

Heppner Gazette Times

Volume 56, Number 23

Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, August 17, 1939

Subscription \$2.00 a Year

Heppner Valuation Upped \$60,000 for Taxing, Says Wells

Assessor Tells Work of Reappraisal; Bennett Reports Meet

Assessed valuation of Heppner, according to the reappraisal recently completed by Oregon State Tax commission, will be upped between \$50,000 and \$60,000 for extension on 1940 rolls, Assessor Tom Wells told the Lions Monday noon luncheon. Written complaints on valuation are now being received by the county board of equalization, being open for 15 days starting last Monday. But after the equalization board acts, final say is still left in the hands of the state tax commission.

Those filing complaints should state the basis on which complaint is founded and have the complaints notarized, said Wells, who told the service club group that notices had been sent all property holders whose valuation is increased under the reappraisal. These notices were mailed last week end and Monday his office was besieged with questions.

The reappraisal, so far extending only to town property in Heppner, Lexington, Ione and Boardman, was arranged for by this county on proffer of the state commission, said Wells. Salaries of the appraisers were paid by the state while Morrow county paid other expenses.

In making the appraisal, the appraisers used a formula that is followed in localities similarly situated. As Main street is the basis of every town's stability, it was presumed that Main street property is of greatest value, with other property graduated in accordance with its proximity thereto. Original cost of improvements with variations for depreciation and state of maintenance were taken into consideration in arriving at the present value. This would not necessarily be the true market value, said the assessor, but seemed a fair basis in establishing taxable value. The assessment valuation is figured at 60 per cent of the appraised value, this percentage being deemed equitable to prevent large fluctuations in the millage rate.

Wells said 215 parcels of town property had been raised by the revaluation.

The assessor pointed out that the appraisal psychology used is that property with high valuation and low millage rate is generally more saleable than property with lower valuation and higher millage rate. A prospective purchaser, he said, generally asks first what the tax millage rate is. If it appears high, the purchaser is apt to lose interest immediately. The general effect of higher valuation is to lower the millage rate, which is bound to be constant so long as the amount to be raised by taxation is the same.

Also speaking to the clug was W. S. Bennett, local Smith-Hughes instructor, who reported the state Smith-Hughes conference attended recently at Halfway. National leaders in the work as well as outstanding state educators appeared on the program. Emphasis on night school work was stressed and Bennett reported that night schools will be organized again in Morrow county this fall, particularly to assist those just getting started on the farm. One of the biggest problems today, it appeared from reports at the conference, is to get the young fellow just out of high school established in self-supporting work. It is desirable to get those agriculturally inclined established on farms of their own. This problem is one for which no one appears to have the answer, but should have the thought of everyone interested in future welfare of the community, he said.

FIGHT CARD TOPPED BY TITLE MATCH

Saturday Event Draws Lively Interest in Tickets as Firemen Present Leading Lightweights

Tickets are going strong for the firemen's boxing card Saturday night at the Rodeo grounds. Feature attraction of ten rounds for the northwest junior lightweight championship is the highest type of boxing talent that has ever been brought to eastern Oregon.

Buzz Brown, holder of the northwest featherweight and lightweight titles, will put his junior lightweight title on the block when he meets Joe Mendiola, the French-speaking Philippino, in the main event. Mendiola just recently boxed Harold Hoshino, the Pendleton Japanese boy, a ten-round draw in Pendleton. Ninety-nine per cent of the fans agreed that Mendiola was entitled to the decision.

The decision here will be made by the referee, Joe Marcus, and two local or eastern Oregon judges. This will be the first time that Joe Marcus has appeared here since 1922 when he left here to become a professional boxer. Joe will be remembered here by many as he started out here the same time that Vic Eads and Russell Wright started boxing, all under their trainer, Clarence Bauman.

The firemen have been busy as a beehive the last few days getting things ready for the event. A fine supporting card has been lined up by Matchmaker Vic Eads who in company with George Combes of Fossil is putting on the card.

Powder Proctor, 17-year-old Portland negro who has been appearing in main event bouts at Salem, is meeting Jack Curley of Salem in the eight-round semi-final. These boys are tops in any man's town and plenty of action is in store for this bout.

In the six-round special event, Stanley Partlow, who usually headlines the smokers here, will meet Danny O'Brien, a fighting Irish lad from Klamath Falls. Stanley will have his hands full in this bout as O'Brien knows his stuff and is quite a slugger himself.

In the top four-round preliminary Sammy McCracken, Hermiston's fighting son, will meet Alvin Pettyjohn. In the 4-round curtain raiser, Tarzan Greener of Hardman will try to even the score with Richard Hayes of Heppner.

Earwig Rout Likely As Bantam Numbers Increase in City

An 11-egg hatch from a setting of Mrs. Will Morgan's, and a two-egg ditto by Ed Gonty's little hen, this week augmented the fast-growing population of black bantams in the city. While doffing his hat to the superior feat of Mrs. Morgan's little Mrs. Bantam, Ed feels encouraged over prospects of fewer earwigs at his place.

Bantams are now kept at many Heppner homes to repel the ever-increasing attacks of earwigs. Owners assert that the little chickens will leave the most luscious dish of bone meal for an earwig any time.

ARE RODEO BACKERS

In giving the list of those indemnifying the coming Rodeo last week, the Gazette Times inadvertently omitted the names of J. Logie Richardson and Ralph Jackson. Apologies are extended these Rodeo backers.

INSURANCE MEETING SET

A public meeting for discussion of the new crop insurance program was set for the afternoon of August 30 at Lexington, by Clyde Kiddle, state administrator, when in the city Monday.

For sale, Taylor's rooming house, good business. 23tf

Box Factory Site Money Returned To Contributors

Bridal Veil Official Says City Still Favored for Plant

Though contributors to the Box Factory Site fund this week received their money back, there is still good possibility of establishment of the factory for which the money was subscribed, according to word from Leonard Kraft, manager of Bridal Veil Lumber and Box company, the firm concerned.

In authorizing return of site fund money to contributors, Kraft wrote the local committee as follows:

"We take this opportunity to thank the Heppner Box Factory Committee for the consideration and cooperation shown us during the past several months. Your courtesies have been deeply appreciated.

"We regret that circumstances beyond our control have prevented completion of our plans for so long a time. However, we still look with favor upon Heppner as a suitable location for a remanufacturing plant, and hope that the next few months will find us a part of your community. As soon as market conditions justify, we will more than likely proceed at once with installation of our equipment.

"With reference to the subscription that has been collected, we suggest that you are at liberty to return it to your contributors. We are sure that the moral support of the community and its business men will be behind us, and that, after all, is the most important consideration."

The solicitation of site funds was made in February after a public meeting at which officials of the company appeared and authorized such action. The officials at that time made no definite promises, but the reputation of the company and their purchases of timber adjacent to Heppner encouraged citizens to lend this support toward construction of a box factory.

Hell Divers Give Exhibitions at Pool

Two Hell Divers this week attracted more than usual interest to Heppner's big new municipal plunge as patronage continued on a large scale and student swimmers made progress toward certificates to be awarded soon.

The Hell Divers, Bernard McMurdo, home on summer vacation from Oregon State college, and Al Sethers of Portland, film salesman who with Mrs. Sethers, nee Delia Ulrich, was visiting her relatives here, gave several performances. Hell Divers, may it be said, is an organization of expert divers in Portland. McMurdo has been assisting with diving instruction for the Red Cross classes.

Water in the pool was changed Tuesday evening and the new water was reported as cool yesterday, but the usual good crowd prevailed.

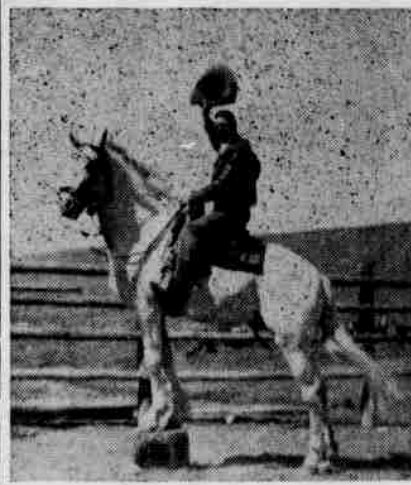
TIMBER FIRE SUBDUED

Fire which started on the Hamilton ranch on upper Rhea creek Saturday night was subdued after it had covered about an acre, with assistance of local CCC's and the forest service crew. Because of its threat to merchantable timber in the area being logged by Scritsmeier mill, the local forest office heavily manned the fire line to make short shrift of the start. The fire had started to crown when the fighters arrived, reported F. F. Wehmeyer, local ranger.

\$100,000 IN CROP LOANS

Total loans on new crop wheat under the AAA program had reached \$100,000 yesterday, reported the local Agricultural Conservation office.

HI, YO! SILVER!



Silver's coming to Rodeo. No, not the Silver of "Lone Ranger" fame, but as beautiful a horse as ever roamed the Morrow county range. He's the three-year-old stallion of Dee Cox, Jr., of Lexington. Sired by a B. F. Swaggart horse, he's the son of a pinto mare that belonged to V. Gentry, one of Rodeo's fathers. The "V. Gentry mare" has been seen at Rodeo many times. Last year Dee rode her in the parade and led the then two-year-old pure white stud colt. In the last year Silver has been trained to do things, like putting his front feet on the stump as seen in the picture. Reflecting his Arabian ancestry in conformation, there's no need to say that Silver is a beautiful horse. Dee was up on his gleaming mount for the above photograph, much as he will be seen in the coming show.

83-Year Youngster Dusts Off Tadpole Style at Plunge

W. G. McCarty, Heppner's ex-mayor, at 83 still feels young enough to swim with the youngsters.

"Don't go telling any tall stories about it," said Mr. McCarty, known to all as Uncle Grant. "Of course I can't swim like I used to. It has been years since I last swam. You know, I learned to swim as a boy in one of those frog ponds, taking my style from the tadpoles."

Finding the old suit moth eaten, Uncle Grant outfitted himself with late model trunks for the dip. He couldn't help feeling a bit undressed, being accustomed to some coverage above the waist. Swallowing his modesty, however, he presented himself at the pool's edge. And as one young chap who witnessed it vouchsafed: "Gee, he dove right in."

'Foxy Grandpa' Gets Poetic Tribute

"Foxy Grandpa" of the old-time comic sheet may have a replica in Heppner if the sentiment contained in the birthday greeting from his granddaughter is a true indication of the temperament of W. G. McCarty, 83, whose first dip into Heppner's new plunge splashed news into far corners. The greeting from Mrs. Elaine Furlong of Condon, received this morning, reads:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY GRANDPA
There is a man in our town,
Most people call him "Gran."
But I've always called him "Grandpa"
And he is the darnedest man!
At 80 he chopped down trees for wood;
At 83 he swims and dives;
What will that kid be up to
On the day he's 85?

ATTEND WEDDING

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Bucknum and son William motored to Mt. Angel Wednesday to be present there today for the wedding of son and brother, Gordon Bucknum.

Mrs. J. G. Barratt and son Jim, and Mrs. E. P. Hoyt and son Dick of Portland, returned Monday evening from a visit at Browning, Mont. Mrs. Hoyt and son went on to Portland Tuesday morning.

Rodeo Dress-Up Saturday; Queen To be Announced

Boxing Card, Band Feature Pre-Show Activities Here

Saturday, August 19, is Heppner Rodeo Dress-Up day, the time when all citizens don their brightly colored Windsor ties and cowboy shirts in preparation for the week of pre-Rodeo activities.

Dressing up in cowboy regalia has long been the custom and all who can are asked to cooperate in wearing ties and shirts. Those who wish may don more complete outfits. "The more you look like a cowgirl or cowboy, the better it will be," said the dress-up committee of Howard Bryant, Scott McMurdo, Howard Furlong and Curt Thomson.

Citizens caught not wearing some form of rodeo garb will be punished. The committee hinted that those offenders would be listed for some form of kangaroo court or perhaps a fine. Names of dress-up custom violators will probably be revealed at a public place, where they will receive said punishment.

Festivities for Saturday are headlined by the final queen dance at the fair pavilion where the long-awaited answer of "who will be queen" will be announced. Already selected by the Rodeo association, the queen will be introduced to her public at midnight, Saturday. The queen is single, member of a pioneer family, graduate of Morrow county high school, and a former Rodeo queen attendant.

Another Saturday feature is the benefit firemen's open air fight card starting at 8 p. m. at the Rodeo grounds. This card main-events Buzz Brown, northwest featherweight champion, against Joe Mendiola, Philippino challenger. Matchmaker is Vic Eads; promoter, George Combs.

The Heppner state championship band, under direction of Harold Buhman, will play on Main street between 4:30 and 5 p. m. Saturday. The dress-up committee has arranged the band's playing as an entertainment feature for the people in town for the inauguration of Rodeo week.

LaVerne Van Marter Paralysis Victim

Heppner relatives and friends were shocked yesterday to learn of the serious illness of La Verne Van Marter, who is reported as isolated in St. Anthony's hospital at Pendleton with infantile paralysis. An outstanding four-year high school athlete here before going to the University of Oregon last year, young Van Marter was one of the most promising athletes ever reared in this section. He played freshman football at the university last year, was a member of the tennis, basketball and baseball squads.

A group of local boys who attended a university pep rally at Pendleton Monday evening saw LaVerne and reported that he was complaining of pains in his legs, but nature of the malady was not suspected at that time. In the local group were Francis Nickerson, Joe Green, Don Turner and Paul McCarty, all university students.

KINZUA OFFICIAL VISITS

Joe Coleman, manager of Kinzua Pine Lumber company, was a visitor in the city Monday in connection with timber purchases in this county. Plans are being laid for extension of the Kinzua operations well into Morrow county's ponderosa pine timber belt. Grading of a road to connect the end of the big mill's railroad with the Heppner-Spray road at the W. H. French ranch has been under way for some time.