

# Car Shortage Shuts Down Heppner Lumber Co.

85th Year

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Price 10 Cents

### 55 Men Idle As 35 Loads Set to Ship

Operations of Heppner Lumber Company were shut down at noon Tuesday because of a shortage of wide door boxcars, Bruce Malcom, general manager, said.

The closure threw about 55 men out of work temporarily, including the employees at the mill and truckers who haul lumber and chips.

Malcom said that the company has 35 carloads of lumber waiting to be shipped but has no cars to load it on.

He said that he wired Gov. Tom McCall, Cong. Al Ullman, others in Oregon's Congressional delegation and Union Pacific officials Tuesday asking for relief. He had not received responses as of early Wednesday morning but felt it was probably too soon to expect them.

County Judge Paul Jones was also seeking to alleviate the situation and was attempting to get in touch with Cong. Ullman, although Congress is now on a 10-day recess.

Malcom said that the mill employees were signing for unemployment compensation, and if the plant is still closed through next week, they may start drawing compensation.

Heppner Lumber must use wide door box cars because of the method used in packaging the lumber. Kinzua Corporation can use cars with narrow doors, and Nona Sowell, office manager at the Heppner office of Kinzua, said Wednesday morning that this company is having no particular problem getting cars at the present time. Apparently the wide door cars are in shorter supply than the narrow door cars.

Malcom said that he believes a problem on connections from the main line is partly responsible for the trouble. Cars may be consigned for Heppner Lumber and set aside at Hinkle but the train coming to Heppner three times per week may depart before the cars arrive at Hinkle, and then they are sent to another shipper.

Heppner Lumber needs six wide door cars each time the train makes its run here in order to fill its requirements. Malcom said Lumber is produced at the rate of about three carloads per day.

The car shortage has plagued the local mill off and on for some time, Malcom said.

Judge Jones said that he was in contact with the State Employment Service Tuesday and the spokesman asked him if he could take any action to get relief on the problem. In a similar situation on a shortage of cars for grain shipments several years ago, he was able to resolve the problem by contacting concerned officials.

There was no way of telling, as of Wednesday, how long the shutdown will continue. As soon as a supply of cars is received, operations will be resumed.



AFTER THE STORM COMES THE REPAIRS. Howard Keithley, standing on awning, and Bud Butterfield make repairs to the long awning in front of Wagon Wheel Cafe and Heppner Auto Parts. The awning dropped at the height of the recent storm under weight of heavy snow. It had been propped up temporarily since that time. (G-T Photo).

### Road Damage High; County Sets Limit

As snow melts away, the Morrow county court and road department has been reviewing the storm damage to county roads. The report from County Judge Paul Jones Tuesday is that damage is excessive.

One road, the Sandhollow road from Fritz Cutsforth's elevator to Buttercreek, has been closed because of the extensive damage from frost boils and deterioration.

The road will remain closed for some time since it is too soft for gravel trucks to operate on it.

The county court established a load limit of five tons on all its roads and was engaged in posting them to that effect Tuesday. This means that few loaded trucks will be light enough to operate on them, being limited, perhaps, to such as pickup loads of hay.

Judge Jones said that he does not believe any log truckers are now operating on county roads, and said that none will be permitted until conditions improve. Soft spots and deep chucks from freeze damage have also hit some of the state highways here. In places, the state maintenance crews have placed flares to warn traffic of potential hazards from damage.

"Some of the county roads have no bottom to them now," Judge Jones said. Some are dangerous for car traffic and will be worse for heavier trucks. He said that he believes the county's road oiling program will now be set back two years. Last week the announcement was that it would be set back one year, but snow blankets still hid much of the damage. County crews have not yet been able to make repairs that came with the chinook several weeks ago.

The county is attempting, by its temporary signing program, to notify road users of bad spots and road closures.

As of Tuesday the only road definitely closed was that from Fritz Cutsforth's to Buttercreek.

It isn't only the cost that will upset the schedule on the county's normal road program, the judge said, but also the materials and labor involved to do the job of repairs.

County crews were working to keep school bus routes open, but some truck operators have been notified that they are to stop hauling until conditions improve.

Those who have emergencies and need to haul loads are requested to check with the county court.

"This is one time when we really feel discouraged about the situation," the judge said.

### Temperature Stays Warm; Weather Now Near Normal

The weather—settling back to near normal for this time of the year in this country—is not monopolizing the news any more.

Warming temperatures and periodic rains have done a pretty good job of clearing the snow from the Heppner landscape, but quite a bit remains on fields in different spots around the county and in higher elevations.

There has been no serious flooding, and principal damage has been to county roads.

Maximum temperatures held into the 40's through most of the week and two nights didn't get down to freezing. Last snow came Wednesday, February 5, with a fall of 2.3 inches, although there was a spatter of sleet Saturday night.

Rain totaled .19 inch, and with the 14 inch moisture from last Wednesday's snow, the total moisture for the week was .33 inch, Don Glliam, weather observer reported.

As of Tuesday night, it appeared that this memorable snow of the winter of 1968-69 might be pretty well consigned to the record books and diaries for folks to recall years from now when it happens again. Complete report for the week is as follows:

	Hi	Low	Prec.
Wednesday	42	22	.14
Thursday	30	18	.02
Friday	43	25	—
Saturday	47	40	—
Sunday	47	32	.07
Monday	49	35	—
Tuesday	50	32	—

(\* 2.3 inches snow).

### Grain Growers Set Open House

Monday, February 17, will be Open House at the machinery division of Morrow County Grain Growers in Lexington, Everett Brock, manager, announces.

Pancakes and sausages will be served all day; there will be prizes for visitors; and there will be treats for the kids. Part of the occasion is due to the announcement of the new International-Harvester Hydrostatic drive which has been developed for the line of farm tractors. New International-Harvester trucks will be on display, and those who come to the Open House are invited to take them for demonstration drives.

### Heppner Chapter Marks FFA Week, February 15-22

Vocational agriculture students in Heppner High school will join Future Farmers of America members throughout the nation in activities to focus attention on the importance of agriculture during the National FFA Week, February 15-22, Hal Whitaker, advisor of the local chapter, states.

"FFA... an Opportunity for Youth" is this year's FFA Week theme. FFA members seek to inform the public of the importance they place upon the vast opportunities in American agriculture.

"Before an FFA member can conquer the battle of starvation halfway around the globe or even increase profitability of farming or ranching, he must first conquer himself," Whitaker said. "There is an urgent calling for FFA members to grasp the opportunities available in agriculture."

"It is fortunate," he added, "that the FFA provides a place to build, create, and enjoy the business of life. FFA provides an atmosphere for members to learn, to do, to earn, and to serve."

Annual Parent and Son Banquet of the Heppner High chapter will be a highlight of the week's observance here. It will be held in the high school cafeteria on Tuesday evening, February 18.

The Heppner FFA chapter has 29 members. Monte Evans is president, John Harris vice president, John Hall secretary, Mark Pointer treasurer, Don Cossitt reporter, Steve McDaniel sentinel and Calvin Ashbeck, officer-at-large.

The national FFA organization has approximately 450,000 members with 9,000 local chapters in the 50 states and Puerto Rico.

Accomplishments of the local chapter are listed in the sponsored message on page 3, section 2, together with other information about the chapter, the FFA creed and purposes.



HAPPY FAMILY is this threesome. Jerry Alan Blanckaert, born February 2, is the center of interest for father and mother, Sgt. and Mrs. Jerry Blanckaert of Condon. As the first baby born in Pioneer Memorial hospital in 1969, Jerry, Jr., won many prizes for himself and his parents. The Blanckaerts, whose home is in Denver, Colo., have been in Condon for 29 months where he serves at the Air Force Station. Young Jerry is their first son. While collecting prizes around town Friday, Sgt. Blanckaert said that he had a surprise in store for his wife. He had arranged for Mrs. Dorothy Beuchat of Denver, mother of Mrs. Blanckaert, to fly out for a visit and met her in Pendleton Friday evening. (G-T Photo).

### Hodde Tells Need for Developing Irrigation

(Also see story page 8)

By KEN TURNER  
Charles W. Hodde, Vancouver, Wash., chairman of the Pacific Northwest River Basin Commission, told farmers and businessmen at the annual Heppner SWCD meeting at the Lexington Grange hall last Tuesday evening that the Northwest must develop irrigation to compete with the Midwest's crop efficiency. Also, the Southwest will continue eyeing our rivers, he predicted.

We in the Northwest utilize a river for power, navigation, fish and recreation while the Southwest pump their rivers bone dry. We differ here in that we can't store much of our water, Hodde said.

Speaking of the Southwest project, each irrigation project must be planned so that it fits in a master plan for the entire development of the entire region, the speaker said.

Financing may have to come from state revenue bonds, guaranteed reimbursable by

state or federal government. The federal government may be able to help up to 25% for quality and recreational control.

He stressed that federal Bureau of Reclamation may not bring projects as soon as desired. Farmers and water control districts will have to do as other industries and use their credit.

Northwest farmers are generally paying more for irrigation water than the Northwest users.

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THERE WERE SEVERAL QUESTIONS asked of Orrin Potampa, IFYE student to Korea, after his illustrated talk before the Soroptimist Club of Heppner last Thursday noon. Pictured together after the meeting are Mrs. Elaine George, club president; Mr. Potampa; Miss Mary Speckhart, Umatilla-Morrow county 4-H agent, and Mrs. Birdine Tullis, Morrow county Extension Aide. (G-T Photo).

### IFYE Important In Korea, Speaker Says

By HELEN SHERMAN

"The American Foundation Farm Training program is becoming one of the most important organizations in Korea," Orrin Potampa, IFYE of Portland, told members and guests of the Soroptimist club at its luncheon meeting last Thursday. This training program is involved in 4-H educational work with Korean youth who are interested in developing the land, he said, and has been extremely successful.

Potampa spent several weeks last summer as an International Farm Youth Exchange student in the rural village of Mokpo, near Seoul, South Korea. His talk, accompanied by an excellent variety of colored slides, brought attention to modern influences and advances in both agricultural and social life in Korea.

His tour and study were sponsored by Ralston Purina company, whose interest is in advancing the poultry industry there and establishing feed plants.

Necessity for good land management and conservation become increasingly important in the small country of South Korea, which is one-third the size of the state of Oregon, with need to produce food for approximately 30 million people.

About 60% of the Koreans are in some way engaged in farming. Potampa remarked, with only about 30% of the mountainous peninsula land tillable. Farms average in size between four and five acres, with most of it planted in rice, their principal food. Through the country's Office of Rural Development, farming standards are being improved.

Many traditional customs con-

tinue in popularity, due to the low economy of the nation. The value of the "A-frame" rack, for both carrying farm produce to and from the market, as well as uses in the field, was pointed out. The use of sticks and rocks for household chores is still customary, with women doing much of the heavy work at an average income of between 30c and 60c per day. Few homes have running water or electricity.

The valuable aid of U. S. Peace Corps workers in teaching health and English to the Koreans received special commendation. Birthdays at one year and 60 years are felt to be the most important, as mortality rates are highest between birth and end of the first year, and after 60 years of age.

Potampa was accompanied to

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### Becky Fulleton On Spray Court

Miss Becky Fulleton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roice Fulleton of Heppner, has been selected one of the four members of the 1969 Spray Rodeo Court.

Other girls who will ride on the court are Phyllis Linn of John Day, Vonda Hettinga of Dayville and Debbie Tippett of Monument.

The rodeo kick-off dance will be in Spray Saturday evening, February 15, with music by The Outlaws. The rodeo court will be introduced and receive tickets at this time which they will sell for the annual saddle raffle, with the girl selling the most tickets to be crowned queen of the court.

Dates of the 21st annual Spray Rodeo were set for May 17 and 18 at a meeting of the Spray Rodeo Association recently in the Spray school's central library.

Elected officers for the coming year are Don Griffith, president; Jerry Beach, vice-president; Mrs. Jerry Beach, secretary, and Mrs. Don Griffith, treasurer.

Clarence Warren, Bill Richards and Frank Robison were re-elected to the board of directors. New members of the board are Bill Chapman and Ben Hamilton.

### Board, Teachers To Reach Decision

Board of directors of the Morrow county school district and the teacher negotiation committee are expected to act on the salary issue at the regular monthly meeting of the board, which will be Monday night at Riverside High school, Supt. Ron Daniels said Wednesday morning.

At a budget meeting Tuesday night the board decided that if the issue cannot be resolved Monday, it will vote a "persistent disagreement" and the matter will be declared at impasse. Procedure then will be for an arbitration committee to be formed in an effort to resolve the matter.

However, it is hoped that the board and teachers can agree on a settlement that will not force impasse.

### West Extension District Starts New Pump Station

Ground breaking was begun for the West Extension Irrigation district Pump Station No. 1 Tuesday, February 4.

These are the first of such pumps to be installed. The Columbia River to supply water to an established irrigation district. The need for supplying additional irrigation water became acute during the summer of 1968. The normal supply, return flow from other irrigation districts in the Umatilla Basin, was seriously low. In fact, the entire basin had an acute water shortage.

The district's problem came to the attention of Cong. Al Ullman, who was able to locate three 300 h.p. pumps that were surplus at the Hanford Atomic Energy Commission installation. Max Jones, irrigation district manager followed upon this through the Boardman Soil and Water Conservation District. He was familiar with the grant of equipment program of the Soil Conservation Service by which the Soil and Water Conservation District had previously obtained much needed equipment for conservation work in the Boardman SWCD.

It was learned from A. J. Webster, state conservationist, Soil Conservation Service, Portland, that a grant was possible and negotiations were completed to complete the grant to the Boardman SWCD. A rental agreement of the equipment to the West Extension Irrigation district was worked out as negotiations progressed.

In future years of acute shortages these pumps can supply 72 cubic feet per second or 32,400 gallons per minute into the main canal at Umatilla, which will assure the district enough irrigation water even when the Umatilla Basin has an extremely low supply.

### Richards to Quit Conservation Post

Ralph Richards, work unit conservationist with the Heppner Soil and Water Conservation district for nearly 10 years, announced at the annual meeting of the district last Tuesday that he plans to retire at the end of this month.

He has been with the Soil Conservation Service for almost 34 years. Before coming to Heppner to take his present position in 1959 he served at Junction City. Prior to that he was stationed in western Washington. Richards was reared in southeastern Idaho in the town of Malad.

During the time Richards had been here the Heppner district has compiled an outstanding record. Currently it has one-half of Oregon's total stripcropping, one-third of Oregon's diversion terraces, the largest acreage of stubble mulch in the state, and currently has the unique distinction of having 100% of its farms as cooperators.

Richards said that his future plans are somewhat indefinite although he may seek employment in some other field for a few years after doing some of the things he would like to do.

He said that a successor is expected to be appointed for the position here soon.