

# Heppner Gazette Times

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## Henry C. Aiken Democrat Choice For Chairman

### Heppner Man Wins State Post on 2nd Ballot Saturday

Delegates to the state democratic organization meeting held Saturday in the Portland hotel elected Henry C. Aiken of Heppner chairman. Aiken was elected on the second ballot and succeeds Fred Fisk of Eugene, who did not seek reelection. Miss Celia Gavin of The Dalles was elected vice-chairman; George C. Reinmiller, Portland, secretary, and Edison Vickers, Willamina, treasurer.

Aiken returned to Heppner Tuesday to look after business matters and will go back to Portland Monday to take up his duties at the state headquarters. He was one of two eastern Oregon delegates to the national democratic convention in Chicago and with other delegates arrived in Portland Saturday in time for the organization meeting.

"The job came as a complete surprise to me," he stated. "I had been out of the state attending the national convention and upon reaching Portland told the boys I thought we should get to work and have the meeting over so the out-of-town delegates could get back home. There was no intimation that I was being considered for the post until the first ballot was taken. I received a substantial lead over the others in the first ballot and when, after the second ballot, I was away out in the lead I was given an unanimous vote."

This is the first time the state chairmanship of either major party has been tendered a Heppner man and one of the rare occasions when it has come to eastern Oregon.

Aiken was the democratic candidate for state representative two years ago, his first venture in politics and was defeated. The state chairmanship is a coveted post for with the office goes the distribution of a large part of the patronage under the party in power.

The new chairman will be out of town most of the time during the next four months directing the work of the state organization.

#### FREDERICK ALBERT

Funeral services for Frederick Albert, who passed away at his late residence in Heppner Wednesday, Aug. 2, will be held at 2 o'clock p.m. Friday, Aug. 4, from the chapel of the Phelps Funeral home. Archdeacon Neville Blunt officiating. Interment will be in Heppner Masonic cemetery.

**They Are  
Buying  
War Bonds  
—Are You?**



This is Seaman 1/c Melachi H. Rich, of Quitman, Georgia. He is only 18 but a veteran of action in the Mediterranean. The destroyer escort on which he served was torpedoed and he was hit in the spine. For weeks he could not move his feet but now can move one foot pretty well. Four buddies are in the hospital. They were all rescued by a sister ship.



The going is tough in the jungles of Rendova. Marine Pfc. David Phelps of Bridgeport, Conn., was thrown from a reconnaissance car and received a fracture of both legs. But he's doing all right as you see here. Phelps is twenty-two.



A smile no Nazi torpedo can wipe off. Marion Porter, Steward 3/c, who hails from Spartanburg, S.C., was in the water three hours after his ship was torpedoed in the Mediterranean. A 20 mm shell case was thrown against his leg when the tin fish hit and fractured it badly. Now he is waiting for his injury to heal so that he can get another crack at the Axis.

### Republicans Plan Active Campaign In Morrow County

Morrow county republicans plan to get into action in the forthcoming presidential campaign and set the plans in motion Monday evening by calling a meeting and electing officers and committeemen and committeewomen.

J. J. Nys was elected chairman of the county central committee and Ralph Jackson of Lexington was named state committeeman. Committeemen and committeewomen chosen to serve in the several precincts, some of whom have not yet qualified, include the following: Alpine, Frank Saling; Boardman, I. Skoubo; Cecil, F. J. Ely; Eight Mile, Elmer Palmer and Mrs. Ben Anderson; Ione, George N. Ely and Mrs. Omar Rietmann; Irrigon, A. C. Houghton; Lena, John Brosnan and Mrs. Elvin Schaffer; Lexington, Ralph Jackson and Mrs. Elsie Beach; North Heppner, J. J. Nys and Mrs. Earl Gordon; Pine City, Bernard Doherty; South Heppner, Frank Wilkinson and Mrs. Sara McNamer, and Gooseberry, Henry Peterson.

It is likely that several republicans will attend the state rally to be held Saturday, Aug. 19 in the sunken ballroom at Masonic temple in Portland. The rally will conclude an organization meeting of the state central committee and a gathering of affiliated party organizations. Officers of the state central committee include Neil R. Allen, Grants Pass, chairman; Mrs. John Y. Richardson of Portland, vice-chairman; Kenneth Neilson of Eugene, secretary, and Howard M. Wall of Portland, treasurer. Carl Moser of Portland is executive secretary.

Congressman Everett M. Dirksen of Illinois will be the principal speaker at the rally.

### Lightning Caused Seven Minor Fires

Last week's storms caused several forest fires in the timber south of Heppner, according to the local forest office, although none of them caused more than minor damage. There were seven separate blazes started, the largest of which spread over approximately two acres. These were in the vicinity of Parkers mill and extended as far as Mahogany ridge.

Farther to the east a lightning caused fire spread over a three to four mile front in the vicinity of Ritter and for a time threatened the little town itself. At last accounts all fires were extinguished or safely under control and the forest situation is quite satisfactory, states F. F. Wehmeyer, ranger of the Heppner district.

### Irrigon Escapes Serious Damage From Grass Fire

Homes Endangered  
Saved by Valiant  
Fire Fighters

By MRS. J. A. SHOUN

Irrigon had a real fire Saturday afternoon that just missed taking several homes and would have if so much help had not been available. Ordnance, Umatilla and Hermiston all sent fire fighting crews and apparatus but local men and women did what they could. Both the Marshall Markham and Frank Brace home were in the path of the flames but were saved. The Zakrainski farm was badly injured. Jack's melon patch was damaged as was the orchard. Vern Jones' hay stack caught fire three times but was saved as well as were his young turkeys. Harvey Warner's orchard was injured. The country is all bare where burned over allowing sand blows that will be bothersome in keeping irrigating ditches and roads open.

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### Three Youths Held In County Jail On Auto Theft Count

Held in the Morrow county jail pending a hearing before Circuit Judge Calvin L. Sweeny are three negro boys ranging in ages from 17 to 19. The youths were picked up by Sgt. N. W. Smith of the state police on information received from Pasco that a car had been stolen at that place and was thought to be on the Oregon side.

The boys abandoned the car when it ran out of gasoline some distance below Irrigon and had worked their way to below Boardman before being located by Sgt. Smith.

Chester Laverne Burke, 19, is said to have been the actual offender in taking the car and Matthew Robinson, 17 and Floyd Arnold Glasby, 18 were his passengers. Glasby and Burke rate in the 4-F class in the draft, but Glasby is anxious to get into the navy. Robinson also is desirous of entering the armed services as soon as he is old enough.

#### JUDGE ILL

Due to illness, Judge Bert Johnson was unable to be present at the regular monthly term of county court which convened Wednesday morning. He expected to be on the job today.

### Housing Situation Not Unlike Some Childhood Games

Remember when you were a kid and the gang used to play "musical chair?" That game where you all sat in two rows, back to back, and someone played a tune and you got up and marched around and when the music stopped you tried to get a seat and found that one chair had been removed? Remember?

Well, that's about the situation in Heppner with reference to the housing situation. Someone comes along and buys a house. To protect themselves, the people occupying the house buy another house and pretty soon some unlucky renter finds himself in the same boat with the guy who didn't grab a seat when the music stopped.

This game of "musical chair" has been going on for some time in Heppner and there has been a mad scramble for houses. The merry-go-round is on again this week and this time the Henry Atkins found themselves standing up, as in the game. To begin with, Mr. and Mrs. John Hiatt sold their residence to C. L. Hodge, new Chevrolet-Shell dealer in Heppner, and turned around and bought the property occupied by the Henry Atkins from Mrs. Alice Gentry. Hiatts are giving immediate possession but it's understood they will give the Atkins a little time to find new quarters.

Other purchasers of residence property during the past week were Mr. and Mrs. Frank Engkraf, who have moved here from Fossil. They bought the McClellan property on north Court street. The place was bought in the spring by Mr. and Mrs. Amoth who gave up their contract. Amoth is employed at the Heppner Lumber company mill and has secured other living quarters.

To borrow a thought from Major Bowes: around and around she goes and who'll get left next nobody knows.

#### RETURN FROM PENDLETON

Archdeacon and Mrs. Neville Blunt returned Monday morning from Pendleton where they spent the month of July while Mr. Blunt supplied for Rev. Eric O. Robathan, rector of the Church of the Redeemer. Since returning home, Mr. Blunt has been busy putting finishing touches on the local church in preparation for resuming services there Sunday morning.

#### OBSERVES BIRTHDAY

Mrs. H. C. Gay, one of the county's oldest citizens in point of years and residence, observed her 92nd birthday anniversary Wednesday.

### Ferguson Motor Co. Purchased by Hermiston Man

C. L. Hodge New  
Owner of Widely  
Known Concern

After 20 years in the service station and automotive business in Heppner, the Ferguson Motor company this week passed into the hands of a new owner, C. L. Hodge of Hermiston. The deal was made some weeks ago and the final transaction was delayed pending the closing of a sale which Hodge had for his garage business in Hermiston. That matter of business attended to the new proprietor took over the plant Aug. 1.

It is understood Hodge has purchased the equipment and business of the Ferguson Motor company while the Fergusons retain the building. The Chevrolet and Shell agencies will be continued by Hodge who was Chevrolet dealer in Hermiston.

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Ferguson and daughter Marylou, who have comprised the service station crew at the garage in recent months, will remain there through Saturday of this week to assist Mr. Hodge in getting adjusted to his new surroundings.

The Ferguson brothers, E. O. and Continued on Page Eight

### Postwar Affairs Occupies Time at Monday Luncheon

Married women who have become employed during the war and whose husbands will have jobs after the war should give up their jobs in favor of returning service men. That was the consensus of opinion among the 25 or more present at Monday's luncheon of the chamber of commerce after the subject was introduced and discussed by P. W. Mahoney and given over to round table discussion.

It developed that in numerous instances where women have taken the places of men they have done a better job and this raised the question whether or not employers would be willing to supplant them with men. It was felt that the employers would do this only out of loyalty to their former employees who had entered the armed forces or from a purely patriotic motive. At any rate it was felt that women whose living does not depend upon their working would be doing a patriotic service by turning their jobs over to returning service men and others whose living depended upon the man of the family.