

Folks Wish You A Big Merry Christmas

This issue is full of sincere Christmas season messages from the business firms of Ione, Lexington and Heppner extending the very best of wishes to all their friends and customers.

The number of these greetings will give one a good idea of the many firms that are here to serve the public in Morrow County.

We sincerely urge everyone to read each message as it was selected with care and meaningful sentiment. Some of the messages are India ink drawings by members of the 4th, 5th and 6th graders. Tom Shear is the Heppner art instructor.

May we all, therefore, wish you a very Merry Christmas, one and all.

Students whose drawings were selected for publication in this week's issue will receive a certificate of merit from the Gazette-Times.

Kinzua to Begin Construction of Plywood Plant

86th Year

Price 10 Cents

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97836, Thursday, December 25, 1969

Number 44

First Phase To Start Soon

Final plans are expected to be completed soon after the first of the year for the projected construction of a plywood manufacturing plant at the Kinzua Corp. sawmill at Heppner.

Mr. Nistad, Kinzua official, said Tuesday contracts for the first phase of construction of the new facility will be let in the very near future.

Chamber of Commerce Elects 1970 Officers

Judge Jones presided at the Monday luncheon of the Chamber of Commerce. Sheriff Mollahan won the pot.

Directors elected for 1970 are Judge Paul Jones, Ron Daniels, Elma Harshman, Gene Pierce, Dr. Wallace Wolf, Larry Mills. Installation ceremonies will be at the Chamber luncheon next Monday at the Wagon Wheel. The new president is Judge Paul Jones.

Other officers besides Jones are Gene Pierce, First Vice-President; L. E. Dick, Second Vice-President; LeRoy Gardner, Secretary and Pat Wonsler, Treasurer.

Elaine George reported on the winners of the Christmas decorating contest, the story which appears in this issue.

Orville Cutsforth reported that about \$550 had been raised for the Arbuckle Mountain ski run.

Mr. Cutsforth recommended that consideration be given to a wild area of some 5,000 acres. This would comprise 6 or 7 sections, perhaps a region about two miles by 4 miles which would include tracts in

the areas generally known as Kelly and Penland Prairies, Little Mountain and Big Baldy Mountain, Arbuckle Mountain and Shaw Creek.

Mr. Cutsforth said he felt for several years that elk and deer needed a place to hide and this country would be suitable and loss of timber to industry there would not be too great.

This matter was referred for study to the recreation committee.

Herman Winter reported that when the snow comes the ski run will be operated on Saturdays by the 4-H Club and on Sundays by the Jaycees.

L. E. Dick reported on the South Jones skimobile area which he said could be reached from this side and would probably bring some business to Morrow County.

Mrs. Melby reported on a suggested change for a banquet and urged recognition annually for outstanding citizens of the county.

Sheriff Mollahan reported on

(Continued on page 8)

NFO Members Ask To Hold Grain

On Dec. 22, a meeting was held of the National Farmers Organizations Columbia Marketing Area Headquarters in Pasco. Those attending from this area were Gene Logan, president Morrow County NFO; Bob Lovgren, MC Grain Growers board member; Don Peterson, MC Bargaining supervisor; Dave Baker, assistant to Peterson and Jack Sumner. Also attending was Charles Beck, Gilliam County and Dick Hampton, president of Umatilla County NFO.

On this same day a special grain meeting was held in each of the 50 marketing areas in the United States. The Columbia Marketing Area whose chief is Vance Combs of Pasco, includes 34 counties in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Sixty persons were in attendance.

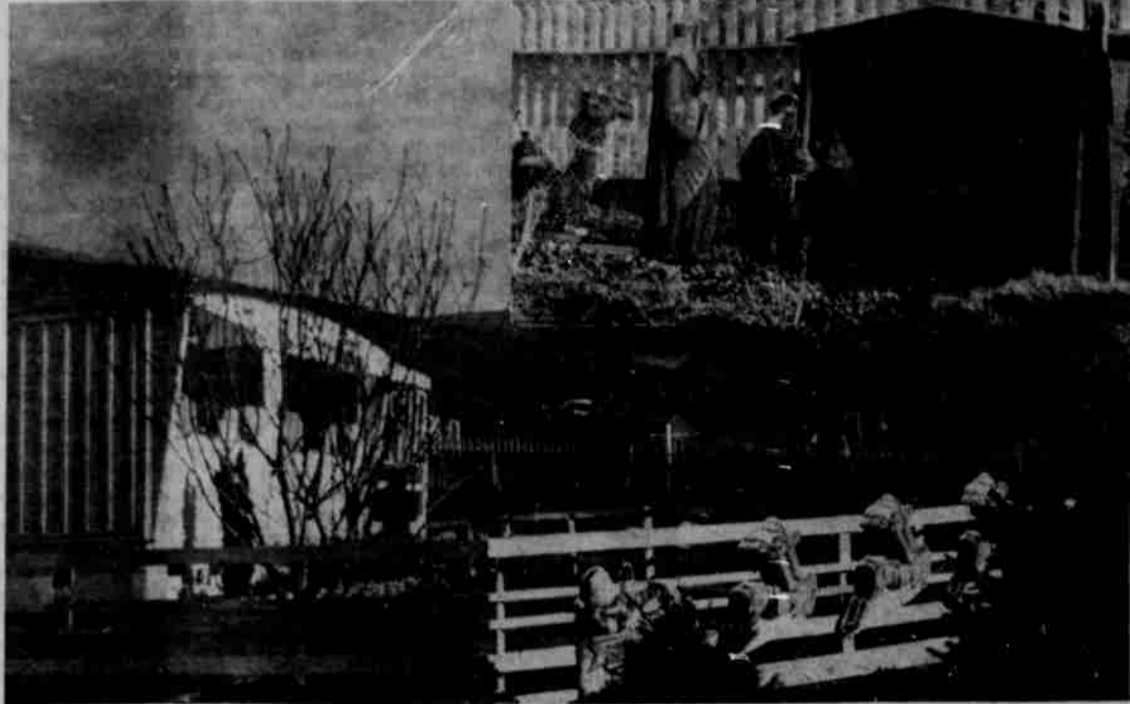
This Marketing Area is composed of seven zones. Morrow County is in Zone 6 with Sherman, Gilliam, Umatilla and Union counties.

The amount of available grain left unsold and its position was reported by each county represented. It is estimated that about 80% of the Morrow County grain is not yet sold.

Marketing techniques were discussed with the various county representatives. Various area problems were discussed. Some answers as well as possible solutions were offered by persons from other areas. This exchange of ideas proved quite valuable according to the Morrow county delegation.

The meeting was conducted by Delmar Goude, Pasco, the Marketing Area bargaining coordinator.

It was emphasized that NFO members were to make every attempt to hold their grain into 1970 with the hope this would improve market prices pending NFO sales.



LIGHTS GALORE: twinkling white, and lots of colors were at the Milo Prindles. Santa and his reindeer lined the front fence and across the yard was the Manger scene, shown here in the inset. (Photo by Carl King)

Christmas Decorating Winners Told

Judging of the annual Christmas Decorating Contest was done Sunday. Judges were Donald Bristow, Eva Hamlett and Charles O'Connor of Ione. They started at 4 p.m., completed work at 8 p.m.

Winners of outside decorations were: first, Milo Prindle, East Campbell Way; 2nd, Bruce Griffith, 820 E. Fairview Way; 3rd, Carl Spaulding, 625 South Alfalfa.

Inside looking out: seen from the street: 1st, Avon Melby; 2nd, Henry Stotts; 3rd, Glen Ward.

Commercial: 1st, Lois' Beauty Shop; 2nd, Knox Variety.

The judges felt the Morrow County Court House and Umatilla National Forest offices deserve special recognition.

The judges stated there were so many beautiful decorations they had to eliminate many worthy efforts. They said the

honorable mentions could have had many more than these: Outside, Curtis Culp, 235 W. Baltimore, for originality and effect. P. W. Mahoney, 655 E. Hager; Bob Laughlin, 265 E. Cannon; Father Raymond Beard, St. Patrick's Church parsonage and the Rev. Don Johnson, Christian Church parsonage, both for inspiring sacred themes.

While Mrs. Amanda Duvall was not competing, the judges felt she should have special recognition for the beauty she has added to the Christmas Scene here.

Inside honorable mention to the Dick Meadors, 435 S. Court.

The judges wish to commend all the Heppner people for their splendid efforts in beautifying the town at this season.

Awards for the contest were cash prizes.

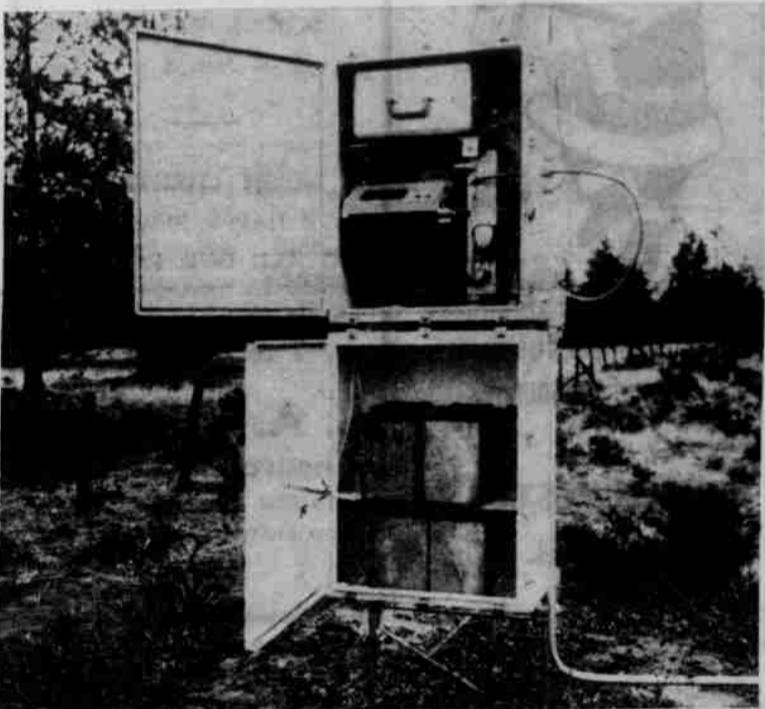
The number of people killed over a long holiday, such as Christmas or New Year's usually makes the headlines. But they don't tell the whole story. The headlines don't tell about the hundreds of people who reached their destination safely because they exercised common sense and obeyed our traffic laws. This holiday season, join with the Oregon State Police and other agencies who are attempting to reduce traffic accidents, injuries and deaths. Accept your responsibility for safe, sane and sober driving.

The State Department of Revenue has scheduled a hearing for 9 a.m. (Thursday) on Jan. 8 for the Department of Veterans Affairs. This is to be on the farm deferral application that was rejected on the Boeing lands.

The hearing will be at the Morrow County courthouse and the public is invited to attend. District Attorney Herman Winter will represent Morrow County at the hearing, according to County Assessor Joyce Ritch.

A 7,500 ton barge will leave Boardman in the Inland Empire with a load of 4,000 tons of L. M. Docken Corporation fortified alfalfa cubes for a direct shipment to Honolulu, Hawaii on Monday, Dec. 29.

This shipment will initiate direct commerce from Boardman, to the international waters and Honolulu, Hawaii.



THE WIND GAUGE on the left and the humidity sensor on the right on the tower were knocked out with rifle bullets.

THE BATTERIES in the upper picture were pierced and acid pouring from the batteries did extensive damage. The installation is tied in with the BPA stream gauge in the mouth of Service Creek to give instant statistical data through the microwave system.

Unknown Vandals Wreck Expensive Weather Gear

A new weather station on the Umatilla National Forest south of Heppner has been put out of commission by vandals just three days after it went into operation, sometime between Dec. 9 and 16.

The unmanned telemetering station at Rocky Flat Weather station near Tamarack Mtn., is the first of its kind to be installed primarily for forest fire control and prevention. It was transmitting temperatures, humidity and rainfall amounts on the Bonneville Power Administration microwave system to APA Headquarters in Portland. Information was then relayed to users by telephone, although direct teletype transmission is planned for the future. Other agencies, including the Weather Bureau, use such data, and the station was to operate year-around.

Umatilla National Forest Supervisor Herbert B. Rudolph told Regional Forester Charles B. Connaughton, U. S. Forest

Service, that bullets from a highpowered rifle tore up the station's temperature and humidity sensors and battery and radio boxes. Damage is estimated at \$2,000. State Police are investigating. There were 10 hits on the electronic gear.

Development and installation by E. G. and G., Inc., Boulder, Colo., cost about \$14,000. The contractor activated the station Dec 9 for a 30-day proving period. On Dec 12, data transmission became weak and on Dec 15 the station went silent. The contractor went through the station and found the damage.

With such stations, the Forest Service hopes to obtain data needed from remote areas, primarily to increase forest protection. Data can guide fire control personnel in adjusting protection measures hourly during the summer fire season.

The Eastern Oregon station was installed as one part of an inter-agency data-sharing system that will include six or more agencies.

Mustangs Duplicate Christmas Tourney

By DALLAS HARSIN

Fans always expect excitement in Heppner High School basketball games. They got plenty here Saturday night. For the championship of the Christmas Tourney the Mustangs had to go into three overtimes to drop the Wahtonka Eagles, so the capacity crowd got its money's worth. Both games were squeakers.

Though the hosts of the 1969 tourney, the Mustangs kept their winning record. In the six years they have played in the tourney, the Mustangs have won all five championships. (One year the tournament had to be called off).

This year the Mustangs had to knock off the Condon Blue Devils Friday night, Dec. 19, and the Wahtonka Eagles Saturday night, Dec. 20. The Eagles overpowered the Sherman Huskies Friday night to go into the finals.

The second game of Saturday's pair was really a thriller. The Mustangs had to play catch-up ball for the biggest part of the game. The Eagles had them down by nine points at the end of the first quarter. By halftime the Mustangs had knocked the margin down to five points.

In the third quarter the Mustangs really started playing ball. Neither team really had the lead for too long in either the third or fourth quarters.

Just as the horn sounded to end the regulation play Pat Kilkenny tipped in a basket to tie up the ball game at 60-60.

Then the two teams started the first three-minute overtime. At its end, the score was still tied, this time at 64-64.

In the second overtime the Mustangs caught up in the last 29 seconds when La Verne Van

Marter, who was fouled, shot both baskets. The Eagles brought the ball down the floor but were unable to put it through the hoop. That left the score 70 to 70.

The final extended play period was too much for the Eagles. They just ran down. The Mustangs scored 10 points but the Eagles couldn't find the hoop. The final score was 80-70 in the Mustangs' favor.

LaVerne Van Marter and John McCabe were the big gunners for Heppner for the weekend. LaVerne had 31 points in Friday's game and 22 in Saturday's. John had 19 tallies in Friday's game and 31 in the second night.

Friday night the Huskies were unable to get rolling in their game with the Eagles. When the clock ran out Sherman County had only tallied 36 points while the winning Wahtonka Eagles posted 78.

Though beating the Blue Devils earlier this month at Condon by a comfortable margin the Mustangs had to work a little harder to beat them the second time. The Mustangs dumped in 69 points while a plucky Condon five could gather only 64.

Saturday night was a different story for all four of the teams. All were hitting really well, but still the Huskies fell short of the Blue Devils. Condon dropped in 71 points while the Huskies mustered only 69.

Saturday night, Dec. 27, the Mustangs meet Riverside High at Boardman. The north end team proved plenty of competition in a recent game with Pilot Rock so the Mustangs can expect a workout. The pair meet again here on Tuesday, Dec. 30.

(Continued on page 4)

Farm Income Up; Costs Jumping

The 1969 Farm Income for Morrow County shows an increase of 9% over 1968, a very poor crop year. Increased yields were offset by lower prices for wheat and barley. Improved cattle prices were balanced against smaller weaning weights and lower calving percentages due to last year's hard winter, reports Harold Kerr, Morrow County Extension Agent.

Rising costs more than offset the increased income. Figures from Robert Coppedge, Oregon State University Agricultural Economist, show that since 1959 farmers costs have risen 36 percent while during this same period cash receipts have increased only 22 percent.

In 1969 wheat brought in \$3,333,000 while barley brought \$1,115,000. Seeds and other grains \$83,000. Hay \$395,000. Vegetables, melons, potatoes and tree fruits \$542,000. Farm forest products \$50,000. Beef cattle \$2,859,000. Sheep and lambs \$258,000. Wool \$58,000. Hogs \$5,000. Dairy products \$183,000. Poultry \$28,000. Miscellaneous animal products \$7,000. Total agricultural income was \$11,102,417 including wheat diversion payments and certificates and feed grain payments, etc.

Town Basketball Team Play Sunday

Morrow County Grain Growers team played the P. S. Cook Co. team Sunday, Dec. 21 at the Heppner High School Gym. MCGG team won 126 to 116.

P. S. COOK 116

Richter 15
Erickson 13
Bagnall 18
Hemphill 14
Baird 23
Ford 31
Schindler 2

MCGG 126

L. Padberg 43
R. Ekstrom 16
M. Padberg 2
J. Halvorsen 9
T. Pointer 3
L. Rietmann 19
W. Ball 1
A. Ball 31
R. Gray 1

LaVerne Van Marter coaches the Morrow County Grain Growers team. A game is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 28 in the gym.

Hearing on Boeing Tax

The State Department of Revenue has scheduled a hearing for 9 a.m. (Thursday) on Jan. 8 for the Department of Veterans Affairs. This is to be on the farm deferral application that was rejected on the Boeing lands.

The hearing will be at the Morrow County courthouse and the public is invited to attend. District Attorney Herman Winter will represent Morrow County at the hearing, according to County Assessor Joyce Ritch.

Alfalfa Cubes Shipped to Hawaii

A 7,500 ton barge will leave Boardman in the Inland Empire with a load of 4,000 tons of L. M. Docken Corporation fortified alfalfa cubes for a direct shipment to Honolulu, Hawaii on Monday, Dec. 29.

This shipment will initiate direct commerce from Boardman, to the international waters and Honolulu, Hawaii.



SUSIE PLOYHAR

Thinking of My Daddy at Christmas Time

(This poem was written by Susie Ployhar, daughter of SFC and Mrs. Darrel G. Ployhar. Her father is in Vietnam this Christmas.)
Thinking of my Daddy at Christmas time
My father is in Vietnam,
He is not here where I am,
I wish he were home, and not so far away,
So he could see the baby play,
My brother is sad,

And, he misses his dad.
When daddy is home, he helps with the tree,
He wants it just right for all to see,
He is fighting in the war,
While my mommy's cleaning the floor,
Although we all are far apart,
We can still share Christmas in our hearts.
By Susie Ployhar, Fifth Grade