

STARK BEAUTY. This gnarled and twisted oak displays tiny branches that form a lace-like pattern against winter skies.

## Taking a trip? See the pastor

The Rev. David Blackaller, pastor of All Saints Episcopal Church, has an unusual hobby. He plans trips for other people.

At the Chamber of Commerce meeting Monday he got a chance to talk about it.

To date, he said, he has planned trips for 60 or 70 people in the area. He predicted that the chartered plane flights are nearing their end. Charter flights from England to the United States are already illegal, and he predicted that flights to other countries may soon be banned.

Some of the planned charter trips advertised in newspapers are legal, he reported, but said some companies are asking customers for \$50 deposits plus another \$12 for insurance fees. Should the

person not make the scheduled flight, the money is forfeited. In some cases the balance of the fare money is due 90 days prior to taking off, and should a person not make the trip the entire amount is forfeited.

He has planned train trips through the center of Canada, and from coast to coast. He advises a more scenic trip would be a triangle, from Vancouver to Jasper, to Prince Rupert to the top of the island, then back to Vancouver and Victoria.

"There is no way of seeing all of British Columbia by train because much of the beauty and scenery is lost because trains travel at night, too," he said.

In other business, Judge Paul Jones said the county

court has tentatively set location of the proposed new clinic across the street from the hospital, in Valley View Estates subdivision. Kinzua Corporation has agreed to sell either one or two lots to the county for the clinic. He said the two Pendleton doctors are expected in the community soon.

Orville Cutsforth pointed out that corporate farming has spent \$15 million in the north end of the county, and not one cent has been spent in Lone, Lexington or Heppner. "15 million is the equivalent of two good wheat crops in Morrow County, yet the wheat farmer spends more of his money within the county," Cutsforth said. "If corporate farming continues the largest corporations will eat up the small

farmer. This worries me, and it should worry you."

Acting President Ray Boyce reported he had visited John Ekstrom in a Portland hospital. Young Ekstrom is still in a coma, although he opens his eyes and appears at times to be aware of people present in the room. He is taking food and is able to be in a wheel chair.

Boyce told members that if they had any un deposited checks passed last week by three men, drawn on banks in Zanesville, Ohio, and Crescent City, Ca., to give them to Police Chief Dean Gilman. The checks are worthless. The three men were apprehended Sunday after passing approximately \$400 in worthless checks among Heppner merchants.

## City police nab check forgers

Alert city police officers arrested three men Saturday night on charges of passing bogus checks to several Heppner merchants on Friday and Saturday.

Arrested were Lloyd Harold Blue Jr., 18, Carbondale, Co., George Leroy Peters Jr., 19, Glenwood Springs, Co., and Jeannie Larry Wells, 22, Zanesville, O.

The trio gave the fraudulent checks to merchants as they purchased food and clothing and paid for their lodging. The checks were drawn on banks in both Zanesville, O., and Crescent City, Ca. During their "paper hanging" spree they cashed checks totaling more than \$370. The activity came to a halt when one

merchant got suspicious and made a long distance call to California to verify the check, and found it to be forged, and called city police.

Police Officer Chuck Holt and Wayne Maxam soon had the trio in custody, and lodged them in Hermiston city jail. The three appeared before Justice of the Peace Charles

O'Connor Tuesday morning on two charges of criminal conspiracy each. Wells and Blue were also charged with forgery in the first degree.

O'Connor, pending court appointed counsel for the defendants, set bail for Peters at \$7,505 and for Wells and Blue, \$10,500 each. Trial date was not set.

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## Woman rescued by newsboys

Ron Young and his brother, Bruce, were delivering papers along Hager Street early Sunday morning when they heard faint calls for help coming from the home of Mrs. Eva Robinson, 74, who lives alone.

Quick action by Ron Young may have saved the woman's life.

"She yelled at me through the screen door after she had partially opened the front door," Ron told the Gazette-Times. "I ran up and asked what was wrong. She said she was very sick. I took her into the room and asked her to lie down on the floor. Then I asked if there was someone I could notify. She asked me to call her son. I tried, but there was no answer. I then called the hospital and asked that an ambulance be sent."

Mrs. Robinson had gone into the bathroom Saturday night, fainted and fell on the floor.

She tried to use the phone on the bathroom wall to call for help, but could not reach it. She spent the night on the floor, but managed to crawl to the front door and get the attention of the newsboy.

Mrs. Robinson was admitted at 9:10 a.m., and was listed Monday as being in "fair condition."

Ron, 13, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harley Young, Heppner. He attends Heppner Elementary School, 7th grade, and is active in the Boy Scouts. His brother, Bruce, was recently made an Eagle Scout.

### ARTHUR VANCE

Arthur Vance, 33, Heppner, died unexpectedly early Wednesday morning at St. Anthony's Hospital, Pendleton. No details were available at press time, and funeral arrangements are pending.

## Fur coat thief is sentenced

Charles Sherman Gilman, Heppner, who was arrested Jan. 1 in connection with the theft of a fur coat valued at \$2,700, was sentenced Tuesday in circuit court.

Judge Wells sentenced Gilman to spend the next four weeks in jail and to make restitution of \$100 per month toward the damages to the fur coat. He was also placed on one year's probation.

## 150 brave cold to enjoy choir

Despite one of the worst nights this winter, a cancelled basketball game and a bus breakdown which caused the choir to be an hour late, some 150 music lovers turned out Saturday night to hear the College of Idaho Concert touring Choir.

Those who braved the snow and ice were rewarded with an hour of excellently performed music with Dr. James Gabbard conducting.

## \$611 per capita to run local government

For residents of Morrow County, does the cost of local government run higher or lower than it does for people in other communities?

How much is spent locally, per capita, for all municipal and county operations and for all special services? How large is the local debt compared with the average in other areas?

A voluminous new report, just released by the Census Bureau, sheds light on these

matters. It is based upon a detailed study of local finances, gathered from every county in the United States.

The study, entitled Government Finances, is the first made since fiscal year 1967. They are conducted every five years.

For people living in Morrow County, the figures show the total cost of local governmental operations came to \$611 per capita in the year.

In the rest of the nation the average was \$511 per capita and, in the State of Oregon \$504.

It took a total of \$106.5 billion to operate the various county, township, municipal and district governments in the county and provide the public with services in the fields of health, welfare, roads, sanitation, housing, police and fire protection, education and the like.

The \$106.5 billion outlay re-

presented an increase of \$47 billion in a period of five years.

In some communities, the amount spent for local governmental operations was adequately covered by revenues. In many others, however, more was spent than was taken in.

The figures for Morrow County show that the direct expenditures, \$611 per capita, were offset by general revenue receipts equivalent to \$633 per capita.

Some \$513 of this revenue came from local taxes and charges and the remainder from federal and state sources.

In order to finance their expenditures for capital improvements and provide their residents with necessary ser-

vices, many communities have been forced to go deeper in debt.

Morrow County's debt is placed at \$214 per capita in the report. Nationally, the debt of local governments averaged \$380 per capita. Throughout the state it was \$336.

### MAN FINED \$305 FOR DRUNK DRIVING

James Mathew Healy, 22, Heppner, was arrested by the City Police Saturday night and charged with driving while under the influence of liquor.

Healy appeared in justice court Tuesday and pled guilty to the charge. Justice of the Peace Charles O'Connor fined Healy \$305.

the choir in past years.

The choir's repertoire included both sacred and secular music; traditional from such masters as Brahms and Mozart to the works of modern composers. The Chamber Singers, a smaller group of madrigal singers, performed six numbers. A full round of applause was accorded an arrangement by Jester Hairston titled "Hold My Mule While I Dance Josey," for the

spirit and comedy the choir gave to the piece. The choir received a standing ovation for its performance at the close of the concert.

Members of the Heppner High School Honor Society served a spaghetti dinner to choir members and the public as well. Members of AAUW housed the choir Saturday. Jane Rawlins was in charge of arrangements for the choir's visit to Heppner.

## District school budget studied

The Morrow County School District Budget Committee met Tuesday night under the leadership of Ken Belcher to continue work on preparation of the district's 1975-76 proposed budget, which will be presented to the voters on March 18.

Additional money in the amount of \$17,786 in receipts was reported from state aid and added to the receipts section of the budget, thus reducing the amount to be raised by taxation.

The committee reduced the amount of district obligation for student insurance with the recommendation that students be required to pay a larger share of this insurance. Until recently, students had been expected to pay one-half of the cost, but as costs have risen over the past few years, the district has borne a larger share of this cost.

Cuts were made in the instructional portion of the budget in the amount of \$11,503. The proposed budget includes funds to hire additional staff in the event that predicted population increases continue. The district student population has shown a net increase of 30 students as of Dec. 30 and it is anticipated that this growth will continue.

The proposal also includes adding a district operated special reading program at A. C. Houghton to replace a program that has been operated with federal funds, and adding part time staff at Heppner Junior High, Heppner High, and Riverside High in order to provide work studies supervision and some Junior High counseling at Heppner.

A part-time person is also provided for lone in order to assure a full offering of home economics.

The committee reduced the fixed charges area of the budget by \$1,879. The capital outlay section of the proposed budget represents a reduction of \$24,138 over last year's budget and was approved as

proposed by the committee.

The committee will meet again on March 4, at which time a formal public hearing of the budget will be held, and final adjustments made, prior to the election on March 18.

## Flu cases few here

The flu that has become epidemic in other parts of the country hasn't reached Heppner, yet, in other than normal numbers.

Pioneer Memorial Hospital reported only two cases admitted Monday. Administrator Ilene Wyman said the flu usually hits the nursing home first, and so far they have been "very lucky."

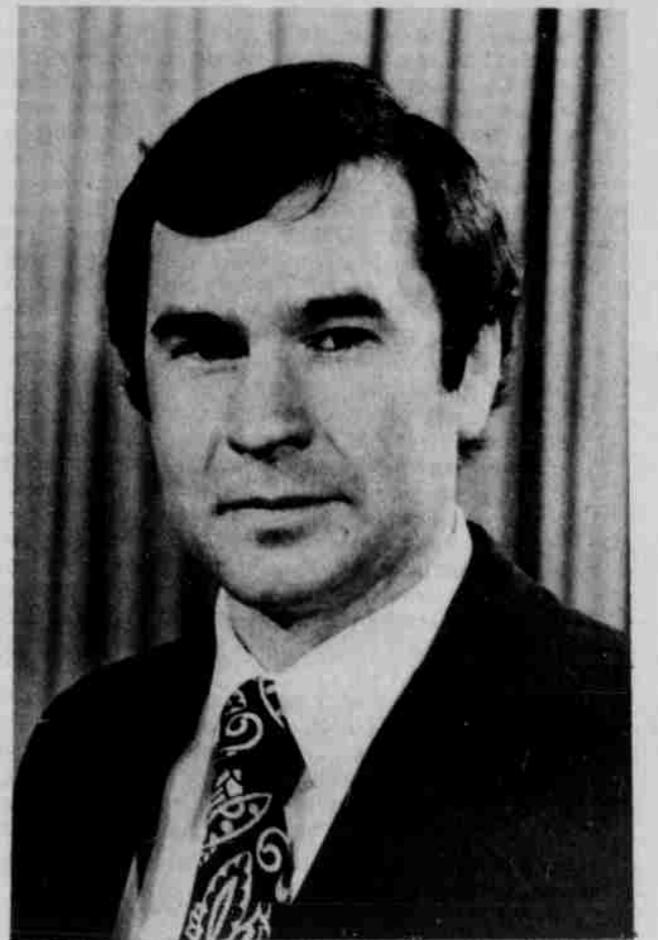
Five of the six members of the Ken Turner family were ill with flu Tuesday. Don Cole, elementary school principal,

reported that absences from junior high and elementary schools "are about normal for this time of year." About 10 per cent of junior high students were absent Monday, and 37 were out in the 455-student elementary school.

The annual banquet of Heppner High School's Future Farmers of America will be held Tuesday, Feb. 18, 1975 at 6:30 p.m., at the high school cafeteria.



RON YOUNG



SEN. MIKE THORNE

Sen. Mike Thorne of Umatilla County will be principal speaker at the annual meeting of the Morrow Soil and Water Conservation District, Thursday, Feb. 20, 7:30 p.m., at the A. C. Houghton Elementary School, Irrigon. Chairman of the Oregon Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee, his speech will deal with SB 13, which would amend state conservation laws to give authority for setting standards at the local level.