

# County Flood Damage Set At \$2 Million

Flood damage of \$2 million in Morrow county is the estimate submitted to Governor Mark Hatfield and to the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers by officials who completed a survey early this week.

Those participating in compiling the report were County Agent Nels Anderson, County Judge Oscar Peterson, Judge-elect Paul Jones, Road Supervisor Harold (Doc) Sherer, Dave McLeod in charge of the ASC office, Ralph Richards of the Soil Conservation Service, and Fritz Cutsforth and Glen Campbell, members of the county ASC committee.

While they found it extremely difficult to make an accurate estimate of damage, the men made individual surveys to different parts of the county and interviewed many who had suffered losses.

### Breakdown Given

Breakdown of some of the principal items in the estimate is as follows:

Damage to county roads and bridges, \$300,000.  
Loss to farm bridges, cattle guards and approaches, \$100,000.  
Losses in farm machinery, fences and buildings, \$60,000. This includes damage to lone business buildings figured at \$7500 by Major Charles O'Connor, and to lone schools, figured also at \$7500 by Supt. David Potter.  
Cleaning up bottom lands, releveling and reseeding to hay and pasture, \$100,000. This also includes loss to irrigation systems.  
Working up, reshaping fields and reseeding of wheatlands, \$150,000.  
Losses to livestock and miscellaneous, \$25,000.

In considering the loss to wheatlands, Anderson said that it was figured that loss of topsoil averaged one-tenth of an inch on 180,000 acres of land in crop this year. Since one inch of topsoil per acre makes 160 tons of soil, the loss was figured at 16 tons per acre or a total of 2,880,000 tons washed away. Loss of this topsoil will cut total yields by an estimated \$1 million, it is figured. For every inch of soil lost per acre, a bushel of grain yield is also lost.

### Highway Damage Extra

In considering the loss to the county, the figure did not include damage to state highways, which is covered in another survey. Also not included is damage to the branch Union Pacific railroad to Heppner, since most of the destruction done to it was in that part located in Gilliam county. The same is true of losses to trailer houses of construction workers at the mouth of Willow Creek.

Anderson spent most of Saturday reviewing the destruction in the county, and he, McLeod and Cutsforth expected to go out again Thursday in order to determine the extent of conservation practices that will be needed to make restorations in the emergency.

The county agent said that the state Agricultural Conservation and Stabilization office is currently working up an emergency program similar to that of the Columbus Day storm for assistance for those needing land leveling and restoration measures following the flood. He said that the ASC paid 80% of the cost of damage from the Columbus Day storm but could not say what proposal might be made on the current damage.

Judge Peterson said that he had no definite information at this time on further plans for assistance to those hit here. He said the State Highway Commission was meeting with the Board of Control Wednesday for assessment of damage around the state and organizing plans for repairs. District highway meetings will follow and county courts will be asked to be present to tell of damage to their highways, the judge said.

### Two Bridges Out

While many culverts were washed out on county roads, and flooding waters cut around abutments at the ends of a number of bridges, the judge knew of only two bridges that were washed away, one being that over Rock Creek on the Lone-rock road, and the other being over Willow Creek near Morgan. This was on a road that crossed from the highway to the Ted Palmater place. The Palmaters are able to get out by driving to Willow Creek, fording there on foot and then taking another rig packed on the other side.

County road crews under Doc Sherer have been attempting to get to the worst damaged areas first. Among them are at Ely Canyon, west of Morgan; the road from the Franklin Lindstrom place to Charlie Dohertys, due north of Lone; Clarks Canyon road where hauling was necessary to salvage grain from the Al Bunch elevator that went down in the flood; and others. The county's big power shovel was brought from the Boardman area and is now in use loading gravel to be hauled to fill the worst gullies first.

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# County, City Officers to Take Posts Monday

81st Year

Number 44

## THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, December 31, 1964

10 cents

# Paul Jones To Be Given Judge Oath

Incoming officials of Morrow county and the City of Heppner will take office on Monday, starting their terms with the advent of the new year.

County Judge Oscar Peterson will turn over his duties to judge-elect Paul Jones, and the oath of office will be administered by Mrs. Sadie Parrish, county clerk. The Rev. Earl Soward, who has been serving as justice of the peace in Heppner on a pro tem basis, will start his official term. Other officers in the county are continuing in office following re-election. They include Mrs. Parrish, clerk; Sylvia McDaniel, treasurer; C. J. D. Bauman, sheriff; and Walter H. Hayes, commissioner.

Starting new terms on the port commission are Joseph Tatone of Boardman, 2-year term; John R. Krebs, Cecil Al Lamb, Heppner, and Dewey West, Jr., Boardman, all 4-year terms.

At the city level, the new council will convene for the first time Monday night. Al Lamb will continue as mayor, but several new members will be on the council, including David McLeod, Haskell Sharrard, and Bill Collins, the latter being a veteran returning to civic duty. W. C. Rosewall is back by reelection and Carl Spaulding and LeRoy Gardner continue as holdover members of the council.

Ted Smith will leave the office of recorder and Mrs. Elaine George will assume the position. LaVerne Van Marter will retire as treasurer and Mrs. Ernest McCabe will begin her duties in that capacity.

# County Awaits Rose Bowl Action; Several Go South

With Co-Captain Dick Ruhl of Oregon State University playing in the Rose Bowl on New Year's Day, the viewer rating of the telecast in Morrow county should be about 99%.

Virtually everyone will be watching the game here with the exception of the fortunate few who have been able to make the trip for the Tournament of Roses in Pasadena and the Bowl game.

Included in the contingent that left early this week for the southland were Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Ruhl, parents of the famous Beaver linebacker, and Mr. and Mrs. C. E. (Clint) McQuarrie and daughter, Mrs. Dick (Quarrie) Ruhl, and son Dan. Wife of the Beaver co-captain and small daughter Dana Marie, had been visiting her parents here for the holidays.

Others going were Dr. A. D. McMurdo, who will be joined by his son, Scott McMurdo, of Corvallis and other relatives en route; Mr. and Mrs. Buster Padberg who won a trip through an Elks lodge drawing; and Mr. and Mrs. Elden Padberg of Lexington.

Ruhl has been frequently seen on pre-game telecasts in recent days, making appearances in interviews by sportscasters and in practice sessions. He has also been pictured in newspapers as the Beavers prepare for the big contest with the Big Ten's Michigan.

The Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce sent Ruhl and the Beavers a telegram Wednesday, wishing them the best of luck against the Big Ten eleven and advising the Orange and Black that they will be rooting for them.

# Car Hits Youth; Injuries Minor

Anthony Crooke, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Crooke, was hit by an auto driven by Sheridan Wyman, daughter of Mrs. Elene Wyman, Saturday night on Chase street, near the May street intersection.

Crooke, high school age youth, escaped serious injury. He was taken to Pioneer Memorial hospital by Loren Bade and Arnold Raymond, both of whom witnessed the accident, but he was dismissed in a short time following medical treatment.

Miss Wyman, Heppner high student, was driving south on Chase and apparently did not see Crooke in the darkness. He was walking south in the street. Bade and Raymond had just turned on Chase from May and Bade blinked his lights when he noticed the oncoming car proceeding without its lights on. The accident occurred almost immediately thereafter. The impact tossed Crooke on to the hood of the car and against the windshield with enough force to shatter the glass. Miss Wyman stopped immediately, Raymond said. She apparently had just started the car a short distance away and had momentarily neglected to turn on the lights.

Crooke suffered bruises, particularly to his right ankle.

# Kinzua Extends Plant Shutdown For Rail Repairs

Kinzua Corporation's plant in Heppner will be closed a week beyond the planned holiday shutdown because of damage done to railroads, it was announced Tuesday. It had been planned to resume operations on Monday, January 4, but because of the flood damage, the mill will not go into operation until Monday, January 11.

Logging operations, however, will start again on January 4. Some five miles of track along lower Willow Creek were washed out and displaced by the flood. In places the track and ties are hanging in air over deep and wide washouts.

Similar conditions on spur lines feeding the plant at Kinzua have stopped shipping there, according to Allen Nistad of the company. Worst damage suffered by the corporation in the storm was loss of 17 bridges on its own railroad tracks. Some minor flooding was experienced by the mills but nothing serious at the plants.

Damage to the company railroad was estimated somewhere between \$100,000 and \$250,000. The truck roads of the company came through the storm in good shape, Nistad said.

The company and other shippers were working early this week to seek early repairs on the branch Union Pacific lines. Al Lamb called Union Pacific headquarters and was advised that repairs would start Wednesday but just when the work could be completed was not known. Most of the damage on the Heppner branch is to the portion of the line below Cecil.

A team from Union Pacific flew over the area by helicopter early this week.

# Board Schedules Salary Meeting

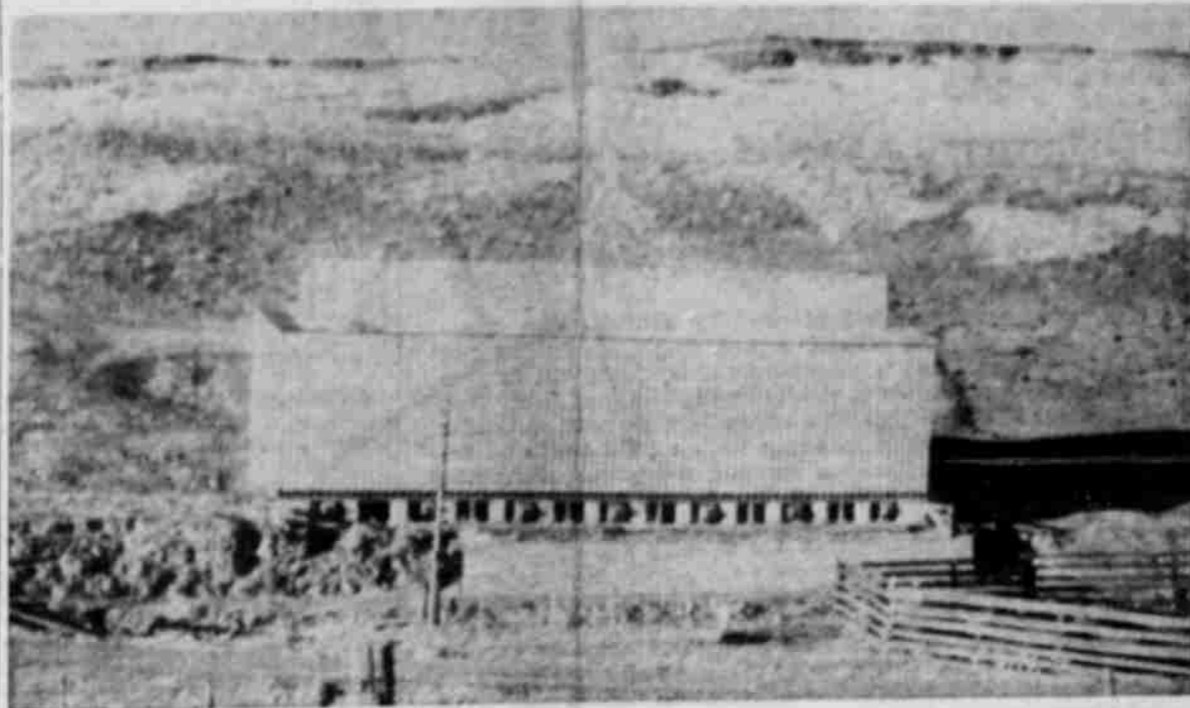
At a special meeting Monday night, directors of Morrow county school district R-1 will hear of proposals of the teachers' salary committee with members of the committee. The session will be in the county courthouse at 7:30.

At approximately 8:30, an ensuing session to discuss the proposals will be open to the public. Supt. David Potter announces. Major proposal being made by the teachers is that salaries of all teachers in the county be increased by \$500 per year for the next school year, the raise however, to include the increments that they would normally receive on the salary schedule.

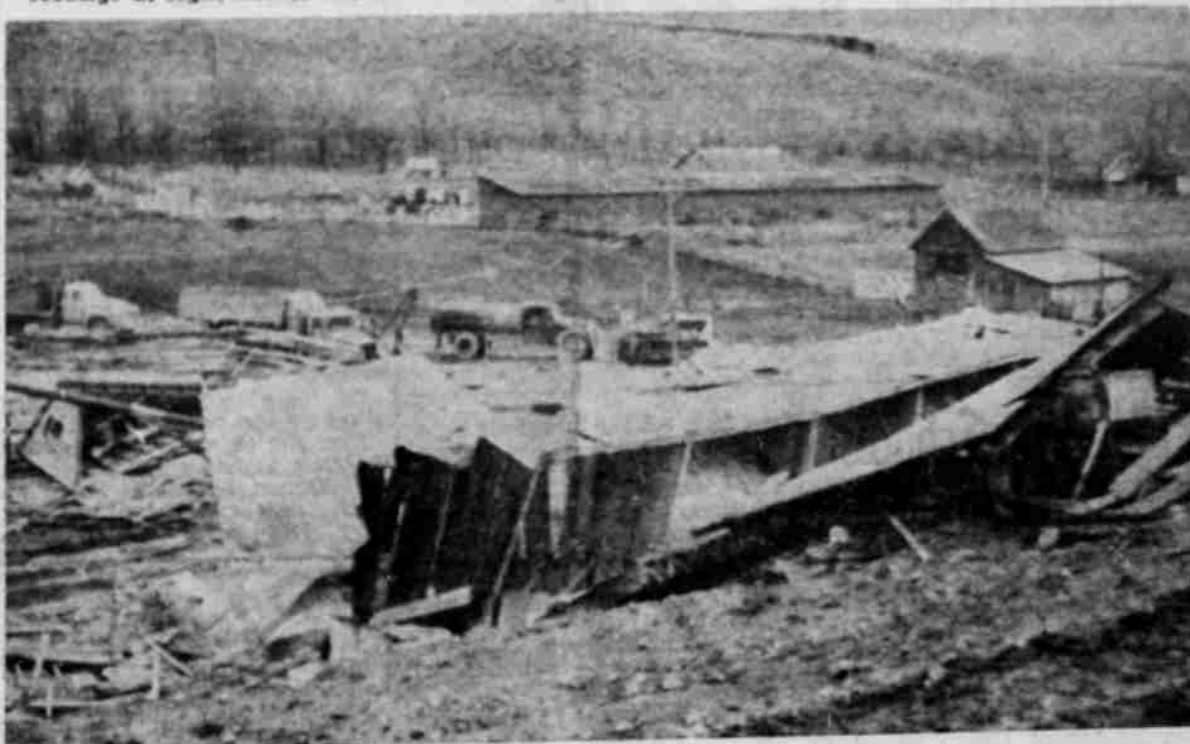
Another special meeting of the board will be held Wednesday, January 6, starting at 1:30 p.m., at which time architects will be interviewed preparatory to choosing a firm to draw plans and specifications for north end schools. The last interview is scheduled for 9 p.m. following dinner at 6 p.m. The evening interviews will start at 7:30.

Five firms have been invited to be represented for interviews, Supt. Potter's office announced.

A first meeting of budget committee members with the board will be at an informal meeting on Thursday night, January 7.



THIS IS THE WAY the Al Bunch grain elevator looked prior to the collapse on Thursday, December 24. Aluminum siding covered the structure which was built some 20 years ago. Water washed out footings at right end of the structure to cause the collapse. (Charles Ruggles Photo)



ONLY A HEAP of twisted wreckage remained of the Bunch elevator after its collapse early on December 24. This view is from back, showing how it toppled down the hill under the weight of 11,500 bushels of grain. Trucks are lined up to haul away salvaged grain. (G-T Photo)

# Flood Collapses Bunch Elevator; Neighbors Help

Undermining flood waters caused the Al Bunch grain elevator in Clarks canyon to collapse under the weight of 11,500 bushels of wheat and barley about 4 a.m. last Thursday morning.

The structure went down with a resounding crash that left it a pile of rubble and spilled the grain on the wet ground. It spoiled any Christmas plans of the family who devoted all daylight hours to salvaging the grain, and they were joined in this intensive effort by many good neighbors and friends who also gave up their Christmas plans.

Despite the cold and rain, with some snow, the volunteer crew kept at the job, with five trucks going, until all but about 1500 bushels of wheat and 1700 bushels of barley were salvaged. The wheat was taken to Morrow County Grain Growers elevators in Heppner, but much of the barley, which hit a water-filled hole when the structure toppled, was being salvaged for feed.

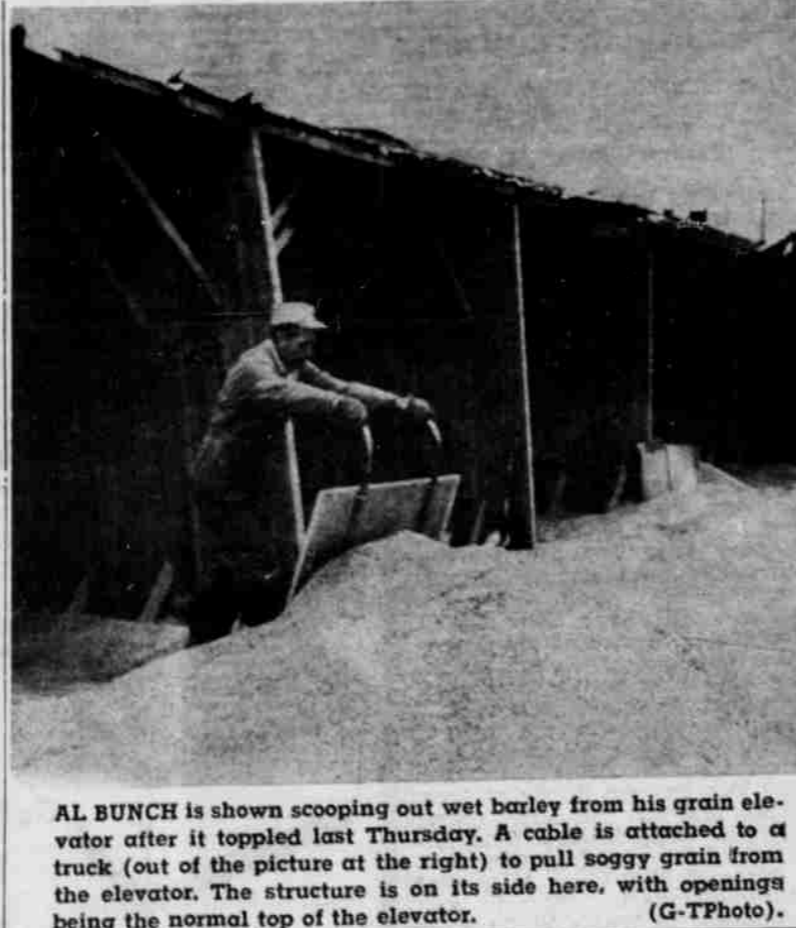
Bunch estimated loss of the building at \$10,000, with the 3200 bushels of grain additional. Some of this either went down the stream created by the flood or was scattered around the area.

The elevator was about 20 years old and contained wheat and barley in about equal proportions.

Among those helping with the salvage operations in addition to the Bunch family were Paul Jones, Gary Jones, Marcel Jones, Paul Brown, Mark Brown, Chris Brown, Walt Edger, Paul Heinrichs, Pearl Heath, who lives nearby and works for Bunch, the full crew of Morrow County Grain Growers, and "some boys who I don't even know."

Some manned tractors, some grove trucks, and some shoveled grain all Christmas day.

The Clarks Canyon road was in bad shape and tractors had to be used to help pull trucks over the bad spots until repairs could be made.



AL BUNCH is shown scooping out wet barley from his grain elevator after it toppled last Thursday. A cable is attached to a truck (out of the picture at the right) to pull soggy grain from the elevator. The structure is on its side here, with openings being the normal top of the elevator. (G-T Photo)

# Competition Due for Baby Prizes

Competition may be keen for the many prizes offered the first baby to be born in Heppner in 1965, since at last report there were three who were scheduled to arrive about the time the New Year begins.

Thirty-six prizes, given by Heppner and Lexington merchants and Pioneer Memorial hospital, await the baby who arrives first after midnight tonight (Thursday). Details are given and contest rules are printed on the full page display on page five of this paper.

Last year, Mark Edward Booth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Rob Booth, arrived at 8:10 a.m. on New Year's day to claim the prizes. The Booths now live at Estacada where Mark will observe his first birthday Friday.

The long list of prizes include these from the following firms: Five dollar savings account, Bank of Eastern Oregon; \$5 in merchandise, Case Furniture Co.;

case of baby food, Central Market; \$5 off to parents an January light bill, Columbia Basin Electric; case of baby food, Del's Market, Lexington; \$5 in cash, L. E. Dick; \$5 worth of baby food, Economy Market; \$5 in baby clothes, Elma's Apparel. Surprise gift for dad, Fullerton Chevrolet; \$5 savings account, First National Bank; shirt for dad, Gardner's Men's Wear; first shoes, Gonty's; floral arrangement for mother, Helen Cox Flowers; electric bottle warmer, Heppner Auto Parts; \$5 in cleaning, Heppner Cleaners; case of baby food, Red and White; \$5 in merchandise, Humphrey's Rexall Drug.

Five dollars worth of hair service for mother, Jeanne's Beauty Shop; 10 gallons of gasoline for the parents, Jack's Chevron; diaper bag, Lairds; \$5 savings account, Lott's Electric; \$4.50 for savings account, M & R Company; one-year subscription,

Gazette-Times; \$5 in merchandise, MiLadies; \$5 in merchandise for mother and dad, Pettyjohn's Farm and Builders Supply; one dozen diapers, Penney Co.; sterling silver baby cup, Peterson's Jewelers; 25% off on hospital expense, Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Case of baby food, Thomson's Grocery; quart of Plasolux colors for baby's crib, Tum-A-Lum Lumber Co.; \$5 in cash, Turner, Van Barter and Bryant; \$5 in cash, Wagon Wheel Cafe; 10 gallons of gasoline, Wes' Richfield; container and diaper pail, Western Auto; bottle sterilizer, Phil's Pharmacy; and hairdo for mother, Lois' Beauty Shop.

Parents of Miss or Mr. 1965 will be given a letter by the Gazette-Times that will serve to introduce them to the merchants to claim the prizes offered, and announcement of the winner will be made in the paper in the issue following the birth of the baby.