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Practical Problems Interest Growers At Wheat Conclave

Condon Assemblage Considers Many Phases of Industry

D. E. Stephens, chief coordinator between AAA and Soil Conservation service, brought what, to growers, was the highlight address at the Eastern Oregon Wheat league conference at Condon, last Friday and Saturday. From thirty years' experience at Moro experiment station, he predicted the future of cultivation practices.

In a nutshell, Stephens said of the many things affecting wheat production in eastern Oregon yields tend to follow the moisture chart more closely than any other factor. Nitrate content of soil, he believed to be the next most important factor, saying tests at Pendleton show that addition of manure to soil gave considerably increased yield the second year; did not help much the first year. At Moro the added nitrates obtained from manure tended to give grain too rank a start for the smaller amount of moisture received to carry through, and burning had at various times resulted. He pointed to a balance between precipitation and nitrate content of soil that may be determined to arrive at the ideal for this wheat section.

Both the talks of Stephens and of Dick Richards, superintendent of Union livestock experiment station, were listened to attentively by growers as bearing upon the present tendency toward livestock production on wheat farms due to permanent retirement of tillable land from grain production and planting to range grasses. Richards gave a lot of practical advice on feeding wheat to livestock in which it was shown from experiments at the Union station that wheat in certain combinations is an excellent feed for cattle, sheep and hogs.

Both R. M. Evans, national wheat section head, and N. E. Dodd, head of western wheat section of AAA, emphasized that farmers themselves must take the lead in formulating the program to be followed in crop control work. The league itself recommended that a more definite financing plan for allotment pay-

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Willows Grange Has First Meeting in Hall

The first meeting of Willows grange was held in the new hall last Saturday evening with an interested group in attendance.

It has been decided to postpone the dedication ceremony until sometime after the first of the year, as it will be more convenient for all having parts in the service.

On Saturday the 16th officers of the various granges will be installed at 8 p. m. The ladies of the Home Economics club will hold their bazaar during afternoon and evening of the same day. Those interested in purchasing dainty Christmas gifts will be interested in seeing the fine display of needlework and aprons.

Owen Zaro, a professional teller of the future, known in private life as George Rose Campbell, will be on hand to read fortunes using both palmistry and astrology. Come and have your future read.

Booths of interest to the children as well as their elders will include fish ponds, grab bags and of course there will be the nigger babies to be thrown at.

Supper will be served at 6 o'clock to local and visiting grangers.

Free dancing following the installation will be enjoyed into the wee sma' hours.

Remember the day, the date and the place, Saturday, Dec. 16, at the new hall in Ione.

DIRECTORS MOVE TO FORM CLUB

B. C. Pinckney Chosen to Head Commercial Group at Initial Meeting

Formation of a commercial club in Heppner attained a step nearer realization this week when the board of directors, chosen in the election held last week, held a luncheon meeting at Hotel Heppner. Officers for the new organization were selected from the personnel of the board of directors.

The result of the poll taken by the board found B. C. Pinckney, manager of First National Bank of Portland, Heppner branch, in the position of president. W. C. Rosewall, of Rosewall-Gentry Motor Co., was chosen first vice president and Frank W. Turner, second vice president. The post of secretary was awarded to O. G. Crawford.

Drafting of a constitution and by-laws will be undertaken at once in order to make it possible to start the club off on a working basis by January 1.

It is the plan of the new organization to maintain an office as headquarters, where the committee meetings and other business of the group may be transacted. The office will be in charge of the secretary. The board of directors already has a tentative program of work and projects outlined for the ensuing year which will be given careful study the next few weeks.

Governor Sidesteps Official Plaints

Persons writing Governor Sprague to complain about the conduct of local officials might as well save their postage, according to Frank Alfred, Morrow county attorney who returned the first of the week from attending the convention of state associations of sheriffs and district attorneys in Portland. In making report of the meeting at the Lions club Monday luncheon, Alfred stated that the governor sidesteps the issue of considering such complaints by referring the letters to the official against whom the complaint is made.

Alfred, Sheriff Bauman, Alden Blankenship and B. C. Pinckney occupied the allotted time with reports of the peace officers, Pendleton high school evaluation, and wheat league meetings.

Bauman said that one matter before the sheriffs which was agitating that arm of the law is a proposal to adopt a uniform for sheriffs and their criminal deputies. He feels the officers' lives will be safer in plainer garb. Pinckney declared he learned more about wheat in one day at the wheat league convention than he ever knew about it before. Blankenship related his experience on the evaluation board at Pendleton, stating he was glad of the opportunity to serve there inasmuch as a similar action will take place here at a later date and the information thus obtained will be of value when that time comes. The evaluations are being made by Northwest Association of Standard High Schools for accrediting by it.

A clarinet duet by Dorothea Wilson and Kingsley Chapin, accompanied by Patty O'Harra was the musical diversion of the meeting.

WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Irvin Perlberg, Lexington, and Mrs. Bert Palmateer, Morgan, were winners of tickets to see the show, "The Women," recently presented at the Star theater. As an advertising feature, the theater management offered free tickets to the 25 contestants turning in the highest average of answers to a list of 10 famous quotations relative to women. Young Perlberg and Mrs. Palmateer were the only contestants qualifying, the former turning in a score of 90 points and the latter 85 points.

Mrs. Catherine Doherty left Monday for Kent, Wash., where she will spend the winter with her daughter, Mrs. Harry Howard.

Eager Throng Visits Heppner's Gala Christmas Opening

People of County Make First Annual Event Grand Success

Heppner's first annual Christmas opening was a pronounced success. This statement is based upon the number of people who turned out Saturday evening, a number variously estimated from 1500 to 2500 persons. No official count was made and estimates were based upon the throngs of people crowding all the business houses at one and the same time.

So eager were the throngs to match the numbers on the tickets with those to be found on the various prizes put up by the business houses that sales for the evening were forgotten and store forces devoted their time to watching the prize hunters. The quest started immediately following a blast of the fire siren at 7:15 p. m. and it was well after 8 o'clock before the crowd began to disperse. It was an orderly, good natured crowd, entering into the spirit of the occasion with friend twitting friend about the luck or lack of luck accompanying their efforts.

Business houses entered wholeheartedly into the movement. Store windows were resplendent with Christmas decorations, interiors were brightened with holiday stocks, and the merchants themselves entered into the spirit of the occasion with a zest. Prizes, of which each place gave several, were so placed that searchers had to make the rounds of each store. In this manner the holiday stocks as well as regular merchandise were brought to the attention of all visitors.

Some of the stores had favors for visitors. Case Furniture company gave out calendars, for which the recipients registered. The signatures of 330 persons were obtained in this manner and estimating that this amounted to about 40 per cent of those entering the store during the evening, M. L. Case thinks upwards of 800 people were their guests. At the Dix grocery, penny candies were given children of the fourth grade and younger. W. O. Dix thinks that no less than 1500 people passed through his store that evening. Other stores found it difficult to estimate the number of guests and most of them are willing to accept any figure up to 2500 people for the evening's crowd.

Funds subscribed by the several business houses to defray expenses of the opening were expended as follows: Santa Claus mask, 25 cents; Santa Claus belt, 25 cents; distributing handbills, \$2; balloons for Santa Claus to give to youngsters at community tree, \$2.15; paper, 20 cents; advertising in Gazette Times for treasure hunt, including printing, \$51.50; turned over to fire department for annual kiddie treat, \$31.15; balance for advertising in Gazette Times, Dec. 14, \$5; total, \$92.50.

With the first opening such a success the business houses are practically unanimous in their desire to repeat the performance next year. All that remains is to settle some difference of opinion relative to details which were made apparent in the first opening event.

RETURNS FROM EAST

H. A. Cohn returned Saturday from a trip to the middle west which kept him away most of two weeks. He was checking on some sheep he shipped east last spring for feeding in Iowa and Illinois and found the flocks in fine shape. The trip both ways was made by airplane, a travel method the Heppner man has found not only convenient as to time saving but one which he enjoys.

WELCOME SHOWERS END LONG DROUTH

Week End Witnesses Fall of .75 Inch of Moisture as Storm Covers Wide Area

Breaking a drouth of many weeks, rainfall to .75 inch fell over Heppner and vicinity last week end, settling the dust and bringing cheer to farmers and stockmen who were beginning to worry over grain and grazing conditions. The rains were general over the northwest, according to reports coming in from different sections, and followed in the wake of heavy winds which, in some instances, were reported to have reached velocity of 65 miles an hour.

In higher reaches of Oregon snowfall followed the rains, giving the state the first real precipitation of the fall season.

The figure of .75 inch covers the first 10 days of December. This was the reading recorded by L. L. Gilliam Monday morning after the skies cleared and there appeared to be no more rain in the offing.

A study of the weather chart reveals the following figures for the year 1939 up to December 10: January .68, February 1.02, March 1.20, April .22, May .66, June .81, July .31, August none, September .79, October .33, November none, and December .75, a total of 6.76 to date.

Since recordings by government instruments started here in January, 1910, the chart shows that the driest December was in 1914 when the precipitation amounted to .28 inch. The wettest December was in 1929 when a total of 3.03 inches fell. Wettest month recorded since 1910 was November, 1921, with a precipitation of 3.19 inches.

According to the weather chart, the year 1912 witnessed the heaviest precipitation in the 30 years recorded—18.64 inches. Contrasted with this figure was 1928 when the total precipitation was 8.20 inches.

Average precipitation for this area is about 14 inches. Unless the present month proves wetter than it has so far, 1929 will be remembered as one of the county's driest periods.

Mr. and Mrs. Devin Married 59 Years

Fifty-nine years of married life, most of that time spent in Morrow county, were observed Sunday by Mr. and Mrs. M. J. Devin at the family home in Sand Hollow. Saturday, Dec. 9, was the anniversary but it was found more convenient for members of the family to assemble on Sunday. Members of the family residing in the county and neighbors and friends were included in the group assembling to observe the event.

Mr. and Mrs. Devin were married in Bolivar, Mo., Dec. 9, 1880. They came to Morrow county in 1884, settling on a homestead in the Blackhorse section. About six months after settling on the homestead Mr. Devin bought part of the place in Sand Hollow which has been the family home continuously since and to which he added holdings from time to time.

Safety Program at Elks Hall Tonight

A safety program, under auspices of the state highway department, will be held at the Elks hall at 7:30 this evening. Hugh Rosson, director of safety for the department, will be the speaker. The public is urged to attend this meeting and hear an able speaker discuss a subject of vital importance to everybody.

This is regular meeting night for the Elks and in order to accommodate Mr. Rosson and the cause he represents, the lodge has deferred opening until after the speaking.

NEW FUNERAL CAR

Phelps Funeral home recently purchased a new funeral car which has been in service the last week. The new car, a Pontiac chassis with a Pierce body, is of the three-way loading type, making it possible to load from either side or the rear.

Firemen Ready For Advent of Jolly Kris Kringle

Kiddies' Treat and Annual Ball Set for Saturday Night

Everything is in readiness for the second annual kiddies' treat and firemen's ball, according to members of the Heppner fire department who have been working tirelessly to make this one of the big events of the year. The kiddies' treat will be staged at the community Christmas tree where Santa Claus, Saint Nick, or Kris Kringle, whichever of the jolly old fellows you prefer, is scheduled to arrive at 7:30 o'clock with his hamper filled with some 400 bags of candy and nuts for the little folk of the community.

If Saturday night is not one of the outstanding dates of the year 1939 it will be no fault of the fire department. Aside from the kiddies' treat, which is a notable achievement for so small a group of workers, there will be the second annual firemen's ball at the Elks hall, an event for which many tickets have already been sold. Mayor Bleakman leading off with purchase of the first ticket. Music for the dance will be furnished by Merrill's orchestra and the young musicians have prepared a floor show in connection which is designed to add much pleasure to the evening. Last year's dance was a big affair and the firemen are determined to make this year's event even more outstanding. Many citizens, wishing to express their appreciation of this self-sustaining organization, buy tickets with no thought of using them.

Kiddies, remember the hour is 7:30. Don't push and shove or run over each other, but be there, for the firemen are expecting you and remember, you mustn't disappoint Santa Claus.

Dancing starts at 9:30. Tickets may be purchased from any member of the fire department or at Patterson's Drug store.

Church Parsonage Scene of Wedding

The Methodist parsonage was the scene of a quiet wedding ceremony Sunday evening when Rev. R. Carl Young, pastor, spoke the words uniting Dorothy Howell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee Howell, and Alfred Huit. Members of the immediate families and a few friends witnessed the nuptials. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss Sybil Howell, while Wesley Huit, brother of the groom, acted as best man. The wedding march was played by Miss Juanita Phelps and Wesley Huit sang "To You."

A reception was held at the home of the bride's parents immediately following the ceremony. Mr. Huit is leaving for Portland where he has a position and the bride plans to remain in Heppner to finish hers senior year in the high school.

Grade Band Program Set for Dec. 21

Date for the Christmas program given by the grade school pupils and the school band has been set for Thursday, Dec. 21, according to Miss Rachel Forsythe. Choruses of the lower and upper grades will sing Christmas carols and the band will appear in concert numbers.

Features of this year's program include choir robes for the singers and a stained glass art window, representing a cathedral window, prepared by the eighth grade class and to be used as part of the stage decorations.

The program is scheduled to start at 8 o'clock p. m., and the public has been extended an invitation to attend.