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Install one of these insulation blankets on your water heater, and cut down on heat loss. Which means lower electric bills for you.

- ★ Fast Easy To Install
- ★ Fits 52 Gal. Water Heaters
- ★ Saves Year Around

R-5 Rating **1750** R-6 Rating **1950**

**Rietmann's Hardware**  
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**Heppner and the Hamlins--good for each other**



by Justine Weatherford

As Christmas approaches, Hazel and Frank Hamlin are very comfortable in their first-floor, corner apartment. Plucky Hazel just returned home from a hospital session with pneumonia a few days before our visit. She has had each of her legs broken in the last several years. The Hamlins are looking forward to spending Dec. 25 in the home of granddaughter, Judy Buschke, her husband, Delmer, and their three sons, along with Delmer's mother, Grace, who is their across-the-hall apartment neighbor. They are so proud of Judy and her career here, where she is Morrow County executive director of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

As we visited, the couple recalled many interesting Christmases past. During the two periods when they were operating their tavern on Heppner's Main Street (now the Blackhorse) they used to feed anyone who was lonely or hungry on holidays. Super-cook Hazel really worked at

preparing "lots of good food" for their daily luncheon specials and for big holiday smorgasbords.

The Hamlins say "We have only lived in Heppner thirty years, but we have made so many great friends here. We think people here are so thoughtful of one another." It is not strange that many residents repeat those words when telling how generous and thoughtful the Hamlins have been to them through the years.

Their Christmases past have been in many different places. Frank was born in 1896 in Little Falls, Minnesota, and came to Oregon with his parents and five brothers and sisters when he was 10 years old. They settled in Gresham where he went part way through high school before dropping out to help support the family. He became a volunteer with the Gresham Fire Department, helping with the high-wheeled carts before he reached his teens. His first job was driving a team, delivering for a Gresham store, hauling groceries and other supplies to crews building the Mt. Hood Railroad. Next, he worked for the city digging water ditches as Gresham changed from family wells to the Bull Run pipeline system. Frank says "There were 1500 folks in Gresham then; now its population is over 32,000."

Hazel was born just 86 years ago this week in Portland. Both her parents came from Sweden, and she was orphaned about the time she began grade school. Her early school years were spent in the Children's Home in south Portland, but when she was 13 she was adopted by a family named Wright, whose name she used during her years at Washington High. In her earlier marriage Hazel had one son, Royden Herlinger, who is living in Bend with his wife and two children.

A sixty-year veteran, Frank went into the army in 1917 and spent his 21st birthday in France where he served in front-line trenches and stayed on with the Army of Occupation. He returned to Oregon in October 1919 and found work right away with the Warren Construction Co., mostly in Pendleton and Milton-Freewater. He helped with the construction of the original Columbia River Highway. He married a Milton-Freewater girl and their daughter, Maryette, and her husband, Joe Wright, who live in Gresham, are the parents of Joan Grey (Mrs. Dale Grey), a former Heppner nurse and mother of two daughters, now living in North Carolina, and of Judy Buschke. Both of these granddaughters attended school here, graduating from Heppner High, and both were married here.

Hazel and Frank met in Portland in 1930 and were married in Gresham in Sept. 1932, when Frank owned and operated the Gresham Garage. That was during the big depression and business was very slow. Frank sold out and got a government job as a foreman welder in the Panama Canal Zone where they spent several Christmases. After two and one-half years they decided to return to Gresham where Frank took work with the Olympic Manufacturing Co. making plywood from both hard and soft wood which was shipped to England for building aeroplanes which were just beginning to come into their own.

Christmas 1942 found the Hamlins living in Redmond where Frank had the Tri-County Equipment Co. He was the only diesel mechanic in central Oregon for some time. By 1950 he had sold that business and the Hamlins decided to come to Heppner with Maryette and her husband, where the foursome bought the tavern owned by Kyrle Aiker. They operated the tavern under the name Aikens until they sold it, and Frank went into the Barratt Sales Co. with Garnett Barratt for several years. That business was later sold to Howard and Jo Pettyjohn.

The Hamlins had to take the tavern back during the time Frank was with Barratt Sales. He rebuilt the tavern, and he and Hazel operated it very successfully until they sold it to Jim Rogers in 1960. During this period Frank recalls beer by the glass was 10 cents. Hazel's luncheons drew many people. Esther Anderson and Aida Piper helped her by making homemade pies which sold for 15 cents a serving. Hazel's great chili was 25 cents a big bowl and complete lunches were about 75 cents. She prepared a different special dish each day.

Frank was an ardent hunter and fisherman. He devoted part of the tavern to a sales place for hunting and fishing licenses. He also sold guns and ammunition and fishing equipment there. Some years people lined up on the sidewalk waiting to buy their hunting licenses and equipment from Frank.

He so enjoyed hunting for deer and elk with a group of beloved friends, especially Carey Hastings and Vic Lovgren. After their hunts, the jolly group would gather at Hamlin's cabin to re-enjoy their day's adventures.

They made many friends during those years. They remember some of their helpers - Vivian Elder, Gay Papineau, Kay Kononen, Anna Marie Wilson and Charlotte Doherty. They recall that Winn Crist helped them with many things.

During this second period in the tavern, the Hamlins built their home on Hospital Hill above the fairgrounds which now belongs to Jack Van Winkle. They have been living in the Lanham Apartments for about 15 years. Frank worked at Dean Teel's second-hand store for about 10 years, until that business was terminated at Dean's death.

Hazel highly praises the Tri-County Homemaker Service

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**Sheriff's Report**

The Morrow County Sheriff's Dept. at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner handled the following calls during the past week.

On Dec. 9, Dwayne Grissom reported a house fire at the corner of Hill and Green streets in Heppner. The Heppner Fire Dept. responded to the call.

Also on Dec. 9, the Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner was reported to have a fire in the boiler room. The Heppner Fire Dept. responded to the call, but the report proved to be unfounded.

On Dec. 8, Jamalee Curnutt, 210 N. Chase St. Heppner reported that a vehicle had hit a television pole and broke it in half. The Heppner Police Dept. responded to the call.

On Dec. 6, a fire was reported in the kitchen of the Dodge City restaurant in Boardman. The fire was extinguished before the Boardman Fire Dept. arrived.

Also on Dec. 6, a one-vehicle accident was reported on Interstate 84, mile post 161 in the east-bound lane. The driver of the vehicle was Garry Ross Adams of Moses Lake. Ice was determined to be a contributing factor in the accident, says the Sheriff's Dept. No injuries resulted from the accident.

On Dec. 5, Miracle Potato of Boardman reported the theft of a rifle and CB radio from a truck.

**Public Meetings**

Monday, Dec. 22 - Heppner Fire Department, Fire Hall, Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Dec. 24 - The Heppner Public Library Board meeting and the Morrow County Court have been cancelled. The Morrow County Court will meet Tuesday, Dec. 30.

Thursday, Dec. 25 - Christmas Day.

Monday, Dec. 29 - Morrow County Planning Commission, Courthouse, Heppner, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 30 - Morrow County Court, Courthouse, Heppner, 10 a.m.

**Hospital Notes**

The following patients were discharged from Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner over the past week:

Betty Christman, Lexington, admitted Dec. 8, discharged Dec. 11; and

Anna Bergstrom, Ione, admitted Dec. 14, discharged Dec. 15.

Patients still receiving care at the hospital as of Dec. 16 are:

Neoma Bailey, Heppner, admitted Dec. 10;

Jewell Hampton, Heppner, admitted Dec. 14;

Clell Rea, Ione, admitted Dec. 15; and

Zetta Brosnan, Heppner, admitted Dec. 15.

**RECIPE FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY**

Recipe From The Kitchen Of The Morrow County Cowbells

**Ingredients—BEEF GIFT CERTIFICATE**

Need gift ideas for employees and friends? How about letting the Oregon Beef Council give you a helping hand? Beef gift certificates, readily available at all U.S. National Banks, the Bank of Eastern Oregon at Heppner and Ione and Inland Empire Bank at Boardman for \$5.00 and \$10.00, will ease the strain on your pocketbook while giving the Oregon Beef Industry a boost. They are redeemable in beef at any meat department in the United States.

Questions? Contact Mrs. Clista Venard, beef promotion chairman, 676-9163 or 676-9974.

**CHRISTMAS SURPRISES**

**Battery Charger**  
Reg. 48<sup>95</sup> Save 29%  
10-Amp **34<sup>95</sup>**

**Battery Charge, Booster & Tester**  
Reg. 217.34 Savings 52<sup>95</sup> Special **164<sup>95</sup>**  
80-Amp

**Gas Can**  
2 1/2 Gallon  
Reg. 10.25  
Special **6<sup>95</sup>**  
Savings 3.30

**Charger & Booster Heavy-Duty**  
30-Amp  
Reg. 124.95  
Special **89<sup>95</sup>**  
Savings 35.00

**Filter Wrench X-Mas Special**  
Reg. 4<sup>95</sup> **3<sup>29</sup>**

**Oil Spouts**  
~~65c~~  
**59c**

**Hi-Lift Jacks X-Mas Special**  
**34<sup>00</sup>**  
Reg. 36<sup>00</sup>  
Save **2<sup>00</sup>**

**Grease Gun**  
Reg. 6<sup>95</sup>  
X-Mas Special **5<sup>59</sup>**

**2 Flashlights w/ Batteries Package**  
Special **4<sup>59</sup>**

**Fire Extinguisher**  
Reg. 42.00 Special **34<sup>95</sup>**  
Save 7.05 Save 17%

**Morrow County Grain Growers, Inc.**  
Lexington 989-8221

**Christmas OPEN HOUSE**

The Staff & Management  
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO STOP  
IN TUESDAY, DEC. 23 BETWEEN  
10 A.M.—5 P.M.....  
Coffee and Christmas Cookies  
SERVED ALL DAY!!

**FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF OREGON**  
HEPPNER BRANCH