



Looking north, the city of Heppner is shown cradled in a valley between high rolling hills in this aerial photograph taken last month. 10 x 10-inch copies of several aerial views of the town may be purchased at the Gazette-Times office. Also available are enlargements of the city, 40 x 32 inches, suitable for framing.

New board will study city water problems

A water quality control board was formed Monday night by the City of Heppner Common Council to meet and discuss plans for a long-range water plan to solve problems facing the city.

The seven-man board will allow concerned citizens to meet with engineers and report back to the council.

The board consists of L.E. Dick, Clinton McQuarrie, Leroy Gardner, Gene Pierce, Dick Sargent, Herman Winter and Glen Ward.

Letters have been sent to the group informing them of their appointment by the city. It will be up to the new board to plan its first meeting and elect officers.

According to Bert Corbin, public works superintendent, the recent water shortage has improved.

In other business, newcomers as well as residents of Heppner may soon be faced with the possibility of a fine if they fail to comply with the State of Oregon plumbing code.

Clyde Alostott stated, "If a trailer is pulled off a lot and another one pulled on, the new resident should appear before the city council and apply for a permit."

In many cases a trailer is moved from one lot to another with no permit being issued.

The new owner just hooks up to the existing sewer and water services and doesn't worry about permits. In many cases the service is laid atop the ground or just deep enough to avoid detection by city officials. This type of hook-up

is against all plumbing codes of the State of Oregon, and could result in a fine of \$100 or 30 days in jail, or both. However, this law is not enforced by the city at this time.

Authorization was granted to have the existing parking meters repaired. A two-year contract will be made with the Rockwell Company whereby the city will send in five meters per month for repairs.

The meters will be repaired and returned to the city, and upon their receipt, another five meters will be shipped.

The cost of repairing the existing 118 meters will be about \$10 per meter, depending on the work required to put them in satisfactory working condition. \$500 has been allocated in the new fiscal budget for the repairs.

The council passed on the following building permits, Norman Lynn, tool shop and hobby shop to be located at 490 S. Court St., and approved a modular home on the Lott subdivision.

Granted a variance to Ray Tholberg, 575 S. Court. The Hedman property at 315 Linden Way, also considered for a variance, must first be approved by City Attorney Bob Abrams.

Liquor licenses approved by the council included the following: Elks Club, Cal's Lounge and Cafe, Hamlin's, Bucknum's Tavern, and the Court St. Market.

The third reading of Ordinance No. 386 as to the removal and deposit of waste on private property was read for the third time and approved by the council.

Ekstrom heads SSA office in Seattle

Richard A. Ekstrom is the new Seattle district manager for the Social Security Administration.

Ekstrom, 35, assumed his duties last week.

He graduated from Lone High School in 1955 and is married to the former Sue Coleman, daughter of Mrs. Ida Coleman of Lone. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert

Ekstrom Sr., Lone.

Ekstrom is a graduate of Eastern Oregon College in 1960, and has worked for the Social Security Administration since that time. Most of his experience has been in the Seattle office, but he formerly was district manager of the Salem office. Before that, he was in LaGrande, Wenatchee,

Wn., Berkeley, Ca., then to the regional office in Seattle.

Ekstrom will oversee expanded services after next January when state welfare programs for the aged, blind and disabled are absorbed into the new federal Supplemental Security Income program. Federalization of adult-welfare programs into the Social Security System was approved

by Congress last fall. He and Mrs. Ekstrom have three daughters, Vickie, who is spending the summer with

her aunt, Mrs. Len Ray Schwartz; Karen and Katherine, who are visiting the Ekstroms Sr. in Lone while their son and daughter-in-law are getting settled into their new work.

School activity begins Aug. 29

Activity in the Morrow County Schools will resume Wednesday, Aug. 29, with all teachers attending a district wide inservice program at Riverside Junior-Senior High School.

Topics to be covered are the new graduation requirements, proposed revisions in the minimum state standards, implementation of the new social studies textbook adoption, proper use of the EIS science series kits and a look at 1973 legislation affecting educators.

On Thursday, Aug. 30, teachers will attend local building orientation sessions, and Friday, Aug. 31, will be a teacher workday in preparation for the opening of school.

The first day of school for all Morrow County pupils will be Tuesday, Sept. 4. The day will be used for students registration, class assignments, and the issuance of textbooks, and the issuance of textbooks, and the issuance of textbooks.

School buses will operate on the same routes and time schedules as they did at the close of last year, and all cafeterias will be in operation.

Heppner High School, Lone Junior-Senior High School and Riverside Junior-Senior High School will have personnel on duty Aug. 27, 28 and 29. All students should confirm their pre-registration schedule and pay student body fees on one of these three days.

Ione Elementary, A.C. Houghton Elementary and Heppner Elementary will register new students on Friday, Aug. 31. All other students will register the first regular day of school, Sept. 4.

Student body fees should be paid at the time of registration. Standard fees for students grades 1-6 at Lone and A.C. Houghton Elementary and Heppner grades 1-8 are \$1.50 room fee and \$1 for student insurance. Heppner also has a \$2 towel fee charge for students grades 7-8.

For grades 7-8 at Riverside

Junior High and Ione Junior High the charges are: \$6 student body, \$1 insurance and \$2 towel fee. For grades 9-12 at Lone, Riverside and Heppner the charges are: \$6 student body, \$8 textbook rental, \$3 insurance and \$2 towel fee.

In addition to the above listed fees there are other optional charges depending on classes selected and whether or not the student desires to purchase a school annual.

School lunch tickets will also be available at the time of registration. The charge remains the same as last year at 25 cents per meal.

All school principals will be returning to the district. They are Mick Tolat, principal at A.C. Houghton Elementary; Dan Daltoso, principal at Riverside Junior-Senior High School; Jim Bier, Heppner High School; Don Cole, prin-

cipal at Heppner Elementary; and John Edmondson, principal at Ione High and Elementary schools.

The teaching staff will have six new members. New to the district are as follows: Heppner Elementary, Virginia Liebertz, special education; Eddie Sherman, math and coaching; Cathy Terney, language arts; Heppner High, James Ackley, instrumental music; Ione High, Marvin Peterson, industrial arts; Riverside Junior-Senior High, Fay Bunker, Spanish and social studies.

Anticipated enrollments are as follows: A.C. Houghton (Grades 1-6), 170; Riverside Junior-Senior High School (Grades 7-12), 175; Heppner Elementary (Grades 1-8), 375; Heppner High (Grades 9-12), 188; Ione Elementary (Grades 1-6), 94; Ione Junior-Senior High (Grades 7-12), 99.

Parents are again reminded that first grade students must present birth certificates at the time of registration. Also first and ninth grade students must present a health examination form signed by the examining physician.

PREMIUM BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE

Fair premium books are available at the Morrow County Extension Office, Gilliam and Bisbee Building, Heppner, or by calling the Fair Board Secretary, Mrs. Glenn Smith at 676-9143.

Severance tax worth \$20,494

The Department of Revenue has made the final payment to counties of the Eastern Oregon Severance Tax Fund, Morrow County received \$20,494.32.

The Eastern Oregon Severance Tax is a 5 per cent tax on timber harvested in Eastern Oregon and paid to the Department of Revenue in lieu of ad valorem taxation. This is then distributed to the counties to use in the budgets.

The reserve surplus fund was any amount collected by the Department of Revenue over a base figure that was set in 1964. As the base was a fixed figure, and timber harvests grew, the reserve surplus distributed to the counties on the basis of one-third of its total each year, was soon greater than the base distribution.

To remedy this situation, the 1971 Legislature voted to phaseout the reserve surplus fund over a three-year period. The final payments totaling \$580,760.70 have now been distributed to the counties by the Department of Revenue.

MOVING FROM HEPPNER

Rev. and Mrs. Don Burwell, who have served the Assembly of God Church for three years, have moved to Albany with their children, Cindy 4, Tony, 2, and Alecia, 1.

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Mike Bengé takes MIA case to White House

A national League of Family was attended in Washington, D.C., by seven Oregon families, accompanied by Mike Bengé of Heppner, former Communist prisoner of war in Vietnam. Although a civilian, working for the government for AID, area development adviser, Mike Bengé spent five years as a POW.

Bengé agreed to accompany the seven families, as a concerned individual only, in his crusade for a solution to the question, "What has happened to the servicemen listed as Missing in Action who have not been returned to their homes?"

"This was part of the agreement and terms of the truce which have not been fulfilled by the Communists," he said.

Bengé's ambition since his release as a prisoner has been to try to find the truth of why there are over 1,200 servicemen still listed as MIAs (missing in action) who are not accounted for. There are discrepancies between the United States and the North Vietnamese governments as to the whereabouts of these men.

Some of the captured men have been used for propaganda purposes, according to taped recordings and letters sent by the men, yet their existence as well as their whereabouts remains unknown.

Some South Vietnamese prisoners have told officials of their stay in prisons with the Americans and say they are still alive. Yet, at present there whereabouts remains unknown.

Along with the MIAs, there

are 17 newsmen also missing, Sean Flynn, Time photographer, son of the late Errol Flynn, is among the missing. While in Washington, D.C., the small group met with members of Henry Kissinger's staff, General Kingston, and Dr. Shield, and Frank Seibert, representatives of the Department of Defense, as well as other White House officials.

Meetings have been held by the National League of Families to determine a course of action for the non-cooperation of the two governments, and also to appoint new officers in order to acquire a full accounting of the MIAs.

Sunday, July 29, the League marched to the White House

and held a silent "prayer meeting", completely unannounced and contrary to White House protocol. The MIA bracelets were then given to Mike Bengé, who approached the steps to the White House and asked if "any member of the staff would accept them."

Contrary to policy, a member of Henry Kissinger's staff met Bengé and accepted the bracelets, saying he would distribute them among the staff of the White House. He also assured Bengé they would wear the bracelets until a proper accounting of the MIAs was made.

The president also issued an appeal to North Vietnam and other concerned countries saying every humanitarian

effort should be made for the accounting.

Bengé plans to visit Laos sometime in October to offer his support to the families of servicemen still missing in action.

He plans to visit Vietnam and do some research on projects in which he personally participated as an area development adviser.

Later, he plans to retire to Baggio, a small community located in the mountains of the Philippines, and write a book. He plans to relate the mistakes of the United States, Vietnam, and Southeast Asia during the recent conflict, and to discuss foreign policies now in effect in under-developed countries.



Teenage chatter, Japanese style. This was the first order of business for these Japanese girls as they met at a potluck dinner in their honor Friday at the Court House Park. The girls are staying with hosts in the area and had not seen each other since their arrival in Heppner.



Wheat and stubble burned approximately 300 acres on the Frank Anderson Ranch, at Anderson Camp. The fire started about 8 a.m. Friday, Aug. 3. The fire is thought to have started from a faulty exhaust of a pick-up truck driving in the area. According to Bill Weatherford, "The wheat destroyed was as good a crop as I have seen anywhere in the county."

Kindergarten information meeting set

Don Cole, grade school principal, has scheduled a general information meeting for all parents of prospective kindergarten children.

The meeting will be held Tuesday, Aug. 21, 1 p.m., at the grade school auditorium.

Cole will answer questions concerning kindergarten at this time. Also, anyone wishing to apply for financial aid may do so at this meeting or in a private interview with Cole.

Parents may register their children in kindergarten with Mrs. Wahl at the grade school office any week day.

Kindergarten starts Sept. 4.