

# Morrow County school board

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ty available to the city. As far as cost goes, "we are at your mercy," expressed Thompson.

Located on the southeast side of the intersection of Columbia Boulevard and Main Street, the corner is needed by the city to create a free right-hand turn for traffic going into the Port of Morrow industrial park. During harvest season, when 700 to 800 produce trucks must use that route to reach the processing plants, the present corner presents an extremely difficult and hazardous situation.

Boardman was also asking for a section of land along Columbia Boulevard (on Riverside property) to build a 12-by-12 foot above ground lift station. That site was necessary to correctly hook up with the pipes running from the new water system. School board members granted Boardman easement on the property requested with a sale amount to be decided later.

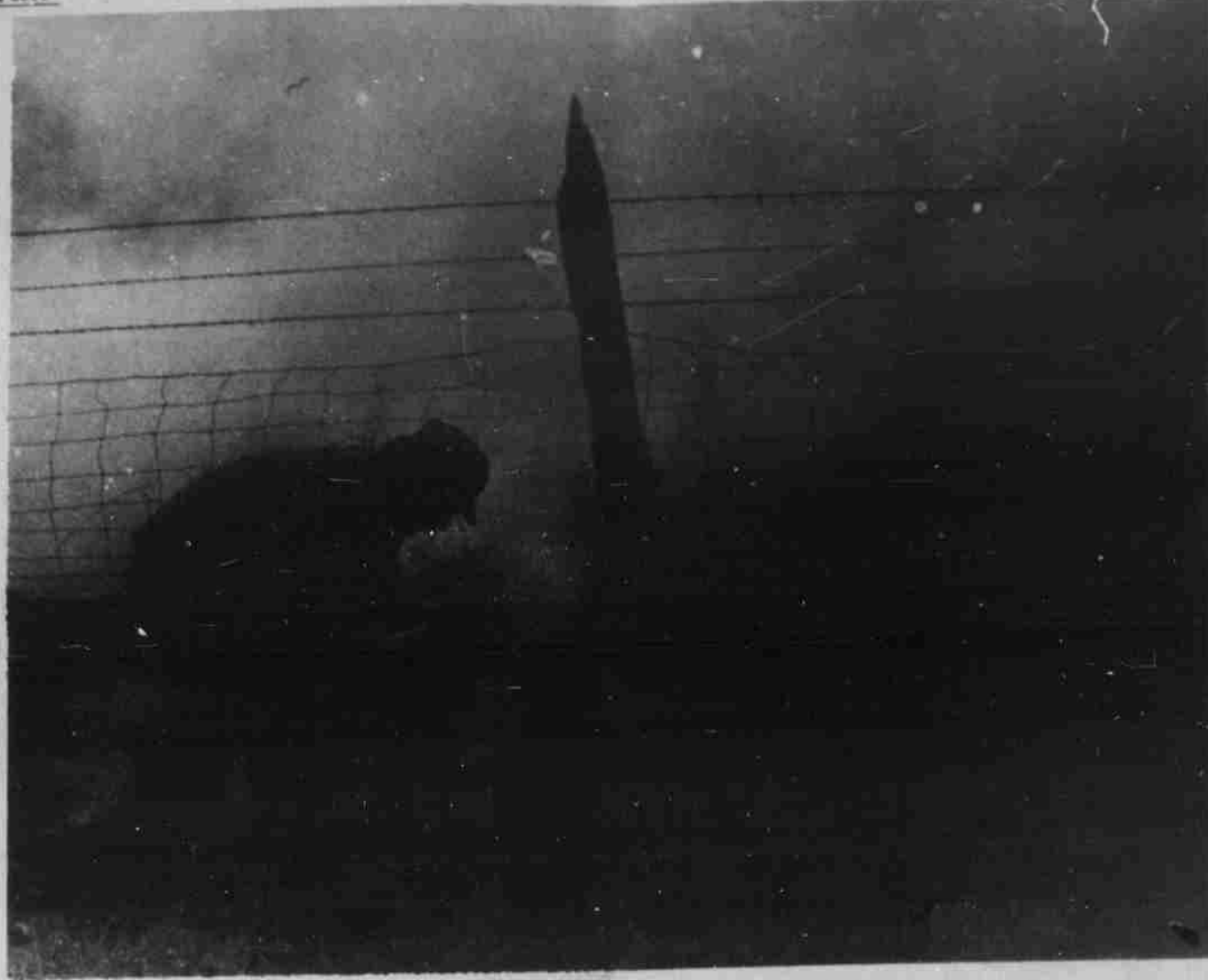
Riverside Principal Dan Daltoso brought a land matter

to the board's attention. The Hansen project, being constructed east of Boardman, requested earlier to use a section of school property for piling dirt. A license permit to use the property for 60 days was issued. The time has elapsed and still the developers have done nothing to replace the cover of the area as was in the agreement.

Daltoso said he had called Hansen twice but so far nothing had been done. Bob Abrams, school district attorney, said, "They should reseed it (the site). They had said they weren't going to bother our land." The Hansen developers will be contacted by the school district again concerning the matter.

In other action, the board:

- Accepted the resignation of Margaret Rockwood, Riverside English, speech, drama and art instructor who was forced to leave for personal reasons;
- Extended Doherty's contract for one year with a provision for renewal.



A lone fireman works on grass fire near Hinton Creek last week. Blaze whipped across grassy hillside (G-T Photo)

# Boardman water system eyes May completion date

Every few days, Boardman City Manger Jim Thompson takes a quick trip out to look at his city's infant water system. To be completed in May, the water system has been under construction since July 1974.

The present water system pumps 845 gallons of water per minute. Its sibling system will be bettering that total with 6,100 gallons per minute. The Ranney Collector (water chamber) sunk 52 feet into the bank of the Columbia River sends out eight fingers underneath the river bed, taking in water that will be pumped through three pipes leading from the collector into the chlorination chamber on the north side of Columbia Boulevard.

A 34-by-68 foot slab of cement, that will support the

chamber, was completed last week "thanks to those two weeks of good weather we had," said Thompson. The braces for the cement walls are presently being erected.

A.J. Zinda Corp. of Portland was contracted to do the work. Project foreman Truman Hogland had nothing adverse to say about the progress being made.

Water pumped into the chlorination chamber will remain there for purification up to an hour before being pumped into a pipe that will "T" at Columbia Boulevard. At that point, water will go east into the Port of Morrow processing park and west into the city of Boardman.

"This water system," said Thompson, "will solve our water problems up until a population of 4,000." Present population is about 800.

# Special Christmas worship slated

Tonight, Thursday, Dec. 23, there will be a special Christmas worship service at the United Methodist Church at 8 p.m.

The adult choir, directed by Arnie Hedman, will present two numbers, and Pastor Steve Tollefson will direct messages to the children and to the adults.

As an unusual pre-Christmas offering, congregational members will bring their Love Loaves as their contributions to help relieve world hunger.

Between 7 and 8 p.m., everyone is cordially invited to come to the Methodist parsonage for an open house and fellowship with Pastor and Mrs. Tollefson.

This evening is planned for all ages. During the worship service, small children will be cared for as they are each Sunday morning. Everyone is invited to come to this celebration and to thank God for the great gift of his Son.

## Closed early

The Heppner Gazette-Times' doors will close at noon Thursday and won't be open again until Monday, Dec. 27.

The GT will close so that the employees here can enjoy the holiday with their families.

We will also be closed on Dec. 31, next Friday, for New Year's.



Judy Groshen

## winners named

Nine Heppner women won the Heppner area merchant's Christmas Shopping Spree gift certificate this week.

Judy Groshen was the top winner, bagging the \$50 top prize. Twenty-five dollar winners were Ginger Keithley and Jackie Alstott. Ten dollar winners were Gladys Alderman, Susan Hiesler, Bobbie Clow, Martha Van Schoiack, Lois Winchester and Linda Lucas.

# Past rekindled by holidays

Christmas and wintertime for students of the 1920's hold fond memories for alumni of Irrigon School, renamed A.C. Houghton in 1952.

"We always had a community tree and a big school program with kids singing and saying pieces and somebody playing Santa Claus," said Max Jones, who attended the school built in 1921.

"I remember the first tree with candles and strings of popcorn and paper chains. There were a few glass birds

that someone would bring and a silver star on top," recalled Jones.

Few people had the opportunity to go up into the mountains and cut their own tree and buying one in the stores was unheard of so the community tree was a common part of early families' Christmas celebration.

"It's a wonder to me those trees lit' up with candles didn't ever burn the town down," said Bette Rand who also attended the school. "The

weather was different then too. We'd usually get some snow 12 to 16 inches around or after Christmas. There was the Oregon Land and Water Co. They had a sleigh they would hitch up to a team of horses and would drive around town picking up kids. We would drive around singing carols. Those were good times."

Those cold winter school mornings are well remembered by Verdie (Leach) Isom. Now a retired A.C. Houghton

cook, she witnessed the arrival of the first hot lunch program at Irrigon School. "One morning was so cold that when we got to school the principal got out the cocoa and made hot chocolate for us to warm up on. Later we started making soup and pretty soon we had a hot lunch program all set up."

Living with her grandmother in Irrigon after the death of her mother, Verdie Isom would wait anxiously for the arrival of her brothers on the train for the Christmas holiday. "They lived with my father in the hills. They would come with big sacks of oranges and nuts that my father would send. That was a real treat for us in those days. Fresh fruit in the winter was

hard to come by."

Coming by hard candy and other Christmas goodies was another special holiday treat for children of Christmas gone by. Toys were given to many children only at Christmas and they would have to guard against loss and damage for new ones would not come for another year.

Christmas depression, a state often experienced by present day post holiday celebrants, was not a common thing with the 1920's set. "We had our games and new toys and spent the rest of the day and winter enjoying 'em," Mrs. Isom said.

Christmas gifts for Mrs. Isom may have been similar to those of many little girls, a box of stationary, card games and a doll.

# City survey tallied

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What kind of housing is most needed in town? 43 said yes, 31 said no. 27 said homes to buy from \$20,000-\$30,000; 27 said homes to buy under \$20,000 and 21 said apartments.

Should the city acquire more land for parks and recreation facilities? 34 said no, 15 said yes.

In what city do you buy most of the following? For all categories Heppner was the overwhelming choice among Lexington-Ione, Hermiston, Pendleton or others for clothes, gasoline, groceries, furniture, hardware and building supplies and automobiles.

Of the responders, 26 said they'd lived in the Heppner area over 20 years and 51 of 61 said they planned to live here indefinitely.

What is the present primary occupation of the head of the household? The largest

response was professional-managerial.

Is additional growth of the city desirable? 35 of 58 said yes. In what direction do you think the city of Heppner may grow? 32 said high school area, 25 said highway 74 of Hinton Creek and 23 said between Heppner and the mill.

Would you support additional city expenditures for services? 29 said yes, 28 said no. Recognizing that small acreages may create more demand for local services, what do you feel is the minimum desirable acreages for land parceling outside the city? 33 of 50 said 1-5 acres.

27 of 40 said both Heppner and the county should consider collecting a development fee at the time land is subdivided to help cover the increased cost of services. Is there a need to provide additional control of horses, cattle, in the town? 30 said yes, 27 said no.

Are there any buildings in the city of Heppner which you consider to be of historical importance which should be preserved as landmarks? 30 said yes, 14 no. Listed were courthouse, Gilliam S. Bisbee building, Methodist Church, Hoskins Barn, Thomson Brothers Store, others. Should there be any change in the present 25 mile an hour speed limit through Heppner? 52 said no, 9 said yes. Would you support regional bus service if provided? 28 said no, 24 yes.

The survey results in entirety for Irrigon, Heppner and Lexington are available at the respective towns.

There are many things from which I might have derived good, by which I have not profited...Christmas among them. But I am sure that I have always thought of Christmas time, apart from the veneration due its sacred name and origin, if anything belonging to it can be apart from that...as a good time, a kind of forgiving charitable pleasant time, the only time I know of in the long calender year when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely. And therefore, though it has never put a scrap of gold or silver in my pocket, it has done me good and will do me good, and I say 'God Bless It'.

Reply to Scrooge by Charles Dickens

# Police gain funds

The police department has received \$500 of the \$2,360 antirecessionary check the city of Heppner received three weeks ago.

By a resolution, the supplemental budget of \$2,360 was approved and the \$500 appropriated.

Gilman cited a need for a money for unexpected overtime during the rodeo and also paying officers double on holidays. He said he thought the \$500 would cover the extra expenses barring any unforeseen problems.

The city still has \$1,860 that is still sitting in the general fund under "materials and supplies."

Ray Boyce, at his final council meeting, urged the

council to consider rewiring the city shop area and to check the fire extinguishers to help insure a good fire insurance program for the city.

Sweeney told Boyce that the council and city "appreciate your services for the last four years. It's pretty hard to find somebody to serve on a council in a small town," Sweeney said.

Boyce praised the city employees, telling the council they were "real fortunate to have the people they have employed." Boyce also thanked the council for being able to serve with them.

Boyce is leaving the council, but was elected president Monday of the Chamber of Commerce.



Fifth grades Heppner sang Christmas carols to Chamber of Commerce Monday. John Dawson is director.