

Boardman, Heppner, Lexington

## State ASC committee tours area projects

BY STEVE WADE

Members of the Oregon Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation State Committee Tuesday took a first-hand look at the new agricultural development around Boardman, and then inspected long-term conservation practices cost-shared by the agency in the Heppner area.

Robert H. Jepsen, Heppner, chairman of the committee, said of the irrigation development, "We're interested in this project because it is a new development in the state. We're interested in seeing agriculture grow, even though our programs are not involved

in this particular development."

Other members of the state committee are Glen E. Brogitt, Helix, and Donald D. Thompson, Moro. Accompanying them was Everett G. Rank Jr., western regional director for ASCS, from Washington, D.C.

An estimated 50,000 acres has been put under irrigation in the past few years in the Boardman area. One of the developments visited by the committee was Desert Magic, which was one of the first. It has 7,000 acres under irrigation—with 5,500 acres in potatoes and the rest in wheat. According to Brent Carsner,

manager of Desert Magic, the type of agricultural development taking place there was not possible until recently because the machinery to apply a high volume of water in a short period wasn't available. He said the center pivot sprinkler system—which waters some 130 acres on a continuous basis—changed all of this.

About two-thirds of the water used by Desert Magic is pumped from the Columbia River near the site of their development. The rest is supplied from deep wells. Five 800 horsepower electric pumps feed 50,000 gallons a minute to five miles of 36"

pipeline. From this mainline the water is distributed to the pivot systems which spread 1,250 gallons a minute over their one-fourth mile length. Howard Kartchner said Desert Magic applies the equivalent of about 60 inches of rainfall a year. The system is never shut off from about April 15 through the growing season. The machines are regulated daily, depending on weather and crop conditions. More or less water is applied by speeding up or slowing down. At their slowest speed one revolution takes about 32 hours, while an 18 hour circle is the maximum speed. Nor-

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## Hospital issue goes to voters Tuesday

Members of the Hospital and Doctors' Committee have drafted a letter to be sent to all Morrow County voters containing facts concerning the operating budget of Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

Morrow County voters will be going to the polls Tuesday, July 16, to vote for the second time on a three-year serial levy.

The budget for the hospital for 1974-75 is \$400,553. Of this amount, \$56,573 (approximately 14 per cent) must be raised by taxation.

Since June of 1950 a maintenance fund in the amount of from \$10,000 to 15,000 has come from the county budget. In May of 1971 a three-year serial levy in the amount of \$22,500 was passed and expires this year. The new serial levy reflects an increase of approximately \$24,000 annually.

Due to new state and federal requirements affecting staff people in the nursing home, a higher minimum wage, unemployment compensation

and public employees' retirement benefits, operating costs have risen by \$32,500. Thirty people are currently employed full time and 18 part-time. All but one of these people are required by law. The one extra employee is the engineer under training to replace the present engineer. The payroll for employees amounts to \$273,691.

The levy request of \$65,000 was defeated in May. The budget has been cut by \$8,427. The levy coming to the voter

on July 16 is for \$56,573.

This levy would cost 50 cents per \$1,000 true cash value. Thus, the owner of a \$20,000 home would pay \$10 in additional taxes toward the operation of Pioneer Memorial Hospital.

If another doctor comes to practice in Heppner and the patient load increases hospital revenue, taxes would be decreased by the amount of the increased revenue.

Voting hours for the July 16 levy vote are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## Film will list area points of interest

Don Cole, principal, Heppner Elementary School, told the chamber of commerce Monday that color slides and a film strip are in production now which will introduce

newcomers to the area. The presentation will be directed toward inducing one or more physicians to locate in Morrow County. It will point out the attractions of the Heppner area—such as ski areas, churches, fishing and hunting areas, swimming pool, schools, parks and other points of interest.

Members of the American Association of University Women are preparing the script. Tom Sherer will correlate the color slides with the script. Cole believes the program may be of interest to industry.

When completed the program can be presented to special meetings. It takes about 15 minutes. "Thus eliminating," Cole said, "the long, drawn out speeches usually necessary to describe an area."

Chamber President Jim Bier urged members to vote at the special hospital levy election, July 16.

Randall Peterson, chairman of the Merchants' Association, announced that the swimming pool would be open to all youngsters free of charge during Sidewalk Sales Days, July 12-13.

## Woman hits judge

Justice Court Judge Charles O'Connor lost a case July 3—and his new Oldsmobile, a little skin and some of his good humor.

He was driving through the intersection of Spring and 2nd Streets in Ione about 7:55 p.m. when a car driven by Elsie Leola Senecal, 48, of Ione, failed to stop at the intersection and rammed the judge's car.

Mrs. Senecal was taken by ambulance to Pioneer Memorial Hospital and treated for cuts, bruises and abrasions. O'Connor was taken to the hospital by private car and was found to be uninjured.

Both vehicles were heavily damaged. Ironically, both cars were insured through Charles O'Connor Insurance, owned by the judge.

Mrs. Senecal was cited by State Police for careless driving, to appear in justice court at Irrigon, Judge Ernest Jorgensen presiding.

## Four citations by city police

Three Heppner residents were cited by city police recently for violation of the basic speed law.

A fourth, Aaron Art Klinger, was fined \$6 for a motorcycle violation.

Cited for violation of the speed law were James Donald Hams, 24, fined \$30; Lonnie Kerr, 20, fined \$11; and Richard Ellis Pettyjohn, 19, \$105 bail pending appearance in justice court on July 9.

## Lenna Smith resigns fair board position

Lenna Smith of Heppner has announced her retirement as secretary-treasurer of the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo after 14 years of service in that position.

Mrs. Smith expressed her regret in leaving the job which she said she enjoyed. During the past year she has been working full time for the Morrow County Extension Office, which necessitated her giving up the fair board position. Mrs. Smith said that this is the first fair she will

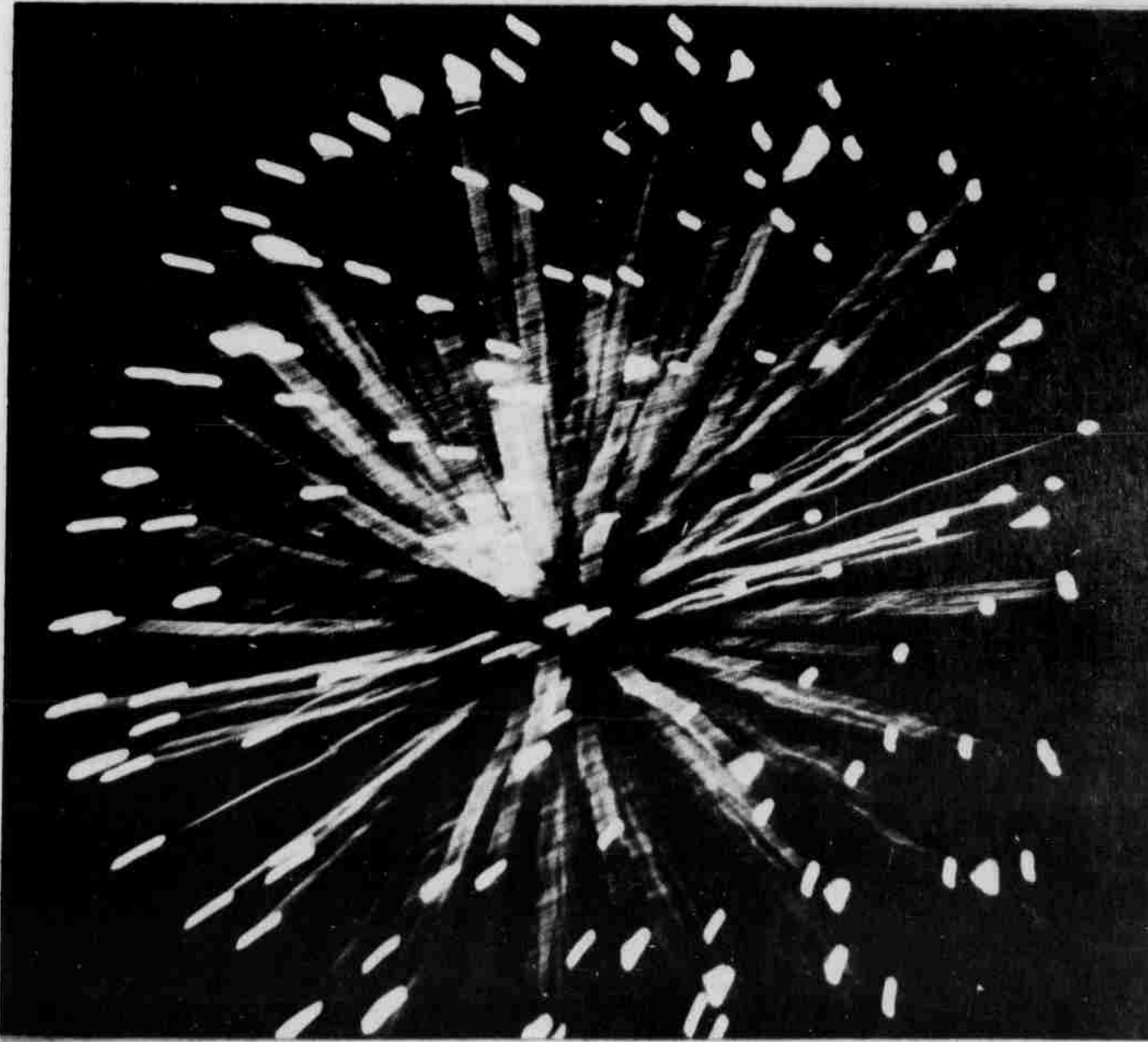
have missed in 18 years. She will retire from the position effective Oct. 1.

Liz Curtis of Heppner will be filling the position. She began working for the board July 1. Anyone wishing to reserve the building is asked to call her at 676-9454. The best hours to reach Mrs. Curtis are between 8 and 9 a.m., during the noon hour and from 3:30 to 7 p.m.

Premium books for the 1974 fair may still be obtained from the extension office rather than from Mrs. Curtis.



Fireman don their oxygen masks as they prepare to enter the smoldering basement of the Ron Borst residence early Monday afternoon. The fire is believed to have started in a davenport in the basement. Ron Borst was at home at the time, and he placed a garden hose in the basement while the fire department was summoned. Cause of the fire is under investigation.



Residents of the Ione area were treated to a lively (and probably their last) July 4 fireworks celebration. People came from miles around to see the fireworks display.