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School Districts Reduce Bond and Warrant Debts

Auditor's Statement Shows Improvement in Fiscal Affairs

School districts of Morrow county have a bond and warrant indebtedness of \$96,805.37 as of June 17, 1940, according to C. R. Ham of Pullman, Wash., who completed an audit of the school books Wednesday of this week and submitted his report to Mrs. Lucy E. Rodgers, county superintendent. This is Mr. Ham's eighth annual audit of the Morrow county schools and he has included in his report a statement of receipts and disbursements of all districts, a consolidated statement of high school education costs and tuition receivable, and a schedule of warrants and bonds outstanding, which is comparative for June, 1939 and June, 1940.

An analysis of his report is given by Mr. Ham as follows:

Expenditures by all of the school districts amounted to \$200,522.30 during the year. Of this amount, \$96,776.69 can not be considered as current education costs, but for the following purposes: Transportation of pupils, \$33,669.75; capital outlay in the form of new equipment and alteration of buildings, \$7,167.23; and principal and interest payments of bonds and warrants owing prior to June, 1939, \$55,939.71. The current costs of education reported by the several districts, therefore, would appear to be the remainder, \$130,745.61. However, this amount includes an element of duplication in that many elementary school districts paid three other districts \$6,542 for tuition, which should reduce the real cost of education to \$97,203.61.

The schedule of warrants and bonds outstanding, which compares the indebtedness at June, 1939, with that of June, 1940, reveals a net reduction of \$25,152.16 of school debts, of which \$20,000 has been by the retirement of bonds. The present indebtedness stands at \$26,305.37 of warrants and \$70,500 of bonds, or a total of \$96,805.37 at June 17, 1940. This situation can be appreciated better by reference to the auditor's first annual report for 1932-33 in which the total of warrants outstanding was shown as \$136,643.35 and the total of bonds outstanding was given as \$197,100. And most of that \$333,743.35 of debt bore interest at 6 per cent. No new school district bonds have been issued during the past eight years.

It should be pointed out also that in addition to reducing the school debt \$25,152.16 the districts have increased their total cash on hand by \$9,400.71, and in addition they have accumulated a sinking fund from tax collections amounting to \$26,300 that is held by the county treasurer for the purpose of retiring bonds next year. This apparent financial improvement, however, raised a serious question which is out of the realm of the auditor, and that is whether more should not be spent by the districts for school supplies, books, equipment, repairs including a few coats of paint.

Inter-district payments, between the clerks, for tuition, transportation, books, etc., continue to increase and amounted for 1939-40 to \$8,868.10. This steady increase from the \$3,034 of such inter-district payments reported for 1932-33 indicates the apparently permanent trend toward transporting the pupils to the larger schools. These payments are necessary under the system of maintaining separate school districts without teachers. And it may be pointed out again that this system is costing those districts about \$1,000 in clerks' salaries and bonds, audits

AMERICAN IDEALS THEME OF SPEAKER

Russell McNeill Warns Against Present Day Trends in Talk at Camp Heppner Lawn Party

American ideals have undergone some rough treatment in recent years and our forefathers, could they look in upon the scene in the present day, might experience difficulty in recognizing some of the principles of the free government which they so wisely devised. That in effect, was the thought expressed by Russell McNeill in a talk to the 200 or more people assembled at Camp Heppner last Sunday afternoon to participate in the lawn party staged by Lt. Marius P. Hanford and his corps of CCC assistants.

McNeill's talk was the highlight of the party, main features of which were a short concert by the Heppner school band, the dinner served on the lawn and the taking of motion pictures of the assemblage by Lieutenant Hanford.

The speaker's theme was Americanism and while he did not attempt to give a definition of it that might be accepted by all, he laid down what he thought could be accepted as a sensible rule of conduct for the citizens of the country, which, if followed, will instill the principles of patriotism laid down in the founding of the government. First, think clearly; second, vote intelligently, and third, accept full share of responsibility in the problems facing the country. In commenting on the third clause, he pointed to the tendency of the people at large to shift the burden of government on to officials. The trend toward centralized control has been pronounced the past few years and unless the people take more interest in affairs and express their disapproval of this tendency the next few years will see more power in the hands of the head of the government.

Lieutenant Hanford acted as master of ceremonies. He said that the party was originally planned as a farewell, as at that time it was expected the camp might be moved. He was happy to announce that it was not a farewell party and expressed the hope that there might be other similar affairs before the camp is moved.

Turner President Health Association

J. O. Turner was elected president of the Morrow County Public Health association when that group met last Friday evening. Mrs. Lucy Rodgers, vice president, has been serving as head of the group since the death of Rev. Carl Young, president the past year.

Other officers elected at Friday's meeting were Mrs. J. J. Nys, vice president; Clara Beamer, secretary, and Mrs. Rodgers, treasurer.

Miss Lucille Vale, county health nurse, made a report on her work since coming to the county the first of the year. She also presented a chart showing the phasing and scope of the work outlined for the year. J. O. Turner, treasurer, reported a balance of \$465.53 in the treasury.

The association voted to purchase three copies of the book, *Mother and Baby*, for use in the health campaign.

FAT LAMBS MARKETED

Frank Wilkinson sold 1120 spring lambs to the Hyslop Sheep company of Spokane this week. When weighed at the Parker scales today the lot averaged 97 and one-seventh pounds. This is probably the highest average scored by Morrow county lambs this season.

and other expenses which could be eliminated by consolidation. Districts No. 37 and No. 32 consolidated with District No. 35, Ione. District No. 48 did not function again for lack of pupils.



Going to Canada? Stay 48 Hours and Save on Purchases

A ruling recently invoked relieves from duty payment goods purchased in Canada up to \$100 in amount, provided—the purchaser has been in Canada 48 hours.

This worthwhile information was obtained by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph I. Thompson and son Alex, and Mrs. Thompson's sister, Mrs. Ella Burns of Mt. Vernon, Wash., who just returned from a visit to Vancouver and Victoria, B. C. Under the 48 hour limit, one must pay duty as high as 50 per cent on articles purchased.

At Victoria, one must not miss the Empress hotel gardens, among the grandest sights of the trip, says Mrs. Thompson. And that they were not the only Morrow county folks attracted is evidenced by their bumping into the L. E. Bisbee family, entirely unexpectedly, at this spot.

While away, Mrs. Thompson enjoyed two days of clam digging at the coast with her sister.

Local Men Attend Order of Antelope

E. O. Ferguson and J. Logie Richardson of Heppner were counted among the 210 rugged Americans who made the trek to Hart mountain, deep in the desert of eastern Lake county, to attend the annual meeting of the Order of the Antelope. They were accompanied by Lowell Stockman of Pendleton and Jack French of Long Creek.

Ferguson made the trip more to meet some of his old neighbors and friends in Lakeview than to participate in the order's festivities, although admitting that he had a big time. He formerly lived in Lakeview and drove an auto stage between that point and Klamath Falls. It was Richardson's first visit there and he is loud in his praise of the hospitality extended the visitors.

WADING POOL TO OPEN

The wading pool for little tots which has been in course of construction for some time is nearly completed and will be opened Sunday, according to Dr. L. D. Tibbles. The pool is located on the south side of the swimming pool property, separated from the main swimming tank by the locker building. It will be used by tots four years of age and under and parents will be required to take the responsibility of supervising their own children.

AAA PROGRESS NOTED IN WEEK

Individual Allotments Prepared; Loss Adjustments on Insurance Under Way; Loans Being Made

Several things of interest to Morrow county farmers have been happening in the past week, according to word from the local AAA office. For instance, the county wheat acreage allotment has been broken down into individual farm allotments and notices are being prepared for mailing to all interested persons. In this connection it was pointed out that allotments were set and notices mailed to all persons owning or operating wheat farms, but that compliance with the allotments is entirely voluntary.

Another phase of the program showing much activity is crop insurance. Loss adjustment work has been progressing rapidly with ten claims being filed to date. In the county there are 313 policies in effect covering 68,985 acres with a total insured production of 610,668 bushels, and it appears at this time that losses will be paid on between 10 to 15 per cent of the insured farms. Most losses that have occurred to date are the direct result of severe hot winds in early June with the dry fall and late spring drouth contributing factors.

Along with the adjustment work applications are also being taken for 1941 insurance. The first Morrow county farmer to sign a 1941 application was Clyde Denny of Lexington. Mr. Denny had insurance on his 1940 crop and, though he did not have a loss, he is enthusiastic about the insurance program and feels that with crop conditions as uncertain as they are in Morrow county, no wheat farmer can afford to be without it.

Also claiming its share of attention during the past few days was the wheat and barley loan program with eight applications received to date. The first producer to secure a 1940 wheat loan was J. S. Moore now of Seattle, Wash. Mr. Moore is owner of a farm in the Alpine district being farmed by Russell Moore and is spending a few days vacation at the ranch.

NEW DIVING BOARD ORDERED

Patrons of the Heppner swimming tank who enjoy diving will be glad to learn that a new diving board has been ordered and its arrival is expected this week. A board used in the old Legion tank has been in use since the new tank was finished a year ago.

Rodeo Boosters Plan Junkets to Nearby Counties

Business Men Will Tell Neighbors of 1940 Western Show

Plans have been crystalizing this week to extend personal invitations to the people of neighboring counties to attend the 1940 Heppner Rodeo. Gilliam, Wheeler, Grant and Umatilla counties are included in the proposed itinerary and an effort will be made to arrange luncheon and dinner meetings with as many chambers of commerce or other civic groups as possible in an effort to contact business leaders in each community.

It is proposed to visit Arlington, Condon, Fossil, Kinzua, Spray, Dayville, Mt. Vernon, John Day and Canyon City to the west and south and Hermiston and Pendleton to the east. Literature will be distributed and buttons sold in addition to the personal contacts. An effort will be made to get several cars to join each junket so that many more potential Rodeo visitors may be contacted.

Rodeo business has been slack this week, due to the absence of several association officials, but it is expected that it will pick up within the next week when these parties return and can devote their attention to the work of preparing for the show. Grounds, stock, parade, cowboy breakfast and other committees will put the wheels in motion to make this one of the most entertaining week ends the gentry of this neck of the woods have experienced in many a snow.

To date the queen's dances have attracted large crowds. Queen Marjorie and her attendants were introduced to the crowd at Willows grange in Ione last Saturday night. The coming Saturday night they will be the center of interest at the Lexington grange hall.

There is some agitation for a street dance on Friday morning. If carried out it will be typical of the cowboy days with music furnished by old-time musicians. This feature has the backing of several of the business houses and will likely be included on the downtown program.

Mrs. Gilliam Laid To Rest Saturday

Funeral services for Mrs. Effie J. Gilliam were held from the Methodist church at 2 o'clock p. m., Saturday, July 20. The impressive Eastern Star service was used in conjunction with the services conducted by the pastor, James Wilkins. Interment was made in the Masonic cemetery.

Effie J. Wright, daughter of Albert and Julia Wright, was born in New York state July 24, 1865 and departed this life July 18, 1940, aged 74 years, 11 months and 24 days. When about seven years of age she came with her parents to Oregon.

On November 20, 1882, she was united in marriage to Frank Gilliam, pioneer hardware merchant of this city, whose constant companion and helpmate she remained until Mr. Gilliam's passing in April, 1933. To this union five children were born, of whom all were present at the funeral. These are Ona, Leonard and Earl Gilliam and Mrs. Hazel Vaughn of Heppner and C. C. Gilliam of San Jose, Cal. Besides the children, she is survived by seven grandchildren and numerous relatives.

Mrs. Gilliam became a member of the Methodist church early in life and remained faithful to her belief. She was a charter member of Ruth chapter of the Eastern Star and a member of the Neighbors of Woodcraft.