

# How Consolidation Would Affect School Costs Told Lions

## Larger District Move Cited as Need By Mrs. Rodgers

A picture of the county school situation showing the need for district consolidation was presented before the Monday Lions luncheon by Alden Blankenship, local school superintendent, assisted by Mrs. Lucy E. Rodgers, county superintendent. The discussion was based on Mrs. Rodgers' report before the meeting of county school boards here last week.

By use of a large colored map of the county, it was shown that the majority of the 40 organized districts within the county now educate their pupils at five centers, Heppner, Lexington, Ione, Pine City and Arlington. Nine of the districts still maintain one-room schools.

Territories of districts sending pupils to each of the various centers was shown by the map to be largely contiguous, giving basis for a consolidation plan, which Mrs. Rodgers held must come to avert abandonment of districts and consequent loss of revenue for school purposes.

Ten districts were shown as educating pupils at Heppner at present, three of which operate without a special school tax levy. Of the seven remaining, Heppner's special tax of 18.7 mills is highest while that of District 38, .8 mill, is lowest. Aside from debt service, which must at all times be borne by the district obligating itself under any consolidation plan, current operating expense of the Heppner schools for the year 1937-38 was \$21,832.66. Receipts from county, state, elementary and vocational school funds of \$11,185.54, left \$18,647.12 to be raised by district tax. If this amount were assessed equally over all districts educating pupils at Heppner—the districts having a combined valuation of \$2,283,439—the resultant tax would be 8.1 mills.

In addition to this district tax, county school tax of 6.5 mills and elementary school tax of 2 mills would be levied against the consolidated district making a total for all purposes of 16.7 mills.

At present all districts are assessed for the county school fund and the elementary school fund, and districts not maintaining a standard high school are assessed for the non-high school district fund, the 1937-38 levy for which was 3.4 mills.

A similar analysis was shown for each of the other proposed consolidated districts. Lexington, where pupils of six districts are being educated, under the consolidation based on 1937-38 figures, would have a total tax of 17.3 mills for all purposes; Ione, with eight districts, 19.6 mills.

If, however, people of the county should prefer the county unit plan, the special district tax based on 1937-38 figures, would be 12.5 mills. The elementary school levy would still be made, calling for an additional 2 mills, or a total tax for all purposes of 14.5 mills.

It is considered, however, than under either plan economies of operation would be effected that would lower the figures still more, and besides additional property would be brought onto the tax rolls for special school taxing that would help share the burden.

A committee from the new county school boards organization is now at work on the feasibility of the two plans—one, consolidation into several large districts; the other, the county unit plan. The committee is represented by persons in the various districts who are feeling out local sentiment. Their report is expected in the near future.

It was pointed out that any move toward consolidation must be voted favorably upon by people in all districts concerned (no district can be forced in without its consent) under the present law. The state school superintendent's office, however, is attempting to work out amendments to the law to facilitate the larger

# At Heppner CHURCHES

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
ALVIN KLEINFELDT, Pastor  
Bible School ..... 9:45 a. m.  
Morning Service ..... 11:00 a. m.  
C. E. Society ..... 6:30 p. m.  
Evening Services ..... 7:30 p. m.  
Choir Practice, Wednesday ..... 7:30 p. m.  
Midweek Service, Thursday ..... 7:30 p. m.

The pastor will bring a missionary message Sunday morning in observance of the annual Woman's day. The evening union meeting is in the Methodist church.

**METHODIST CHURCH**  
REV. R. C. YOUNG, Pastor  
Sunday: Bible School ..... 9:45 A. M.  
Worship Service ..... 11:00 A. M.  
Epworth League ..... 7:00 P. M.  
Evening Worship ..... 7:00 P. M.  
Tuesday: Boys' Club ..... 7:00 P. M.  
2nd Tuesday, Missionary Meeting ..... 2:30 P. M.  
Wednesday: Choir Practice ..... 7:30 P. M.  
1st Wednesday, Ladies Aid Business and Social Meeting ..... 2:30 P. M.  
All other Wednesdays: Sewing Group meets.  
Thursday: Prayer Meeting ..... 7:30 P. M.

**ALL SAINTS' CHURCH.**  
Rev. Mr. Wiessenbach of Pendleton will be present Sunday. Sunday school at 9:45, communion at 11, and Y. P. F. at 6:30.

**THE ASSEMBLY OF GOD**  
Pastor E. O. Greeley  
Sunday Services:  
Bible School ..... 9:45 a. m.  
Preaching ..... 11 a. m.  
Evangelistic Service ..... 7:30 p. m.  
Tuesday Evening Bible Study 7:30, p. m.  
Thursday Evening Preaching, 7:30 p. m.  
Uptown Open-Air Service, Sat., 7 p. m.

district movement. Morrow county is being closely watched for taking the lead in this move, Mrs. Rodgers said.

## Heppner Teachers Attend E. O. N. Day

The teaching staff of Heppner was well represented at the demonstration day for elementary teachers and those in a supervisory capacity at the Eastern Oregon Normal school last Saturday. Among those present were A. H. Blankenship, superintendent; Mrs. Lucy E. Rodgers, county school superintendent; Neva Neill, Maude King, Lorena Wilson and Mary Lou White.

The teachers who attended felt that demonstrations with discussions on practical school room problems made the day a very profitable one. John M. Miller, director of training at the Eastern Oregon Normal school, was in charge of activities.

## Lieuallen, Active at Pacific, in Who's Who

Pacific University, Forest Grove.

Elwayne Lieuallen, junior at Pacific from Heppner, was one of six Pacific students named in the "Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities" for this year. His name was chosen and submitted by a faculty committee.

Elwayne is president of the Alpha Zeta fraternity, the student body manager, a member of Blue Key honorary society, a football and baseball letterman, and president of Pacific's co-op house.

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Heppner Gazette Times.

## WHEAT LEAGUE MEETS

Continued from First Page  
tions in working at all times for what he considered the public interest. He doubted that he would live long enough to run for reelection and that reelection would at no time be a consideration. Through informed sources, such as the wheat league, he expected sound information to direct his efforts.

Waiving part of his time to Arthur M. Geary, the league's transportation attorney, Mr. Holman sat in the front seat as the rate expert directed at him a plea for congressional action in cutting bureaucratic red tape which, Geary declared, had kept one wheat league case in the courts for five years, and no hope yet in sight for a final decision. Congress has gone too far in delegating powers to boards and commissions which have been used to defeat the course of justice, he said.

Previously, Herbert G. West, executive secretary of Inland Waterways association, had emphasized need for freight rate relief for wheat of this section, and had pointed out how rates along the Mississippi and elsewhere had dropped with advent of water transportation. He said that new type boats are already making navigation of the Columbia feasible, and the day has now arrived when transportation on the Columbia will begin to bring relief, but growers themselves must take advantage of facilities as they are offered.

Astounding in its implications was the land use report of F. L. Ballard, vice-director of agricultural extension in Oregon. While Brown, the assistant secretary of agriculture, listened attentively, Ballard summarized land use reports of various county committees made last year. That only half the total acreage of Oregon, which is larger than all the New England states combined, is on the tax rolls and that only 8 per cent of the total area is under cultivation was interesting news to many present. The report touched on all phases of agriculture in the state and pointed out trends toward im-

proved land uses.

Dean W. A. Schoenfeld, extension director from O. S. C., gave further interesting facts. He told of how thousands of acres of cut-over and burned-over coast lands had been seeded to grass by airplane, how ethylene gas from applies is destructive to holly and other evergreen with which they are placed in close proximity, but how one apple in a box of green pears will aid the ripening process and make the pears more delicious. These and other scientific contributions to agriculture were cited to show how improvements are making the industry, by-and-large, more profitable.

Dr. D. D. Hill of O. S. C. cited prospects of growing malting barley in the Columbia river basin, offering some hope for a profitable industry but saying that it could not be looked to as a means of solving surplus wheat production.

New theories of noxious weed control were given by C. I. Seely, noxious weed investigation agent, Uni-

versity of Idaho, whose message proved interesting and brought about recommendations from the committee.

Three major committees made reports. Mac Hoke reported for the committee handling federal programs; C. A. Nish reported for the production, transportation, handling and weed control committee, and Glen Richards reported for taxation, legislation and rural electrification committee.

Governor-elect Charles A. Sprague was the principal speaker following the Friday evening banquet, and emphasized need for concerted, intelligent action in meeting all problems of the day. A highlight entertainment feature was the extravaganza, "Wedding of the Waters," presented in the civic auditorium following Sprague's address. Generous supply of musical numbers to start league sessions, a boat trip on the Columbia, and numerous other attractions added enjoyment to the stay of visitors.

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