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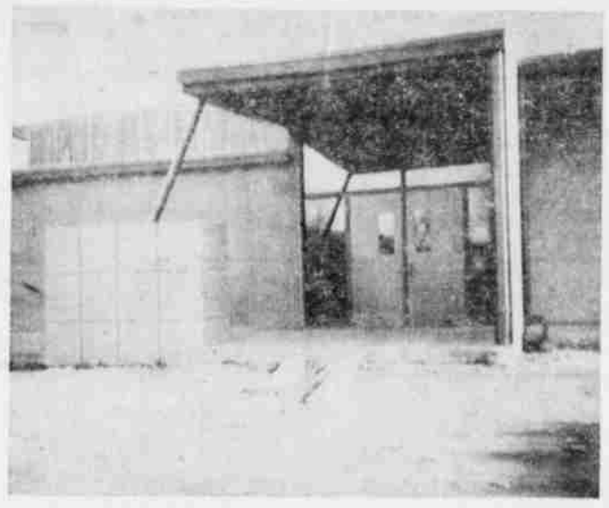
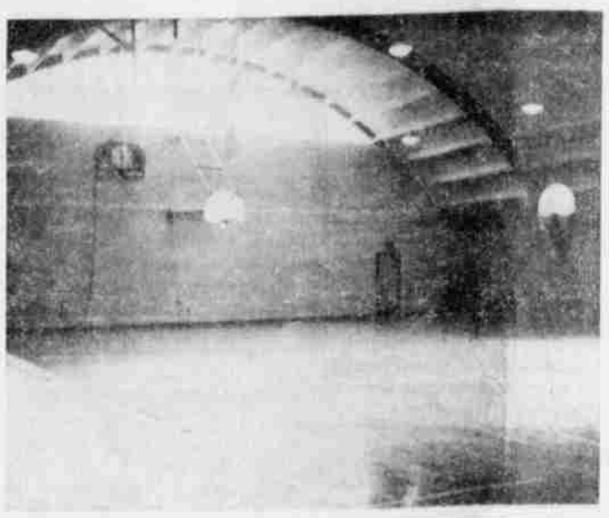
Dedication And Open House Brings Many To Visit Newly Completed Ione School Building





OUTSTANDING features of Ione's new gymnasium-cafetorium building are shown in adjacent photographs. Far left is the modernistic front entrance to the building which is located immediately behind the other school building. Center is the regulation size domed gymnasium which has folding type bleacher seats along the sides, and right, the large modern shop section of the building showing some of the new equipment and work benches which have been made by the students. Many visitors from the county and neighboring areas attended Tuesday's dedication of the building.
(GT Photos)

Heppner Gazette Times

Copies 10 cents | Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, January 14, 1954 | 70th Year, Number 44

Tum-A-Lum Receives Consideration As New School Location

Straw Vote Shows Cason Area Back in Running for Consideration

Heppner's school board, assisted by nearly 30 interested visitors, Tuesday night dug deeper into the problems of choosing a site for a new grade school, and though no definite decision was reached as to what location to place before the people at a special election, the members did obtain further information on costs and some indication of what the public's wishes might be.

At last week's regular meeting the board asked for appraiser's figures on property included in the Tum-A-Lum site, and though they had one set of such figures Tuesday, some members felt the figures were high and asked that another appraiser be obtained in an attempt to establish more definite possible costs. The one set of figures presented on the Tum-A-Lum Lumber company property set the value at $25,-917.04. This was far under the price the company set, $42,000, but the board still felt that the appraisal was high and asked for another set of figures. The proposed plan for the use of the Tum-A-Lum property would include also all of the city-owned land adjacent, and a part of the Bisbee, Noble and Chaffee lots on the opposite side of Willow creek. The appraiser's figures on these three small pieces of property was on the basis of $500 per acre which would cost the school district about $400.

The appraiser also presented figures on the Cox-Anderson site, setting the value of the Anderson property at $12,000 (asking price $10,500) and the Cox property at $1,365. The asking price for the latter is $10,000.

Much discussion was held on the possibilities and hazards of the Tum-A-Lum location for a school with the main topic of dissention being the flood problem. The board was asked if it could control the construction of buildings along Willow creek above the site and if some way could be worked out to require property owners to clean out the trees and brush on the banks. The board pointed out that it had no control over any land except what it might own and that any zoning or brush control would be up to the city.

Excavation Costs Questioned

The board was questioned considerably about the figures published last week on the cost of moving rock and dirt on some of the other sites which have been considered previously, with some persons expressing the opinion that the figures were high. This was answered by Fred Huffman, an engineer with Freeman, Hayslip and Tufft, architects, who verified the quantity figures and also said that the estimated costs of 30 cents per yard for dirt and $8.00 per yard for rock removal were, if anything, slightly low compared with recent contracts with which he has been connected. He said the exact percentage of dirt and rock could not be determined except by test drilling, and that such work was expensive.

Straw Vote Taken

A little indication of how the feeling of the general public has changed since the previous special election on the Cason property, which was defeated 207 to 101, came when the board asked all visitors at the meeting to express their opinion in a straw vote. They were asked to name their preference for a site in the light of the figures which were then available. The tally of the ballots showed the Cason site preferred by a majority of those present at the meeting with the Tum-A-Lum second. The vote was: Cason 14; Tum-A-Lum 10; Cox-Anderson 2; Prock-Devin 1. The Dick-George and the Hospital hill sites received no votes. The vote had no meaning except to give the board an indication of the feeling of those present.

There was also some discussion as to whether the Tum-A-Lum site was acceptable to the state for a complete elementary school which would mean the first six grades, or whether the state building consultant, who made the report on the sites, meant primary only. This would mean only the first three grades could be located there. Arrangements were made to have the state representative, and the architects here next week to meet with the board to discuss the questions further. The meeting will probably be held next Thursday night.

All board members expressed the opinion that they wanted to hold a site election as soon as possible, but that they wanted to make every effort to choose a location to put to a vote that would be approved by the people. They pointed out that another defeat at a site election would only delay building plans even longer.

Bloodmobile Due Here Again in February

A second visit of the Red Cross Bloodmobile to Heppner has been scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 9, it was announced today by officers of the Elks lodge, sponsors of the visit.

All arrangements have not yet been completed nor have all committees been named, but they will be announced in the near future. Last year's bloodmobile visit was very successful, the Red Cross receiving 121 pints of blood from local donors.

City Employees Settle Job Trouble

Two city employees, Harry Tamblyn, recorder and Mrs. Charles Gomillion, water department clerk, remained in their jobs this week after meeting with the council at a special meeting Monday night to iron out difficulties that had arisen over a division of duties.

At the regular council meeting a week ago the two had said that they were dissatisfied with the office methods currently in use at the city hall, but in the intervening week a satisfactory change in the system had been worked out.

The council had considered combining the two part-time jobs into one full time position, but, for the present at least, dropped the idea.

IMPORTANT LEGION MEETING CALLED

Forrest Thornburg, commander of the American Legion post 87 announced there will be a very important meeting Monday, Jan. 18 at the Heppner hall.

The post will show pictures of the Heppner-Echo Armistice day football game and Sgt. Shopshire of the Condon airbase will also show some Airforce pictures. All members are requested to be present.

Dimes Drive to Be Aided by Dance and Party

March of Dimes money began to roll in to drive treasurer Jack Marshall, this week when he reported that mail returns have brought in $543.80 up to Wednesday. The county drive is now in full swing and numerous special events planned during the rest of the month to help the drive gain an increase of 50 percent over last year's returns.

Among the special events scheduled for March of Dimes benefits are a dance at the Heppner fair pavilion on Jan. 23 and a benefit card party at Cecil on Saturday night.

The dance is to be sponsored jointly by the Jay Cees, Jay Ceettes, American Legion and its auxiliary, the square dance club and the Soroptimist club. There will be no admission charge, but donations will be accepted. It is planned to start at 8:30 and a cake auction is scheduled during the evening.

The Cecil card party is being given by Mrs. Fredrick McClintock and Mrs. E. R. Schaffer, the drive committeewomen in that area.

The Heppner Campfire Girls group under Mrs. Ervin Anderson are now making door to door solicitations here as their part of the over-all campaign. The girls are doing the work as they find time.

The heavy demand for Gamma Globulin, recently developed polio preventive serum, the use of which is to be widely expanded, is the reason for the 50 percent increase in funds the nation-wide March of Dimes drive hopes to raise this year. Gamma Globulin has been effective in combatting the disease, but its cost has prevented wider use during the past year.

1953 Births Exceed Deaths by More Than 5 to 1 Ratio

If the parents of all the babies born at Heppner's Pioneer Memorial hospital during 1953 had resided in Morrow county, the county would have shown a healthy increase in population during the year, according to the figures just compiled by the county registrar, Miss Lulu M. Hager. There were 228 births and 43 deaths recorded during the year, better than a five-to-one ratio.

A breakdown of the home addresses of the babies was not available, but the Heppner hospital serves a wide section of Grant, Wheeler, and Gilliam counties as well as Morrow and it is known that many of them will reside there.

Former Heppner Teacher Passes

Word was received early this week of the death at Rocky Mount, North Carolina, of B. J. Michaelson, a former Heppner teacher. He had been seriously ill in a San Diego, Calif. hospital for some time, and had been sent back to North Carolina just before Christmas. He died Jan. 8 in a veteran's hospital there.

Mr. Michaelson taught science in the Heppner high school last year, but illness prevented his return. He is survived by his wife Marie, and a son Lance. Funeral services were held on Jan. 10.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Anderson left Tuesday evening by train for Denver, Colorado. They expect to be gone about two weeks.

C of C Chairmen Are Named; Groups Hears Of Power Troubles

New Chamber of Commerce president Jeff Carter, Monday announced committee appointments for the new year and members heard Ed Collison, manager of Columbia Basin Electric Coop tell of the seriousness of the present troubles the Coop is having with its main power line feeding the area and what it was doing to remedy the trouble.

Committee chairmen named by Carter included program, Mary Van Stevens; merchants, Phil Blakney; highways, roads and streets, Dr. E. K. Schaffitz; membership and attendance, Leslie Grant; agriculture and resources, Newt O'Harra; public relations and publicity, Robert Penland; youth activities, Rev. Earl Soward; industrial and housing development, Ed Collison; recreation, wildlife, Orville Cutsforth; special activities, John Ernsdorff; legislative and government, Garnet Barratt; athletic field lighting, W. C. Rosewall; swimming pool improvements, Dr. L. D. Tibbles; budget, Robert Penland; safe driver committee, Jack Bedford.

Collison explained to the group about the recent line breaks that have occurred on the Heppner-Hermiston power line and told of the plan to strengthen the line to prevent reoccurance. He said the plan is to do the work at night when the load is light and the area will be served from the new PP&L substation at Fossil. The line must be put out of service while changes are being made.

CCC Wheat Loan Deadline Near

Morrow county wheat farmers are warned this week by Miss Cecelia Carty, acting office manager of the county Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation office (formerly called PMA) that January 31 is the deadline for filing applications for CCC wheat loans.

Miss Carthy said that the office has been buried with applications and she asks that anyone wishing to get loans bring in their warehouse receipts as soon as possible to give the office time to get the necessary forms prepared ahead of the deadline.

Public Meeting on Local Water Problems Set for Wednesday

A public meeting for the discussion of water problems in this area will be held at the court house Jan. 20 at 1:30 p. m. with W. W. Weatherford, chairman of the county conservation committee and Marvin Wightman, land use head in charge.

State representative Allen Tom met Monday with heads of local farm organizations to discuss the coming public hearing at Arlington Feb. 15 and to point out the need for representatives from this area to present a water use plan. The state water resources interim committee is attempting to determine the needs of the state in the matter of water resources control.

Farm organizations are expected to participate and the next Farm Bureau meeting, Jan. 26 at Ione will consider the problem.

FELLOWSHIP TO MEET

The Christian men's fellowship will be hosts next Monday evening to the men of the district for the bi-monthly meeting of the organization. William (Tom) Piper, pastor of The Dalles Christian church will be the speaker ofthe evening.

Aid Money Seen Assured For New Hospital Wing

A slight modification of present plans for the addition to the Heppner Pioneer Memorial hospital, resulted in tentative approval of the new bedroom wing and virtual assurance that the project will get $44,050 federal match money from Hill-Burton funds, county judge Garnet Barratt said Tuesday following a Monday discussion here with state and federal officials.

Larry Conway, regional architect of the Public Health Service in San Francisco, made the trip to Heppner to look over the plans and examine the present building. He was accompanied by George Shiffer, director of the hospital and facilities section of the state board of health; Jay Cole, state board of health engineer; and Walter Schmeer of the firm of Roald, Schmeer and Harrington, Portland architects who have prepared the plans. The group suggested some minor changes in the plans, which had recently been disapproved, which would qualify the hospital for the federal aid money.

Barratt said the changes were minor and were confined to the lower floor nursing home area, including the establishment of a health center on the lower floor which would include offices for the county health nurse. The approved plan will add 15 regular hospital beds on the upper floor and 10 beds in the lower nursing section. There will also be 4 additional roons which can be used in emergencies. This will give the hospital a total of 30 general hospital beds and 16 nursing home beds.

Early Start Seen

Barratt said it will take about 30 days for the architects to get plans and specifications prepared and approved and that the county hopes to be able to call for construction bids by March 1. Local money for the project comes from a special one year 5 mill tax levy voted a year ago.

Vestrymen Chosen At Church Meeting

All Saints Episcopal church held their annual parish business meeting Wednesday evening January 6 at the parish house.

Repairs to the church and the parish house were discussed and a five year plan was accepted by which the repairs and improvements would be made.

Reports were given by the auxiliary, altar guild, YPF, choir, vestry, church school and treasurer.

Alex Thompson, Howard Reed and Robert Penland were chosen as new vestrymen. The other vestrymen are Dr. A. D. McMurdo, senior warden; M. R. Wightman, junior warden; W. C. Rosewall; Frank Baker, Frank Davidson; David Hynd and W. E. Hughes.

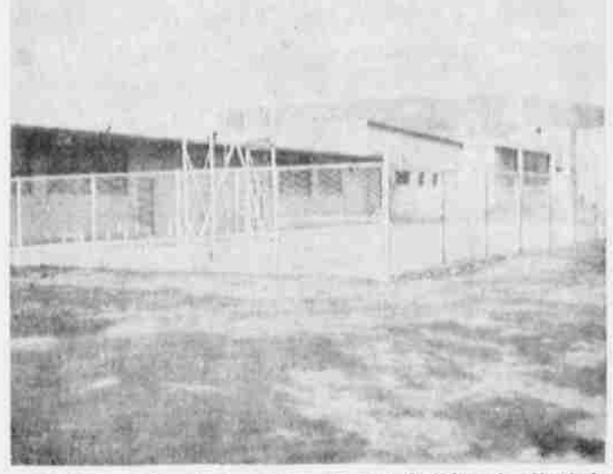
About 60 attended the potluck dinner which preceeded the business meeting.

WORD OF DEATH RECEIVED HERE

Word was received today of the death Wednesday at Ocean Lake, Oregon of Ray Oviatt. According to available information, funeral services will be held Friday at 2 p. m. at the Sheridan Funeral Home in Sheridan, Ore.

RHEA CREEK M. E. C. TO MEET

The Rhea Creek H. E. C. will meet January 21 at the grange hall with a pot luck lunch at noon, all members are urged to attend.



SWIMMING POOL which adjoins the new building is situated so that dressing rooms are available both to the pool and the gym sections. Heating and chlorinating equipment was installed when the pool was built.

Gymnasium-Cafetorium One of Most Modern

Well over 300 persons from all sections of Morrow county, in addition to visiting school officials from neighboring counties attended the formal dedication Tuesday evening of Ione's new $255,000 gymnasium-cafetorium building and viewed the modern facilities offered in the new school plant.

Main speaker on the program, which was held in the cafetorium of the building, was Edward Elliott, Portland, state representative of the Oregon Education Association who, using the letters of the name Ione as initials for the main points of his talk, pointed out the appreciations that should be expressed for such a modern plant. He emphasized the necessity and value of having proper facilities.

Ione school superintendent Chester L. Ward accepted on behalf of the school board, the challenge of putting the new building to its most complete use, and Garland Swanson gave the history of the services performed by the Ione Memorial Improvement association which supplied some of he funds with which to build the swimming pool that is included as a part of the new school plant.

Others on the program included Earl McKinney, chairman of the Ione school board and Leslie Grant, county superintendent

Following the main dedicatory program, the P-TA hospitality and refreshment committee served refreshments and visitors toured the new building, visiting the band room and practice rooms, the modern shop facilities, the gymnasium and the swimming pool. Students and instructors in shop, boys and girls physical education classes and band were on hand to show the visitors through the various departments. During the evening the band presented a concert.

Big Steelhead Caught Sunday in John Day

A Redmond, Oregon angler, John E. Parkey, Sunday caught the largest steelhead out of the John Day river that has ever been checked by state police and state game commission employees, state patrolman Bill Labhart reported this week. The whopper was 33½ inches long and weighed 12¼ pounds.

Labhart said the catch was made between Alder Creek and Service Creek and was hooked with eggs. Both eggs and daredevil lures are reported to be bringing good results on the river and fishing, both on the John Day and the Columbia has been fair during recent days.

The Columbia rived has produced larger steelheads than Parkey's, but as far as is known, his is the largest from the John Day. If there have been bigger ones caught, the game commission would like to have reports on them, Labhart said.

Many Attend First Vocational Ag Class

The first and organizational meeting of an adult vocational agriculture class in livestock diseases and sanitation was held Tuesday night at the Ag building at Heppner school. 32 persons were present.

The group set the fees at $4 for each person with a special rate of $2 each additional person in a family after the first. The attendance of women was also encouraged. The class is open to anyone over the age of 16 years and will be held every Tuesday at 7:30 through January and February.

N. C. Anderson will serve as instructor and there will be outside speakers called in later. Tuesday's meeting covered calving troubles and a film on Bangs disease was shown.

New Hospital Board Member Appointed

The county court this week appointed Mrs. Mervin Leonard of Lexington to the Morrow county hospital board to replace Mrs. Evelyn Smith of Boardman, who has moved out of the county. Mrs. Leonard's appointment is for a five-year term.

Other board members are P. W. Mahoney, chairman; Harry Duvall, Heppner; Garland Swanson, Ione; and John Krebs, Cecil.

PCA Annual Meet Set for Saturday

The Pendleton Production Credit Association is celebrating its 20th Anniversary this year, and the annual meeting of the association is being held at Pendleton, Saturday, January 16th, announced Ralph I. Thompson, Morrow county director and vice president of the association.

The association began its operations with a capital of $165,000 furnished by the federal government and this stock has now been retired in full and the association is fully owned by the members.

There are 18 farm families in Morrow county who have been members for the full 20 years the association has been in operation, and they will be honored at the Pendleton meeting.

The terms of Glen E. Storie of Umatilla county and Myron C. Hug of Union county on the board of directors will expire and an election will be held to fill these vacancies.

The meeting starts at 11:00 a. m., a banquet is scheduled at noon and a program in the afternoon.

A large delegation of Morrow county farmers and stockmen, who are members of the association plans to attend this meeting.

Social Security Representative Due

To help residents in this area obtain social security information and apply for benefits, a representative of the Social Security Administration will be at the city hall in Heppner on Thursday, Jan. 21, between the hours of 9:00 a. m. and noon.