

Board Chooses Boardman Area as Relocated Riverside High Site

Elks to Take First Floor; Theater Out

Members of the Elks lodge of Heppner voted last Thursday night to rebuild the first floor level of their building for lodge purpose, taking the space formerly used by the Star theater. The structure was gutted by fire in May.

Included in plans for reconstruction are a kitchen, combination dining room and lodge hall, and pool room, Jack Van Winkle, chairman of the trustees, said.

Second floor of the building, which was formerly used as the lodge hall, will be left unfinished for the present. It is possible that if funds are available, at least part of the upstairs may be finished at a later time.

It will be necessary to fill part of the area occupied by the theater because of the slanting floor. Total space to be used by the Elks under the approved plan will be considerably less than formerly anticipated because prior to the fire they occupied the entire second floor for lodge rooms and had nearly half of the first floor for club rooms, adjacent to the theater.

Contract for the reconstruction work has not been let but one contractor is working on estimates, Van Winkle said. It is hoped that start on the job may be within a week or 10 days. Roof was restored during the summer, and so the structure is under cover.

A fairly large turnout of members was on hand to discuss the matter at the meeting. Three main propositions were considered: 1. To restore the lodge and club rooms as they were before the fire, 2. To move into the downstairs only, 3. To take both levels. Considerable discussion was evoked on the matter, but the first floor plan won by a small vote.

Jean Collins Comes Home from Hospital

Jean Collins, 19, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Collins, was brought home by her parents last Thursday from the Good Samaritan hospital, Portland, where she has been since August 8. Jean was seriously injured in an auto accident near Heppner on August 4, suffering fractured vertebrae.

She must remain flat on her back for another month, but her progress is very satisfactory and Mr. and Mrs. Collins say that they are very encouraged with her condition. She is cheerful and shows fine spirit.

It is expected that she will return to the hospital on November 8 at which time the cast will be removed and X-rays will be taken. It is hoped then that she may be able to start being up and about again.

Missing Hunter Report Dissolves

Report of a hunter missing in the Bull Prairie area Tuesday was telephoned to Sheriff C. J. D. Bauman at 10 p.m. that night by a man who did not identify himself, the sheriff reported.

Apparently the "lost" man returned to his party because no further call was received, the sheriff said. He had told the caller that he would stand by and await further word, advising that he would organize a search party if help were needed. Name of the hunter was not given, the sheriff said.

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

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IFYE Visitor Describes Life in Costa Rica

Lewis Pratt, International Farm Youth Exchange student whose home is in Malheur county near Nyssa, opened his series of talks and interviews before audiences in Morrow county Monday at the luncheon meeting of the Heppner-Morrow county Chamber of Commerce.



LEWIS PRATT

Pratt recently returned from Costa Rica where he spent seven months with 19 different rural families in various areas of the small country. Introduced by Joe Hay, county extension agent, he acquainted his audience with people and places that he saw in Costa Rica through use of colored slides, and at the end of his talk displayed souvenirs of the country, including the skin from an 8 1/2 ft. boa constrictor.

"Costa Rica is less than one-third the size of the state of Oregon, with a population of 11,200,000. It is an independent nation and very proud of its democratic form of government, with between 80 and 85 per cent of its population turning out at the polls for the last election," he declared. He distinguished between the three classes of people, lower, middle and upper classes, stating that more than 50 percent are in the lower, laboring class, presenting the most of the social problems, and doing all of the manual labor.

His standard of living is low, housing is poor, but all do have the privilege of getting an education, according to the speaker. Mr. Pratt pointed out that the middle class is well established in home and position, and supervises the manual labor of the lower class on farms and in business. Most of the upper class population live in or near the capital city of San Jose, owning the majority of cars and modern homes.

Project Backers Plan Committee

A coordinating committee to promote construction and development of the Willow Creek reservoir will be organized as a result of action by the development committee of the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce.

The committee, which met Monday night at the courthouse, will ask some 25 organizations in the county to send a representative to serve on the coordinating committee. Chairman Elmer Schmidt said.

First meeting of the group is scheduled for Monday, October 15, at 8 p.m. in the courthouse.

Ione Airman Serves On 'Ole Miss' Duty

First Lieutenant Dennis Swanson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gar Swanson of Ione, has been serving with the U. S. forces in the Ole Miss incident involving the battle by James Meredith, negro, to gain admission to the University of Mississippi at Oxford, Miss., according to letters received by his parents.

Lt. Swanson was among those assigned to transporting the Federal forces by air to the city from Fort Bragg, N. C., where he is stationed. During one night, he obtained only three hours sleep, he said. The army "really invaded" the city, Lt. Swanson said. Pup tents set up to house the "invaders" were drenched and "nearly filled with water" in a heavy rainstorm.

Local residents at Oxford have accorded the soldiers' excellent treatment, feeling that the men in service would take their side if they were able to. However, the soldiers remain mute on the matter at issue. Lt. Swanson is scheduled to go to Saigon in two weeks. His wife, who is with him at Fort Bragg, will remain state-side when he departs.

Australian Film Set For Showing Monday Evening

Showing of the feature-length dramatic film, "Shadow of the Boomerang," will be made in the grade school multi-purpose room Monday evening, October 15, at 8:00 p.m., according to the Rev. Kenneth Robinson, president of the Ministerial Association which is backing the picture.

Starring vivacious Georgia Lee and television's Buffalo Bill, Jr., Dick Jones, "Shadow of the Boomerang" is an outdoor action picture with all of the excitement and scope of the land "Down Under." The setting is Australia's "Outback," the continent's vast interior region where some of the world's largest cattle stations are located. The two young American actors head an all-Australian supporting cast.

Spokesman for the Christian position in the film is Evangelist Billy Graham, seen in dramatic Crusade footage photographed at the site of the Evangelist's record-breaking crowds in Melbourne and Sydney.

Deer Are Scarce, Hunters Declare

The number of successful deer hunters in this area took a nosedive this week, and even veteran local nimrods were sitting around with perplexed looks, asking each other, "What has happened?"

One man said that he has been hunting here all of his life, and this is the first season that he has been unable to bring home a buck. Opening week-end seemed to produce fair results in spite of some claims that the deer population was on the wane. Since then, however, the kill has slackened perceptibly.

Ernie McCabe at Central Market said Tuesday that only one doe had been brought in for cutting, and usually during the doe season he is "swamped" with work, he said. Many of the veteran hunters are firmly convinced that too many does have been killed and that the deer population is going to be reduced radically if more are taken.

At least one person is so convinced of this that after he obtains a doe tag from the state, he tears it up and throws it away. A few have been lucky in recent days but consensus is that number of deer available is far down from previous years.

WEATHER

(Leonard Gilliam, observer)

	Hi	Low	Prec.
Thursday	61	32	—
Friday	63	40	—
Saturday	60	33	—
Sunday	58	42	.29
Monday	60	46	.07
Tuesday	58	44	.19
Wednesday	53	39	.26

Rhea Creek Farmers Eye Irrigation Plan

Rhea Creek ranchers, meeting Tuesday night, were virtually unanimous in their interest on developing irrigation on the creek under the Small Watersheds act (Public Law 566) if a favorable cost-benefit ratio is determined.

They heard a number of visiting speakers discuss possibilities and concluded the meeting by appointing a steering committee composed of Al Lovgren, Darrel Padberg and Albert Wright.

Speakers included Oke Eckholm of Portland, assistant state conservationist, in charge of small watersheds; H. H. Ralphs of Salem, head of a Department of Agriculture River Basin study; John Denison of Pendleton, area conservationist; Raymond French, chairman of the Heppner Soil Conservation district; W. E. Sibley of Walla Walla, chief of the floods control section of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, County Judge Oscar Peterson; and Assessor Oliver Creswick, who has been working on a Willow Creek irrigation survey.

Prior to the meeting, a group of ranchers had toured Rhea creek with some of the visitors to check possible sites for an irrigation dam or dams. Lovgren told the group of 40 present, including several visiting newsmen from Portland here as guests of the Wheat League, of the reason for the meeting.

Merchants Slate Bargain Festival On October 19-20

Heppner merchants will hold a Fall Festival of Bargains on Friday and Saturday of next week, Mrs. Elma Harshman, chairman of the merchants committee of the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce, announces.

Many stores of the city are planning extra-special bargains for the event, and their offers will be announced in detail in next week's paper.

Mrs. Harshman has called a meeting of her merchants' committee at noon Tuesday, October 16, for luncheon in the Wagon Wheel. Plans for this event will be discussed briefly as well as those for Christmas opening to be held at a later date. All merchants are invited to attend. The meeting is not limited to committee members.

All in the area are urged to watch for the values that will be offered by the merchants next week, to shop at home and save. Several special merchandising features are planned, and for entertainment, the public may attend the Heppner-Pilot Rock football game scheduled for 8 p.m. Friday, October 19.

The paper staff requests that advertising copy be submitted early because of the job of putting out the large edition anticipated for the Fall Festival of Bargains. The staff will be making some of the advertising contacts as early as Friday.

Mrs. Harshman urges all merchants in town to take part in the event so that the shopping public may benefit from its trading here.

Magazine Drive To Aid Juniors

Gail Hoskins will head a magazine subscription project sponsored by the junior class of Heppner High school as one of the major money raising activities used by the juniors to help support their banquet and prom.

They will start to sell their subscriptions this week and will continue for two weeks. Anyone that would be interested in renewing old subscriptions or subscribing for new ones may call Gail at 676-5339.

Eckholm then described provisions of Public Law 566, saying that there are now 32 valid applications in Oregon for assistance under the law and that five are approved for construction. Another \$2 million project is under consideration in Congress.

Local people are charged with the responsibility of getting land rights and easements, he said. If flood prevention were incorporated in the project, the government would pay the full cost for that portion of the project. This would also be true of fish and wildlife benefits. It would pay about 48% for irrigation and the remainder would be raised by local people in the district to be formed. Money could be borrowed from the Farm Home Administration at 2.9% for 50 years for the district's share.

Ralphs, who worked in the Heppner area some 20 years ago for two years and who now is in charge of the river study as a joint project of the Forest Service, Economic Research Service and Soil Conservation Service on behalf of the State Water Resources board, had some estimated figures on Rhea creek to present.

There are 147,000 acres in the Rhea Creek area, well within the 250,000 maximum to qualify under the Small Watersheds act, he said. About 20,000 acres are in cropland, 99,000 acres in rangeland and 26,000 acres in timber. In the Rhea creek basin some 7000 acres now in non-cropland might be placed as crop producing land if irrigation were brought to the area, he estimated.

Ralphs expressed the opinion from his short look at the proposed project area that quite a

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Tax Collections Start Rolling In

Collections on Morrow county's 1962-63 property tax roll are well underway although statements were mailed earlier than usual this year, Alvira Irbly of the tax collector's office reported Thursday.

Through Wednesday, a total of \$70,443.24 had been collected against the total roll of \$1,194,318.26. The staff mailed some 4500 statements to taxpayers in 1500 letters Friday. Many of the taxpayers receive several statements for various properties.

Collections on the day of the mailing were only \$526.35, but Monday's total brought \$12,450.49, and this stepped up to \$36,233.93 on Tuesday.

Mrs. Irbly said that collections are very good for this early in the paying period. Many of the major taxpayers, including large utilities, do not customarily pay until near the November 15 rebate deadline.

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Elementary Pupils to Go To Irrigon

Riverside High school will remain in the Boardman area after its relocation that will be made necessary because of the John Day dam reservoir, it was decided by the board of directors of Morrow county school district R-1 Monday night.

However, all Boardman and Irrigon elementary school pupils will go to school at the A. C. Houghton building in Irrigon when the adjustment is made. Action on the matter came in the form of a report from a committee of school directors presented by Mrs. Esther Anderson. The committee of five had been assigned the job of investigating the site problem for the school, a hotly contested matter between residents of Boardman and Irrigon.

The report was adopted by the directors Monday night by a vote of six to one, Director Harvey Warner of Irrigon casting the lone dissenting vote.

Mrs. Anderson's report recommended that "all elementary students go to one grade school building in order to provide superior educational opportunities; a remedial reading, b. mentally retarded program, c. speech work, d. adequate teacher supervision by a single administrator, e. more efficient use of staff, especially in music and art.

"This, we feel, would be best accomplished by having all elementary students attend the A. C. Houghton school at Irrigon," the report stated.

"After much discussion and receiving of all information available and in view of the limited time in which the school must be ready for occupancy, the committee came to the conclusion, by vote, that the Riverside High school shall be located in the Boardman area. A specific site will be studied and chosen in the immediate future."

Mrs. Anderson moved adoption of the report, the motion was seconded and it passed by the vote of 6 to 1.

Director Warner, who, like Director Harvey Sear of Boardman, was not on the site committee because of his particular feeling for his own locality, immediately asked for reasons why the committee had settled on the Boardman area.

Director L. E. Dick said that one thing that influenced his opinion was that if the high school were located at Irrigon it would eventually result in having three schools in the north end of the county, and this could not be justified.

Director Fred Martin pointed out his feeling that if the relocation had not been made necessary by the coming of the dam, Boardman would have retained Riverside school for years without contention. However, he said that he felt its location in relation to transportation was an important consideration, being adjacent to a main highway, being near the railroad and also the river.

In previous deliberations members of the board had expressed the feeling that Boardman should not be deprived of a school as a part of its community life.

Irrigon residents had put a strong case for their choice, stating that at Irrigon the school would be away from any noise that may develop on the Boeing industrial site, that they could offer an advantage on water and that it would be closer to the majority of the student population.

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City Newsmen Get 3-day Look at Wheat Ranches

Five visiting newsmen of Portland and Oregon City got a close look at Morrow county's wheat ranches on a 3-day visit in the county from Monday through Wednesday under sponsorship of the Oregon Wheat League. Each was a guest of a host family.

Bob Holley of the Portland Reporter was guest of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Jepsen; Jack Fenton of the Oregon City Enterprise-Courier was guest of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Turner; Jalmar Johnson of the Oregonian was guest of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Anderson; and Don Sterling of the Oregon Journal was guest of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Carlson.

Marlowe Branagan, with the public relations firm of Goodrich and Snyder, Portland, which represents the Wheat League, visited part time in the Turner home and part with the Jepsens.

The group had an informal get-acquainted and briefing session at a Monday luncheon at Stefani's in Ione, and concluded the visit Wednesday at another luncheon there.

Besides visitor and host couples, others at the Monday luncheon were Tad Miller, president of the Morrow County Wheat League; Mr. and Mrs. Norman Nelson; John Welbes of Pendleton, executive vice president of the Oregon Wheat League; Milt Morgan, second vice president of the State League; County Agent Nels Anderson; and Wes Sherman of the Gazette-Times.

Miller extended greetings and Anderson was called upon to give a talk of orientation on the county. He pointed out the variance in temperature and altitudes in the county, and said that rainfall ranged from an average of as low as 7 1/2 inches per year in the north to 25 inches in the mountains.

Average annual wheat yield is just under 30 bushels per acre but in 1962 it was 32 bushels, he said. Size of farms has increased from 2112 acres a few years ago to 2875 acres now

Forty per cent of the county's 1,317,000 acres is in farmland. Welbes told of the Wheat League's work and said that 1/2 of each bushel of wheat marketed goes to the State Wheat Commission for a "Self-Help" program to promote use of wheat. In 1960, this 1/2 per bushel realized \$127,000, but in the light crop year of 1961 it dropped to \$85,000.

In 1959 the three Pacific Northwest states combined to form the Western Wheat Association in Portland, but Oregon has taken the leadership in the promotional program that has proved very successful.

Nine eastern Oregon counties are in the Wheat League which has 1500 members at present. Standing committees are: Domestic wheat utilization, Federal agriculture programs, production and land use; taxation and legislation, marketing and transportation, public relations and youth activities.

Among contests sponsored by the League for the promotion of wheat are the cake baking contest, an editorial contest, and newspaper article contest.

Morgan described work being done abroad, particularly the baking institutes in Japan in an attempt to convert the people to use wheat instead of rice. He also told of work in India, Philippines, and Karachi and of the opening of a new office in Burma. This will not be a large outlet, but it will help, he said. Japan has increased its wheat intake 300%, he said.

Work on federal legislation and discussion of surpluses was also talked at the luncheon session. Welbes pointed out that there is no surplus in the Northwest, but that it is all in the Midwest.

One novel note was the interest that touring Japanese expressed in Pancake Houses in Oregon on a recent visit here. They declared that would start such houses in conjunction with the 1964 Olympics to be held in Japan, and this would require more wheat, of course.

This was the second tour sponsored by the Oregon Wheat League of newsmen to Eastern Oregon. Last year's tour was to Sherman county and was held in mid-July during harvest.