

Heppner Gazette-Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

PHONE 6-9228

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Ione Flood Situation Needs Attention

In at least one respect flood damage can be more disastrous than fire damage. It is difficult, if not impossible, to obtain insurance against floods while fire insurance is almost universally obtainable at reasonable premiums.

This fact is brought home this week with the announcement by one Ione merchant that he is quitting business because of the heavy loss suffered last week that he could not cover by insurance. Cost of making repairs to fixtures and equipment and of restoring damaged stock would render his operations unprofitable for some time to come, he said.

An insurance agent explained to us that one reason flood coverage is not written by insurance companies is because only those who feel that they are jeopardized by floods would take the insurance, making too narrow a base. For instance, a man with a home on a hilltop would have little reason to pay premiums on flood insurance.

Not so with fire. Virtually everyone has the threat of fire and in this modern era carries fire insurance on homes, businesses, farm buildings and even crops are covered. This broadens the base so widely that the premiums are moderate.

When the flood hit Ione, it left businesses there to suffer through their own losses without insurance help, and it is a tough blow to many.

Now that this flash flood is past, it is time to think about what should be done to prevent a recurrence. Mayor Charles O'Connor says that water coming down Rietmann canyon, even with runoff of melting snow, has always been troublesome.

There has been discussion of constructing some type of dam and culvert system to divert these waters so that they would bypass the town and homes in times of storm.

Should the Willow Creek dam above Heppner reach culmination, Lexington and Ione may reap some benefits from impounding the creek water, but from last week's storm it is obvious that this alone would not prevent all flood threat to the towns below, because they are vulnerable from the canyons of the hillsides surrounding them.

It would seem reasonable that while study is being made of the Willow Creek project that attention also be focused on this additional serious flood problem to the end that it be prevented from happening again.

'I Wish to Protest'

(From Carlton—Yamhill Review)

Speaking recently before the McMinnville Kiwanis club, Yamhill county's Senator Carl Francis recounted the following, from the Sonoma County, California, Medical Bulletin:

A young man lived with his parents in a public housing development.

He attended public school, rode the free school bus and participated in the free lunch program.

He entered the Army and upon discharge kept his national service life insurance. He then enrolled in the state University under the GI bill, worked part time for the state to supplement his GI check.

Upon graduation he married a public health nurse and bought a farm with an FHA loan, then obtained an RFC loan to go into business. A baby was born in the county hospital. He bought a ranch with the aid of a GI loan and obtained emergency feed from the government.

Later he put part of his land in the Soil Bank and the payments helped pay off his debts. His parents lived very comfortably on the ranch with the Social Security and old-age assistance checks.

The county agent showed him how to terrace it, then the government paid part of the cost of a pond and stocked it with fish. The government guaranteed him a sale for his farm products.

Books from the public library were delivered to his door. He banked money which a Government agency insured.

He signed a petition seeking federal assistance in developing an industrial project to help the economy of his area. He was a leader in obtaining the new federal building, and went to Washington with a group to ask Congress to build a great dam costing millions so that the area could get cheap electricity.

Then, one day, he wrote his congressman a letter of protest: "I wish to protest excessive Government spending and high taxes. I believe in rugged individualism. I think people should stand on their own two feet without expecting handouts. I am opposed to all socialistic trends."

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Chaff and Chatter

By Wes Sherman

THERE'S A great deal of interest in the Saturday night East-West Shrine football game in Pendleton locally, even beyond the fact that two outstanding lone athletes, Jack Crum and John Swanson, will play and the fact that Coach Chuck Hudson of Ione is one of the men responsible for guiding the East squad.

Charles Knox, pastor of the First Christian church here, and his family have more than passing interest in the game. His nephew, big Roger Knox of Stayton high school, is a tackle on the West squad and a mighty good one. Roger was pictured on the front page of the East Oregonian Wednesday. Weighing well over 200 pounds, Roger was an all-star in the Capital conference.

The fact that Heppner high school's band will perform is another incentive for local people. Arnold Melby has been drilling the band for a couple of weeks for the occasion, and it brings thoughts of fall to hear the bass drums booming and the majorettes' whistles tooting around town.

Coach Mary Heater, in charge of the West team and coach of the state A-2 champion Black Panthers of Central (Monmouth-Independence), is a friend of long standing, and so we'll confess we have some mixed emotions about the outcome of the game. In fact, Mrs. Sherman sang for the wedding of Mary and his wife, Jeanne, a number of years ago.

Mary is bringing some mighty strong gridders from the valley, but we're East Oregonians now and we'll be rooting for the East.

NOW WE'VE Seen Everything Department: A rubber stamp shaped in the form of lips on sale in Phil's Pharmacy. Idea is that a gal smears the stamp with lipstick from her own lips, stamps the end of a letter to boyfriend and labels it "With love."

"SPUDS, SPUDS, spuds!" That's what the potato peelers will be moaning at the time of the Wranglers Cowboy breakfast Sunday, Sept. 3. Two hundred pounds of potatoes are to be prepared for the breakfast, according to Fred Mankin of the Wranglers.

They're going to have most everything a person could want to eat for breakfast. Fred said they even considered having beans as one of the dishes but decided against it, although he pointed out that beans were served for a similar breakfast elsewhere in the state. Mrs. Wilbur Steagall is chairman of this enjoyable event, which will be 7 a. m. to 10 a. m. on September 3.

Beans? For breakfast?

TRUDY, the little cocker spaniel of the Don Munkers, tried to tell the family Tuesday that there was an unwelcome visitor around. But the family didn't spot anything amiss and sternly commanded Trudy to shush her barking. Later in the day they discovered that the little spaniel had something to bark about. Poking around in the flower beds of the Munkers home on Jones street was a big fat porcupine.

Not only did the sight of the porky right in town surprise the Munkers family but also frightened Mrs. Munkers somewhat. Trudy wisely kept his distance from the well-armed visitor, and no one else knew quite how to handle the situation until Riley Munkers, Don's brother, appeared on the scene, took a piece of board and dispatched the prowling animal forthwith.

A FIRE extinguisher is a good thing to have in one's place of business and home, and it is also a wise idea to carry one in the car. Pete McMurtry, who sells them at his Heppner Auto Parts, was glad he had one in his car the other day.

He had just entered highway 30 at the Echo junction when he came up behind a car that was trailing a mass of flames. The driver of the vehicle was unaware that his gas line had come loose and the fuel had ignited from the hot engine. The flames were blowing back under the car.

Pete hurriedly signaled the fellow to stop, grabbed his small but potent extinguisher, and presto! The fire was out.

What did he get for his trouble?

Well, he almost got a ticket. Two state policemen happened along just after the fire was out, saw the two cars stopped on the highway, and landed on Pete and the other driver for parking on the highway, the verbal barrage coming before the two had been given a chance to explain.

But when the cops heard the story, they understood, Pete forgave them, the other driver thanked him, and the Good Samaritan with the fire extinguisher continued his journey.

A COUPLE unsung heroes of last week's big storm have come to light. Tragedy was in the making at the Boice Fulleton place when Bill Blake happened by. One of the Fulleton girls' pet pigs was caught in the flood waters and had found sanctuary in a feed trough that was floating away in knee deep water.

Bill quickly recognized the emergency, hopped from his car and plunged into the water, followed by Harry O'Donnell. Together they rescued the pet pig, Bill getting a pretty fair soaking in the process and Harry getting wet up to his ankles.

YOU KNOW, this has been a pretty unlucky year for Heppner vacationers. You'll recall that earlier in the summer there was a rash of mumps that upset a lot of plans. Then a couple had a bad auto accident on the first day of vacation. Last week Dave Townsend reported a narrow escape when his car plowed into a bale of hay.

But LeVerne Van Marter came back with a smug grin on his face after beating an unlucky rap on his vacation. He and his family were coming back from Yellowstone and took off towards

Idaho with a quarter tank of gas. They didn't realize that they were heading into desert country. Before they recognized their plight they were "beyond the point of no return." The inevitable happened, but can you beat their luck?

The car rolled to a stop three miles from a service station, and topping that, a car was following right behind them, pulling a trailer. It's good driver stopped, determined what was wrong and hauled out a five gallon can of gas.

Do you suppose LeVerne carries a rabbit's foot in his pocket?

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE members have to wear Morrow County Rodeo ties to the meeting or get slapped with a fine. But who do you suppose showed up as a guest the other day without a tie?

None other than Max Barclay, rodeo secretary. He evaded paying the fine by buying a tie for a buck.

UNDER THE HEADING, "Enough is Enough," in the Condon Globe-Times last week was the following little article, no doubt written by our journalistic colleague and friend, Dick Zita:

"Last week the Heppner Gazette-Times complained of seeing a grasshopper at an important civic meeting, and at the end of the story the writer had one perched on his typewriter.

"Now this office here had never seen hide nor hair of this confounded grasshopper until the office was opened Monday morn. Not that we are actually accusing the Times of herding from their grasshoppers to Gilliam

county (of course it is an accepted fact that Gilliam county has a great attraction for humans, unfortunately we have no great need for hoppers.)

"But knowing the grasshopper was homesick for his beloved Morrow county, shooed him and all of his cousins towards the Times knowing they would get their proper treatment there."

Now it's mighty nice of Dick to be so considerate as to send the hopper hopping back to Morrow, but we're big-hearted over here. We've had plenty and just happen to have a few left that we'll be happy to donate to the Globe-Times and Gilliam county—without charge.

Have you ever tried them roasted and salted, Dick? If you don't like them that way, I'd wager that Esther Kirmis, Morrow county home agent, could come up with some other good recipes—perhaps fricasseed grasshopper, or grasshopper a la casserole.

Think nothing of it! You're welcome to all you can use!

Dennis Doherty Makes Gonzaga Honor Roll

Dennis Doherty, Heppner, has been listed on the honor roll at Gonzaga University, Spokane, according to the Rev. Francis J. Gubbins, S. J., registrar and director of admissions.

Dennis is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Doherty, Heppner. He was a freshman at Gonzaga last year and will continue his studies at the University of Oregon in Eugene this fall where he will major in education.

Dennis obtained a 3.49 average.

Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Anderson and family and Susie McQuarrie visited Mrs. Anderson's sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. William Owens in Seattle August 12 and 13. Carole and Connie Anderson and Susie remained for a longer stay and returned on Monday.

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