

Heppner Gazette Times

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Official Paper for Morrow County

When Times Are Blackest—

IMEDIATELY after the flood catastrophe of 1903, Heppner's newspapers told of the staunch determination of the citizens to rebuild. That determination resulted in more and better buildings than had before existed, and though scars seared upon the hearts of the people could never be erased, the appearance of the town itself was enhanced in the period of reconstruction.

During the last ten years Heppner has gone through one of the blackest eras of economic depression in its history; at least that is what some old-timers say. Certain it is that money has not flowed freely, what with poor crops added to slow-moving business generally.

But it was just ten years ago that one Heppner citizen came to the city, and he recalls that at that time a generally run-down condition existed. Since that time, three modern business structures have risen, other "eye-sores" have been removed, much new construction and repair of residences has taken place, the city's streets have been paved and a swimming tank constructed. The progress in the last ten years, actually, has been remarkable, this resident points out.

So it is, off' times, when times are blackest much is accomplished in the way of progress.

Prospects of brighter times, however, always bring new hope of more rapid accomplishment of individual aims. And so, Heppner people anticipate the opening of a box factory in the near future as the means of bringing a payroll and new possibilities of development.

The box factory project appears to be the first sound indication of Heppner's realizing on the large timber resources at its gates. The process of cutting, naturally, is the harvesting of a crop that has been years in production, and the harvest day may not last forever. But another large crop, to add to our wheat and our sheep, to be handled through Heppner will give impetus to business generally. Though establishment of the factory at this time may not be definite, certain it is that not many years will elapse before such an enterprise will profitably operate here.

The Last in Line

HEALTH and happiness are synonymous in most any man's language. And the most pitiful picture in the world is that of a millionaire with an incurable ailment for which no amount of money will buy a cure. There can never be a golden measuring rod for the value of health.

This is brought to mind as the part-time health nurse completes six weeks of service in the county, about half the time that local budgetary allotments contemplate such service for the year. The question uppermost at this time is not whether the services given were worth the money paid, but whether there is not much more need of service.

From printed reports of the service in the six weeks we find that the county nurse supervised preschool and infant conferences over the county at which 59 examinations were made. How much of the findings in these cases will later result in material health benefit can only be a matter of conjecture. But much of the service of the county nurse does not lend itself to publicity.

It is known that through the services of the nurse a number of chil-

dren who faced the prospect of going through life with serious physical handicaps have given the benefit of specialized treatment that in each case will greatly benefit the afflicted condition. If the county nurse was directly responsible for bringing one such case to light and for making only one healthy, capable individual who otherwise would have gone through life in a seriously handicapped condition, is not the cost, whatever it may be, a small amount?

There may not be need in Morrow county for a full-time health nurse, but this county is the only county in the state that does not come up to requirements of the state board of health to receive the financial assistance it is prepared to give. This department has asked for establishment of at least for months' public health nurse service before it will match funds. Just now a measure is before the legislature to make state funds available for matching federal health funds which the state is in danger of losing. Local action will be somewhat dependent upon the state and national situation, but Morrow county should not long bear the odium of being the last in line of counties recognizing the benefits of public health work.

Miss Lucille Hall Given Final Tribute

All members of the immediate family and many friends attended last rites for Miss Lucille Hall Sunday afternoon, held from Phelps Funeral home, followed by interment in Masonic cemetery. Rev. R. C. Young, Methodist minister, officiated.

Miss Hall died last Thursday morning at Rawlins, Wyo., following a major operation. Born at Monument, Oregon, she came with the family to Heppner as a child and while attending Heppner grade and high schools, her charming personality made her popular with all who knew her. She went to Rawlins in 1935 to be with her brother, and from the Rawlins Republican-Bulletin is taken the following notice of her passing:

Miss Lucille Hall, 24 years old, popular member of the younger set in this city, died at 8:55 yesterday (Feb. 9) morning at the Memorial hospital. Her passing brought sincere regret and sadness to the many friends who had met and learned to know her during the short time that she made this city her home.

Miss Hall was admitted to Memorial hospital on Tuesday, Jan. 31, and underwent a serious major operation the following day. Her condition failed to show appreciable improvement so it became necessary to give her a blood transfusion Wednesday afternoon. Another condition developed Wednesday night, making it necessary to perform an emergency operation. Death relieved her suffering early yesterday morning.

Lucille Geneva Hall was born on Sept. 14, 1914, at Monument, Oregon. She spent most of her younger life in Oregon, coming to Rawlins in 1935 to be with her brother, Guy Hall, local railroad.

After being here for a few months she started work in the fountain department of the Wyoming Drug store. Her congenial manner and sunny disposition made her very well liked by all who had an opportunity to meet and know her. She continued her work at the store until the day before entering the hospital.

She is survived by her father, N. S. Hall of Pendleton, Ore.; five sisters, Mrs. E. W. Gordon, Heppner; Mrs. Wm. Smethurst, Lexington; Mrs. C. J. Phillips, Kinzua; Mrs. George Stephens, Salem, and Mrs. L. A. Countryman, Geber, Cal.; two brothers, W. S. Hall of Oakland, Cal., and Guy E. Hall of Rawlins.

Services will be held at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon (Feb. 10) from the Collins-McKelvey chapel, the Rev. F. F. Kraft to conduct the services. The remains will then be shipped to Heppner, where burial will be made. Mr. and Mrs. Guy Hall will accompany the body to Oregon and will join other members of the family at the burial services.

G. T. Want Ads bring results.

Public Opinion Water Situation Explained

Dear Editor:

It would be greatly appreciated if you would allow me space in your columns to answer the recent editorial comment in regard to the proposed purchase by the City of Heppner of a pumping plant to be operated by diesel motor. The members of the City Council appreciate any constructive criticism of their operation of the city government. However, I do not believe that all the facts as stated in your recent editorial explain the situation in full. The writer's views are also the views of the majority of the members of the City Council.

In your recent editorial it was stated that in previous tests the present well did hold up for several days under heavy pumping. As a matter of fact, the city well, which we propose to pump out of, is known as the old well, and has been pumped by a gasoline motor during the irrigation season, when the gravity flow combined with the flow of Kelley springs is insufficient to meet the city's needs, for a period of over three years during which time the water level did not go below twenty-three feet from the surface of the ground. While the city contemplates at the present time on purchasing a pumping plant capable of pumping 720,000 gallons of water, the intention of the city is only to use the said pumping plant when necessary. The present system of using the gravity flow and Kelley springs will not be disturbed in any manner. The only additional water that will be pumped out of the well other than has been in the past three years will be whatever increase in demand of water the city has over the past three years.

Reliable engineers have advised us that they do not believe that our water will be lowered in the well to over a sixty-foot depth, even by pumping the full capacity of the pump. Their reason for this is that our well has held up remarkably under three summers of pumping. If necessary the type of installation proposed in the new pumping plant could go down to the full depth of the well, which is approximately 210 feet without any major changes in the pump and without any change in the diesel engine.

Mr. Durand, who drilled the original well, practically guaranteed to bring in another artesian well for the city at the time the second well was drilled. He advised the city council where to drill the said well and acting upon his advice and that of other well drillers the second well was drilled. Mr. Durand did not drill this well due to the fact that when the drilling was advertised for bid it was found that he was not the low bidder. No well driller has ever offered the city council, since I have been a member, to guarantee to bring in artesian water, and from past experience, unless an absolute guarantee was made to bring in artesian water it would appear that the risk of a gain expending approximately \$2100.00 is not justified.

Another major factor taken into consideration by the council in connection with the new proposed purchase is that the cost of operating a diesel driven pumping plant pumping 720,000 gallons of water in twenty-four hours will be less than the present cost of operating the gasoline pump that has been used in the last three years which pumps approximately one-fourth of this amount of water. In other words, it costs less per hour to run the proposed diesel plant than it costs to run the present gasoline pumping plant and only one-fourth as much per gallon of water actually being pumped.

As you stated in your recent editorial the councilmen do not pretend to be expert hydraulic engineers but their reasoning is based on past experience and in their judgment the wisest thing to do.

P. W. MAHONEY.

To the Editor:

During the past few years, a number of people within the county have discussed the fact that the schedule of salaries of District Attorneys of the state discriminates against Morrow county, in that Mor-

row county is placed in the lowest salary bracket, while most other counties of the same class as to population, assessed valuation, and volume of work required of the office are in the next higher bracket, as are also several others of much less population, assessed valuation and volume of work.

With this fact in mind, numerous persons have gone on record as favoring an increase in the salary paid to the office in this county, to make it the same as that paid to other counties of similar classification, and have favored the passage of a bill now before the legislature, advancing the salary paid to this county to equal that paid in other counties of the same class.

I would like to call the attention of those persons to a fact that has just come to my attention. I am informed by Mr. Fatland, Speaker of the House, that it is the intent of the Governor to have a board or commission work out an equitable schedule of salaries for all state officers. As the office of District Attorney is a state office, and the salary paid by the state, I assume his plan would include the schedule for District Attorneys, and that an adjustment will be made, placing this county in its proper classification in relation to the other counties.

Therefore, I wish to suggest that no further effort be made on behalf of the present bill, as its passage would probably only further complicate the work the Governor is planning, and since the salary is paid by the state, and is, in reality of practically no local interest, except to those who wish to see the local office treated fairly by the state in relation to other counties, it seems only reasonable to permit the state officials to make the proper adjustment.

FRANK C. ALFRED.

ASSISTS "WHISKERINO"

University of Oregon, Eugene, Feb. 14—Don Turner, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Turner of Heppner, was chairman of the contest committee for the sophomore "Whiskerino," annual dance for which all sophomores must have grown a beard. The duty of the contest committee was to judge the bearded sophomore for the longest, the blackest, the reddest, the thickest, the best-shaped, and the least beard of all attending the dance. Turner is a sophomore in law at the University of Oregon. He graduated from Heppner high school and is affiliated with Beta Theta Pi fraternity.

Nash for sale or trade for cattle, good condition. W. H. French, Hardman. 47ft

Changes Made in Band Competition

At the last meeting of the Oregon Band and Orchestra Directors' association, it was decided to break the state up into sectional contests instead of holding the one state contest as in the past.

The Eastern Oregon Normal school will sponsor at the request of Andrew Loney, Jr., president of the state association, the eastern Oregon contest, Friday-Saturday, April 14-15. This will constitute the official contest for eastern Oregon, which comprises all territory east of and including The Dalles, as far as the Idaho state line, and as far south as and including Bend.

The same rating will be used as was in the state contest last year. The schools will be placed in class competition and will be rated on the following scale: 1, Superior; 2, Excellent; 3, Good; 4, Fair; 5, Unsatisfactory. The classification requirements are as follows: Class A—All bands from high schools of 750 or more enrollment.

Class B—Bands from high schools of 250-700 enrollment. Class C—Bands from high schools of less than 250 enrollment. Class D—Bands from high schools of less than 100 enrollment.

The contest number will be selected by the state committee and as soon as received, information will be passed on to the competing bands.

All bands will play two marches at the close of Friday night's contest. They will be conducted by the outstanding band judge in attendance. Numbers used will be March "High Tower" by Harold Bennett and March "El Capitan" by Sousa. The purpose of this new arrangement is to cut down the expenses of the bands that do not receive any rating in the contest. The winners of this divisional contest will go to Portland to meet with the winners of the districts that take in all of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana. The winner is eligible for national competition.

VERNER ADKINS PASSES

Word was received this morning of the death at Coquille hospital, Sunday, Feb. 5, of Verner Adkins, 8, son of Ralph Adkins, former resident here. Death followed an operation for bursted appendix. He was born Sept. 29, 1929. His mother died seven years ago. Surviving are the father, brothers Willis, Donald and Jimmy, and sister, Mrs. Shirley Maiden of Coquille. Funeral services were held February 7 with Joel R. Benton, Christian minister of Marshfield, officiating.

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