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Despondency Leads Heppner Woman To Take Own Life

Mrs. C. L. Hodge Found Dead at Home Saturday

Despondency over ill health apparently caused Mrs. C. L. Hodge to take her own life here Saturday. Death came shortly before noon and was the result of taking an overdose of sleeping tablets, according to the opinion of physicians called to the scene shortly after the body was discovered.

Mrs. Hodge had been down town about 10 a. m. She telephoned her husband at 11 o'clock and when he arrived at the home shortly before noon he found her lifeless body. A physician was summoned and at first glance was thought she was in a drugged sleep but when an effort was made to awaken her it was quickly realized that life had departed.

Dr. A. D. McMurdo, county coroner, was called and held an inquest. He also made a post mortem examination, sending contents of his. Coroner and jury arrived at the conclusion that death was due to an overdose of sleeping tablets.

Services were conducted at 10 o'clock a. m. Monday at the Masonic hall, with the Hermiston chapter of the Eastern Star in charge of the ritualistic work and Rev. Fletcher Forster reading the scripture. Following the services the body was taken to Pasco for interment.

Roberta Herman was a native of Walla Walla, where she was born April 7, 1908. She married C. L. Hodge August 23, 1939, and they made their home in Hermiston until June 1944 when they came to Heppner. Besides the husband, she is survived by a son and three step-children, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Herman of Pasco.

Mrs. Hodge was a member of the Eastern Star lodge at Hermiston and the Episcopal church at Pasco.

New Secretary to Speak to Bureau

H. I. Story, newly appointed secretary of the state farm bureau federation, has been scheduled by the Morrow county bureau as the principal speaker at its next monthly meeting Monday evening, April 1. Story has just recently arrived from Iowa and this will be one of the first meetings he will attend in the state.

The usual discussion hour and refreshments later in the evening will be the order of the meeting which will open at 8 p. m.

WHEAT ABOUT ALL MOVED OUT OF BRANCH STORAGE

Rail shipments of wheat have about ceased on the Heppner branch after a period of several weeks during which time an extra freight was put on to keep the grain moving steadily.

Trains have not been made up entirely of wheat, however, for the lumber has been rolling out in considerable volume of late. Agent Floyd Tolleson stated Monday that 84 cars of lumber left the local station the past month.

NEW MANAGER HERE

Robert Forsythe arrived here Monday from Goldendale and has taken over management of the Heppner district of the Pacific Power & Light company, succeeding K. A. House who is moving to Dayton, Wash. The new manager has been getting around in company with House, meeting his new customers who will also be his neighbors. He will bring his family to Heppner as soon as living quarters are available.

Carbide Safer for Lighting Than for Heating Purposes

Carbide as a lighting fluid is OK but when it takes on heating propensities it is entirely too proficient, according to Leonard Carlson, Gooseberry farmer, who was in town Monday. Carlson is nursing some bad burns about the face and arms following an experience the previous Monday which he considers sufficient for a lifetime.

The carbide supply in his lighting plant running low, Mr. Carlson went out about 7 p. m. to reload the tank. He had done this repeatedly since installing the system but heretofore used a flashlight when artificial light was necessary. Unthinkingly he employed a lantern and the sensitive material ignited blowing up in his face with disastrous results.

The unfortunate man at first thought he had been blinded by the explosion, inasmuch as he could not see. When his glasses were removed it was found that they were so smoked he could not see through them—and was he happily surprised to find that out. The area protected by his glasses was about the only portion of his face which was not burned.

Fire Lads Respond To Morning Call

Fire starting from a defective flue called the department to the Leonard Lindblom residence about 6:45 o'clock Tuesday morning. The roof was burned around the flue and burning debris fell inside the house causing some damage to furniture and carpet in the living room.

A call was put in Sunday morning when fire broke out in the Assembly of God church but Pastor Graves succeeded in extinguishing it before the truck was removed from its stall. No damage was done.

FILLING OUT STATEMENTS TAXPAYERS LAGGING IN

Taxpayers are showing indifference towards filling out and returning their statements to the assessor's office, according to W. O. Dix, assessor. Many statements are overdue and it has necessitated numerous field trips by the assessor.

Mr. Dix visited the north end of the county Monday and again Wednesday in an effort to get the papers in so that extensions may be brought up to date. There is a penalty attached to overdue statements which will make taxes considerably heavier if the assessor is compelled to enforce the measure.

O.S.T.A. MEETING DRAWS TEACHERS FROM COUNTY

Schools of the county have been dismissed Thursday and Friday many of the teachers are in attendance at the state meeting of the Oregon State Teachers' association in Portland.

It is understood the time will be made up before the close of the school year.

COLLEGE STUDENTS HOME

College students home for spring vacation include Joe Hughes, Ted Ferguson, Jean Turner, Virginia McLaughlin, Betty Adams, Helen Blake, Marjorie Simms and Marilyn Kirk from Oregon State college, and Betty Marie Coxen and Louise Green from Eastern Oregon College of Education. Joe Hughes and Ted Ferguson accompanied Bill Marquardt of Lexington. Bill will not return to school for the spring term as he is awaiting the draft. This move left the two Heppner lads afoot, as it were, and Ted has remedied the situation by buying Jack Pickens' "taxi" for service between Heppner and Corvallis. Most of the college people from the county are home for the week.

Glenn McMurtry has joined the ranks of GI civilians, having been discharged at the Bremerton separation center last week-end. He returned home Monday. Glenn's ship was the Daniel A. Joy, the life story of which was published in these columns recently.

Mrs. Graham Will Head Health Assn. For Another Year

Work Started in '45 To Be Carried Further in 1946

Mrs. Claude Graham was re-elected as president of the Morrow County Public Health association at the annual dinner meeting held in the parish house Tuesday evening, where 83 plates were served to group workers and others interested in the public health program. Mrs. Graham won out over Dr. Clyde Dunham who was the choice of the nominating committee. Some of the older workers in the association felt that Mrs. Graham had done outstanding work in her year as president and Mrs. Lucy Rodgers made the plea that she be returned in nominating her for another term.

Mrs. Rodgers in turn, was elected vice president after having served for years as treasurer. Mrs. George Gertson was re-elected secretary and Mrs. Harley Anderson is the new treasurer.

The gathering was favored with two vocal solos by LeRoy Darling, Irrigon school principal, as the guests were seated. Following the reading of the minutes by the secretary, Mrs. Rodgers gave the treasurer's report showing a balance on hand of \$3,609.18. Mrs. K. A. House made her seal sale report, supplemented by the Heppner district report by Mrs. Oscar Rippee, and Miss Margaret Gillis, county public health nurse, made her annual report. Miss Crego, Irrigon teacher, gave social hygiene study class and told of the formation of the Irrigon social hygiene study class and Mrs. Tress McClintock reported on progress in the formation of a similar class in Heppner. Mrs. Rodgers told of what the PHA is doing in Morrow county, followed by Mrs. Sadie Orr Dunbar, executive secretary. Mrs. Rodgers gave the treasurer's report, speaker of the evening. Mrs. Dunbar outlined the work of the tuberculosis association and the formation of the public health units. She recalled that the first seal sale in this county brought in \$98, whereas the recent drive amounted to more than \$1,200. Her talk covered the x-ray service and various other phases of public health work.

HERMISTON STAR LODGE VISITS RUTH CHAPTER

A large delegation of Eastern Stars from the Hermiston chapter visited Ruth chapter Friday evening, fulfilling a long-felt desire on the part of several of them to call on the Heppner lodge. There was initiatory work and a light lunch following making a large evening for the lodge folk.

Mr. and Mrs. K. A. House and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Hulbert were presented with going away gifts.

Tuesday night, March 19 Frank Sloan, district deputy worthy grand master, headed a delegation of Masons from Stanfield, Echo and Umatilla that visited Heppner lodge No. 69, A. F. & A. M.

CUTS WRIST ON GLASS

Charles Vaughn suffered a badly cut wrist Monday while removing a broken headlight from a car. He had to use some force to remove the lens and the glass broke under the pressure, slashing his wrist. His left hand will be incapacitated for some time.

PRESENTED WITH GIFT

K. A. House, former manager of the P. P. & L. company office here, was presented with a fine fountain pen at Monday's meeting of the chamber of commerce. Dr. A. D. McMurdo made the presentation. House was president of the chamber in 1945.

Engineers' Report On Heppner Dam In Chief's Hands

Construction of a concrete dam on Willow creek, above Heppner for flood control and irrigation is recommended in reports by the Pacific division and Portland district army engineers sent to Washington for consideration by the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors and the chief of engineers, U. S. Army.

The Willow creek dam would have a reservoir with a capacity of 5,000 acre-feet, created by a concrete barrier 1300 feet long and 100 feet high, with an improved channel in Willow creek through Heppner. The top 1300 acre-feet of storage space would be used exclusively for the control of floods, and the next 2100 acre-feet would be used jointly for irrigation and flood control. The joint-use storage space would be controlled so as to make a total of 3400 acre-feet of space available for control of floods during cloudburst season.

Prior to any federal expenditure local interests would be required to assume the cost of reconstructing bridges over the improved channel in Heppner, provide rights-of-way necessary for channel improvements and agree to maintain and operate the channel in accordance with regulations to be prescribed by the secretary of war. Water users would be required to reimburse the federal government by paying irrigation's share of the cost of operation and maintenance of the dam and reservoir.

Lawrence Slocum's Condition Grave

Word received from Mrs. Lawrence Slocum Wednesday morning stated that her husband's condition is grave following a brain operation in Portland last Thursday. He is in the Good Samaritan hospital.

Mr. Slocum became seriously ill early last week and was taken to The Dalles where examination revealed that the services of a brain specialist were needed and he was taken to Portland.

PRESSURE COOKER GAUGES TESTED DURING APRIL ONLY

Safe canning of meats fish and non-acid vegetables requires a pressure cooker with an accurate pressure gauge. If your gauge has not been tested for two years or more, says Grace Gadeken, emergency assistant in the county agent's office, send or bring it to the office by April 25, Oregon State college test your gauge during the month of April only. The charge is 50c which includes return postage. Send gauges with money order to your home demonstration agent or to E. H. Wiegant, Food Technology department, Oregon State college, Corvallis, Oregon.

The gauge is breakable and should be well padded and wrapped in a tin can or cardboard box, and name and address attached directly to the back of the gauge with tape, not muclage. Detach gauge from cooker with flat wrench. Pliers may damage metal.

Gauges sent in after April 30 will not be tested.

HONORS DEPARTING MEMBER

Honoring Mrs. Kenneth House, who is moving to Dayton, Wash., immediately, the officers club of Ruth Chapter of the Eastern Star served a surprise dinner at the home of Mrs. F. S. Parker Wednesday evening. Mrs. House was completely surprised when the dining room doors were opened and standing there were 14 of her fellow officers. Credit for the surprise element goes to the able planning and maneuvering of Mrs. William Barkla and Mrs. Parker, who had tempted Mrs. House with a freshly baked cake Mrs. Parker had supposedly baked.

Mrs. House is filling the office of Conductress this year and is going to be greatly missed.

Henry Gorger was in town today from Pendeton to look after business interests in the county.

Accidents Figure Largely in News Of Current Week

Several Injuries Result From Car Crashes and Upsets

Accidents loom large in the news this week following a series of car crashes, upsets and spills which have laid several people up for repairs. Although none have proved fatal, some of the victims have suffered considerable pain and will be "on the shelf" for some time.

A near disastrous accident happened to Dennis McNamee about 8 o'clock Friday evening. Mr. McNamee was on his way to the Catholic church and at the Richfield station corner stepped off the curb just as a car driven by Edwin Tucker was passing. He was sideswiped by the car and the impact knocked him down and caused him to roll over several times. He received serious injuries to his head and was considerably bruised and battered. The elderly man was taken to the doctor's office and then on to his home where he has been quite ill.

Friday afternoon Ture Peterson figured in a crash at Hermiston which netted him four broken ribs and a bad shaking up. The Peterson car was rammed by a truck-trailer outfit as he was turning from the east-west highway into Main street. The injured man was brought home by ambulance and closely watched for several hours to determine if he had suffered possible internal injury. By Sunday morning his chief concern was something to eat, a sign that he figures on living a normal span.

Irving Greener and Wayne Reynolds figured in a spill when the motorcycle upon which they were riding collided with a pig on the highway near the gate to the Joe Delameter place. Greener apparently escaped injury but Reynolds, driver of the "bike", did not fare so well. He suffered a broken

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Red Cross Quota 94 Per Cent Today

With three days to run, Morrow county's quota in the current Red Cross fund campaign to date has been a little over 94 per cent subscribed. That was the statement of Chairman Jack O'Connor shortly after noon when he had finished tabulating returns from several districts in the county.

At Monday's luncheon of the chamber of commerce, O'Connor released figures showing that 51 percent of the fund had been subscribed. Since that date several unreported districts made their returns and swelled the total to 94 percent.

The chairman is hopeful that returns will be in by April 1 and that they will take the county over the top. In the meantime he is urging those who have not contributed to do so today and be counted in the final returns.

STANDARD PUTTING IN OIL TANK AT AIRPORT

Standard Oil company workmen are engaged in installing a gasoline tank and service pumps at the Lexington airport this week. This will facilitate the servicing of the planes stationed at the port as well as offer visiting planes the advantage of refueling there.

Manager Jack Forsythe states that air transportation is increasing as the longer days advance and that flying people to Portland and elsewhere on business missions is becoming the order of the day.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Nys went to Portland Saturday to be gone for several days.