

Heppner Gazette Times

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Boardman Site Seen Possibility for Navy Ammunition Depot

From The Hermiston Herald
Persistent rumors that the Port Chicago, Calif., naval ordnance depot may be moved to the area now occupied by the Boardman bombing range flared to credibility Monday evening, when Joe Tatone, mayor of Boardman, told members of the Hermiston chamber of commerce that a San Francisco engineering firm has been retained by the navy to make a survey of the Boardman site to determine its possibilities for naval use as an ammunition depot. The firm of Arthur D. Little, Inc., has been retained, Tatone said.

If and when the Port Chicago depot is moved to the Boardman area, approximately 4,000 persons would be employed on the construction of the depot, it was brought out at the chamber dinner meeting, first held since the two-month "summer vacation". Tatone told chamber members that the 96,000-acre bombing range would be an ideal location for an ordnance depot, as the site is one mile from highway 30, the Union Pacific railroad and the Columbia river, as well as a highway leading to Ordinance. Soft soil and rolling ground would provide an excellent terrain, Tatone added. Artesian wells would provide ample water supply, and the altitude of 275 feet would meet naval requirements.

It was pointed out at the meeting that the Port Chicago depot, located north of San Francisco, has met with unfavorable public relations because of residents of the area objecting to the close proximity of such an installation. Tatone said the nearest productive farm land is five miles from the Boardman range. D. W. Bliss, manager of the Umatilla county housing authority, said about 100 houses would be available for workers and other personnel.

It is understood that negotiations for the Port Chicago depot transfer have been carried on for some time by Rear Admiral Gordon Rowe, Ret., former manager of the Port of Umatilla. At a meeting Monday evening Curtis Simons, president of the Hermiston chamber, urged that the Morrow county court and other authorities be encouraged to expedite the transfer.

Second Lieutenant John Mengel, USAF, commanding officer at the bombing range said Tuesday only a skeleton force is stationed at the range "scoring" bombs and maintaining the area. Lieut. Mengel's unit comprises 20 officers and men.

The preceding story was told to the Heppner-Morrow county chamber of commerce Monday and action was taken immediately to offer the chamber's assistance in obtaining the depot for the Boardman area. The Morrow county court has also advised mayor Tatone that it will help in any way possible.

Registration to Vote Being Urged

With only slightly over two weeks left before the deadline for voter registration, non-registered citizens of the Heppner area are reminded again this week that two special registration places have been established in downtown Heppner.

Both Humphreys Drug Company and Phil's Pharmacy have been set up by county clerk Bruce Lindsay as special registrars. Both stores are open every evening until 8 p. m. for the convenience of residents who are unable to get to the clerk's office before the regular closing time of 5 p. m.

The downtown registration plan was proposed by the chamber of commerce in an effort to increase the number of registered voters in the county and nearly 100 persons have signed up at the two places in recent weeks. The sign-up drive was started by the chamber when it was discovered that Morrow county had one of the lowest percentages of registered voters in comparison to population of any county in Oregon.

Residents of other sections of the county may also register at their nearest town as there are registrars in Lexington, Ione, Boardman and Irrigon. The deadline to register if a person is to vote in the November general election is October 6.

H. E. Instone Rites To Be Here Friday

Graveside services for Herbert Edward Instone, 70 years of age, who passed away September 18 at Pendleton, will be held Friday, Sept. 21 at 2 p. m. at Heppner Masonic cemetery. The Heppner Elks lodge will be in charge. Mr. Instone had been a resident of Morrow county for many years, but complete obituary information is not available.

Sign-Up Date For Soil Bank Is Extended

Sign up for the acreage reserve section of the soil bank program has been extended to October 5, it was revealed this week. The original deadline was Sept. 21.

The extension of time has disappointed a number of county farmers who had signed up for the original 50% allowed under the program but had indicated that they would like to take their entire farm out of wheat if there was acreage and money to go around. N. C. Anderson, county agent, said this week. The extension of time makes it impossible to wait with wheat seeding to determine whether they could come within the quota of money and acres allotted to the county.

Morrow county's allotment is \$847,219 which would approximate 31,000 acres at the average payment price. To date, \$430,202.24 has been signed up in contract No. 1 which allows farmers to take out of production the first 50% of their wheat acreage allotment. This amounts to 15,752 acres. Those who have indicated that they would like to sign up for the remaining portion of their wheat, either in its entirety or in part, amount to \$193,075.49 or 6,905 acres.

It appears now as though there will be sufficient money and acres to go around to all who would like to sign up under the program unless there is a big influx of farmers in the remaining time.

With this amount of wheat taken out of production and the land to be seeded to barley, there is now a big demand for seed barley and the county agent reports that he has had many inquiries during the past week about sources of winter barley. There is also expected to be a later demand for spring barley varieties.

Farmers who have Utah winter or Olympia barley seed for sale are asked to contact the county agent's office.

Catholic Conference Set for Hermiston

Rev. Patrick J. Gaire, pastor of St. Patrick's church of Heppner will head a motor cavalcade of members of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine for the 16th annual conference of the C. C. D. to be held in Hermiston at the Oasis Theater, Sept. 24.

Mrs. F. C. Cunningham of Hermiston will give the address of welcome and preside at the meeting. The keynote address, "Home visiting, the Priestly Heart's Inspiration and Joy" will be given by Rev. John J. O'Hara, S. J., Pendleton.

Short addresses will be given by Confraternity members including Mrs. Richard McElligott of Ione, and panel participants will include Miss Shirley Kononen of Heppner.

Rev. Gaire is one of the sponsors of the conference.

REA POWER TO BE OFF

Columbia Basin Electric Co-op announced this week that power to all its users in the Rhea Creek, Eightmile, Hardman, Willow Creek, Shuttler Flats and Ione areas will be shut off from 3:30 to 7 a. m. Sunday, Sept. 23.

Relocation of a section of the Hermiston feeder line is given as the reason for the short shutdown.

Engineers Asked to Make Resurvey Of Willow Creek Dam Proposal

Value Days Set Friday, Saturday In Heppner Stores

Another Heppner-wide Value Days is being held here this Friday and Saturday under the auspices of the merchants committee of the chamber of commerce and many excellent bargains are being offered shoppers by local businesses.

A two-page series of advertisements of the individual stores taking part in the special promotion appears in today's Gazette Times and handbills announcing the event have been sent out to all residents in the county as well as most communities in Gilliam and Wheeler counties.

The selling event has been held two or three times a year for the past several years and has done much to promote additional buying in local stores. As an additional inducement to shoppers, the committee has arranged to have all parking meters hooded during the two days to provide shoppers with ample free parking facilities.

Cub Scouts Being Sponsored by P-TA; Officers Named

New committee officers for the cub scouts, sponsored by the Parent Teachers association, named at a reorganization meeting Monday night at the school include Jerry Daggett, chairman, Ed Gonty and Harold Laird. The new cubmaster is the Rev. Charles Knox and assistant, Ray Ayers. Cecil Hicks is institutional representative.

Plans were made for the season's first pack meeting set for Thursday, Sept. 25, at 7:30 p. m. at the multi-purpose room of the new school and application made for renewal of the charter for 1956-57. Ed Dick, P-TA president, attended the session. Den mothers are Mrs. Ray Smith, Mrs. N. C. Anderson, Mrs. Ken Keeling and Mrs. Jerry Daggett.

Civic League Slates First Fall Meeting

The Heppner Civic League will hold its first meeting of the fall Monday, Sept. 24 at 8 p. m. at O'Donnell's Cafe. Mrs. Ray Tabor, kindergarten teacher, will discuss the class program and parents of kindergarten children are urged to attend the meeting.

New rummage sale co-chairmen, Mrs. Ray Myrick and Mrs. Bob Jones will organize their committees and make plans for the coming sale. They have requested all members of the League to bring their rummage to the meeting so sorting can be started.

Civic League president is Mrs. Larry Downen who took over recently from Mrs. Fred Sanders who moved to Pendleton.

Mrs. Melba Barnett of San Francisco, Calif. was a guest of Mrs. John Brosnan from Friday through Monday.

FRIDAY PROCLAIMED BY MAYOR AS START OF 1956 RED HAT DAYS

Mayor W. C. Rosewall today proclaimed September 21 as the opening of the 1956 Red Hat Days campaign for better sportsmanship and urged all citizens to wear a red hat or a Red Hat Day button to indicate their compliance with the Red Hat Day pledge.

This is the second year that sportsmen, land owners and land management agencies have joined forces to reduce the number of hunter-caused fires, hunting accidents and improve relations between sportsmen and landowners. The Red Hat pledge calls for hunters to be law abiding, to respect the rights and the property of others and to be careful with fire and firearms.

Morrow county chairman for the state-wide campaign is Ralph Taylor of Heppner. Following is Mayor Rosewall's proclamation: WHEREAS, hunting is an outdoor sport that is attracting more

and more people each year; and WHEREAS, landowners, sportsmen, and land management agencies have joined together for a second successive year in a move to reduce hunter caused fires and hunting casualties and to improve landowner, sportsmen relations; and WHEREAS, this program, having the Red Hat as a symbol was an outstanding success last year and has demonstrated its popular appeal; and WHEREAS, there is a continuing need for this kind of educational program in order that the desired ends may be obtained; NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that September 21 shall signal the start of the 1956 Red Hat Days campaign in Heppner and all citizens are urged to wear a red hat or a red hat button on that date to signify their continued compliance with the provisions of the Red Hat pledge. W. C. ROSEWALL, Mayor of Heppner



DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES Senator Wayne Morse and Al Ullman who are doing much of their campaigning together, will be in Heppner Monday afternoon to attend a reception in their honor. See story below.

Morse and Ullman To Be Here Monday For Reception

Senator Wayne Morse and Al Ullman, Democratic candidate for Congress, will carry their campaign into Morrow county next Monday as they take part in a reception to be held in Heppner that afternoon. The affair is one of the many being held throughout an 11 county area as Ullman and Senator Morse travel together to bring the issues to the voters of the second district.

The reception will be held at the home of Clarence Rosewall. Both Mrs. Morse and Mrs. Ullman will be present, as will Mr. and Mrs. Al Bunch. Bunch is county chairman for the Ullman campaign. Other county Democratic leaders will also be here.

Following the reception which will be held from 1:30 to 3:30 the Morse and Ullman group will leave for Grass Valley where a dinner is being held for Senator Morse.

Many Local Students Leaving for College

Among Heppner college students returning to school this year include to Oregon State college, Jim Hayes, Dick Kononen, Terry Thompson, Mike Grant, vice president of the student body, Patsy Wright and Jimmy Wightman. Entering as freshmen are Adelia Anderson, Darrell Blake, David Cox, Rena Gillespie and Skip Ruhl.

University of Oregon: Sally Cohn, Larry Mollahan and freshmen, Lance Tibbles, George Little, Wayne Soward, John Brosnan, and Don Casteel.

Eastern Oregon College of Education: Mary Ruth Green, Jean Marie Graham, Stephen Green, Delbert Piper, Nancy Anderson, Mike Monahan, Bobby Grabbill, John (Bud) Wagner and Connie Newman.

Students at other colleges include Lowell Lee Turner, Portland State College; Lyle Jensen, Pacific University; Marilyn Munkers, George Pepperdine college Los Angeles; Dale Osmin, business college in Salem; Kay Valentine, business college in Spokane, Wash.; Jo Anne Keithley, beauty school in Salem and Joan Wright, nurses training at Good Samaritan hospital, Portland. Attending the University of Portland are Jackie Monagle, James Monahan and Larry Lindsay of Lexington.

Hearing Called on Incorporation of Town of Irrigon

A public hearing on a move to incorporate the community of Irrigon will be held at 2 p. m. Saturday, October 3 at the court house.

The incorporation of the town has been talked by residents of the area for some time and only recently was the county court petitioned to set a date for the hearing on the plan. A complete description of the boundaries of the proposed town can be found in a legal notice in today's paper calling the hearing.

Rev. and Mrs. George R. S. Little left Sunday afternoon for San Francisco and Berkeley, California where he will attend a seminar and Mrs. Little will visit friends.

New Cost and Construction Plans Requested

As a result of Tuesday night's meeting of the Morrow county water resources planning committee with members of the planning division of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, it was voted to ask the Engineers to reactivate and complete its survey for a flood control and irrigation dam on Willow creek immediately above Heppner.

Present at the meeting which attracted over 60 interested residents of the Willow creek valley, were Edward C. Franzen, chief of the engineering division of the Corps of Engineers and Howard A. Preston, chief of the survey division of the Corps, both of Walla Walla.

Franzen was introduced by J. O. Turner, head of the flood control committee of the county group, who explained the history of floods in the area and called for unified support for the construction of a dam.

Franzen told the group that the original survey for a multipurpose flood control and irrigation dam was made by the engineers in 1945 but that further action was dropped because of the lack of any particular interest by residents of this area. He said that if it was now desired, the corps should be asked to make a resurvey of the proposal, which it could do because of prior authorization for such work by Congress.

Size Told in Report
Franzen said that the original survey called for a concrete dam 1,275 feet long at its crest, and 100 feet high to be built just below the forks of Willow creek and Balm fork. It would have a storage capacity of 5,000 acre feet of which 3,400 would be for flood control, 900 acre feet for irrigation and 700 feet for dead storage. He told the group that the survey could well be brought up to date as to costs and other factors, pointing out that in many cases an earth fill dam could be built more cheaply than one of concrete. He also pointed out that an earth fill structure is frequently safer than would be a concrete dam.

Original cost estimates of the dam were set at \$5,230,000. A survey would bring these figures up to date. Franzen said that 110 acres of land would be included in the reservoir area and water would be backed up Willow creek one mile and Balm fork about three-fourths of a mile above the dam.

Irrigation Value Discussed
The value of the irrigation benefits which would be derived from such a dam were discussed at length by interested parties and the engineers. Franzen pointed out that the dam would be primarily for flood control, but that a portion of its capacity would be available for irrigation storage (900 acre feet for irrigation and 3,400 feet for flood control). The cost of such irrigation water was brought up by a farmer in the lower end of the valley and the engineer replied that after a resurvey was made it would be possible to give an accurate water cost figure. There are about 7,000 acres of land in the valley that might benefit from the additional water.

It was emphasized that ranches which now have water rights on Willow creek would continue to get their allotted water free, and that they would only pay for such additional water as they desired to buy. Franzen said that if a resurvey is made, public hearings will be held in the area to determine just what the people wanted and to advise them of the plans. If and when a dam is built, it will be patterned after the desires of the residents, he said.

The value of having a large pool of water which could help in restoring the lowering water table in the county was discussed and the recreation value was talked briefly. Following the discussion, the group voted unanimously to request the engineers to make a resurvey of the proposal.

Presiding at the meeting was Newt O'Hara, chairman of the county water resources planning committee. Quentin Bowman, Continued on Page 6



REMEMBER RED HAT DAYS

KEEP OREGON GREEN