

# Heppner Gazette Times

Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, April 5, 1945

Volume 62, Number 2

OREGON HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PUBLIC AUDITORIUM  
PORTLAND, ORE.

## Mrs. Graham New Leader of County Health Association

### John Saager Put in As Vice President At Annual Meeting

Mrs. Claude Graham was elected president of the Morrow County Health association at the annual meeting of the group Monday evening at the Lucas Place. John Saager is the new vice president, while Mrs. Clara Gertson and Mrs. Lucy Rodgers were retained in their respective posts of secretary and treasurer.

The meeting was a dinner affair during which a short musical program consisting of two vocal selections by Mrs. C. C. Dunham, a piano solo by Marylou Ferguson and a duet by Mrs. J. O. Turner and Miss Ferguson. Dr. J. M. Odell, superintendent of the Eastern Oregon Tuberculosis hospital at The Dalles, was the speaker of the evening, using the importance of the x-ray in the campaign against tuberculosis as his subject. In connection with this, he stated that the mobile x-ray unit will visit Morrow county in the near future. It is coming for the purpose of x-raying the adult population, including the last two years of high school.

Dr. Odell disagrees with the proposal to limit this work, stating that at least upper grades and all high school young people should be included, but since children who may be with their parents or are contacts of known tuberculosis cases will be x-rayed, part of his objection will be removed, he stated.

The state of Oregon and the country at large are waging a losing fight against tuberculosis at present, Dr. Odell said. This is due to lack of nurses, so many thousands of whom have been called to military service. When this situation improves the battle will be taken up with renewed vigor.

Mrs. K. A. House, chairman of the seal sale, reported that Morrow county subscribed a total of \$1,365.01 in the recent drive. Divided into districts the results were as follows: Lexington, \$183.20; Ione, \$256.50; Boardman, \$62.36; Irrigon, \$49.50, and Heppner \$813.81.

Miss Margaret Gillis, county health nurse, submitted her report and this will be published in a later issue.

The financial report showed a balance April 1, 1945, of \$1,380.22; receipts from seal sale \$1,365.01 for a total of \$2,745.23. Expenses included: Health education supplies \$92.12; case finding \$5; cooperative \$6; seal sale supplies and printing \$54.36; administration \$8.50; percentage of state and national associations \$341.25; T. B. patients \$4.70. Total expenses \$511.93. Balance in bank March 31, \$2,233.30.

Budget for the year April 1, 1945 to March 31, 1946: Bank balance April 1, \$2,625.90; expected seal sale receipts, \$1,000; total \$3,625.90. Authorized expenses: Health education supplies \$100; case findings \$200; Seal sale supplies and printing, \$25; postage, express, freight, \$35; executive travel and meetings \$100; percentage to state and national associations \$250; other: a. public health nurse salary \$275; b. emergency \$15; total expenses authorized \$1000.

### LEAVES FOR TEXAS

Mrs. B. C. Forsythe left Saturday for McAllen, Tex. for an extended visit with her son, Lt. Jack Forsythe and wife. According to a wire received this morning she reached her destination last night. Lt. Forsythe is stationed at Moore Field and Mission.

## Pomona Program Includes Matters Of Current Interest

Matters of current interest to the people of Morrow county will claim a large share of the lecturer's hour at the Pomona grange to be held at Rhea Creek grange hall Saturday.

Commissioner Garnett Barratt will discuss the Morrow county hospital; Lt. Leo G. Devaney, commander of the Oregon Wing headquarters in Portland, will present the subject of the C A P in Morrow county and the building of an airport in the county; Mrs. R. B. Rice, representing the granges of Morrow county, will present information about the community service panel recently organized in the war price and rationing board; a Mr. Elliston, representing the Rural Electrification administration, will be on hand to discuss the REA, and Arnold Ebert, county agent, will talk on some phases of agriculture. There will be musical numbers and other entertainment features by subordinate granges.

Following the program, which is open to the public, the Rhea Creek grange will confer the fifth (Pomona) degree to all fifth degree candidates.

Pomona will convene at 10 a. m. with business occupying the time until 3 p. m. except for time out for lunch at noon.

## New Proprietors at Heppner Cleaners

John Hannan and family arrived in Heppner Tuesday evening and Wednesday took possession of the Heppner Cleaners which they purchased from Mr. and Mrs. John Skuzeski about 10 days ago. The Hannans will be joined today by Mr. Hannan's mother, Mrs. Anna Snyder, who is known in the trade as a fancy spotter.

The Skuzeski family had to change their plans due to the fact that Mrs. Skuzeski could not find a place to live until school closes. Mr. Skuzeski left Tuesday for Carson, Wash. where they own property, and Mrs. Skuzeski will be here a few days longer straightening up business affairs. She stated Wednesday that their leaving Heppner has been a great disappointment to the two older boys, John and Walter, who are in the navy, and that their native town will always be home to them wherever they go.

The new proprietor expects to make some changes in the plant as soon as materials can be obtained.

## Nearly 2,000 Units In Sewing Quota

Upwards of 2,000 units are included in the spring quota for the local Red Cross sewing group which meets Tuesday and Thursday afternoons in the former Hughes grocery 25 bed jackets, 500 bedside bags, room. In the lot are 25 bathrobes, 500 kit bags, unfilled, 25 complete layettes, 100 pajamas, 500 pair slippers and 300 wash clothes.

The quota has arrived and more people are needed to help prepare these army and navy hospital essentials. It is announced that another sewing machine is needed. All materials have not yet arrived but there is plenty on hand to keep a larger group employed.

### PLAN NEW HOMES

Two new houses will be built this spring, according to plans announced by Afton Gayhart and Kenneth Dyreson. Lots have been purchased on north Court street just north of the C. L. Hodge residence and materials are being assembled. Several truckloads of hollow tile brick have been delivered and construction is expected to start soon. The houses come under the 10-unit priority granted by the National Housing Authority earlier this year.

## Absentee Landlord Growth in County Creates Problem

### More Than Fourth Of Tilled Acreage In Outside Hands

With more than one fourth of the tillable acres of the county owned by absentee, or out-of-the-county, landlords, Morrow county is faced with the question of becoming a renter-farmed area with gradually diminishing population. Either that will take place or the owner-operators will have to sit tight in the face of attractive prices and decide to make this section their permanent home. That, in effect, was the substance of a talk made by Orville Cutsforth to the luncheon group of the Heppner chamber of commerce Monday noon.

Cutsforth stated that while he was cognizant of real estate transactions, in which considerable acreage was passing into the hands of outside investors, the real purport of these deals was not brought home to him until a recent visit to the state of Washington where he met a big rancher who called his attention to some facts that set him thinking. This man expressed the opinion that these investors, most of them from light soil wheat belts in eastern Washington, find Morrow county lands a good investment, where they can give the tenant two-thirds of the crop and still make good interest on their money. During the past three or four years these investments have been profitable, inasmuch as crop conditions have been good, and even in poorer years they figure the interest will be better than bond or other security investments.

The speaker admitted he did not know the solution to the problem and doubted if there is one, but felt that citizens of the county should give it thought. He stated that he and other large resident owners had been alluded to as land hogs but pointed out that they are living here and helping build up the county. They are re-investing their earnings in improvements and are behind any move for the advancement of rural life and general welfare of the people. But, there is nothing to prevent these outside investors from offering high prices for Morrow county land and there is no law against people accepting those prices. The need is for more people on moderately sized farms rather than a few people on such large holdings, but this can't be accomplished in a day, a week, a year, or several years, he concluded.

Cutsforth's remarks were well taken by members of the chamber of commerce, some of whom discussed the situation briefly. The consensus of opinion was that we are in about the same boat as Mark Twain in regard to the weather, only in this instance there might be something done about it.

### WYOMING COUPLE WED IN

Mrs. Pearl M. Runnion and Fred Williams, both of Douglas, Wyo., were married in Pendleton Saturday. The ceremony was witnessed by the bride's mother, Mrs. Mae Smith of Douglas, her son, S2/c Bob Runnion, and Miss Jean Turner. The newlyweds left that evening for Douglas where Mr. Williams is a prominent stockman.

### MAKE BUSINESS TRIP

B. C. Forsythe and his daughter Mrs. Edwin Dick, were in Portland the first of the week after materials for their apartment house. They returned to Heppner Wednesday evening.

## Lexington Youth Makes Supreme Sacrifice on Iwo

News of the death of their son, Pfc Clyde O. Edwards, was received Friday evening by Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Edwards of Lexington. Clyde was with the Marines on Iwo Jima and the message conveying the sad news stated that he was killed in action on March 5.

Clyde Oren Edwards was born in Lexington on Oct. 23, 1926, being aged 18 years, four months and 12 days at the time of his death. He received his education in the Lexington schools, enlisting in the Marines in January 1944, going overseas in July of the same year.

Surviving besides his parents, are two brothers, Albert in the U. S. navy and John at home; and three sisters, Edith of Spokane, Mrs. Herbert Marrs of Palo Alto, Calif., and Elizabeth at home.

One who knew Clyde throughout his school life has contributed the following tribute to his memory:

"On a certain service flag in the Lexington school another gold star will be added which will commemorate the brave deeds of Pfc Clyde O. Edwards, second son of Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Edwards, who lost his life in the Iwo Jima campaign. 'Tige', as Clyde was commonly known among his friends, possessed redeeming qualities that not many people realized. He was alert to recognize the best there was in his friends, was thoroughly appreciative of good character and loyal to the fullest degree.

"Aside from his own family, few people knew him better than the writer, because she was his teacher for four consecutive years.

"We shall miss Clyde and we wish to extend our deepest sympathy to his family."

## Greener in Jail on Probation Violation

Irving Greener appeared before Judge Calvin L. Sweek Monday and was sentenced to nine months in the county jail for probation violation. Greener was released from the jail last June after serving several months of a sentence on an assault count. His release called for good conduct—refraining from drinking, fighting or any other act not coming up to higher social standards. Sunday morning he became embroiled in an altercation from Reed's mill and was picked up by Marshal Bill Morgan and State Officer Edgar Albert who turned him over to the county authorities. When evidence showed that he had violated the terms of his probation, Judge Sweek imposed the nine months jail sentence.

Jack Skinnion is confined to the county jail on a previous sentence imposed about two and one half years ago by Justice J. O. Hager. Skinnion was given a fine at that time and 30 days in the county jail. The jail term was suspended provided Skinnion would go to work and pay off the fine. He left this section without paying the fine and when he reappeared in town early this week he was haled before the justice.

### ON TERMINAL LEAVE

Capt. Richard C. Lawrence arrived in Heppner over the weekend on an extended leave, coming from Klamath Falls where he was met last week by Mrs. Lawrence. The captain is on terminal leave meaning that he has a lot of accumulated leaves to fill out, and he expects to be placed on an inactive leave status when the present leave expires. This virtually amounts to a discharge and he is planning to reopen his dental office later in the spring. "Doc" as he is familiarly known, says this climate is more to his liking than Texas and he is mighty happy to be home with his family.

## Farm Bureau Picks Rural Electrification As First Objective

### Power Deemed of Prime Importance In Rural Growth

Adoption of rural electrification as its number one project was the main item of business at the meeting of the Morrow County Farm Bureau at the Lexington grange hall Monday evening. The move was taken after O. W. Cutsforth made a comprehensive report of a recent visit to the Bonneville power authority in Portland where the local situation was gone over with Administrator Raver and his staff.

From the text of Cutsforth's report, members of the bureau were convinced that an effort to obtain electric power throughout the rural areas of the county should be launched without delay. Those present favored an REA project as a beginning, inasmuch as the Bonneville authority is preparing to erect a high transmission line up the south bank of the Columbia making it possible for rural electrification lines to hook on wherever districts can be formed.

There was considerable discussion of rates and other factors entering into formation of rural units and this all led up to the conclusion that if rural life in the county is to survive and progress there will have to be electric power at a rate making it feasible to operate farm plants and especially pumps to provide water for domestic use and limited irrigation. It is recognized that more people are needed on the farm lands but that this cannot be accomplished without improving living conditions, most of which depends upon a steady and plentiful water supply made possible through an abundance of cheap electricity.

C. L. Jamison, secretary of the state farm bureau, explained the status of the beef industry under the current OPA marketing. It is so complicated and impossible of carrying out that many butchers and packers are contemplating turning the keys in their doors, Jamison stated. The outlook is not good for the industry, in his opinion. He also told of plans to build three large fertilizer plants in widely separated sections of the county, the one nearest home to be located in Idaho.

Henry Peterson made a report on Oregon's longest legislative session, stating that some people may find no small amount of fault with laws passed, but reminding his hearers that operation of the law is the real test and that criticism should be limited until they have been given a trial. Referring to the school appropriation measures, he said that the two cents tax per package on cigarettes was designed to raise approximately \$2,000,000—if they can find the cigarettes.

Arnold Ebert explained the workings of the farm labor wage ceiling, warning employers to conform closely to regulations if they do not want to go to jail.

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting.

### RED CROSS OFFICIAL HERE

Miss Ruth Wilson, home service field representative in the Pacific area of the American Red Cross, is in Heppner today gathering data relative to the county pertaining to home service work. She is in charge of eastern Oregon district and the information she is gathering will be compiled for later use in the Red Cross post war home service program.