



Hazel Bauman pins an American Legion Poppy corsage on Marjorie Worden. The poppies are made by Disabled Veterans.

THE JOSEPH MASON FAMILY

By Justine Weatherford

Last weekend Frank Mason II, a grandson of one of Morrow County's earliest families came from his home in Milton-Freewater to bring several of his grandparent's treasures to the Morrow County Museum. Mason presented the museum with a beautiful, old parlor clock and with an elevated, hob-nail glass cake plate that the first Masons had used. He also gave the museum files several newspaper clippings about the family from which these facts were gleaned.

Joseph Mason was born on the Azores, whose population consisted mostly of Portuguese, in 1831. At 13 he joined deep-sea fishing crews. When he was 20 he made a trip around the Horn to San Francisco where he quit his ship in 1851 and went to Sacramento to work in placer mines digging gold for seven years. Later he came north to Salem, OR.

In 1870 he married Augusta Bates a daughter of pioneers. Joseph decided to go into the stockraising business. He bought a claim on Rhea Creek that year and lived on it that winter, returning to the Willamette Valley to bring his wife here the next spring. Joseph Mason brought a fine pathfinder stallion, some mares and a few cows with him to Rhea Creek. He worked very hard at clearing away the brush and timber "consisting of larger alder, birch, willow, choke cherry and thorn trees" from his claim. Each spring and fall he made a trip to The Dalles to buy a few provisions.

In 1872 when the Pettysville post office was established, mail came there instead of being carried east from The Dalles by anyone traveling in this direction.

Joseph and Augusta Mason had 10 children born at home on their claim. The oldest was Frank, born there in 1871. Within 15 years Joseph had more than 100 acres cleared and planted to alfalfa. He had run ditches to irrigate it. By the middle 1880s he had 100 well-bred horses, more than 100 head of cattle and a band of sheep, as well as goats and hogs. He had bought out other homesteaders until he owned 875 acres. Augusta, who weighed less than 100 pounds, assisted her husband with the farm work besides caring for the home and their 10 children. She knitted socks for all members of her family.

The Masons had the first orchard on Rhea Creek. Augusta put up fruit in half-gallon cans which were sealed with hot wax. She also dried fruit. The Masons lived in a brick house built by an earlier settler, William Hughes. Joseph Mason died in 1907 at the age of 75. Augusta died in 1928 at the age of 79.

The ten children of the pioneer couple were: Frank E.; Ella C.; Clara E. (Kincaid); Bertelle; Bessie M.; Nettie L.; Helena M.; Mabel (Cotter); Walter E.; and Joseph. Some of them contributed much to the lone community through the years; others lived their adult lives elsewhere. The sons have been lone storekeepers, postmaster, mayor (Bert was mayor for 23 years). The daughters taught school and were ranchers' wives.

The county museum records are not complete about the Mason descendants. There are newspaper clippings about the deaths of some of the ten children. Clara Kincaid died in January 1975 after reaching 100 years of age. Joseph died in February of this year in Portland, at 88. Walter died in California in 1973 at 80.

There are grandchildren, great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews and their children still living in the county and nearby. It would be helpful to have some of them bringing the family records up to date by taking vital information to Mrs. Harnett.

Mothers Club elect officers

The May meeting of the Heppner Mothers Club was held at the home of Barbara Morris.

New officers for the year were elected. The new officers are as follows: Ronnie McBride, president; Judy Handbury, vice-president; Barbara Morris, secretary, treasurer and historian, and Debbie Koffler, caller.

Plans to enter a float in the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo and a booth at the fair were discussed.

The May meeting of the Mothers Club has been traditionally the last meeting until September, however, the club has activities planned for the summer months.

NOTICE OF SALE OF SURPLUS SCHOOL LAND

Notice is hereby given that the District School Board of School District Number 1, Morrow County, Oregon, has declared the following described property not to be required for school purposes, and will sell the same at public auction on June 3, 1976, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. on the site of the land, the land being described as follows, to-wit:

All that portion of the land described in the deed from Elaine S. George to the Morrow County School District recorded in Book 64, Page 85, Morrow County, Oregon, Deed Records lying North of the following described line to-wit:

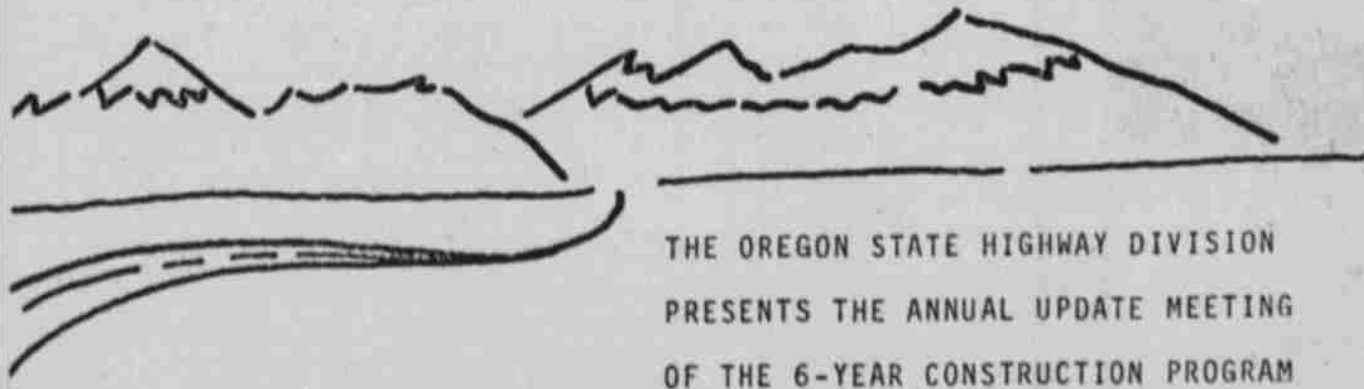
Commencing at the Northeast Corner of Lot 1 Adams Addition to the City of Heppner; thence East along the South right-of-way line of Aiken Street extended a distance of 130 feet to a point on the East side of that tract of land conveyed to Maynard Struthers as recorded in Volume 65 on page 295, Morrow County Deed Records, the point of beginning of this description, thence East 35 feet to a point; thence South 68.85 feet to the beginning of the line above mentioned; thence East 212.5 feet more or less to the West boundary of that land conveyed to Morrow County as recorded in Volume 51 Page 284, Morrow County Deed Records, thus describing the South boundary of the land to be conveyed all in the City of Heppner, Morrow County, Oregon.

The District School Board has set a minimum price of \$3,500.00 for the purchase of the property, and the property will be sold to the highest bidder but the School District reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Unless all bids are rejected, the property will be sold to the bidder complying with the terms of the Notice of Sale, and submitting the bid which provides the highest return to the School District. The sale shall be for cash, must be unconditional and may be made by a certified check or a cashier's check in favor of the District, or on a bank doing business in the State of Oregon, or in cash. The District shall convey the land by a good and sufficient deed, signed by the proper officers of the District and subject to the resolution adopted by the Board at its regular meeting, May 17, 1976, when the land was declared by the Board not to be required for school purposes.

Signed:  
JOHN MATTHEWS  
Chairman  
District School Board of School  
District Number 1, Morrow County, Oregon.

Published May 27, June 3, 1976

PUBLIC NOTICE



THE OREGON STATE HIGHWAY DIVISION  
PRESENTS THE ANNUAL UPDATE MEETING  
OF THE 6-YEAR CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM

Learn what has been done in the past year, what is scheduled for the coming year - the next 6 years. Let the Highway Division know how you feel about the construction program.

If you are interested in the highways of Eastern Oregon, please try to attend one of the meetings listed below.

- Ontario May 24, Monday, Room 14, Administration Building, TVCC
- Canyon City May 26, Wednesday, Circuit Court Room, Courthouse
- La Grande May 27, Thursday, Room 202, Hoke Hall, EOSC
- Pendleton June 2, Wednesday, Conference Room, City Hall

All meetings begin promptly at 8:00 p.m.

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| <b>JAYNES</b><br><b>BUSINESS</b><br><b>MACHINES</b><br>INC.<br>Furniture<br>Typewriters<br>Calculators<br>Cash Registers<br>Copy Machines<br>Adding Machines<br>Dictating equipment | Hermiston Store<br>246 E. 2nd<br>Suite C<br>Behind Shorty's Union 76<br>PH. 367-2731<br>322 S. Main<br>Pendleton, OR. 278-6441 |
|   | Richard Wellman<br>Owner-Manager<br>Jerry Haines<br>Co-Owner   |

**JERRY'S**  
**BARBER**  
**SHOP**  
will be closed  
**SATURDAY,**  
**MAY 29**

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE OREGON STATE HIGHWAY DIVISION  
WILL HOLD A PUBLIC MEETING  
TO PRESENT THEIR ANNUAL  
UPDATE OF THE SIX-YEAR CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM  
TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES.

How will the construction program affect you?

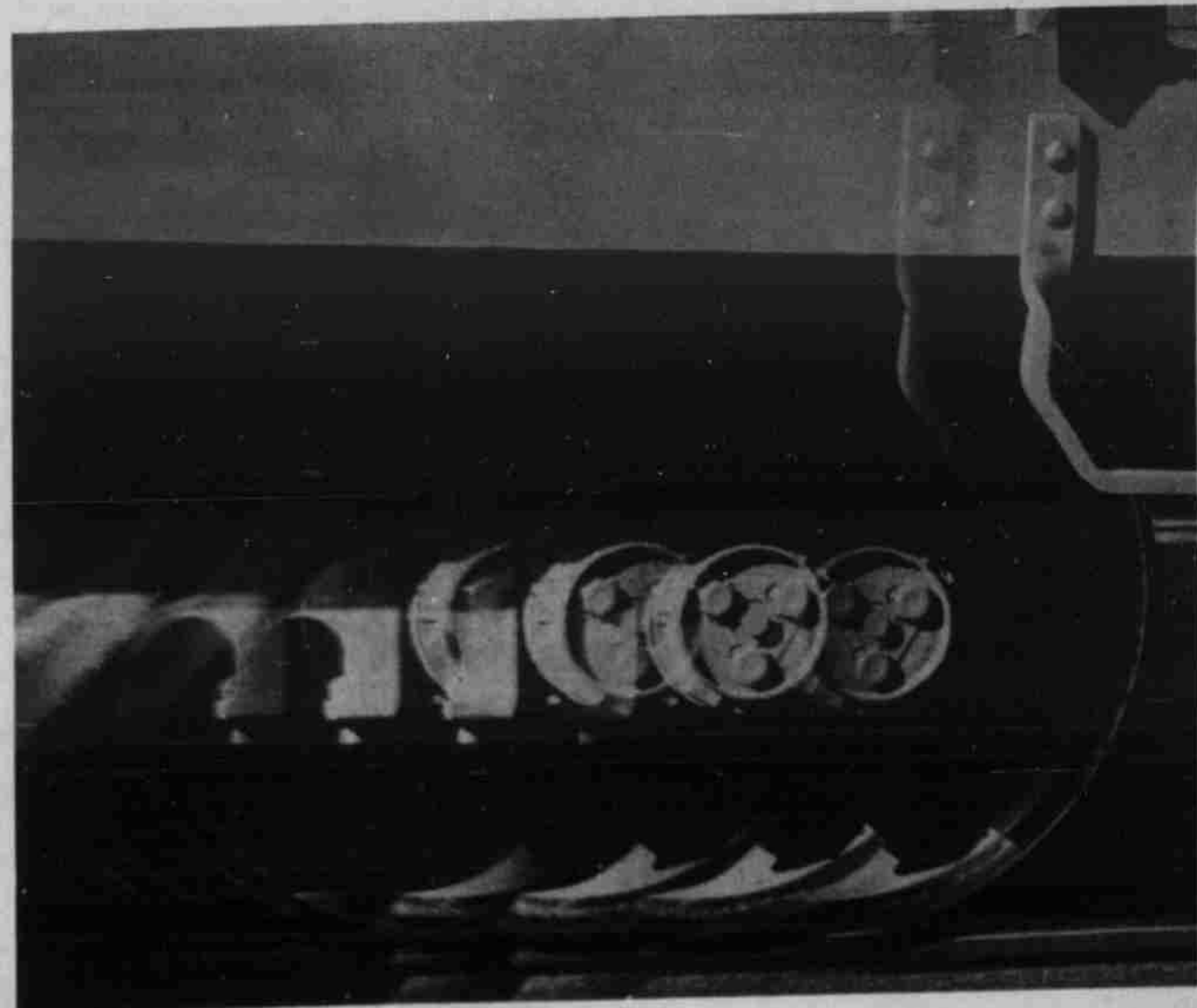
What is your role in the program?

Where are your highway tax dollars going?

ANSWERS TO THESE AND OTHER QUESTIONS  
WILL BE PROVIDED AT THE MEETING.

(PUBLIC INPUT IS SOLICITED)

1:30 PM WEDNESDAY JUNE 2, 1976  
WASCO COUNTY LIBRARY  
THE DALLES, OREGON



**HAMBURGERS**  
**AND WIENERS**  
**MOTOR BOATS**  
**LAWN CHAIRS**

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