

Heppner Gazette Times

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Heppner Given Pat On Back For City Accomplishments

Record Said One Of Best For Town of Size

The city of Heppner was congratulated this week on the record of accomplishments it has made in recent years in a letter read at the council meeting Monday night from Lee Kipling King, certified public accountant, Portland, who has just completed an audit of the city's books.

King said in his letter, "I thought the city council might like to get some favorable publicity on the fine work they have performed over the years. In that connection I have included a section of municipal accomplishments (in the audit report). This shows a listing of major city improvements, the increased value of fixed assets bond redemptions during the past four years, and investments of surplus funds.

"I personally feel that you have made an outstanding record for cities of your size and commendation for such a fine record is surely in order."

Accomplishments Listed

Under the heading "Municipal Accomplishments", King's report stated:

A growing list of city improvements has been compiled during the past several years.

A major accomplishment was the authorization and construction of a sewage disposal system, financed by a bond issue approved on June 24, 1952. City officials secured bids for the project which was considerably below estimates for the work. As a result only \$250,000 of the authorized bond issue of \$300,000 was needed for sewage disposal construction purposes.

Numerous other improvements have been recorded including a sprinkling system for the city park, the addition of modern equipment for the fire department, street and water departments and for the swimming pool.

The entire cost of \$11,758.07 for parking meters was retired from meter revenues.

The valuation of municipal fixed assets during the four years ended June 30, 1956 increased from \$335,132.11 to \$639,666.19, a total of \$304,534.08.

During the same period, the city paid off bonds totalling \$78,000 and in addition had a sinking fund of \$50,000 invested in time certificates of deposit to redeem sewage system bonds when they become callable in 1962.

Councilman Appointed

In other business, Mayor W. C. Rosewall appointed E. E. Gonty to fill the unexpired term on the council of Robert Grabill, who resigned due to moving away from the city. Gonty was elected to a full term at the general election in November, but would not have taken office until January 1.

The group received a request for a card room license from Jerry McAuliffe which was turned over to a committee for investigation.

An ordinance was passed setting an occupational tax for the privilege of operating a power and light business within the city. The rate to be two percent of the gross revenue, and ordered a similar ordinance be prepared to cover the operation of a telephone system in the city.

Blinker Light Ordered

Jack Loyd, a member of the Heppner school board asked the council to install a blinker stop light at the crosswalk between the new grade school and the high school. Such an installation was recommended by a citizens traffic committee.

The council ordered the street

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Ballots Located; Irrigon Soon to Be Officially a Town

A belated election report gave news this week that Morrow county now has, or soon will have, five incorporated towns within its boundaries. Irrigon approved the incorporation proposal at the November general election by a vote of 68 to 39.

The delay in announcing the results was caused by a snafu in recording the vote. The ballots were brought to the county clerk's office in the election pouches along with the other ballots, but the clerk was not so informed, so he stored the whole works away in the court house vault with the result that the court never canvassed the vote to make it official.

As soon as the canvass is made the court will set a date for the election of the new Irrigon city councilmen and when that is done the town will be operating on its own.

Wagenblast Receives Grassman Awards at Portland Banquet

Alvin Wagenblast, Lexington, was presented with second place awards Monday evening at Portland in the Northwest "Grassman of the Year" contest. Wagenblast won the county contest and placed second in the state.

Wagenblast received a check for \$200 and a plaque from the United States National bank and a plaque from the Portland chamber of commerce, sponsors of the contest and the banquet which was held at the Multnomah hotel. First place winner in the region was Hans Luethold of Tillamook.

Attending the banquet and presentation were Mr. and Mrs. Wagenblast and Mr. and Mrs. Harold Beach. Beach is president of the Morrow county Farm Bureau, sponsors of the local contest.

Thirteen Make Lone Honor Roll

Ione high school this week released the names of 13 students whose grades placed them on the honor roll for the first nine weeks period.

They are: Julie Rietmann, Leann Padberg, Melvin Martin, Karen Lundell, Bill Salter, Leland McKinney, Ken Jones, Annabelle Coleman, Linda Heimburger, Sue Ekstrom, Mardine Baker, Alyce Rea, Judy Howton.

Receiving honorable mention were Kay Sherer, Ellis Ball, Harry Swart, Jim Swart, Dick Sherer, Phil Emert, Grant Rigby, Mary Emert and Grace McCabe.

TURKEY SHOOT SET

The Morrow county Gun Club will hold another merchandise and Turkey shoot Sunday, Dec. 9 at the club house south of Heppner.

OLD LEDGER BOOK TELLS MUCH ABOUT EARLY HISTORY IN GOOSEBERRY AREA

A very interesting record book telling much of the early history of the Gooseberry district was found recently in the attic of the Eric Bergstrom home during a remodeling project. The book, which is a combination ledger and account book and contained much information on the early history of the area.

In the book were entries made from 1833 to 1887 and it named many of the early settlers. Some of those mentioned were Isaac Esteb, local blacksmith and later postmaster; Frank Holmes, Jay Ball, George Brians, Perry Miller, John Spignell, Alex Young, Eugene Meyers and the four Akers families — William (Grandpa), Benjamin, Garret and Harvey. These were pioneers who settled here in 1833 and 1834, before this section became Morrow county. Each took up homesteads in the area.

Little can be realized of the hardships and privations of these early settlers as all had to start from scratch with little or no equipment. The sod was broken little by little with two or three horses on a walking plow, better known as a "foot-burner." Home made harrows were used to cultivate the ground and seeding was done by hand. Crude, horse-

Soil District Supervisors Meet

Assistance available to ranchers in soil conservation districts was explained by officials of state and federal agencies at the annual area meeting of district supervisors from Umatilla, Morrow, Grant and Gilliam counties all day Tuesday at the county courthouse. Bill Cooper, Union farmer and member of the state soil conservation committee, was in charge.

Panel members who discussed the cooperative program with districts included John Denison, Pendleton, area conservationist, soil conservation services; Howard Cushman, Corvallis, state extension service; William Mulkey, Portland, state agricultural stabilization and conservation office; Charles M. Rector, Umatilla national forest; Warren Leatham, Portland, conservationist with the bureau of Indian affairs; Glenn Ward, Heppner, state game commission; Harold Tower, Portland, state conservationist, S. C. S. and Glen Purnell, Corvallis, executive secretary of the state conservation committee.

The workshop session included an exchange of problems and activities in the various soil districts and discussion on the soil bank and watershed programs.

Enrollment Still Open in Adult Sewing Classes

Women who plan to enroll in the adult education sewing classes are required to attend the meeting at the Heppner grade school multipurpose room on Monday evening, December 10 at 7:30 p. m. The women are requested to bring pencil and note paper.

The course in the basic Bishop methods of clothing construction is offered through the cooperation of the Oregon Division of Vocational Education of Salem, the adult education program of school district No. 1 and the Parent-Teacher Association of Heppner.

Mrs. G. C. M. Smith, vice president of the Heppner P-TA is assisting with the organization.

Mrs. Homer Hager, teacher of home economics in the local school, who has taken instruction in the Bishop method of clothing construction for the past three summers and graduate work in clothing at Oregon State college will be the instructor.

PAGEANT TO BE PRESENTED

The Methodist church school will present a pageant "In His Name" on Sunday, Dec. 23 at 7:30 p. m. The presentation will be directed by Mrs. Lucille Owens, Mrs. Oliver Creswick, Mrs. Vic Kreimeyer and Mrs. Lester Boulton.

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Santa Tells of Plans For Visit to Heppner Saturday

A mighty popular gentleman, particularly among the younger set will make his annual visit to Heppner Saturday afternoon, Dec. 8, according to word received by Richard Brunner, chairman of the chamber of commerce merchants committee who is sponsoring his visit.

In case you can't guess his identity, it's an old fellow known as Santa Claus.

Santa sent word that he will arrive in town shortly after 1 o'clock next Saturday afternoon to check up on the behavior of the county's youngsters, find out what they would like to have him bring them for Christmas and to pass out treats to all those who come to visit with him.

He will arrive probably on a fire truck unless the snow is too deep, and will set up his temporary headquarters in front of the Heppner Hotel. Later he will go to the lounge of the Elks Lodge where he plans to spend at least an hour visiting with the smaller youngsters whom he couldn't find time to talk with on the street.

Brunner said Santa sent word that he will have a big sack of candy and other treats with him — enough for all the kids who come to see him.

Red Cross Helps Hungarian Relief

A special limited Red Cross fund drive for Hungarian relief is now under way in Morrow county following a meeting of the county Red Cross chapter Tuesday night at Heppner.

The local chapter is asked for \$135 for Hungarian relief and Mrs. O. W. Cutsforth, chapter chairman, said the money will be sent out of the chapter funds, but it is hoped that special donations will equal that amount. Persons wishing to aid are asked to make their donations either to Mrs. Cutsforth, Lexington, Mrs. Verner Troedson, Ione or to Frank Turner, Heppner.

Following the meeting it was announced that committee appointments had been made for the coming year with Paul Tews and Willard O'Hara, disaster chairman; Home service, Rev. Lester Boulton and Rev. Merlin Zier; blood bank, Jack Bailey; home nursing, Mrs. Velma Glass; first aid, C. J. D. Bauman and William Labhart. The regular Red Cross drive chairman will be named later.

It was announced that the annual blood drawing will be held during May.

Local Scouts To Sell Christmas Trees

Scouts of Troop 86 drove to the mountains Sunday to harvest Christmas trees for sale in Heppner. Funds raised will be used to purchase Scout equipment for the new troop.

Those making the trip were senior patrol leader, Larry Angell; patrol leader Tom Glass of the Navaho patrol; Don Keeling, Mike Koenig, LeRoy Gardner and Kenney Keeling with Jim and John Cason, Jim Farra and Dennis Ferguson of the Beaver patrol.

The scouts were accompanied by scoutmaster Mickey Schmidt and Bud Wilson and family. Transportation for the scouts was furnished by the Heppner Pine Mills, Inc.

Combined Choirs to Present Cantata

The combined choirs of the Christian and Methodist churches will present a Christmas Cantata "Chimes of the Holy Night" by Fred B. Holton on Thursday, December 20 at the Methodist church at 8 p. m.

The choirs are directed by Norman Peters. Mrs. Vic Kreimeyer is the organist.

ATTENDS MEDICAL MEET

Dr. A. D. McMurdo attended the meeting of the American Medical Association held in Seattle Nov. 27 through 30. He reported the meetings were very instructive and interesting. There were doctors present from every state and some foreign countries.

Headline of the Week

"Portland Egg Prices Crack—"



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS went up quickly Sunday in Heppner with the aid of these three fork-lift trucks supplied by Heppner Pine Mills and Tum-A-Lum Lumber company. Over a dozen chamber of commerce members aided in hanging the strings of boughs and colored lights. (GT Photo)

Walter Wiglesworth Named New President Of The Wranglers

Walter Wiglesworth of Echo was named new president of the Morrow County Wranglers Tuesday night. He will take over the office the first of the year.

Other officers elected were Leo Crabtree, Ione, vice-president; Bruce Lindsay, Heppner, secretary; Barbara Jordan, Heppner, treasurer. The new directors are J. W. Norene, Don Evans and Archie Munkers. Holdover director is Al Fetsch and Ralph Beamers, retiring president, is also on the board.

The Tuesday night meeting was the Christmas party complete with Santa Claus and candy for the youngsters.

Ione and Heppner Post Offices Set Extra Christmas Hours

Postmasters James H. Driscoll at Heppner and Ruby O. Roberts at Ione announced this week that both post offices will remain open Saturday afternoons, December 15 and 22 to help handle the rush of Christmas mail.

The postal department again asks all persons to do their Christmas mailing early as possible to ease the load during the heavy rush period of the last two weeks before Christmas.

Adult Soils Class Sign-Up Still Open

The adult soils and fertilizer class held its second meeting in the high school Monday evening. The class was conducted by Douglas Price, local SCS man, on land classification. He defined many terms used by the Soil Conservation service in mapping soils and also general soil terms.

A definite explanation was given on how the soils were classed and why they were classified as they were on the soils map.

Miniature soil profiles were shown to give the men a chance to see the different horizons of some of the soils in the local area. The next two classes will be conducted by Marr Waddoups, who recently left the Pendleton branch experiment station and is now working for Lamb-Weston Cannery Co. Waddoups will lecture on soil chemistry and micro-organisms.

It still isn't too late to sign up for the class, which is held on Monday evenings at 7 o'clock.

R. B. Rands Appointed J of P at Boardman

R. B. Rands has been appointed by Governor Elmo Smith Justice of the Peace in the Boardman district to fill the unexpired term of William Garner who resigned.

Rands was elected to the post for a full term but he would not have taken office until January 1. He will also serve for the recently combined Boardman and Irrigon districts and the justice dispensed with at Irrigon.

Heavy Snow Misses Heppner, More Cold Said on Way

Heppner this week again upheld its tradition of being located in the "Banana Belt". While most of the rest of the state lay under a blanket of snow varying from one to several inches deep, the ground was practically bare here and though the temperature did drop to a low of 14 degrees early Thursday morning, it didn't get anywhere near as cold as the weatherman had predicted.

There still is a good chance it may, however.

The mercury began to drop here Tuesday and a very light snow or freezing fog fell Wednesday but not enough that Heppner weather recorder Leonard Gilliam could even get a measurement. Both Lexington and Ione had a much heavier fall and it was reported that seven inches fell in the upper Willow creek section of the Blue Mountains on Tuesday. The area along the Columbia had nearly an inch Wednesday with nearly all of highway 30 from Portland east classified as extremely hazardous. Snow also fell to the south with the John Day river country well covered.

Heppner's low temperature was 14 degrees Thursday morning and the high Wednesday was 27.

The weather bureau continued to warn the entire Pacific Northwest to expect much colder weather during the next two or three days and predicted that the temperature in much of Eastern Oregon may get down to zero by this weekend. They said there is also a chance for some more snow or freezing fog.

Mrs. Anna Groshens, Ex-Heppner Resident Passes in Portland

Mrs. Anna L. Groshens, 84, mother of Victor Groshens of Heppner and a former resident of this area, died suddenly November 30 at Portland. Services were held Monday, December 3 at Portland with interment in the Rose City cemetery.

Mrs. Groshens was born August 11, 1872 in Sweden and came to America when she was 16 years of age. She and her husband came here in 1896 and homesteaded at what is known as Groshens Cabins on Potamus creek. They moved to Montana and Pendleton, returning to Heppner in 1903. In 1926 the family moved to Portland where they since resided. Her husband Victor passed away in 1940.

Surviving are Harry A. Groshens, Edward A. Groshens, Mrs. L. J. Dempsey, all of Portland; Victor of Heppner; Mrs. Roy Helgeland, Portland and Mrs. Frank Hanson, Bonners Ferry, Idaho. She also leaves 14 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Church to Observe "Women's Sunday"

Sunday will be observed as "Women's day" at the Heppner Christian church with the ladies of the church in charge of the service.

Mrs. Effie Ritchie, Milton-Free-water will be the guest speaker. She has a wide background of experience in church work and in her home church she has been active not only in women's but also youth work. She is an ardent worker in the M-F council of churches and the Columbia district Christian Endeavor's youth work.

Mrs. Anne Smouse will leave next week to spend the Christmas holidays with her daughter and son-in-law, Dr. and Mrs. Richard K. Baker in Rochester, Minn.

Jack Angel spent last Wednesday and Thursday in Yakima on business. Miss Angel and Jackie accompanied him.

Mrs. Loyd Burkenbine and four children left Tuesday for Kansas for a 15 day visit with relatives.

County Farm Income Up 25% in '56

Morrow county agent N. C. Anderson this week completed the compilation of figures showing the agricultural income during 1956 in Morrow county increased almost \$3,000,000 over 1955. The figures are part of the agent's annual report made to Oregon State College.

Anderson said it is quite a job to find all the factors affecting income and to determine one that is anywhere near accurate, but that his figures showed a total agricultural income for 1956 of

\$11,974,000, which would be an increase of about 25 percent over 1955. This was accounted for by the increased wheat and barley yields and a good potato and melon crop with good prices for farmers in the Boardman area.

The figure released for 1956 show grain and hay at \$9,100,000 compared to \$6,500,000 in 1955. Livestock income remained about the same with \$1,470,000 compared to \$1,500,000 in 1955. Dairy was down from \$400,000 in 1955 to \$300,000 in 1956 and egg and

poultry were up to \$200,000 this year compared with \$175,000 in 1955. The income from potatoes and truck crops doubled in 1956, it was estimated at \$450,000 to \$225,000 last year.

Farm timber products was estimated at \$300,000 compared to \$250,000 in 1955 and small fruits dropped from \$25,000 in 1955 to \$2,000 in 1956 because of winter kill in the November 1955 freeze. Miscellaneous animal products increased from a \$25,000 estimate in 1955 to \$125,000 in 1956.