

**IONE NEWS**

**Many Relatives Attend Cason Rites**

By KATHERINE GRIFFITH  
Relatives here for the funeral of Walter Cason held on Saturday were Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Irwin of Ukiah, Guy Cason and children, Guyla and Bobbie, Mrs. Ada Templeton and her son and wife of Spray, Mrs. H. J. Snively of Richland, Wash., Mrs. John Vaughn of Bend, Guy Hale, Mrs. Carrie Cason, Mr. and Mrs. Willis Cason and son, Lewis Cason and daughter, Miss Betty, Bert and Ellis Cason, all of Lonerock; Mrs. Harry Armitage, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Holmes Holman and son, Mrs. Cynthia Cason and Bobbie Cochran of Yakima, Wash.; Muriel, Vivian and Peggy Cason, Mrs. Patricia Nelson and Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Turner of Heppner, Jake Olson of Granite and Mrs. Edmund Bristow and family of Nampa, Idaho.

The Past Noble Grand club met at the home of Mrs. C. W. Swanson Friday afternoon. Besides the hostess the following ladies were present: Mrs. J. E. Swanson, Mrs. Clell Rea, Mrs. Ella Davidson, Mrs. E. C. Heliker, Mrs. Omar Rietmann, Mrs. Frank Lundell, Mrs. E. R. Lundell, Mrs. E. J. Bristow, Mrs. Milton Morgan, Mrs. Ida Fletcher and Miss Mildred Lundell. The time was spent working on articles for sale this fall. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. J. E. Swanson.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Lundell and son Billie went to Salem Saturday to get their daughter, Norma Lou, who has been visiting at the Elmo McMillan home. When they returned on Sunday, they were accompanied by Mrs. McMillan and daughter Beverly, who are guests of Mrs. McMillan's parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Swanson.

Laxton McMurray motored to Pendleton Thursday to meet his sister, Mrs. Hiram Werst of Clarkston, Wash., who has come to help care for her sister, Mrs. Ralph Harris. A physician was called from Heppner to attend her Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rowell of Rio Vista, Cal., were Sunday guests at the Harvey Ring home. Mrs. Ring and Mr. Rowell are sister and brother.

Miss Linea Troedson arrived this week to spend the remainder of the summer with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Troedson.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bowlinger, Miss Margaret Perry and her mother, Mrs. Hugh Perry, left Monday for their home in Chehalis, Wash. They had spent the summer here.

Mrs. Alice Wiles returned to her home Friday from a visit in Tygh Valley with her daughter, Mrs. Ned Carr.

Miss Gladys Brashers returned Thursday from a vacation at Ocean Lake.

Patricia Drake of Heppner spent the week end with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. E. R. Lundell.

Mr. and Mrs. James K. Cossman and daughter Edith May arrived last Tuesday from Santa Monica, Cal., for a visit with relatives. Mr. Cossman is the director of physical education at the junior college there. They were entertained at a family dinner Sunday at the C. W. Swanson home. Guests were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Engelman and son Joe, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Nicholason and daughter Alice, Mr. and Mrs. Clell Rea and family, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Roberts and Mr. and Mrs. Victor Rietmann and family.

Miss Katherine Griffith left Sunday to visit Miss Oleta Raimey at her home in Condon.

Mr. and Mrs. Jess Douglas and Alice motored to Goldendale, Wash., Sunday to visit their daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Baker and sons are on a vacation which will take them to Yellowstone National park.

Mrs. Casha Shaw of Lexington arrived in Ione Tuesday to help care for Mrs. Ralph Harris.

Mrs. Henry Peterson and two sons, Herbert and Robert, left Monday for McPherson, Kans., to visit relatives.

Mrs. Maud Devin and her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. George Hamon of Portland and Parkdale respectively, were calling on friends in Ione Monday.

**AUDITOR SHOWS IMPROVED SCHOOL FINANCES, ENCOURAGES LARGER UNITS**

Improved financial status of county schools, and advantages of district reorganization into larger units are emphasized in the report of C. R. Ham, auditor, to Mrs. Lucy E. Rodgers, county school superintendent, following his audit, just completed, of county and district school accounts. Comment and recommendations of Mr. Ham are made in the following letter transmitting the audit report to Mrs. Rodgers:

I have audited the financial records of the school district clerks of Morrow county for the seventh consecutive year ending June 19, 1939. Individual audited reports for the districts were prepared in triplicate, for the clerk's records, for the superintendent's office and for the state office. I have also audited the standard high school reports and have completed the tuition receivable by those districts which included in their enrollment students from outside. High school education costs and tuition receivable may be found on page 2.

In the Comparative Schedule of Warrants Outstanding on page 3, the total school bonds outstanding during the year 1938-39 are shown to have been reduced from \$109,000 to \$90,500, a decrease of \$18,500; whereas current obligations have increased \$4,508.06, the net school debt reduction being \$13,991.94. But there was a decrease of cash on hand during the year ending June 19 of \$6,652.48, leaving the net improvement represented by these two current items of \$7,239.45. A similar statement of improvement was reported for the year 1937-38, \$8,585.39, and for the year 1936-37, \$11,732.73, and for the year 1935-36, \$37,814.60. Continuous current financial improvement during four years was therefore \$85,372.17.

Two years ago I reported on the permanent trend toward transporting and educating the declining number of pupils of the rural districts in the three city schools near the middle of the county. A continuation of our study of that condition to the present date leaves me still convinced that the proper and economical solution is the consolidation of the many school districts into a few practical, operating districts centered mainly at those three towns, with possibly some exceptions. A summary of inter-district receipts and payments for exchange of services between districts, a detailed schedule of which you have at hand, is that funds paid by various clerks to each other, back and forth, for tuition, transportation, etc. (as a matter mainly of bookkeeping by districts) has gradually increased from \$3,034.03 in 1932-33 to \$8,241.23 in 1938-39; but the joke of it is that these many districts being separately organized, the necessary costs in the form of clerks' salaries, clerks' bonds, auditing, travel, etc., was \$996.10 in those districts where no school is held, and this could be saved at least by disorganizing these useless units.

Another fact in this connection, the details of which you have in schedule form, is that in those districts where no school is held, the area per elementary pupil is about 7 square miles that is, if evenly distributed each child would have to go 7 miles to find another child to play with if 2 in the family, 14 miles,

etc. A social advantage would be given these children, therefore, by allowing them to attend school in one of the community centers. A suggested solution, which we have discussed, is the renting of a large house in town as a dormitory for school children under properly approved supervision. Colton, Oregon, school district has operated such a dormitory for many years.

C. R. HAM, Auditor.

**Work Transferred; Degman Named**

A change in assignment among federal agricultural agencies has made necessary the resignation of R. A. Work as superintendent of the Medford experiment station. He has been succeeded by Dr. E. S. Degman, a member of the station staff and associate pomologist in the bureau of plant industries.

Retiring Superintendent Work has headed the station in Medford since its organization in 1931, as a joint appointee of the bureau of agricultural engineering and the state experiment station.

The federal water supply forecast service, which Work has headed in Oregon, has now been transferred to the newly organized irrigation research division of the Soil Conservation service. He will continue to head this snow survey and water forecast work in Oregon and will devote full time to it, retaining his headquarters at the Medford station.

Dr. Degman came to the Medford station in the fall of 1937, succeeding Dr. W. W. Aldrich. He is a graduate of Washington State college, with a

doctor of philosophy degree from the University of Maryland. In recommending Dr. Degman's appointment, William A. Schoenfeld, director of the experiment station, said, "His maturity, training and experience fully qualify him to serve in the capacity of superintendent."

Concerning Mr Work, he said, "Fortunately for Oregon, Mr. Work's services will not be lost to the state. We are very pleased that the important snow surveys which he initiated in this state will continue under his progressive and productive leadership."

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