

## Allotment Fund Disbursed to Morrow Farmers

\$17,000 Received  
To Liquidate Loans  
On 1939 Wheat Crop

A bit of Christmas cheer was spread among wheat growers of the county this week when government funds in the amount of \$17,000 were disbursed here. The recent rise in wheat prices has resulted in farmers of the county liquidating their government wheat loans at prices ranging from 10 cents to 17 cents above the loan value.

According to word received from the local AAA office, 25 farmers have notified the county office of repayments on 56,492 bushels. The total number of loans in Morrow county as of Dec. 20 was 214, covering 466,092 bushels. This means that over 400,000 bushels are still in growers' hands.

Another important development in the wheat loan program is the recent announcement by Commodity Credit corporation of the extension of time on warehouse stored wheat to April 30 instead of seven months from the date of the note, as they were originally drawn up.

Allotment money received in the county up to the present amounts to \$216,000. Agricultural conservation payments are expected to reach a total of \$260,000. These payments cover a diversity of farm activities and include wheat acreage allotments, payments on soil building practices, such as seeding crested wheat grass, trashy summerfallow method, seeding of alfalfa and clover, and reseeding depleted pasture land in the dry farming areas. On the irrigated lands planting and maintaining wind breaks, mulching, application of sulphur and many other approved soil building practices come under the allotment plan.

## Mrs. E. L. Bucknum Honored at Rites

Funeral services were held Tuesday morning at 10 o'clock for Mrs. Edwin L. Bucknum, whose death occurred Saturday night after a short illness. Rev. Father Richard Healy officiated at the services, held from St. Patrick's church in which Mrs. Bucknum had long been a faithful worker. Interment was in Masonic cemetery with Phelps Funeral home in charge.

Mrs. Bucknum was a native of Ireland where she was born March 14, 1871. She came to America in 1893 and was married to Edwin L. Bucknum June 8, 1895 at Binghamton, N. Y. They left New York in the spring of 1908 and came to Portland where they resided until 1912 when they moved to Morrow county, locating in Heppner which has been their home since, and where Mrs. Bucknum had conducted a rooming house for many years.

Deceased is survived by the husband, four sons, Edwin L. and William J. of Heppner, Elmer J. of Los Angeles and J. Gordon of Phoenix, Ariz., two sisters, grandchildren and nieces and nephews, and a host of friends who feel her untimely demise deeply. Kind and benevolent, it is said that Mrs. Bucknum never turned anyone in need of shelter away from her door.

## HAVE NEW DAUGHTER

From far off Valdez in Alaska comes word of the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Huddleston. The little lady made her advent into the world Saturday, Dec. 16, and has been named Lorane Anabel. Mrs. Huddleston was formerly Miss Jeanette Turner, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Turner of Heppner.



May Your  
Christmas  
Be Very, Very Merry



## Firemen Bring Joy To Hundreds

Heppner fire department spread joy among hundreds of children last Saturday evening when the annual treat was staged at the municipal Christmas tree. Not a few bags were handed out to adults, for the firemen were prepared to distribute gift bags and that's what they did.

Four hundred bags filled with nuts, candy and an orange each were handed out, besides additional oranges which were left after filling the bags. One and a half crates were distributed in this manner. To fill the bags, the department bought 125 pounds of candy, 140 pounds of assorted nuts and five cases of oranges.

A good crowd attended the dance in the Elks hall and there might have been more dancers had it not been for the lights failing at the time the dance started. The firemen met this emergency with candles and gas lamps and the program was carried through as scheduled. Special numbers were featured in which Ted Ferguson and Yvonne Bleakman did solo tap dances, and the high school band played a 20-minute concert. Dance music was furnished by Merrill's orchestra.

The firemen have set the date for next year's ball and will work toward extending their program to include a sunshine barrel.

## Schools Close for Winter Vacation

Heppner grade and high schools will close Friday afternoon for the winter vacation. Work will be resumed Tuesday, Jan. 2, 1940. Several members of the teaching staff will remain in Heppner while others will return to their homes for the period. Those remaining are Mr. Peavy, Mr. Bennett and Mr. McKenzie. Mr. Blankenship and family will go to Centralia and then to Everett to spend Christmas and to attend the wedding of Mrs. Blankenship's brother, John Gable. Mr. Blankenship will attend a meeting of the committee on state vocation training in Portland during the vacation.

Mr. Knox and family will go to Portland; Miss Blair to Monmouth, Miss Gerlach to Canby, and Miss Rachel Forsythe will spend her vacation in Ashland. Other teachers were without definite plans.

## MIDNIGHT SERVICE SET

A midnight service will be observed by the Episcopal church in Heppner Christmas eve, Sunday, Dec. 24. A choral service will open at 10:30 o'clock when Christmas carols will be sung. At 11 o'clock there will be holy communion administered by Archdeacon Eric Robathan of Pendleton. Mrs. O. G. Crawford will be guest soloist for the occasion. The public has been extended an invitation to attend these services.

## LEX RECEIVES BIG WATER CHECK

WPA Assistance Granted  
in Reconstruction of Recently  
Purchased Service

A check for \$17,700.22 was received by Mayor Tom Barnett for the town of Lexington last Saturday morning, the same being the amount forwarded by the Works Progress administration, for the purchase of the privately owned water system now in use and for partial reconstruction of that system. Details of the purchase were closed Monday afternoon when city warrants covering the purchase price were turned over to Mrs. Elsie Beach and Mrs. Laura Scott, co-owners of the system.

With acquisition of the water system, details are now being ironed out for going ahead with reconstruction work. This includes replacing the old pipe lines with new and larger pipe and some readjustment in the water supply.

The water system now in use at Lexington was installed in 1908 by Karl Beach and W. G. Scott. The first well was dug and a windmill installed to do the pumping. Later the owners drilled a 300-foot well at the rear of the W. F. Barnett & Co. store and this has been the source of supply until recently when the city drilled a well in the east part of town. When the windmill proved inadequate, a six-horsepower gasoline engine was installed to do the pumping. This motive force was retained until the new electric service was installed in the county and since that time an electric motor has furnished the pumping power.

Following the passing of both Mr. Scott and Mr. Beach, Mrs. Beach took over the active management of the water system, a post she retained until Tuesday morning when the city took over.

## Burns Ready for State Woolgrowers

Plans have been completed for the annual convention of Oregon Woolgrowers association at Burns, Jan. 7, 8 and 9, according to C. D. Conrad, Morrow county agricultural agent, who states that reservations should be made at once for hotel or room accommodations and that those coming in late may have difficulty in being placed.

It has been proposed that reservations be made for Pullman service to the convention city. If enough reservations are made the car will be used for transportation to Burns and remain there for the duration of the meeting, thus supplying sleeping quarters for the passengers. This method is both convenient and economical, it is stated, and those wishing this service should get in touch with Mr. Conrad at once.

Committee meetings will be held January 7, the other days to be devoted to the general convention program.

## Audience Pleased With H. S. Operetta

An audience comfortably filling the gymnasium greeted the cast in "And It Rained," high school production, last Friday evening. Some forty young people participated in the operetta, which was characterized by bright, catchy music and sparkling, witty libretto.

The eleven principals handled the roles and spoken lines in a creditable manner and were given good backing by the choruses. Dances were a feature of the operetta and the special numbers by Wanda Howell, tap dancing, and the slave dance appear worthy of special mention. The tango by four young people, Elizabeth Healy, Connie Instone, Joe Farley and Harry O'Donnell, was another pleasing number, and the Indian dance featuring Birdine Vance, Jean Hays, Kathryn Thompson, Bob Pinckney, Hugh Crawford, Howard Wray and Bill Blake proved to be the most mirth-provoking number on the program.

The cast included Mr. Wise, bald proprietor of the Wise hotel, James Keny; Mlle Marie Caray, a French dancing teacher, Pat Dooley; Dennis Black, the romantic lead—he is returning home from college, Jack Merrill; Maizie Black, his sister, with one hundred dollars, Frances Wilkinson; Mrs. Wise, boss of the Wise hotel, and her husband, Juanita Phelps; Maibelle Rich, beautiful daughter of Mr. Rich, Lucille Barlow; John Rich, follows and furnishes the money, Jack O'Harra; Curly Rich, brother of Maibelle and member of the glee club, Don Bennett; Steele Black, father of Dennis and Maizie, and a real sport, Bud Blakely; Jack and Fred, members of the glee club, Harry O'Donnell, James Barratt.

Miss Jean McElhinny directed the music, Norbert Peavy was dramatic director and the dances were directed by Miss Martha Blair.

## Free Matinee to be Saturday Offering

A free matinee for children is the offering for Saturday afternoon, Dec. 23, at the Star theater in Heppner. The free show is a gift from the theater and Heppner lodge 358, B. P. O. Elks. There will be one showing only and the hour is 2 o'clock. A special film, "Call a Messenger," has been obtained and in addition two other numbers, "Hunky and Spunky," and "Five Times Five," will be shown.

The same matinee will be shown by the Liberty and Elks at Condon Monday afternoon.

## MURTHA BROS. BUY CATTLE

Murtha brothers of Condon added to their Morrow county holdings today with the purchase of 98 head of cattle from Mrs. Pauline Quaid. The cattle were formerly part of the Monahan holdings. Mrs. Quaid is visiting in the city from her home at Portland.

## Charles Notson Tells of Missionary Work in Far China

Local Society Learns  
of Tibetan Habits;  
Travel Hazardous

News travels slowly in the far reaches of China where modern modes have not penetrated and man is dependent on "shank's ponies" or the native horses for transportation. This fact is brought to the attention of Heppner people through correspondence received from Charles Notson, native Heppner boy and a missionary working among the mountain tribes of high western China.

Letters travel slowly, too, as a recent communication from Mr. Notson, written October 5, 1939, was received by members of the Union Missionary society in Heppner about two months later. Through the kindness of the mission society the Gazette Times is permitted to publish from the letter, dated at Shunwa, Tsinghai, Oct. 5:

Breakfast is over, and I have just finished morning prayers with the Chinese. A good many things are on my program today, and I expect the usual interruptions will keep me from getting around to most of them; but first on the list is a long over-due letter to you good friends who have been so patient in our slow response to your letters containing lovely gifts of money...

We have just returned from Minchow, where we attended our annual conference. As attendance is compulsory, we shopped around for three horses, and set out. I carried Mary and a Tibetan boy carried Edward, except occasionally when Ruth took him on her steed. In all we had 19 days in the saddle. As we have not done any riding for nearly a year, you can imagine how we felt the first few days!

Some one has said, and truly, that it is not the traveling in China that is difficult, but the stopping. The meanest tourist camp I ever put up in would be heaven compared to the best Chinese inn. The first night we spent in a Tibetan village twenty miles up a steep valley from here. There being no inn, we gladly accepted the hospitality of a man, whose friends we had treated for minor injuries a few days previous. Now, one flea can give me a merry time any night until caught, but

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## Masons, Eastern Star Hold Installation

One of the highlights of the winter social season was the banquet and installation ceremonies held by Masonic and Eastern Star chapters at Masonic hall last evening. About 150 lodge members and invited guests enjoyed the turkey dinner which was served at 6 o'clock.

At the installation ceremony the Masons inducted the following officers: James Leach, W. M.; Thomas J. Wells, S. W.; Hanson Hughes, J. W.; C. R. McAlister, S. D.; Walter Luckman, J. D.; John Wightman, S. S.; Harold Stevens, J. S.; C. J. D. Bauman, marshal; W. E. Pruyne, tyler; Robert Wightman, chaplain. Frank S. Parker, treasurer, was installing officer. Spencer Crawford is secretary.

The Eastern Star installed the following: Madge Thomson, W. M.; Robert Wightman, W. P.; Etta Parker, A. M.; Archie Ball, A. P.; Daisy Shively, secretary; Rose Liebbrand, treasurer; Ella Bengel, conductress; Annie Schaffer, associate conductress.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Doherty were in from their north Lexington home Tuesday to attend the funeral of Mrs. E. L. Bucknum.