

Heppner Gazette Times

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Sale Of Archer-Daniels Lone Elevator Announced

MCGG to Operate Plant; Purchaser Is W. E. Melena

Word was received this morning that W. E. Melena of Ione has purchased the lone elevators of Archer, Daniels, Midland Co. at Ione and that the plant has been leased to the Morrow County Grain Growers for a period of 10 years. The MCGG will take over the facility on April 1.

The big elevator, the first unit of which was built in the early 1940s by Garland Swanson, has been operated by Archer-Daniels for approximately 10 years. They added three storage units to the facility during the war to bring the total capacity of the elevator to 420,000 bushels.

Discussion on the three-way transaction has been under way for some time, but the final details were worked out by Melena, Al Lamb, manager of the Grain Growers and Henry Collins, representing Archer-Daniels, at a meeting Wednesday in Portland. The consideration was not revealed.

In addition to a 10 year lease on the property, the local co-op has an option to buy the plant within two years.

With the addition of the Archer-Daniels elevator, the Grain Growers now own or operate eight elevators in the county, and when the new storage building near Paterson ferry, which is to be built by Melena in the near future, is completed it will give the co-op nine separate elevators with a total storage capacity of approximately 3,000,000 bushels.

County Treasurer Resigns Position

Mrs. Lucy E. Rodgers, who has served as county treasurer since 1950, today resigned her position effective May 1. She announced plans to move to Portland shortly after that date to make her home at Willamette View Manor. Mrs. Rodgers was elected to the treasurer's position in 1950 and again last year. She has lived in Morrow county since 1926 and served most of the time until 1948 as county school superintendent. She also taught in the Heppner schools for about two years.

The position will be filled by appointment by the county court with the appointee to hold office until the next general election.

O. C. Stephens Dies March 9 at Tillamook

Otha Clark Stephens, 75, a resident of the Hardman community for many years, died March 9 at the Tillamook hospital. He had lived in Bay City, Oregon for the past two years. Mr. Stephens was born January 3, 1880 in Marion county, Iowa and came to the state at an early age.

Survivors are his wife, Marie E. Stephens; two sons, Rev. J. C. Stephens, Tillamook, and Lura L. Stephens, San Bernardino, Calif.; one daughter, Mrs. C. H. Schoenberger, Monument; one brother, John Stevens of Hardman, and nine grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Tuesday at the Hardman I. O. O. F. cemetery with Rev. Willis Geyer officiating. Creswick and Seuell Mortuary were in charge of arrangements.

MANY ATTEND TOURNAMENT

Heppner was well represented last weekend at the B Team basketball playoffs in Salem.

Among those who were in Salem for the tournament were Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Beamer, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Warren, Mrs. Ada Piper, Oliver Haguewood, Dr. and Mrs. L. D. Tibbles, Mr. and Mrs. Ben Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hayes, Mr. and Mrs. Buck Ruhl, Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln Nash, Mr. and Mrs. Ernie Winchester, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Downen, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Grabill and Mrs. Lester Wyman.

CIVIC LEAGUE TO MEET

The Civic League will meet Monday evening March 21 at 8:00 p. m. in the Civic Center. A program has been arranged and coffee will be served.



RALPH L. BENGÉ, Morrow county pioneer, who died Tuesday. Photo was taken on his 90th birthday.

Ralph L. Bengé, 91, Taken by Death

Ralph L. Bengé, 91, a resident of Morrow county for over 76 years, died Tuesday, March 15 at Pioneer Memorial hospital following a brief illness.

Mr. Bengé was born at Cottonwood Creek, Oregon, near Walla Walla, January 23, 1864, the son of William Louis Terrel and Cynthia Ann Bengé. After the death of his father, he and his mother homesteaded in the Social Ridge section of Morrow county in 1884 on a ranch which his son, Terrel still operates. He was one of 11 children, all of whom preceded him in death. He was married to Sarah Ellen Driscoll on December 4, 1901 at McMinnville, Oregon.

Mr. Bengé was a charter member of the Lexington Odd Fellows lodge and a long-time member of the Heppner Elks lodge. He served as county judge from 1924 until 1930 and had served two terms as county commissioner prior to his election to the judge's position. At the time of his death he was one of the oldest residents of the county and had been in good health and very active until less than a week before his passing. As a young man, he was contractor for the construction of a part of the railroad line from Ione on up Willow creek to Heppner.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 2:00 p. m. at the Heppner Christian church with Rev. Earl L. Loward officiating. Interment will be in the Heppner Masonic cemetery.

Surviving are his wife, Ella, Heppner; a son Terrel L. Bengé, Heppner; one daughter, Mrs. Luola Bengé, Eugene, seven grandchildren and one great-grandson.

Creswick and Seuell Mortuary were in charge of arrangements.

County Fam Bureau To Meet Tuesday

The Morrow County Farm Bureau will meet Tuesday March 22 at the Rhea Creek grange hall.

Rural electrification will be the subject and Henry Baker, chairman of the legislative committee will report on findings at the legislature. His committee consists of Kenneth Smouse and William Barratt. Baker will also tell of his trip to South America. Mrs. Ben Anderson is chairman of the refreshment committee and there will be entertainment and a door prize.

New P-TA Officers Elected; Trust Fund Announced

Officers for next year were elected at the Wednesday evening meeting of the Heppner P-TA held at the high school.

Those elected were Lowell Gribble, president; Mrs. Robert Ferrell, vice president; Mrs. Harold Erwin, secretary and Mrs. Lena Kelly, treasurer. Installation will be held at the April meeting.

Bradley Fancher reported on the \$2000 Sara McNamer trust fund, of which the Elks are giving half. This fund is open to any graduate in Morrow county to be used to attend an Oregon institution of higher education. Those receiving funds from the Trust will be judged on scholarship, character, citizenship and need.

The committee administering the fund are Bradley Fancher, representing the Elks; Mrs. Homer Hager, representing the P-TA and Jack Flug, county school superintendent.

Miss Beverly Bradshaw reviewed the 4-H projects in the county and presented Patsy Wright with the Carl Raymond Gray scholarship. Miss Bradshaw introduced Kenneth Hill, IFYE student to Norway last summer, who showed slides and told of his experiences there.

Mrs. Marie Clary reported that there will be three, one-act plays given at the school on March 30-31 for the benefit of the P-TA scholarship. One play is to be given by the faculty, one by the high school students and one by the P-TA.

Mrs. Marion Huggett was program chairman for the meeting and refreshments were served by Mrs. Ivan Cox and Mrs. Harlan McCurdy, Jr. The 4-H colors, of Green and white, were used in the table decoration in observance of National 4-H week.

Schools to Hear Wildlife Talks

Conservation of wildlife and the other natural resources of our state will be the theme of a program presented at Heppner and Lexington high schools on March 23, 1955 by Milt Guymon, education agent of the Oregon Game Commission.

Wildlife management will be emphasized, but the need for wise use of soil, water, and plant life in relation to the wildlife resources of Oregon will be discussed. Many of the problems in game management can be traced directly to the environmental changes brought about by man. In most instances, these changes have had far-reaching effects upon game populations. The proper management of all four of these resources is essential for the future of Oregon's hunting and fishing recreation.

Following the chart-illustrated talk, the sound, color movie "Yours Is the Land" will be shown.

A similar program on waterfowl will be presented at the Ione high school the same day.

NEWS OF DEATH RECEIVED

John and Bob Wightman have received word that their sister, Miss Margaret Wightman of Dauphin, Pennsylvania passed away Friday March 11.

IRRIGATION PROSPECTS HERE POOR

While irrigation water supplies in the Umatilla-Walla Walla basin area should be about the same as last year, farmers along Willow and Butter Creeks can look for only about half as much water as usual, it was revealed Monday by W. T. Frost, soil conservation service, at a water forecasting and "stretching" meeting held at Pendleton.

According to snow surveys in the local mountain areas, the snow pack is not too much below the 10 year average, but it was pointed out here, that all of it fell on dry ground and the prospects for a continuing runoff are quite poor. It was estimated that only about one good irrigation was in prospect for the bottom lands along Willow and Butter creeks, whereas an average year will provide two good soakings.

Neva LeTrace Routson Dies March 10 at Idaho Hospital

Neva LeTrace Routson, 79 years of age, passed away March 10 at the Weiser, Idaho Memorial hospital. She had lived in Heppner for many years prior to moving to Weiser about 10 years ago.

Mrs. Routson was born December 9, 1875 at Gales Creek, Oregon. She married William LeTrace in 1894 at Heppner and following his death in 1936 she was married to John W. Routson in 1944. She was a lifetime member of the Episcopal church, a member of Ruth Chapter of O. E. S., an da charter member of the former Heppner Pythian Sisters.

Funeral services were held March 12 at the Wortham-Jones chapel in Weiser with graveside services on March 14 at the Heppner Masonic cemetery. Rev. John R. Reeves officiated.

Survivors include her husband, John W. Routson, Weiser; three sons, Edward LeTrace, Heppner; William, Tacoma; Louis, Echo; two daughters, Mrs. Orrin Wright and Mrs. Robert Lowe, both of Heppner; a sister, Mrs. Emma Evans, Seaside; six grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren; three stepsons and two stepdaughters.

Heart Attack Takes Lee Beckner, 62

F. Lee Beckner, 62, cattle rancher in the Stanfield and Hermiston area, died suddenly at his home near Stanfield Saturday. Death was caused by a heart attack. Until recently Mr. Beckner had been a wheat farmer at Ione and was very well known here having taken part in Morrow county fair and rodeo activities for many years.

Born September 10, 1892 at Sweet Springs, West Virginia, Mr. Beckner was a life member of the Heppner Elks lodge, past commander of the Ione American Legion post No. 95, president of the Heppner Rodeo Association for several years, and had been a prominent member of the Umatilla Sage Riders.

Surviving are his wife, Mary E. Beckner, Stanfield; two sons, Gene Normoyle, Hermiston and Harry Normoyle, Hilwaukie, Oregon; one daughter, Mrs. Preuss, Portland; four brothers and one sister, Lake Beckner, Ione; Till Beckner, Stanfield; Fred Beckner, Washtuckna, Wn.; Robert Beckner, Imbro, Maryland and Mrs. Sam Mitchell, Natural Bridge, Virginia. He also leaves five grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Wednesday at 11 a. m. at the Burns Mortuary in Hermiston with Reverend A. E. Davis of the Hermiston Methodist church officiating. Interment was in the Olney cemetery, Pendleton, with the Elks lodge in charge of the graveside services.

Trees Being Cleared From City Park

Work was started this week removing some of the numerous poplar trees on the Heppner city park. Tunison and Wilson, logging contractors who have been renting some of the old buildings on the park, donated the use of a bulldozer to push over the trees and a city crew has been cutting them up and burning them.

Many of the trees were old and dangerous and were scheduled to come out of the grounds when cleanup work gets under way in earnest later. None of the buildings will be torn down at the present, though all will be removed eventually.

LEAVE FOR NEW HOME

Mr. and Mrs. Earl R. Hall and daughter, Marcia, departed for their new home in Oakland, Oregon the past weekend.

Mrs. Hall and children have been making their home with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Pieper of Lexington, the past three and a half months, since her husband was transferred in the Navy from Long Beach, Calif., to Keyport, Wash.

The son, Larry, will remain with his grandparents until the close of the school year.

Mrs. L. B. Ledbetter returned last Sunday from Seattle where she visited her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Pickins.

Six Get Recognition By Local Chamber



RECEIVING AWARDS—Four of the six persons who were given certificates of recognition at the chamber of commerce banquet Monday night. Shown are Jeff Carter, Edger Albert, Orville Cutsforth and Frank W. Turner. Also given awards, but not present to receive them were Delbert Emert, Ione and Harold Johnston, Heppner. Story below.

Henry A. Schulz Dies Here Saturday

Henry Adolf Schulz, 77, died Saturday, March 12 at Pioneer Memorial hospital following a short illness. He had been a resident of Heppner for 33 years.

Mr. Schulz was born in Germany May 11, 1877 and came to this country as a young man. In past years he had operated a bakery and confectionery store in Heppner.

Graveside services were held at 2:00 p. m. Wednesday at the I. O. O. F. cemetery at Elma, Washington. Creswick and Seuell Mortuary were in charge of arrangements.

Surviving are one son, Max of Hermiston; two daughters, Mrs. Erma Haugen and Mrs. Evelyn Larsen, both of Portland, and three grandchildren.

Two Local Students Win Elks Scholarships

The Eastern Oregon district competition of the Elks Lodge "Most Valuable Student" contest was held in La Grande last Sunday with Carlene Inman, Pendleton and Milford Cundiff, Baker named winners. They will compete in Portland Saturday for state honors.

Entering the contest from Heppner were Sally Palmer and Richard Kononen who had been selected by the local lodge to receive its award of \$200 each for future educational aid. Miss Palmer and Kononen had competed against eight other county students for the local scholarships and the opportunity to try for the state honors.

Entered in the local contest were Lillian Elde, Jean Marie Graham, Patricia Wright, Lyle Jensen, Ralph Marlatt, Miss Palmer and Kononen from Heppner; Phyllis Nolan and Keith Gray, Lexington and Dorothy Dobyns, of Ione.

Mary Van's Dress Shop to Open Here Next Thursday

Mrs. Mary Van Stevens announced this week that she will open a new women's ready-to-wear shop in the building formerly occupied by Heppner Refrigeration on Main street in Heppner. It will be known as Mary Van's Dress Shop.

Official opening of the new store has been set for Thursday, March 24 and Mrs. Stevens said that she will carry a wide selection of well-known lines of women and misses' coats and suits, dresses, blouses and skirts and accessories.

The store will be operated in connection with Mary Van's Flower Shop, which it adjoins.

VISITS ANDERSONS IN ARIZONA

Mrs. Alta Brown Edger has just returned from five weeks spent in Arizona near Mesa where Mr. and Mrs. Harley Anderson, former Heppner residents, now live. They all took a trip into Mexico together and Mrs. Anderson is feeling well enough that she hopes to make a visit to Morrow county this summer.

Importance of John Day Dam Stressed by Rowe

Urging a continued orderly development of the Columbia river, Admiral Gordon Rowe, manager of the Port of Umatilla speaking at the annual banquet of the Heppner-Morrow county chamber of commerce Monday evening, pointed out that when the John Day dam on the river is built, the Columbia will be an arm of the sea with a great benefit to this area in the matter of trade with the rest of the world.

In stressing the needs for the John Day dam, he said that when the river system is completed, this section of the state will see many economic changes, pointing up the value of low-cost water transportation. He said such transportation will increase tremendously when full slack-water navigation is possible.

Admiral Rowe explained that we must export a great amount of the wheat grown in this area and that when the John Day dam is built it will make possible the loading of barges here and the direct reloading onto ocean going ships. Full use of cheap water transportation will make it possible for us to compete in world markets with wheat raised in Canada, Australia and other countries.

He also predicted that with cheap water transportation, cattle can be processed here for shipment up and down the river in vans which can be driven off the barges. He predicts many advances in the economy and prosperity of the Columbia Basin when the river is put to its fullest use.

Awards Given

The Admiral was the main speaker at the banquet held at the Heppner American Legion hall, which is an annual event of the chamber. Other high points of the program included the presentation of certificates of recognition to Edger Albert, the builder and operator of the Flying A motel; Harold Johnston, owner of the Heppner Slaughter House; Delbert Emert, Ione rancher; Orville Cutsforth, Lexington; Frank Turner and Jeff Carter, immediate past president of the chamber. The awards are given for outstanding civic service, cooperation or materially aiding the growth and expansion of the community and the county.

Albert was given his award for the construction of his new motel which filled a need in the area; Johnston, for his participation in many community activities; Emert for encouraging and practicing cooperation between communities of Morrow county; Cutsforth, for his donation of the Cutsforth Forest Camp at Heron Creek meadows; Turner who is a past president and past treasurer of the chamber, for his many years of service to that and other civic organizations. The awards were made by the immediate past president, Jeff Carter.

Carter was also presented with a certificate by Jack Bedford, chamber president, for outstanding service.

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'Hopper Control To be Planned at Tuesday Meeting

Meeting on March 15, the insect and rodent control committee of the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association and the grasshopper control committee of the Land use and Conservation sub-committee, reviewed the grasshopper infestation survey for Morrow county which has just been released.

In checking the probable area of infestation, it is found that approximately 150 thousand acres of this infestation begins about 7 miles east of Heppner and extends east of the Morrow-Umatilla county line. It also extends south of highway 74 for about 11 miles. Approximately 20,000 acres are located due west of Ordance beginning about 1 mile inside the Morrow County line extending southwest for about 4 miles.

With the serious infestation forecast, the committee considered ways of raising funds and acquainting the people with being prepared in case the serious outbreak occurs. Ways and means of insuring adequate funds were the biggest problems.

The group with Dick Wilkinson as chairman has scheduled a meeting of all affected land owners for March 22. It will be held at the court room in Heppner beginning at 8:00 p. m. and possibilities of setting up a control district and a fund taxing arrangement will be discussed. Funds totaling \$102,000.00 are necessary for a complete program in the infested area. Contributions are expected from the state, federal and county in addition to farmer cooperation. All ranchers in the Hinton, Butter Creek, Willow Creek and Upper Rhea Creek are urged to attend.

Floyd Jones is New Rodeo Head

Floyd Jones, Heppner, was elected president of the Morrow county rodeo association at a meeting of the organization held last week.

The committee, recently enlarged to seven members, includes Jones and Jack Loyd, three year terms; Bill Healy, Heppner and John Eubanks, Ione, two year terms; William Smethurst and Jack Van Winkle, one year terms; and W. E. Hughes, who was appointed by the county court for a two year term. The current president of the Wrangler's riding club, who this year is Howard Bryant, will work with the committee each year.

Appointments for the rodeo, which this year will be an amateur event, included Hughes as arena director; Bryant, grounds; Healy, barns; Loyd, advertising and concessions; and Smethurst, parade. Other appointments will be made later.

A joint meeting of the fair and rodeo committees is set for March 31 and at that time it is planned to discuss the possibility of holding some night attractions during the fair and rodeo. New lights have recently been installed at the rodeo field.

Student Body Play Opens Here Tonight

The Heppner high school student body play, "Here Come the Brides," will be presented tonight and Friday night at 8 p. m. at the high school auditorium. It is under the direction of Stanley Holm.

The play is a delightful comedy that is said to be one of the best ever presented by the local students.

Admission will be 75 cents for adults; 25 cents for students with student body cards also children; and 50 cents for students without cards.

CUB PACK NO. 61 TO MEET

Cub Scout pack No. 61 will hold a pack meeting Tuesday, March 22 in the 4-H club room at the fair grounds at 7:30 p. m. The theme for the month is Knights of Yore.

Mrs. Grace Nickerson left Friday for a visit in Eugene.