

Heppner Gazette Times

Volume 54, Number 26

Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, September 8, 1938

Subscription \$2.00 a Year

Mrs. Rodgers Cites Consolidation Need Before Lions Club

Improved Financial Condition of Schools Shown from Report

Displaying a map before the Monday Lions luncheon which showed the majority of Morrow county pupils being educated in seven districts, Mrs. Lucy E. Rodgers, county school superintendent, declared that much simplification of and economy in administration could be effected by eliminating many of the 43 active districts most of whom now transport pupils to the seven main districts.

"Either a consolidation into several large districts or inclusion of the entire county within a single district seems advisable," Mrs. Rodgers said. Elimination of clerk's pay, bonds and auditing expense for many of the small districts would in itself make a considerable saving each year besides the possibility of coordinating facilities to lower the annual per pupil cost of education which runs very high in some districts."

Mrs. Rodgers quoted from the annual report of C. R. Ham, auditor, to show the per pupil cost of education in the various standard high schools of the county for the year 1937-38, viz: Heppner \$116.37, Irrigon \$210.66, Lexington \$221.77, Boardman \$298.45, Pine City \$243.90, Ione \$163.42.

These figures were arrived at by dividing the total cost of operation in each district by the average number of pupils in daily attendance. Total cost of operation and average daily attendance in each district was given as follows: Heppner \$13,429.24, 115.4; Irrigon \$5,182.14, 24.6; Lexington \$5,610.75, 25.3; Boardman \$8,953.50, 30; Pine City \$2,263.50, 9.3; Ione \$6,291.65, 38.5.

General improvement in the warrant and bonded condition of districts of the county was shown the past year, Mrs. Rodgers cited from the report. Total warrant indebtedness of all districts was reduced \$14,506.65, and bonded indebtedness was lowered \$9000 for a total of \$23,506.65. Cash balances in all districts decreased \$14,921.26 in the year, leaving a net improvement in financial condition of \$8,585.39.

All districts except six were on a cash basis at the end of the year. School District No. 1, Heppner, while still on a warrant basis, reduced its warrant indebtedness by \$10,414.04 from \$27,301.47 to \$16,887.43.

Total warrant indebtedness of all districts at the third Monday in June this year was \$26,849.47; total bonded indebtedness, 109,000, leaving the total indebtedness at \$135,847.47. The cash balance at the same time was \$34,886.05.

Miss Althea Stoneman and Mrs. E. R. Huston were luncheon guests of the Lions and G. J. Ryan of Lexington was introduced as a new member. Mr. Ryan, manager Morrow County Grain Growers, made a short talk on the necessity of cooperation for general community progress in the county.

HUNTERS, ANGLERS TO MEET

Morrow County Hunters and Anglers club will meet at Elks hall next Wednesday evening at 7:30 to discuss activities, announces Logie Richardson, president. Among matters to be considered will be the offer of Superintendent Kisler of the Soil Conservation service to cooperate in providing pens for care of game birds and assistance with construction of fish ladders on dams where needed.

RUTH CHAPTER TO MEET

The regular meeting of Ruth chapter, O. E. S., will be held tomorrow evening at Masonic hall. Mary Guild, worthy matron, urges a large attendance of members.

PORTABLE KITCHEN HERE SEPTEMBER 10

O. S. C. Demonstration Project Gives Helpful Suggestions for New or Made-Over Houses

Mrs. Virginia Schneider, assistant in the home economics extension service of Oregon State college, is in charge of the traveling kitchen demonstration. The traveling kitchen will be on display in Heppner on September 20 at 10 a. m. and will be available for inspection until early in the evening.

This modern kitchen on wheels has many valuable suggestions on construction of built-ins and kitchen arrangement for families who are planning to build and for families who are planning to remodel. Suggestions are also given for rearranging kitchen equipment in order to make the farm kitchen more convenient.

Some of the features of the built-ins of this modern kitchen consist of a floor-to-ceiling cabinet for the storage of packed groceries and cooking utensils, a specially designed wood box, a cabinet for the storage of farm records and bulletins, and a play cabinet for the children.

An interesting and new color treatment has been used throughout in the finishing of the walls, woodwork and accessories.

The kitchen will be exhibited in 14 counties in Oregon in the summer and fall of 1938. Local arrangements for the traveling kitchen display are in charge of Joseph Belanger, county agent.

BPW Launches Year at Breakfast

The first meeting of the Business and Professional Women's club year was held at the home of Mrs. E. R. Huston Friday morning at 7:30. Mrs. Huston, Miss Leta Humphreys and Rose Leibbrand were hostesses at a delicious breakfast served on the spacious veranda of the Huston home. The following members were present: Rose Leibbrand, president of the local club; Mary White, Leta Humphreys, Neva Neill, Lorena Wilson, secretary, Clara Beamer, Elizabeth Dix, Catherine Parker, Lulu Hager, Eleor Huston and Lucy Rodgers. Visitors were Althea Stoneman and Ruth Green.

The program for the year was planned around the subject, "Personality Development," giving special emphasis to "Your Job and Mine." It was agreed that the club would participate in the civic activities of the town and that it would sponsor at least one cultural attraction and than an Oregon Products luncheon or dinner would be given.

The next meeting of the club will be a "jamboree" at which time prospective members to complete the membership quota of twenty will be invited.

ATTEND GOLDEN WEDDING

Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Young departed Sunday evening for Portland to be present for the golden wedding anniversary of Mrs. Young's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Duncan Gray of Aloha. They also expected to stop over at Portland for a glimpse of their first grandchild, the baby of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Rasmussen. Rev. Young expected to be back in Heppner tomorrow and to conduct regular morning services at the Methodist church. The union evening service will be held at the Church of Christ.

TB TESTS TO BE HELD

Dates and places for a series of free tuberculosis testing will be announced in the near future, says Miss Althea Stoneman, who advises all those wanting the tests to list members of the family at the closest school. These tests and follow-up x-ray examinations where needed will be paid from proceeds of the seal sale last Christmas through Morrow County Public Health association.

ELKS MEET TONIGHT

Heppner lodg 358, B. P. O. Elks, will hold regular meeting this evening.

PWA Grant for State Roads Assures Rhea Creek Surfacing

\$50,000 Expected to be Available Next Year; Grade Aided

Granting of \$28,545 by WPA for surfacing on Heppner-Condon highway, announced by the regional office yesterday, practically assures that the Heppner-Rhea creek sector of this road will be surfaced next year.

This amount was included in a total of \$211,465 granted by PWA for Oregon projects, according to a press release yesterday, and the Morrow county court was told by the state highway commission at Pendleton last week that if PWA made this grant, \$50,000 would be available on the sector from Heppner to Rhea creek, and it was contemplated that additional funds would be found to complete the work, if possible. Total cost of the project was placed tentatively at \$60,000.

The highway commission had already allotted \$25,000 of its funds for application on the Rhea creek sector, and another \$25,000 for work on the Burton Wilson grade into Rock creek. The PWA grant, however, will take care of the Rock creek grade work, releasing the state's money previously earmarked for that work to be applied on this end.

Judge Bert Johnson was in receipt of a telegram from Representative Walter M. Pierce Tuesday morning, stating that Washington had advised that this project was under active consideration and that announcement could be expected soon.

National Head Tells of Conclave

Mrs. W. P. Mahoney, president of National Wool Growers auxiliary, told of plans for the coming convention in Texas at the local unit meeting at the Lucas Place last Friday afternoon, as one of the two local women honored with high position in auxiliary circles. The second, Mrs. Ralph I. Thompson, president of the state organization, told of plans for the booth being conducted at the state fair this week, where she, assisted by Mrs. J. O. Rasmus, is selling home-made wool lambs and lamburgers.

Seventeen members were present. Guests included Mrs. W. O. Dix, Mrs. L. E. Bisbee and Mrs. Chas. Thomson. Mrs. Roy Neill was introduced as a new member.

The unit also rejoiced at the report of its having won the \$45 sweepstakes and \$25 first prize for floats for its entry in the recent Rodeo parade.

Rodeo Organization Set for Tomorrow

The annual Rodeo organization meeting will be held at the Elks club at 7:30 o'clock tomorrow evening, announces Henry Aiken, president, who urges the attendance of everyone interested. Any citizen of Morrow county is eligible to vote on matters coming up for consideration, it is pointed out.

Election of officers for next year's show and financial report on this year are among matters of business to be considered.

DISTRICT DEPUTY VISITS

Sid Bowman of Pendleton, district deputy grand master I. O. O. F., was received by a large attendance of local Oddfellows when he made his official visit to Willow lodge 66 last evening. A guest of the evening was Howard K. Zimmerman, past grand master for Oregon.

GOOD ENROLLMENT AT SCHOOL START

181 in Grades, 125 in High School Signed; First Football Game With Fossil Here, 23rd

Heppner schools got off to a running start Tuesday with 181 enrolled in the grades and 125 in high school, reports Alden Blankenship, superintendent.

Registration in the high school was featured by enrollees from Idaho, Washington, California and two from Portland, with transfers swelling the senior class to 31, the largest for some time. Equal distribution in the high school divisions was evidenced by the 30 freshmen, 33 sophomores and 31 juniors signed up.

Enrollment in the various grades was, 1st 24, 2nd 19, 3rd 24, 4th 31, 5th 14, 6th 22, 7th 22, 8th 25.

All teachers were on hand and class work started out smoothly.

First football practice was called Tuesday with 27 players reporting and three or four more in prospect, reported Robert Knox, coach. The first game is set with Fossil here, Sept. 23. A practice game may be slated the week before.

At the initial high school assembly, Bill Barratt, student body president, and other students gave good explanation of the different school activities and clubs for the benefit of new members.

Mill Accident Fatal To Chester Kesler

Chester Kesler of Fossil was killed at the Reed mill on Rock creek Tuesday morning when a log kicked off on the wrong side of the truck being unloaded and caught him unawares.

This is the first fatality recorded at a local mill in many years.

Chester Roy Kesler was born at Council, Idaho, May 7, 1903, to John and Edna A. (Spangle) Kesler of Virginia and Kansas respectively. He married Margaret E. Brown of Fossil at Summit, Ore., in 1929. Surviving besides the widow, are a son and daughter, the mother residing at Council, three sisters, Mrs. Roy Womack and Mrs. James Ross, both of Port Angeles, Wash., and Mrs. Reta Hiatt of Oakland, Cal., and two brothers, Paul of Port Angeles, and John A. of Council. Two daughters by a former marriage, Beulah and Jackaline, reside at Eagle, Idaho. The body was shipped to Council, Idaho, where funeral services are being held today.

GRACIE STEVENS PASSES

Mrs. Gracie Stevens, 82, long a county resident, died at the county home here last night following a prolonged illness. Funeral services are expected to be held some time Saturday from the Methodist church, Rev. R. C. Young officiating. Case mortuary is in charge of arrangements. Gracie Smith was born in Germany in 1856, and first came to Heppner a good many years ago as the wife of Jack Newcombe. She was later married at different times to Jim Simonds and Jim Stevens. She is survived by a nephew, John Smith, residing here, and a brother who lives at Long Creek. She had been living at the county home for five years. Mr. Smith, the nephew, was accidentally hurt this week when a speeder load of ties went through an open switch and struck him while he was at work on the section gang on the local district. A broken rib was sustained. He is undergoing care at the home of Mrs. Corda Saling.

FOOTBALL BOYS TO REPORT

Len Gilman and Elwayne Lieualen, two Morrow county stalwarts on the Bulldog football team, will report for first football practice at Pacific university next week. Both boys were regulars on last year's Pacific team, Gilman being high scorer for the squad. Lieualen was out part of last season with injuries but both boys are looked to enhance the Bulldogs' pennant chances this year, according to reports emanating from the college.

Council Drops PWA Application for Sewer System

Amended Water Project to be Presented, Excluding Reservoir

The application for PWA assistance in constructing a sewer system in Heppner was definitely dropped by the council Monday evening when it was returned from the state PWA office for correction. Decision was made that the large indebtedness the project's completion would create would jeopardize the city's credit structure as well as burden individual property holders too heavily. It was estimated that the cost to property with \$2000 assessed valuation would be well upwards of \$200.

At the same time the council by a split vote recommended application for an amended project on the water system, totalling \$30,000. The former application on this project called for construction of a new 120,000-gallon reservoir at a cost of \$8000 in addition to a pumping plant, pump house at the wells, about 3 miles of new mains in the city, and 20 new fire hydrants. Agreeing that the reservoir cost was too great for the amount of storage to be obtained and that present storage facilities would suffice with adequate pumping equipment, the council struck out the reservoir construction from the application, leaving the \$30,000 to cover the other project items.

Councilmen Wilson, Phelps and Tibbles who voted for application in the amended form stressed the necessity for making the improvements, which if the application is accepted by PWA, could be obtained for \$16,500, the city's 55 per cent of the total cost.

Councilman Mahoney opposed making the application, while Councilmen Bennett and Ferguson were absent.

Mayor Jones, while not having a vote, declared himself opposed to applying for the water project, believing that it would be too small to interest the federal agency and that additional engineering cost, cost of holding the special bond election and other items of contingent expense would not be justified.

Mayor Jones believed that due to a much smaller appropriation being necessary for streets next year, a sufficient amount could be included in next year's budget for installing an adequate pumping plant as well as enough to take care of the immediate need for mains replacement, and that by replacing part of the mains each year this work could be accomplished by paying for it as it is done and thus saving the city interest on bonds and other costs of debt service.

Those favoring the water project application, however, said no assurance could be given that such a program as outlined by the mayor would be carried out by future city administrations, and that by receiving 45 per cent of the total cost from PWA, if the project is approved, the improvement would be obtained at very reasonable price.

The resolution calling for special bond election will be presented at the mid-month meeting, Sept. 19. It is necessary for the bonds to be approved by the electorate before PWA will take final action on the application, and final action must be taken before Oct. 1, under the PWA ruling. If the application is approved actual work must start January 1.

Transfer of deed was made this week at the clerk's office of the Mary A. Notson property on Gale street, recently purchased by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Wells. Mr. and Mrs. Wells have moved their home there from the former residence just below town.