

Heppner Gazette Times

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Official Paper for Morrow County



1937		DECEMBER						1937	
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Season's Good Cheer

WITH announcement of the coming of a sawmill to Heppner this week, and steps progressing in the construction locally of an administration headquarters for the Heppner district of the Umatilla National forest, there is good cheer with which to brighten the city's hopes for the future. Another good economic yardmarker is the setting of the sale of remaining Farmers & Stockgrowers National bank assets, expected to repay stockholders' assessments in full plus the legal rate of interest for the time the money was used in process of liquidation.

More good cheer for the season comes in the form of generous moisture which has led old-timers to remark the county looks the best, so far as growing conditions are concerned, that it has at any time in the last twenty years.

In all there is generous indication that Morrow county is on the road back from the deep throes of the last depression, with reason to believe that the next era of prosperity will carry it to a higher peak of settlement and development than it has ever before attained.

Such retarding factors as enter the picture are not of local making. Just at present depressed condition of farm markets, the unsettled labor situation, prospect of increased freight rates, are factors of national scope. Given an available market for its products, settled working conditions under which to produce them and reasonable transportation costs to enable it to compete in markets of the larger consuming centers Morrow county will look to Washington for no dole, will, in fact, provide employment for many newcomers.

What is Best?

RAILROADS are a very vital factor in the economic structure of America, and their severe decline in earnings may well be the concern of everyone. Not alone do thousands of railroad employees provide many desirable consumers of farm products, when they are well paid, but earnings upon capital stock which affects many industries is the source of expanded operations and the provision of more jobs.

The railroads are entitled to a sympathetic ear at this time if the nation wishes to act in the course of wisdom to better the common weal.

But to our section it appears doubtful if the railroad management is following the proper course to cure its own ills. It is asking a general increase in rates of 15 percent to overcome losses in operation and to meet increased wage demands.

Such a rate increase here would place an additional burden upon our producers at a time when they are already having difficulty selling their

products at a profit. The increase here, it appears, would discourage shipping on the rails to an amount that would more than offset increase in revenues expected to result from higher rates.

There may have been a time when railroads could increase income by just adding to the freight cost. That day is past, and the railroads have suffered because they have for so long held to such an idea. Competitive carriers on the waterways and highways have developed in the face of such a situation to the point where they have minimized the economic value of rail transportation. And even though railroad capital may largely control other transportation facilities than the rails, the continued adherence to such a policy but opens the way for development of competition which may eventually change the entire system of transportation control.

Railroad capital and railroad labor have a common interest in seeing that the first consideration is the general economic benefit of their operation. No uneconomic operation can long endure in an enlightened society.

Mustangs Upset Lex Jackrabbits

The Jackrabbits issued advance warning that they were going to vanquish the Mustangs, but their efforts proved a fruitless venture as Heppner defeated Lexington 24 to 17 Tuesday night on the latter's home floor.

Playing an extremely rough game, both teams were checking with and following the ball as the opposing squad brought it down the floor, and many initiated trips to each other's basket were interrupted by a wild scramble for the ball in mid-court.

The game was one in which most of the successful attempts for field goals were made from a point but a short distance from the basket or were converted from the foul line, as Lexington made four free throws the first half while sinking only one basket.

Heppner took the lead on Van Marter's lay-in shot, and Coxen soon repeated with two points after gaining the ball in a mix-up under the basket. Davis, Lexington guard, decreased Heppner's lead with a one-handed shot from the side, but Aiken and Drake kept the scoring machine adding until Heppner held a 9 to 6 advantage at half time.

Lexington came back in the second half with a successful free throw by Peck and a basket by Jackson that tied the score at 9 all. Morgan, Heppner reserve, broke the tie on a solo dash after breaking away with the ball from mid-court. This seemed to be the necessary incentive, as Heppner made field goals quite frequently thereafter to win by a 24 to 17 margin.

A total of twenty-three fouls were called by Referee Ransier of Ione, with Van Marter of Heppner being ejected from the game for committing the necessary number of personals.

Cooked food and fancy work sale at Case's store, Saturday, Dec. 18, beginning at 1:30.

HARDMAN NEWS

Baby Arrives on Brother's Birthday

By OPAL HASTINGS

On December 6, Dona Darlene arrived to the home of her parents Mr. and Mrs. Victor Lovgren. She came as a birthday present to her brother Larry who was three on that day.

On Saturday night at the regular meeting of the Odd Fellows the following were initiated: Elmer Steers, Sabin Hastings, Elmer Palmer and James Stevens. Kenneth Batty and Alfred Bergstrom were unable to be there, but they plan to be initiated in two weeks.

The new current events contest in the upper grade room is individual. Each person has one day to get news. The contest will last until the end of February.

Alene Inskeep was ill Wednesday but is back in school now.

"Let's Talk" is the new name for our parliamentary club and we all feel sure that with a clever name like this the club will be a success.

Mrs. Ida Harlow of Monument was visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Stevens Saturday.

There will be a dance at the I. O. O. F. hall Saturday night Music will be furnished by Scott Brown's orchestra. Everybody come.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Musgrave were visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Steers Sunday. Arlton Stevens returned home with them from Fox where he has been working.

Mr. and Mrs. Bud Ayers are living at the Yager apartments in Heppner. Mrs. Ayers was brought home from the hospital recently. Mrs. Walter Farrens and Miss Dolly Farrens are living with them at present.

The ski makers were right about some snow this winter. The snow fell fast for a few minutes last Thursday, covering the ground, but was soon melted by a warm wind.

Mr. and Mrs. Kinnard McDaniel and family moved into the house previously occupied by the Battys.

Virgil Fisher, owner of the Spray pastime, visited Mr. and Mrs. Owen Leathers, Tuesday.

Mrs. Stanley Robison informed us that her father, E.J. Merrill, who is in Portland is getting better slowly.

Harold Craber visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ed Craber, Sunday.

Believe it or not—one can get lost in Hardman! The fog has been so dense here the last week that one can hardly find his way. Even Mr. Kerrick, the state accident prevention officer, was totally bewildered by the enveloping fog. He had to inquire how to find the road to Heppner. The frost is two inches thick on the north and west sides of fences, telephone wires, etc. It was so heavy on the box elder tree in front of the hotel that it broke one of the large limbs off.

Mrs. Blaine Chapel who has been teaching at Olex has had to resign because of illness.

Sunday evening about 8 o'clock the fog visited Hardman for a short time and then retired for the evening.

Mrs. Lewis Knighten had a sudden

heart attack Wednesday evening. They had Dr. McMurdo out for her. Mrs. Maude Robison is staying with her.

At Christian Endeavor Sunday evening the delegates that went to Milton-Freewater gave reports. The delegates were Mrs. Neil Knighten, Mrs. Muriel McCutcheon, Miss Iris Morton, Nona Inskeep, Mildred Clary and Albert Schunk. Everyone enjoyed the reports very much. We are looking forward to a big crowd next meeting.

Miss Frances Inskeep and Miss Opal Hastings were hostesses at a birthday party at the high school on Friday. There were 38 present. The girls served sandwiches, coffee, and angel food cake and ice cream. They received many attractive presents and many smelly ones (perfume).

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond McDonald and Buster Bleakman have gone to work for Bill Greener. Mrs. McDonald will cook for the loggers. Raymond and Buster will help with the logging.

The "Community Sings" was well attended but minus its leader, Mrs. Neal Knighten. Mrs. McCutcheon led in her place. It was decided to call off the pageant that had been planned to be given at Christmas time.

An unexpected spectacle was witnessed by Mr. and Mrs. Owen Leathers last Thursday as they were going to Mrs. Thomas McIntyre's ranch. Mrs. Leathers noticed something in a shed that looked like a

plow and she asked why a plow was so far from the house, when lo! and to their surprise it turned out to be a bull elk. The elk was so poor they could almost count its ribs. He just walked off and loitered along until he was out of sight. Everyone had better look at their plow handles to see if they have three points.

One of the most steady down-pours of rain ever witnessed in December came last Friday and Saturday here. The weather we have now is just like that of the early spring.

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