



The one room school house, before and after, almost. Left, the school arrives in Heppner one year ago. Right, Terry Campbell adds some paint to the school.



(G-T photo)

## Democrat Gulch school dedication Sunday morn

This Sunday morning, on America's 200th birthday, the dedication of the little, one-room Democrat Gulch School in Heppner's Main Street Park will prove that a good idea and cooperative, contributed efforts can produce a community shrine.

The idea came from Barbara Denslinger Cutsforth who inspired much of the effort on the project put forth by her husband Orville W. Cutsforth. Jim Farley owned the building and offered it to the Cutsforths when they were looking for a little school to restore and exhibit.

The Morrow County Historical Society accepted the responsibility of assisting its parent body, the County Bicentennial Committee in the restoration. The committee asked that representatives of the county, cities, churches, and many organizations assist with the bicentennial effort.

There are several experts on this old school living in this community. The foremost is Mrs. Della Smith Scrivner who taught there, married a former student and whose two sons attended the school located on their grandfather's and father's ranch. Marguerite Glavey of Rhea Creek did some of her early teaching there.

Democrat Gulch School is listed as Morrow County District No. 22. It was its area's new school. Originally the area was a joint district shared by Gilliam and Morrow Counties and was known as the Idea District No. 22 and No. 27. There was also an Idea Post office nearby, many years ago.

Della Scrivner tells, "We gave room and board to Joe Fanger, the carpenter who built that new school all by himself. Part of the lumber and nails used in it came from the old Idea School. I taught at Idea in 1915-16 when I was Della Smith. I was paid \$55 a month. School was only held six months each year. I soon married Lee Scrivner whose father had settled there in 1885 and who had donated the land for the school. There were many families in the area when my husband attended the school. All the school's furnishings were homemade. Four generations of Scrivners lived on the ranch before it was sold to Mr. Farley.

"Lee told me that there were over 50 pupils in the old, larger school. This new school was much smaller as many of the settlers were gone when it was built."

With a twinkle in her eyes she said, "I don't know why it became known as Democrat

Gulch—all the families I remember were Republicans."

Mrs. Scrivner recalls that as a young mother out on the ranch she enjoyed watching her two boys as they walked from their home to the schoolhouse and that she could see the children during the day playing around the school at recess and lunch time.

Most of the teachers had room and board at the Scrivner home. "Boarding the teacher was a privilege and a fine source of additional family income. We got \$20 a month for giving her room and meals, and several families wanted the income—\$20 was so much then."

Parents kept the school in shape, they chopped and hauled the wood to heat it. They took the responsibility for seeing that their children got there and carried adequate lunches. They served on the district school board and hired the teacher. They cleaned and repainted the school during the summer.

Among the citizens who have helped with the restoration of the old school have been Albert and Millie Connor, W.W. Weatherford, Terry Campbell, the members of Ed Heimstra's Heppner High School construction class, Tammy Lucas, Dr. Janet Green and Cathy Green (new residents of Heppner). Two O.W. Cutsforth sons, Pat and Fritz and Ron Haguewood contributed the paint for the restoration.

Farmer-Judge Oscar Peterson paid for the shingles that were put up by the shop class.

Amanda Duvall is paying for the cement block foundation which was partly the result of physical effort by O.W. Cutsforth. Many citizens are considering donating or loaning furnishings. Several persons have made cash contributions.

Terry Campbell's efforts deserve special mention. He stopped some of the early vandalism of the property and rescued early school records and charts from the little attic before they were all completely destroyed. Mrs. Harnett is guarding them very carefully in the museum at present. Terry has also been one of the dedicated few who gave time and effort to the painting of the exterior of the school.

The careful observers of early schools declare that in this part of Oregon they were always white. The "Little Red Schoolhouse" was immortalized by citizens of some other area. Therefore, Heppner's Democrat Gulch School was repainted in its original white during the hot days preceding the Fourth-of-July dedication.

### Monday legal holiday

Monday, July 5, is the legal holiday for Oregon's 1976 Bicentennial 4th of July. Federal, state and county offices will be closed. Also all banks, retail stores and the post office will not be open for business.

### Morrow, Gilliam & Wheeler

## Area lacking doctors

The tri-county area of Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler has received the designation of a Critical Health Manpower Shortage Area for Dentist this past week from the National Health Service Corps in Washington, D.C.

This designation was requested by the Tri-County Health Services Commission on behalf of the counties so as to make the area eligible to apply for federal assistance in the recruitment and placement of additional dentists in

the counties.

The Director of the Tri-County Health Services Commission explained that now that designation has been received, the necessary applications will be forwarded to the Seattle Region office of Health, Education and Welfare,

who will review the application and make the official grant award. Preliminary plans call for the location of one additional dentist in Heppner, initially, with other areas yet to be fully evaluated.



# One payment puts any Valley Center Pivot on your farm today.

## You don't make another payment until Dec., 1977.

### Act now! Drought-proof your farm.

Valmont's new summer program makes it easy for you to have the extra benefits of high quality Valley Center Pivots. The facts are simple. One, single, equal rental payment on a ten-year lease is all you need. After that you don't make another payment until December, 1977.

You must act before August 15, 1976. Choose any Valley—revolutionary Corner System, and Electric or Water Drive. You can include pump, power unit, lead-in, freight, installation, and insurance. It's a ten year lease program at new competitive rates. See your Valley Dealer.

## HOLLAND DREVES REILLY, INC.

1300 City National Bank Bldg.

Omaha, Nebraska 68102

### Sign Up For

## SWIM LESSONS



Beginners

Pre-school water awareness

Advanced Beginners

Intermediate

Junior Lifesaving

(Requirements are 11 yrs of age and pass competency test)

To sign up during pool hours: 2-5 or 7-9 Tues. thru Fri., Sat. & Sun. 1-5

\$2.50 for each class

First Sessions Begins: July 6-9—13-16

HEPPNER SWIMMING POOL

# Sidewalk Bazaar Fri. July 9