

Family Loses All Belongings in Friday Blaze

A smoky fire which attracted hundreds of onlookers Friday afternoon almost completely destroyed an apartment occupied by Mr and Mrs Paul Doherty of Heppner. It caused the greatest loss of any fire to occur here so far during 1958.

The apartment is attached to the Heppner Laundry building, which the Doherty's operate and the fire was discovered by Mr Doherty when smoke began seeping into the laundry about 3:30 in the afternoon.

The fire department quickly controlled the blaze and kept it from burning into the laundry section, but the flames and extreme heat along with water almost completely gutted the apartment and destroyed most of the family's belongings.

Investigation subsequently disclosed that the blaze was caused by the Doherty's five-year old boy Mike who had started a fire in a bedroom closet. He apparently tried to put it out with a glass of water, for the glass was found on the floor after the fire was controlled.

Heppner fire chief C A Ruggles said damage was estimated at \$8,000 total, \$3,500 to the building and \$4,500 to personal property. It was reported that there was no insurance.

Dividend Declared By Bank of EO

The first dividend from stock purchased by the stockholders of the Bank of Eastern Oregon since opening a branch in Heppner was declared by the board of directors as of December 20, 1958.

This announcement was made by Gene Pierce, manager of its Heppner branch, who stated that the dividend was paid to all the stockholders in Morrow county in time for Christmas. This is the tenth dividend declared since the bank's inception in Arlington in 1945. The bank was first known as the Gilliam County Bank and served Arlington, North Gilliam and Morrow counties. In 1957 the bank declared a 100% stock split and sold additional shares to double its capital and surplus. At that time the name was changed to Bank of Eastern Oregon and on August 10, 1957 a branch was opened in temporary quarters in the showroom of Empire Machinery Company. Since then it has grown steadily in both deposits and earnings.

"We are very happy with the response given us by the people of this area," Pierce stated. "We are in position to declare a dividend a little over a year after opening a branch in Heppner in a new facility. We feel that we have made a definite contribution to Morrow county in that another home-owned business has been established whose earnings will remain here to help further the economy of the area. Our directors are farmers and business men that are your friends and neighbors. They know our county and its needs, therefore the services of the Bank of Eastern Oregon are tailored to fit the needs of this area. The staff of the Heppner Branch join in thanking our friends for their support and wish to take this opportunity to wish each a very merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year."

Four Homes, Three Business Are Awarded Decorating Prizes

Four Heppner residences and three business houses were awarded cash prizes this week in the special Christmas decorating contest sponsored by the chamber of commerce. The prize money was anonymously donated by a local resident as a means of encouraging such decorating.

First prize of \$10 in the outside residential division went to the Carl Spaulding home on Al-falfa street. A next door neighbor, James Norene, won second place of \$7.50 and James Lovgrens, East May street, received third prize of \$5.

In the business window division first prize was awarded to Lois' Beauty Shop. Second place went to Humphrey's Drug Company and third to Lot's Electric. Prizes were the same as in the residential contest.

Only one prize was awarded in the residential window decorating division and that went to the Arnold Melby home on Union street.

Many other homes in Heppner are also brightly decorated for the Yule season though not all of them were entered for the judging which took place Friday night.

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Morrow Business Holds Up Well, Survey Reveals

NEW YORK.—New figures, recently released throw the first light on just how Morrow county held up during the 1957-58 recession. The answer, in a nutshell, is—better than most communities.

Retail business locally continued at a surprisingly good pace. Although personal income declined during the second half of 1957, it came back well in the first six months of this year, due in part to increased unemployment insurance payments and Federal old-age pensions, contributing to it also was a 10 percent hike in pay to Government employees, automatic raises in some industries and the improvement in farm receipts.

The survey, which measures the economic strength of localities throughout the country, is for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1958. It was compiled by the Standard Rate and Data Service.

Residents of Morrow county, it shows, had a net income in the year, after payment of taxes, of \$10,843,000. This was actually higher than the amount available to them in fiscal 1957, the pre-recession year, when it was \$10,399,000.

Per household, determined by dividing this amount by the number of households, it represented spendable income of \$6,951.

It was more than the \$5,983 per household reported for the United States and the \$6,290 for the Pacific states.

In Morrow county, as in most other places, a considerable amount of this purchasing power was withheld from the market. People hesitated going into big item buying, such as automobiles and large electrical appliances, which are usually bought on the installment plan.

They spent more on food and soft goods and put the rest of it into savings. At the same time, they were working down their accumulated debt, putting themselves into a sounder financial position.

Even so, retail stores locally accounted for a sturdy \$6,715,000 in the year, notes the SRDS report. It was actually higher than the volume done in the prior year, \$6,633,000.

The buyer caution of a year ago is gradually turning to buyer enthusiasm as the fear of recession wanes. The restored confidence is seen in the brightening sales picture.

Local Unemployment Service Scheduled

The Pendleton office of the Oregon state employment service announced this week that it will conduct a bi-weekly itinerant service in Heppner beginning Friday, January 2. A representative will be at the city hall from 10 a m till noon.

The service will be continued until there is a resumption of operations at Heppner Pine Mills.

Frank Weatherford To Speak at Lex

Frank Weatherford, Olex, newly elected state representative from this district, will speak at a public meeting to be held at 8 p m Monday, Dec 28 at the Newt O'Harra home in Lexington.

The meeting is sponsored by the Morrow county Democratic central committee and the public is invited to attend.

Pomona Grange to Meet January 3

Morrow county Pomona Grange will meet Saturday, January 3, 1959 at the Willows Grange hall at Lone. The meeting will get under way at 10:30 a m. Sheriff C J D Bauman will give a talk on "Civil rights we have and don't know about."

At 4 p m. The Lexington Grange will be host to installation ceremony for all subordinate granges in the county with Joe Gutridge, past state deputy, as installing officer. Henry Hendrickson will also be a guest speaker.

For the lecturer's program in the afternoon there will be a cake walk, and pictures shown by Echo Palmateer of her trip to Mexico.

Funeral Services Held Monday For Carl V Bergstrom

Funeral services were held Monday afternoon for Carl Victor Bergstrom, 58, who passed away December 19 at Pioneer Memorial hospital following an illness of several months.

Mr Bergstrom was born February 2, 1900 at Eightmile, Ore and had lived all of his life in this area. He was a member of Valby Lutheran church. Services were held at the Heppner Christian church with the Rev John Rydgren, pastor of Hope and Valby Lutheran churches officiating. Interment was in the Heppner Masonic cemetery.

Mr Bergstrom is survived by his wife Mildred; two sons, Robert and Elwayne, Heppner; three brothers, John of Heppner; Alfred of Portland; Edwin of Ione; five sisters; Emma Long, Milwaukie, Wis; Hanna Anderson, Heppner; Ellen Allyn, Portland; Esther Bergstrom, and Florence Becket, both of Heppner. He also leaves five grandchildren.

Creswick Mortuary was in charge of the services.

Adult Welding Class Signup Slated Dec 29

Persons interested in attending an adult welding class are asked to attend an organizational meeting at 8 p m, December 29 at the vocational agricultural department at Heppner high school.

If sufficient interest is shown there will be both a beginners and an advanced class to be taught by Dee Jones of Heppner. The class is being sponsored by the ag department at the high school.

County Chairmen Appointed For March of Dimes

The appointment of community chairmen to head the expanded March of Dimes campaign next January was announced today by Gene Pierce, Morrow county campaign director.

John Hartman, manager of the Elks, will head the Heppner city drive and the following will chairmen the drives of other towns in the county: Houston Leslie from Hardman, Emma Breshears of Lexington, Ruby Roberts of Ione, Fred McClintock of Cecil, Flossie Coats of Boardman and Lavelle Partlow of Irrigon.

Besides polio, the campaign director said, birth defects and arthritis are immediate new needs for which the March of Dimes will seek contributions. At the same time, the organization will expand its basic research program in virus diseases and disorders of the central nervous system.

The campaign director stressed that the new health program has increased meaning for the residents of communities throughout the country. Approximately 11,000,000 people suffer from arthritis and rheumatism, and 250,000 infants are born each year with birth defects (congenital malformations).

"These are major threats to the health of our people," he added, "Although the causes are largely unknown today, there is real hope that a well directed and well sponsored research program (Continued on Page 6)

Mrs Bernice Healy Taken by Death, Services Monday

Bernice Ellen Healy died December 19 at her home in Heppner after an illness of several months. She was 39 years of age.

Mrs Healy was born October 28, 1919 at Lexington and had lived in Morrow county all her life. She was married to James Healy September 3, 1939. She was a member of St Patrick's Catholic church and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Rosary was recited Sunday evening and Requiem Mass was said Monday at St Patrick's church with the Rev Patrick Gaire officiating. Interment was in the Heppner Masonic cemetery.

She is survived by her husband James; one son, Michael; one daughter, Sheila; her mother, Mrs Hortense Martin, all of Heppner; four brothers, Orlow Martin of Moro; Willard Martin, Portland; Roy Martin, Lexington; and Randall Martin of Heppner.

Creswick Mortuary had charge of arrangements.

Heppner Pine Starts Winter Shutdown

Operations at Heppner Pine Mills will close down at the end of work Tuesday night for the usual annual shutdown, it was announced today by Paul Koenig, mill manager. The plant will be out of production until about February 1.

Logging operations will continue as long as weather conditions permit keeping about 25 men at work in the woods and hauling.

Churches Schedule Christmas Services

Most all Heppner churches have scheduled special Christmas services and programs to be held between Sunday and Christmas Day.

The majority of the programs were held Sunday or earlier in the week, many of them featuring children of the churches. On Monday evening a Cantata was given at the Christian church.

Christmas eve services will be held at several churches including Valby Lutheran church, Holy Communion at 6:00 p m; Hope Lutheran church, Holy Communion at 8:00 p m; Methodist, Candlelight Communion service, 10:00 p m.

St Patrick's Catholic church will hold confessions on Wednesday from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p m and there will be High Mass at 12 midnight. On Christmas day there will be Low Mass at 9:30 a m and at St Williams Catholic in Ione Low Mass will be at 8:00 a m.

Christmas eve Mass at All Saints' Episcopal church will be at 11:30 p m. The Divine Liturgy will be sung. The Christmas day service will be at 10:00 a m.

Schedules for regular church services appear elsewhere in today's Gazette Times.

Stefani to Open Modern Restaurant Soon in Ione

A new ultra-modern restaurant and lounge, Stefani's Fine Foods will open in the near future in Ione, it was revealed this week by A A Stefani, operator of the new business.

The new restaurant will occupy the building housing the Victory Cafe and a new addition recently constructed. Modern decor is planned throughout and facilities are being provided to handle banquet crowds. The lounge will be known as the Harvest Room.

It is planned to open the restaurant before New Year's.

Mrs and Mrs Garnet Barratt, who had planned to leave Tuesday for Salem to spend Christmas with his mother, Mrs W B Barratt, were called there Sunday because Mrs Barratt had fallen and injured herself.

"Bull Trading" Again Planned at Livestock Meeting

Meeting Thursday evening of last week the executive committee of the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association made plans for their annual meeting which will be held in Heppner on January 16 and 17. Program chairman is George Rugg, vice president of the association who will be assisted by N C Anderson, secretary and county agent.

A feature of the annual meeting again this year will be the "bull trading day" which was so successful in 1958. Committee chairman Don Robinson has reported that the heavy demand for bulls this year coupled with a high price for slaughter bulls has made the job of this committee difficult in getting as large a number of bulls as in 1958. He does, however, have at least 30 bulls consigned and is continuing to make contacts so that no livestock man will be left out who might be interested in the program. Indications are now that the morning of January 16 will be open for bull trading with an auction in the afternoon for those who might not have been able to trade with a neighbor. The chairman will meet with members of his committee who consist of Frank Anderson, Floyd Worden and Herbert Ekstrom soon after the first of the year to make detailed plans. They urge that everyone with bulls to consign for trade or sale, contact them soon.

A new feature of this year's annual meeting will be committee meetings on the first afternoon and evening to consider pertinent problems and discussions on needs for the livestock industry. Committees appointed that have been active during the year and who will meet during the annual meeting are legislation and taxation; insect, predator and rodent control; disease control; livestock corral; marketing and transportation; theft and brand; range and pasture improvement; bull sale; meat promotion and beef commission and resolutions.

The regular business meeting as well as interesting program participated in by outside authorities in various phases of livestock production and management will be a part of the Saturday program. The annual social hour and banquet are planned for Saturday evening. Preparing for the annual meeting in addition to George Rugg, program chairman are the entertainment committee headed by Bill Healy and Ron Currin; advertising—Dick Wilkinson, chairman who will be assisted by Irvin Rauch; general arrangements—Gerald Swaggart, chairman. A nominating committee of John Graves, chairman assisted by Raymond French and Frank Anderson will draft nominees for the offices of the association for the coming year.

Other business transacted during the executive committee meeting were the review and approval of corporation papers for the association. The association is incorporating as a cooperative. The theft and brand committee was asked to investigate a recent trespassing case and report to the association its recommendation as to reward for the report which led to the arrest and conviction of the trespassers. The treasurer was also ordered to pay \$100 reward to Carl McDaniel in the case of the shooting of a sheep dog on the Wilkinson range last winter.

Present at the meeting were, Dr George Puls and Dr James Norene who reported on the brucellosis test for recertification which is being pushed to meet the January 13 deadline point. It was pointed out that while the test is coming along satisfactorily for the recertification, there are still a great percentage of cattlemen who have not availed themselves to the test. Cattlemen were urged to test in view of a shortage of funds which may prevent another free test within the next three years. With seven veterinarians available to do testing in the county all cattlemen are insured of a test convenient to them.

John Graves reported on recent activities of the Oregon Cattleman's Association and resolutions and actions taken at their last annual meeting. He pointed out that each county is being asked to raise funds to finance activities of the state organization including funds for an elaborate exhibit at the Centennial Exposition next year.

WEATHER

	HI	Low	Prec.
Thursday	54	28	.04
Friday	55	33	
Saturday	37	30	
Sunday	44	32	.04
Monday	56	27	
Tuesday	49	28	

Rainfall for the week .08; for December 1.32; for the year 14.96 inches.



Merry Christmas

In newspaper parlance, it's about "30" for the Christmas season . . . in plain words it's about over, so, everyone here, printers, publishers, correspondents . . . all wish you a most delightful Christmas. May it truly be a memorable occasion and may the headlines of the New Year record only happiness and success for you and yours.

HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

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