

SCHOOL DECISION APPEALED

Basement Full of Gasoline Closes Lone Restaurant

A part of downtown Lone was literally sitting on a powder keg over the weekend—one which, if it had been touched off by a spark of any kind could easily have blown up an entire block of the town.

Last Thursday, A E Stefani, owner of Stefani's Fine Food restaurant discovered gasoline or some similar type of petroleum product seeping into the basement of the restaurant. Needless to say it was immediately shut down and all power and cooking facilities shut off while an attempt is being made to discover the source of the leakage.

The leakage was discovered Thursday after employees and customers had complained of headaches and an odor in the building. Complete examination of the premises showed the petroleum product standing in the dirt basement.

In an attempt to discover the source of the leak, a hole was dug near the rear of the building near the Standard Oil company bulk plant and service station, and from this hole about 650 gallons of what is thought to be largely gasoline was bucketed. It still continued to flow in however, and Standard and other nearby oil storage facilities have recorded no loss of stored petroleum products.

Whatever the source, and efforts are still being made to find it, the restaurant remains closed and will until the extremely dangerous condition can be remedied.

Some sidewalk superintendents have suggested the possibility that Stefani has discovered an oil well, but if so, it puts out a much more highly refined grade of product than do most wells.

Future Homemakers Name New Officers

Sandra Harshman, sophomore at Heppner high school was elected president of the Future Homemakers of America at their annual election Tuesday, Jan 5.

Other officers elected were: Laura Sumner and Ann Jones, first and second vice presidents; Rose Nash, secretary; Linda Valentine, treasurer; Libby Van Schoelack, reporter; Shannon Mahoney, parliamentarian; Ronnie Belsma and Jackie Brindle, degree chairmen; and song leaders are Elaine Laird and Gloria Olson.

The regular monthly meeting is scheduled for Monday night, Jan 25 at the Heppner school homemaking department.

Fire Pumper Used to Supply Hospital Water



CHILLY JOB—It was 12 degrees above zero early Sunday when this photo was taken of assistant fire chief Robert Penland operating the Heppner fire department pumper used to fill the county-owned reservoir which supplies water to Pioneer Memorial hospital. It had run dry when a gauge stuck or froze, and deprived the hospital of its vital water supply. See story below.

The Heppner fire department was called early Sunday morning to perform an unusual service, but one that was just as vital as putting out fires. It supplied by means of a pumper, water for Pioneer Memorial hospital when the county-owned reservoir, which supplies water for the hospital and court house, ran dry.

The department received the call for help at 5 a m Sunday and in weather that dipped down to 12 degrees above zero, laid 900 feet of 2 1/2 inch fire hose to pump from the city mains into the line feeding the hospital. In

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Welcome Snow Covers Area

County Cattlemen Expecting Good Crowd For Annual Meeting

About 200 county cattlemen are expected in Heppner Friday and Saturday for the annual meeting of the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association, and the Morrow County Cow Belles. A full two-day program is slated.

Friday's program will feature the popular "Bull Day", started three years ago, where stockmen can bring their bulls for a trading session with their neighbors, or sell them at an afternoon sale. Committee meetings are also scheduled for that afternoon.

Saturday's program will feature talks on "What the beef council can do for you," by a representative of the Oregon Beef Council; "What your state association is doing," by Kent Magruder, president of the Oregon Cattlemen's Association; "What does 1960 have in store for the livestock producer," by Steve Marks of Oregon State College. The Saturday evening banquet speaker will be E R Jackman, OSC range specialist, and always a popular speaker. Jackman is well known throughout the county and his talks always attract many persons.

Cow Belles Program
A part of the two-day meeting will be the annual meeting of the Morrow County Cow Belles, and they have lined up a program for both days that is expected to attract many women. Friday at 1:30 there will be a public demonstration of meats and meat cookery conducted by John Landers, animal husbandry specialist from OSC, and Miss Esther Kirmis, county extension agent. It will be held in the fair pavilion and is open to the public. Saturday the Cow Belles will hold their annual meeting starting with a coffee hour at 1:30

This will be held in the fair annex building.

A public social hour is scheduled for 5:30 Saturday to be followed by the banquet at 6:30 at the fair pavilion. Tickets for the banquet are on sale at both Heppner banks, and this affair is also open to all interested persons.

Numerous door prizes will be given away during the various sessions.



E R JACKMAN—Well known OSC range specialist, who will speak at the Morrow County Livestock Growers banquet Saturday night.

Demonstration on Meat Scheduled for Livestock Meeting

"Boning up on Meat" at the meat demonstration scheduled for Friday, January 15, at the Heppner fair pavilion, starting at 1:30 P M, according to Mrs Raymond French, president of the Morrow County Cow Belles. This demonstration will be a part of the program of the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association annual meeting scheduled for Friday and Saturday.

On hand to demonstrate Friday will be John Landers, Oregon State College extension animal husbandry specialist, assisted by Esther Kirmis, Morrow county extension agent.

A meat quiz, in which everyone participates, will begin the meeting with a special prize offered to the winner.

The demonstrators will discuss such things as how to select meat, how to care for meat, how to cook meat by various moist and dry heat methods, and how to develop flavors.

A roast shoulder of lamb and beef stroganoff will be prepared for sampling by Miss Kirmis, with Mr Landers doing the carving.

A special film, "Over the Back Yard Grill" will also be shown to give tips on outdoor meat cookery.

The Cow Belles have secured several good bulletins on beef, lamb, and more meals from meat which will be distributed.

Several cuts of meat will be given away as door prizes. Coffee and cookies will be served at the close of the meeting by the Cow Belles.

The public is invited to attend and "bone-up" on Meat!

2 Areas Designated For Kids' Sledding

The City of Heppner has again designated two streets as special sledding areas for youngsters while the snow lasts.

The south end of Court street and the west end of Baltimore street has been blockaded to restrict traffic and give the kids a reasonably safe place for their favorite winter sport.

CIVIC LEAGUE TO MEET

A meeting of the Heppner Civic League will be held Monday, Jan 18 at the home of Mrs Matt Hughes. All members are urged to attend.

Over 6 Inches Falls Here; Cold Weather Follows

Almost another inch of snow fell early Thursday morning in Heppner to bring to slightly more than 7 inches the fall during the past week. A slightly warming trend followed the snow Thursday morning, but weather forecasts didn't call for any general break in the cold spell.

The first real storm of the winter came to Morrow county during the past week dropping from 6 inches to a foot of snow on dry fields and hills which contained .80 inches of welcome moisture.

Snow fell in parts of the county Thursday and Friday, but late Sunday and Monday the major storm struck the area bringing nearly one inch of snow (and .25 inch of moisture in Heppner) the first day, and better than four inches of snow and .32 inch of moisture the second. Total snow layer on the ground late Tuesday was a little over six inches in Heppner and as much as 10 to 12 inches in some of the higher elevations.

The white layer, the heaviest here in over three years, was welcomed by farmers as a protective covering, for clearing skies Tuesday night brought rapidly dropping temperatures which dipped to an official low of 6 above zero at the Heppner weather station. In other nearby areas below zero temperatures were reported.

The storm started Sunday evening with sleet in many places, but this turned to snow by Monday and the fall continued unabated until early Tuesday.

Wednesday was the coldest day recorded this winter in Heppner. When the weather reading was taken at 9 a m Wednesday the temperature was 12 above, though it had dropped to 6 earlier. Later Wednesday the mercury dipped to 5 degrees and never did reach higher than about 15 above. Cloudy skies Wednesday afternoon warned of another approaching storm that the weatherman said could possibly bring more snow to Eastern Oregon.

The snow was generally welcomed by all wheat growers who have been needing moisture and a protective cover over fall seeded grains. Cattlemen who were forced to start feeding, weren't so happy about the snow, though they know it means range grass in the spring. Motorists who had to drive on icy streets and highways didn't think too highly of the white stuff either, but, down to the last one, the youngsters thought it was wonderful.

Board Rehires All Administrators

The Morrow county school board, at its regular monthly meeting Monday night, reappointed all present assistant superintendents and principals for the 1960-61 school year.

The superintendents are Joe Stewart, Heppner; Jack Flug, Riverside; Dallas Shockley, Ione. Principals are Jess Young, Irrigon; Gordon Pratt, Heppner high school; and Hillard Brown, Heppner grade school.

The board named Turner, Van Marter and Bryant agency of Heppner as insurance agent of record for all county school insurance with all presently participating agencies to continue their participation in the program.

A report was read from the state department of education giving the Heppner high school a standard rating. The report was presented in detail.

Daughter of Former County Judge is Taken by Death

Funeral services will be held Monday at 1:30 p m in Estacada, Oregon for Mrs F E Dooley (Eva Bartholomew) 78 years of age, who died Tuesday evening at Estacada.

Mrs Dooley was a long time resident of Morrow county, her father being former county judge Bartholomew who was in office when the present county court house was built.

She is survived by her husband; one son Ted Saling, Estacada; a daughter, Mrs Frank Morrow, Portland; a sister, Mrs Jennie Saling, Corvallis; a brother, Fred Bartholomew of Estacada; a sister-in-law, Mrs Charles Bartholomew of Butter Creek. She also leaves several nieces and nephews including Mrs Jasper Myers and Mrs Marion Finch of Morrow county.

Mrs Eddie Gunderson and son Douglas left for Portland Sunday to visit relatives for a few days.

Any Bonding for Building Program Said Stymied by Suit

An appeal in the court suit against the Morrow county administrative school board by groups of residents of Boardman, Lexington and Hardman, was filed last Thursday with the county clerk which will send the debated issues to the Oregon Supreme Court.

In the meantime, because of the appeal, any plans the school board might have had, or might have developed, for a building program in the county will probably be delayed at least 18 months to two years, because of a decision by the board's attorneys, Mahoney and Abrams of Heppner, that no bonding for buildings, or any other purpose, can be undertaken until the case is settled. The attorneys' opinion was also agreed with by a firm of Portland bonding attorneys, who must approve all bond issues in the state, if such bonds are to find purchasers.

The suit contests the constitutionality of the state school reorganization law and questions the legality of the county school board's actions under the law.

Early in December, circuit judge William W Wells handed down a memorandum decision in favor of the school district in the suit, but the appeal now means that the question must be decided by the state supreme court. The original complaints charged that the Oregon revised statutes which provided for the

formation of an administrative school district without an election of the legal voters were unconstitutional. Judge Wells' opinion stated that the county administrative board had the right to close certain schools, and transfer students from one school to another. This was the basis of some of the objections stated in the complaints.

The county school board has appointed a citizens' building committee which has already started working on the student housing problem, but any solution it might have found for an upcoming serious classroom problem by next year now appears hamstrung by the filing of the appeal. According to the attorneys, the county school district can not now sell any construction bonds, even if they were eventually approved by the voters, until the case is decided by the supreme court. The school board has foreseen a serious classroom shortage in Heppner by next school year.

Boardman School Effectuated

Robert Abrams, a member of the law firm, said Tuesday that he had been informed by the Corps of Army Engineers, that until the current legal question is settled, the Corps will deal with no one on the matter of the ownership of the Boardman school property which will have to be moved because construction of the John Day dam. There has been a question of who owned the property, the school district or the government, because of loss of certain papers by theft, but the district had hoped for congressional assistance in establishing Morrow county's ownership of the property which would mean the government would be required to replace the building at its cost, rather than at county expense. This problem will also apparently remain unresolved until the supreme court decision is pending.

One of the persons named as plaintiffs in the suit, Dewey West Jr of Boardman, has stated that the residents there have no fight with the Morrow county school board or any member thereof, but are questioning the authority under which they are operating. Boardman residents are said to feel that it is difficult for people 60 miles away to be familiar with problems at Boardman and that they feel the schools are a personal and community problem—that they want the control of their schools returned to them (at a local level).

March of Dimes TAP Head Named

Miss Marlene Griffin, a junior at Heppner high school, will head the Teen Age Program (TAP) of Morrow county's new March of Dimes for 1960, it was announced today by Gene Pierce, county campaign director.

As TAP chairman, she will lead the county's young people in a fund-raising drive to support the National Foundation's attack of birth defects, arthritis and polio, three major crippling diseases.

"TAP work gives healthy teens a chance to help those who aren't so lucky," Miss Griffin declared. "It offers us a part in building a healthier America. TAP work is not only exciting—it is fun. Our fund raising efforts are mainly dedicated to the National Foundation's health scholarship program, which offers more than 500 scholarships a year, each paying \$500 a year, to help high school graduates and college students prepare for careers that count in the fields of medicine, medical social work, nursing, occupational therapy and physical therapy."

Miss Griffin, the daughter of Mrs Jessie Griffin of Heppner, is a member of the Hehlisch staff and a yell leader for Heppner high.

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WEATHER

	Hi	Low	Snow	Prec.
Thurs	53	34	—	—
Fri	42	24	1"	.19
Sat	38	17	.5	.04
Sun	38	12	—	—
Mon	34	14	.8	.25
Tues	34	18	4"	.32
Wed	35	6	—	—

Precipitation for the week .80; 6.3 inches of snow; total moisture for January .83 inch.

Registered Hereford Spread at Lone Wins Title



CATTLEMAN AWARD ANNOUNCED—Herbert Ekstrom, right, this week was named Morrow County Cattleman of the Year. He is shown with his wife, right, and one of their sons, Roland, and two of their registered Herefords. (Photo by N C Anderson)

A well known registered Hereford cattle operation on the outskirts of Lone using both polled and horned breeding stock has earned for Herbert Ekstrom and Sons the 1960 title of Cattleman of the Year for Morrow county.

Mr Ekstrom, who was born in Parkrose, Ore, came to Morrow county in 1943 as a farm hand and soon recognized an opportunity which he started to fulfill by renting a ranch which he later purchased. His operation now consists of 1080 acres, owned and operated by the partners, on which he runs 54 registered Herefords. They are grazed on 50 acres of irrigated pasture, 80 acres of stubble and 400 acres of rented stubble.

The irrigated ranch has won for the Ekstroms the 1960 title, and it provides the main feed for the successful purebred business. It was leveled and seeded

to improve pasture and has been fertilized each year which provides the highest forage possible. The seedlings of alta fescue, intermediate wheatgrass, orchard grass and alfalfa are flood irrigated and are among the highest producing pastures found in the county. A strict weed control program for perennial weeds is carried out annually on ditch banks and other likely spots.

In the cattle operations, calves are weaned in about eight months and average 540 pounds. The majority of heifer and bull calves are sold as registered breeding animals. Through the selection of high gaining herd sires and dams the weight of weaning calves has been increased at least 60 pounds during the past five years. Quality is constantly improved by culling. Herd sires are picked by pedigree. (Continued on Page 8)