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IF YOUNGSTERS could vote, the gentleman in the flowing white beard would certainly be their choice for president of the United States. He has been exceedingly popular here during the pre-Christmas season as attested by the mass of young humanity surrounding him on a visit to Heppner during Christmas opening. Santa Claus is engaged in passing out candy. You'd never know it, but he's standing on a fire truck, completely engulfed by the kids. (G-T Photo)

'No One Knew We Were Gone'

Crisp Logging Crew Comes to Aid of Family Stranded Overnight in Potamus Area Woods

A family of five persons Sunday went for an afternoon drive to the mountains, planning to be gone only a short time. But they didn't arrive home until 30 hours later and spent a night in their car which was stuck in the mud in the Potamus Creek area.

Included in the group were Mrs. Theta Stratton, Heppner; her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Scott, and their two children, ages 2 and 5, all of Kennewick.

After spending a not-too-uncomfortable night in the car, the five were given aid by Oris Crisp, logging contractor for Kinzua Corporation, and his men. Scott had walked some 15 miles early Monday morning before he met Crisp driving on a forest road. He explained the family's plight, and Crisp dispatched a grader to the scene, operated by Mark Weatherford.

Crisp's crew also sent sandwiches, hot soup and other items of food shared from their lunches. This was the first food they had had since leaving at noon Sunday for the ride.

Weatherford used the grader to pull the car from the mud.

'Looked Like Santa Claus'

"I told him he looked just like Santa Claus," said Mrs. Stratton in recounting the incident.

The family shared a single blanket in the car during the night. They were wearing only their "regular" clothes and thus were not dressed too warmly but they found that the night was not severely cold where they were, lower down in a canyon.

Periodically during the night they started the car's motor for a few minutes to keep warm.

"Our breath didn't even freeze on the windows until after 3 a.m.," Mrs. Stratton said.

En route to the mountains there was considerable traffic on the Willow Creek road. Many families were out getting Christmas trees as the family group continued into the woods.

Take Downhill Road

As they kept driving, they discovered they were in unfamiliar territory but came to a road that went downhill, about 1:30 Sunday afternoon.

"We had always heard that a road that goes downhill will lead you out, and so we weren't worried," said Mrs. Stratton. They discovered from the hoofprints on the narrow road that there had been a cattle drive on it recently. However, they came to a spot where the road was badly "chewed" from the cattle's hoofs, and the car bogged down at this place. The mud was deep and thick.

Scott got out his jack and started to take steps to extricate the car, but the jack broke, and that left them stranded.

He then struck off down the road to get help and walked for miles without finding any farm buildings or meeting anyone. Scott reached what he described as a "large stream of water," which Mrs. Stratton surmised was a fork of the John Day River. He turned around and came back, arriving in the darkness at 5 p.m.

'No One Knew We Were Gone'

The group then calmly determined to make the best of their bad situation and settled down for the night in the car. They were careful to avoid talking about their plight in front of the small children, Mrs. Stratton said. They didn't expect help from a search party for no one knew they were gone.

They had seen evidences of logging operations in the area and were confident they could find help in the morning.

At about 6 a.m. Monday Scott started walking back up the road. The first man he saw a few hours later was Crisp who was taking gasoline to his grader operator.

"They were real wonderful to us," Mrs. Stratton said. The grader, even with its tandem wheels, was equipped with chains to gain traction in the mud.

The food came when radio contact was made with men at the landing, and they sent portions of their lunches to the hungry family group.

Thirty hours later—about 4 p.m. Monday — they arrived home, happy that their "joy ride" was over.

82nd Year Number 42

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon, Thursday, December 16, 1965 10 cents

County Farm Income Shows 10% Gain

Grade School Sets Christmas Program Wednesday Night

Christmas program of the Heppner elementary school will be in the Junior high school gymnasium Wednesday night, December 22, at 7:30 p.m. Principal Jack Grossnickle announces.

The program is under the direction of Mrs. Ola Mae Groshens and Arnold Melby and will have both vocal music and numbers by the band of the 6, 7 and 8 grades.

Band numbers will open the program after which an original skit, written and produced by the fifth grade general music class will be presented. It is entitled, "Planning the Christmas Program."

This is a schoolroom scene and most of the children play themselves, except for Teacher, Principal, Music Teacher, Secretary and Custodian, plus some Mothers.

Following on the program will be a presentation, "Peace on Earth and All the Other Planets," by the general music class of the 6, 7 and 8 grades. Narrators will give a short history of songs, familiar Christmas carols. Art department children of Mrs. Patricia Bushway have drawn pictures to depict the songs being sung. The pictures will be flashed from a projector on to a screen as the songs are sung. Girls of Mrs. Najar's physical education department, 6, 7 and 8 grades, will perform in a motion choir with the motions depicting the words of the song.

Singers in the program will have a processional and recessional, and ensembles and solos will be included.

All children in these grades are participating and the chorus numbers 101 children, and all teachers in the school are working on the program.

WEATHER

Official weather report for the week of December 9-15 is as follows:

	Hi	Low	Prec.
Thursday	40	35	—
Friday	44	24	—
Saturday	37	30	—
Sunday	36	24	.06
Monday	41	26	—
Tuesday	30	15	—
Wednesday	35	13	—

Greeting Edition Slated Next Week

Next week's Gazette-Times is the one in which merchants and business houses will express their Christmas greetings to customers and friends and extend their wishes to them.

The paper will be out on the usual day, Thursday. Those who are not contacted by the paper staff but who wish to insert messages in keeping with the season are asked to call the paper office (676-9228).

O'Connor Resigns As Mayor of Ione

Charles O'Connor, who has served as Mayor of Ione for a number of years, submitted his resignation to the city council at the regular meeting Tuesday, December 7.

The resignation is to be effective at the end of the current calendar year. He was not at home when an attempt was made to contact him Wednesday evening, but Mrs. O'Connor said that he took the step for personal reasons.

She said that he wishes to devote more time to his business and other interests.

The council is checking on legal procedures necessary to fill the vacancy.

Judging of Home Lighting Contest Set for Wednesday

Closing date and time for judging of entries in this year's Christmas home lighting contest have been advanced from Thursday to Wednesday of next week, according to Mrs. Avon Melby, chairman of the committee.

All entries must be registered at the Gazette-Times office by next Wednesday at 6:00 p.m., when the committee of judges will start its tour to choose prize winners. The earlier judging will make possible the presenting of prize moneys before Christmas.

Only a few entries have been registered to claim a part of the $60 in prize awards. Those putting up special window or outdoor displays this week-end are urged to enter them in the contest.

High School Sets Holiday Program Here Friday Night

On December 17, at 7:30 p.m., Heppner High school will present its Christmas program in the cafetorium.

The high school band, led by Arnold Melby, will play various songs to put people in the Christmas mood. "Hallelujah Chorus," "Carol of the Drums," "Christmas March," and "Angels Heard on High" are some of the songs that are programmed.

The newly-formed HHS chorus will also participate in the program by singing "Silver Bells," "White Christmas," and "What Child is This?"

The drama and girls' P.E. departments will present a black light variety show including ballet, modern dance, Hawaiian dance, polka, tumbling, and novelty numbers.

The show takes place by Santa's workshop the night before Christmas. Bob Dobbs will play Santa Claus. His three elves will be Sara Miller, Nancy Campbell, and Linda Orwick. The cast will also include Sheridan Wyman, Peggy Snyder, Kathy Melby, Sue Greenup, Barbara Crisp, Ruby Fulleton, Sherri O'Brien, Sabra Gabbert, Marguerite Moroe, and Gene Najar. Mark Brown will be the narrator of the show.

Settings were prepared by the high school speech class.

The public is invited to attend the function.

Kinzua Employees To Get Turkeys

Employees of Kinzua Corporation at the Heppner plant have completed a full year without a loss of time accident, thereby compiling an exceptionally good record.

All those who are employed at the mill will receive a Christmas turkey as the company's means of showing appreciation for their services and the safety record.

Board Eyes Budget; Holstein Resigns

Directors of Morrow County School District R-1, holding their regular monthly meeting at A. C. Houghton school, Irrigon, Tuesday night, started working towards the 1966-67 school budget, considered matters of transportation and curriculum and took other actions of interest to school patrons.

A budget committee meeting preceded the regular meeting and Ellwynne Peck of Lexington was elected chairman. C. E. (Clint) McQuarrie of Heppner was elected vice chairman and Frank Anderson was chosen secretary.

The budget committee is composed of seven lay members and the school directors. Other citizen members are Bob Sicard of Boardman and Charles Carlson of Ione. Two more are to be chosen, one from Heppner and one from Irrigon.

The committee has set the budget election date for April 12, 1966, and has started proceedings for making the budget and setting salaries.

One action taken at the ensuing directors' meeting was to approve procedures implementing a new state law that provides for establishment of a committee of certified personnel within a school district for the purpose of discussing with the board matters of salaries and related economic policies affecting professional services.

A committee composed of two principals and five classroom teacher members is to be elected for this purpose. Rules for the election of the committee by the certified personnel of the district were adopted by the board, and the date of January 4 was set for the election. Mrs. Alice Vance, clerk, was instructed to arrange for the election.

Holstein Resigns

Everett Holstein, principal of the Ione schools, submitted his resignation to be effective at the end of the current school year.

The board accepted it with reluctance and instructed the clerk to write a letter commending him for his work and to put it in his file. Holstein is presently in his second year at Ione.

Bus Reports Given

Principal Clayton Norton of Heppner presented a district transportation report that he and Leonard Toll, bus supervisor, had worked out for the months of October and November. The report gave total cost of operating the county school district vehicles and itemized each cost.

A similar report will be given regularly for each preceding month at each ensuing board meeting.

The transportation committee, which met December 9, recommended that the 54 passenger

(Continued on page 8)

Stores Stay Open For Late Shopping

A number of Heppner stores have announced that they will be open until 9 p.m. Friday and to the same time on Monday through Thursday of next week for the convenience of Christmas shoppers.

Included in the group are Gonty's, Murrays Rexall Drug, J. C. Penney Co., Elma's Apparel, Gardner's Men's Wear, MiLadies Apparel, Phil's Pharmacy, Van's Variety, Case Furniture Company and Peterson's Jewelers.

Bank of EO Votes Cash Dividends Of $10 Per Share

Directors of the Bank of Eastern Oregon have voted $10 cash dividends to their stockholders, going to stockholders of record December 1 for payment on December 15, Gene Pierce, president of the bank, announces.

About 120 stockholders of the bank in Morrow and Gilliam counties hold 1500 shares, he said.

Dividends during the past two years were curtailed due to the expense of relocation of the bank's branch in Arlington, but in the five-year period of 1958 through 1962, each share received $49 in dividends. Annual dividends of $10 per share were paid with the exception of one year when a $9 dividend was declared.

Stock has gained in value from $200 in 1957 to $265 at the present time, Pierce said.

The current dividend represents 5% of the original investment on each share, the president pointed out.

John Krebs of Arlington is chairman of the directors. Other directors are Earl Hoag, Dave Lemon and Dave Childs, all of Arlington; Arthur Allen, Boardman; Gar Swanson, Ione; and Howard Bryant, Ray Ferguson and Pierce, all of Heppner.

Better Price On Stock Gives Boost

By GENE WINTERS
Morrow County Extension Agent

Income from cash farm marketing in Morrow county for 1965 is estimated to be $10,268,000, Gene Winters, Morrow county extension agent announced today.

The estimate is up 10% from 1964, primarily due to better livestock prices.

Livestock and animal products accounts for $2,620,000 or nearly 26 per cent of the total.

Wheat accounted for about 73% of all crops, bringing growers $5,612,000. Total production was estimated at 3,120,000 bushels with 180,000 held back for seed or feed on farms where produced. The county wide average per acre yield was estimated at 26 bushels.

Barley followed wheat in crop importance with growers receiving nearly 1.5 million dollars for the 96 per cent of the 1965 barley crop sold.

Receipts of $2,044,000 from farm marketings of cattle and calves appear to be the highest reported for a number of years and represents 20 per cent of the gross income.

The sales of hay, vegetables, melons, and tree fruits was estimated to be 450,000 dollars. The value of hay production was nearly 1.2 million dollars with about 2/3 of the crop kept on the farm.

Assisting in the preparation of the estimates were farmers, extension agent Gail McCarty, OSU-USDA county statistician specialist Robert Ganger and others.

Engineers' Letter Tells Land Plan

Procedure that the Army Engineers would use in acquiring land for the Willow Creek project is described in this issue in an open letter to land owners from Col. Frank McElwee, district engineer, Walla Walla.

The letter is printed in full on page 2, section 2.

$2,369,000 Ione Gas Pipeline Station, Planned for 1967, Awaits FPC Approval

Plans for construction of a gas pumping station at Ione, one of a number designed to increase capacity of the Alberta-California pipeline of the Pacific Gas Transmission company, were described by Roger Thompson, public information representative of the company, at a meeting of the Ione Lions club Monday night. He was accompanied by Chet Bond who is in charge of the pipeline from the Snake River to John Day.

Thompson said that the station, which will be constructed if the Federal Power Commission grants approval following hearings which have been conducted in Washington, D. C., will cost an estimated $2,369,000. Work will be contracted, and Bond estimated that a work force of 15 men will be all that will be required to do the job.

The station will be a turbine driven centrifugal compressor and with others located on the line will increase capacity from the present 400 million public feet per day in the pipeline to 600 million cubic feet.

Additional capacity is needed, Thompson said, because of the increase in population in California. With 18 million persons there at the present time, by 1970 the number is expected to reach 22 million with the proportionate increase in demand for gas.

The 1400-mile long pipeline, constructed in 1961, taps 22 gas fields in Alberta, Canada, where a vast supply of natural gas has been found. It requires six days for gas to travel through the line from Alberta to San Francisco, Thompson said, but with the increase in installations of pressure stations, this would be cut to four days.

Some opposition came from Texas at the FPC hearings, he said, from independent producers who submitted that the gas should be purchased from that state. Decision on the hearing awaits study of lengthy briefs and exhibits presented, after which materials in the nature of rebuttals may be filed with the commission.

1967 Construction Set

If the proposal is approved, the stations are scheduled for construction in 1967. The Ione station would be 10,000 horsepower, and one between Madras and Prineville would be 18,000 horsepower. The latter station would cost $4½ million.

The pressure stations would be operated by remote control, using a computer, and no personnel would be required at Ione for the operation of the station there.

However, the company has budgeted for an additional maintenance station, and no decision has been made as to where it will be located. Thompson said it could be located in Condon, Heppner or Ione, or it may be decided to use the crew out of Wallula, Wash. for this purpose.

The PGT representative said that the stations would give the 50% more capacity for 10% more expenditure by the company.

Tax Impact Told

One of the important benefits to Morrow county of the Ione station would be the tax impact. The company this year paid $60,660 to Morrow county and a total of $728,800 in the state of Oregon, he said. He could only conjecture how much more would be paid here with the added installation.

He showed a color film to the group showing the construction of the pipeline and how the 36-inch pipes were welded together and laid across river beds and over rough terrain with crews working in all kinds of weather conditions.

Also on the program were movies of Pacific Coast football for 1964 and films on Viet Nam, presented by Jim Barnett and Herman Winter.

Gar Swanson announced that the club's ladies night event set for December 18 has been postponed and that the Lions will join with other Ione groups for a New Year's eve party.

Next regular meeting, which would have been December 27, was cancelled because of the holidays. Skip Emert will present a program on the state School for the Blind at the January 10 meeting. President Ron Bishop presided at the Monday meeting.

FAR CRY from the "borrowed" quarters used until this year by Blue Mountain Community College is this new building that now houses many of the departments of the young college. This picture shows just a portion of the modern and functional new structure located on the new college campus. It is the first of the buildings that eventually will form a complete college unit. Photo was taken by Director Bob Abrams at the time of open house recently.