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Hospital Occupies Attention of C-C Luncheon Group

Committee Named To Urge Action by County Court

Morrow county's proposed general hospital, a tax levy for which was authorized by the people in the general election last fall, was the topic for discussion at the weekly luncheon of the chamber of commerce Monday noon.

Chairman Ken House called upon P. W. Mahoney to explain the proposition to make it possible to start construction earlier than contemplated. Mahoney said in brief that a bond election, if carried would give the county court the authority to go ahead with plans for construction and operation of the hospital.

Mayor J. O. Turner expressed the belief that a fact-finding commission should be appointed to get the ground work laid by time money and building materials would be available. This belief was concurred in by Dr. A. D. McMurdo who suggested that a group of six be appointed to engineer the thing through. A motion was finally put through that the chairman appoint a committee to meet with the county court on Wednesday and urge appointment of a commission to study plans, location, financing and any other details. The chair appointed Dr. McMurdo chairman, J. J. Nys, Frank Turner and Harry Nelson.

Chairman House reported that between five and six tons of paper were collected in the Boy Scout drive Saturday.

Robert Walker, home on two weeks furlough was introduced by his father-in-law, C. W. Barlow.

A. M. Phelps, 82, Buried at Bend

Word comes from Miss Elizabeth Phelps of Vancouver, Wash. of the death of her father, A. M. Phelps, in that city Feb. 26. From the Bend Bulletin we quote:

"A. M. Phelps, 82, a native of Marion, Iowa, and a resident of Bend from 1930 until 1944 died this morning at the home of his daughter Elizabeth Phelps where he made his home for the past year. Marshall S. Phelps, Bend, is a son. He also left one grandson; three sisters and two brothers.

"Mr. Phelps came to Bend in 1930 from Heppner, and was in the employ of the Brooks-Scanlon Lumber company here until 1944 when he retired. Mr. Phelps was preceded in death by his wife, Rosa, who died in Bend, last March 30. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps were married in Iowa on Aug. 25, 1889.

"Funeral services were held in Bend March 1."

Mr. Phelps was engaged in the grocery business in Heppner for many years occupying a structure next to the present Noble saddle shop. The family resided in the house now occupied by the George Corwin family.

SGT RICHARD HAYES HOME

Discharged from the army, with which he has served more than three years, Sgt T/4 Richard Hayes returned to Heppner this week to remain for awhile with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Glen Hayes. After spending a furlough here last fall, Richard reported at Santa Barbara Nov. 1 where he was reassigned to Camp Maie, Tex. He was placed in a casual company without further reassignment. Jan. 8 he was placed in the hospital and on Feb. 20 received the papers reestablishing him as a civilian. Richard spent 31 months in the South Pacific, mostly in New Guinea.

ATTENDANCE DESIRED

Master R. B. Rice of the Lexington grange announces a meeting of the grange Friday night, March 9 at which time important business will be presented. A large crowd is urged to be present.

Eccentric Man Has Novel Method for Gaining Lodging

He was a man a little below medium stature and sported a beard somewhat on the pattern of the caricatured Russian anarchist. He carried a cane and affected a slight limp the better to impress people with his inability to earn a living by means other than "mooching." Through this process of separating the unwary public of its spare nickels and dimes he garnered enough of the "mazuma" to buy himself a few beers.

Refused the cup that cheers at McAtee's he drifted down to Aiken's place. His order for a beer was politely but firmly refused. He returned to McAtee's but instead of entering the place, got a playful streak and poked his cane through a large window. Result: A night's lodging in the county bastille.

Haled before the judge on a vagrancy count, "he" gave the name of Clarence Fahy of Santa Cruz, Calif. The judge imposed a 30-day term in jail plus a \$25 fine, then gave him an eight-hour suspended sentence to give him an opportunity to get on his way. A truck picked him up and carried him to the main line where he found transportation to The Dalles, and what do you think? He poked his cane through another pane of glass down there.

O'Donnells Lease To Cal Summers

Mr. and Mrs. Harry O'Donnell have leased their cafe to Cal Summers, a newcomer from Mitchell, for a term of one year beginning Monday, March 5. Summers had wanted to buy the place but the O'Donnells were reluctant to sell but when it was proposed that they take a year or so to think it over they agreed to a lease.

According to present plans, Mr. and Mrs. O'Donnell do not plan to leave Heppner permanently. They will remain here for two months and then go to California where they will divide their time between San Francisco, Oakland and Vallejo. They own property in Oakland which they will dispose of. Then, too, their sons, Harry Jr. and Russell are both in naval service, the former in the Pacific area and the latter in Alaska. It is possible the boys may from time to time put into port in the bay district and the parents feel they will have a better opportunity to see them if located down there.

"We will be back in Heppner when our year is up," Mrs. O'Donnell told the Gazette Times reporter. "This is where our interest is and where we have our friends. We don't want to leave them."

CUB PACK NO. 61 MEETING TONIGHT

The monthly meeting of the three dens which make up Pack No. 61 of Heppner is being held this evening in the music room at the school. The program includes exhibits by each den, distribution of awards and advancement badges by Cubmaster Father McCormack. A cub's delight—ice cream and cake—will be served at the end of the program.

Cu Pack No. 61 will welcome Jack O'Connor, manager of the J. C. Penney company store, as assistant cubmaster. He has had previous experience with cubbing.

Cubs and their parents are attending the meeting.

LEAVES FOR RE-ASSIGNMENT

Albert Schunk Jr. AMM 1c, (instead of 3c as we erroneously said last week) is leaving Sunday after two weeks at home with his father and mother. Mr. and Mrs. Albert Schunk. Young Albert has seen intensified action in the south Pacific. He will report at Norman Okla. where he expects to be re-assigned, likely for more schooling.

RETURN FROM PORTLAND

Mrs. Hilma Anderson, son Frank and Miss Florence Bergstrom returned to their homes Sunday evening from Portland. They had accompanied Mrs. Anderson's daughter, Mrs. Norton King, to Portland when she received word of her husband's death. Mrs. King plans to remain in Portland for at least another week.

Broadening Scope Of OPA Locally Explained Here

Community Group Formed to Aid in Checking Inflation

It is the desire of the OPA to make the operation of the agency as democratic as possible, and in order to accomplish that purpose it is necessary for the people as a whole to know more about the purpose and activities of this wartime emergency commission. That, explained Frederick F. Janny, district rationing executive, is why the state OPA officials are visiting the several districts—to help educate the people in the fight against inflation.

Headed by McDannel Brown, OPA district director, the group of five from the state office included Mr. Janny, Hosea Evans, district price executive; Lewis J. Bernaugh, district board operations executive, and Mary Johns, community service director. They spent Wednesday afternoon and evening here, holding a well-attended public meeting in the Elks hall at 8 o'clock. Mrs. Frances Dobyns, the board supervisor for this district, also was present.

Mrs. Johns effected a community service organization during the afternoon meeting with Mrs. Chris P. Brown, president of the Legion auxiliary; Mrs. Stephen Thompson, president of the Heppner P-TA, and Mrs. R. B. Rice, secretary of the Lexington grange. The community service panel when organized will have material and speakers for educational purposes for schools and organizations available when desired. Mrs. Pat McIntyre has accepted the position of volunteer supervisor for the local board. Any one willing to do volunteer work in the local board office should contact Mrs. McIntyre. In the next three weeks all trucks and pickups will have to have new gas rations and volunteer help will be appreciated.

It was explained by the speakers that the Oregon district has been cut in large truck tires from 450 to 220. Small tires also are short. Hogs are 30 percent below calculated production; sugar down by 750,000 tons; shoes greatly reduced, and automobiles down from 1,000 to 20 for the whole district.

Bill Kennedy asked a few questions and was given satisfactory answers, as was Walt Ready, who inquired in behalf of members of the newly formed Civilian Air Patrol company.

Pfc Tench Aldrich Killed in Action

Mr and Mrs. Ralph Aldrich of Ione were notified March 1 that their son Pfc Tench Aldrich, was killed in action Feb. 10 in the Luzon campaign. Tench was a member of the 11th airborne division.

Tench was born Sept. 19, 1924, at Boy River, Minn. He volunteered for service and was accepted Feb. 17, 1943.

MISS MCINTYRE BETROTHED

Mrs. Catherine McIntyre of Spokane, formerly of Heppner, has announced the engagement of her daughter Ann Elizabeth to 1st Lt. Arthur E. Hutchinson, U. S. Army, son of Mr and Mrs A. E. Hutchinson of Pendleton. Both young people attended Oregon State college from which Lt. Hutchinson graduated in 1940. He is at present taking a military course at the University of California in Berkeley. Miss McIntyre is employed at Spokane Army Air Field as an administrative clerk in the Judge Advocate General's office.

RETURNS FROM COAST

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Becket have returned to their home after spending some time in Wheeler, Oregon where Mrs. Becket was receiving medical assistance. From Wheeler the Becketts went to Red Bluff Calif. to visit Mrs. Julia Glaesmer, Mrs. Becket's sister.

Just a Bunch of Little Helpers

Maybe the victim of this little joke would rather keep it dark but it seems rather too bad to let it pass unmentioned.

Arnold Ebert, Morrow county agricultural agent, recently was confined to his home with a case of measles. The days were long—and the nights even longer—and the energetic agent was chafing at the bit or whatever it is that one does under such restraint. News of his distress reached the ears of the feminine portion of the office force and they decided to relieve his sorry plight. So they sent him a bottle of spot remover.

Arlington in Race For State Tourney

Local basketball fans will be interested in the news that the Arlington basketball squad will meet Rogue River at Arlington Saturday evening in the third of a series of games to determine which will represent the fifth and sixth districts at the state tournament at Salem March 15.

The Honkers won the sixth title in the tournament there Feb. 22-3-4. The team then journeyed to the Rogue River country, defeating Rogue River 30-28 on Feb. 26 and losing 37-30 on Feb. 28. The games were played on the Medford floor.

Senatorial District Measure Defeated

Through the courtesy of Murray Wade, whose column almost regularly appears in this newspaper (overcrowded conditions prevent its appearance this week) we are advised that the senate defeated Senate bill No. 271 Tuesday afternoon by a vote of 18 to 12.

This bill would have designated the counties of Lake, Deschutes, Crook and Jefferson as the 19th senatorial district, entitling it to one senator. Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler would have been the 18th district with one senator and Klamath county the 17th district with one senator.

Stockmen's Meeting Scheduled Thursday

R. G. Johnson, head of the department of animal industry from Oregon State college, and George Bradley, range examiner from the western division of the AAA will head the program of a stockmen's meeting to be held at the court house in Heppner Thursday afternoon, March 15. Johnson, well known to the stockmen of eastern Oregon will discuss grazing management and the proper use of cattle and sheep ranges. Bradley will discuss range management as it ties in with the 1945 agricultural conservation program. Both of these men are specialists in the field of livestock and grazing and the message they bring is sure to be of a great deal of interest to the stockmen of this county, reports Arnold Ebert, county agent who has arranged the meeting.

Stockmen who intend to participate in the grazing management practice of the 1945 farm program will be especially interested in this meeting as this will be their opportunity to receive the details of the program and to sign up the grazing plans necessary if they receive payment under the new program.

CAR RESTORED TO OWNERS

Mrs. Orville Smith and son Jimmy made a hurried trip to Seattle last week-end following a call that Mrs. Smith's mother, Mrs. J. F. Pfeiffer was very ill. Upon arrival it was found that Mrs. Pfeiffer's illness had been brief and not so serious so Mrs. Smith and Jim returned to Portland where they were able to pick up the family car that had been stolen earlier in the winter, and returned to Heppner Monday evening. The car apparently is none the worse for its experience.

ILL AT THE DALLES

Mrs. Mary Thomson is very ill and is in a hospital in The Dalles. Mrs. Thomson submitted to a major operation Tuesday morning. Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Bisbee drove down this morning to spend the day.

Court Considers Selection of Fact Finding Committee

People Ask That Hospital Be Built Early as Possible

Urged by a delegation of Heppner business men representing the chamber of commerce, and E. E. Rugg of Rhea Creek, speaking for the Morrow County Farm Bureau, the Morrow county court in session Wednesday morning accepted the proposal that a commission of representative citizens be appointed as a fact-finding body relative to the construction and operation of a general hospital.

Speaking for his committee, Dr. A. D. McMurdo of the chamber of commerce, presented conclusions of the group as follows:

First, the majority of the people in Morrow county want to build the hospital now.

Second, it can be done.

Third, it must be done.

Dr. McMurdo quoted a Spokane architect, "all necessary materials can be obtained for the building of a hospital in a community where a hospital is needed. I am building two large hospitals now, one in Washington and one in Idaho. We are experiencing no difficulty in obtaining materials as hospitals carry a high priority." The doctor recited hospital experiences here stating, "During the past 30 years we have witnessed four eras when the tide for a hospital to be built for the people and by the people ebbed and flowed with countless waves of enthusiasms only to dash against the wall of waning interest and be lost in oblivion. WE MUST NOT LET THIS HAPPEN AGAIN."

Commissioner Neill favors collecting the first year's levy, approximately \$20,000, then at the primary election next spring vote on bonds to finish the job, believing that by that time materials would be available.

Commissioner Barratt urged the court to accept the chamber of commerce proposal, stating that he favors a bond election at the earliest possible date. He also related some of the numerous conversations he has had with citizens who are willing to go to considerable length to get the hospital now.

Expressions by others present showed that many people are giving the hospital careful study and while not all agreeing on the time it should be built there was no disagreement about the necessity for it.

Lack of space prevents a detailed report of the meeting. When the court names a fact-finding commission there may be an opportunity to give more of the story.

STATE POLICE BRINGS TRIO TO JAIL FROM COLUMBIA

State Officer Jackson, patrolman on the Columbia river, brought three prisoners to the county jail Tuesday night from near Boardman. The trio were involved in an accident in which their car struck and wrecked another car driven by an elderly couple. The accused men are charged with causing an accident and failing to stop and offer assistance. They are being held for Nevada authorities on a car theft count.

HERE FOR SHORT VISIT

Mrs. Catherine McIntyre has been spending a few days in Heppner attending to business matters and visiting with friends. Mrs. McIntyre enjoys living in Spokane, especially as her three daughters are all employed there and live at home.

VISITS RELATIVES

Miss Vera Mahoney, daughter of Mrs. W. P. Mahoney, arrived Wednesday to visit her mother and other members of her family. Miss Mahoney makes her home in Los Angeles, and flew from there to Pendleton where her brother Phil met her. She accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Mahoney and their new daughter, Shannon, home.