

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97836, Thursday, July 30, 1970

Number 23

Blaze Takes Grass and Grain Lands

A huge fire covered a considerable area of Morrow County on Friday. Winds of up to 20 miles an hour hindered the fire fighters and made it a dangerous situation. Luckily, no one has been reported as injured in the holocaust. Several miles of fencing was lost. Fire started on the C. C. Carmichael ranch operated by Elden Padberg at Swaggart Buttes. Sparks from a defective emergency brake on a truck started the fire in wheat and quickly spread.

Help came from almost every direction. Many farmers and others brought equipment, others brought equipment, pumping and spray machines and tractors.

Jim Martin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Martin of Lexington, was flying to Redmond, spotted the fire. He landed and took one of Mel Boyer's planes to drop water on the fire. Mel was in another plane and they fought the blazes for about five hours.

Fire spread from about a half mile to a mile wide and a length of about four miles. Ken Turner said one of the big losses to the soil is the straw that was burned, in addition to a great deal of good grass land. Frank Turner, a real veteran of this area, said it was one of the worst fires the county had suffered. He said the extra good stand of grass came from the moist spring.

At one time the wind subsided, then started up again from the north. Much of the area is rolling and it was tough to get equipment in the draws. There were no roads, no fire guards and hardly any summer fallow. Ken Turner said there was some successful back firing by some of the experienced people on the fire. He said at times it was difficult to see and "fire moved so fast it was upon us before we knew it." Fire came to within about 40 feet of the Ken Turner home.

Chamber Slates Business Meet

The Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce met Monday at the Wagon Wheel Cafe. President Paul Jones announced the Aug. 3 luncheon would be a business meeting followed by an organizational meeting for SOLV for Morrow County.

At Monday's meeting Lowell Gribble introduced Gene Trumbull, manager of the Heppner Inland Chemical Co. Gene introduced officials of Farm Chemicals of Athena, Howard Cushman and Bob Oreander.

Mr. Gribble established some months ago a new firm called "Ultrasonic Predictable Maintenance Company. He said he expected to keep the headquarters here because Heppner is his home and Morrow County had been very good to him.

Mr. Gribble demonstrated his electronic equipment he uses in his new firm. The delicate instrument predicts the approximate condition of various kinds of machinery, motors, and electric wiring. His service he plans to provide for industry and governmental organizations will be for a fixed fee and he says many new uses for the service are constantly showing up. He says the equipment is something like the stethoscope used to medicine. He can scan an engine or machine and can tell the approximate condition of a bearing. His equipment greatly amplifies noises and will provide great savings for industry.

Mr. Gribble says several fire chiefs have already approved his service.

The equipment has proved quite useful in sawmills, substations and other types of industry.

Shrine Game
Dr. Tibbles announced he has plenty of tickets available for the annual East-West Shrine game to be in Pendleton in August. Folks who order their tickets now will be assured of good seats.

Harvest Pictures

Al Bunch up on Bunker Hill says wheat harvest started good and then got worse. The grain is shriveled and small. Quality isn't too good. Weighs about 57 pounds per bushel. He says "it was the hot weather that came when there should have been rain."

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Peck report they have been cutting hay for about two months. The hay is spotted probably due to the late frosts. They are on upper Rhea Creek.

MCGG Manager Report
Larry Mills, Morrow County Grain Growers said this week that the crops from Lexington on north are 30 bushels or better. Yield is way better than last year. Those early hot days pinched the wheat and quality is down.

Larry noted that the high land wheat was hurt more by the early hot days than the low land. The wheat was in a milk stage on the high lands and not as far developed and so was affected adversely by the high heat.

Harvest is past the peak in the North Lex area and Larry said he expected harvest would peak at Ruggs later this week.

MCGG has 5 trucks hauling day and night to the Hogue Warner elevator at Patterson Ferry to make room for the crop at North Lex and Ruggs.

Harvest is expected to run until the first of September.

Wheat Referendum Postponed

Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hargin has announced postponement of the National Wheat Referendum previously scheduled for July 27-31, according to David McLeod, County Executive Director of the County Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service Office, (ASCS). The action was authorized by Congress.

The postponement permits the USDA to delay holding the referendum not later than October 15, 1970, or 30 days after Congress adjourns, whichever date is earlier.

Accordingly, the U. S. Department of Agriculture's ASCS, which administers the wheat, feed grain, and similar programs, has instructed its state and county offices across the nation to withhold ballots and other referendum materials, McLeod said.

The Director explained that basic farm legislation requires a referendum for wheat marketing quotas. However, the Agricultural Act of 1965 suspended this referendum requirement from 1965 through the 1970 crop year. Unless new farm legislation, now pending, is enacted by the Congress, basic legislation will again go into effect, and a referendum will then be required in 1970 for the 1971 crop year.

Baby Eng Dies

Graveside services will be held this morning at 10 o'clock for Louie Eng, Jr., of Lexington at Olney Cemetery in Pendleton with the Rev. G. D. Harris of the Pendleton Christian Church officiating.

He is the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Louie Eng, who was born June 1, in Hermiston. He is also survived by his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Papineau of Lexington and Mr. and Mrs. Maynard Seefeldt of Pilot Rock.

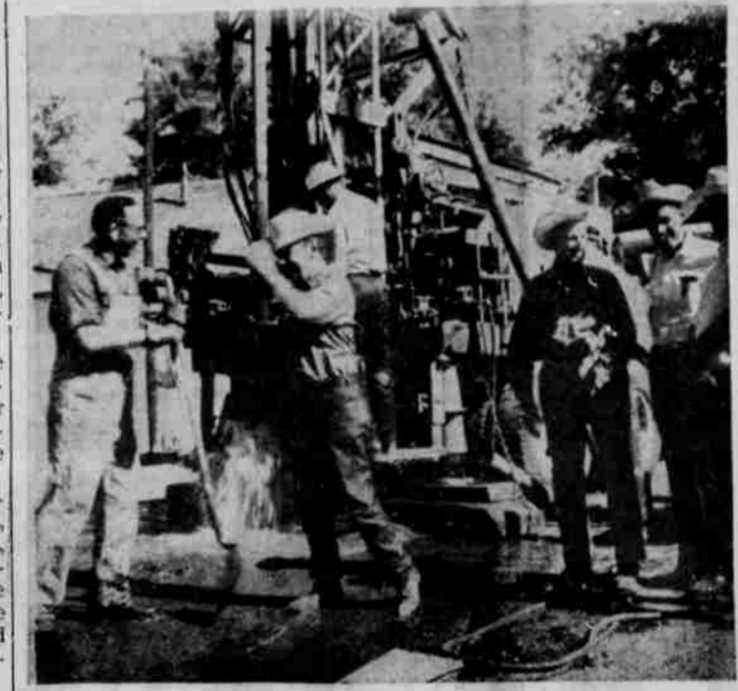
The baby, found dead in his crib by his mother Monday has apparently been in good health since birth. Mrs. Eng had fed him at 9 a.m. that morning and put him on his stomach in his crib in the bedroom. The parents found the baby dead at 1 p.m. His death was described as "crib death."

Carl Marquardt Heads County GOP

Carl Marquardt was elected chairman of the Republican Central Committee Tuesday evening at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Verner Troedson. Mrs. Troedson acted as temporary chairman. Other officers elected were Mrs. Carl Marquardt, vice chairman; Mrs. Ralph Crum, alternate chairman; Gus Nikander, alternate vice chairman and Clista Venard, secretary-treasurer.

Harley Sager and Pauline Winter were elected to the Congressional Nominating committee; Robert Abrams, Bertha Sager, Mary Nikander, Larry Lindsay and Margaret Troedson to the district nominating committee; Ralph Crum, delegate to the State Convention.

Would all members of the Dodgers Little League team please turn their uniforms in at the First National Bank, please?



WATER . . . The Fair Board is jubilant with the first gush of water at 25 feet. Well Driller Jim Leitch hands the shovel to Paul Hiesler in a bit of funning. Troy Griffin is on the rig. Other Fair Board members are Z. J. Gillespie, Jim Norene and Floyd Jones.

Heart Attack Claims Emery C. Gentry

Death from a heart attack came to Emery C. Gentry of Weston suddenly Sunday morning while visiting here with his mother, Mrs. Mattie Rood.

Neighbors and the doctor administered artificial respiration to no avail.

Mr. Gentry is well known in Heppner. He was born in Morrow County Dec. 2, 1899. He graduated from Heppner High and attended Oregon State. He married Thelma L. Miller in 1925 in Portland. They moved to Weston in 1929. He had the Ford dealership until 1948. Also during that time he was associated with Clarence Rosewall in the Ford dealership here in Heppner 1939-1941.

He was working for the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation at Weston at the time of his death.

He was active in community affairs during his years in Weston. He served eight years as mayor of Weston. He was a past president of Weston Chamber of Commerce; past master of Masonic Lodge No. 65 AF and AM, Weston; a member of the Royal Arch Masons, Pendleton; BPOE No. 358 Weston for 49 years and was a member of the United Methodist Church, Weston.

He is survived by his wife and son, James, both of Weston; daughter Mrs. Richard (Mary) Patton of Walla Walla; mother, Mrs. Mattie Rood of Heppner; step brothers, Orville Rood of Port Orchard, Wn., Gerald Rood of Heppner; Louis Rood of West Fir; Roy Rood of Hermiston; step sisters, Betty Mikosall of Eau Claire, Wis., Carlene Collins of Oakridge and Marjorie Cummings of Portland.

Services were held July 29 at Munselle Rhodes Funeral Home in Milton-Freewater. Interment was in the Weston Cemetery.

First Spud Dug Today
D. O. Nelson and Buddy Batty planned to do a trial truck load of potatoes Thursday morning. They planned to run them through the new plant of Morrow Produce to adjust the machinery and work out any bugs before the big thrust comes next week.

Witched Well Produces Water At 25 Feet

Whether you believe in well witching or not, there's a certain amount of magic connected with it. Some can and some can't—some do and some don't.

Five individuals witched the spot where the Fair Board is drilling for water out at the Fair Grounds.

Troy Griffin of Hermiston hit 100 gallons a minute at 25 feet Monday morning. The drilling is done with an air rotary drill with compressed air doing the work. Jim Leitch is his driller, Buster Baker is his assistant.

The question at the time was whether to seal it off and keep on going. If the water were to be used for drinking purposes, it was believed it would be cemented off and go on down.

Mr. Griffin said they had gone through 25 feet of good tight clay formation that would probably seal off surface contamination.

More Coupon Stations Listed

Lee's Tavern at Irrigon and Hick's Grocery at Boardman will be the pickup stations in those areas for the Betty Crocker Coupons. Mrs. Chester Wilson of Irrigon will mail them to the county chairman, Mrs. Joe Engelman.

Mrs. Engelman will mail coupons in each week. Her first week shipment numbered 4000 coupons. It is hoped to collect enough coupons to buy a kidney machine for Morrow County.

Pickup stations in the south end of the county are Elma's in Heppner, Del's Market in Lexington and Bristow's Market in Ione.

Car Accident Totals Van

A car accident Sunday, July 19, totaled a blue Ford Van. The two occupants, Elizabeth Abrams and Peggy Schlicting, received several minor cuts and bruises which required stitches. The accident occurred on the Spring Hollow Road.

GRAIN PRICES

(Courtesy of Morrow County Grain Growers)

(F.O.B. Lexington, does not include warehouse chgs.)

Soft White wheat	1.39
Hard red winter wheat	1.48
Barley	35.00

WEATHER

By DON GILLIAM

For week of July 22-28

	Hi	Low	Prec.
Wednesday	77	52	—
Thursday	87	47	—
Friday	86	54	—
Saturday	80	56	—
Sunday	88	54	—
Monday	82	54	—
Tuesday	75	53	—

Potato Tour Dated Aug. 10

The Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce has an interesting potato tour planned for Monday, Aug. 10. The tour will include seeing the Morrow Produce potato plant in action, a tour of some of the potato fields to observe the potato harvest that will be in full swing.

The tour is open to everyone—whether Chamber members or not. Anyone wishing to attend can meet at the Hotel Heppner at 2 p.m., Aug. 10. It has been suggested that the tour be made in pickups as part of the tour will be through potato fields. Rides will be available at the Hotel.

Following the tour, according to chairman Harold Kerr, will be a no-host dinner at Boardman.

Peter Farley Services Today

Funeral services for Peter Farley will be held this morning at 10 a.m. at St. Patrick's Catholic Church with the Rev. Raymond Beard officiating. Interment will be in the Heppner Masonic Cemetery. Recitation of the Rosary was held Wednesday evening.

Mr. Farley died at St. Anthony Hospital Tuesday. He was born in County Longford, Ireland on Nov. 1, 1884. He came to the United States in 1902 where he resided in Morrow County until the last few years which he spent in Pendleton. He was married to Ellen Kelleher in New York. He had been a farmer most of his life. He was a member of St. Patrick's Catholic Church. He was preceded in death by his wife and two sons. He is survived by his son, James Farley of Heppner; three grandchildren, one great grandchild and numerous nieces and nephews.

(Complete obituary next week.)

Breaks Collar Bone

Troy Simmons broke his left collar bone last Wednesday. He tripped and fell while he was climbing over a rock crib on the hill behind Shirley Marlatt's house. The doctor put his shoulder in a brace which he will wear for three weeks.

Wilson's Sell Their Home

Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Wilson have sold their 3-bedroom home at 375 Linden Way to Mr. and Mrs. Don Heliker of Ione.

The Wilsons expect to continue to make their home here in Heppner.



TIME TO RIDE. Princess Michelle gives an assist to Nancy for a ride on Buck. Steven gets ready "to dig gravel" with his "honda".

Princess Michelle--4th Generation Who Likes Eastern Oregon's Hills

Like her great grandfather, her grandfather, and her father Princess Michelle Miller loves the golden rolling hills of Eastern Oregon.

Her great grandfather, E. C. Miller came into the county in 1912 from Salem and from central Nebraska before that. He first settled on land that her father bought about 10 years ago adjacent to the home ranch just north of Lexington.

The home ranch, her grandfather the late E. Harvey Miller bought in 1921. He added several parcels of land for a total of 2200 acres. In addition to the home ranch her father, Tad Miller, now farms an additional 2200 acres.

Public Utilities Evaluation Up 2 Million

The value of public utilities is up 2 million plus in Morrow County. Joyce Ritch, special assessor, received the figures this week from Salem. The value for 1970-71 is \$14,602,564 as compared with last years at \$12,475,493.

This will off-set to some extent the value loss in farm deferrals. The Farm Use loss in 1968-69 was \$3,717,360 which figured \$61,610 in tax money. In 1969-70 the value loss was \$11,015,760, and tax money loss was \$200,678.76. For 1970-71 the value loss in evaluation is \$20,489,368. The tax money loss has not yet been figured.

There has been a shift in personal property this year due to inventory and livestock exemption of 10% allowed by state law. This loss to the county has been \$560,360.

All of these losses in evaluation affects the property tax relief which is figured on total county value.

Money for this property tax relief is collected by the state from cigarettes and liquor and other taxes. Last year Morrow County received \$116,713.45. With lower evaluation, this resource will be down.

Face Lifting At the Fair Grounds

It's full speed ahead at the Morrow County Fair Grounds as the preparations for this year's show gets into the last round. About 50 gallons of light gray paint is going on the barns. The gates will be painted red. The fences are being painted and the gates braced.

Monday the cement had been poured for the Snack Shack which was expected to be finished this week. The south side is windowless. The three sides towards the shade and green grass will be open for business.

Floyd Hutchins Hurt

Last Thursday, the horse Floyd Hutchins was riding stumbled. Mr. Hutchins received several broken ribs and a leg broken in several places. He was helping the William Rill's move cattle across the Jim Farley ranch when it occurred. He was taken to St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton, and is expected home within the next two or three days.

Michelle plans to go to BMCC this fall to take a secretarial course to become a legal secretary. When she completes her education she hopes to return to Morrow County. She excels in typing and does her Dad's typing for him.

The Millers are a close knit family as they work and play together. There's Mark, 17, who is on the combine, Michelle 13, who is the roustabout. She takes lunches and cold drinks out to the crew, helps her mother with the extra cooking and runs errands. Nancy 7, and Steven 3 1/2 complete the family.

Mr. Miller says the crop is "not too bad". "That hot weather pinched it some so the quality isn't as good as last year, but it should go 35 bu." He was filling his home storage but expected to start hauling to MCGG this week.

Michelle is the 4th generation on the land. She has lived in the same house all her life. She can't remember when she didn't ride horseback. She learned to ride on Buck who is now 22 years old. She taught Nancy how to ride on the same horse that she learned on. She has

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New Books for Girls At Heppner Library

More books recently placed in the Heppner Library by the Heppner Soroptimist Club: Spice Island Mystery by Cavanna. The beautiful island of Grenada in the Caribbean is the scene of this exciting mystery story. An appealing mixture of intrigue, adventure, and romance. This story of a high spirited West Indian girl will delight feminine tastes.

Mystery on a Full Moon by Nelson. Life on a houseboat in the state of Washington can be an exciting adventure but it took 17 year old Jill Bentley nearly an entire summer to realize that she was in the middle of a spine-tingling mystery. She meets Rick, a handsome sophisticated fellow with some sinister-looking friends. Frightening things begin to happen and Jill wakes up to the complicated situation she has gotten herself into.

Time to Quit Running by Hill. Valerie lives in a run-down section of town with her shiftless father, complaining mother and five brothers and sisters. Like something out of a Steinbeck novel you read in Junior English. She soon finds herself tangled in a network of lies which she tells to prevent her schoolmates seeing her home and meeting her family. It takes a series of dramatic events to make Valerie realize that she must stop running for good. A perceptive, honest story of a young person afraid to face up to the realities of life.

Rendezvous in Veracruz by Hart. A novel of cliff-hanging suspense and sophisticated romance. It is the entertainment find of the year by an author who has been called "the Helen MacInnes for young people".

The Wind on the Dragon by Stranger. The locale of this story is the wind-swept far highlands of Scotland. The Dragon, a massive mountain that looms over the village of Invermay and the steely gray waters of the Loch. To contend with snowstorms, floor and fire and survive the traps into which the human heart can betray one, tests the mettle of those who live on and under the Dragon's steep and pine-clad slopes.