

Damaging Flood Leaves Mess

(Continued from page 1)

Paul Jones and Harold (Doc) Sherer, county roadmaster, made a survey Tuesday and Jones said later, "We're in a mess."

He said he had no way of estimating at this time what road damage would be monetarily but said, "As a wild guess, it may be in the neighborhood of \$75,000."

The judge said that damage was as severe to many roads as it was in the Christmas flood of 1964 and the January flood of 1965. However, it did not hit as much of the county.

Rock as deep as four feet was said to be over the Willow Creek road, southeast of Heppner, in spots. Calverts were washed out on many roads, small bridges were torn away, and in some places the oiled surface of roads was lifted up and literally floated away.

Ed Coleman and Don McKinnis of Salem, representing the Department of Emergency Services, arrived Tuesday to survey the area. Judge Jones said that the county court had asked Governor Tom McCall to declare this an emergency area principally to enable those damaged to get loans to help them in the crisis.

Erosion Damage Heavy
As the amount of silt carried by the flood would testify, the erosion damage was extreme.

"Damage from erosion is fierce," is the way Judge Jones put it.

C. J. D. Bauman, civil defense director, made a check Tuesday to determine if any help were needed that might involve calling the Red Cross or other agencies for assistance, but said that he had learned of no cases where families were suffering from lack of food or shelter.

In the rural areas, however, water has become a problem—ironically. Quite a number of ranchers have reported losing their wells through the flood washing.

On the north side of town, the Willow Creek County club bore a heavy brunt of damage. At least three greens were covered with mud and debris, and some fairways were extensively hit, also being covered with deep layers of silt.

Practice Green Ruined
Up by the club house, the practice green was virtually ruined from a "me, too" flood that poured from the canyon across the highway.

Most of the Main street business section and all those lying to the west escaped damage. Clint McQuarrie of Central Market said that some water came into the back of the store but he did not believe damage would be extensive.

Probably hardest hit of all was the city's swimming pool—a blow to the kids who were just preparing for a season of fun in its cooling waters. City Superintendent Vic Groshens and the city crew were at the job of making repairs early Tuesday but it was an extensive job.

As of Tuesday afternoon, he could not give an estimate of the total damage to the pool. While it was known that there is a great amount of mud and debris in the pool, the amount of damage cannot be fully ascertained until draining can be accomplished. The boiler room was filled with a heavy layer of mud and what other damage may have been done there remains to be seen. The bath-

house did not appear to be structurally damaged but like most everything else in the flood's path, was "in a mess" with silt covering the surrounding area.

Horses Saved
Horses that were kept in the Doyle Key barn were brought out safely before the building was swept away. Pieces of the structure littered yards and streets for the distance that the flood traversed.

On Tuesday, the community set about repairing damage and seeking a return to normalcy. Almost all available scoops and trucks were pressed into service. Many took shovels and did their work by hand. Most of those hit were still able to smile and make a joke of the trouble that had beset them.

News of the flood spread quickly across the state and to the nation's capital. Judge Jones received a call from Cong. Al Ullman's office at 7:40 a.m. and The Gazette-Times received a call from Don Barney of Ullman's staff shortly after, advising of action being taken by the congressman to press for the termination of the Willow Creek project.

Wire services, daily newspapers, and television stations sent representatives here. Several came in by private airplane, including Leverett Richards and Photographer Jim Vincent of The Oregonian. Channel 6 News made an aerial survey and devoted an extensive coverage on its Tuesday newscasts to the flood, together with reports on damage at John Day, Prairie City and at Madras.

While no buildings—except for the one barn—were destroyed and no lives were lost in this flood, the consensus was that it was the worst of the "modern" floods.

Ranchers Lost Hay
It didn't just hit Heppner alone but struck in the rural areas, too. Some ranchers reported losing trucks and equipment that were swept away, much freshly-cut hay was lost, and pastures were ripped by the cutting force of the water.

Several said that they had as much water—at least—as they had in the 1964 flood. One of those was Art Dalzell of the lone area whose neighbor measured 1.25 inches.

In lone proper, there apparently was no damage from this storm. Residents there have been through the brunt of them before—ones that have come off and down Rietmann Canyon.

Lexington had some flooding that issued from Blackhorse canyon, and Everett Brock of the machinery division of Morrow County Grain Growers said that his crew was busy cleaning out silt Tuesday.

Recent week-end visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Cutsforth and family were her brother, Bob Bryant and two sons, from Portland. Bryant's wife is the former Joan Spencer, who is currently enrolled at the Good Samaritan School of Nursing.

House guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Loyd over the Memorial Day week-end were her niece, Miss Susan Trowbridge of John Day and a friend, Kathy Stirewalt of Spray. Miss Trowbridge is a student at EOC in La Grande and visited in Heppner while participating in the college rodeo with her school's team.

Public Hearing On Scenic Areas Due Here June 16

Designation of 10 scenic areas totaling 176.35 miles along five highways in eastern Oregon will be considered at a public hearing Monday, June 16, in the Morrow county courthouse. The hearing, which will begin at 3:30 p.m., will be held by the Oregon Scenic Area Board.

"Scenic Area" means an area adjacent to or along a segment of a public highway that is within a federal or state park, is a site of historical significance, or affords a view of unusual natural beauty.

The purpose of declaring a scenic area is the preservation of the scenic view in the designated areas, through elimination of certain signs and affecting the establishment of junkyards.

Among the 10 areas under consideration are one in Morrow and Umatilla counties, two in Gilliam and Morrow counties, and two in Morrow and Wheeler counties.

The Wasco-Heppner highway (Oregon 206) from milepoint 42.50, which is 1.17 miles east from the east city limits of Condon, easterly 30.50 miles to milepoint 73.00, ends at a point 0.33 mile west from the junction of the Heppner-Spray highway. Another strip begins at milepoint 74.00, which is 0.63 miles south from Rhea Creek, and runs easterly 8.28 miles to milepoint 82.28, which is at Shobe Canyon.

On Heppner highway (Oregon 74) is one stretch starting at milepoint 47.35, which is at Hinton Creek and running easterly 33.80 miles to milepoint 81.15, which is at the junction of the Pendleton-John Day highway.

Also to be considered is the area along the Heppner-Spray highway (Oregon 207) from milepoint 2.87 at Porcupine Road, southerly 5.55 miles to milepoint 8.42, the north city limits of Hardman. Also the area from milepoint 9.05, which is 0.14 mile south from the south city limits of Hardman, southerly 31.91 miles to milepoint 40.96, at the junction of the John Day highway is listed.

Not in this immediate locale, but familiar to many is the area along the Kimberly-Long Creek highway from milepoint 0.00, the junction of the John Day highway (Oregon 19) easterly 13.19 miles to the west city limits of Monument, and from milepoint 26.00, which is 0.89 west of Basin Road, easterly 7.95 miles to milepoint 33.95, at Shaw Creek.

Listed in Umatilla and Grant counties are three areas. One stretches along the Pendleton-John Day highway (US 395) from milepoint 17.00, which is 0.13 mile north of Yellow Jacket Road, southerly 21.00 miles to milepoint 38.00, which is 0.57 mile north of Butter Creek. Another goes from milepoint 96.00, which is 5.18 miles south from the south city limits of Long Creek, southerly 2.31 miles to milepoint 98.31 at Smith Creek.

The last of the 10 areas to be considered at the Monday meeting covers nearly 20 miles between Fox Creek and Mount Vernon. It starts at milepoint 100.00, which is 0.87 mile south of Fox Creek, and runs southerly 19.86 miles to milepoint 119.86, which is at the north city limits of Mt. Vernon.



REV. EDWIN CUTTING



REV. MELVIN DIXON

Rev. Ed Cutting Named to Serve Methodist Church

The Rev. Edwin Albert Cutting, pastor of Methodist churches at Dufur and Tygh Valley from 1965 to 1968, has been appointed by Bishop Everett Palmer of the Portland area to serve the Heppner Methodist church. He will begin as minister here on Sunday, June 15, when he will preach his first sermon in the local pulpit. The family will be welcomed at a church picnic at noon at the courthouse park.

The Rev. Melvin Dixon, pastor of the Heppner church for seven years, has been appointed to serve the Methodist church at Cottage Grove, and he and Mrs. Dixon are moving there this week.

Family of Rev. Cutting includes his wife, Doris, and six children. Sons are Ernest, who is a lawyer in St. Paul, Minn.; Todd, who is in his eighth year in the U. S. Air Force, now serving in England; Robert, who is in the U. S. Navy, stationed at Norfolk, Va.; and Craig, who is a junior in high school. Daughters are Rebecca, who is married and is studying nursing at the University of Oregon Medical School, and Vanessa, who is a freshman in college.

Rev. Cutting was educated at Byron High school, Byron, Minn., and received his bachelor or of arts degree from the University of Minnesota. He received his divinity degree from Garrett Biblical Institute, Evanston, Ill.

Before entering the ministry, Rev. Cutting engaged in horticulture and farming. He was a member of the Patrons of Husbandry (Grange) for 22 years and has been a member and leader in the Boy Scout organization for 28 years. He was a member of the Rochester, Minn., Garden Club and of the PTA. For a time, he was also a member of a school board in Minnesota.

Interested in art, Rev. Cutting has won "Award of Merit" ribbons at Rural Art Shows at the University of Minnesota several times.

Swimming, geology and painting are his hobbies.

The Rev. and Mrs. Dixon were complimented on Sunday, June 1, at a farewell given them by members of the church. They have been active in community affairs and organizations with Rev. Dixon serving as a leader in the Red Cross. Mrs. Dixon was employed part time at the post office and operated the Abundant Foods program in the county. She was a member of the Mother's club.

Mrs. Sue Jones and Bobbette traveled to Vancouver, Wn., last Thursday, where they were house guests for several days at the home of her aunt, Mrs. Harold Vedder. Joining them there for several days of visiting was her mother, Mrs. Delmer Fellers, from Eugene.

County Budget Decreases \$5000

A slight decrease in tax levy, amounting to approximately \$5000, is shown by the proposed budget for Morrow county for 1969-70, which is printed for the first of two times in this paper on pages 6, 7 and 8 of section 2.

The total tax levy for the ensuing year is set at \$341,083 as compared with a total levy of \$346,137 for 1968-69.

The budget remains within the six percent limitation and therefore will not require a vote of the people. Of the total levy, \$200,083 is inside the six percent limitation, and \$141,000 is not subject to the limitation.

Marion Green is chairman of the county budget committee.

Public hearing is set for 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 26, and all persons are invited to come and speak either for or against the budget or to comment on it.

Total expenditures for the coming year are set at \$685,390 as compared with \$706,529 for 1968-69. However resources other than taxes were \$384,682 for the current fiscal year and will be down to an estimated \$369,097 for the ensuing year.

Services Are Held For Chuck O'Donnell

Funeral mass was held Wednesday, June 11, for Charles J. (Chuck) O'Donnell, resident of Heppner about 15 years ago, and recently of Baker.

O'Donnell is an uncle of Mrs. Jim Lovgren and Jack Sumner, and was employed at the mill while he resided here.

He died Sunday evening, June 8, after an extended illness. Survivors include his wife, Pearl, of Baker.

Mrs. Lovgren and Sumner planned to attend the services in Baker at 10:00 a.m. Wednesday.

Sadness Follows First 'Free' Swim

Swimming season at the Heppner municipal pool was off to a good start with the 4-hour "free swim" on Sunday, enjoyed by about 200 splashing, happy youngsters and "oldsters". The staff of lifeguards and helpers enjoyed seeing the pool opened for another busy summer. But it was short lived. Surging flood waters of Monday night inundated the pool on the eve of its regular season opening on Tuesday.

"We cannot say just what is ahead now," Mrs. Elaine George commented at the city hall Tuesday. "Nothing definite can be planned now until they get it drained and cleaned."

A group of high school boys were in her office early Tuesday to offer their volunteer help to clean the pool, an indication of eagerness of Heppner youth to get their pool "in operation" again.

Funeral Rite Held For Alton Basey

Funeral services were held in Wapato, Wn., on Monday, June 9, for Alton Basey, former Heppner resident and uncle of Mrs. James Hager.

Basey passed away on Thursday, June 5, at his home. He had enjoyed good health until about two years ago, when his health began to fail. He knew many people in the area and enjoyed coming back to his former home each year to attend the annual Pioneer Memorial picnic.

He spent his early childhood years in Heppner, and was married to the former Tressie Stewart, formerly of Heppner.

His survivors include his wife, Emma; one son, Wilbur Basey of Toppenish, and his niece, Mrs. Hager, who traveled to Wapato to attend the funeral service.

Open House Held Despite Flood

Heppner's flash flood of Monday night caused a short postponement of ceremonies at the Open House and Dedication of the new utilities building of Columbia Basin Electric Co-op Tuesday, but the event was held as planned.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony, scheduled for 10:30, was postponed until 2 p.m. because of so many being involved in flood cleanup and unable to get in because of bad road conditions.

At that time Mayor Bill Collins gave a speech of welcome and other dignitaries had a part in the ceremonies. A total of 160 attended the open house during the day. Manager Harley Young said.

The winner of the stereo set had not been named as of Tuesday afternoon and will be announced later.

Death Claims Sister Of Carey Hastings

Mr. and Mrs. Carey Hastings traveled to Hermiston last Thursday, June 5, to attend funeral services at Burns Mortuary Chapel for his sister, Lorella May Hastings, who died Monday at the Hermiston Good Samaritan Center.

Mrs. Hastings, 74, was born January 4, 1895 at Hardman. She had been a resident of Hermiston for the past six years.

She is survived by one son, Claude of Albertsville, Ala.; three brothers, Guy of Hermiston, Carey of Heppner, and Elwood of Kinzua.

Other local residents traveling over for the service were Mrs. Grace Buschke, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Steers, Archie Bechtolt, and Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Bechtolt.

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