



Heppner Gazette Times



Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, August 19, 1943

Volume 60, Number 21

Lightning Storm Causes Damage to Grass and Grain

Fires Started in Several Fields in Heppner Vicinity

A comparatively brief but potent electric storm passed over Heppner and vicinity Sunday and left several field fires which laid waste to a lot of good pasture as well as some grain. This was the first time this season that field fires in this vicinity had been started by lightning.

When the brief storm had passed smoke was seen rising in two directions from Heppner, one column to the north and the other to the southeast. On the north the lightning struck in the grass and stubble at the Dee Cox Jr. place. Before it could be brought under control the fire spread to the grain, burning a strip through the field for nearly three-quarters of a mile and racing right up to the house where it was brought under control. In all, approximately 600 acres of grass and stubble were burned over, while the grain loss has been estimated at between 20 and 30 acres.

Up at the Frank Wilkinson place on Willow creek a fire started at the foot of the draw just north of the residence and swept over the hill and into the Hugh Smith range covering an estimated 800 acres of Wilkinson pasture and 400 acres of Smith pasture. Valiant efforts of neighbors who rushed to the scene as soon as they discovered the fire prevented heavier damage.

A third blaze attributed to the storm hit the Gurdane section where several hundred acres of pasture went up in smoke. It was not learned whether it was Barratt or Hughes range.

Latest field fire reported was that of Wednesday at the Werner Reitmanner place north of Ione. Information was lacking although it was stated that damage was not heavy.

An overheated clutch on the Phil Griffin combine was said to have been the cause of a fire which swept over approximately 30 acres of grain on the Griffin place Friday.

No reports of forest fires have been sent in, although forest crews are said to be on the alert in watching for insipient fires, the type that smoulder for several days and suddenly flare up. Such fires are hard to detect from lookout stations and as a usual thing foresters make an inspection of their territory following an electrical storm.

Our Men In Service

NORMAN GRIFFIN WRITES FROM JAP PRISON CAMP

Stating that he is in good health, Norman Griffin has written his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Phil Griffin of Ione, that he is in Japanese prison camp 1 in the Philippines. The letter came through the Red Cross and Norman's signature was the only thing revealing his identity to his parents.

This is the first word from Norman in about 16 months. He last wrote from Corregidor. Shortly after the Philippine campaign ended his parents received word that he was among the missing and a little later it was revealed that he had been captured by the Japs.

In his letter, which in reality is a form letter devised by the Red Cross and made acceptable to the

Continued on Page Eight

Final List of Member Agencies Named by Chest

A more inclusive group of beneficiaries is seen in the final list of member agencies submitted this week by Oregon War Chest, Inc. This was brought to light when Irl S. McSherry of Salem, secretary of the organization, met with Blaine E. Isom, Morrow county chairman, and a few assistants Wednesday noon to assist in getting the local set-up in motion.

In addition to the national war fund, Oregon War Chest, Inc. has included state-wide child caring agencies of Oregon, thus placing most of the "drives" for charitable funds under one general campaign. The national war fund group is headed by the USO and includes United Seamen's Service, War Prisoners' Aid, Russian War Relief, China Relief, British War Relief society, Greek War Relief, Polish War relief, United Yugoslav relief, French relief, Belgian relief, United Czechoslovak relief, Queen Wilhelmina fund, Norwegian relief, Friends of Luxembourg, Refugee relief trustee and U. S. committee for the care of European children.

The state setup includes Boys and Girls Aid society; Catholic Charities Inc., Children's Bureau, St. Rose Industrial school, Christie Home for Girls, St. Mary's Home for Boys, St. Agnes Baby home.

Children's Farm Home Oregon Home; Oregon Protective society; Albertina Kerr Nursery and Louise Home.

Volunteers of America: Mothers' and Children's Home.

Waverly Baby home.

Chairman Isom announced local committee selections to date as follows: Heppner, F. W. Turner in the business section, Mrs. Lucy Rodgers in the residential section; Lexington, O. W. Cutsforth; Morgan, Mrs. Elmer Griffith; Cecil, Mrs. Roy Hurst; Boardman, Clyde Tannehill; Irrigon, A. C. Houghton, and Eight Mile, V. L. Carlson. An lone selection will be made before the end of the week.

Luncheon was served at the Lucas Place to Mr. McSherry, Blaine E. Isom, Mrs. Lucy Rodgers, O. W. Cutsforth and O. G. Crawford.

Two Youths Leave For Army Service

Raymond Parrish of Heppner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Parrish, and Clarence A. Buchanan of Lexington left Tuesday noon for Salt Lake City to be inducted into the army.

Parrish, a member of the class of 1943 of Heppner high school, has been accepted for training with the army air corps and expected to be sent to Florida following induction. Buchanan is aiming at the medical corps.

TOM WILSON CALLED

Tom Wilson in charge of the farm planning division of the soil conservation service set-up in Morrow county, has been notified by the draft board to report for physical examination. If he meets the requirements of the examining board he expects to return to Heppner to wind up affairs before going into active training. Mrs. Wilson plans to go to Idaho to make her home for the duration.

MOVE TO TOWN

Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Devine have moved to town and are occupying their comfortable residence on South Court street. Mr. Devine's son Claude has taken over the ranch property in the north Lexington country. Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Ward, who occupied the Devine property several years, have fixed up living quarters in Hotel Heppner.

Wheat Loans on 1943 Season Crops Now Available

Those Making 90 Percent Crop Goal Or Better Eligible

Loans on 1943 wheat are now available through the county AAA office to Morrow county farmers who met 90 percent or more of their war crop goals and who have their wheat in commercial storage, according to information released from the office of C. D. Conrad, county agent. Loans will be available on farm stored wheat 30 days from the date on which it was put in storage.

Wheat growers will be able to borrow an average of 10 cents more a bushel on the 1943 crop than they could last year. The loan rate on No. 1 soft white at Heppner, Lexington and Ione is \$1.19, while at Morgan the loan value is \$1.192 per bushel.

Loans are available on barley stored on the farm at the rate of 80 cents a bushel for No. 1; 78 cents for No. 2; 75 cents for No. 3; 72 cents for No. 4; and 65 cents for No. 5.

Farmers who produced dry edible peas may also obtain loans on peas stored on the farm or at warehouses at the rate of \$4 a hundred for thresher run; \$4.25 for No. 2; and \$4.50 for No. 1.

Farmers taking loans on farm stored wheat will receive an additional 7 cents storage at the time the loan is completed. Henry Baker, chairman of the Morrow county AAA committee states that these loans are intended to establish "floors" under prices and also to enable growers to hold crops when it is not possible to market them immediately after harvest.

Lone Baby's 'Letter' Boosts Bond Sales At Victory Center

If war bond and stamp buyers of Portland were looking for an inspiration they certainly got it recently when a letter written in the lone wheat belt was read at the Victory center. The letter, purportedly the appeal of a seven-months-old babe, and interpreted by her mother, said in part: "I am 7 months old and so of course am not old enough to write you but my mother is looking into my eyes for the message and is sending it on to you. I do wish you would buy war bonds and stamps to help win this war so everything will be safe for us and so that our boys may return to their homes. I have a brother who is a prisoner of the Japanese in the Philippines so won't you please help me free him?" Signed Mabel Marlene Griffin.

Mabel Marlene is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Phil Griffin of Ione. News reports indicate that the crowd around the Victory center in Portland was touched by the letter and that sales of bonds and stamps flourished for some time.

ON VACATION

Mrs. Henry Hapold is taking her vacation from post office duties and has gone to Portland where she expects to remain for a month. She was accompanied by her parents Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Yokum, and Frank Turner who went to the city on a business mission.

IN LOS ANGELES

Mrs. Milton Morgan and young son and Mrs. Will Morgan left the last of the week for Los Angeles to visit the younger Mrs. Morgan's parents.

Status of "Alky" Plant Revealed to Luncheon Group

Grain Products, Inc. is about to launch into the manufacture of industrial alcohol at its Carver plant, C. D. Conrad, secretary of the concern, reported at the meeting of the chamber of commerce Monday noon. This does not mean that plans for construction and operation of the grain alcohol plant at Heppner are not going forward. It simply means a change of operational plans.

Since the Carver fruit alcohol plant has been cleared of last year's stock of alcohol, is in good running condition and there is plenty of fruit for a good run, Grain Products officials decided to continue operation of the plant and process many tons of fruit that otherwise would be lost to the farmers of that section. It is expected that profits from the Culver plant will aid materially in construction of the Heppner plant, which, Conrad stated, now will be built new from the ground up.

Monday, Aug. 23 is the date set to start operation of the Culver plant.

Frank Turner presided at the meeting. He announced that the Oregon War Chest committee had chosen Blaine E. Isom for the post of county chairman to head the forthcoming fund campaign.

P. W. Mahoney announced that the Oregon Highway commission and party, numbering 15 in all, will meet Wednesday, Aug. 25, with Morrow county court in a luncheon meeting at the Lucas Place to discuss post war road building.

WITHSTANDS OPERATION

A telephone call from Mrs. C. W. McNamer to Mrs. Lucy Rodgers about 1 p. m. today bore the information that Mr. McNamer underwent a major surgical operation at The Dalles hospital this morning and withstood the ordeal in fine shape.

Old B, C Coupons Invalid After Sept. 1

Amendment 71 to ration order 5C effective Aug. 16, 1943, provides: "Old printings of B and C coupons and 100 gallon bulk coupons are invalid for consumer transfer on or after Sept. 1, 1943. Every ration holder who has in his possession a Class B or C book of the old type (Forms OPA R-527, R-527A, R-528 or R-528A) which have an earliest renewal date or expiration date after Sept. 1, 1943 must surrender such books and coupons to the board having jurisdiction to reissue or renew such ration."

On and after Sept. 1, 1943, no transfer may be made in exchange for any 100 gallon bulk coupon. Holders of 100 gallon bulk coupons should be encouraged to open a ration banking account if eligible; if not eligible they should surrender 100 gallon coupons for the type of coupons for which they are eligible, reads instruction given the local rationing board.

After Sept. 1, 1943 no exchange certificates will be valid for any purpose.

STUNG IN MOUTH BY BEE WHILE EATING SANDWICH

L. J. Betts of Camp Wetmore was brought to town Friday afternoon for medical attention. While eating his lunch Friday noon Betts was stung in the mouth by a bee and he was in considerable pain when arriving here.

After consulting with a physician here, Betts went to Pendleton for further medical advice. His condition has not been reported here.

VACATIONING HERE

Miss Helen Egan, nurse of Pendleton, is spending her vacation with her parents in Heppner.

Heppner School to Open Fall Term September 13

Vacation Extended One Week Due to Belated Harvest

Heppner's school bell, if there were one, would start calling the young minds back to the big brick building Monday, Sept. 13, for that is the date set by the board of directors for the fall opening. Most other schools have set Sept. 7 as opening day, deferring to that date in favor of Labor day, Sept. 6.

Supt. George Corwin, who returned to Heppner early this week, announces that to date he has a complete corps of teachers to start the term's work. Before leaving Eugene recently he closed a contract with Ivan Parker for the post of high school principal. Parker, a graduate of the University of Oregon, taught at Imbler last year and while having but one year to his credit, comes highly recommended for the principalship.

Other new faces to be seen in the high school include Miss Miriam Moyer, who will teach home economics and shorthand; Miss Elenita Mardock, girls physical education and Spanish, and Mrs. Marie Clary, English and mathematics. Norbert E. Peavy will teach science and have charge of the band, and Don Strait will continue as instructor in agriculture.

Everett Smith of Cove will be principal of the grade school and teach the eighth grade; Mrs. Norbert Peavy, seventh; Rose Hoosier sixth grade and music; Frances Weaver, fifth grade; Lera Crawford, fourth grade; Lela Peterson, third grade; Kathryn Parker, second grade, and Mrs. W. O. Dix and Mrs. Edna Turner, primary.

Because of the uncertainties of travel, Supt. Corwin is unable at this time to make a definite statement regarding inter-school athletics. He is laying plans for football and basketball in the hope that some of the nearby schools will be able to compete. In lieu of a regular coach he plans to take the helm himself and will be assisted by Jim Barratt, who, while not a faculty member will be available through deferment. Jim demonstrated his ability as a basketball tutor by coaching the grade team through a successful season last year. He is equally versatile in football and Corwin feels he is fortunate to have such talent at hand.

It is understood at this writing that both Arlington and Hermiston are without coaches this season. If there are no football elevens in the area it is planned to develop a six-man league in the county so that the schools will not be entirely without inter-school competition. There will be intramural sports in the local school regardless of outside competitive events.

HAVE DAUGHTER

Bernice Fay is the name given their baby girl born at Pendleton Wednesday, Aug. 18, by Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Thomson, Jr. The young lady tipped the beam at six and three-quarters pounds.

A SON IS BORN

A nine pound son was born Wednesday, Aug. 18 at Pendleton to Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Brosnan of Lena. This is their fourth child.

AUDITING CLERK'S BOOKS

Books of the several district school clerks of the county are being audited this week at the office of County Supt. Lucy Rodgers. Messrs. DeCew and Gould from the secretary of state's office are doing the work.