

# Heppner Gazette Times

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## Lightning Thrills, Hail Does Damage In Week-End Storm

### Strike in City Freakish; Several Crop Losses Storm Result

At 2:55 last Friday afternoon a bolt of lightning struck within the city of Heppner. It was the first thrill of its kind in many years. The fire, like liquid, trickled about town, running playfully into homes, dousing light and radio bulbs, burning out refrigerator fuses and doing a rather remarkable job of stinging a few persons and otherwise playing pranks while leaving no serious damage in its wake.

Main force of the jolt was felt in the vicinity of the Don Jones and J. O. Rasmus residences, near where it burned out transformer fuses. Mr. and Mrs. Jones probably received one of the major thrills, as the juice trickled into the room where they were sitting, via the telephone. The telephone line through which it travelled into the house was later to be found missing some six feet of copper core while the insulation was still intact.

This bolt followed a typical tropical storm in Heppner earlier in the afternoon. The temperature was hovering near the hundred mark when all of a sudden rain drops as big as dollars started descending all at once from a darkish appearing though light cloud. It rained for several minutes and then quit, with the temperature going right back to the point it was when the rain started. At the courthouse the temperature dropped from 97 to 73 during the rain, but came back to the original point a few minutes afterward, reported C. W. Barlow, county clerk.

At the Harold Cohn ranch, an estimated damage of \$2000 was caused by hail accompanying the storm, though no hail fell here. The Terrel Bengel ranch reported an estimated loss of a bushel an acre from the same cause.

Lightning which struck at the C. F. Feldman ranch in the Ione section that afternoon started a fire which burned 50 acres of wheat. A large grass fire in the north end, in the vicinity of Kilkenny lakes, was also thought to have been lightning-caused. It was reported to have burned over a 10-mile front, and the reflection which could be seen from Heppner, caused an alarm to be sounded that a grain fire was burning north of Lexington. Of the many cars attempting to reach the scene of the blaze from Heppner and Lexington, only a few got there.

Mayor J. O. Turner took a carload to with 100 yards of the burning grass, only to get his car stalled in a sand dune amid a heavy growth of sage and thistle, and giving himself and party a bad few moments before the retreat was accomplished.

Another large grass fire was started east of Butter creek and below the Echo junction with the Butter creek highway, while two other starts, one at the Wm. Doherty ranch in Sand Hollow were reported. The damage was reported to have been slight.

Pacific Power & Light company's high power line between Ione and Olex was struck by lightning about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, causing a blackout of the local district for a few minutes.

Probably the most perfect picture of the storm was recorded on the voltage chart at the local power office. The jagged red lines which dashed toward the center of the disc and back again, veering from the regular circle of a normal day, might well have been actual photograph of the lightning flashes themselves. A maze of these up and down strokes was shown between 3 and 6 o'clock in the afternoon, and again right after midnight and up until 3 o'clock Saturday morning.

## Queen Kathryn On Throne, Aug. 15 to 17



Miss Kathryn Thomson

### HER REGAL ATTENDANTS



Miss Colleen Kilkenny  
Miss Frances Wilkinson

Miss Rita Robinson  
Miss Patricia Emert

## Chas. Notsons Due Saturday and Sunday

Charles and Ruth Notson, Heppner missionary folk, will be back in the home town Saturday and Sunday, July 26 and 27. They belong to all of Heppner and all of Heppner is invited to share their visit.

On Sunday morning, if they are not too weary from their long trek across the continent, the Notsons will occupy the pulpit of the Methodist and Christian churches. Sunday evening a great united service will be held in the Methodist church. The formal service will start at 7:30, but people are invited to come early and meet the Notsons and visit with them.

It is a rare privilege for a little town to have an "ambassador at large," and Charles is that, says Mrs. R. C. Young, local minister, in making the announcement. The missionary societies of Heppner have been sending him gifts for many years, thus sharing in his great commission. Now we shall hear of his work and victories. Every one is invited to come and meet Charles and Ruth, and Edward and little Mary. All churches are cooperating in the evening service and we hope to make it the finest missionary gathering this town has ever held.

## Troy Meredith Dies In California Fire

Troy Meredith, employe for several years at Alfalfa Lawn dairy at Heppner, died about 5 o'clock Sunday morning from burns received the night before when the house in which he was sleeping was burned, according to telegraphic word received by Mr. and Mrs. John Wightman, proprietors of the dairy here.

Meredith and Clyde Gardner had left here several weeks before, and were presumably baching in the house while working on the federal dam project near Redding. Gardner was visiting relatives about 15 miles from Redding at the time of the fire. Both boys are natives of Virginia.

## Bob Knox Considered As Idaho U. Coach

Bob Knox, who finished a three-year coaching career in Heppner this spring, is one of the leading candidates for the position of boxing coach at University of Idaho, according to a news report emanating from the campus at Moscow this week.

The report said Knox is considered to have the best chance because of more physical education training and experience. He has both bachelor's and master's degree from U. of Oregon, coupled with special work at Stanford and New York university. He held the northwest amateur lightweight boxing crown in 1927.

## Scrap Aluminum Drive Makes Good Progress

The drive for scrap aluminum in Morrow county had gained good impetus by this morning, reported J. O. Turner, executive secretary of the local defense council, and it was expected that much more of the material would be on hand by the time the drive closes Saturday night.

Central receiving headquarters is in the corner room at Heppner hotel building, while all warehouses are receiving. Those who have not so far made a survey for scrap aluminum on their premises are urged by Turner to do so and to bring the material into a receiving station by Saturday.

### LABOR AGREEMENT SIGNED

Local IWA chapter and Heppner Lumber company reached agreement last week end after several weeks of negotiating. The contract affected wages and hours.

### DRAFTEES VISIT

Arthur Peterson, No. 3 selectee, and Norman Beryl Griffin, No. 4 selectee of Morrow county local board, have been home on furlough, the local office reports.

## Riding Club Slates Sunday Jaunt; To Assist With Rodeo

### Officers Named, Barn Service Starts For Horse Lovers

Temporarily assuming the name of Morrow County Riding club until a later contest may bring forth a more colorful cognomen, the previously heralded organization of horsemen and women got off to a riding start Sunday afternoon when officers were elected. A further meeting of officers and directors Tuesday evening adopted by-laws and regulations and made plans for activity, including all possible help with the forthcoming Rodeo, August 15-16-17, and a ride next Sunday with invitation extended specially to Rodeo's royal court.

Sunday's ride will be to the "Rodman" cabin a few miles above the forks of Willow creek. It will start from Heppner Rodeo grounds at 9 o'clock, and it is expected to reach the cabin by noon for a pot-luck chicken dinner. Public invitation is extended to participate, and those intending to join should notify either Miss Maxine McCurdy or Miss Shirley Wilson, two of the committee members. Transportation for food will be provided.

With 17 persons signing for membership Sunday afternoon, officers were chosen as follows: Jim Kistner, president; Lee Beckner, vice president; Earle Bryant, secretary-treasurer; directors, Maxine McCurdy, F. W. Turner, H. D. McCurdy, Shirley Wilson.

Tuesday evening it was voted to retain Frank Tousley as barn man, the city having given use of the barns at the Rodeo grounds. Tousley, a professional horse trainer, in addition to keeping the barns clean and in good condition, and feeding and watering members horses, will assist members with riding instruction. He will also train his own horses, following his occupation at Athena before coming to Heppner. Grain hay will be furnished horses of club members who have paid fees for this purpose.

Qualification for active membership was cited as ownership of a horse. Active membership gives the privileges of the club along with a power to vote. Others interested may take associate memberships which entitles to all club privileges except that of voting. The membership fee was set at \$3 for an individual and \$5 for a family for one year. Barns cost was set at 30 cents a day per horse for members with horses on the grounds, and 50c a day per horse for horses kept intermittently.

Regulation was adopted that the barn man should permit use of no one's horse except on personal notification from the owner.

Any riding equipment may be used except on show occasions when the equipment will be specified by a committee named for the purpose.

## Farm Loan Council Named for County

A Farm Security Administration council for Morrow county was this week approved for Morrow county, the purpose of which will be to make the services of the administration the most possible effective locally, announces J. J. Wightman, council member, who attended a district FSA school at La Grande Monday.

Named on the county council were Mr. Wightman, A. C. Houghton, B. C. Pinckney, Mrs. Minnie McFarland, Mrs. Ethel Adams, Robert Stephen Thompson, Clifford D. Conrad and Miss Lucille Vale.

Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Bucknum have returned to Heppner from Roseburg where they had been located for several months.