortune to lose a valuable horse last week from some form of throat trouble.

Mrs. W. C. Isom visited with Mr. and Mrs. Suddarth Monday.

Mrs. Earl Isom and little daughter Donna Joan were dinner guests of his grandmother, Mrs. J. A. Grabel Monday.

Mr. Haberline moved to his own place this week.

Mrs. Minnie Elder of Auburn, Wash., is visiting her son, Rev. Claud Crawford.

O. Coryell had a workman up from The Dalles Monday working on his Frigidaire.

Mrs. Chas. Steward of Walla Walla visited friends here a short time Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C. Warner were dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. Tom Caldwell Sunday.

In June the north pole is tilted 23 degrees 27 minutes toward the sun and the days in the northern hemisphere are longer than the nights; at the same time the nights in the southern hemisphere are longer than the days.

Twenty-three bills enacted by congress in favor of organized labor were signed by the president in 1936.

Customers of American banks in 1936 paid the lowest average interest charges this century.