

AROUND ABOUT

By Justine Weatherford

Seems like the weather is still a top subject for conversation. It was quite disturbing to learn that our state may be facing drought conditions when spring and summer arrive—except for the Blue Mountain sector which is rated as the only area with a "normal" accumulation of fall and winter snow. That sounds lucky for us.

During recent sub-freezing weeks many calves have been born and dropped the on the icy and crusty snow. How busy ranch families have been trying to be helpful and to protect the babies from freezing. This has meant, of course, twenty-four-hour duty. Surely the warming trend which began last Saturday should please the cattle people...along with the rest of us. We all hope it continues.

As usual, I purchased a Farmers' Almanac some months ago, and as usual I have not read it regularly. However, I note that it includes these predictions for our west in February. "First to third—clearing time. Clearing over plains states to the Pacific Coast. Fourth to seventh—stormy time. Severe storms in Rocky Mountain states, stormy from California eastward. Eighth to eleventh—cold spell. Fair but cold plain states and westward. Twelfth to fifteenth—unsettled time. Showers in Washington and Oregon." So, let's see how good its predictions are!

Along with much coverage in various periodicals, the coming total eclipse of the sun has considerable coverage in the almanac. It is said that there won't be another such eclipse near us until the year 2068. The last similar spectacular was in 1918.

The Almanac states, "The path of totality begins in Greenland and passes through northern Quebec then a little north of the Great Lakes area and into northwestern United States and out into the Pacific along the coast of Washington. In many areas of North America it will be visible as a partial eclipse."

"This eclipse should be a spectacular sight in the morning in Ontario, Manitoba, Montana and Oregon and Washington." (They forgot to mention part of Idaho and a corner of Saskatchewan and of North Dakota.)

The phenomenon will begin in Morrow County about 7:15 a.m. on Monday morning, Feb. 26. By 8:17, after getting progressively darker, the sun will be totally eclipsed and only a ring of fiery light, called a corona, will be visible around the edge of the moon. The total eclipse will last about two and one-half minutes, and then the sun will begin peeking out from behind the moon. By 9:30 a.m. there will be no

noticeable effects. Meteorologists say that they' cannot promise clear skies for the viewing.

Just what may we expect might happen here during this eclipse? To quote Meteorologist Randy Halvert of the National Weather Service at the Pendleton Airport, "There should be a few degrees drop in temperature and maybe the wind will pick up a few miles an hour. It'll be just like night, except that it will be like a bright moon, with a halo around it. Dogs might start barking and some roosters will crow; chickens may go to roost, just like they're getting ready for the night."

It is easy to understand why primitive peoples used to think such a phenomenon foretold the coming of the end of the world. Early astronomers accurately charted coming eclipses.

Modern scientific scholars will be observing and completely recording this eclipse. Many special study groups will be meeting, such as, those scheduled at BMCC and at the Goldendale observatory.

The back cover of the Farmers' Almanac holds some interesting facts about such publications—saying that they date back to Egyptian and Roman days. They were popular in England "and spilled over into the colonies when in 1639 Captain Pierce put out the first American almanac printed in Back Bay, Massachusetts."

Benjamin Franklin's Poor Richard Almanack was undoubtedly the most famous of all. The Farmers' Almanac claims it "has continued publishing for 162 consecutive years."

Before TV brought several daily weather reports into each home, folks probably read their almanacs more frequently than they do now. The bottom lines on the back cover of this year's 96 page booklet proclaim: that it "is a must for the family bookshelf each year."

Too many of our fine citizens have been hospitalized recently. One whose plight surely has the entire community very concerned is Dr. Wallace Wolff. It is good to know that he has been having expert care since his heart attack and to know that some of his children are with him in Portland where he was taken by an air ambulance.

Dr. Wolff has always given so much of himself to his fellow men through his professional care, his devotion to educational matters, his involvement in many group activities and his friendly concern for everyone.

We all wish Dr. Wolff a speedy and complete recovery. We need to have him come back here.

Mary Bryant installed as Degree of Honor president

Members of the Degree of Honor Lodge met at the West of Willow for a no-host dinner on Tuesday, Jan. 30, preceeding the installation of new officers.

At 8 p.m. Lodge President Mary Bryant called the meeting of Kate J. Young Lodge, No. 29, to order in the lodge

rooms. She introduced Bea Clausen, Bend, the state director and her traveling companion, Mary Cardle.

Director Clausen coordinated the installation. Ida Farrar, acting as past-president, instructed the new officers in their obligations.

Those installed were: Past-

President, Martha King; President, Mary Bryant; Vice-President, Eleanor Gonty; Second Vice-President, Marie Steagall; Secretary-Treasurer, Alice Soward; Recording Secretary, Marjorie Warden.

Usher, Bernice Nash; Assistant Usher, Shirley Connor; Inner Watch, Edna Bailey; Outer Watch, Freida Majeski; Pianist, Irene Anhorn; Trustees: Alice Soward, one year; Bernice Nash, two years; Mary Bryant, three years.

Martha King was installed as ritual counselor; Esther Bergstrom as color bearer; Shirley Connor as sunshine chairman; Ida Farrar, Martha King and Shirley Connor as auditing committee; Delsie Reed, Ida Farrar, Mildred Connor and Mildred Padberg as the escort staff and Catie Padberg as right assistant to the vice-president.

Shirley Connor presented Mary Bryant with a gift on behalf of her officers. Mary Bryant presented an appreciation gift to Director Clausen and also gave each of her officers a Valentine remembrance. Mrs. Bryant, as the evening's hostess, served assorted cookies, sweets and tea and coffee. It was announced that the next lodge meeting will be Feb. 13, and that Ida Farrar will be the hostess.

March 10 wedding set for Earl Ayers at The Dalles

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Harmon of The Dalles have announced the engagement of their daughter, Nancy, to Earl Ayers, a former Heppner resident, also of the The Dalles.

Miss Harmon is a 1974 graduate of The Dalles High School and attended Eastern

Oregon State College. She is a clerk-secretary for an insurance agency in The Dalles.

Ayers, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl P. Ayers of The Dalles, is a 1968 graduate of Heppner High School. He is parts manager for Ray Schultens Ford in The Dalles.

A March 10 wedding is planned.

Former Heppnerite is recovering from stroke

Ronald Leonnig, formerly of Heppner, has been released from St. Vincent's Hospital after suffering a stroke.

He is now receiving therapy at the Rehabilitation Institute of Oregon in Portland, and is

reported to be making satisfactory progress.

Mr. Leonnig is expected to return to his home in McMinnville in a few weeks. The family wishes to thank friends for their concern and thoughtfulness.

Hear and Their

By Eva Hamlett

Something different will be seen on the streets of Ione in the near future. The City has purchased a 1971 International truck with a garbage compactor from Kinzua Corp. The City Council will meet Tuesday and establish a new policy on garbage disposal, which will be announced later. One change will require everyone to have covered garbage cans, and will do away with burning barrels.

For the United Church of Christ auction on June 2, the women of the church are working on a quilt, which will depict familiar scenes around the area. Anyone wishing to help with the blocks is urged to contact Jean Nelson, Lucille Rietmann or Dianna Hams. Katherine Lindstrom is chairman of the Women's Group.

Ivan, John and Danny Akers have taken over Akers Motor Service from Elby Akers, as of Jan. 1. Besides selling gasoline, they work on automobiles, farm equipment and diesel truck parts and repairing.

The Bunchgrass Rebekah Lodge met last Thursday at the home of Vera Rietmann. Plans were discussed regarding the district convention to be held on March 3 at the Willows Grange Hall, Margaret Akers is District Chairman. A special meeting will be held this Thursday at Vera's for the purpose of installing the officers for the coming year.

A party was held Tuesday afternoon at the home of Debbie and Virgil Morgan in honor of Mildred Morgan's birthday.

Sometime around the first of the year the ranch home on the Jodie Morrison place burned to the ground during the night. I haven't been able to find out any more than that. Irma stays in The Dalles during winter months and was down there at the time.

The weather we are having now is much more pleasant instead of wading in snow, you can wade through water puddles. The creek is being watched day and night. Some

of the businesses downtown have some water seepage, but it is not as bad as expected due to the rapid melting of the snow.

I didn't know until my television set went out that servicemen from Wilcox Furniture in Hermiston come over every Thursday and do repair work. You can call Lott's Electric in Heppner and leave your name, then they will come down.

If you have any news items please call me.

Senior Citizen News...

Yarn needed for craft programs

Persons in charge of the crafts program at the hospital and the ladies' Thursday afternoon craft time at the center are asking that anyone who has extra colored yarns please bring their surplus to the Neighborhood Center. The yarn is being used just now to fashion Eyes of God. Come see these colorful decorations.

Also, if you have been doing some drawer and closet cleaning you may find some cloth that could be used in the quilts that the volunteer ladies are working on. They would be

happy to have more assorted cotton, denim, wool and knit material either cotton or polyester.

Center Director Pat Brindle says that it is still possible to obtain home weatherization help. The center can still get appropriated funds and still has workmen available. Persons whose homes have been weatherized report they have warmer homes and are able to save energy and cut down fuel bills.

Here is another reminder of the Friday, February 9, visit

of the Social Security representative from Pendleton. Also of the important, five-county, Area Agency on Aging meeting which will be held next Tuesday morning at

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EVERY DAY IS SALE DAY IN THE CLASSIFIEDS! THE HEPPER GAZETTE-TIMES

We're Having A Jump Into Spring Sale!!
10% Off On Everything In Store!

- CHAIN SAWS
- GUNS & AMMO
- GARDEN TOOLS
- PLUMBING SUPPLIES
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- LAWNMOWERS
- PANELING & TRIM
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Cash, Visa or Payable 10 Days On Sale Items
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Featuring
Queen For The Night
2 Steak Dinners
Dinner Certificate Given At 11p.m. To The Queen

Early Morning Breakfast
A tasty Breakfast To Top Off An Evening Of Fun!

Regular Sunday Specials
Prime Rib \$6.50
Virginia Style Baked Ham \$4.75

BEECHER'S IONE