

# Don McKinnis Says Local Effort Key to Project Development

"This area has a great deal to gain by development of its water resources," said Don McKinnis, Salem, agricultural development specialist of the State Department of Agriculture, in a talk at the Chamber of Commerce meeting here May 5.

He added, however, "If we're going to get the job done, it will take people at the local level. The state and federal government can only provide the tools."

McKinnis asked four questions in his talk and then volunteered some ideas as part of the answers. The questions: 1. Can we use effluent from nuclear plants? 2. Should we pump directly from the Columbia? 3. Can we afford to wait for federal projects? 4. How about pursuing a state-federal cooperative development program to achieve our goals?

As to the third question, McKinnis said the answer has to come from the local level but added, "I think we are going to have to start developing for ourselves."

So much private development has come about in other states that it has tended to convince Congress that development may come from this level rather than depending upon the federal government, he pointed out.

**Agriculture at Crossroads**  
At the start of his talk, McKinnis said, "Agriculture as we know it in Oregon has reached a crossroad. Established crops and rotations will no longer provide the economic stability necessary to maintain a stable agriculture. The time to re-evaluate our farm situation is now."

He told how wheat, once considered to be the lifeblood for agriculture in Columbia River counties of Oregon, has undergone drastic marketing adjustment, resulting in lower wheat prices.

"We have seen our export market suffer drastic reduction, resulting in a heavy carryover of soft white wheat," he said. "No doubt the end result will be lower prices and further reductions in wheat allotments. In the wheat fallow sections of our state this adds up to lower farm income at a time when farm costs are at an all-time high."

Many nations, previously dependent on U. S. wheat are now self-sufficient, like Pakistan, or soon will be, like India, he said.

Through use of irrigation, some of the problems may be overcome, McKinnis declared. "Land along the Columbia River can be served by the de-

veloping of pumping and storage sites in the area. Many of our dryland wheat farms can establish rotation, utilizing cereal, forage and eventually row crops to enhance farm income for the farmer and the state."

**Two Steps Needed**  
McKinnis said that two carefully planned steps should be followed to accomplish his suggestion:

1. Project planning should include a detailed study of project areas, including the multiple use concept involving both the agricultural and the urban community.

"Agriculture as such does not have the political muscles to do the job alone," he said.

Water costs will be high and steps must be taken to divide water cost among all water users, be it a federal project or private development.

"Hopefully we can have long-term low cost interest loans at the state level available for financing," he added, pointing out the work of Rep. Irvin Mann towards using the state's credit for financing projects, similar to the system used on veterans' loans. McKinnis told of the progress of Mann's bill in the legislature, which has been opposed by Multnomah county legislators.

2. Second to the development of irrigation will come an increased emphasis on the marketing of farm products. New market and processing facilities will be needed to take care of the increased production on newly-irrigated farms. A cooperative effort will be needed to bring together all phases—processing, transportation, storage and handling of commodities.

**Double Irrigation Seen**

"It appears we must take a positive marketing approach to meet the need of an expanding agriculture. What this will mean to the state in additional dollars cannot at this point be measured," McKinnis said. "We have the land and water resources to double our present irrigated acreage."

He said an Oregon water study report scheduled in Salem is being anxiously awaited and said that this "Ultimate Needs Study" will point the way toward a far greater potential.

"Our agricultural potential has not been utilized," he concluded. "It will take the cooperation of the urban and agricultural communities to get the job done."

Guests of the Chamber included some 12 men of the Columbia Blue Mountain and Grant-

Wheeler Resource Conservation and Development councils. They were meeting here to plan for a large public joint resource meeting in Pendleton on May 26. Bob Lonzway, Milton-Freewater, technician, explained their purpose, and each of the men introduced himself. Co-chairmen of the Columbia Blue Mountain group are Ray Saylor, Butter Creek, and Ed Hoeft of Pendleton. Counties other than Umatilla and Morrow represented by the group included Gilliam, Wheeler, Grant and Baker.

## Pre-65 Signup Urged For Social Security

Noting that May has been proclaimed Senior Citizens Month by Pres. Nixon, Vernon A. Welo, Social Security manager, urges Morrow county residents who are approaching age 65 to celebrate by finding out as much as they can about the Federal health plan for older Americans.

A person should sign up for medical insurance two or three months before he reaches 65, if he wishes coverage of doctor bills to begin in the month he reaches 65, Welo said. If he waits until later, his medical insurance may not begin until one to three months after he signs up, and if he waits more than three months after he reaches 65, he will not have another chance to sign up for a long time — perhaps as much as a year.

For a person who is a social security beneficiary, the basic hospital insurance protection begins automatically with the month of the 65th birthday. One who is not receiving benefits should check with the social security office two or three months before his 65th birthday about his eligibility.

The La Grande social security office is located at 1802 4th Street. The phone number is 963-4131.

For the convenience of Morrow county residents, a social security representative is in the Neighborhood Center, 120 S. Main, Heppner, from 9:00 a.m. until noon on the second Thursday of each month.

## Announce Daughter

Mr. and Mrs. David D. George of Hemet, Calif., are announcing the birth of a daughter, Tonya Lee, on Thursday, May 1. She joins two brothers, Sean and Corey. Grandparents are Mrs. Maurice Groves of Hemet, Mrs. Elaine George of Heppner, and Oscar George of Walla Walla, Wn.



MRS. PHEBE BARTHOLOMEW, who graduated from the Oregon State Normal School at Monmouth in 1895, was an honored guest at Alumni Day at the school — now Oregon College of Education — recently. Mrs. Bartholomew traveled farther than any other Oregon alumna to be at the gathering. She has lived on the same ranch in the Butter Creek district of Morrow County for 65 years. Talking to her is James Buck, president of the OCE Alumni Association.

## Attend Funeral

Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Snyder traveled to La Grande early this month to attend funeral services on May 1 for Mrs. Snyder's mother, Muriel B. Clark. She died April 28 in St. Joseph's hospital in La Grande at the age of 69, following an illness of several years.

Visitors at the home of Mrs. Ellen Campbell over the past week-end included her son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Martin, and the couple's six-months-old baby daughter of Moro.

## Visiting with Mrs. Elaine George

George and other friends on Wednesday and Thursday of last week were Mr. and Mrs. Ted Miller of Marysville, Calif. Mrs. Miller is the former Alice Potter, who lived in Heppner as a child and has kept in touch with what she considers her home town. She is a descendant of the pioneer French families.

Mrs. Sylvia Beymer, long time resident of Morrow county, is now recuperating in Mt. Tabor Convalescent hospital, 7100 S. E. Division, in Portland. She is reported as doing well.

## Pomona Names Dress Winners

By DELPHA JONES

LEXINGTON — Winners were named in this year's Morrow County Pomona Grange Cotton Dress Contest last week, after judging was completed in Heppner.

Winning first in the contest was Mrs. Morris McCarl; second, was Mrs. Dennis McMillan, and third was Mrs. Lewis Halvorsen. Their dresses will be entered in state judging in Portland on May 22-23, with state winners continuing in national competition.

Lexington Grange met Saturday night at the Grange hall. A program was given in keeping with Mother's Day, including a reading, also violin solos by Mrs. Kenneth Smouse. A corsage was given to the oldest mother present, Mrs. Ella Burgoyne, and to the youngest mother present, Mrs. Delpha Jones. After the meeting, the group traveled to the Norman Nelson home for potluck dessert.

Mrs. Lyle Cox is convalescing at home, following surgery in a Pendleton hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Majeske and Debbie attended graduation ceremonies at Pacific University in Forest Grove on Sunday. Their son, Don, was a member of the graduating class and received his bachelor degree.

## Carol Rawlins Gets OSU Mothers' Award

Carol Jo Rawlins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rawlins of Heppner, is one of 21 recipients of full-tuition scholarships for 1969-70 awarded by the Oregon State University Mothers club, according to a news release from the university.

Miss Rawlins is a junior in the School of Home Economics.

Funds contributed by the mothers of OSU students are raised by various community projects. Individual contributions also go into the fund. Mrs. Leonard M. Klein of Corvallis, secretary of the club's scholarship committee, announced the list of recipients.

## Monument News

By MARTHA MATTESON

**MONUMENT**—A son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Emery Moore on Friday, May 9, at the John Day hospital, weighing 5 lb., 13 oz. They were to be at the home of her folks on Monday for a few days before returning to La Grande where Emery is in college. Grandparents are Mrs. Edna Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dahill, and great-grandmother is Mrs. Ellen Moore, all of Monument.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cantwell were in Heppner last Monday at the C. J. D. Bauman home.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Matteson and son, Verne, were business callers in Heppner last Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gertson of Ukiah drove over one night last week for their son, Donald Capon's birthday.

Lee Leathers of Hamilton was in Heppner last Monday. He has sold his ranch and will move to Union May 17 with his wife.

Mrs. Fred Shank held a Tupper Ware party at her home last Tuesday afternoon, with 14 present.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cantwell left last Monday night for San Francisco, Calif., to get a friend, Mrs. Freda Johnson. They arrived back home last Thursday morning. She will visit them until May 21 before returning home.

Harold Reynolds and Owen Smith of the Power Company spent last week at McCall working on the lines.

Mrs. Doris Vinson drove to Heppner last Tuesday for the services of her great-uncle, Lewis J. Padberg, 89 years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Johnson, Mrs. Reeta Hinton and daughter, Dianne, drove to Prineville last Friday evening for the week-end and to visit with their daughters there.

Mrs. Katie Hinton drove to Pendleton last Tuesday on business.

Lawrence Fleming is spending a few days at the Lewis Neall home before returning to his work and home at Roseburg.

Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Scott and son, Robin, spent Saturday in Pilot Rock.

Maynard Hamilton left last Friday night for Boise to spend the week-end with his niece, Miss Dorothy Merrell.

Mrs. Edna Moore and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Dahill drove to John Day last Friday evening to see their new grandson.

**The Ed Gontys and their son, Doug,** enjoyed a Sunday visit recently with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Blevins, and children at the Blevins family home in Ukiah. Accompanying the Gonty family for the day was Mrs. Lucy Peterson.

Here is a Meeting You Won't Want to Miss! Hear About The

# Sales Tax Package

(SPECIAL STATE ELECTION JUNE 3)

## and About Weed Control

Morrow County  
**FAIR PAVILION ANNEX**  
HEPPNER

ILLUSTRATED WITH SLIDES

Public Invited

**FRIDAY, MAY 23**  
**1:30 P.M.**  
SAVE THE DATE NOW!

Factual Discussion By Marion D. Thomas, State Extension Specialist, Public Policy Education

Come and Become Informed on the Vitally Important Tax Referendum And on Weed Control. Get Answers to Your Questions. All Welcome!

SPONSORED IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY

# Morrow County Farm Bureau