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Diversion Channel Brings Liquid Gold To Willow Farmers

Flow of 22 Million Gallons Daily Seen by Visiting Party.

Liquid gold, rivulets of it trickling their way from melting snowbanks, were seen by the party of local men who visited the Ditch creek diversion channel last Friday. It trickled its way into the canal for an accumulated flow of 35 cubic feet per second, or 22,000,000 gallons every 24 hours, into Willow creek to be mined by lower creek farmers in the form of increased hay production, more livestock, larger land values. And, if this year's supply is duplicated in future years, the average annual "take" from the mine will be at least \$25,000 estimates Millard Rodman, Soil Conservation supervisor who superintended the job of bulldozing the recently completed channel.

The party visiting the canal Friday was not large, but those who accepted the invitation of Joseph Belanger, county agent, were rewarded by the sight of the most beautiful flow of water in Morrow county. The 6800-foot diversion channel, 4 to 12 feet wide, was running almost brimful of water upwards of 18 inches in depth.

Through Ditch creek prairie, Heppner's favorite summer camping ground in days ago, the water moved tranquilly and placidly, inviting a canoe ride. Then as it dropped over the brim of Coal Mine hill, it became a raging, roaring, foaming cataract, tearing away the mountainside. In places here it was concealed from view by snowbanks still spanning the rapidly deepening gorge, as it thundered its way the precipitous half mile to join the waters of Willow creek a few hundred yards above the old coal mine bunker site—where, even yet, may be found good specimens of the young coal, unearthed a million years too soon, bearing the impression of luxuriant vegetable growth deposited several million years before by Mother Nature to compose it.

Friday's party saw the flow near its peak for the season. But, unless exceedingly warm weather comes apace, the canal will still be contributing to the waters of Willow on the Fourth of July, for on the upper reaches where the channel was extended an additional 2000 feet in recent months, there remains snow averaging near three feet in depth and well packed.

Snow had disappeared entirely on the prairie itself, and banks along the canal were fairly dry, though evidence of late spring was noted by the belated appearance of wild flowers which were appearing profusely lower down. Luxuriant greenery graced the prairie landscape itself.

And that nothing shall happen to this newly acquired asset of Morrow county is the main purpose in life of Mack Smith. Mack was the straw boss who brought the canal into the world, and he has been constantly on the job since, fondling and petting it—more attentively than any girl with her first doll—aided by CCC boys.

Mack and one of his helpers were on the job Friday. On the way up the visiting party discovered a sizeable break in the canal where many gallons of the precious liquid were escaping. It was a half mile farther up that Mack was met and notified, and Mack dispatched his helper post haste. By the time the party returned to the spot, the break had been filled with gunny sacks full of dirt and the escapement completely checked.

Mack evidenced just pride, and a pride all Morrow county may well feel, when he told of visiting soil conservation officials commenting that the Ditch creek diversion chan-

LOSERS EAT CROW JUNE 9; WIRE HERE

Game Commissioner Promises to Bring Moving Pictures; Predator Contest Extended to June 7.

Closing time in Morrow County Hunters and Anglers club crow-magpie contest was extended to June 7 this week, as Mark Merrill and Logie Richardson, captains of the competing sides, almost completely severed amicable relations. Each refused to reveal progress of his side for the week except to declare that it had been the best week yet for turn-ins.

Plans for the wind-up banquet, now slated for June 9, took further shape when Richardson contacted Frank Wire, game commissioner, while in Portland yesterday, and received Wire's promise that he would attend, give a talk on game conditions in Oregon and also bring the commission's moving pictures of wild game life in the state. He also promised to eat crow with the losers providing it was a "pullet" not exceeding 25 years old, as crows live to be 75 to 100 years old, he said.

One reason given by Richardson for extending the banquet date to June 9 was to give one of his members opportunity to hatch out the bunch of crow eggs in his incubator. Otherwise, Richardson said, he would lose out on about 500 crows.

Richardson's crow died this week, preventing the proposed match with Merrill's crow. Richardson was presented with a badger this week, however, and now rumor has it that Merrill is hunting a hound to fight the badger as a part of the banquet entertainment.

Condon Hospitality Enjoyed by Elks

A large assemblage of members of Heppner Lodge 358, B. P. O. Elks, was in Condon Saturday for the annual spring away-from-home initiation and convention, and those present from Heppner returned with glowing reports of the neighboring city's hospitality.

A class of five candidates was initiated in the afternoon with Bert Mason, exalted ruler, presiding. Evening festivities centered at the Crystal ball room where a 10-piece Portland orchestra played for dancing. Fred Stewart, Ray Dukek and L. Van Marter, on the Condon end of arrangements, were credited with doing a fine job.

S. E. Notson Goes Thru Operation Well

S. E. Notson, local attorney and pioneer in the offices of county school superintendent and district attorney, is reported as recovering nicely from an operation which he underwent at Emanuel hospital in Portland, Monday.

Mr. Notson had gone to Portland a week before for observation in an illness which appeared to be fast undermining his health. Written word from Mrs. Notson to friends Tuesday announced that the trouble was revealed to be a simple constriction of the bowel with no sign of malignancy.

CLUB ENTERTAINED.

Misses Leta Humphreys and Rose Leibbrand, who returned recently from a tour of Mexico, entertained club members of the Bookworms club at the home of Mrs. Virginia Turner, Monday evening. Dressed in native Mexican garb, Miss Humphreys as the lady and Miss Leibbrand as the man, they related many interesting incidents of their trip. In addition they brought a gift to each member in the form of swizzle sticks, a wooden implement used by Mexicans for stirring their chocolate. Among other incidents was related the killing of two large diamond-back rattlesnakes, which they ran over with their automobile.

nel was the best piece of ditch digging they had ever seen.

Street Surfacing Bonds to be Decided At Special Election

PWA Help Out; Dangerous Building Law Passed by Dads.

The matter of issuing bonds to complete Heppner's street surfacing program this year will be placed before the people at a special election. That was the decision of the council Monday evening after receiving word from C. C. Hockley, Oregon's PWA director, that PWA assistance this year would be on the basis of amount of labor used from certified relief rolls.

PWA this year will expend only the amount paid relief labor plus 15 percent, instead of granting an outright 45 percent of the cost on approved projects as has been done in the past. On the basis of relief labor the council believed hope of sufficient assistance from PWA to complete the street surfacing project was entirely out of the question.

Frank Hayes, Pendleton engineer, who made the preliminary survey with estimates, was before the council and went over the program with them. It was estimated that an additional \$7000 would be needed from the bond issue to augment the \$8000 already provided in this year's budget in order to complete the program this year. The program provides for surfacing all the principal streets of the city with oiled macadam varying in width up to 30 feet, with rock macadam only on some streets leading up hills and similar surface on Riverside Way.

City Attorney Nys was instructed to obtain a legal opinion on the bonds, and it was expected the date of the election would be set at the next council meeting.

On advice from Engineer Hayes, it was expected a committee of three from the council and a similar committee of citizens would wait upon WPA in an attempt to get the swimming pool constructed with the aid of this government agency.

A new ordinance looking to the abatement of dilapidated or illy-constructed buildings which might be a menace to public health or safety was passed on third reading, and with emergency clause attached became effective immediately. The new ordinance supercedes all previous ordinances of the same character, and sets out methods of condemnation and removal of such buildings. A maximum fine of \$100 or imprisonment not to exceed fifty days, or both such fine and imprisonment, are provided as penalty for any person who fails to comply with the provision of the ordinance within ten days after receipt of notice.

Cat Fends Off Rattlesnake From Kittens in House

(Ione Correspondent)

One day last week Mrs. Harold Townsend who lives near Cecil heard a commotion in a room in her home and on making an investigation found the disturbance to be caused by a mother cat who was defending her kittens from a rattlesnake. Mrs. Townsend hurriedly called her husband who killed the snake which was a large one with fourteen rattles.

ASK MAP INSPECTION.

The state highway commission has left a map of Morrow county at the clerk's office to be checked by the public for any errors as to location of schoolhouses, roads, and other information given on the map. Anyone who can conveniently do so is asked to drop into the office and check that part of the map with which he is familiar, as the state commission is desirous of making the map as accurate as possible.

FOUR BOYS TO VIE AT STATE MEET

Gilman High Point Man at La Grande as Team Places Third; Town Subscribes Money for Trip.

Heppner will be represented at the state high school track meet in Eugene this week end—the first time in history. Coach Henry Tetz is leaving today with the four boys who qualified in the invitational track meet at La Grande Saturday. They are Leonard Gilman, high point man at La Grande, Norton King, La Verne Van Marter and Charles Cox.

A popular subscription started at Monday's Lions luncheon provided money for the trip.

Heppner placed third at La Grande with 27 points. The four boys entered won the half-mile relay in 1:37.3. Gilman led the field in the javelin throw, heaving it 154 feet, 10 inches, tied for first place in the pole vault at 11 feet, and tied for third place in the high jump. King placed second in both the 100-yard dash and the broad jump; and Van Marter was fourth in the 440-yard dash.

While no records were set at La Grande, Coach Tetz believes the Heppner squad will be in the running at Eugene.

La Grande copped Saturday's invitational meet with 59½ points. Pendleton was second with 51. Other scores were Enterprise 20½, Milton-Freewater 19 1-6, Baker 13½, Union 10, Pilot Rock 4, Halfway 3½ and Helix 1. Gilman beat out Stitt of La Grande by a quarter-point for high individual score and the special trophy award, the help of his teammates in the relay contributing the deciding margin. Gilman scored 13¼ points to Stitt's 13.

FARM BUREAU UNIT ORGANIZED HERE; BARRATT IS HEAD

The Morrow county unit of the American Farm Bureau Federation was organized last night at a meeting at the Heppner hotel. J. G. Barratt, Heppner, was elected temporary president with E. H. Miller, Lexington, temporary vice-president. Temporary directors are Henry Baker, Ione; J. J. Wightman, Heppner; Harlan McCurdy, Heppner; J. O. Kincaid, Ione; Frank S. Parker, Heppner; Frank Wilkinson, Heppner, and Oscar Peterson, Ione. These officers were elected to carry over until a meeting for permanent organization could be held in the near future.

Mac Hake, Pendleton, president of the state Farm Bureau, was the main speaker at the dinner meeting. Otto Schulz of the national Farm Bureau, who has been active during the past few months in getting county units under way in Oregon, assisted Mr. Hoke in organizing the unit here.

The group was unanimously of the opinion that this organization would supplement and coordinate the activities of the other farm organizations within the county. Mr. Hoke, in his address, pointed out the trend in all industries and groups toward closer and more effective organization, and emphasized the need for effective organization of agriculturalists for their own protection.

The temporary board of directors will meet in Heppner, Wednesday evening, May 26, for the purpose of preparing articles of association and by-laws to be considered at the next general meeting.

Oiling Lex-Jarmon Road Completed

Oiling operations on the Lexington-Jarmon road from Lexington to Butter creek were completed Saturday by a state highway crew. The road was covered with heavy surface from Lexington out 12 miles, and lighter surfacing was used the remaining eight miles.

A crew will return later to place the surface binding. Completion of the oiling gives a fine surfaced highway all the way to Echo to connect with the Oregon-Trail highway.

High School Will Graduate Class of 27 Tomorrow Evening

Junior-Senior Banquet, Baccalaureate Held This Week.

Twenty-seven seniors of Heppner high school will receive diplomas at commencement exercises at the gymnasium at 8 o'clock tomorrow evening, with W. A. Dahlberg of the University of Oregon faculty delivering the address. Dr. A. D. McMurdo, chairman of the board of education, will present the diplomas to the following:

Louise Anderson, Lois Ashbaugh, Dora P. Bailey, Norma Jean Beckett, Zara Neva Bleakman, Paul C. Brown, Gerald LaMar Cason, Necha Colblantz, Vivian Ruth Cowins, Charles Marion Cox, Elsie Marie Crump, Melissa Mae Edmondson, Rosanna Farley, Leonard Gilman, Fred Hoskins, Jr., Norton King, Wm. Lee McCaleb, Jr., Louise McFerrin, Riley Munkers, Kathryn Parker, Marjorie Parker, Andrew M. Shoun, Donald Edwin Turner, Elizabeth E. Vance, Erma Van Schoiack, Helen Van Schoiack, Ellis K. Williams.

The program numbers will be: Prelude, "Scarf Dance," Chamniare; processional, "Coronation March," Meyerbeer; invocation, Rev. R. C. Young; vocal duet, "Indian Love Call," Zamecink, Harriet Hager and Gerald Cason; commencement address; trio, "Indian Dawn," Gerald Cason, Ellis Williams, Jackson Gilliam; presentation of Balfour plaque, Spencer Crawford; presentation of Norton Winnard cup, Dr. A. D. McMurdo; presentation of class of 1937, A. H. Blankenship, superintendent; presentation of diplomas.

The class motto is "Only a Commencement." Its colors are rose and gray, and the flower pink rosebuds.

Closing activities of the school this week have been featured by the junior-senior banquet Saturday evening at the Elks hall followed by the senior prom; baccalaureate exercises at the gymnasium, Sunday, final examinations, completed yesterday, and the student body picnic at Hildaway springs today. Tomorrow students will receive their final grades and school will be over until next fall.

Rev. R. C. Young delivered the baccalaureate address, giving an inspirational message that was well received by everyone. Other program numbers were: Prelude, "Bacause," G. Delbruck; processional, "Grand March (Aida)," Verdi; invocation, Alvin L. Kleinfeldt; vocal solo, "A Tiny Seed Becomes a Shrine," Coburn, Jackson Gilliam; quartet, "The Rosary," Nevin, Gerald Cason, Norton King, Ellis Williams, Jackson Gilliam; benediction, Mr. Kleinfeldt, and recessional.

Attractively decorated banquet and dance halls in the Elks building were the scenes of the reception and prom, attended by members of the junior and senior classes, instructors and members of the school board with their wives. Jackson Gilliam, president of the junior class, extended the welcome, responded to by Kathryn Parker, senior class president. After dinner speeches were made by Dr. McMurdo, Mr. Blankenship, H. E. Tetz, coach; Mrs. Lucy E. Rodgers, county school superintendent; and Don Turner, student body president. Other numbers were presentation of the class key by Miss Parker, reading of class will by William Lee McCaleb, Jr., senior class prophecy by Kathryn Mitchell, and talk by Paul McCarty, president-elect of the student body. The Columbians, Irrigon orchestra, played for dancing in which local students were joined by Lexington and Ione students.

Paul Webb was in the city the end of the week, coming over from Walla Walla to look after ranch interests in the Hardman section.