

Sewers-Now, or Later?

An Editorial

Next Tuesday the voters of Heppner will meet their sewer problem face to face. They will make the decision on whether Heppner is to take a big step forward toward becoming a modern city or whether it is to remain a small town. Sewers are necessary if it is to progress, necessary if it is to get itself out of some very smelly holes—in the form of overflowing septic tanks and polluted creek. It is a problem that sooner or later the residents of the city are going to have to face. Waiting longer will only make it cost more.

The whole sewer and sewage disposal plan is based upon need. If Heppner didn't need sewers the council wouldn't be asking the people for approval to build them. To us, and we believe to a good many others, the need is obvious. In fact, some of the heaviest pressure to get the project started has been put upon the council by the people themselves. Contrary to some stories, the state sanitary authority has not threatened the city with dire consequences if it did not build a system. True, it has urged for several years that some action be taken to eliminate unsanitary conditions and stream pollution, and it has, we believe, the power to require that some measure be taken to clean up the dirty spots. Members of the sanitary authority have, at numerous times, worked with the council to show them what is necessary to provide the city with adequate disposal facilities. The outcome of all this discussion is the plan you are to vote on Tuesday.

We have, on several occasions, emphasized two of the most important points in the entire proposal, and we are going to repeat them again for we believe they must be understood by all if the bond issue is to be passed.

They are: (1) the present 10 mill levy (for a sewer sinking fund) now being paid by residents of Heppner, along with the sewer charge, also being paid at the present time, will in all probability be sufficient to retire the bonds and pay for the upkeep of the system. The only increase in taxes or charges proposed is an increase in the sewer use charge to \$1.50 a month after the system is operating. Any new tax levied will replace the present one—NOT BE IN ADDITION TO IT! We are already paying for our sewer, a "Yes" vote Tuesday will mean we will get to use it now. The second point is (2) every business house and residence will be serviced with a sewer line built right to the property line. There will be no extra hookup charges and the only additional cost will be what each property owner must do within the boundaries of his own lot.

We believe the people understand the problem confronting them and that they want to face it now... not postpone it until later.

We strongly urge a 100 X YES vote next Tuesday as the best way to answer the problem.

Conversion to Dial Phones in Heppner Set for Next April

The tentative conversion date for the changeover to dial telephones for Heppner has been set for next April 11, D. A. Short, commercial manager for the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company for the Pendleton district, told the Heppner-Morrow county chamber of commerce Monday.

Short appeared before the group to explain the company's plan to improve service in Heppner and surrounding area. He said the company had purchased property on Chase street north of Willow and will start construction on a building within a month to house the new dial equipment. He explained that while the company had every expectation of meeting the established date for the changeover,

the actual date might vary depending upon delivery of the necessary equipment from the manufacturer. Short told the chamber that with completion of the dial installation Heppner, Lexington and Ione subscribers will be able to dial direct calls to any phone in the three towns. Such calls then can be made without the present toll charge. He said that all farm lines served by the Heppner exchange will also get the benefit of dial service. All farm subscribers have been advised of the changeover plans and most are making preparation to do the necessary rebuilding of farm lines to handle the dial system.

Short said the company will spend in excess of \$80,000 for building and equipment at Heppner and that the change will give local phone users the most modern equipment available.

The Pendleton manager said that though the dial system would replace present operators, all would be given an opportunity to continue their employment with the company in other districts if they so desired. He also stated that there were many problems yet to be worked out both by the company and also by the city. It was pointed out that an entirely different plan for fire and police calls would be necessary. Short explained that such difficulties had been worked out in other towns by placing special phones to take such calls in several locations where there would always be someone to report the emergency calls.

Every means has been taken to give Heppner the best possible service with the present equipment. Short said, but that it was decidedly outdated. The company plans eventual conversion to dial throughout its entire system.

Bradley Fancher to Receive First Vet Bonus in County

Bradley D. Fancher, Morrow county district attorney will be the first veteran in the county to receive World War II Oregon bonus checks now being mailed at Salem, it was reported Tuesday by the Associated Press. The names were chosen in a drawing held several months ago.

Maximum bonus payments will be \$600 with the average check being about \$415. The state has tried for nearly a year to sell the bonds authorized by the voters to make possible the payment. The sale was just recently completed.

Two From Area Finish at U of O

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene. The University of Oregon's 75th anniversary year will see some 1300 candidates go through the ceremonies that mark Commencement. Seventy-five years ago when this state university held its first commencement there were five candidates who received degrees.

The Commencement and Baccalaureate Exercises, held as a joint ceremony, will be on Sunday afternoon, June 15.

Of the 1316 candidates for degrees, 962 are for baccalaureate degrees, and 354 for advanced degrees.

Including among those who are candidates for degrees is one student from Boardman, Oregon, and one student from Ione, Oregon. Students and candidates for degrees are as follows: Theodore R. Wilson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert S. Wilson, Boardman, Oregon, a candidate for a Master of Science degree; and Clifford Leon Carlson, son of Mr. and Mrs. V. Leonard Carlson, Ione, Oregon, candidate for a Bachelor of Science degree.

Misses Marjorie Pierson and Rita Cox returned Sunday from Salem where they spent the week attending the annual Girls' State. They were met at Hinkle by Mr. and Mrs. Ted Pierson.

Heppner Gazette Times

Single Copies 10 cents

Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, June 19, 1952

Volume 69, Number 14

Grand Officers Here For Heppner Masonic Birthday

100 Masons attended the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the founding of Heppner lodge number 69 A. F. & A. M. last Tuesday evening. A large number of visitors were present, as well as many members of the local lodge who live elsewhere and returned to observe the birthday.

A banquet was prepared and served by the officers of the Eastern Star of which Mrs. Frank Davidson is Worthy Matron.

Visiting speaker at the closed meeting was Rev. Clarence Kopp, La Grande, recently appointed Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge of Oregon. Rev. Kopp spoke of the ancient origins of Masonry, its ideals of freedom and creativeness and its role in the future in the fight against oppression and intolerance.

J. O. Turner, lodge historian, gave the highlights of his research into the history of the Heppner lodge quoting interesting excerpts from the old minutes of the lodge and naming many of the founders and mainstays of the order.

An interesting sidelight on the chartering of the first Oregon lodge was told by Walter Ruggles. His grandfather was a grand lodge officer in Missouri when the body granted the request of a group of Oregonians for a lodge to be formed in 1848.

A feature of the meeting was the presentation of a 50-year jewel to Hugh C. Githens, who became a Mason in 1901 in the old Lone Pine lodge near Oregon City. He transferred to Sellwood lodge and in 1908 to Heppner. Githens has lived in Berkeley, Calif. for several years and made the trip here to receive his jewel and visit with friends at the birthday meeting. The presentation was made by Past Master Frank S. Parker.

Among the many visitors were Thomas Lampkin, deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Oregon; Clarence Kopp; Enoch Carlson, past Grand Master and Grand Marshal, district 28; Frank Sloan, past district deputy Grand Master, district 16 when Heppner lodge was a part of that district; Elbert Bede, chairman of the resolutions committee, member of the code committee of the Grand Lodge and editor of the Oregon Mason. Visiting Masters were Herbert Ekstrom, Ione; and Marti Jackson of Condon.

The lodge was presented a birthday gift by W. M. Ekstrom of the Ione lodge. Musical entertainment was furnished by the Harmony Club. Local officers are Paul W. Jones, W. M.; Millard Nolan, S. W.; Sam G. McMillan, J. W.; R. B. Rice, Treasurer; Harold L. Becket, secretary; Claude Graham, S. D.; Oliver Creswick, J. D.; Marlon Hayden, S. S.; Douglas Ogletree, J. S.; J. Palmer Sorlien, chaplain and Kenneth Keeling, filler.

Vacation School On at St. Patrick's

Sisters Mary Euphemie and Ellen Marie of the Holy Name Order are conducting the annual vacation school for all Catholic children attending public schools. This is the fourth successive year for Sister Euphemie to teach in Heppner.

The school extends for two weeks and will conclude Sunday, June 22, with the administration of First Holy Communion. The candidates are: Michael Williams, Shan Applegate, Larry Monagle, Carol Marie Thalberg, Martha Doherty and Louise Pointer. The closing day will be observed also by a Communion breakfast honoring the First Communicants. A High Mass will be sung by the children under the direction of Sister Euphemie. This Mass will be at 9 a. m. There will be no services in Ione on this Sunday.

OLA L. JONES ELECTED TO NATIONAL ANGUS ASS'N.

Ola L. Jones of Heppner, Oregon, has been elected to membership in the American Aberdeen-Angus Breeders' Association at Chicago, announces Secretary Frank Richards. Mr. Jones was one of the four purebred Aberdeen-Angus breeders elected from Oregon during the past month to membership in the organization.

CARS MEET

Cars belonging to Jack Yeager and Jack McLemis, both of Heppner were involved in an accident at Main and Willow streets Monday evening. Only nominal damage was suffered by both cars and there were no injuries.

VOTERS TO DECIDE ON SEWER ISSUE TUESDAY

APPROVAL OF \$300,000 BOND ISSUE WILL START CONSTRUCTION

Next Tuesday, June 24 between the hours of 8 a. m. and 5 p. m. Heppner voters will go to the polls to make known whether they want a sewer system and sewage disposal plant for the city.

Official title of the special election ballot which voters will use states, "Charter amendment submitted to the voters by the council. Shall the charter of the city of Heppner, Oregon, be amended by adding thereto arti-

cle (to be numbered if passed) authorizing the council to construct a complete sewer system and treatment and disposal facilities for said city, and the issuance of \$300,000 bonds to defray the cost thereof, authorizing the making of charges for the use of the system and a tax levy to pay said bonds."

Members of the city council have spent more than six months making arrangements for the coming election, ascertaining the method of paying for the project, and through engineer's estimates, determining the estimated cost of the system. Last Friday's town meeting was called for the purpose of explaining the entire project to the people.

Town Meeting Attracts Many, Plan Explained

Nearly 60 persons were present at the town meeting held last Friday evening at the high school gymnasium to hear mayor J. O. Turner, members of the city council and sanitary engineers explain the Heppner sewer project.

Mayor Turner explained the plan and Lloyd Clark of Clark and Groff, Salem engineers who prepared the detailed specifications of the collection system and disposal plant, answered technical questions regarding the system. Harold Merriman, Pendleton, who is with the state sanitary authority emphasized the need for the system and showed a colored motion picture depicting the operation of disposal plants and how they eliminate stream pollution.

Turner explained that Heppner was just one of many cities in the state now facing similar problems. Most towns and cities of any size are being required to install disposal facilities. The speakers pointed out that the proposed system is designated to provide service for every home and business house in Heppner, that a connection will be run to the property line in every case.

600 Cattle Head For Reserve Range

The Ray and Walter Wright and the Victor Lovgren cattle were bunched last weekend for a three-day cattle drive to the mountain reserve from the Rhea creek area. More than 600 head of cows and calves make up the herd.

The herd was well attended by young cowhands—both boys and girls. Ned Clark, Dean Lovgren and Allen Merritt were outnumbered by the girls helping. They were Donna Lovgren, Patsy and Janet Wright, Patsy Merritt and Sally Palmer.

INJURED IN FALL

Mrs. Maggie Hunt, 80, was hospitalized with a broken left hip Friday morning as a result of a fall on N. Chase street. Mrs. Hunt was making a social call on Mrs. Manuel Easter and in stepping from the roadway into the yard missed her footing and fell. She was taken to Pioneer Memorial hospital by ambulance for emergency treatment and was transferred to St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton on Saturday where further treatment will be given her.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Warren (Claudine Drake) of Corvallis are the parents of a 6 lb. 10 oz. boy born June 10. He has been named Matthew Allen.

Junior Rifle Club Organized Here

A new National Rifle Association junior rifle club is now being sponsored by the B. O. W. Junior Sportsmen's club. There are already 38 members.

Officers of the new organization are Jim Hayes, president; Peter Slocum, vice-president; Lyle Jensen, exec. officer; Wayne Soward, secretary; Skip Ruhl, treasurer.

An instructional meeting has been set for Thursday, June 26 at the Legion hall at 7:30. A special film has been obtained for the instruction. The group is also planning the construction of an outdoor rifle range.

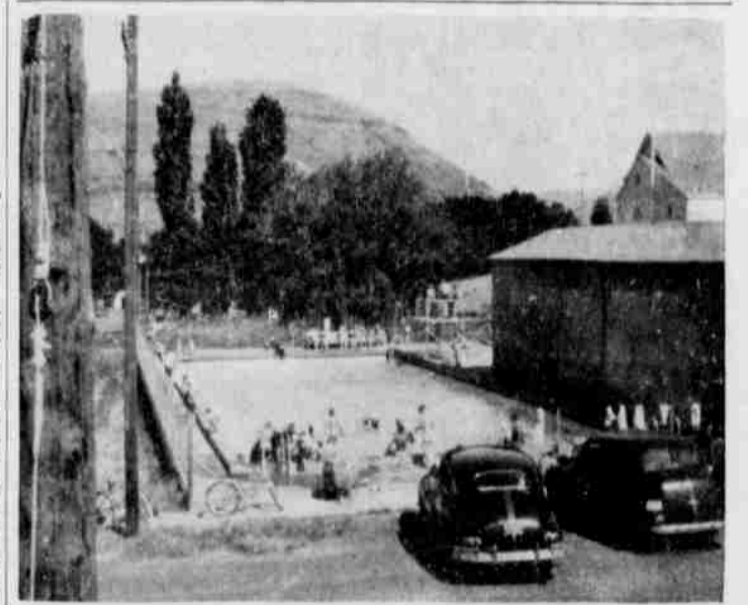
Who Can Vote

City attorney Jos. J. Nys told the Gazette Times this week that any person who has lived in Oregon for six months and is a bona-fide resident of Heppner is eligible to vote in the special election. Ownership of property is not a requisite to voting. Nys pointed out that registration is necessary but that anyone can vote who has registered at the county clerk's office prior to election day.

The polls at the city hall will be open from 8 a. m. to 5 p. m. and members of the council expressed hope that a heavy vote would be cast so that a definite cross section of public opinion can be obtained.

If the project is given voter approval the council plans to immediately advertise the bond sale and then call for contractor's bids in the hope that the work can be completed by winter of early spring.

The special election is the culmination of more than four years of discussing and planning and attempts by the council and interested citizens to get the sewer proposal presented to the voters. The issue has never before reached the people at an election.



SUMMER'S HERE—As evidenced by the number of Heppner children using the city pool shortly after its opening last Friday. With warmer weather in the offing, the pool is expected to get plenty of use for the next few months. Bob Deter is lifeguard. (GT Photo)

MRS. STEPHEN THOMPSON GETS SCHOOL POST; BOARDMAN OKs BONDS

Voters of Heppner school district number one Monday re-elected Jos. J. Nys for another three year term to the Rural school board from district IV and also chose Mrs. Stephen Thompson as a director on the board of district one. She replaces Barton Clark who retires July 1 as chairman of the board.

A heavy voter response was noted by election officials who counted a total of 93 votes cast during the one-hour school meeting and election. Balloting gave Nys, who was unopposed, 84 votes. For the other position Mrs. Thompson received 74, Barton Clark 16 and Paul Jones 3 votes. L. E. Dick Jr. will be new chairman of the board for next year and Glen Parsons is the third member.

Boardman Approves Bonds

At another school election also held on Monday voters in the Boardman school district OK'd the issuance of \$78,000 in bonds to cover the cost of constructing a new gymnasium at the Boardman school. The vote was 62 yes to 27 no. The new unit will include a standard size gym floor, stage and locker rooms. Members of the school board expressed the hope the new unit could be completed for use this winter.

Heppner Stores Plan Three-Day Holiday Closing

The merchants committee of the chamber of commerce recommended Monday that business houses in Heppner close on Saturday, July 5 to give store owners a full three-day holiday.

Harvey Wilhite, committee chairman, stated that a check showed most stores were in favor of the closing. There is no Fourth of July celebration planned here and it was not felt that the closure would cause much inconvenience to shoppers.

As a result, most stores will be closed July 4, 5 and 6.

Adventist Church Moved Last Week

Two days last week saw the complete removal of the metal building on north Main street which has housed the Seventh-Day Adventist church for the past two years. The building was dismantled and will be re-erected later near the new building built by the church adjoining Water street.

The new church building is not entirely completed but it will be used for services while being finished.

W. C. Collins, owner of the lot upon which the dismantled building stood, stated this week he is making plans for a new permanent building on the site to be erected some time in the near future.

FORMATION OF IONE RURAL FIRE DISTRICT TO BE DECIDED BY BALLOT

The county court has ordered a special election to be held Saturday, June 28 to decide on the formation of an Ione rural fire protection district and the election of five directors to handle affairs of such a district.

The formation of such a district has been talked in the area for nearly two years but it was only recently that petitions were presented to the court asking for its establishment.

The proposed district will cover a considerable area surrounding Ione. It will extend from the Gilliam county line east to a point short distance north and east of Lexington. Total north and south depth of the district is approximately 23 miles. A complete description of the area included

Two Ione Stores Are Burglarized

Two Ione grocery stores, Bristows and Swanson's, were broken into some time Monday night and burglars obtained around \$200 in cash and an unknown amount of merchandise.

State policeman William Labhart reported entry into Bristows' grocery was made through a window into the rest room and an inner door removed to gain entrance to the store. An unknown amount of merchandise was taken. At Swanson's the burglars entered through a back door and in addition to helping themselves to a small amount of merchandise opened the safe and took around \$200 in cash. Labhart reported the safe was closed but not locked.

The actual amount of merchandise stolen will be hard to ascertain, it was reported, as apparently the intruders took only one or two of any item, making it nearly impossible to check accurately on the loss.

Do definite clues to the identity of the burglars has yet been uncovered by police.

Flag Day Service Held By Elks Lodge

Flag Day was observed Sunday afternoon at the B. P. O. Elks with special ceremonies conducted by the lodge officers. LaVerne Van Marter, Jr., chaplain, gave the history of the flag. J. O. Turner, speaker of the afternoon, told of the significance and meaning of the flag and the respect due the flag as the emblem of our country. Mr. Turner elaborated on the part which the flag has played in the various wars in which the United States has participated since the flag was first made and on the correct usage of the flag.

Following the address, the officers erected a beautiful large liberty bell in red, white and blue. Officers participating in this included Tom Wilson, exalted ruler; Jack Van Winkle, esteemed leading knight; Alton Yarnell, acting esteemed loyal knight (for James Farley); Milton Morgan, esteemed lecturing knight; Conley Lanham, esquire and LaVerne Van Marter, chaplain. Mrs. C. C. Carmichael played the piano accompaniment for this as well as the closing song, "America".

MODEL CLUB TO MEET

The next meeting of the newly formed Model club will be held Saturday evening at Andresen's Sporting Goods. Several members attended last week's meeting and many parents have expressed an interest in aiding the members in model construction.