



The smoldering ruins of the once-spacious home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Crum, lone, are all that remain after a Sunday fire. Only thing left standing were the fireplace and the rock entry way. The fire is believed to have started in the furnace area in the basement.

## Crum home gutted by fire

By DOROTHY KREBS

Fire completely destroyed the ranch home, near Lone, of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Crum, Sunday, Oct. 14.

Only the brick fireplace and the ribbon-rock entry way of the 14-year-old structure were left standing. The family was able to save only a very few of their belongings. Exact cause of the fire is yet to be determined.

Mrs. Crum was preparing Sunday dinner, about 1:30 p.m., when family members heard what sounded to be an explosion in the basement. Bob Crum discovered the fire burning in the area of the furnace. He quickly spread the word to his parents but as Ralph Crum explained, "We knew about it as soon as it happened but were not able to do anything about it. There

was too much smoke and heat for any of us to get close enough to fight the flames."

Fire extinguishers positioned over the furnace were not effective enough to quell the inferno. The situation worsened because telephone lines located near the furnace were quickly burned through. The Crums were not able to immediately notify anyone of their plight. Mrs. Crum and Bob drove to the Bob Rietmann Ranch for help. Mrs. Rietmann telephone neighbors, who quickly responded, and Dobyns Pest Control sent two pumper trucks. But it was too late. No other fire-fighting equipment was on hand.

There were a few items saved from the garage, a few tools, some parts of machinery, canned goods from the pantry, and a couple chairs. Some of the records and legal

papers were salvaged after the house had been gutted. Bob Mansfield and Frank Messenger entered the smoldering ruins under the protection of streams of water and attached a cable to the steel fireproof filing cabinet. The cabinet was winched to the basement wall and the men were able to remove the drawers. The contents were somewhat damaged but not a total loss.

The antiques which the couple had collected for several years, furniture, appliances, clothing, pictures, and other personal possessions were all lost.

Crum estimated their loss to be near \$100,000. He said at least part of it is covered by insurance. This is the second time the Crums have lost their home to fire. In 1959, they lost the house which stood only a

short distance from the one they lost Sunday.

The family will temporarily stay with Rev. and Mrs. Godin. They will move in the near future to the Carl Troedson house, which is now owned by the Crums.

The Lone United Church of Christ will host a community-wide shower for the Ralph Crum family Sunday, Oct. 21 at 4 p.m. in the social rooms of the church. The shower will be of general household articles or food items. Everyone is invited to attend. Refreshments will be served.

As a personal note of interest, Mrs. Crum is an avid collector of recipes. People may bring a copy of their favorite recipe to present to her.

For further information, call Mrs. Henry Krebs, 422-7108.

## Bill would replace lost trees

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Congressman Al Ullman introduced legislation Thursday which would allow the state of Oregon and private landowners who suffer future losses from the tussock moth outbreak to file claims for reforestation by the federal government.

Ullman said his proposed "Reforestation Compensation Act" specifies that if the Environmental Protection A-

gency denies the use of an unregistered insecticide which could have prevented property destruction on forest lands, owners and those lands can seek reforestation should the damage occur.

"Obviously," Ullman said, "there is really no requirement for the EPA to weigh all the economic and social factors involved when it makes a decision on the use of an unregistered pesticide. It does

not have to justify its decision on those grounds, and I think that is probably an omission in the law." DDT is an unregistered insecticide.

To be eligible for reforestation, landowners would have to have sustained losses on at least half of the trees on an area at least the size of an acre.

Ullman pointed out that the bill does not provide compensation for lost timber, but

does require the government to pay the costs of reforestation.

Although it is unlikely that the bill can be passed before a new application is filed with the EPA for use of DDT on the tussock moth outbreak in Oregon, Ullman said the effective date of the bill is Oct. 11, and that it could still apply if not approved by Congress until next year.

## Sadie Parrish earns award

Mrs. Sadie Parrish, Morrow County Clerk, has received an Award for Meritorious Service conferred upon her by Frances G. Knight, director, Passport Office, Department of State.

The citation is the director's thanks for Mrs. Parrish's volunteer work in processing passport applications in the county.

The text of Miss Knight's letter to Mrs. Parrish follows:

"Dear Mrs. Parrish:

"I am pleased to confer upon you this Meritorious Award for outstanding Community Service by your participation in the Passport Application Acceptance Program. The Certificate I give you today is undated for a good reason—because the service you render is unending; it encompasses the past, the present and the future.

"In our relationships with those with whom we work day in and day out, we frequently

neglect to express our thanks. We, at the Passport Office, do appreciate greatly the dedication and service you have contributed in the performance of your passport work. The entire staff of this Office joins me in thanking you, your deputies and assistants for the

service and cooperation you have given, not only to us, but to the citizens of your community as well. We recognize that your endeavors have been a major factor in making the Passport Office a successful public service.

"I look forward to having the pleasure of meeting you someday. If you ever come to Washington, I extend to you a cordial invitation to visit our National Office."

# County agricultural income \$27 million

The estimated gross agricultural income for Morrow County for 1973 is nearly \$27 million, reports Harold Kerr, Morrow County extension agent.

"This is a 31 per cent increase over 1972 and nearly 100 per cent increase over 1971," he pointed out this tremendous increase is due largely to the new irrigated lands in Morrow County. Desert Magic Farm located in Boardman put 6,000 acres under irrigation this

past year."

"Improved prices for agricultural products in Morrow County have been offset by depressed yields due to the drought conditions," Kerr explained.

Potatoes for the second year in a row is leading farm sales in Morrow County. This year 7,500 acres of potatoes produced approximately \$9,200,000 of gross farm income.

Wheat in Morrow County accounted for \$8,300,000 of farm sales. This income is estimated to have been pro-

duced on 160,000 acres.

"Livestock, always an important part of the agricultural scene in Morrow County, is also being influenced by increased irrigation acreage," stated Kerr. This year all livestock income exceeded \$6 million compared to just under \$4 million a year ago. This increase is also due to the increased number of cattle as

well as improved prices."

Another agriculture commodity in Morrow County accounted for over \$1.5 million of farm sales. This

commodity was forage crops, including alfalfa hay, corn silage and other hay crops.

Grass seed showed a significant increase this year. While grass seed increased, dry beans and watermelons decreased.

"Gross farm sales are only one way of measuring the agricultural growth in Morrow County," the extension agent concluded.

The county assessor's office has indicated \$8.5 million increase in tax evaluations, largely due to agricultural investments.

# THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Vol. 90, No. 35

Heppner, Ore., Thursday October 18, 1973

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15 cents

## Water improvement

# A \$675,000 price tag

"The estimated cost of the proposed additions to, and the upgrading of, Heppner's present water system is in the neighborhood of \$675,000," City Engineer Stephen Anderson told Chamber of Commerce members at their Monday luncheon.

Anderson reached his estimate after months of study and research of the existing water system. According to Anderson, Heppner has a unique water problem because of its small size and the industry it supports.

An example, he said, is the plywood mill at Kinzua, which will be moved to Heppner next year, and which will increase the city's population to 1,900.

The present water system produces an estimated 950 gallons of water per minute, and to serve the projected increase in population the system will have to produce 1,200 gallons per minute.

"The present system cannot provide adequate pressure in the outlying areas, and it does not provide an even pressure in the city limits. In the higher elevations the pressure varies from a low of 25 psi (pounds per square inch) to 150 psi. This requires more water from the system because of the two extremes," Anderson stated.

Another problem facing residents is the inadequate system of fire hydrants. To maintain and provide proper

fire protection, he said, more hydrants are needed.

To increase Heppner's water supply and provide enough water for future expansion Anderson recommended additions to present transmission lines, improvements of the present distribution system, increase of the present supply and upgrading of existing water reservoirs.

To improve the distribution system would require establishment of a high level water system which would furnish the entire city with 90 psi, thereby relieving present fluctuations in existing lines. This would also make more water available to outlying areas, he reasoned.

Anderson said improvement of existing wells and pumps would also help meet the demand for water, and spoke of finding new water sources, such as the Thorpe well.

If the present system were

automated, he told listeners, it would also help insure proper distribution of water. Upgrading present lines and adding more reservoirs would help.

The existing three and one-half miles of transmission line

should be replaced, he said, with a larger pipe. He was referring to the 8-inch mains now in use as compared with 12-inch mains which have been proposed.

Cost of the renovation of the water system would be approximately \$400,000, Anderson said, with the Corps of Engineers paying an estimated \$275,000 for relocation of existing mains because of the construction of Willow Creek Dam.

Other business at the meeting included the hearing of committee reports and selection of a new rodeo board

member.

Randall Peterson announced that Veteran's Day in Heppner will be observed Nov. 12. Some merchants, banks, and federal offices will be closed that day. The post office will be closed Oct. 22 and open on Nov. 12.

Peterson informed members that Nov. 30 is the date for annual farm-city banquet. The location has not yet been determined.

Chamber President Leroy Gardner appointed Ken Belcher to replace resigned Harold Kerr on the rodeo board.

## Alaskan opens new business

Martin "Marty" Craig, who has spent the last 22 years in Alaska, will be settling in Heppner soon and opening a heating and ventilating business.

Craig was in the heating and sheet metal business in Anchorage, with the last three years in Juneau. He decided to "retire" from the rugged country after he walked away from his third airplane crash last year. "Figured my time

had run out," he said.

He first went to Alaska in 1940 from Minnesota, but returned to enter the Air Corps in World War II. He returned to Alaska in 1951, and has worked all over the country. "I guess I know that country as well as anyone," he said, "and if I were a young man that's where I'd be headed right now."

Mrs. Craig, Elnora, was raised near Lone.

## Building proposed for fair

A new concession stand was the main topic of discussion at the Morrow County Fair Board meeting Monday night.

Hal Whitaker, Heppner High School vocational ag instructor, presented the board with a proposed 16 by 8 foot concession stand.

The building would be located near the grandstands and would be used during the fair as well as other fair activities and Heppner High School activities.

"The students in my class would construct the building," Whitaker said, "this would be a valuable experience for them."

The Morrow County Fair Board would pay for the cost of materials only. The board decided to take action as soon as possible.

In other business, the board gave approval for the use of the main building for a rummage sale, Oct. 26-27. Chairman Sue Duncan and Vice-Chairman Diana Ball of the Heppner Kindergarten will sponsor the rummage sale.

Lena Smith, secretary of the board, announced the results of the county fair rating. Of a possible 1,000 points the County Fair Commission in Salem awarded 853 merit points to Morrow County.



Sherry Kemp, 1973 Rodeo Princess, has been chosen Queen of the 1974 Heppner Rodeo. The selection was made at a meeting of the rodeo board last week. Sherry is the daughter of Stan and Billie Kemp, and is a freshman accounting major at Oregon State University. Her Court will be named in late December.