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Farm Federation Adds Chapter in Morrow County

Co-operation of All Farm Groups Main Objective

The Farm Federation of America added another link to its rapidly growing chain May 18 when a group of Morrow county farmers met at the Lexington grange hall and formed a new chapter. Approximately 50 farmers enrolled in the organization and it is expected many more will fall in line.

Heading a delegation from Umatilla county was Mac Hoke, president of the Oregon Farm Bureau federation, who was the principal speaker at the organization meeting. Included in the group were Lowell Steen, chairman Umatilla county Farm Bureau; Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Lieuallen, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Engdahl, Mr. and Mrs. Don Cameron, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Hunter and others.

George Peck of Lexington was chosen president of the new group. O. W. Cutsforth was named first vice president, Henry Peterson, second vice president, and Oscar Peterson, secretary and treasurer.

Speaking of the farm federation, George Peck stated that its main objective is to form a mouthpiece for all farm groups to speak through in legislative matters and in all things concerning the farmer and agriculture. It is plainly a business association and is designed to work with and not against other agricultural units. The federation is growing, Peck stated, and now has a membership of more than 700,000 farmers. It is particularly strong in the east, midwest and south. In the west, California is the only state with a noticeable membership, while in Oregon the movement is just getting under way with something over 1,000 affiliates.

Supper was served to 65 attendants at the meeting by the ladies of the Lexington grange.

Our Men In Service

BETTER THAN CHRISTMAS

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Mason of Ione have received a letter from their son Bert Mason, Jr. Pho M[ic], from somewhere in the South Pacific. This column is privileged to publish the letter in part.

Dear Folks:

Yesterday morning was Christmas—I ate my fourth and fifth real, genuine, undehydrated hen's eggs, and drank my first cup of milk in 14 months. You will never, so long as you live, be able to realize how good that milk tasted. Had I the literary ability to express what I felt about that milk as I sipped it drop by drop and rolled it about my tongue, I would make Lamb's Dissertation on Roast Pig sound like a complaint to the Pure Foods commission. And then we had milk again this morning. The popular scuttlebutt is that the captain, while visiting at an advanced base, had a question aroused in his mind as to why the food should be so good where transportation and other facilities are so scarce and so lousy here where we have practically everything. Anyhow the results remain to be proved by the test of time.

The new skipper has already made an extremely favorable impression in the squadron. His speech at the ceremony of his succession to the command consisted of about 10 clipped words, since which he has

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Local Groups to Be Included in June 2 Meeting

Representatives from granges, lodges, schools, civic clubs, churches and the public in general are invited to attend the afternoon meeting of the Blue Mountain Camp and Hospital council when it assembles in monthly session at the Elks hall in Heppner Friday June 2. This information was given by Mrs. Ralph Thompson, chairman of the Morrow county committee early this week in the hope that these groups and the people in general will make it a point to attend the meeting and learn first hand what the council is accomplishing in the work of assisting service men and in rehabilitating those who already have suffered from the war.

In addition to the local groups, the council has extended an invitation to the Gray Ladies chairman of Walla Walla and the superintendent of the Veterans hospital at that place.

Speaking of some of the needs of the boys in the hospital, Mrs. Thompson said banjos and guitars are greatly in demand, even if not in the best of condition. Band instruments are wanted also, particularly trumpets and saxophones. Any one having such an instrument should contact Mrs. Thompson.

More Inductees Pass "Physicals"

Seven young men reporting at Portland for preinduction physical examination May 17 have been accepted for navy service, including marine corps and coast guard. The list includes Claude W. Drake, Walter Skuzeski, Patrick R. O'Brien, James G. Barratt, Jr., and Herman J. Green, all of Heppner and Raymond McCoy of Irrigon and James E. Tyler of Umatilla.

Herbert D. Schunk of Heppner and Raymond A. Houser of Hillsboro qualified for general military service with the army, and Gordon T. O'Brien of Heppner for limited service with the army.

Transferred to Morrow county local board for the examination were Therman O. Martin of Boardman who qualified for the navy and Glen A. Irby, Ain R. Boyd and Ralph O. Wilson, all of Heppner who qualified for service with the army.

Judge Sweek Holds Short Term Court

Judge Calvin L. Sweek held court here Tuesday, coming over from Pendleton to spend a few hours clearing up some matters.

Principal item on the docket was checking on birth certificates. Several people were on hand with evidence that they had been born and when the judge was satisfied about their status he issued certificates.

There were others who wished to change their marital status and the judge deferred some of them for further study.

PETE WIGHTMAN LOSES LIFE IN CAR ACCIDENT

Pete Wightman, brother of John and Robert Wightman of Heppner, was killed in an automobile accident last night, according to word received in a wire from Harrisburg, Penna. No particulars were given in the brief telegram and the Heppner relatives are awaiting further news.

Pete formerly lived here and was associated with his brothers in operation of the Alfalfa Lawn dairy. His home has been near Harrisburg since 1919.

RETURNS HOME

J. J. Wightman was around greeting friends this morning after an absence of several weeks. He returned the last of the week from Portland where he submitted to an operation. He is about recovered from his illness and hopes to be as good as ever in a short time.

Many Voters Stay Away From Polls On Primary Day

About 50 Percent Vote Recorded in State and County

Morrow county ran true to form with the rest of the state in the primary election last Friday, recording about a 50 percent vote. While the republicans showed about 57 percent of the registered strength the democrats fell to around the 40 percent mark, making the average approximately 50 percent.

As was expected prior to the election, both Sprague and Holman had good leads in this county. Sprague led Cordon by an almost two to one vote, receiving 341 to his opponent's 180. Holman led Morse by 108 votes, 266 to 158. A total of 96 votes was accorded the three other candidates for senator, Black 30, McBride 11 and Fisher 55. On the democratic ticket, Willis Mahoney, unopposed received 167 votes. He will face Cordon in the general election. Edgar Smith garnered 148 votes against 55 for his opponent Whitbeck.

With only one contest for county office there was little local interest. Pat Mollahan gave C. J. D. Bauman a close run for sheriff, collecting 281 votes to the shore patrolman's 314.

County Clerk C. W. Barlow received the highest vote accorded a county official, 510. L. D. Neill, candidate to succeed himself as county commissioner, received 470. J. G. Barratt received 118 republican write-in votes and 25 democratic votes to land the nomination for county commissioner, short term. Henry Gorger of Ione tallied 41 write-in votes from that section of the county. J. O. Hager was nominated for justice of the peace in Heppner district with a vote of 167.

Total republican vote, 605. Total democratic vote, 247.

Youthful Forgers Have Short Career

Two youths, 16 and 17 years of age, today are reflecting over the error of their ways behind the bars of the Morrow county jail. The boys, James Abel, Winlock, Wash., and Elmer Gardner, Pendleton, are learning that crime doesn't pay, since their little whirl at obtaining money in an easy manner didn't pan out.

The boys are charged with forging the name of John Skuzeski to checks which they had purloined at the Heppner Cleaners and cashing them at the J. C. Penney company store. The discrepancy was soon uncovered and the sheriff's office notified. A brief search located the "financiers" near the Union Pacific depot where they were trying to thumb a ride out of town. They are under \$500 bail pending action of the circuit court.

SPEAKER COMES BY AIR

Dr. N. D. Comish, who will address the graduating class here Friday evening, was so in demand as public speaker that part of his itinerary had to be made by airplane.

He was billed for The Dalles Wednesday evening, Ione Thursday evening and Heppner Friday evening. At The Dalles, the Kiwanis club insisted that he remain and speak before the luncheon group at noon today. It was found that the stage schedule ran too close to the program hour at Ione for him to risk accepting the invitation. The Kiwanians solved the problem by chartering a plane to fly him to Ione. A landing field was picked out northeast of town and several cars parked at different spots to guide the pilot onto the right strip.

Rodeo Directors Choose Sept. 7-8-9 For '44 Show Date

September 7-8-9 is the date chosen by the directors for the Heppner rodeo. This announcement was made Monday at the chamber of commerce luncheon by C. D. Conrad, who, while not a director of the rodeo association, will have charge of the 4-H club fair which will be held in connection with the rodeo.

Decision to hold the show was made only after assurance was given that there was strong demand for it. This demand is more apparent in neighboring communities than in Heppner, where there is more or less opposition, and for this reason and the fact that such shows are being revived elsewhere the directors decided to go ahead and choose the date. Conrad stated that the business houses will be asked to underwrite the show and that in all probability some of the guarantee will have to be paid. However, assurance has been received from Kinzua that a large percentage of the mill and camp employees will be given an opportunity to attend the rodeo.

P. W. Mahoney reported on the railroad situation, stating that temporarily, at least, the branch line is enjoying daily service. This is due to an increased volume of freight on both the Condon and Heppner branches. There is nothing to the rumor that springs up periodically that the company is getting ready to abandon these lines, Mahoney declared.

TEACHER SHORTAGE STILL PREVALENT IN HEPPNER

If Supt. George Corwin's health breaks down, don't be surprised if his physician diagnoses it as "teacheritis." Geore is having his troubles, and no foolin'.

A short time since, just a few days ago, in fact, Corwin announced that all he needed was a high school principal. That was a few days ago.

Look at the score now:

Miss Miriam Moyer, Home Ec teacher, resigned. Corwin was fortunate to hire a successor in the person of Mrs. Ellis Carlson, wife of one of the foresters stationed here. Then Norbert Peavy turned in his resignation. Corwin is looking for a successor. That leaves two positions unfilled in the high school. Mrs. George Linn, engaged to teach in the grade school, has resigned to teach at Boardman where her husband has been elected superintendent. And to cap the climax, Dan Cupid entered the picture and caused another grade teacher to decide to drop from the Heppner payroll. Miss Lela Peterson this week announced her forth-coming marriage to Everett Smith, grade principal, and her intention of retiring from teaching.

"Oh, whoa is me," sez George.

Early Morning Fire Hits Rockwell Home

Bill Isom and his crew of smoke chasers were called out bright and early Friday morning to quench a fire at the W. H. Rockwell home. Starting at the rear of the house the fire was eating into the inner walls when discovered. Dr. and Mrs. Rockwell were asleep in an adjoining room and were awakened by a crackling sound and the smell of smoke. By the time the department could arrive flames had eaten their way under the floor of the bedroom.

The rear of the house was badly damaged but the fire did not spread into the main part of the building and after some cleaning up business was resumed. Dr. Rockwell had a clinic in progress and this was interrupted but a few hours.

Cause of the blaze has not been determined but is thought to have been due to defective wiring.

Class of 1944 to Make Farewell Bow Tomorrow

Dr. Comish Will Deliver Address To 18 Seniors

Commencement week in Heppner high school got under way Sunday evening with baccalaureate services at the gymnasium. During the week seniors have been busy taking the final steps completing their work and Friday evening will find them prepared to receive their coveted diplomas.

Dr. N. H. Comish, professor of business administration at the University of Oregon, will deliver the commencement address; Principal Ivan Parker will handle the awards, while Supt. George Corwin will present the class to Miss Leta Humphreys, chairman of the school board, who will present the diplomas. Norbert Peavy, pianist will play the prelude and procession; the invocation will be made by Archdeacon Neville Blunt, and the girls' chorus under the direction of Mrs. Fred Hoskins will sing two numbers.

Highlight of the pre-commencement activities was the junior-senior banquet and prom Saturday evening. The banquet was served in the Church of Christ basement by the mothers of the junior class. From there the young people and their guests repaired to the high school gymnasium which has been beautifully decorated for the event.

Following is a brief outline of each graduate's high school activities and future plans.

Betty Jane Adams will enter Oregon State college for Home Ec. hopes to work in office this summer; hobby, reading; active in all school affairs. One of ambitions is to own and supervise department store.

Howard Pettyjohn, better known as Squeaky, work at home on ranch this summer, enter service this fall. Hobby, hunting.

Merlyn Kirk, queen of 1944 prom; leader of the band; editor of Heppner; draws, hopes to attend art school later. Plans to help on father's ranch this year. Ambition to operate newspaper.

Laurel Ball, active in band, treasurer this year, now working in P. & L. office.

Helen Blake, work on ranch this summer, enter OSC this fall for Home Ec. Heads tennis ladder, student body vice president.

Herbert Schunk, hopes eventually to become physical ed instructor. Entering army soon. Pres. of band. Doris and Dorothy Worden, both will work at home on ranch this summer and enter EOCE in fall. Active in many school organizations. Dorothy has been attendant to May queen in junior and senior years. Doris secretary of student body.

Jean Rauch, transfer from Lexington, work at home this summer, hopes to enter Oregon State this fall

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PAYS SHORT VISIT

Thinking he was strong enough to spend a few days at the old homestead, Harry French came up from the coast last week and hid himself out to the stock ranch south of Hardman. It didn't take long for him to discover the high altitude is no friend of his and he was in Heppner Sunday looking for a ride to Arlington to catch a train back to the coast.

GUEST OF BURGESS'S

Mrs. Lucy Rodgers was a guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Burgess in Milton Friday and Saturday. Accompanying Mrs. Rodgers to Milton were Mrs. Percy Hughes, Mrs. Anna Bayless and Mrs. Blanche Brown. The Heppner group attended the dedication of the Episcopal church in Milton Friday night.