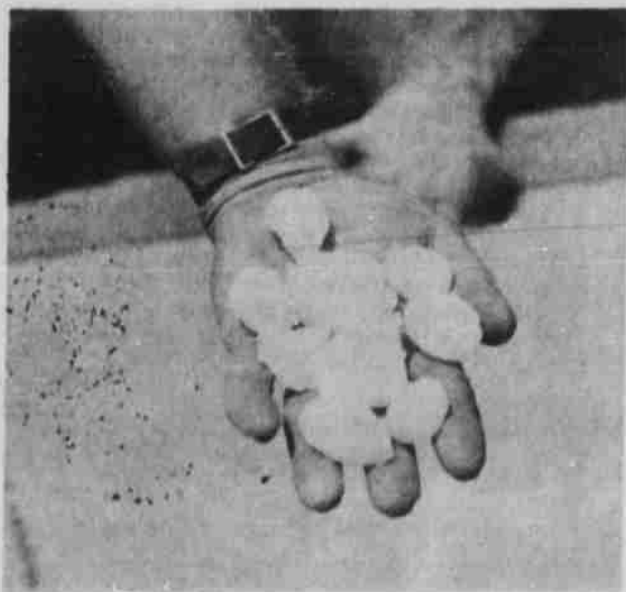


This is all that remains of the wheat field belonging to Paul Jaeger after the severe hail storm last Wednesday night near Condon. An estimated one quarter of a million bushels of wheat were destroyed by the storm.



This shows the size of the hailstones that fell on the Louis Carlson place near the Valby Church. The largest of the group measured 2 inches by 1 1/2 inches, 1/8 inches thick.

Crop loss varies

Electric storms cause hail and fire damage

Extreme hot days and high humidity spawned periodic electric storms in a wide area. The storms continued daily for over a week. Last Wednesday the most severe storm hit near the Gooseberry and Condon areas.

Hail the size of ping pong balls was reported to have fallen in the Eight mile area, causing damage to the wheat crops. While the total extent of the damage is not known, some ranchers estimate 10-100 per cent loss of their crop.

State Highway 206 near Eight Mile was closed due to mud slides in the area and the state maintenance crews worked during the night to clear the debris.

In some areas it appeared as though a winters rain had fallen as the summer fallow fields were covered with large pools of water. The diversion ditches carried the water to the low lands and most of these areas were saturated with water. Along the highway the rain hit spasmodically and some of the existing wheat fields showed signs of damage while others had very little.

The Condon area was the severest hit by the hail and most of the windows on the south side of the homes received the greatest part of the damage.

One resident reported that the hail had chipped most of the paint from her home and that a quarter could not be placed between the chipped paint marks.

Only a few weeks prior what appeared to be choice wheat fields were now completely destroyed. The fields of Paul Jaeger in Condon were devastated by the hail storm.

Vegetable gardens in the Condon area appeared as though someone had used a rototiller as there were no sign of any

foliage. All that remained of some of the corn planted in the area was the stalks about one to two inches high. An occasional leaf of corn could be found pelted into the ground and covered with mud.

In the Condon area an estimated 7,000 acres of wheat have been destroyed with an additional 4,000 acres of barley also being damaged, according to Martin Zimmerman, Gilliam County Extension agent. The average yield in the crop damaged area has been between 31-32 bushels of wheat per acre for an estimated total loss of 220,000 bushels of wheat. The wheat could have been harvested within the next two weeks.

According to reports this was the worst storm in that area within the past 15 years.

Although estimates of the damage are high, insurance adjustors could not complete their assessment of the loss as more damage will probably be reported during the harvest.

About 40 customers of Columbia Basin Electric Coop were without electricity for two hours when a lightning bolt hit a 69,000 volt feeder line near Ruggs. Similar strikes were reported in the lone area and two transformer fuses were blown at Fossil.

Lightning near Heppner started a six-acre grass fire about 8 p.m. on the Dick Wilkenson ranch, four miles southeast of Heppner.

Another fire caused by lightning burned an estimated 4,000 acres of range land belonging to the Krebs Brothers near Arlington. The fire was brought under control by the Arlington volunteer fire department who fought the blaze.

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Historical Cecil site of Bicentennial

On the very historic day that the whole world was watching by TV the launching of the Apollo-Suyuz spacecraft and following their journey carrying the U.S. and Soviet astronauts and cosmonauts toward their spectacular "handshake in space", Morrow County folks and visitors stepped back in time to the days of the great westward migrations of the 1840s.

Of all the places that the Bicentennial Wagon Train will stop, none is more historic than Cecil, Oregon. This place was a looked for stop on the Old Oregon Trail and the great wagon train migrations that wore deep ruts came there beginning about 1841 and tapering off before 1850.

State history tells that only a

few came through on their way to the Willamette Valley in 1841, "nearly nine hundred came in 1843, about 1,200 in 1844; 3,000 in 1845; 1,340 in 1846; 4,500 in 1847 and about 700 in 1848, with only a comparative few after that."

As these thousands on this great pioneer highway rolled their wagons downhill into Cecil's green, well-watered area where the lush grass stood high, they were relieved and pleased. They may have had a hot, windy trip of several days from Fort Henrietta on the Umatilla River (now Echo). The sand hills of the Sand Hollow area and the meager water supply at the Wells Springs Camp were not too pleasant. Horses, oxen and people were weary and wag-

ons were wearing out from the long trek. At Cecil all found refreshment—and also, there was a remarkable man, William Y. Cecil who was able to help repair wagons and make it possible for some with the teams to continue westward.

This week's Bicentennial celebration is only one of several big celebrations held at Cecil. In July just eight years ago, the centennial of the Cecil Post Office drew many friends and former residents there to celebrate. However, the "good old days" were when people really had fun there, as this quotation from "Yesteryears of Morrow" points out:

"Cecil is one of the oldest settlements in the region, and is where people congregated for fun as well as the humdrum of everyday affairs. Some of the dances given there were attended by people who came from as far away as Monument and other John Day valley settlements. These festivities last almost a full week as it took two days to travel each way from those John Day Valley homes."

William Y. Cecil, the community's versatile founder, was born in England in 1819. His parents, Wilfred, an Englishman and Mary, from Germany, came to the United States with him to settle in Illinois and then to move to Missouri. There William married Mary Ellen Robinson, and they came west across the plains in covered wagons with several of their children. They stopped at Willow Creek and were very helpful to others who came that way. The Cecils were well settled by 1862. The families who located near them were in need of a Post Office by 1867. William Y. and Mary Ellen had nine children: James E., 1849; Henrietta, 1852; Nathaniel, 1854; Mary, 1857; Wilford, 1858; William H., 1864; Franklin, 1866; Anna, 1869, and Walter, 1871.

William Y. Cecil, according to the "History of Morrow and Umatilla Counties (1902), "Early embarked on raising cattle and was prosperous from the beginning and con-

(Continued on page 2)



JIM WISHART

Bank of Eastern Ore, names vice president

James H. Wishart, former manager of the Prairie City Branch of the First National Bank, has joined the Bank of Eastern Oregon as Vice President of the Heppner Office. The board of directors made the announcement following their regular monthly board meeting in Heppner, July 9.

Gene Pierce, president of the bank, stated the board was extremely pleased to obtain the services of a man of Wishart's caliber. He is not a stranger to the community, having lived in Heppner for three years in the late 1960s and his 25 years of diversified banking experience will be an asset to the bank and the community.

Wishart was born in Klickitat, Wa., in 1928. He grew up in Hood River and Dees, Oregon, and graduated from Hood River High School in 1947. He attended Northwestern School of Commerce, Portland, and completed their bookkeeping and accounting courses in 1949. Upon completion of his

schooling he accepted a position with the First National Bank in Hood River.

In 1950 he was drafted into the U.S. Army and spent eight months in Japan and another 14 months in Korea. He was discharged in 1952 and returned to work at the First National Bank. He was later transferred to Union Branch where he was the operations officer. In 1966 he was transferred to Heppner as a general loan officer. In 1969 he was moved to Prairie City to manage a new branch of that bank. In February, Wishart completed 25 years of service with First National.

He married Camilla Flesher of Hood River in 1954. They have four children. A married daughter, Sally, living in Prairie City, Susan, 18, who will be a senior this year, Jimmy, 16, a sophomore and John 15, a freshman. They have purchased the Dennis Martin home and will be moving to Heppner about July 15.

Princess has riding experience

She is pretty, she is blonde, somewhat soft spoken, a good rider, a native of Irrigon and very active. She is Princess Mary Ann Proctor of the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo.

Mary Ann cannot remember when she hasn't been able to ride a horse. She is one of those "kids" who learned to ride and learned to walk about the same time. She has been very active in the 4-H horse club in Irrigon. She is currently the club's junior leader.

She trains her own horses. Her horse Thunder Bear, a registered Quarter horse, whom she will be riding in the Fair and Rodeo parade in August, she has trained.

Princess Mary Ann is an active member of the Umatilla Sage Riders. She was a member of that court in 1973. She says she likes to participate in game events, especially barrel racing. She has several trophies accumulating the most points in particular events over a year's time as a member of the Sage Riders.

Mary Ann's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Proctor, own and operate a 175 acre ranch four miles southwest of Irrigon. They raise "cross-bred" beef cattle in a manner different from the way beef cattle are raised in the southern end of the county. Because their land is under

irrigation they do not have to own as much land nor do they graze their cattle on a separate range during the summer.

Mary Ann has two brothers and two sisters. One brother and one sister are married. Mary Ann's other brother is 20. Mary Ann is 17 and she has a younger sister Theresa. Theresa is a pennant bearer for the court this year, so she has the opportunity to share in some of her sister's excitement.

Sports minded Mary Ann likes swimming, basketball, golf and baseball. She doesn't like these activities as spectator sports either. She likes playing the games. A senior at Riverside High School, she is very active in the activities of that school. She has been a cheerleader for three years, treasurer of the student body, member of National Honor Society, member of the pep club, Girls Athletic Assn. and the annual staff. Sandwiched

between her activities and a busy summer as a princess on the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Court she finds time to hold down a summer job.

She has some thoughts about the future for herself and her community. She wants to go to Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton and take a course in accounting.

When asked if she wanted to see Irrigon and the northern end of Morrow grow any more, her answer was she liked the community better as a small community. She commented that her community is changing quite a bit and there were too many people moving in to suit her.

But this summer is Mary Ann Proctor's summer to enjoy advertising the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo. She invites everyone to her dance, Saturday, July 19 at the Fair Pavilion in Heppner. Music for the dance will be provided by the Country Review.



PRINCESS MARY ANN PROCTOR



WILLIAM Y. AND MARY E. CECIL
Founders of Cecil, Oregon