

Sifting through the TIMES

With Justine Weatherford

FIFTY YEARS AGO
Morrow farmers eligible for loans; county named one of nine in Oregon included in drought area. Statements of the secretary of agriculture are that farmers in this area as well as in eight other counties—Wasco, Jefferson, Sherman, Gilliam, Wheeler, Umatilla, Wallowa, Union and Baker—will receive financial aid from the \$45,000,000 emergency fund appropriated by Congress recently.

The play "Tea Toper Tavern" will be presented by the Young People's Fellowship of the Episcopal Church in the high school auditorium next week. Those who will take part in this clever and entertaining play are: Mary McDuffee, Francis White, Anne Crump, Mary White, Frances Nickerson, June Anderson, Alva McDuffee, Ted McMurdo, Gay Anderson, Harry Wells, Theodore Thomson, Claude Hill, Adele Nickerson and Ella Fell.

Special Clean-up Day coming Monday. Those winter accumulations of junk, garbage, ashes, etc., are expected to be awaiting the city trucks at the street curbs in proper containers bright and early next Monday morning. Mayor McCarty desires that everyone make a special effort to rid his premises of rubbish by that day.

C.W. Smith, county unemployment relief director, also requests that possible jobs in connection with the clean-up be given to men needing the work. A phone call to his office

will receive prompt response. No extra charge will be made property holders for hauling the rubbish away.

David A. Wilson and John Farley left Tuesday morning for John Day where they are opening a men's clothing store to be operated by Mr. Farley. Mr. Wilson, who conducts a similar establishment under his name in Heppner, decided to open an additional store at John Day after thorough investigation, believing the future to be bright for such a venture in the Grant County city. Mr. Farley has become well acquainted with the business through several years connection with the Heppner store and Mr. Wilson is giving him management of the new store in recognition of his ability.

A summary of the 1930 fire season indicates it was the worst season ever experienced in the national forests of Washington and Oregon as to the number of fires. There were 1989 fires, of which 1248 were caused by lightning. The Umatilla forest led all the rest in numbers, having 151 fires, 98 of which were lightning caused and 53 were caused by human carelessness.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO
Clear skies and a bright sun this week did practically nothing towards warming up a well-frozen Morrow County which has shivered for the past three days under temperatures that have dropped as low as eight degrees below zero in Heppner and even lower in other nearby areas.

Elmo E. Smith, John Day newspaper publisher, succeeded to the office of governor of Oregon Wednesday morning, following the sudden death Tuesday night of Governor Paul L. Patterson. Governor Patterson's death occurred at 9:50 Tuesday night at the Arlington Club in Portland where he was conferring with associates about his campaign for United States

senator. Only three days before he had announced that he would run for the senate seat now held by Wayne Morse.

With the filing deadline only a little more than 30 days off, several aspirants for county offices this week indicated that they intended to run for election or re-election. First to announce her candidacy was Mrs. Fred (Sadie) Parrish who declared her intention to file as a Republican candidate for county clerk. Mrs. Parrish is deputy in the office under clerk Bruce Lindsay and has served there since 1948. For several months during the illness and death of former clerk Charles Barlow, Mrs. Parrish served as acting clerk by appointment of the county court. Lindsay, a Democrat, was elected to the office in 1954 to fill Barlow's unexpired term. He also announced late Wednesday that he will run again for his present office.

Other county officials who indicated this week that they will file for re-election in the near future are C.J.D. Bauman, sheriff, and Mrs. Carl (Sylvia) McDaniel, treasurer. Bauman has held the sheriff's post for many years, and Mrs. McDaniel was appointed treasurer last May following the resignation of Mrs. Lucy Rodgers.

FIVE YEARS AGO
The proposed Arctic Gas Transmission Pipeline will be larger than the oil line in both length and cost." Ross Woodward of Pacific Gas Transmission Co. told the Chamber of Commerce. It will begin at Prudhoe, Alaska, and continue to Calgary, picking up the gas at the MacKenzie Delta, and then will split at Calgary with mains going to California and to the East Coast.

It is estimated the 6,000 miles of gas transmission line will cost \$9 billion when completed. Its proposed route through Oregon will follow the existing oil pipeline and will be in the same right-of-way. Morrow County achieved the lowest unemployment rate of any Oregon county during December 1975.

Population Research and Census Center at Portland State University released 1975 population estimates for Oregon's 36 counties and 240 incorporated cities showing these figures: Morrow County, 5190; Boardman, 695; Heppner, 1,600; Ione, 405; Irrigon, 370; Lexington, 245. The ninety year old Swinburne-Gilliam house will soon be destroyed when it is used a

training exercise by the Heppner Fire Department. Its present owners are Howard Cleveland and Milo Prindle.

Robert Henry, Jr., Heppner High student, received a letter from U.S. Representative Al Ullman confirming the heroism of his grandfather, Jeff King a Navajo scout during the Apache Wars. Ullman wrote to Robert giving the location of the scout's grave in Arlington National Cemetery.

Oregon Farm Bureau Federation President Waldron John has wired President Ford asking that a moratorium be imposed on fee increases on federal grazing lands until the grazing fee formula is investigated by Congress.

McCoy gets probation

from the Oregonian, Saturday, Jan. 31

Morrow County Commissioner Warren H. McCoy was placed on probation for one year Friday after pleading no contest to a charge of disorderly conduct in connection with his citation earlier this month on an accusation of prostitution.

McCoy, 59, was one of 13 men charged in a Portland Police Bureau "decoy" prostitution operation. McCoy's disorderly conduct plea was entered before Multnomah County District Judge Linda Bergman, who imposed the probation.

Deputy District Attorney Jane Angus, who is in charge of district court cases, said a reduction of such a charge from prostitution to disorderly conduct was routine.

"He has been treated the same as anyone else," Ms. Angus said of McCoy.

The decoy operation was set up in the area of Southeast Third Avenue and Salmon Street in response to citizen complaints about streetwalkers.

"Everybody has moments of weakness or stupidity," McCoy said in an interview after his citation. But he said his arrest "bordered on entrapment."

Burger feed for teenagers Sat.

Junior and senior high youth are invited to a hamburger feed at the First Christian Church, 293 N. Gale, in Heppner this Saturday at 6 p.m., the Rev. Don Shelton announced.

All interested teenagers in grades seven through 12 are invited for hamburgers, games, and fellowship. There will also be time for input on the church youth program, says the Rev. Shelton.

AROUND ABOUT

with Justine Weatherford

Herb and Norma Bessey, rather new residents, are surely aware that Valentine's Day is coming and are doing their bit to remind folks who travel between Heppner and Lexington after dark with the lovely red-lighted heart in the window of their mobile home north of Kinzua Hill. Norma said that she had some trouble buying red Christmas bulbs when she wanted to put up the heart—seems that many stores discontinued carrying such a seasonal item after the holidays ended.

If you use prepared breakfast cereal at your house, maybe you better be watching the boxtop offers these days. Many years ago I recall sending for exciting rings and things for my children, then I stopped mailing in box tops for years. Just recently I have noted a few interesting offers again.

Soon I shall mail two boxtops to a seed company for a current offering that should appeal to many adults who may wish to make a great saving on seed packets or garden tools. It is hard to choose what to buy with the two boxtops I'm holding, but I believe I shall select seven packets of 1981 flower seeds, a value of \$4.95, for my coupons plus \$1. I could ask for vegetable, salad or herb seed collections or could invest in one of four different groups of garden tools.

A second cereal box offer that intrigues me is for "free athletic equipment for your school." This week when I go to Heppner Elementary School I intend to take the proof-of-purchase seals I have saved to see if the school is doing anything about collecting these.

Just now I am spending four hours each week at the elementary school where, along with a nice assortment of other interested folks, I am attending the Monday and Wednesday afternoon class on Sign Language offered by Blue Mountain Community College and taught by our county speech pathologist, Carol Faith. A competent, lively and charming teacher, Faith has, so far, covered the American sign language alphabet and has the class moving quickly through a system of signs which I hope to understand soon. I shall probably not become very proficient in talking with my hands, but I hope that I may be able to "read" signs others give. Both skills could be valuable sometime.

My good encyclopedia tells me that primitive peoples used systems of hand signs in order to communicate. Early monks who took vows of silence used sign language. Some South American Indians still use sign language to communicate with tribes who speak a different language.

The first school for the deaf was founded in Paris in 1760. Deaf persons use as many as 1,500 signs, as well as finger spelling. Sign language is also used in sports by referees signaling penalties.

Because I have no children or grandchildren in school here and no "live-in" student with me this year, I have not been keeping up with changes in our schools. Last Wednesday when I was a little early for Miss Faith's class, I strolled into art, crafts and woodworking teacher Ron Forrar's shop and classroom that occupies the building near the junior high in which my husband taught welding classes some years back. That used to be a dark, poorly lit, dirty, most uninviting spot. It is now a great area, well lighted, well organized, most attractive and effective.

Teacher Forrar seemed pleased to have me visit. School was over for the day but several students were lingering there. Mr. Forrar told me he had planned the completely new arrangements that have transformed the area. He has also made some significant changes at the high school in the area below the main floor where he teaches woodshop.

Being a sort of perpetual student, I have always thought that a small or middle-size college town is the choicest place to live. I enjoyed my years in Corvallis and attended many adult classes there. Now I admire Cheney, Wash., near which my daughter, Ann, and family have made their home. Since BMCC has been offering extension classes here in Heppner I have enjoyed attending quite a few. Lois Hunt's Beginning Bridge class on Monday evening's at Lexington has been most delightful this fall and winter. I've never taken time to learn about bridge before and don't expect to become very adept now, but I do hope to understand a little about this fascinating game that challenges and amuses so many persons around the world. If the variety of BMCC classes can continue here, I am quite satisfied to stay here and to have the privilege and joy of classwork right here in south Morrow.

These recent months I have wished that the U.S. Post Office had some kind of coupon offer for stamps. Seems like December and January have been very heavy stamp-using

times for me. I am greatly enjoying receiving letters from friends and family almost every day.

One letter I want to share with readers came from former G-T publishers Dorothy and Charlie Heard from their retirement home on lovely Peach Island. Everyone who lived in south Morrow during the Heard years got to know them and to feel their warm friendship.

Dorothy's two typed pages, with a postscript added from Charlie, tell that they are both well and having a busy retirement at Milton-Freewater. They read this paper each week. Since they left here they have made two trips to Europe and travel around the U.S. frequently. Dorothy writes, "We are not going to Yuba this winter...we hope to go to Vashon Island in April. We are having improvements made on our home, and I am taking some sewing instructions from a former Mac Hi home ec. teacher."

Both Heards keep exercising, partly by splitting logs for their fireplace where they "burn lots of wood because we have a fire in the fireplace nearly all day." Dorothy is busily occupied as chairman of blood drawings for the Red Cross and with Republican Women, Garden Club and St. James Church and guild, but "I really have cut out a lot of club meetings and am spending more time with Charlie."

Charlie has four horses in the barn that adjoins their home. "He turns them out to pasture and puts them in at night...one mare is pregnant, so we are looking forward to the arrival of her colt this summer." The Heards continue to enjoy cultural things that nearby Whitman and Walla Walla Colleges provide and where "senior citizens get a break"—student prices often and sometimes free.

The letter ends with District No. 10 past-president Dorothy saying she hopes that many from Morrow will come to Milton-Freewater for the spring Garden Club's District meeting in April.

A not-so-happy letter from Imperial Beach, Calif., from daughter-in-law, Teresa, bemoans the terrible rise in electricity costs there. Costs have gone up 200 percent, and she says she is not going to use her electric clothes dryer anymore.

A letter from Irene (McClintock) Dalzell, came from the Dalles telling about McClintocks and Dalzells who have lived in this county—information we will be sure gets into the county museum family files.

Isn't it great to have February started with sunshine here? The lingering snow and the lovely blue skies should brighten everyone's perspective.

Area FFA leaders to compete at BMCC Feb. 4

More than 150 students from eight area high schools will seek awards in the Leadership Skills competition at Blue Mountain Community College in Pendleton February 4. The students represent the top Future Farmers of America members from the Blue Mountain District. They will be judged in five categories for district awards and the right to compete in divisional competition.

Schools sending FFA teams will be Pendleton, Condon, Heppner, Hermiston, Mc Loughlin, Riverside, Weston-McEwen and Umatilla.

Paul Davis, BMCC Agriculture Program coordinator, said, "This competition is designed to develop leadership qualities in young people, whether their future lies in agriculture or some other endeavor."

In the first event, teams will compete in parliamentary procedure being challenged on

their knowledge and skill. Advanced competition is at 9:15 a.m. and "green hand" at 11 a.m.

At noon will be the competition for FFA Creed Speaking. The public speaking will begin at 12:30 p.m., with competitors giving prepared speeches. At 2 p.m., it will be extemporaneous speaking with students getting 20 minutes to prepare a speech on a topic.

Judges for the first three events will include FFA advisors from the Eastern Oregon District, BMCC staff and area agricultural experts will be judging the speaking events.

The awards ceremony will begin at 3:30 p.m. with prizes going to the top three in each division and selection to divisional competition.

The entire competition is a project of the BMCC Agricultural Department and its students.

McCurdy retires from Umatilla Forest position.

Ralph E. "Mac" McCurdy has retired from the Umatilla National Forest office in Pendleton. He has served in the fire staff position here since 1974.

McCurdy retires after more than 33 years of government service, four years of which were in the U.S. Air Force from 1941-1945. His Forest

Service career began on a seasonal basis in 1949 on the Sitgreaves National Forest in Arizona.

After receiving his forestry degree from the University of Maine in 1949 McCurdy received a permanent appointment in 1951 as a forester on the Willamette National Forest.

Other assignments on the Willamette National Forest included, timber management assistant on the Oakridge Ranger District, and district ranger of the Salt Creek, Mill City, and Lowell Ranger Districts. A successor for the fire staff position in Pendleton has not yet been selected.




* **STUDENT OF THE WEEK** *
* **DOUG HOLLAND** *

Doug is a member of Outdoor Club, H-Club and the Annual Staff. He recently performed in a drama production and would like to continue activity in drama. He is a varsity member of football, basketball and the baseball teams; and maintains a 3.00 grade point average.

Doug would like to follow in his father's footsteps and become a secondary history and physical education teacher. The son of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Holland, Doug is a sensitive and sincere young man. He has a high set of moral values and contributes a great deal to the Heppner High Student Body.

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* **GUARDS** *
