

Heppner Gazette Times

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Wednesday Storm Knocks Out Power, Downs Trees

A "quiekie" storm that hit the lone, Lexington, Heppner area late Wednesday afternoon brought the heaviest winds of the winter and caused considerable damage to power lines, trees and roofs. It lasted only a short while before moving on into Umatilla county, but brought gusts registering up to 60 miles per hour.

Power lines took the worst beating, according to Pacific Power and Light manager, J. R. Huffman, who reported several of the company's poles and lines blown down. Lights in the entire area flickered off and on dozens of times when wires were wrapped by the high winds.

The only known serious casualty of the blow was Miss Leta Humphreys, owner of Humphreys Drug company, who suffered a dislocated shoulder when she fell in the store during one of the power outages. She was taken to Pioneer Memorial hospital in the county ambulance where she was treated and released.

There were several reports of trees being blown down both in Heppner and lone and the Ellis Gross home at 412 Jones street probably suffered the worst when a big one fell across the front corner of the building. There were two large trees blown over in front of the Bristow grocery in lone and one on the Heppner school grounds. Another casualty of the wind was the Lexington fire bell which came down under the gusts.

Pacific Power and Light reported two poles blew down near the Cutsforth ranch north of Lexington and a transformer knocked out at the lone substation which threw lone on single phase for nearly three hours before the crews could remedy the trouble. It was also reported that several lines in Umatilla county were downed, among them the river crossing at Echo and the main line from Pendleton to Pilot Rock was out for some time.

It is known that the wind hit at least 60 miles an hour, for the wind recorder at the John Proudfoot ranch near lone recorded that high before it blew down, taking an REA power line with it.

Though it seemed the rain was extremely heavy during the storm, Leonard Gilliam, Heppner recorder reported only .06 inch fell. This however, brought the precipitation for December to 1.28 inches.

There were a few other reports of telephone lead lines being broken by limbs, and several buildings lost shingles and roofing paper.

Much to the surprise of most people, Heppner's recently installed Christmas street decorations withstood the blow, only a small amount of tinsel being lost. Last year, it all blew away before it had been up more than two days.

Income Tax Aid For Farmers to Be Available in January

The director of internal revenue announced this week that its agents will be in the Morrow and Gilliam county areas early in January to assist farmers in filling out their declaration of estimated tax forms 1040ES, which must be filed by January 15, or the preparation of their calendar year income tax returns, which must be filed on or before February 1, 1954, if no estimated return is filed.

The agents will be in the courthouse in Heppner all day January 5, and will also be at the Gilliam county bank in Arlington, January 6 and at the courthouse in Condon January 7.

The filing dates above apply to farmers only and the agents will return later to assist other taxpayers.

Two Runaway Girls Picked Up Here

Two runaway girls, both 15 years old, were picked up in Heppner about 1:30 a. m. Tuesday by sheriff C. J. D. Bauman who noticed the girls while he was on his way home, and stopped to investigate.

Questioning disclosed that both girls had run away from the Louise home in Portland. They had hitch-hiked to Heppner and were starting out on the Franklin hill road for Pendleton when they were seen by the sheriff.

The two were kept here all night and were picked up later Tuesday by a matron from the home and returned to Portland.



TOP COUNTY JELLYMAKER, Miss Jean Marie Graham, is shown examining the contents of her prize package which she just received for being the top 4-H club jellymaker at last fall's Morrow county fair. Her prize, given by General Foods Corporation, comprised a complete set of jelly making equipment, which she is shown unpacking at a 4-H club meeting last Saturday. (GT Photo)

SANTA TO VISIT HEPPNER CHILDREN SATURDAY AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 19

Santa's coming to town! Arrangements were completed this week for a visit to Heppner by Santa Claus on Saturday, Dec. 19. W. C. Rosewall, "middleman" between the North Pole and the chamber of commerce, and chairman of the merchants committee, announced Wednesday.

Santa's visit will be a part of a big day for Morrow county kids, for in addition to a chance to see and talk to him, they will be treated to a free show at the Star Theater and candy and treats supplied by the Elks club.

Fire Department Officers Reelected, Training Course Set

Members of the Heppner fire department Tuesday night reelected C. A. Ruggles chief and Cornett Green, assistant chief and authorized the appointment of two captains for the department positions which have not previously been filled. The two appointed by chief Ruggles were Everett Keithley and Robert Penland.

The department also voted to start on a concentrated schooling program in fire pump and fire fighting procedure which is being offered through the state department of vocational education and will be taught by Louis M. Colcord of Umatilla. The training will be given one night a month and will start in January.

Camp Fire Girls Hold Ceremonial

Thirty-two Camp Fire Girls and Blue Birds participated in a ceremonial at the Episcopal church December 3. This ceremonial had a dual purpose.

The first part was devoted to a Fly-Up ceremony, at which time the Wa can te ka Camp Fire Girls tied the Camp Fire ties for the Lovely Blue Birds. This symbolized their fly-up work from the rank of Blue Bird to that of Camp Fire Girls.

Mrs. James Thomson assisted by Mrs. Paul Jones presented certificates to 17 Blue Birds: Bonnie Jo Bright, Barbara Dobbie, Ronny Fullerton, Sheryl Harris, Sandra Jones, Sharon Keithley, Doris Morris, Francine Moyer, Nancy Kay Moyer, Julia Pfeiffer, Judy Parsons, Mary Kay Slocum, Janet Thompson, Bernice Thomson, Mary Evelyn Tucker, Shirley Van Winkle and Rogena Wagner.

Following this ceremony the Camp Fire Girls held a ceremony in which eleven girls were advanced from Trail Seekers to Wood Gatherers rank. Flag bearers were Celia Boulden and Sharon Case, who had previously completed Trail Seekers rank.

Bonnie Hannan, Sharon LaVelle, and Carol Anderson were the candle lighters.

Mrs. C. Erwin Anderson, assisted by Mrs. Dick Wilkinson, presented membership pins, Trail Seekers charms and certificates to Carol K. Anderson, Connie Anderson, Wilma Bothwell, Judy Cochell, Jeanne Collins, Bonnie Hannan, Nancy Harshman, Kay Keithley, Sharon LaVelle, Florence Morris, and Brenda Townsend.

Each girl received five purple beads, symbolizing the successful completion of Trail Seeker rank.

Two girls have just joined Camp Fire and are working on their first rank. These are Rose Ann Ayers and Kay Sayers.

Mrs. Leslie Grant was musician and Mrs. Earl Soward was speaker.

Refreshments were served by the mothers to all Camp Fire Girls and their guests.

School Board Gets Some Figures on Site Land Costs

The school board at its regular monthly meeting Monday night heard lots of figures on excavation, filling, construction costs etc., on the various school sites proposed for consideration for a new grade school, but complete figures are not yet available to give a full story for comparison purposes. Many of the figures had been prepared by Stewart Tufft, of the firm of Freeman, Hayship and Tufft, Portland architects.

Only tentative plans were presented in the case of the presently owned corner property, the George-Dick site and the hospital hill area, but in every case it was shown that it would either be necessary to make heavy land levelling cuts or extensive fills to be able to construct a building and allow any reasonable amount of playground space.

The purchase prices of all but one piece of property were presented at the meeting, the only section on which there has been no price established is on the Tum-A-Lum Lumber company property, a part of one of the proposed sites.

Cost prices, for purchase only and not including any building removal or levelling costs are: George-Dick, \$33,500; Cox-Aderson, \$20,500; hospital hill site, \$500 per acre with 20 acres or less being under consideration; Tum-A-Lum and city park site, \$13,000 plus current lease purchase cost for the city park section only. No figures were available as yet from Tum-A-Lum Lumber.

The Jay Cees and Jay Ceesettes, who hold the lease on the civic center building located on the city park, which they are now using to house the kindergarten sponsored by the group, indicated by letter, both to the school board and the city council, that they would give up their lease at no cost if a vacated room in the present school building, after the construction of a new school, would be made available for the kindergarten classes.

If no room were available they would ask \$3,946.27 for their lease, which Jay Cee president Phil Blakney said was the actual cost of materials used to repair the present building. The organization has done considerable work on the building in the past three years.

It was pointed out by Tufft that before any building could be built on any of the three sites he has had an opportunity to check—the presently owned land, the George-Dick and the hospital hill—a considerable amount of cutting and filling will be necessary. Even the presently owned property will require heavy filling to give any playground area. The other two locations have not yet been studied, he indicated.

No decision was made by the board and indications were that additional figures would be obtained as rapidly as possible. The board has, however, already called for an election on the presently owned site, to be used in conjunction with all or part of George-Dick land though the date has not been set.

Other business transacted at the meeting included the awarding of a bid to Fullerton Chevrolet company for the purchase of a new Chevrolet Carryall to be used as a school bus to replace the present station wagon. Fullerton's bid was \$2,380.47, less \$1,000 trade-in for the present vehicle.

The Union Oil company was granted the bid to supply fuel oil to the school for the current school year.

Members of all Masonic organizations and families are invited to attend. It is the policy of the Commandary to rotate its observances of Christmas and Easter among the various towns of the jurisdiction, and the Easter service is scheduled for Heppner in 1954.

Blinker Light Fund Gets More Donations

Additional donations were received this week by the chamber of commerce toward the purchase of two school cross walk blinker signs, it was announced at the Monday noon chamber meeting.

The Scroptimist club advised the group that it would add \$30 to the fund and the Elks last week voted \$25 toward the fund. The Heppner Lumber company had previously announced that it would donate the cost of one of the lights.

Two of them have been ordered and will be installed as soon as possible.

Lexington Man Reports for Service

Norman Henry Ruhl, 23 Lexington, has been called up by the Tri-county selective service board for 24 months military service.

Ruhl will report to board headquarters today and is scheduled to be inducted into the army Friday at the Portland induction station. He will go direct to Fort Ord, Calif. for basic training.

Proposal Made to Install Street Signs, Renumber Heppner Houses

Citizenship Is Given to Three Persons Thursday

In an impressive ceremony this morning in the circuit courtroom of the Morrow county courthouse, three persons received their citizenship papers as new American citizens. They were the Rev. Alfred Shirley, his wife, Edith Annie Shirley and Patrick Thomas Lee.

The Naturalization proceedings opened with the presentation of the colors by a color guard from the Heppner American Legion post, and was followed by an address on citizenship delivered by Rev. Francis McCormack, himself a naturalized citizen told of the great part many naturalized citizens have played in the history of this country. He impressed upon the new citizens, and the many visitors in the courtroom, the need for loyalty—an active loyalty that takes a part in the life of America.

Bradley Fancher gave the address of welcome and stressed that America offers freedom, and one of the greatest is the freedom to join and the freedom to leave. He said America never forces a person to become a citizen.

The oath of citizenship was given by Mrs. Fred Parrish, deputy county clerk. Naturalization examiner Knute O. Shaffer presented the candidates to circuit judge William W. Wells. Rev. and Mrs. Shirley came to America from Great Britain in 1914 and they have four children, three of whom were born in this country. He is a pastor at lone. Mr. Lee is a native of Ireland, having come to this country in 1929. All were presented American flags by Fancher as a part of his welcome to them.

The invocation and benediction were given by Rev. Lester Boulden.

Former Lex Man Dies at Pendleton

Thurman Henry (Bob) Mortamer, 56, died Friday in St. Anthony's hospital in Pendleton where he had been confined for some time. Funeral services were held Tuesday at the Burns Mortuary Chapel in Pendleton with Rev. Eric Robathan officiating. Mr. Mortamer had lived in Lexington for several years, having worked on the Mrs. Elsie Beach ranch.

Mr. Mortamer was born in Umatilla county and had lived most of his life there and in Morrow county. He is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Elva Stockland, Stockton, Calif., a brother, Giles Mortamer, Walla Walla; a sister-in-law, Ann Mortamer, Pendleton; a niece, Mrs. Marie Machau, Pendleton; and nephews, Shirley Hevel, Pendleton; George and Erwin Mortamer, both of Dayton, Wash., and Herman Mortamer, Pendleton.

New Phone Books Ready For Delivery

Mail bags will be bulging with more than Christmas presents during the next few days, as better than 12,000 new telephone directories for Pendleton and vicinity go out to subscribers in this area.

This year's edition, distinguished by a gray cover with a "Keep Oregon Green" tree on the back, is six full pages of names, rather than the preceding issue.

On top of that, the total printing of 17,000 copies needed for use throughout the year contains 3,672,000 pages—a gain of 192,000 pages over last year's edition.

Better than 9,000 pounds of paper were used in getting out the directory, which telephone manager D. A. Short said is the first ever produced for this area on a rotary offset press. The equipment used by the Metropolitan Printing Company of Portland to do the job is the only press of its kind in use west of Denver for printing telephone directories.

Beyond the many new numbers, due to normal changes and growth between books, Short called particular attention to the complete number change in Echo, which is effective with this directory.

As a result of recent alterations to the Echo dial system, all subscribers there have been given numbers having a FRANKLIN prefix, followed by five numerals, Short explained.

In light of these and other changes and additions, telephone users are advised to check the new directory for current listings before making calls.

Heppner Community Chest Funds Still Far From Goal

Heppner's Community Chest drive was dragging its feet this week, treasurer Robert Ferrell's figures showed, as only \$444.30 of a quota of \$953 has been received. There are, however, five areas still to be heard from and this is expected to materially increase the total.

The county-wide quota of \$1906 still has a long way to go too, though several communities have not yet started their local campaigns. To date only \$510.30 has been received.

Heppner drive chairman George Warner, asked this week that any person who has not been solicited and desires to give a donation, may leave it at the Gazette Times office. A receipt will be given and it will be credited to the proper area.

The Community Chest quota this year is only about half of what has been asked in past years and it was hoped to conclude the local campaign within one week.

Livestock Meeting Opens Here Friday

A full and varied program that is designed to interest a wide group is ready for the fifth annual meeting of the Morrow County Livestock Association which will open Friday afternoon in Heppner.

A special demonstration and several committee reports open the program at 1 p. m. Friday at the fair pavilion and the Saturday program will start at 9:30 a. m. in the Elks lodge room. Committee reports and a special film by the Union Pacific railroad will fill the morning session and the afternoon meetings with other committee reports, talks by livestock marketing specialists and election of officers. In the evening the meeting will move to the Legion hall for a social hour at 5:30 which will be followed by a banquet at 6:30 and end with a popular "cowboy shuffle" dance.

Two county award winners, Stephen Thompson, county cattleman of the year, and Newt O'Hara, county grassman of the year will be presented at the dinner, and Dr. Fred McKenzie, head of the animal husbandry department at O. S. C. will tell of Australia's agriculture. Dr. McKenzie has just returned from a year in that country on a Fulbright scholarship to the University of Australia.

Local officers are expecting a big crowd for the two-day meeting.

Good Well Brought In In Eightmile Area

A. P. DeRosia and Son, local well drillers, this week completed drilling an eight-inch well on the Charles Carlson ranch at Eightmile which tested at 80 gallons per minute. The well is 327 feet deep.

The well was located by E. M. Hilden of Arlington by the use of an electric water locating machine which indicates the depth of the flow.

POST OFFICE OPEN LONGER HOURS, REGULATIONS GIVEN FOR MAILING

Heppner postmaster James Driscoll today announced longer Saturday business hours for the post office and also made several suggestions which if followed by the public will speed Christmas mail delivery and materially aid postal crews in handling a heavy rush of holiday letters and parcels.

For the next two Saturdays, Dec. 12 and 19, the post office will remain open from 8 a. m. until 6 p. m. rather than observing the usual noon closing hour. The department asks the cooperation of patrons on the following points which will aid them in making speedy distribution of mail.

Do not conduct your postal business via small children. Do not send other persons for your mail unless they have the combination to your lock box and can open it.

Use only strong cardboard or fiberboard boxes for shipping merchandise. Weak and worn cartons cannot be accepted. Securely tie all boxes and parcels, do not depend upon paper tape as it too often breaks under the weight of other parcels.

Present your parcels for mailing early in the day—this will help in dispatching and save the mailer confusion.

If you have more than just a card or two to mail, keep the three other information.

Jay Cees Offer Labor If City Will Buy Signs

The Heppner Jay Cees, through its president Phil Blakney, Monday night asked the cooperation of the city council in a campaign to properly designate Heppner streets and assign house numbers to all buildings in the city.

The Jay Cees offered to install all the street signs if the city would buy them.

The council expressed its tentative approval of the plan and several of the members said they felt there was a definite need for such a campaign, as a big majority of the city's streets are now unmarked, as are many houses and business buildings.

During a discussion of the proposal, the Jay Cees offered to make a survey of the number of street signs that would be necessary to adequately mark all intersections after the council expressed a desire to know about how many signs would be necessary. Under the Jay Cee plan the signs, probably bright metal ones with enameled letters, would be put up by the members during their spare time, as part of a club project.

It was felt that most residents would be willing to buy and install their own house numbers, when a definite plan of establishing the numbering was set up, and this would also be a part of the overall project. The council also discussed the need for renaming a few streets which now carry identical names with others, though they are in different parts of town. In this line, it was pointed out that there are two Center and two Willow streets, though they are in no way connected.

Many Heppner houses now have street numbers, but as far as could be ascertained, there is no particular rhyme or reason to the method by which they were assigned. Many houses, though do not have any designation which makes it extremely hard for strangers to find a given location.

County Republicans Hear Mrs. Gerlinger

Over 15 local members of the county Republican committee met Wednesday noon at O'Donnell's cafe with Mrs. George T. Gerlinger, Portland, a member of the state Republican women's committee.

Mrs. Gerlinger told of the changes in political parties during recent years, especially in the eyes of young people. She also spoke briefly about the coronation ceremony which she witnesses last summer.

Becket Wins Election With Write-in Vote

A write-in candidate, Harold Becket, won Tuesday's special election to name a director of the Heppner cemetery maintenance district. He defeated Garnet Barratt, the only person who had filed for the position, by a vote of 51 to 22.

Becket will serve for a three-year term along with Mrs. Ora Evans and Paul W. Jones.

