

Heppner Gazette Times

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STATE WITHHOLDS SUPPORT MONEY FROM HEPPNER SCHOOL DISTRICT

Release Of Funds Dependent On Start Of Building Program

The Heppner school board received notice last Friday from the state board of education that it is withholding state basic school support funds from the district because it had not met state requirements in providing proper educational facilities in the Heppner schools. The funds would have been distributed on August 1.

The state money which last year amounted to over \$49,000, and which has been budgeted at \$50,500 for the 1954-55 school year, amounts to nearly one-fourth of the total budget for the district.

The notification came in a letter from Walter O. Shold, superintendent of elementary education, who said in part: "The recent plan of improvement received in our office represents a possible solution to the problems confronting the district but the plan has not had time to materialize; therefore, basic school support funds will be withheld pending further developments."

The plan referred to in Mr. Shold's letter is one recently developed by the board to build a new elementary building on the Prock-Devin property north of the present school building.

According to available information, if the district gets a plan of expansion developed and approved by the voters of the district within a reasonable length of time (estimated at about 8 months), it will not ultimately lose the state money that is now being withheld. Should, however, the district fail to get an acceptable plan underway during that period the state money would be lost completely to the district.

An election seeking approval of the Prock-Devin site is set for August 14, but it is doubtful that even should it receive voter approval, that will satisfy the state department, as the district already has one site approved (The Tum-A-Lum) though voters rejected a bond issue to build there. Apparently an approved bond issue and the start of actual construction on a new building is the requirement the district must meet before it can regain the state funds.

Board Meets Friday

The board met last Friday night in a special meeting with A. L. Beck, from the state department and Stewart Tufft, one of the district's architects, in an attempt to work out a building program for the Prock-Devin site that will be acceptable to the state and that might be approved by the people. Beck indicated that the sight would be usable if some additional land now belonging to Kemp Dick and W. O. George were included in the area, if all, or at least a portion of Hinton creek which flows through the plot, were culverted; the street sides of the land fenced; and arrangements made to close D street to through traffic during school hours, or some other method of controlling traffic were developed. Beck also said that a multipurpose room must be included in the new building so that youngsters would have their own covered recreational area and would not have to constantly cross the street to reach the present gymnasium.

Tufft has prepared rough drawings for a 12 room and multi-purpose room building for the site which would be built in two levels to take advantage of the natural slope of the ground. No definite cost figures on the site and building will be prepared until after the August 14 election as the board felt that it would be a useless expense until it was certain that the voters would approve the location. Tufft did indicate, however, that a two-level building could possibly be built somewhat cheaper than a building of similar size all on one level due to construction savings.

Fund Loss Could Hurt

The board at its Friday meeting did not go into a discussion of what action it might take should it ultimately lose the state basic school money. Members expressed the hope that the people will approve some plan of expansion

before the money is entirely lost to the district.

The district was warned by the state board, immediately following the recent bond election that was voted down, that if some immediate plan was not approved, the district could lose its state aid money. The decision to withhold it was made just prior to August 1, at which time a portion of the year's funds are distributed to the various districts in the state who qualify.

The withholding will not cause any immediate difficulty in the school's operation, it was pointed out, as the district has a fairly sizeable cash-on-hand fund. Should the money not be forthcoming within two or three months, however, the board could be forced to operate on a warrant basis. Actual loss of the money would necessitate either a special tax levy in the district to make up the lost funds or a drastic reduction in the school program which would probably mean the elimination of all bus transportation, hot lunch program and other functions.

Site Vote August 14

The board called attention to the next site election which will be held on August 14 and will seek voter approval of the Prock-Devin area and small portions of the Dick and George property as the location of the new building. The election will be held at the school from 4 to 9 o'clock.

No bond issue question will appear on the ballot, as the necessary amount has not been determined and it must be settled at a separate election.

Essenpreis Rites Held Here Tuesday

Funeral services for Mrs. Geneva Gorer Essenpreis, 45, were held Tuesday, August 3 at St. Patrick's church in Heppner. Rev. Francis McCormack officiated. Mrs. Essenpreis passed away July 30 at her home north of Linwood, Wash.

Mrs. Essenpreis was born in the Willamette valley but was reared in the Lexington vicinity where she attended school. She had not lived in this area for several years.

She is survived by her husband Ernest; two sisters, Mrs. Leo Cooney, Hillsboro; three brothers, Henry and Leo Gorer of Pendleton and Joe Gorer of Napa, Calif. Interment was in the Heppner Masonic cemetery.

MISSIONARY SPEAKS

Rev. A. Walker Hall, missionary to China and Cuba, spoke last Thursday evening at the Assembly of God church and told of more than 16 years of labor in those countries. He was accompanied by a son, Cecil, 12.

Rev. Walker also showed slides of the work. He stated that he with his family expect to go to Hawaii in September for a year of labor, and from there to China.



JACK C. FLUG, new county school superintendent, who took over his duties here Wednesday.

New County School Superintendent Takes Over Duties

Jack C. Flug, recently appointed county school superintendent, arrived in Heppner last weekend and took over his duties here August 1. He replaces Leslie Grant, who resigned to enter the insurance business in Arlington.

Flug, who comes here from Reedsport, Ore. where he served for 10 years as superintendent of schools and administrative principal, has been in the education field nearly all of his life. He came to Oregon from Watertown, S. Dak., where he had taught for 15 years. He is a graduate of St. Louis University, St. Louis, Mo., and has taken graduate work at the University of Minnesota, Eau Claire State Teachers College, Eau Claire, Wis., Northwestern University Minot State Teachers College, Minot N. Dak.; and the University of Oregon.

Mr. and Mrs. Flug have three daughters and four sons, three of whom are at home. Their three daughters are married, and they have one son who is in the Marines.

The house moved into the Van Schoeck house on Gale street.

One Pound, 14 1/2 Oz. Baby Dies Thursday, Lives Three Days

A one pound, 14 1/2 ounce boy, the smallest baby ever born at Pioneer Memorial hospital, died early Thursday morning. He was born Sunday to Mr. and Mrs. Carl Wilkerson of Hermiston.

The tiny baby, named Patrick Harley, was three months premature, and was given a fair chance for survival until Wednesday night when it appeared to be losing ground in his fight for life. The infant had been kept in an air lock in the hospital, but at the time of his death plans were being made to fly him to Doernbecher hospital in Portland where it would have been easier to care for him.

The survival chances for such a small baby are usually very slim, doctors said.

Mr. and Mrs. Easton Vold of Spokane were over night guests Friday at the Tom Wilson home.

Rural Fires, Street Closing, Animals Problems of City

Routine business took up most of the city council's time at the regular monthly meeting Monday night, as they heard a discussion of a possible street closure request, passed one ordinance governing the keeping of animals within the city limits, discussed the use of fire equipment for rural fires and OK'd the extermination of rats at the city dump.

Ed Dick, chairman of the local school board explained to the council the possible need for the closure of D street to traffic during school hours if a proposed school building plan on land adjacent to the street develops. No decision was taken until the building plan is definitely decided.

The council accepted the offer of Harold Dobyns of lone to exterminate the rats at the city dump which are beginning to bother residents near there. He will start immediately on the first poisoning and will continue the program on a regular basis. The dump has been posted, and residents are warned that the poisons used are dangerous to other animals too, and all dogs, cats, etc., should be kept away from the area.

Rural Fires Talked

The council discussed at length the use of Heppner's fire equipment in fighting rural fires. It was pointed out that such use has been prohibited in the past, not because of lack of desire on the part of the city to aid farmers, but because the city could be held liable should the equipment be needed in town at the same time it was in use in the country. It was also pointed out that the residents of Heppner support the fire department through taxes, which are not assessed against rural residents, and logically the fire equipment must be kept available for emergency within the city limits.

The city does answer fire calls to the Heppner Lumber company because of a mutual-aid agreement in which the mill will send men and equipment into town when needed, and frequently the department responds to calls just outside the city limits when the exact location is not certain.

The council suggests that if rural residents near here were interested in forming a rural fire protection district, it would be glad to contract with the district to provide proper fire protection, housing of equipment and necessary manpower. Such a move would have to be instigated by the out-of-town residents themselves, it was pointed out, but they would in effect, have their own fire department with equipment properly designed to do the most good in rural areas. Heppner's equipment is designed primarily for use within the city where there are water mains.

The council authorized a contract with Columbia Basin Electric coop to provide power in the city's upper wells, so that pumping could be done by electricity rather than by diesel power, as at present. Substantial savings are expected.

Ordinance No. 344 was approved by the group which prohibits the keeping of cattle, sheep, horses, poultry, rabbits or goats within the city limits without permit.

The council also agreed to investigate a request by Tunnison and Willson, local logging contractors, that they be allowed to install gasoline and diesel tanks and pumps on the city park property adjacent to buildings which they are now using as a shop.

Two Grass Fires Cause No Damage

Heppner firemen answered two alarms during the past week, both of them to extinguish grass fires which did no damage.

The first call from the Percy Cox residence in southeast Heppner last Thursday afternoon when sparks from a trash barrel ignited surrounding grass. Sunday afternoon they made a run to the Union Pacific depot to control a grass blaze burning along the tracks.



Princess Janet Howton of lone

Princess Janet's Dance To be Held at lone

lone's Princess Janet Howton will be the guest of honor Saturday night at the second of the series of Morrow county Fair and Rodeo dances to be held at the lone Legion hall. She is being sponsored by the Willows Grange and her dance is under its management.

The second of this year's royal court to be presented at a dance, 18 year old Princess Janet is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Howton, lone ranchers. The dark haired, hazel-eyed princess is a recent graduate of lone high school where she was named Salutatorian because of her high scholastic standing.

She was born in Spokane, Wash., coming here with her parents seven years ago. She is an accomplished horsewoman and places riding as her first choice for sports.

She also enjoys training horses and will appear in the rodeo on her own bay thoroughbred Major, which she broke herself. Her other hobbies include swimming and dancing and, as she puts it, "any sport."

For the past five years she has aided her father during harvest by driving truck.

Princess Janet's school activities were many and varied including serving four years as class treasurer and two years as student body treasurer; she was named Salutatorian and was active in dramatics. She also has a record of seven years in 4-H work with her major interests being fat beef, horsemanship, cooking and sewing.

As soon as the hustle and work and fun of the rodeo is over, Princess Janet will start packing to leave for Forest Grove, where she plans to enter Pacific University this fall.

Duke Warner and his orchestra will provide the music for Princess Janet's dance.

More Requests For Continuance of Ferry Received Here

The county court Wednesday received another petition giving the court the signers' moral support and expressing hope that some means could be found to keep Paterson ferry operating after completion of the new Umatilla bridge. The petitions bore the names of well over 100 persons, all of them residents of the state of Washington.

The court has been considering some means of possibly purchasing the ferry through the issuance of revenue bonds, but so far no workable plan has developed. The court recently received an option from the operators of the ferry, but were unable to accept it due to certain provisions which required the payment of \$3,000 to hold the option while the county made arrangements for the financing. The option was returned to the operators with recommended changes, but no word has yet been received from them.

The books are now being received from the printers and as fast as they can be addressed they will be sent to everyone on the regular mailing list, he said. Anyone who does not receive a book, and who wishes one, may obtain it at Anderson's office for the asking.

The names of judges for the various fair divisions were revealed today by Anderson who said that Joe Johnson, assistant professor of animal husbandry at OSC will judge 4-H and open class livestock and contests. Others include: L. J. Marks, Wheeler county agent, saddle horse show; E. M. Nelson, Wasco county agent, horticulture, crops, wool and poultry; Mrs. John B. Alexander, Pendleton, and Mrs. H. J. Campbell, La Grande, open class home economics; Mrs. Russell McKennon, Pendleton, 4-H and open class home economics; Mrs. Ken Tillefson, Hermiston, 4-H home economics.

Judges for the North Morrow county fair at Boardman will be announced later.

Fair Premium Lists Going in Mail; Judges Are Named

Premium lists for the Morrow county fair will be in the mail this weekend to all past exhibitors, N. C. Anderson county agent announced today.

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Final Approval Received For Hospital Contract

The county court received word early this week from the public health service that the recent contract with McCormack Construction company of Pendleton for the building of a new addition to Pioneer Memorial hospital, was acceptable to the service and that the contract has been signed.

The court has notified the contractor of the acceptance and said that Mr. McCormack indicated that his company will start immediately, probably today, on the excavation for the new wing.

Work is expected to proceed rapidly as the bid called for completion of the project within 100 working days.

McCormack won the contract with a low bid of \$100,792.

Henry Schwarz, 84, Long-Time Heppner Resident, Succumbs

Funeral services for Henry Schwarz, 84, a long-time resident of Heppner, were held Wednesday at the Heppner Methodist church with Rev. Lester Boulden officiating. He passed away August 2 following a long illness.

Mr. Schwarz was born in Wuttenburg, Germany, July 30, 1870 and settled first in Iowa on coming to America. After living in the Midwest for several years, he moved to the Willamette valley where he operated meat markets in Corvallis and Monroe. He came to Heppner in 1913 where he operated a butcher business, the Peoples Market, until 1929 except for a short period when he farmed in the Cottonwood area of Gilliam county. After retiring from the meat business, Mr. Schwarz worked for the county for about 12 years until health forced him to retire completely.

He is survived by his widow, Mimmie of Heppner; two sons, Leonard D. Heppner and William H. of The Dalles; one brother, Fred of Millaukie, Ore.; two sisters, Mrs. Anna Rotzheim and Mrs. Marie Baker both of Salem; and four grandsons.

Pallbearers were C. J. D. Bauman, Orve Rasmus, Frank Turner, J. O. Turner, R. B. Ferguson, and Charles Vaughn.

Interment was in the Heppner Masonic cemetery with Creswick and Seuell Mortuary in charge of arrangements.

'Hopper Control' Planned in County

With widespread grasshopper infestations being reported in southeastern Morrow county, ranchers took steps this week for a control program to protect range and crops as well as to destroy grasshoppers before egg laying time.

Ranchers in the Buttercreek area began negotiations with airplane operators for spraying application on several hundred acres which are infested. Bureau of Entomology and grasshopper control officials including the extension entomologist from Oregon State College, are expected to spend Thursday with county extension agent, N. C. Anderson, in making a preliminary survey and preparation for the spraying program. Arrangements are expected to be completed by Friday for application with Bill White, Pendleton, being low bidder for application at this time.

Aldrin, a relatively new chemical, which has proved very successful in grasshopper control work throughout the county will be applied. Applications consist of two ounces of Aldrin, applied in one gallon diesel per acre.

Anderson reported that kills continue over a period of from 10 days to 3 weeks from this chemical and that entire areas of range and bottom land need not be sprayed since migrating grasshoppers will be killed when they come in contact with sprayed areas. Ranchers in Balm Fork and Rhea Creek areas are expected to spray too, if a survey of its infestations warrant.

MOVE TO KENNEWICK

Mrs. Frank Baker left early this week for Kennewick, Wash., where she and Mr. Baker will make their home. He is employed on the Hanford project.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker have just completed the construction of a new home in Kennewick, and plan to rent their home on Center street.



BRIDGES AGAIN—This Pontiac owned and driven by I. H. Cornelison, Lexington, came out second best when it struck a wooden highway bridge about 5 miles below Heppner last Sunday afternoon. According to police, Cornelison said that he was blinded by the sun and could not see the bridge until he struck it. The car carried across the structure, taking parts of it along, and then stopped against the side of another car which was parked off the road awaiting an opportunity to turn around. The second car was owned by Ron Reed, and was driven by Charles Bailey. No one was injured. (GT Photo)