

Christmas Programs Planned During Week By Churches, Schools

Among the many special Christmas programs to be held during the next week by schools and churches will be the annual Christmas cantata to be presented Thursday evening, Dec. 20 at 8 p. m. at the Methodist church. It will be given by the combined choirs of the Methodist and Christian churches and is under the direction of Norman Peters, Heppner school music instructor.

Program for the cantata, Chimes of the Holy Night, includes: Christmas Bells are Ringing; How Beautiful Upon the Mountains, by Mrs. Charles Knox; But Thou, Bethlehem, Mrs. Joe Stewart; Earth's Weary Waiting Done, women's chorus; In the Watches of the Night, Mrs. Norman Peters; Good Tidings, men's chorus; Glory to God in the Highest; On Earth Peace; Let Us Go Even Unto Bethlehem, Vic Kreimeyer; Jesus, Our Lord, Mrs. Tom Wells; Break Forth into Joy; The Star of the Eastern Sky, Gordon Pratt; The Lord is Born Today.

Members of the choirs are: sopranos, Mesdames Joe Stewart, Fred Hoskins Jr., Norman Peters, Fred Gimbel, David Eckman, Tom Wells, Earl Bryant, Cecil Hicks, Lester Boulden, Miss Marilyn Calvin, Shirley Nash, Sharon Case and Alice Faye Stewart. Altos, Mesdames Whitmer Wright, Charles Knox, Grace Hughes, Miss Celia Boulden.

Death Claims Erik Bergstrom

Erik Bergstrom, 91, a wheat rancher in the Gooseberry community for 68 years, died Sunday, Dec. 9 at the home of his son E. William Bergstrom.

Mr. Bergstrom was born February 1, 1865 at Grasmark, Sweden and came to America in 1888. He was a member of the Valby Lutheran church.

Services were held Tuesday, Dec. 11 at the Heppner Christian church with Rev. Merlin Zier officiating. Burial was in the Rose City cemetery in Portland on Wednesday morning at the Pearson Mortuary in Portland.

Surviving are three sons, Carl F. and E. William both of Ione, and Oscar G. Bergstrom of Portland. One daughter predeceased him in death having passed away in 1926. He also leaves nine grandsons, one granddaughter, and 22 great-grandchildren.

Creswick Mortuary was in charge of arrangements.

Janice Martin, Susan McQuarrie, Carol Anderson and Mary Jo Stewart.

Tenors, Gordon Pratt, Joe Stewart, Norman Peters, Walt Gay.

Basses, Victor Kreimeyer, Clem Stockard, Renne Harris, Eddie Olson and Jay Sumner.

Organist is Mrs. Kreimeyer.

School Programs Set

Other special programs include two at the Heppner schools. The grade school will give theirs Tuesday afternoon, Dec. 18 from 1:30 to 3:30 and the high school Wednesday evening, Dec. 19 at 8 p. m. The Lexington school program will be held Thursday, Dec. 20 and the Ione school program and community Christmas tree will be held Thursday, Dec. 20 at 7:30 at the cafeteria.

The Lexington Christian and Congregational church will hold its Christmas program Sunday evening Dec. 23 and the Ione Community church on Sunday, Dec. 16 at 6:30 p. m.

The Heppner Christian church will present the Christmas pageant, "The Shining Candles," Sunday, Dec. 16 at 7:30 p. m. with every department of the Bible school represented. The pageant closes with a candle-lighting ceremony in which everyone attending will participate.

There will be a special Christmas service included as part of the regular Sunday school hour Sunday morning, Dec. 23 at All Saints Episcopal church and the Assembly of God church will have a special Sunday school Christmas program on Friday evening Dec. 21 at 7:45.

At the Ione Church of the Nazarene a special program has been set for Sunday, Dec. 23 at 7:30. The program will include a play, "The Town Crier," put on by the young people of the church.

Mrs. Cal Sumner New President of Band Parents Club

The Heppner band parents club met Monday night to elect officers for the coming year. They are: Mrs. Cal Sumner, president; Mrs. Roice Fullerton, vice-president; and Mrs. N. C. Anderson, secretary-treasurer.

Other business included a discussion of a banner for the band and possible majorette uniforms.

All parents of band members are urged to be present at the next meeting to be held in the school band room January 14 when it is planned to set the date for the band carnival and name committees for the event.

County School Census Reveals Gain of 3 Children

The recently completed census showed a total of 1409 youngsters of school children in the county between the ages of four and 20 years, the county school superintendent's office revealed this week. The figure is an increase of just three over last year's total.

A breakdown by county districts show Heppner with 675 children; Lexington 151; Ione 213; Boardman 116; Irrigon 233 and Hardman 20.

By comparison, the 1955 census showed Heppner having 665; Lexington 142; Ione 204; Boardman 135; Irrigon 240 and Hardman 20.

The census is taken annually to aid the various district boards in determining their physical plant needs and educational programs for the years ahead.

Gains Seen in Livestock Prices

HERMISTON—The weather outside was frightful but the market was real delightful at the Hermiston Livestock Commission Co. sale Friday with gains ranging from \$.50 cwt to better than \$1 cwt., on most classes of animals.

Some 97 consignors placed 412 cattle, 75 hogs and 27 sheep on the auction block in a speedy sale that had plenty of bidders despite the cold.

Hot items on this rather chilly day were steer calves, selling at from \$17.90 to \$19 cwt., compared with the last week's \$17.30-\$18.50 range; veal, \$17.30-\$19 cwt., compared with the previous sale's \$16.10-\$18.25 spread; and dairy cows, \$101 to \$169 per head compared with last week's \$87-\$112.50 per head. Other good gainers included feeder steers, with a top of \$17.40 cwt., a gain of \$1.10 cwt. over last week, and fat hogs, with a high of \$17.40 cwt., compared with last week's \$16.40 top.

Plenty of steer calves and yearling steers will be in demand for next Friday's sale, sale manager Delbert Anson reported.

The Market: CATTLE—Baby calves, 1.50 to 11 per head; steer calves, 17.90 to 19 cwt.; heifer calves, 13.80 to 15 cwt.; veal, 17.30 to 19 cwt.; stocker steers, 13.75 to 14.60 cwt.; feeder steers, 14.60 to 17.40 cwt.; grass heifers, 13.20 to 14.90 cwt.; dairy cows, 101 to 169 per head; Utility and commercial cows, 10.50 to 12.20 cwt.; canner-cutter cows, 7.80 to 9 cwt., shells, 6.25 to 7.20 cwt.; and bulls, 11.40 to 12.85 cwt.

HOGS—Weaner pigs, 4.50-10.50 per head; fat hogs, 16.30 to 17.40 cwt.; and sows, 12.20 to 13.90 cwt. SHEEP—Feeder lambs, 14.10 to 16.20 cwt.; fat lambs, 16.30 to 17 cwt.; and older ewes, 10 per head.

Those earning top prices at the market included T. F. Kirk, Stanfield, 18.40 cwt. for eight feeder pigs of 880 pounds; Frank Benschel, Hermiston, 17.40 cwt. for five fat hogs of 1095 pounds; P. C. Evans, Walla Walla, 9 cwt. for a 1080 pound holstein cow; Arthur Sedmen, Plymouth, 15 cwt. for 18 heifer calves of 1325 pounds; Archie Moore, Granger, 17.40 cwt. for 12 yearling steers of 9000 pounds; Ed Means, Milton, 19 cwt. for a 230 pound veal; and C. A. Conlee, Fossil, 18.90 cwt. for 35 steer calves of 15,190 pounds.

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Heppner Navy Man On Antarctic Trip

VALPARAISO, Chile—Raymond Y. Walker, fireman, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Walker of Heppner, Oregon, departed Nov. 30 from Valparaiso, Chile aboard the Navy icebreaker USS Staten Island enroute to the Antarctic to participate in "Operation Deepfreeze II".

Prior to this visit to the chief seaport of Chile, the ship had spent two days at Balboa, Central America.

The Staten Island's destination is the Weddell Sea, a hitherto uninhabited area where a new station will be constructed to provide housing, administrative, messing and laboratory facilities for International Geographical Year personnel.

The ship is due to return to Seattle, Wash., in early May 1957.

Weekend guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. James Sumner were her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sumner and family of Arlington.

Heppner School Board Defers Plan To Add Property

The Heppner school board at its monthly meeting Dec. 4 discussed the possibility of purchasing additional land for future school expansion but deferred any action along that line for the time being because of its present remodeling program.

The board received the architect's estimate of approximately \$50,000 for the remodeling of the high school science room, library and commercial rooms. This work is part of the four-year program set up some time ago for modernizing the old building.

It was decided to appoint an advisory council to aid the board on matters where a broader base of community opinion is desired. The group would advise them on such matters as long range programs, budgeting and taxation.

The result of the school census was announced with 677 persons reported. This is an increase of 15 over last year. There were 54 first graders reported for the start of the 1957-58 school year but experience has shown that there are usually about 10 additional youngsters by the time for registration.

The board approved the addition of a half-time teacher in the budget for next year for special and remedial education.

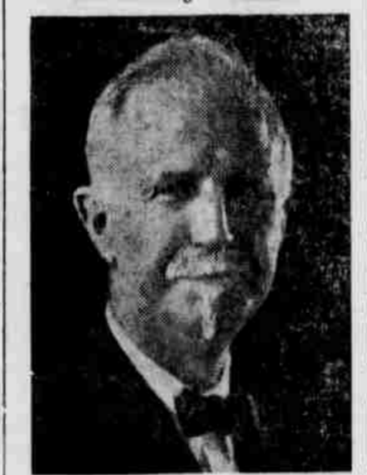
The meeting night of the board has been changed to the second Tuesday of each month.

Rainfall Here Gentle, Welcome

While much of western Oregon was getting up to four inches of rain in 24 hours early this week which came on top of a heavy layer of snow, Heppner received only a welcome drizzle which brought just over one-quarter of an inch of moisture.

Leonard Gilliam, Heppner weather recorder measured 26 inch of rain Tuesday morning and another .01 inch Wednesday to bring December's total precipitation to .35 inch.

The weather this week has been almost spring-like with the mercury climbing into the 50's and low 60's Monday and Tuesday following a week of below freezing temperatures. Rain was general over most of the county and this section of Eastern Oregon, but not nearly as heavy as the area west of the Cascades experienced. In many sections to the west the heavy rainfall has caused localized floods.



ROGER W. BABSON

Babson Business Forecast Due in December 27 GT

The Gazette Times will again publish Babson's Business and Financial Forecast for 1957, a regular year-end feature of this paper. It will appear in the issue of December 27.

A careful checking of the Babson predictions made in the Business and Financial Report for 1956 upholds the remarkable average of the past years by being 85 percent correct. Below is the score for the past nine years. It holds the best and highest record for annual forecasts on U. S. future business.

The forecast for 1956 was 85% accurate; 1955 84%; 1954 86%; 1953 84%; 1952 88%; 1951 86%; 1950 81%; 1949 80%; 1948 91%.

Watch for it in this paper in two weeks.

Second Scout Troop Selling Xmas Trees

The members of Heppner's second Boy Scout troop went into the Christmas tree business this week when Troop 61 received a shipment of Douglas fir trees from a Washington tree farm.

The boys are doing business at the corner of May and Chase streets with George Terrell, the Scoutmaster, in charge.

Kenneth Peck Wins Title Of State Conservation Man



KENNETH PECK, left, of Lexington is shown receiving his "Conservation Man of the Year" plaque from M. J. Frey, publisher of The Oregonian. The announcement of the winner and the presentation of the award was made last Saturday at the Oregon Wheat Growers League convention in Portland. It is given annually by The Oregonian. Mrs. Peck is shown receiving the award with her husband. (Cut courtesy The Oregonian)

AT LEAST ONE PERSON WHO VOTED IN 1894 ELECTION STILL LIVING

There is at least one person still alive who voted in the 1894 general election at Gooseberry, the Gazette Times was informed this week. The information came as a result of last week's story telling of the finding of an old ledger book and ballot in a home in that area that was being remodeled.

The one known living voter—in fact she was one of the candidates whose name was listed on the ballot—is Mrs. Addie Conlee Binns who is now a patient in the Pioneer Memorial hospital nursing home. She will be 95 years old next February.

Mrs. Binns has been ill for several years and has been hospitalized here for about a year and one-half.

She was listed on the 1894 ballot as Addie Conlee and was running for county school superintendent.

Chamber of Commerce Slates Annual Election Monday

Chamber of commerce members this week started nominations for directors of the organization and will elect five new members to the board at its meeting next Monday noon. Following the election for directors, the board will choose a president and other officers for the coming year.

Monday's program included pantomime numbers by Dorris Morris, Robert Nichols and Tom Green, Heppner grade school students.

Oregon Rodeo Assn Changes Name and Enlarges Program

At a recent meeting in Pendleton the former Oregon Rodeo Association changed its name to Northwest Rodeo Association and named new officers to carry on the organization's activities during the coming year.

The name change was made so the group could include cowboys from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, California and Canada. The group will work for betterment of conditions and rules governing rodeo events and will strive to bring about honest advertising by rodeos so the public will know the truth about the advertised rodeo events in the approved NWRA rodeos.

Special representatives were elected to cover each section of the country. Max Nogle, Kent, is bulldogging director of the association. New president is Don Sullivan of Hereford, Bud Ingram, Haines, vice-president, and Eleanor West of Philomath is secretary-treasurer.

Present at the meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Jones of Heppner. He is Heppner rodeo director.

Social Security Date is Changed

The schedule of Social Security visits to Heppner has been revised due to the Christmas holidays according to word released by Vernon A. Welo, district manager.

A representative of the La Grande office will be at the city hall in Heppner from 9:00 a. m. until 12 noon, Wednesday, December 19, rather than December 26 as originally scheduled.

County's 1953 Winner Takes Top State Honors

Kenneth Peck of Lexington Saturday was named Oregon's "Conservation Man of the Year" and received his award from M. J. Frey, publisher of The Oregonian at one of the final sessions of the Oregon Wheat Growers League convention in Portland. The trophy is presented by The Oregonian.

Peck was named the 1953 Morrow county Conservation Man of the Year.

His conservation practices on the 1120 acre wheat and cattle ranch he farms just out of Lexington won for him the title over entrants from other Oregon counties. Among those which are outstanding is a program which adds to instead of losing valuable topsoil on his ranch. Trashy fallow together with strip cropping has practically erosion-proofed 750 acres used for grain production on his farm. Contour chiseling and sodded waterways are among the other soil-saving practices in use.

He is steadily improving the productivity of a 12-acre alfalfa field which was established on a former creek bottom waste area. His method is to put out soil traps which divert water out of the creek when it runs heavy with topsoil during periods of heavy runoff allowing it to silt out over his field. About 200 acres which include several former blow areas have been seeded to grass and alfalfa pastures.

Peck has been successful in increasing wheat yields through the use of nitrogen fertilizer which is applied following soil tests to determine the proper amount that can be applied effectively.

Peck is the first Morrow county farmer to receive the top state conservation award, but only last week a close neighbor of his, Alvin Wagenblast received the second place award in the north-west Grassman of the Year contest.

Also receiving plaques at the Portland meeting were the 1956 county Grassman winners which included the Morrow county winners, Norman and Alfred Nelson of Lexington.

Members of the committee which selected the Conservation winner were Alvin Bunch, Heppner, chairman; Harsley Coe, Union county; Ronald Rew, Umatilla county; Bill Hardie, Gilliam county; James Hunt, Wasco county; E. R. Jackman, Oregon State College; and Merle Oveson, superintendent of the Pendleton branch experiment station.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Del Jordan last weekend were his brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Merwin Jordan of Baker.

Mr. and Mrs. Bradley Fancher, Jody and B. J., spent the weekend in Bend.



A MIGHTY HAPPY YOUNGSTER was this unidentified young lady when Santa took time out from his duties to pose with her for a picture. The jolly old fellow arrived by fire truck promptly at 1 p. m. last Saturday and was welcomed by over 500 children.



CENTER OF ATTRACTION, somewhere in this crowd of youngsters and parents, was Santa Claus who made his annual pre-Christmas visit to Heppner last Saturday. He greeted all his friends on the street then spent an hour in the Elks lounge getting the low-down from those who wanted to talk longer. He gave out about 500 sacks of candy during his brief visit. (GT Photos)

Shopping Week Left
Christmas Greetings
1956