

County Plan To Buy Paterson Ferry Hits Snag

Plans for the county purchase of Paterson ferry which crosses the Columbia river between Irigun and Boardman in north Morrow county appear temporarily stymied, it was revealed by the county court Wednesday. The court received a letter from a bonding company which had been investigating the proposed plan, rejecting the county proposal offered several weeks ago.

The court had asked a bonding concern to investigate the proposal with an eye toward financing the purchase through the issuance of revenue bonds which would be retired from the profits of the ferry operation. The bonding company first tentatively approved the idea then later rejected it on the grounds that it would need profit and loss records for about two years after the new Umatilla bridge was completed and in use. According to reports of the present owners of the ferry, Frank Hogue and William Warner, the ferry has an excellent profit record during the past years of operation. Completion of the Umatilla bridge is expected to reduce business to some extent, but still leave a good profit margin, the owners stated.

The county became interested in the purchase of the ferry when it was revealed early this year that the bonding company which is financing the Umatilla bridge was trying to buy out Paterson ferry and discontinue it when the bridge is completed. Residents of north Morrow county and adjoining counties on the Washington side of the river petitioned the Morrow court to keep the ferry operating as a vital road link. The present owners have stated that they wish to sell and retire, but don't want to see the ferry operation discontinued as it would be if they were to sell to Umatilla county.

As a connecting link between the ferry, highway 30 and the interior of Morrow county, plans are now progressing for the construction of two new roads that it is expected would increase use of the ferry. One is a short five-mile connecting link between highways 730 and 30 which would give a direct connection to the ferry, the other is the planned connecting road between the Lexington-Hermiston highway and highway 30 along the bombing range. All right-of-way easements have been obtained and the court is currently planning construction schedules.

The county plan for purchase of the ferry, for which it holds an option at \$200,000, is to issue revenue bonds which would be repaid out of profits of the operation and which would not obligate the county for repayment.

Though the present proposal to sell the bonds through a broker appears improbable, other means of financing are being investigated.

Interest in keeping the ferry operating appears very high among residents of the county, the court reported, especially among those living along the river.

The court has expressed a desire to keep the ferry in operation, but has made it plain that it doesn't feel that the county should be obligated to any great extent to pay back the bonds from taxes. It is because of that that revenue bonds have been proposed. The new Umatilla bridge is being built in the same manner.

Street Decorations Brighten Heppner

Heppner streets took on a holiday look last weekend as a crew of workers hung bright tinsel and strings of colored lights across downtown streets.

The workers were members of the chamber of commerce and volunteer workers from the Heppner Lumber Company. The workers were also assisted by the loan of two lift trucks and operators by the Heppner mill.

The crew installed all the decorations Sunday afternoon and evening.

FARM BUREAU TO MEET

The Morrow county Farm Bureau will meet at the Willows grange hall in Jone at 8 p. m. on Tuesday, Dec. 7, it has been announced.

The Jone school band will provide a musical concert and reports of the state convention will be given.

Funeral Services Held Wednesday for Laura V. Scott, 90

Funeral services were held on Wednesday afternoon at the Lexington Christian church for Mrs. Laura V. Scott, 90, who passed away November 29 at the Hamby Nursing Home in Hood River following a long illness.

Rev. L. G. Wetzel officiated at the final rites and interment was in the Lexington L. O. O. F. cemetery.

Mrs. Scott, a long time resident of Lexington, is survived by a son and daughter, Vernon Scott of Portland and Mrs. Ralph Jackson of The Dalles.

A complete obituary will appear next week.

County School Census Reveals Slight Drop

Nearly complete school census figures received at the county school superintendent's office reveal a slight drop in the number of school age children in the county, it was revealed this week. The present census gives a total of 1376 children now living in the county. This compares with 1420 last year.

Reports have not been received from two joint districts, the Morrow-Gilliam district with the school at Arlington, and the Morrow-Umatilla joint district, with students attending Echo schools, but with the addition of these figures the total number of children is expected to run practically the same as last year.

By districts the census showed: Heppner, 617, loss of five; Irigun, 247, gain of six; Lexington, 137, loss of five; Boardman, 157, loss of 10; Jone, 202, gain of 17; Hardman, 16, loss of 8.

Egbert L. Young Dies Wednesday at Pioneer Hospital

Egbert L. Young, 84, passed away Wednesday night at Pioneer Memorial hospital following a lingering illness. He had lived in Morrow county for the past 68 years.

Mr. Young was born May 9, 1870 in Illinois, the son of Jerome and Sara Ellen Young. His wife preceded him in death by 25 years.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, Dec. 4 at 2 p. m. at the Heppner Methodist church with Rev. Lester Boulden officiating. Interment will be in the Heppner Masonic cemetery.

Mr. Young is survived by one sister Mrs. Clara Stratton Eugene; three nieces, Grace Noe, Portland; Addie Peck, Pendleton; Ellen Cook, Madras; two nephews, Chester Thomas, Stevenson, Wn., and Aley Peck, Scio, Oregon.

Creswick and Seull Mortuary has charge of arrangements.

MRS. GEORGE CANDIDATE FOR CEMETERY BOARD

It was announced today that Mrs. Elaine George will be a candidate for the vacancy on the board of directors of the Heppner Cemetery Maintenance District, which will be voted on Monday at the City Hall from 2:00 until 7:00 p. m.

Her candidacy is being sponsored by the Soroptimist club of Heppner.

ELKS MEMORIAL SERVICES SUNDAY

The annual memorial service will be held at the Heppner Elks lodge Sunday, December 5 at 2 p. m. It was announced this week by James J. Farley, exalted ruler. It is open to the public.



TWO NEW GIFT X-RAY UNITS NOW IN USE AT PIONEER HOSPITAL



NEW X-RAY UNITS, recent gifts to Pioneer Memorial Hospital, are now in use at the institution. Here David White, technician is preparing Jack Gentry for a chest X-Ray. He is standing in front of the new small-size machine given by the TB and Health Association. Directly behind the two men shows just a portion of the new 200 MA X-Ray tube which was a gift of Laxton McMurray. (GT Photos)

Pioneer Memorial hospital this week placed in operation two new pieces of X-Ray equipment which were presented to the hospital as gifts during the past year. With the equipment Pioneer Memorial now boasts X-Ray examination equipment equal to any institution in the state, Jack Angell administrator, revealed.

The two units, a 200 millamp X-Ray machine and a new small size, (4 by 5 inch) unit used primarily for chest X-Rays, were the gifts of Laxton McMurray, a former Jone-rancher who now lives in Salem, and the Morrow County TB and Health Association. Each of the two new units cost \$3,000 and their addition brings to well over \$12,000 the value of all X-Ray equipment in the Heppner institution.

McMurray made his gift to the

Farm Machinery Development Outlined By CC Speaker

Bob Grabill, manager of the Empire Machinery Company, Monday told the chamber of commerce of the history and the development of farm equipment and farming in the world and illustrated how many of the great developments in farming have come within the last 150 years.

Grabill, speaking on the 50th anniversary of the development of the track-laying tractor told how farm implements reached a development stage about 1800 with the invention of the moldboard plow after centuries of use of the old stick plow. Other developments followed and led up to the change from horse or ox power to the steam tractor in the 1880s. It wasn't until 1904, he said, that the tractor was developed which is now a common implement on nearly every ranch.

Grabill pointed out that in 1900 a farmer had only 1.6 horsepower at his command. By 1920 it had grown to 5.3 h. p. and that now, through continued development, every farmer in the U. S. has 35 horsepower ready for his use.

He illustrated his talk with many pictures of both early day and modern farm motive equipment.

Plans Laid For March of Dimes

Plans are getting under way for the annual March of Dimes drive to be held in January. It was announced this week by Floyd Sayers, chairman for the 1955 campaign. It was also announced that \$418.14 had been collected in the emergency March of Dimes campaign held recently.

Other officers who will serve for the coming drive include Mrs. Olive Hughes, assistant chairman; Mrs. Jack Loyd, women's activities; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Penland, publicity; Jack Marshall, treasurer; Jack Plug, school chairman; Hubert Wilson, city of Heppner chairman and Clem Stockard, assistant.

New officers for the national foundation chapter include Rev. Lester Boulden, president; Floyd Sayers, vice-president; Mrs. James Ware, secretary and Robert Ferrell, treasurer.

Sayers also asked that all committee members in the various communities continue to serve for the 1955 drive.

Mr. and Mrs. Lester Doolittle spent the Thanksgiving weekend in Portland visiting their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Doolittle and their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Perrott.

hospital late in May while visiting here and the TB and Health Association machine was ordered shortly after that time. The new large size X-Ray tube is mounted so that it may be used either with the small machine or the large one so that it serves double duty.

The small chest X-Ray machine was given to the hospital as part of the TB and Health Association's campaign to promote chest X-Rays in the prevention and detection of tuberculosis. Such pictures can be taken with the large machine but the cost of such shots is many times that with the new unit.

Rather than pay for the cost of bringing the mobile chest X-Ray unit into the county periodically the county association purchased the present machine for the hospital where it will be constantly available for the use of local residents. Funds for its purchase came from the sale of Christmas Seals, and the 1955 Seal drive is now on in the county. Mrs. Mervin Leonard of Lexington is president of the county association.

4-H Club Year Plans To Be Made at Meet Here December 7

On Tuesday, December 7, approximately 45 leaders from Morrow county will have the opportunity to meet with Esther Tasker, state 4-H club agent, Oregon State College. The day will be spent in discussing organization and problems of 4-H leadership that leaders anticipate in the 1954-55 club year. They will have the opportunity to receive help in becoming a better leader as well as answering questions that are encountered in a successful 4-H club program.

Leaders will be the guests at a noon luncheon this day with the local Pacific Power and Light Company as hosts. Tom Keenan, district manager, Pendleton, and Cecil Root, Portland office, Pacific Power and Light, will be present. During the noon luncheon recognition will be given to leaders and 4-H members who have completed 10 years club work.

The Annual 4-H leaders training conference will get under way at 10:00 a. m. Tuesday morning assembling at the 4-H club house at the fair grounds in Heppner. Host is the South Morrow 4-H council with Mrs. E. M. Baker as chairman. The north Morrow 4-H council, consisting of leaders from Boardman and Irigun, will be present. The morning will be spent in general discussion of 4-H leadership problems with opportunity for all leaders to submit questions in the question box. Immediately following the noon luncheon, the question box will be opened with discussion centered on individual questions of the leaders. Later in the afternoon, 4-H leaders will have the opportunity to discuss specific projects, and problems.

Invited to meet with the group is the 4-H organizational committee of the farm home and rural life committee. This group consists of Mrs. Ernest Heilker, of Jone; Mrs. John Graves of Hardman; Mrs. L. A. McCabe of Jone; Mrs. George Currin of Heppner. They were selected earlier in the fall to acquaint all boys and girls and their parents with what 4-H has to offer. While the organization for the new club year is still underway with some clubs yet to be organized, it is hoped that all 4-H leaders and prospective leaders will be on hand for the leaders training conference. Those not extended a personal invitation are invited to attend.

ASC Committee Nominations and Election Called

Harold G. Campbell, chairman of the Morrow county ASC committee, states that between now and December 15 new community committees will be nominated by community nominating committees and elected by vote of farmers in these communities. The voting will be done by mail.

The community nominating committees were selected by the heads of the local farm organizations, a representative of the extension service and the Soil Conservation Service. The nominating committees in turn will nominate ten eligible farmers from each community to be on the ballot for the five community offices and also a delegate. These delegates, as elected, will nominate and elect the county committee.

The ballots returned to the ASC office will be counted by communities by members of the community nominating committees. Anyone wishing to nominate an eligible farmer for community committee may do so by petitioning the community nominating board. Information as to the communities and the boards may be obtained from the local ASC office.

Loan Deadline Near

The ASC office also calls the farmers' attention to the fact that the final date for obtaining a government CCC loan of purchase agreement on the 1954 crop is January 1, 1955. Officials also stated that they anticipate a heavy run on loans during January with an expected five to seven day wait for anyone desiring a loan. The office would appreciate it if persons wanting a loan in January would bring in their warehouse receipts during December to give the office extra time for preparing the loan to be picked up after January 1.

Mercury Dips To 20 Degrees Tuesday

If you thought it was a little chilly Tuesday morning you were right. The official government thermometer in Heppner read an even 20 degrees. It was the first cold weather of the winter for this area.

Heppner's 20 was slightly warmer than some of the surrounding towns with variously reported readings of from 15 to 19 degrees for the same date.

Mrs. Letha Archer returned Sunday from Winlock, Washington, where she visited her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Leach.



CONSERVATION MAN, Paul Brown receives congratulations and his gift award from Newt O'Hara at the chamber of commerce conservation dinner last week at the Cutsforth cabin on upper Willow creek. Mrs. Brown is watching



SURPRISE AWARD is being presented to Heppner Conservationist Tom Wilson by the chamber of commerce president Jeff Carter. Tom was awarded the chamber Certificate of Recognition for his untiring efforts to promote and develop soil-saving practices on county farms (GT Photos)

Community Chest Drive Opens in County

The Morrow county Community Chest drive got under way early this week with a kickoff breakfast opening the campaign in Heppner Tuesday. Other areas in the county are to start their drive within the next few days, it was revealed by drive chairman, Jack Plug.

Goal for this year's United Fund drive has been set at \$3,000 for the county with each area receiving a pro-rata share of the amount. Two thirds of the total raised, or \$2,000 whichever is the smaller, will go to the state chest with the balance to remain in the county for local use. Last year's

quota was considerably smaller due to the fact that there were sufficient carryover funds to care for the county needs and no local funds were collected. This year however, the local fund is low and necessary money must be raised during the drive.

Drive officers said that during the last year a total of \$863.14 has been expended in the Heppner district with \$250 of the amount going to the Camp Fire girls, \$428.80 to the Boy Scouts, \$75 for student activities and \$114.34 for charity purposes.

Solicitation of business houses and residences in the immediate area will be made early this week other homes will be contacted this weekend and the first of next week. Officers ask that those persons living outside the city mail their contributions either to Robert Ferrell, secretary or to Jack C. Plug, county chairman, Heppner.

State Community Chest funds are used to support 16 separate institutions or aid organizations including the Albertina Kerr Homes, Children's Farm Home, the Salvation Army White Shield Home, Waverly Baby Home and many others in the state.

Collections for the fund are now being made throughout the state.

Toys Needed By F. F. A. Members

Members of the Heppner chapter of the F. F. A. will again repair Christmas toys to give to needy children and the boys are asking for donations from residents of the area.

Any type of usable toy that can be repaired or painted and fixed up is needed by the group who ask that donations come in as soon as possible so that they will have as much time as possible to get them ready. Anyone wishing to give toys are asked to call the Heppner school, Lewellyn Robbins, F. F. A. instructor said today.

The group is also planning to hold its usual Christmas tree sale on the lot across from Anderson's Sporting Goods. The boys will gather trees within the next few days.

Barratt Ends Term as County Assn. Head With Portland Meet

County judge Garnet Barratt and county commissioners Ralph Thompson, Heppner and Russell Miller, Boardman, returned last week from the annual meeting of the Association of Oregon Counties which was held in Portland. Judge Barratt is president of the association and reported that the meeting was well attended by members of all the county courts of the state.

As the state legislature will meet in January many problems of interest to the counties were discussed. The association sponsors most of the legislation submitted to it by various counties and keeps a representative in Salem during the sessions. Association officers alternate between the west and east side of the state each year and the new head for 1955 will be Judge George I. McBee of Benton county. Vice president will be Judge Ward Webber of Wasco county.

Judge Barratt was highly complimented during the meeting for his record for the year which was climaxed by his presiding at the meeting and banquet held at the Multnomah hotel. The Daily Journal of Commerce, Portland, devoted several columns with pictures depicting the past activities of the judge in an issue last week.

Visit By Santa Set For December 18

Phil Blakney, chairman of the chamber of commerce merchants committee revealed Monday that his committee has completed arrangements to get a very special guest in Heppner on Saturday, December 18.

Blakney announced to all the county children that he had received word that Santa Claus will arrive in town about 1 p. m. that day for a short visit with children of all ages.

All arrangements for his visit aren't yet completed, but details will be announced later.