

### Administrative District Ruled Constitutional

The state Supreme Court affirmed last week decrees of Morrow County Circuit Court which dismissed complaints attacking validity of local school district consolidations.

In 1958 Morrow County adopted the county unit school district system by a vote of the people. In 1959 the state board of education approved the board's application to become an administrative district instead of a county unit district. This change had not been voted upon by citizens in the districts involved and several citizens filed suit.

The Supreme Court ruled that the legislature has constitutional power to "create, abolish or alter school districts with or without a vote of the people within the area involved." The only reason for requiring an election where boundaries are changed, the court said, is because of complications resulting from bonded or other indebtedness of an existing district and a change in assets.

No boundary changes were involved in the change from a county unit system to an administrative district.

The decision was written by Justice Gordon Sloan.

The Morrow county suit was widely watched by educators and those interested in schools throughout the state as it was thought to be a test of the constitutionality of the 1957 Oregon school district re-organization law. However, Cecil Quesseth attorney for the State Department of Education, has stated that the case cited had only a limited application and this has been confirmed by Supreme Court attaches. The court decision applies only in those few cases where boundaries are unchanged.

Quesseth said another suit, filed in Washington county, claims that another portion of the act is unconstitutional. But, he emphasized, no suit has been filed to challenge the entire law.

# HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

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## Memorial Service Sunday For Departed Elks

Heppner Lodge No. 358 B.P.O.E. will hold its annual memorial service for departed members Sunday at 2 p.m. at the Elks temple.

The 1960 Lodge of Sorrow will honor Walter A. Ruggles, Alex Lindsay, James Wilson, Howard Evans, Gene Graham, J. O. Peterson, and Russell Miller.

The program will consist of the Funeral March while members enter, played by Gordon Pratt; opening ceremonies invocation by chaplain Robert Flatt; musical selection by the Heppner high school chorus; roll call of departed brothers; ceremonies of the lodge; address by Dallas Shockley; Auld Lang Syne by the audience; closing ceremonies and benediction.

Officers taking part besides the chaplain will be exalted ruler Everett Keltley; esteemed leading knight LeRoy Gardner, esteemed loyal knight Conley Lanham, esteemed lecturing knight Kemp Dick, secretary Glen Ward, treasurer, H. D. McCurdy, Jr., tiler Wallace Wolff, inner guard Pat O'Brien, esquire Harley Young and trustees R. B. Ferguson, Jack Van Winkle, Milton Morgan Jr., LaVerne Van Marter Jr., and J. J. Farley.

### AUXILIARY MEETS

The Pioneer Memorial Hospital Auxiliary board of directors will hold a meeting at the hospital at 2 p.m., Dec. 5, in the recreation room. All board members are asked to be present.

## 4-H Club Leaders Needed By Dec. 1

A call has been issued by the extension service agents for 16 volunteers to lead additional 4-H clubs in Morrow county.

There are 52 boys and girls enrolled in a variety of these clubs from last year and more have signed up for new clubs this year. The 52 was a 32 per cent increase over the preceding year.

"The youth of the county are actively interested in this program which is dedicated to helping boys and girls develop into intelligent, useful citizens. The only thing holding us back from an even larger program is the lack of adults who can act as leaders for the clubs," Joy Hay, extension agent, said. "Close to 140 of those signed up this year will need new leaders," he said.

For those adults who feel qualified to serve as leaders in this worthwhile program the following clubs are listed as leading volunteer leaders:

In Heppner, a rifle club (youngsters 11 or older); an electricity club, leathercraft, woodworking, rock hounding, fishing, dog obedience.

In Lexington, a rifle club.

In Ione, a rifle club, tractor, electricity, archer (11 or older) and a dog obedience club.

In Irrigon, a rock hounding club.

In Boardman, a rifle club.

Prospective leaders should get in touch with the county extension office as soon as possible as the new 4-H club year is starting and formation of these clubs is dependent on getting leaders to organize them.

## Scouts Hold Successful Drive

Robert Abrams, drive chairman for the Boy Scout fund campaign, announced today that more than \$400 had been collected and not all the money had been turned in to date.

"The fine co-operation of local people has made this campaign a great success," Abrams stated. He said he wished to extend his thanks to all those who took part in the collection and especially to the Methodist Men's group for their kickoff breakfast.

Two packs of Boy Scouts are in operation in Morrow county. In Heppner, there are 98 boys in the Cub Scout age bracket with 46 of these registered in the cub scout program. There are 13 adult leaders helping in the cub program, which is sponsored by the Heppner PTA.

There are 15 registered Scouts between the ages of 11 and 15 in Heppner in troop 86 sponsored by the Methodist church. Avery Taylor is Scoutmaster with nine adult volunteer committeemen to help him. There are 99 boys of boy scouting age in Heppner and vicinity.

Mrs. Velma Glass and Tom went to La Grande for Thanksgiving.

## Rural Fire District Election Slated Monday

The election for two directors of the Heppner Rural Fire Protection District will be held Dec. 5 at the old library beside the city fire station from 2 to 8 p.m., according to Fire Chief C. A. Ruggles.

The term of Thomas J. Wells has expired and another vacancy was created when Barratt's addition came into the city, making Robert Lowe ineligible for the district as he no longer lives outside the city limits.

Candidates for the positions are Thomas J. Wells, running for a five year term, and John Wightman, for a three-year term. Other write-ins may be made.

The present board of directors are Dick Wilkinson, chairman; Tom Wells, secretary; Ralph Beamer, director; Harold Evans and Bob Lowe, directors.

The Heppner Rural Fire Protection District was organized in May, 1959. It is comprised of that territory in a seven and one-half mile radius from the fire hall, or 15 minutes driving time, whichever is closest. A tax base of \$6,100 was voted in the last general election.

The Rural Fire District has a five-year contract with the city to furnish protection. For the first year \$5,700 was approved. A similar figure is expected for each of the four remaining years. Under the contract the city is to furnish and operate the equipment necessary for fire protection.

This summer a four-wheel drive International 1000 tank fire engine was purchased by the city to use for both city and rural fires. It was delivered, tested and approved by the fire underwriters bureau Sept. 1.

Chief Ruggles said that the truck answered its first call on Sept. 9 and it is estimated that on that call the property at risk was in excess of the \$21,000 cost of the truck. "We couldn't have put out that fire in the building if it was in with our other equipment," he said. Since its purchase the truck has answered four other rural calls and a mutual aid call to Ione.

Also available to fight rural fires any place, in or beyond the limits of the rural fire district, is a 4-wheel drive pickup with a small tank and auxiliary pump. Other equipment of the local fire department is a fire truck and a fire engine, so three pieces of equipment are available at one time for fire fighting in the rural district if necessary.

There are 20 volunteer firemen in the city at present plus the fire chief.

Mrs. John K. Walsh of Orange, Texas, is here visiting her mother, Mrs. Ed Breslin.

## Christmas Lighting Contest Dates Set

Residents and business firms within the city of Heppner will again this year be eligible to enter a Christmas decoration contest. This is the third year that the Heppner - Morrow County Chamber of Commerce has sponsored the contest in an effort to encourage residents to decorate for the holiday.

There will be prizes for three categories of entries, with three prizes offered in each division—residences, which will comprise yards and outdoor decorations, with prizes of \$10 first, \$7.50 second and \$5.00 third; store or business windows, with the same prize list; and residential windows. (inside decorations) with prizes of \$7.50, \$5.00 and \$2.50.

All entries must be signed up by December 20 to qualify for the contest. Judging will be Dec. 21 between the hours of 7 and 8:30 p.m.

Residents and businesses may register for the contest, stating classifications they plan to enter, either at the Bank of Eastern Oregon or the Gazette-Times office.

Entries are limited to homes or businesses within the city limits and must be officially entered to be judged.

### MEETING DATE CHANGED

The regular meeting date, Dec. 6, of the Wranglers has been changed to Friday evening, Dec. 16, at the Wranglers Clubhouse. This will be the Christmas party.

## County Legislation Proposals Made

A number of legislative proposals came out of the recent convention of the Association of Oregon Counties, which was held in Portland recently, according to County Judge Oscar Peterson.

The proposed legislation would strengthen the county government in Oregon, he said. Covered are a change in the tax base for county use, a change in procedure for financing local improvements, licensing of businesses in the counties, change in who makes the levy for the county school fund, retirement of elected officials, change in the requirements of counties employing certified appraisers, providing gas tax refunds to counties, repeal of requirements for monthly publication of expenditures, request that two county officials be on the state public welfare commission, and that 10 per cent of the liquor revenue of Oregon Liquor Control Commission be returned to the counties.

These proposals will be presented at the next legislature, the judge said.

Attending the convention from here, along with the judge, were the two other members of Morrow County Court, commissioners Milton Biegel and E. O. Ferguson.

## County Winners in Bake-off

Mrs. Marion Finch is participating in the Oregon Wheat League sixth annual bake-off held in conjunction with the League's 32nd annual meeting in Portland Thursday and Friday. Mrs. Finch was the winner for Morrow county at the fair this year, and will be competing with eight other Eastern Oregon county winners.

The winner of the state bake-off will receive \$100, with runners-up winning appliance prizes.

Mrs. Jack Healy, Heppner, was second and Mrs. Willard French, Echo, third in the county contest.

## New "Farm Checks" Available At Banks

Bob Jepsen, public relations chairman for the Morrow County Wheat Growers Association, this week announced that the newly-designed "farm checks" being used on a state-wide basis by members of the Oregon Wheat Growers League are now available at either the Heppner or Ione branch of the Bank of Eastern Oregon, or at the First National Bank in Heppner.

These special "farm checks" are designed to show to the public the importance of the farm dollar, and just how many dollars flow through commercial channels because of agriculture.

The checks may be obtained in several sizes to fit the individual needs of the user.

## Bob Abrams Named To Bar Committee

An attorney from Morrow county has been named to serve on a committee of the Oregon State Bar for 1960-61.

The appointments, announced this week by Dean F. Bryson of Portland, president of the Oregon State Bar, includes Robert B. Abrams, Heppner, committee on lawyer placement, committee on minor courts and traffic courts.

## Christmas Seals Ready For Holiday Sale

Community chairmen for the annual Christmas seal sale have been announced by Mrs. L. E. Dick, Jr., county chairman of the drive. Mrs. Harry T. O'Donnell is Heppner chairman, Robert Frink is Lexington chairman, Mrs. Garry Tullis is again the Ione chairman, and Ruth Coy heads the drive for the north end of the county with Shirley Earwood as student chairman for Boardman and Julia Colson as student chairman for Irrigon.

Seal sale materials have been delivered to the various communities and the seals were mailed this week to all communities in the county.

County officers for the Morrow County TB and Health Association, which supervises the annual seal sale, are: president, Mrs. Robert Abrams; vice-president, Mrs. Rod MacKenzie; secretary, Mrs. Elsie Cole; and treasurer, Mrs. W. W. Weatherford.

Among the projects carried out through proceeds derived from the Christmas seal sale are the free chest X-rays which may be obtained at Pioneer Memorial Hospital the first Wednesday evening of each month, and a nursing scholarship given to encourage local people to take nursing and technical training and return to work in the hospital here. Three quarters of the money raised in the seal sale is retained in Morrow county.

## ORIS PADBERGS TO MEXICO CITY

Yesterday Mr. and Mrs. Oris Padberg of Lexington left on an all-expense-paid trip to Mexico City, as the result of participating in a sales contest put on by the Allis-Chalmers company.

They will leave from the Pendleton airport and fly to Los Angeles, then on to Mexico City. They expect to be gone about eight days.



Morrow County Grain Growers officers elected at the annual meeting recently: Paul Jones, president; Elmer Palmer, vice president; and Paul Brown, secretary.

## Two Fires In Less Than 12 Hours

Two fires occurred in less than 12 hours Tuesday night and Wednesday morning.

About 9:45 Tuesday night the fire department was called to Church and Main Streets where a car belonging to Robert Davidson, Lexington, suffered minor damage when the wiring burned out. The fire was quickly extinguished.

At 9:30 a.m. Wednesday two trucks responded to a call to the Kinzua mill machine shop where a fire had started from acetylene tanks being placed too close to a stove. Also catching fire were some oxygen tanks, causing high flames which extended beyond the roof and walls before the fire department arrived. It took two hours to put out the blaze. Structural timber in the west end of the building suffered extensive damage, according to mill employees.

## Stop For School Buses Mandatory

Robert Van Houte, superintendent of schools, has issued a warning to motorists that passing of school buses either loading or unloading children is unlawful. All offenders are being reported by bus drivers to the police and full prosecution under the law is requested by the school authorities.

Van Houte said that each bus in the district is now equipped with flashing yellow lights. When these lights are in operation it means children are on the highway and all other vehicles are to come to a full stop, either approaching or overtaking the bus.

## Road To New School Site Started

Work of clearing brush and trees from the roadway to the new school site was finished last week, according to an announcement from the office of Robert Van Houte, school superintendent.

The first access road will be on the old county road which joins Morgan street, running through the N. C. Anderson property.

A retaining wall will be built and bulldozing and filling will follow. The road is being built by the school.

Construction on the new building is expected to start shortly after the first of the year, weather permitting.

## Many Honored for Outstanding Accomplishments at Farm-City Banquet

A large crowd attended the Farm-City Banquet Monday night at the Catholic parish hall when city and country folk got together at their annual dinner. The affair is sponsored each year by the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce and the Heppner Soil Conservation District to bring together rural and city people so that each might better understand the other's problems.

Special guests Monday night were the Ione football team members, their coach and school officials. Dallas Shockley, superintendent at Ione, introduced each member of the team which recently won the state championship for 8-man football. Shockley presented the team with the Umatilla-Morrow 8-man football championship trophy at the banquet.

John Graves, Morrow County's Conservation Man of the Year, was presented a desk pen set by Raymond French, chairman of the Heppner Soil Conservation District, for his special work in conservation. He was also given a certificate of merit "for outstanding accomplishments in the

soil conservation district" by Sid Chaffee, Pendleton, on behalf of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company.

An award by the Goodyear Co. to the Heppner Soil Conservation District as second in the state contest sponsored by Goodyear for the greatest improvement in soil conservation practices was made by Chaffee to Heppner district chairman Raymond French and supervisors Alvin Wagenblast, John Wightman, Raymond Lundell and Don Peterson.

Raymond French gave the keynote address and Bill Barratt was master of ceremonies. He introduced as special guests also Alvin Wagenblast, master of Pomona Grange; Paul Jones, president of Morrow County Grain Growers; Tad Miller president of Morrow County Wheat League; Norman Nelson, president of Morrow County Farm Bureau; Mrs. Robert Davidson, president of the county 4-H Club council; county Judge Oscar Peterson; Heppner Mayor W. C. Collins; Chamber President Elmer Schmidt; and Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Wildman, publishers of the Heppner Gazette-Times.

John Wightman was given special recognition for his years of service as a supervisor of the Heppner Soil Conservation District. He helped organize the district in 1941 and has been a supervisor since that time.

Alvin Wagenblast was recognized for his outstanding record of earning more points at the state soil judging contest held in The Dalles recently, than had ever before been scored.

Robert Baum, administrative officer of the state soil conservation committee, was main speaker of the evening. His topic was Soil Is Everybody's Business and he defined conservation as "wise use" of all natural resources. He said there were three ways to conserve natural resources—public ownership, legislation or administrative order, and voluntary action of private owners of land. He warned that unless private owners did provide protection through conservation, laws would be passed making mandatory conservation practices. He cited as examples how the law now controls the manner in which timber may be

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The E. L. Dick Appliance store as it looked last week following Sunday night's high wind storm. Damage was appraised at about \$800. A new front on the warehouse section is almost completed.

## O.E.A. Election This Weekend

Election of an Oregon Education Association vice president will take place at the annual Representative Council of the OEA Friday and Saturday in Portland. Candidates are Robert Van Houte, Morrow County school superintendent; Harvey Denham, Altamont Junior High principal, Klamath Falls; and William B. Thompson, Ochoco grade school principal, Prineville.

The one elected as vice president this year will succeed to the state association presidency in March of 1962, at the annual state convention.

## Jamboree At Ione

Ione will be host to the basketball jamboree set for Tuesday evening, Dec. 6 at the Ione high school gym, starting at 7:00 p.m.

There will be six schools participating from this area with Heppner the only A-2 school. In the first game Echo will play Stanfield, Riverside will play Umatilla, and Ione against Heppner. The teams will play two 10 minute halves with a running score kept for each side and the winning side determined by the total score at the end of the three games. One side will be Echo, Riverside and Ione and on the other Stanfield, Umatilla, and Heppner.

Also, all of the officials to work this area during the basketball season, will be at the jamboree. They will have numbers on their shirts which will identify them and their name and number will be printed in the jamboree program.

## School Census Shows Increase

A preliminary count of the recent school census shows an increase in the number of school age children in Morrow county. The present figure on all children four to 20 years of age is 1648; in 1959 there were 1533 counted, according to the superintendent's office.

Broken down by communities there are: Heppner, Buttercreek and Hardman, 832; Ione, 243; Lexington, 169; Boardman, 158; and Irrigon, 214.

The Parent-Teacher Associations of the various communities in the county took the census, ending Nov. 15.

Mrs. Clem Stockard and children were in Salem and Lebanon for the Thanksgiving vacation visiting relatives.

## WEATHER

	Hi	Low	Prec.
Thursday	57	43	.03
Friday	67	35	.75
Saturday	39	28	.10
Sunday	35	25	.03
Monday	42	20	...
Tuesday	32	25	...
Wednesday	35	24	...

Maximum temperatures, 67  
Minimum, 20  
Rainfall for the week is .91 of an inch. Total for the year is 12.58 inches.