

Heppner Gazette Times



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1941 Brings War; Moist Year Sees Bumper Crop Here

Headlines Depict Progress, Milestones In Community Life

The unconscionable attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7 by the Japanese, and immediate declarations of war thereafter which threw the United States into war with Japan, Germany and Italy, eclipsed all other news of the year, and will henceforth be the foundation of all reporting until the conflagration has been extinguished to the liking of Uncle Sam and his allies.

Reviewing the headlines locally for the last year, however, it is found that before the advent of war, Morrow county was cooperating wholeheartedly with defense efforts. Major contribution was a 3,000,000 bushel wheat crop, the largest in the county's history, which, coincidentally came in the county's wettest year since 1916, the total of December first being 16.18 inches of moisture, to drop 1941 into third place in rainfall in the thirty years that records have been kept locally.

The past year, while recording milestones in community life in the passing of several prominent citizens, also saw progress in construction of new homes and buildings. Accidents marred the record at times, but in the year Heppner received a plaque from the state safety division for having been the safest city in which to drive in 1940.

A high spot of the year was the Eastern Oregon Wheat League conference at the beginning of December which placed Heppner in the spotlight in state and nation. Headlines for the year tell the story, week by week:

Jan. 2—AAA organization in county all set for coming year. . . Edward N. Gonty succumbs to illness. . . Joe L. Wilkins dies at Arcata, Cal. . . Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Coleman, Morgan, parents of year's first baby.

Jan. 9—Mayor Turner takes office; all city officers retained. . . Chicago colored teams slated on Casaba bill of fare. . . Heppner defeats Hermiston at basketball for the first time in six years. . . Willows grange wins Pomona competition. . . Uncle Tom Barnett retires mayoralty (Lexington).

January 16—Chamber retains Pinckney as head. . . 1940 wettest year since '33; 15.62 inches. . . Condon and Ione defeated by Mustangs. . . Seal sale shows slightly less than '39. . . County school reorganization plan approved by county committee. . . Ione to discuss community church.

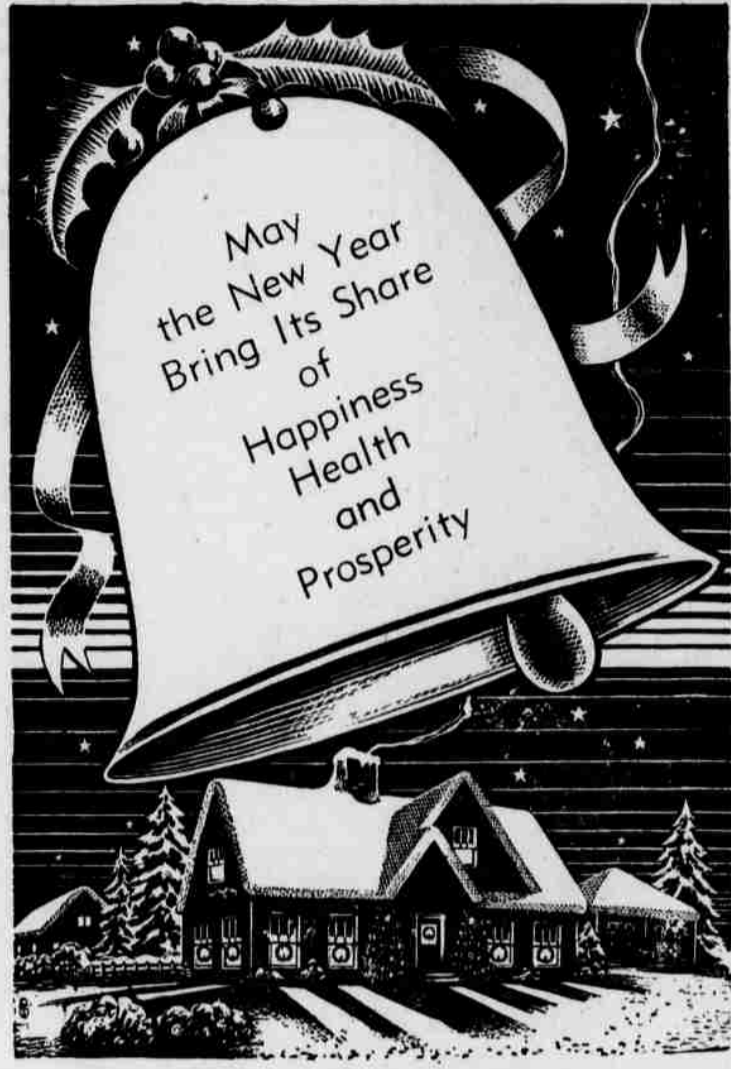
Jan. 23—Annual birthday party for President here February 1st. . . City investigating PUD possibilities for juice supply. . . Soil conservation district plan starts at farmers' meet. . . Miss Effie Andrews new manager of telephone office. . . Clair F. Young (Ione) passes CPA rating. . . Lt. Maurice Shepard leaves for army service; also Gene Doherty.

January 30—Local women take high offices in national group—Mrs. Ralph Thompson, president, and Mrs. H. A. Cohn, secretary, National Wool Growers association. . . Vital topics face county outlook meeting, Feb. 6. . . Percy Hughes, 58, dies at Portland. . . Mrs. Lulu Rea spent life in Morrow county. . . Mustangs win from Fossil, Pendleton. . . Official (1940) census gives county 4337; Heppner, 1140.

Feb. 6—"Small town still America and will survive"—Jas. M. Burgess at C. of C. dinner. . . First permits given under city's new livestock law. . . Tag sale to assist band with uniforms. . . Tax receipts for 1940 exceed roll; delinquencies drop. . . Mustangs at league top by defeating Honkers. . . Mrs. W. L. Copenhaver passes at Grants Pass.

Feb. 13—Hearing on soil conservation unit set for March 14. . . Car stealers land in 'pen' in 24 hours

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Winter Arrives With 'Red' Snow

Snow starting Sunday, to bring Morrow county its first real touch of winter for the season, was painted a dull red at an early hour this morning when a high wind out of the north carried a sand storm over the upper country. Temperatures as low as 12 degrees above zero have so far been recorded here.

So far winter's advent has caused little difficulty aside from freezing up a few pipes and making travel on highways more hazardous.

As for the red snow, the remark was heard that the Japs might be blasting away at the "lower" country.

Concerted Red Cross Drive Starts Soon

Christmas holidays and illness of the county chairman, James Driscoll, delayed launching the special Red Cross drive in this county, but Mr. Driscoll promises a concerted effort will be made in the immediate future to raise the county's quota of \$1500.

Meantime voluntary contributions have been coming in daily, and it is urged that anyone wishing to contribute to this special war relief program, leave or mail contributions to Mr. Driscoll at the postoffice.

WOULD JOIN AGAIN

Having a record of four years service with Uncle Sam's navy at the time of the last world war, Arnold Sharp, local baker, would like to enlist again. He made application at Walla Walla the end of the week and the only thing they could find the matter with him was one tooth that he recently had pulled. He expects to learn the results of his "physical" in the next couple of weeks.

SEEING 'ROSE BOWL' GAME

Telegraphic word from Scott McMurdo received yesterday by his parents, Dr. and Mrs. A. D. McMurdo, told of his arrival at Charlottesville, Va., on the 29th. He expected to reach Durham, N. C., on the 30th on his way to the transplanted Rose Bowl game today. Having railway transportation as far as Kansas City, Scott hitch-hiked his way on east from there.

LEAVING MEXICO

A card received this week from Mr. and Mrs. Werner Rietmann of Ione announced that they were culminating a pleasant visit in the federal district of Mexico and were leaving there for Imperial Beach, Cal., for a visit of some time. The Rietmanns left Ione about a month ago for the south.

Wool Growers To Scan War Needs At Meet Jan. 8-10

State Association Plans Program for La Grande Conclave

Pendleton. — The relationship of Oregon's wool producers to the all-out war effort will hold the center of attention at the forty-fifth annual convention of the Oregon Wool Growers association scheduled for La Grande January 8 to 10 according to Mac Hoke, president and Walter Holt, secretary, of Pendleton.

As was the case last year, the opening day will be devoted entirely to committee meetings with the first general session starting Friday morning. The same officers are serving this year as last, the third officer being Wayne Stewart, John Day, vice-president.

Wool growers have a double responsibility in the victory drive, one being to keep the maximum volume of wool flowing to the nation's mills for use of the armed forces particularly, and the second is to produce a maximum amount of lamb meat for food, the officers point out.

Program details have not been announced, but arrangements have been made to have both the wool and meat phases of the industry adequately covered, together with some general topics of interest. In the latter category is a scheduled major address by Dr. O. R. Chambers, head of the psychology department at Oregon State college on "Maintaining Morale."

At least two other men from the college staff will be on the program, including E. L. Potter, head of the division of agricultural economics and former head of the animal husbandry department, and D. E. Richards, superintendent of the branch experiment station at Union where most of the experimental work in lamb fattening has been carried on.

This is the first time in many years that the wool growers convention has been held in La Grande. Local committees are at work preparing adequate entertainment and housing, the officers have been informed. Last year the convention was held in Lakeview.

For Sale—Cabinet size 11 tube GE electric radio, 3 yrs. old, \$35. J. O. Turner.

Use G-T want ads to dispose of your surplus stock.

Billy Barratt in East For Big Game, Finds Hospitality Tops

A lot of Morrow county people would like to be in Billy Barratt's shoes today. He is sitting right on the O. S. C. bench—when he's sitting—back in Durham, North Carolina, for Billy is junior football manager for Oregon State, and next year will be senior manager.

Billy was impressed with hospitality of the North Carolina brand when he wrote his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Barratt, this week:

"This is one time I really have something to write home about—'scuse please if I leave out anything. Things have been happening so fast, can't remember just what has gone on.

"In the first place if there's any better country than this in the U. S., I don't believe it. The same goes for the people as well as for the good times they're showing us. There's no such thing as being a stranger around here; seen more black people than white, and the weather is just like a good old Eastern Oregon spring, nothing but sunshine.

"The U. of N. C. kind of puts old O. S. C. to shame, but it would almost any other school in the country. It only has 4000 kids but covers a square mile and has just about everything it takes. Haven't seen Duke yet, but it is supposed to be even better. Even the Carolina Inn (Billy wrote from there) is owned and operated by the university.

"While in Chicago we made quite an extensive tour and worked out in the U. of Chicago stadium. The next day we worked out in Washington, D. C., at Griffith field, home of the Washington Senators and the Washington Redskins. They really showed us something in Washington. We were there all day and most of the night.

"Threw a Christmas party here at the inn last night and tonight we go over to Durham to a deal the business men have cooked up, with real Negro entertainers, etc. Some wealthy tobacco grower has turned his whole plantation over to us and they've got a lot of other things.

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County Pomona Meets Irrigon, 3rd

Morrow County Pomona grange meets at Irrigon, Saturday, January 3.

Business meeting is called for the morning, lunch at noon followed by lecture hour at 1:30. Morton Tompkins, officer of the state grange, will give talk, also talks by Morrow County Pomona Master Minnie McFarland and by county agent. Installation of officers and initiation in the fifth degree will be on the evening slate.

MAKES AIR TRIP

Harlan McCurdy, Jr., arrived home Tuesday from Pendleton where he landed at the end of an air voyage from San Diego, Cal., by way of Salt Lake City. He had been to the Mexican border to spend Christmas with his brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Gilman. Mr. Gilman is serving on the U. S. border patrol.

FATHER PASSES IN IRELAND

Word received on Christmas day informed P. A. Mollahan, city police chief, of the death of his father, John Mollahan, at his home in Ireland on November 11. Mr. Mollahan's mother and three brothers live in Ireland, and a sister, Mrs. John F. Kenny, resides here. Mr. Mollahan last visited the old home in 1933.

SELECTEES INVITED

A general invitation to selectees and others intending to enter the service from here in the near future is extended by Heppner chamber of commerce to attend the regular chamber meeting at Lucas Place at 6:30 o'clock, Tuesday evening, January 6.

Tibbles, Beamer To Instruct Wardens In Air Raid Work

Vital Defense Effort Studied by Local Men in Portland

No community on the Pacific coast is too large or too small to organize intensively against air raids. Dr. L. D. Tibbles told the Lions Monday luncheon from messages heard at a special school in Portland last week end. Informed speakers were cited as saying that small communities with non-military objectives might not be intentionally bombed, but in case enemy planes were put to rout they might drop bombs any place.

Dr. Tibbles and Ralph Beamer attended the school from here, and immediately after the first of the year will organize a course of instruction for local air raid wardens.

Dr. Tibbles said he was especially enlightened concerning the work of the wardens, whom he found to be in complete charge should an air raid occur. Their work is not only hazardous, but carries heavy responsibility in case a raid should happen.

Detailed instruction was obtained concerning the various types of bombs and how to best protect against them. For general public information at this time, Dr. Tibbles cited a few elementary rules.

1. In case of a raid seek shelter immediately. Only those who are on detailed duty should be outside of shelter.

2. In case a bomb should land in the house or building you are in, seek immediately to quench the fire. Do not play a stream of water on a bomb. To do so will cause it to fly into bits, spreading fire and endangering life. Play a spray of water upon it, after throwing sand all about it and upon it. (The bombs in use are extremely hot, melting through iron rapidly. If they are moved the action must be done gingerly.)

3. Do not call fire department until own efforts have proved futile, for chances are the firemen are busy combatting more vital conflagrations.

These directions are for protection against incendiary bombs, which are released in large numbers when used in raids and may land anywhere. Only in rare cases do these bombs, usually small in size, carry explosives, in which case lethal power is exerted to a distance of some twenty feet.

Dr. Tibbles especially emphasized the importance of the air raid wardens, who are not only responsible for blacking out their district, but, in case of a raid, must locate all bomb hits and direct the efforts to overcome their destruction to the greatest possible extent. They are expected immediately to make a personal survey of hits, to size up the first aid and other help needed, and in dealing with each situation are in complete command. The necessity of having capable people, well trained, in these positions, was a keynote of his message.

Mayor J. O. Turner, county defense co-ordinator, announced that immediate steps were under way to perfect this part of the defense organization locally.

CAROLS FETE ANNIVERSARY

It may have been just happenstance, but it was real nice, reports Lee Cantwell. He referred to the singing of Christmas carols at his home the evening of December 23 by nine girls, on the day and at the hour of his and Mrs. Cantwell's wedding anniversary.

MUSIC STUDY CLUB TO MEET

The Heppner Music Study club will meet at the home of Mrs. Lucy Peterson Tuesday evening, January 6. Mrs. Margaret Blake is assistant hostess. Mrs. Rachel Dick is in charge of the program.