

Old building coming down

Before Circuit Judge Henry Kaye Tuesday afternoon the three owners of the burned out building on Main Street stipulated that the cost of demolishing the building will be charged against them on the estimate of Shockman Bros., contractors.

The contractor will set the assessment based on the cost of tearing down and removing each owner's portion of the building.

This stipulation, with all parties agreeing, has the effect of dissolving the preliminary injunction Judge Kaye issued Monday restraining the Hagers from interfering with the demolition. However, if any of the three parties violate the stipulation, contempt of court proceedings would be brought against him.

Shockman Bros. brought its wrecking equipment to Heppner again yesterday morning and was expected to have the building down that afternoon.

Judge Kaye's ruling ended a year-long effort of the city to get the old Evans building removed.

Mayor Jerry Sweeney said Tuesday that he was "pleased" that the city has made good on its promise to clean up the dangerous area on Main Street.

Demolition brouhaha

City hits Hagers with injunction

Circuit Court Judge Henry Kaye Monday issued a preliminary injunction against Mr. and Mrs. James Hager which restrains them from interfering with tearing down the burned out building on Main Street and removing the debris.

City Attorney Bob Abrams sought the injunction at 8 a.m. Monday after the Hagers had resisted an order of the city for its removal on grounds it constitutes a safety hazard. The Heppner Common

Council last Wednesday night unanimously agreed to instruct Abrams to take the legal action.

"The city has followed all legal procedures necessary in an attempt to remove the unsightly and dangerous building," Mayor Jerry Sweeney said. "Now the city has no alternative but to follow the advice of the city attorney and file an injunction against the Hagers. The city has tried to avoid legal action, as court proceedings can be

lengthy and costly."

The Hagers, Everett Harshman and the Bank of Eastern Oregon are owners of the property.

Two weeks ago the council awarded a contract to Shockman Bros., contractors, Hermiston, for \$4,349 for removal of the building from the site. When Shockman arrived with his wrecking crew last week he was ordered off the property by Hager. Shockman complied, and took his crew back to Hermiston.

The Hagers have not objected to removal of the building, only to his share of the cost. The city had intended to divide the cost equitably between the three owners, but Hager offered a flat \$500 for his share. The other two owners have agreed to pay whatever is determined to be their fair share.

Harshman disputed the statement of Herman Winters, attorney for the Hagers, and published in the Gazette-Times last week, that he

(Harshman) owned 80 per cent of the building and therefore was entitled to pay 80 per cent of the cost of its removal.

"What I own," Harshman said, "is one-half of the north wall of the building, which may be 80 per cent of the work, but is more like 40 per cent of its ownership."

"I agreed to paying my fair share for removal," he continued, "regardless of how much it was. I have already made Mr. Hager a proposition

that I would pay as much as \$2,500 of the cost which would leave him approximately \$800 as his share, but he refused."

In other council action Wednesday night it ordered the vacation of the westerly portion of Gilmore Street from Morrow Street to Matlock Street, and limiting parking to one side of Gilmore.

It also asked City Recorder Marshall Lovgren to advertise for a utilities foreman to replace Bert Corbin.

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Hospital budget gets trimming

Pioneer Hospital Administrator Ilene Wyman trimmed \$8,427 Wednesday from the proposed \$65,000 per year budget.

The new proposed budget for each of the next three years is now set at \$56,573 per year. It is expected that this amount will be asked in the re-submitted serial levy proposition on July 16.

Cut from the budget were: a part-time janitor, \$1,500 per year; State of Oregon accident insurance, \$1,000 per year; Blue Cross medical benefits normally paid by the hospital, now to be absorbed by the

employees, \$430 per year; state unemployment on gross earnings of employees, \$1,697; free meals for employees who can leave the hospital, \$3,500. Personnel that can't leave the hospital, such as registered nurses and aides, will be provided with free meals when on duty.

The proposed cut in the hospital budget was approved by the hospital board of directors and sent to Judge Paul Jones for approval of the county court budget and revenue sharing committees. Both committees agreed to the budget cuts later last week.

"Should a new doctor come into the community and in-

crease the hospital census, and put the hospital on a paying basis, the hospital would require taxpayers to pay only the necessary amount expended for maintenance," the administrator said.

In past years this figure has been approximately \$10,000 per year, and until recently most of this amount had not been needed. But last year when the census dropped from 44 per cent to 31 per cent it cost the hospital \$52,000 in revenue income. This was one major reason for the increased budget this year.

Solid waste district to be county-wide

The Morrow County Solid Waste Management Advisory Committee met Tuesday night at a meeting marked with re-evaluations of the previous work conducted by the committee.

John McDonald of Clark & Groff Engineers, Inc., was present to explain portions of his solid waste study portfolio compiled for Morrow County.

The meeting had been set up with McDonald for the purpose of establishing a means of financing a solid waste landfill in the area. By the end of the meeting no plan had been approved, but tentatively the system would be paid for by taxes and user fees.

Problems had arisen as to the formation of a district to implement the plan. Some felt that two districts should be formed, for the north end of

the county and the south end. The original plan set up dealt with only the south end, but the fourth draft of McDonald's report was also concerned with the north end of the county.

It was ordered by the group that a solid waste district be set up which would presently encompass the entire county. McDonald had previously noted that the advisory committee could change the boundaries so that an additional district could be set up in the north end to handle the increased requirements of the Boardman area as it continues to grow.

Details of operation at the proposed land fill were discussed at length. One point of contention dealt with what days and hours the dump

should be open. McDonald said, "I think the facilities should be open as much as possible. If they aren't open, they're going to dump it somewhere else, illegally."

Cliff Green, who presently handles Heppner's disposal service, said the present dump is only open two days a week and it seems to handle the dumping for the area. Green also noted that the maintenance of the facilities would be handled and properly buried if the facilities were only open on the weekend.

As the plan now stands, the district would center its operation at the proposed Turner site. Estimated figures by McDonald put initial investment at the Turner site at approximately \$13,000 with yearly operating costs of about \$10,400.

Of the \$13,000 needed for initial investment a breakdown of expenses would include \$5,000 for grading and graveling an access road, \$3,000 for fencing and cattle-guards, \$2,000 for a shed, \$1,000 for initial trenchwork, and \$1,000 for miscellaneous expenses.

Yearly expenses include \$1,300 (\$13,000 broken down over a 10-year period) for initial expenses, \$900 for annual lease, \$5,200 for a bulldozer, (\$100 per week), and \$3,000 of miscellaneous operating costs.

Judge Paul Jones explained to the group that \$10,000 of revenue sharing funds had been tentatively set aside by the county budget and revenue sharing committees for use in establishing a solid waste

district and landfill site. However, he pointed out that if the hospital levy is voted down once again when it is presented to the voters on July 15, the possibility of receiving these funds would be greatly reduced.

Some of the residents present felt that the funding for the landfill site should be budgeted under a separate county budget. Judge Jones agreed, saying "The most simple way to operate the facilities would be for the county to take it over and put it on the tax votes."

To set up the solid waste district the committee agreed to hold public hearings before completing plans for restricting the area. Two hearings will be scheduled for the near future.

District school board

Survey of county needs authorized

The Morrow County School Board voted Monday to have a study conducted of its facility needs for the district for the next five years. The study will be made by the Field Training and Service Bureau of the University of Oregon.

The study, to be completed by Sept. 1, will survey the five-year enrollment needs of the area and study school facilities in the district. The report will include new construction needed, projected cost estimates and a time-line for construction. Cost of the study is not to exceed \$1,450.

Ernie Teal, curriculum director for the Morrow County School District, submitted his resignation to the board at the Monday evening meeting, effective about the end of June. Teal has been the curriculum director for the past two years.

Three new teachers were hired. George Koffler, a

native of Echo and graduate of Oregon College of Education, was hired to teach math and act as assistant football and baseball coach at Heppner High School. Koffler has been teaching at Whitaker Junior High in Salem. Another Echo native, Richard Attebury, was hired to teach social studies and Spanish at Heppner High. A graduate of the University of Oregon, Attebury has four years of teaching experience. Delvin King was hired to teach junior high science and coach 7th grade basketball at Heppner Elementary School. King has five years of teaching experience in Canada and Kansas. He is a graduate of Eastern Mennonite College in Virginia and has done graduate work at Oregon State University. Seven positions remain to be filled in the district.

School Supt. Ron Daniels reported to the board that the financial situation at the close of this year is expected to be

about the same as last year with \$70,000 in cash on hand at the close of the year. The board made some adjustments within the budget due to inflation over the past six-months period.

The board voted to call for bids on bus service, bulk gasoline, fuel oil, anti-freeze and contract bus runs. The bids will be opened at the district office in Lexington, July 15, at 2 p.m.

Ken Munger submitted his resignation from the Boardman-Irrigon advisory committee. Francine Evans was appointed to fill that position.

Board members present at the Monday meeting were board chairman Dr. Wallace Wolff and directors Irvin Rauch, Pauline Winter and Jerry Peck.

The next meeting of the board is scheduled for July 15 at Lone High School beginning at 9 p.m.

Rodeo court to be feted

Queen Sherry Kemp and her court will be feted at the coronation and dance at the fairgrounds Saturday evening.

Two men convicted: calf theft

Two young men, Douglas Walker, Boardman, and Shan Ramstead, charged with livestock theft, were sentenced recently in Umatilla Circuit Court, Pendleton.

Walker was sentenced to 18 months in the State of Oregon Correctional Institution, Salem, after he pleaded guilty to the theft.

Ramstead, charged with the same crime, pleaded guilty to theft in the second degree and was sentenced to one year in the Umatilla County Jail.

Both men had been charged with livestock theft and butchering a calf early in 1974 from the Fred Hoskins ranch near Heppner.

Morrow County Sheriff's Deputy Larry Fetsch and Buck Hodges, Livestock Theft Division, Department of Agriculture, made the investigation that ended in one of the first convictions for cattle theft in this county in several years Sheriff John Mollahan said.

OPEN BURNING NOW REQUIRES PERMIT

There is closure of open burning in the forests effective June 15, according to the Oregon State Forestry Department at Forest.

Open burning prohibition also applies to incinerators. Loggers will also be required to have fire tools and other fire-fighting equipment on the job.

Chamber meets hard working, hard riding rodeo royalty

Morrow County's Fair and Rodeo Queen Sherry Kemp, and her four princesses, Mickey Hoskins, Cassy Chapel, Patricia VanSchoiack and Michele Evans, were guests at the noon luncheon of the Chamber of Commerce Monday.

The court was accompanied by their chaperone, Suzanne Jepsen, who told the members "the girls are doing fine job representing Morrow County."

Each princess spoke briefly of themselves and their plans for the future.

Princess Mickey Hoskins, 18, a 1974 graduate of Lone High School, plans to attend Blue Mountain Community College this fall, majoring in art. Some of her hobbies are painting, writing and drawing. During the summer she plans to help her father with routine

farm work.

Princess Patricia VanSchoiack plans to spend the summer helping her father with farm work. She is interested in 4-H and has helped her brothers and sisters with their projects, as well as taking care of her own.

Princess Cassy Chapel, 17, 1974 graduate of Lone High School, plans to attend Eastern Oregon State College this fall, majoring in education.

She told of the court's surprise during the Milton-Freewater Pea Festival parade, it was presented with a first place trophy.

Princess Michele Evans, 17, 1974 graduate of Heppner High School, also plans to attend Eastern Oregon State College this fall and major in general studies. She also plans to help her father with the ranch work

this summer. She is interested in junior rodeos and rodeo work.

Queen Sherry Kemp plans to spend most of her time this summer driving a tractor for her father. She also has a young colt she wants to train. "I don't know when I will find the time to do all of the things I have planned for this summer, but I know everything will work out," she said.

The next scheduled appearance for the court will be July 34 at Condon. One change from last year's schedule will be the appearance of the court at the Crooked River Rodeo, Pringle, instead of the usual appearance at Joseph, Ore., during Chief Joseph Days.

At next Monday's meeting a forest service program will be on the agenda.

Fire chief makes his point

It is every speaker's dream to end a speech on a dramatic note, but this is ridiculous!

Fire Chief Forrest Burkenbine had just finished his speech to the Heppner Lions Tuesday evening and had asked for questions from the floor. That's when the fire alarm sounded and the speaker, with firemen Cliff Green and Jerry Huff, bolted the meeting.

Green also being the Lions Club president, the meeting is still officially unadjoined.

(What broke up the meeting was a small grass fire on Horn Street.)

Chief Burkenbine was saying before he was interrupted had to do with duties and responsibilities of the 19-member Heppner Volun-

teer Fire Department.

Burkenbine has been fire chief for five years and a member of the department for 18 years. When he took over five years ago there were only seven or eight volunteer firemen. He described the men as dedicated and hard-working, and who contributed much to community life besides the hazardous fighting of fires—Little League, making Christmas toys for children, driving the ambulance, assisting in cleaning city streets, search and rescue and working with many civic organizations.

"Although we work hard in our training, we have our own social events . . . And that's when the fire alarm sounded."



Morrow County's Fair and Rodeo Court as it appeared at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon Monday. From the left, Princess Mickey Hoskins, Cassy Chapel, Queen Sherry Kemp, Princesses Michele Evans and Patricia VanSchoiack.