

Donald E. Peterson of Ione is Named Top Conservation Man

By Mrs. Tom Wilson
Farm operations packed with a variety of conservation practices won for Donald E. Peterson, Ione, the Morrow county "Conservation Man of the Year" awarded for 1955 on his 1,073 acre ranch located in the Eightmile section. It was announced this week.

A successful stubble mulch program not common in this area, deep furrow seedings and farming on the contour are among the major conservation practices followed by Peterson who is applying more conservation methods to solve his problems than any other rancher considered in the contest, committee members pointed out. Other practices followed by Peterson on 873 acres of wheat land, divided almost equally in wheat and summer fallow, and 200 acres of range land include sodded waterways to carry water safely from the fields and seeding of steep land and diverted wheat acres to grass and alfalfa on a rotation basis to develop organic material in a long range wheat-summer fallow program. In his stubble mulch program a stubble cutter, a sub-surface tillage plow, rod weeder and deep furrow drills

complete his equipment. Timeliness of operation has been his key to success in eliminating the cheat grass problem.

Two ponds have been constructed in a canyon on a corner of his place for livestock water and irrigation.

Credit was given Peterson for participation in new experiments, including one of the county's five grazing alfalfa demonstrations sponsored by the Morrow County Livestock Growers association. Fifty acres are divided equally to Nomad, Rhizoma, Ladak, and Sevelra alfalfas seeded in alternate rows with crested wheat grass. An additional 25 acres of grass and alfalfa are seeded on steep ground.

For protection and beauty a windbreak planting extending about 1800 feet from the highway to Peterson's home, a 150 by 200 foot wheat fertilizer trial plot and grass nursery are state extension service demonstrations incorporated on the ranch.

Also new in the area, Peterson has sown Stewart and Carlton oats, from which he sold seed last year, and 20 acres of safflower, new to Morrow county, on diverted land. In cooperation with the state game commission he has 3/4 miles of border shrub and tree plantings covering about five acres for game protection.

Peterson pointed out that stubble mulching was pioneered in the Eightmile area and practiced about 15 years by his father, Oscar Peterson, from whom he is buying his ranch on a sales agreement. Peterson harvested his first crop in 1950.

With his father and brother, Gerald, Peterson has a partnership in a commercial Hereford herd of about 100 cows which they winter on their ranches and summer on a 2000 acre mountain ranch in the south end of the county. Grass and alfalfa plantings on diverted acres and steep land are utilized with the cattle operation.

Peterson, who is married and has a son, Kerry, 5, and daughter, Kris, 3, studied agricultural engineering at Oregon State college following service in the Seabees in the South Pacific from 1943-46.

Active in county and community affairs, Peterson is vice chairman of the Heppner Soil Conservation district, vice chairman of the production land use committee of the Wheat League, post

commander of the Ione American Legion and is a member of the Ione Willows Grange, Morrow County Cattle Growers association, the Valley Lutheran church and the Elks.

For assistance with his conservation program, Peterson gave recognition to his father, the county agent, and the Heppner Soil Conservation district.

Competing with Fred Mankin, Heppner and Norman and Fred Nelson, Lexington, local winners picked by Granges, Peterson's selection was made by Frank Anderson, chairman of the conservation committee of the Morrow County Wheat Growers association and Charles Carlson, advisory member of the Heppner Conservation district. N. C. Anderson, county agent, was an advisory member.

"Peterson" was selected for the practical and workmanlike manner in which he manages his operations", Anderson, committee chairman, said.

Peterson will compete for the state conservation award with other county winners in the conservation contest sponsored by the Oregon Wheat Growers League and the Oregonian.



JOE H. STEWART, new superintendent of the Heppner schools, who arrived last week from Coburg, Oregon to assume his duties here.

School Opening Set For September 6, Physical Exams Due

The Heppner school board met last night for the first time with the new superintendent, Joe H. Stewart, who this week assumed his duties here and completed arrangements for the opening of school on Tuesday, September 6. All grades will start at the same time.

It was also announced that all students who will be entering the first grade this fall, high school freshmen and students who are new in the state, must have their physical exams completed by the opening day of school. Physical exam blanks may be obtained either at the county school superintendent's office in the court house or at the Heppner school. Any physician can give the examination.

It was also decided that all students who wish to participate in athletics will be required to take out insurance before they will be allowed to take part. Most students have done so in the past but it has not been a requirement previously.

M. J. Fitzpatrick, Long-Time Resident Of Ione, Dies Tuesday

Michael Joseph Fitzpatrick, 71, of Pendleton died Tuesday in La Grande, of a heart attack.

Born in Ireland, he was a member of St. Mary's Catholic church and the Holy Names Society and was active in church work.

He was a resident of the Ione district, where he farmed for 40 years, having moved to Pendleton about three and a half years ago.

He is survived by his wife, Catherine; a daughter, Mrs. M. L. Luncell, Pendleton; four grandchildren; a brother in Canada, and two sisters, one in England and one in California.

Requiem Mass will be Friday, August 5, at 10:30 a. m. at St. Mary's Catholic church in Pendleton with the Rev. John J. O'Hara, celebrant. Rosary will be Thursday evening at the church with graveside services at 12:15 M. Friday at the Heppner Masonic cemetery.

Palbearers will be Carl Troedson, Leo Gorgor, Jim Daley, Bob Nirschl, Oscar Schultz and John Garvey.

Two More Weather Balloons Seen Here

At least two more plastic weather balloons which floated high over Heppner Monday noon and evening caused considerable attention and more than a few stiff necks among gawking residents who followed their slow trip across the skies.

According to reports the balloons are the weather type which were released at Tillamook, and floated to this section of the state on strong west winds. The attached electronic apparatus could be seen quite plainly through glasses.

FIRE DAMAGE SLIGHT

Heppner firemen answered an alarm Saturday morning to extinguish a blaze in the upholstery of a car parked behind the First National Bank building.

Damage to the car, an old model Chevrolet registered to O. L. Honsinger and bearing a Washington license, was minor.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry O'Donnell, Sr. are vacationing in California.

Heppner Pine Mill Starts Production Again Monday

Production started again Monday at the Heppner Pine Mills following a shutdown of nearly three months during which time the plant has undergone a complete remodeling. The first log was cut in the mill Monday morning and planer crews also reported back on the job the same day.

Actual production got under way, though there is still much work to be done on the moving and remodeling, manager Paul Koenig said Wednesday, but the rest of the work will be done with the main mill in operation. Logging was started last Thursday with four trucks hauling from the woods.

The biggest job of the entire remodeling project, the moving of the dry kilns still is not completed, but the big tile building is now in its new location and as soon as the pouring of new foundations is complete the building will be put in place. The laying of tracks and steam pipes to the kiln still remains to be done, and Koenig said that it will probably be three or four weeks before this job is completed.

Other work still in progress is the construction of a large water reservoir on the hill south of the mill which will provide storage for a complete sprinkler system now being installed. It is expected that it will be several months before the sprinkler system is completed.

Other major changes in the mill include the moving of the office, the installation of a new log haul from the pond, an edge-sorter which replaced the old green chain, the installation of a burner and the moving or several storage sheds.

Woods operations have been progressing smoothly, Koenig said, and within a short time a full crew of about 20 men will be employed in this phase of the operation. Until the dry kiln is again operating, all lumber is being air dried as there is ample room on the grounds for such drying.

Koenig said that a full crew is now at work and expressed pleasure with the way the plant was operating after the large number of changes. He said some kilns remained to be ironed out, but that lumber is being shipped.

Another Heppner Value Days Event Set For August 19-20

The third in the series of Heppner Value Days will be put on by local merchants Friday and Saturday, August 19 and 20, it was announced this week by Jeff Carter, chairman of the chamber of commerce merchants committee, sponsors of the selling event.

As in the past a special free kiddies show is planned for Saturday afternoon and special sale values will be found in nearly every store in town.

Fair Premium Lists Sent to Exhibitors

Premium lists for the Morrow county fair went in the mail early this week it was announced by N. C. Anderson, county agent.

The books have been sent out to all past exhibitors at the fair and anyone not receiving a book may obtain one from the county agent's office.



Princess Sharon Rill

Princess Sharon Rill's Dance Due Saturday

The third in the series of pre-fair and rodeo dances is scheduled for Next Saturday night at the Heppner fair pavilion and is being given in honor of Princess Sharon Rill. She is Rhea Creek Grange's 1955 royal court selection.

Princess Sharon, 18, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Rill, ranchers in the Eightmile area. She is 5 feet 5 inches tall, has blue eyes and brown hair and graduated last spring from Heppner high school. During her school year she took part in many activities which included being a member of the Pep club, the F. B. L. A., she served on both the school paper staff and the annual staff, was secretary of the Future Homemakers of America and was chosen queen of the Junior-Senior prom.

The princess has been riding since she was five years old but admitted that other activities during the last couple of years in high school has kept her off her horse recently. When she appears during the fair and rodeo events she will be up on her own strawberry roan, Bonnie. Her favorite sport is riding though she enjoys all sports.

Princess Sharon has been very active in 4-H club work and will

SATURDAY CLOSING OK'd FOR COURT HOUSE

At a public hearing this morning the county court authorized the closure of all county offices on Saturdays, a move made possible by the passage of special legislation at the last legislature. No one appeared to protest the closing.

Offices have been open from 8:30 to 12 noon on Saturdays, but all will now go on a five-day week.

MRS. ANDERSON TO ARRIVE FOR VISIT

Mrs. Harley Anderson of Mesa, Arizona, former Heppner resident will arrive on or about August 15 for a visit with friends. Her husband has been here for about two weeks tending to business affairs.

July Rainfall Totals 1.24 Inches

July provided about as complete an assortment of weather in Morrow county as any one month could with the early part of the period being colder than usual, and on two days during the month the mercury hit the year's high of 100 degrees.

The weatherman also dumped more rain on the county during July than the average. At Heppner a total of 1.24 inches was recorded with a large part of it coming during one storm last week. In July 1954 only .13 inch fell at Heppner. July's 1.24 inches brings to 8.26 inches the rain to fall here since the first of the year. This is over three fourths as much as fell during the entire year of 1954 when only 11.61 was measured.

Leonard Carlson, Gooseberry weather observer checked 1.01 inches of rain during July with half of it, .51 inch, coming during the July 26-27 storm.

Cost Estimates Given On Street Improvement

The Heppner city council Monday night received preliminary plans and cost estimates for a long-delayed street improvement project which was petitioned for over a year ago. A study of the plans will be made and the council indicated that it would start the wheels rolling at its September meeting though, if the plan is OK'd by interested residents, no actual work can be done until next year.

The improvement plan will call for the curbing and paving of approximately 16 blocks on the west side of town and the plans presented by Clark and Groff, Salem engineers, offer two types of curbing and paving as is required by the city charter.

A resolution will be prepared before the next meeting setting out the plan in detail and setting a date for public hearing.

Over a year ago petitions were presented to the council asking that an improvement district be set up for the purpose of paving and curbing Gale street from May to Willow creek, Water street, Church from Main to Jones, Baltimore from Main to its West end and Center from Main to the hill.

Estimates Made
Two types of paving were proposed in the engineer's plans presented Monday, type O-11 which is similar to the paving used throughout town at the present time only heavier; and asphaltic concrete, which is considerably more expensive.

Total estimated cost of the project which would be charged against the abutting property owners on a front foot basis, would be \$48,747 for curbs and type O-11 paving, and \$66,792 for the curbs and asphaltic concrete paving.

Broken down to a front foot cost

the first proposal would cost the property owners approximately \$5.05 per foot for a 42 foot street, \$4.61 for 36 foot street, \$4.31 for a 32 foot and \$4.16 for a 30 foot street. For curbs and asphaltic concrete the cost would be \$7.00 for 42 foot, \$6.32 for 36 foot, \$5.92 for 32 foot and \$5.68 for a 30 foot street. The various street widths were figured by the engineers because all widths would be used in various locations.

If storm sewers were to be installed the project would cost an estimated \$11,000 more but the council indicated that proper drainage could probably be obtained without the need for the sewers.

Nearly 100 persons living on the streets in the proposed improvement district petitioned the city over a year ago to form a district to get curbs and full width paving. The plan has been delayed for many months due to several misunderstandings of the law governing such proposals and the necessity of getting plans and cost estimates.

After the required resolution is prepared a public hearing will be called and residents will have an opportunity to examine the plan in detail and file protests if they so desire. A method of financing the plan has not yet been developed, but the city charter makes provision for paying for such work over a 10 year period and this phase will have to be worked out by the council. The public hearing will probably be set sometime in October, it was indicated Monday.

Should the improvement district and work be approved by the people no actual work could start until next spring as paving and cement work cannot be done during the winter, it was pointed out.

County Timber Survey Released By Forest Service

The commercial forests of Morrow county, cover an area of 220 thousand acres and contain an estimated sawtimber volume of 1.8 billion board feet, according to a report recently released by R. W. Cowlin, director of the Pacific Northwest forest and range experiment station, U. S. Forest Service, Portland. The report "Forest Statistics for Morrow County, Oregon", presents results of an inventory of the forests of the county made in the fall of 1954 by the Forest Service experiment station.

Most of the commercial forest area is in sawtimber-size stands. Fifty-three percent is currently stocked with uncut stands of sawtimber, 37 percent with selectively cut sawtimber stands, and 10 percent with young timber stands less than sawtimber size.

Over three-fourths of the total estimated sawtimber volume is of ponderosa pine. Douglas-fir, Englemann spruce and white fir are other species of appreciable sawtimber volume in the county. Lodgepole pine and subalpine fir also occur here but in lesser quantities.

Private timber owners hold 44 percent of the estimated sawtimber volume. Part of the Umatilla National Forest lies within the county and contains 55 percent of the commercial forest land acreage and 59 percent of the sawtimber volume.

Copies of the report may be obtained without charge from the Pacific Northwest forest and range experiment station, U. S. Forest Service, P. O. Box 4059, Portland 8, Oregon. Also available, at cost of printing, is a detailed forest type map of the county on scales of either 1 or 2 inches to the mile, another product of the recent inventory.

FOOT CUT BY MOWER

Bruce Huff of Heppner, was treated by a physician Tuesday afternoon for a severely cut foot. He suffered the injury while mowing his lawn with a power mower.



REV. GEORGE R. S. LITTLE, formerly of Richmond, Virginia, who last week was named new rector of All Saints Episcopal church. He will fill the position left vacant by the resignation of Rev. John R. Reeves who has accepted a call to a Philadelphia church.

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New Events Added To Rodeo Program

A children's pony race and a cowgirl race were added to the Saturday night show, September 3, at the Morrow county Fair and Rodeo, it was announced last week at a meeting of the rodeo committee. The night show will be the first such evening event to be held at the rodeo and will make use of the new field lights.

Also on the schedule for the night show will be two go-arounds of the Morrow county amateur calf roping, a wild horse race and a Calgary roping event. A saddle donated by Heppner Pine Mills will be the prize for the top ropers in the county amateur roping event.

The rodeo committee voted a \$50 purse for the wild horse race and reduced the entrance fees from \$20 to \$10. It was also decided to limit the event to 10 entries with the first 10 signers to be eligible.

Hired as judges for the Saturday and Sunday shows were Harold Erwin, Heppner and Vern Evans of Hermiston. Admission prices for the Saturday and Sunday shows will be the same as last year while tickets for the Saturday night events to cost \$1.00 for adults and 50 cents for children.

The Morrow county derby, an event that was dropped last year, will again be a part of the full program it was announced. The Heppner Elks lodge has put up a purse of \$275 for the new derby and entrance fees will be added to the purse. Derby rules will require entrants to be residents of Morrow county and they must ride their own horses which they have owned for at least 90 days. As this year's entire show is strictly amateur, it was pointed out that no ex-RCA members will be allowed to participate in any event.

A new main entrance gate to the rodeo field will be set up in the near future and the rodeo committee also approved the hiring of the Pinkerton National Detective agency for ticket taking during the show.

The committee also asked that any group wishing to practice on the field prior to the rodeo, contact either Ed Craber, grounds caretaker or R. B. Ferguson, fair committee chairman, for scheduling.

Judge and Mrs. Garnet Barratt went to John Day Monday to attend a meeting of the Inland Waterways. They returned Wednesday.