

# Bids on New High School Building Exceed Estimates

## \$609,000 By Bechtel Low Offer

Low bidder on the proposed construction of the Heppner-Lexington High school adjoining Unit-A at Heppner was Bechtel Bros. of La Grande at \$609,780. It was discovered when bids were opened at 8 p.m. Tuesday night in the courthouse.

This bid is some \$64,000 above the architects' estimates and thus also is well beyond the amount available from proceeds of the bond issue voted in February by residents of Morrow county school district R-1.

Bids from five other firms were submitted, but the second low was nearly \$43,000 above the Bechtel Bros. bid. E. Chuck Martis of Walla Walla, Wn., submitted the bid of \$652,541. Others were as follows: Mills Construction Co., Salem, \$669,690; Rasmussen, Beck, Sunnyside, Wn., \$670,995; McCormack Construction Co., Pendleton, \$674,000; and Lorentz Bruun Co., Portland, \$705,485.

Each bidder also submitted separate unit price bids for science equipment, physical education equipment, kitchen equipment, stage and multi-purpose equipment, and concrete. Bechtel Bros. bid on these items, exclusive of concrete totaled \$38,521.73, also low of the group.

After Clerk Beverly Gunderson had opened the bids and Architect Stuart Tuft had read them, Tuesday night, Dick Wilkinson, chairman of the board, called the directors to an executive session to consider the proposals. After about an hour's discussion, the board returned to the circuit courtroom and passed a motion to take the matter under advisement, at the same time asking Bechtel Bros. to submit a figure on the construction after removing the separate shop and vocational agriculture building from the bid.

The architects, Hayslip and Tuft, had set the figure of \$545,000 to cover the construction cost, and this amount was voted in the issue, together with another \$60,000 for furnishings, contingencies and architect's fees. Also included in the \$605,000 issue were amounts of \$130,000 each for construction of the Houghton school addition, Irrigon, and reconstruction of Riverside High school.

It is possible that removal of the shop building would bring the bid within the funds available, but there is a legal question on whether this may be done without calling for new bids. The board instructed Attorney Robert Abrams to check on the matter and give an opinion.

Bechtel Bros. indicated that a figure would be ready for presentation to the board on the construction, without the shop building, by Wednesday, August 15, the night set for the next board meeting.

Board members and Robert Van Houte, county school administrator, were disappointed in the bids. Architect Tuft said that climbing labor costs in the past few months undoubtedly influenced the proposals. He said that he felt that he had allowed sufficiently for higher costs that normally would be expected in this part of the state as contrasted with the Willamette Valley and other areas. Three other recent school construction jobs "broke in" well within the funds figured, he said.

Unless some way of resolving the matter is found to be feasible by next board meeting, the possibility is that start of construction of the school will be delayed while the board advertises for bids and goes through necessary legal steps.

Bechtel Bros. constructed Unit-A here last year and also won the contract for the A. C. Houghton addition earlier this year on a bid of \$135,800.

One unidentified bidder arrived some 20 minutes late, and the board could not accept his proposal. He said that he had gone to the wrong building, causing the delay. Two other contractors who had submitted bids withdrew them before the scheduled time for opening, 8 p.m.

### Sample Copies Go To North Morrow

In response to a number of requests from persons living in the Irrigon area, the Gazette-Times has added a correspondent to its staff to write news from that area. Mrs. Albert Partlow is doing the work.

It has been suggested from residents of the Boardman and Irrigon areas, too, that the paper conduct a subscription campaign there. As a result of this, sample copies of this issue are being sent to Boardman and Irrigon boxholders. Those interested in subscribing may use the form on page 4 of section 2 or contact the correspondents, Mrs. Partlow in Irrigon or Mrs. Mary Lee Marlow, Boardman. Papers are now also on sale at Irrigon stores.

# HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, August 9, 1962

10 Cents

79th Year, Number 23

## Near-Record Rainfall Halts Harvest

### Little Hurt Noticed On Crop Yet

Rainfall, reported at 1.18 inches in Heppner for the week, has come close to setting a new August record here and brought grain harvest to an abrupt halt around the county.

Starting last Thursday, the rain intensified Friday, reaching near-cloudburst proportions in some areas, and every day but Sunday (24 hours from 9 a.m. Sunday to 9 a.m. Monday) brought more rain.

Leonard Gilliam, weather observer, searched through his records and reported that only three Augusts for which he has data exceeded the past week's rain. It could be that the 1.18 inches comprise a record for a one week's period in August, but he does not have his totals compiled by weeks and cannot say for sure.

In 1941, the year that farmers found their grain sprouted on the stalks, was the record-setter in August with 2.18 inches. August of 1918 totaled 1.65 and 1920 had 1.46. Last year's figures show .84 inch for August.

Deluges approaching cloudbursts hit in several places last Friday afternoon and some hail was reported. Al Bunch said hail hit at his place, and he at first estimated damage to standing grain at 40%, although he said later that it may not reach this amount. Dean Hunt also reported a hail storm.

One deluge came from around Al Fetsch's place, across Social Ridge to the Al Bunch place, and another struck north of Ione in the neighborhood of Dave Baker, Sam Crawford and Charles Doherty. A third was in Blackhorse canyon, and another was in the Eightmile district. There were no reports of rain flattening the grain but washes were reported in some places.

County Agent Nels Anderson said that he figures the wheat harvest was about 65 to 70% completed when the storm came. Most of the northern part of the county had finished, although some still have a day or two to go. In the southern part of the county, virtually all of the barley was harvested and most of the growers had made a good start on wheat.

Anderson said that he was deluged with inquiries about the rain and the possibility of sprouting before harvest with many recalling that this happened in 1941. However, to this point he does not believe that any great damage has been done, and he does not think that the sprouting will occur unless more rain comes.

With all harvest halted and ground well soaked, it will take five or six days of good dry weather before operations can be resumed.

Dances continue to attract good crowds this season with fine attendance reported at the dance Saturday night for Princess Jacquie Brindle.

### Horse Show Adds \$75 Prize Money

Seventy-five dollars in additional prize money, beyond premiums listed in the fair book, will be distributed to winners at the Wranglers horse show Friday, August 31, Fred Mankin, superintendent, states.

In the senior grand championship, the high point horse in halter and performance will receive \$15, with points coming from Class A; Class C—lots 2a or 2b, 3a or 3b or 3c, and lot 4; Junior reserve champion, second high horse, will receive \$10.

Grand champion performance horse will receive \$15 on points as stated in Class C lot 5, and reserve champion will win \$10.

Prizes for the new open class of barrel racing, which offers no fair premiums, will include a jacket from the \$5 entrance fee, a fancy belt buckle donated by Mankin for first, a \$20 gift certificate from Elmer's Apparel for second, and a \$15 gift certificate from Wilson's Men's Wear for third.

Survivors include his widow, Eugenia, Heppner; a daughter, Mrs. Velma H. Parker, Pasco, Wash.; and several nieces and nephews in this area.

Funeral services for Clive Huston, 82, retired farmer, were held from the First Christian church Monday, August 6, at 2 p. m. with the Rev. Charles Knox officiating. Mr. Huston died Friday, August 3, at the Pioneer Memorial hospital.

The son of Luther and Dana Boggs Huston, he was born at Shedd September 13, 1879. He came to this area when four years old, residing with his parents on a farm in the Eightmile district. He married Eugenia Young December 16, 1908, at Portland, and continued farming in Eightmile until retirement.



TREES FRAME the addition to the Houghton elementary school, Irrigon, now under construction. Existing building is to the right, out of the picture. In foreground of the picture is space for offices and auxiliary rooms, beyond which will be two classrooms and a library. The multipurpose room is visible at the left (rear) of picture.

### Irrigon School Completion Scheduled For October

Pupils at A. C. Houghton school, Irrigon, won't walk into their big new addition at the school on opening day in the fall, but it shouldn't be long after that when they will enjoy the new facilities, a check on progress of the structure Friday revealed.

Completion date has been set for sometime in October for the addition that includes a spacious multipurpose room with kitchen and stage; a library; two classrooms; and smaller auxiliary rooms.

Bechtel Bros., who won the

contract on the job at \$135,800, is moving right ahead on the project, and pouring of concrete floors was underway this week. Roofing was just completed ahead of the rain Friday, and an electrician was on hand "roughing in" conduit in the structure. Large laminated beams support the roof of the frame structure that adjoins the former school on the west side.

Completion of the project will remove the cafeteria and some classes from the old high school building, which has been in use to supplement the facilities at the A. C. Houghton school.

The Irrigon project is the first of three embraced by the \$870,000 bond issue passed in the district early this year. Still to be undertaken are construction of a new Riverside High school on a site to be selected and construction of a Heppner-Lexington High school building at Heppner, adjoining existing Unit-A.

The district R-1 school board is expected to take up the matter of the Riverside site selection at a meeting scheduled for Wednesday night, August 15, in the circuit courtroom of the county courthouse, Heppner, starting at 8 p.m.

### City Dads Eye Bridge Hazard

Hazard presented to school children at the Main street bridge was called to the attention of the city council Monday by Gene Pierce, spokesman for the PTA council.

City Superintendent Vic Groshens said that the state highway department has engineering plans for a new bridge but must wait to see whether the Willow Creek dam project is undertaken before a new structure may be considered.

The councilmen talked of installing warning signs or painting a school crossing on the pavement, but control of such signs is held by the highway department. Mayor Al Lamb asked Recorder Ted Smith to write to the department and ask permission to install signs.

Groshens suggested that parents teach their children to avoid the bridge and walk with them over routes that they should take in walking to school. (See editorial comment).

Police committee composed of Councilmen Gardner, Lanham and Earl Ayers were asked to check on a citizen's request for children's traffic warning signs to be placed at the foot of the cemetery hill and at the intersection of Matlock and Court streets.

Gilliam and Bisbee was low bidder on a welder, for which the city had called for bids, and the offer was accepted at \$540 plus \$25 for accessories. City Superintendent Groshen also was instructed to call for bids on a used pickup truck as provided in the budget.

A report from the State Sanitary Authority said that a check at the sewage disposal plant found it to be operating satisfactorily but recommended some new apparatus be installed and urged that the city send Wayne Harsin to a short course on sewage plant operation at OSU.

### Adjustments Show Added Tax Drop

Adjustments made to the 1962-63 Morrow county property tax roll, since last week's announcement of the 10% decrease in taxes below 1961-62, result in an additional small millage decrease around most parts of the county, Assessor Oliver Creswick said this week.

State Tax Commission representatives who were here last week pointed out changes in timber severance tax computations that contribute to the small added decrease, and additional school tax offset money accounts for the balance.

Some \$6000 in school offset money was discovered in compiling the roll, Creswick said.

In Heppner, which has the highest millage levy in the county, the levy will be 80.7 for 1962-63. This is an added drop of .7 mill below the 81.4 figure released last week. Levies in other towns of the county will similarly be down, the new figures being as follows: Irrigon, 64.0 mills; Lexington, 69.5 mills; Boardman, 74.4 mills; Ione, 76.7 mills.

The assessor's office now has levies computed for all of the county's code areas. With work well ahead of schedule in the office, tax statements may be out earlier this year.

### Agent 'Hooks' One; (Salmon, That Is)

Esther Kirmis returned the past week-end from a three-week combination study and pleasure vacation from her duties as county extension agent.

She can now tell her own "fish stories" along with the best of them. She was the proud "hooker" of an 8 1/2 lb. salmon (her first) while deep sea fishing (also a first) with other agent friends out of Winchester Bay. It is now being processed in a coast cannery in shiny cans to put on her shelf and remind her of her thrills.

The more serious part of her vacation was spent at workshops at the University of Oregon and Oregon State University. Then she found a few days, too, to make the annual trip to Lisbon, N. D., for a visit with relatives, but found unusually wet conditions, with some nearby areas so flooded they were declared disaster areas.

### Willow Irrigation Meet Set

Discussion of the possible irrigation features of the proposed multipurpose Willow Creek dam is scheduled at a meeting to be held Thursday, August 16, at 7:30 p.m. in the county court room of the courthouse, Judge Oscar Peterson said Wednesday.

Engineers from the Corps of Engineers and the Bureau of Reclamation will be on hand to explain to all interested water users the possible benefits and uses of water from the multipurpose dam. All persons interested in the irrigation feature of the dam are urged to be in attendance.

Judge Peterson and Assessor Oliver Creswick visited with members of the Corps at Walla Walla Wednesday pertaining to the dam, which would be located just above Heppner, and they reported that they were favorably impressed by progress to date. They talked with Glenn Von Gunten, chief of planning and reports branch, and W. E. Sibley, chief of flood control projects division.

Plans for the design of the multipurpose dam and reservoir project are underway, Sibley said. Consideration is being given to the following multipurpose features: flood control, irrigation, sports fishing, wild life, recreation, and pollution abatement. Location of the proposed dam would be just below the confluence of Balm Fork and Willow creek. Studies are also underway to determine the feasibility of improving the Willow Creek channel through the City of Heppner and in a number of downstream locations.

At sometime in the fall a meeting for all interested parties will be held concerning the dam, possibly in October, Judge Peterson reported. At this meeting a complete description of the Corps of Engineers' study of the Willow Creek basin will be presented and public views of the study will be solicited.

Judge Peterson stressed the importance of the meeting on irrigation for all those whose property is so located that they might be affected. He asks that all such persons make a real effort to be at the meeting next Thursday night.

### State May Pave Street to School

There is a good possibility that the State of Oregon may pave Morgan street extension to the new Heppner-Lexington high school site, City Superintendent Vic Groshens told the city council Monday night.

The city had applied for a share of funds allocated by the state to cities to pave streets where population gains or other conditions have created increased traffic.

Groshens said that Harold Ayers, a state highway engineer, had been here Monday to look over the site and said that there is a good chance of the work being approved for 1963 provided there is a project nearby that will make it easier to bring needed equipment here.

However, out of 85 applications to the fund, only about 25 can be approved, he said.

The paving would be of 6-inch depth and 20 feet wide. It is also understood that curbs would be installed up the hill, and provision would be made for walkway on the bank side, but the state would not install the walk.

One condition expressed by the engineer is that water that is wearing away the grade must be channeled away from the road. This matter was brought up to the school board at the Tuesday night meeting by Hillard Brown, and the opinion was voiced that the matter could be accomplished by digging a ditch about three feet deep to carry water away. Administrator Robert Van Houte said that Judge Oscar Peterson had indicated the county would cooperate on doing this part of the work.



PRINCESS DIANA FULLETON

## Dance Features Princess Diana

Princess Diana Fulleton, who has won ribbons and awards as a rider since she was knee-high to a colt, will be honored Saturday night at the final princess dance of the season. It will be at the fair pavilion, Heppner, starting at 10 p.m. and Leon-nig's orchestra will play.

Next week, Queen Marlene Fetsch will be feted at a dance following coronation ceremonies earlier in the evening in downtown Heppner.

Diana, who will be a junior at Heppner High school this fall, won her first blue ribbon riding a Shetland pony named "Fairy." More recent awards were reserve champion for horseman-

ship at the 4-H fair in Salem in 1959, junior calf roping at the Morrow county rodeo in 1961, all-around cowgirl at Halfway in 1961, calf roping at Vale in 1960, and Wrangler barrel racing champ in Morrow county in 1960 and 1961.

Princess Diana will be mounted on her quarterhorse, "Joe," at events of the fair and rodeo this year.

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roicie Fulleton of Heppner, Diana is sponsored by the Wranglers club. She has had a busy career in high school during her first two years. She was president of the sophomore class last year and is a member of Future Business Leaders of America. Other activities included the Pep club, the drill team, and Girls' Athletic association.

Outside of school, she continues her busy schedule in 4-H club work, and as a member of Ruth assembly, Order of Rainbow for Girls. She is a member of the Oregon Girls' Barrel Racing association and of the Oregon-Washington-Idaho Junior Rodeo association.

Diana, first princess to represent the Wranglers in the rodeo, has been a member of the club for 10 years.

Her interests—after horseback riding, of course—are swimming, sewing, cooking and she also helps with work as bookkeeper at her parents' Fulleton Chevrolet Co.

Dances continue to attract good crowds this season with fine attendance reported at the dance Saturday night for Princess Jacquie Brindle.

Miss Collins was taken to the Pioneer Memorial hospital for treatment but was removed to the Good Samaritan hospital, Portland, Wednesday. Three vertebrae were damaged in the accident, it was reported, and her doctor said that she will be in the hospital for three weeks and may be confined to bed for four months.

Mrs. Herman Stroeber, mother of the driver, said Monday that the two were alone in the car and had been to the rodeo dance at the fair pavilion, before leaving in Stroeber's car. They had decided to return to the dance about 1:30 a.m. and were en route there when the accident happened as they were coming down the S curves towards the Hinton creek highway. A tire apparently blew out on the right front, the car went out of control and rolled over before stopping upright an estimated 40 feet from the point of leaving the highway.

Apparently both occupants were thrown from the auto. Stroeber, whose shoes were pulled off as he was thrown out, blistered his feet as he ran for help barefoot to the Howard Cleveland place. The ambulance was summoned from there and Cleveland went to the scene of the wreck to help give aid to the girl. The auto was badly damaged.

Miss Collins, who is a junior at the University of Oregon, has been working with her parents this summer in Heppner cleaners. Her mother went to Portland with her Wednesday, and Collins said that the resulting lack of help at the cleaners will slow down service to customers for a time and asked them to bear with him until Mrs. Collins returns and more help is found.