

Heppner Gazette Times

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Heppner Lumber Plant Scene of Renewed Action

Machinery Arrives for Reconstruction of Burned Mill

All is hustle and bustle at the former plant of the Heppner Lumber company, where machinery has arrived for reconstruction of the mill destroyed by fire late last fall. A crew of 12 men is engaged in preparing the site for the new mill being erected by Heppner Lumber company, Inc., and when preliminary work is out of the way a larger force will be put on to hurry erection of the sawmill and planing mill which will constitute the operation of the new plant.

Organization of the new company was completed in Portland this week with H. E. Leash, president, Leonard Kraft, secretary-treasurer and Orville Smith, vice president and plant manager. Articles of incorporation were filed at Salem on Tuesday and the new concern is on its way.

Work of clearing away debris of the former plant has been going on for several days. With this out of the way excavation for the foundation of the new mill has been completed and workmen Wednesday started laying the framework. Four truck loads of mill machinery have arrived from Trout Lake, Wash., and the entire plant will be here by the end of the week. Erection of the mill is under the supervision of Neil Gordon, millwright, and it is expected the plant will be ready for operation in 60 days.

The new mill is a band saw type and will have a capacity of between 35,000 and 40,000 feet per eight hour shift. Addition of a planer will give employment to a larger number of workers than the former mill employed and it is expected the entire operation will use no less than 125 men.

Logs on hand at the mill site amount to approximately 200,000 feet and at least 70,000 feet more are down in the timber awaiting transport to the mill. Kraft timber holdings at present amount to about 7,000,000 feet and negotiations are under way for more timber of sufficient volume to insure a long-time operation of the Heppner mill.

Band Places Second at District Contest

Heppner's school band, disappointed but not dispirited, returned from the district contest at La Grande Friday evening with second honors for the division in which it competed. This is the first time in five years that the local musical organization has returned home with anything less than first place. Competition from Burns and Union was keen enough to crowd the Heppner youngsters out of the top spot and the slogan, "On to Spokane (if we win at La Grande)" is just another one of "them" things.

Despite their luck, the youngsters and those accompanying the band had a big day in the Union county city. The contests were spirited and entertainment was ample to keep everybody interested. The Heppner band made a good showing and youngsters and their leader, Harold Buhman, are not down hearted. They feel they have reason to work harder to produce a better band than ever, in which they will have the generous support of the community.

Mrs. Eddie Thorpe and son Carl returned Tuesday from Portland where Carl had been taking medical treatment for his legs.

Court Action Has Sanction of C of C

Action of the Morrow county court in refusing to cooperate with business interests of Arlington in securing a bombing field for the northern part of Morrow county has the whole hearted support of the Heppner chamber of commerce. The board of directors, meeting Wednesday evening, discussed the matter briefly and decided to take no official action other than to commend the court for its stand, indicating thereby that the business men stand ready to assist the officials in all matters concerning the welfare of the county.

A report on the merchants' free matinee showed increased interest in the monthly event and a desire on the part of the business houses to continue the show. The committee will distribute tickets to the merchants a week or so prior to the next show, which will be on May 4.

L. E. Bisbee was named chairman of a committee to contact other organizations of the city relative to assisting with lunch plans for the county school spring festival on May 3. It is hoped to stimulate interest in the festival by getting a large number of the townspeople to turn out for the lunch and the program. The chamber of commerce proposes to furnish something for the lunch, possibly lemonade and coffee.

A vote of confidence was given the Heppner school band and its director, Harold Buhman.

B. P. W. Elects Officers for Year

Miss Lulu Hager was hostess to the Business and Professional Women's club at her home Tuesday evening. The group enjoyed a baked ham supper following which a business session was held.

Election of officers for the ensuing year resulted in Miss Rose Leibbrand being elected as president; Neva Bleakman, vice president; Florence Bergstrom, secretary, and Harriet Pointer, treasurer.

Reports on the Eastern Oregon conference held at Pendleton Sunday were given by Clara Beamer, who told of the afternoon meeting, and Mrs. Ealor Huston, on the morning session. The club voted to pay expenses for a car going to Grants Pass for the state convention May 16. Lorena Jones, chairman of the mother-daughter banquet committee, reported that the dinner will be held at 6:30 o'clock p. m., May 6, in the Christian church basement. One hundred tickets will be sold.

Former Resident's Passing Reported

Word was received in Heppner Wednesday of the passing of Mrs. Harvie Young, former Morrow county woman who had been a resident of Medford many years. Date of passing was not stated in the message which announced funeral services to be held in Medford at 2 o'clock p. m., Friday, April 19.

Remembered by many as Gladys Cox, Mrs. Young was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Cox, long-time residents of the county. She attended school in Lexington and Heppner and upon completion of high school was married to Harvie Young of Eight Mile. After several years of farm life in this county the Youngs moved to Medford where they have since resided.

Mrs. Young's mother still resides at Lexington but the father passed away several years ago. Besides the husband and father, two brothers also survive.

The deceased visited her mother at Lexington late last fall and shortly after returning to Medford was seized with the illness that resulted in her death.

REPUBLICANS IN MAJORITY HERE

Check-Up Shows G. O. P. Leading Democrats of County By Score of 1341 to 820

A check-up made by County Clerk C. W. Barlow Wednesday following close of registration books Tuesday evening shows the republican party holding a safe lead over the democrats. The figures obtained by Clerk Barlow, while correct so far as his records disclose, may be altered in some cases when registration books from the several precincts are tried in. Cancellations are to be expected but these will not materially affect the count made yesterday.

According to the clerk's figures the republicans show a total registration of 1341 and the democrats number 820. Independents and others total 35, making a grand total of 2196. Breaking this down into precincts the count shows the following results: Alpine, republicans 16 democrats 24, non-partisan 1; Boardman 87, 166, 2; Cecil 43, 16; Eightmile 39, 30, 2; Gooseerry 23, 18; Hardman 111, 35, 4; Ione 183, 78; Irrigon 63, 59, 7; Lena 35, 8; Lexington 108, 56, 6; North Heppner 358, 181, 7; Pine City 17, 13; South Heppner 258, 136, 6.

Truck Burns After Highway Accident

A 1940 model truck owned by S. B. Prock and driven by Earl Fay destroyed by fire just off the Oregon-Washington highway about three miles east of Heppner about 7 o'clock last Saturday evening. Fay, who gives his residence as Seneca, apparently was alone in the truck at the time the machine left the highway. He received injuries to his head, although not serious.

Prock, owner of the truck, was following closely behind in a light car and rushed Fay to a doctor. Returning to the scene of the accident a short time later he discovered that the truck had been destroyed by fire.

Republicans Will Hear Candidates

A meeting of Morrow County Republican club has been scheduled for 7:30 o'clock p. m., Wednesday, May 1, announces Frank C. Alfred, president, who urges all republicans to attend. Several attractions will be offered in the presentation of district and local candidates.

A special invitation has been extended to Roy Ritner and Rex Ellis, republican candidates for congress, and there will be other republican office seekers on hand to tell of their political aspirations. Copies of the primary ballot will be on hand for group discussion.

McFERRIN-THOMSON

The wedding of Miss Irena McFerrin and Curtis Thomson, both of Heppner, was an event of Monday morning, April 15, at Moscow, Idaho. The ceremony was witnessed by Mr. and Mrs. Roderick Thomson. Immediately following the ceremony the wedding party returned to Heppner where the bridegroom, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Thomson, is employed in the Thomson Bros. store. Both young people are graduates of Heppner high school.

TAX TALKS LIKED

Talks on taxation by Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wells were received favorably by Lexington grangers at the regular meeting last Saturday evening. After making detailed explanations of the methods employed in making assessments and collecting taxes the speakers were called on to answer numerous questions propounded by people of the audience. The grange sponsored the talks in an effort to give the people a better understanding of the tax system.

Work Required to Land Mail Route

Heppner and prospective patrons will have to get busy if the proposed rural mail route leading from here to lower Little Butter creek and return via Lena and Hinton creek is to become a reality. That was the firm conviction expressed by J. O. Turner at the Lions club luncheon Monday.

While most of the argument lies on Heppner's side, the fact remains that Little Butter creek residents are now being served from Echo and regardless of the fact that upwards of forty families in territory between Heppner and the present route are without mail delivery, the Echo contractor, postmaster and business interests are determined to hold the territory now in their grasp by virtue of the thrice-a-week mail service.

The new service contemplates a daily-except-Sunday route out of Heppner. To accommodate all who want to get their mail out of the local postoffice it will be necessary to cut into part of the route serving upper Blackhorse out of Lexington and to take over Little Butter creek from the Charles Bartholomew ranch to Lena. The route has been mapped out to offer continuous mileage as far as possible, avoiding doubling of territory. It is possible that a few of the farms below Heppner will be included and that will necessitate doubling back to the Blackhorse road just below the F. S. Parker residence. Existing contracts on the Blackhorse and Lena routes do not expire for two years and in the meantime people in the unserved territory have a legitimate claim for service. To win over the districts now served and to get adjustment of existing contracts is Heppner's job and one that will require speedy and effective action, Turner pointed out.

Lee Howell presented the matter of sponsoring a membership in the Beaver Boy State camp. The Lions have sent one boy to the camp each year since the movement was adopted here.

The Lions will meet as usual next Monday.

Carlson Comes as Protective Assistant

Ellis Carlson of Asotin, Wash., has been added to the local office of the Umatilla National forest as protective assistant for the current season. Work in the forest areas has started and will be pushed as rapidly as weather conditions permit, according to Fred Wehmeyer, in charge of the Heppner district.

Pryor Parrish and Max Buschke have been sent to the west end of the reserve and will work out of Fossil. On the east side Elmer Hinton and Bert Bleakman have started the spring activities. Road machinery will be moved in as fast as possible, Wehmeyer states. The mountains are drying out and motorists can make it to Tupper station without chains. Fishermen will be able to reach Skookum, Alder and Wall creeks if no more heavy weather prevails in the next few days.

CHECK SHORTAGE SETTLED

N. W. Luckey, who claims Burns as his residence, was released from the custody of the sheriff Tuesday evening following incarceration in the county jail a few days on a charge of uttering an NSF check. The charge was preferred by D. M. Ward after a check he cashed for Luckey "bounced back" with the significant initials inscribed thereon. Luckey was able to make restitution and Ward withdrew the charge. The accused man is said to be an electrician and to have operated an electric shop at Burns.

Dance at Lexington grange hall Saturday evening, April 20. Music by Wright's orchestra, Pendleton.

U. S. Army Seeks Bombing Field in Morrow County

'No-Man's Land' in North End Viewed as Possible Location

Uncle Sam's preparedness plans became a bit more vivid to Morrow county people last Saturday when Captain John C. Gates of the U. S. army visited this section in quest of a location for a bombing field. Captain Gates, in company with Col. C. L. Tinker and Col. G. E. Stratemeyer of Hamilton Field, Calif., has been making a survey of several possible sites in Oregon, some of them in central Oregon and one at Arlington, and while in the vicinity made a trip into Morrow county to sound out sentiment relative to converting some of the unoccupied land of the north end into a practice ground for army bombing planes.

A map was displayed showing that a study had been made of the territory in question. It is proposed to take over the larger part of four townships lying between Ione and Boardman. Much of this land is now in possession of the county and is unoccupied except for that portion coming under the Taylor grazing unit and a few ranches. The ranches are more or less marginal and there would be relatively small acreage for the government to purchase. It is also possible that some of the railroad lands are included in the proposed field. The tract as plotted on Captain Gates' map would be approximately 12 miles wide and 16 miles long.

Some of the objection that might naturally arise to the location of a bombing field in this or other localities is removed by the fact that high explosive bombs are not used, states Captain Gates. A regulation size bomb is released from the plane but it carries only a small amount of black powder which forms a white smoke when exploded. This is for the purpose of locating the position of the bomb in relation to the target, observation of which is made from planes.

There would be some construction in connection with the field and at times a considerable number of officers and men would be stationed there during maneuvers. Supplies and men would be stationed at local agencies, it was indicated, the captain expressing satisfaction with the available transportation facilities.

The Morrow county court was waited upon Wednesday morning by a delegation of Arlington business men who came for the purpose of enlisting support of this county for the project. Their plan calls for location of the headquarters at Arlington.

Care of Pre-School Children Stressed

Proper care of the pre-school child is highly important if the child is to enter school prepared to enjoy the life awaiting him there, according to Dr. M. Carter Davis of the state tuberculosis association, who visited the county this week. Dr. Davis spoke before a meeting of the Morrow County Health association Tuesday evening in which he outlined a program for the care of children of both pre-school and school age.

Dr. Davis was here to assist Miss Lucille Vale, county health nurse, in conducting clinics at Boardman and Hardman in which numbers of pre-school children were immunized against contagious diseases. He explained the duties of the county nurse and urged the health association to continue the program of educating parents in care of their children.

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