

# The Heppner GAZETTE-TIMES

Morrow County's Home-Owned Weekly Newspaper

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## Ione class of '31 holds 50th reunion



Left to right on the floor: Louis Buschke and Norman Nelson. Front row, left to right: John Eubanks, Geneva Palmer, Gladys Armington, Veda Brenner, Helen Martin, Margaret Morgan, and Milton Morgan. Left to right in the back row are: Ordie Farrrens, Barton Clark, Irvin Ritchie, Virgil Esteb, George E. Tucker, principal and Norman E. Swanson.

Members of the graduating class of 1931 of Ione High School met for a 50th anniversary on Sunday September 20 at the Willows Grange Hall in Ione.

They viewed pictures and mementoes of their high school days and talked of amusing incidents they could recall. Following a turkey dinner prepared by ladies of the Grange, the group greeted

friends of the community. Those at the tea table were Gladys Armington serving coffee, Veda Brenner and Beth Clark serving punch and Helen Martin serving cake.

Special guests attending were Mr. and Mrs. George Tucker of Spokane, Wash. He was the principal during the students high school years.

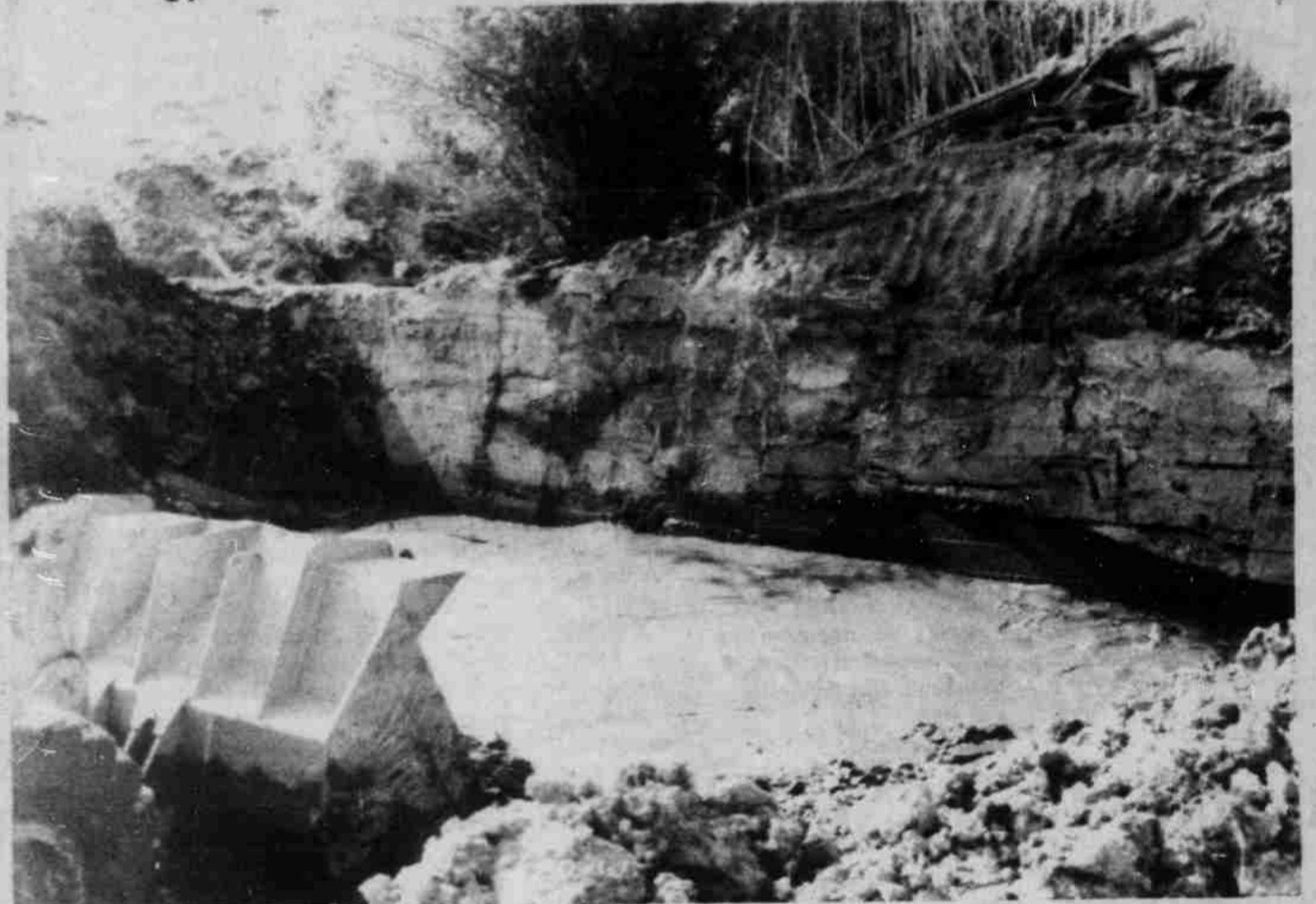
All fourteen living members of the class of nineteen were present. Class members and

spouses attending were: Gladys (Brashers) Armington of Hollywood, Calif., Veda (Eubanks) Brenner, Madras, Ore., Orlow and Helen (Smouse) Martin of Moro, Ore., Irvin Ritchie of Milwaukie, Ore., Norman Swanson of Portland, Ore., Ordie Farrrens of Caldwell, Ida, and Virgil Esteb of San Diego, Calif. Those from the immediate area were Barton and

Beth (Wright) Clark, Geneva (Pettyjohn) Palmer, Milton and Margaret (Crawford) Morgan, John and Mildred (Morgan) Eubanks, Louis Buschke, and Norman and Jean Nelson.

A moment of silence was held for former class members Ralph Mason, Dorr Mason, Frances Troedson, Earl McCabe and Grant Conway.

## Old dam unearthed on Willow Creek - origin remains a mystery



New dam project uncovers old dam structure

Mystery still surrounds the unearthing of an old cement dam near the edge of town last week, as oldtimers in the area try to track down the origin and purpose of the 90-year-old structure.

Uncovered last Thursday by construction workers on the new \$45 million Corp of Engineers Willow Creek Dam project, the old dam has produced conflicting stories as to its purpose.

About ten feet high and forty feet long, the dam is located just east of town near Willow Creek Road.

One story circulating about the dam has a J.W. Cowin building the structure to divert water into ponds. The water was frozen and used in an ice house and soda pop factory

Cowin owned in the area.

Another explanation has the dam being used to gather water for use by the old Heppner electrical generating plant, which was located at the site of the present Heppner swimming pool.

Whatever its purpose, museum records say the dam was apparently built in 1891, and then covered over with silt and debris during the big Heppner flood of 1903.

Many of the people who could have known about the dam have died, therefore its discovery last week was something of a surprise.

Oldtimers in the area have been working since its discovery to track down facts about its construction and use.

## Voter turn out low in election

Sixteen percent of Morrow County's registered voters went to the polls last Tuesday, Sept. 15. On the ballot was a

one year, \$525,000 road levy to be used for repair and maintenance of county roads. The levy passed. Following is a breakdown of the election

returns: Boardman - 57 yes, 44 no; Heppner-Hardman - 130 yes, 155 no; Ione - 96 yes, 44 no; Irrigon - 41 yes, 60 no; Lexington - 38 yes, 25 no showing a total of 362 "yes" votes and 328 total "no" votes.

It was a "pretty low turnout," said Morrow County Clerk Barbara Bloodworth.

## County school board releases enrollment, discusses questionnaire

Enrollment in Morrow County Schools is up 46 students over last year, Superintendent Matt Doherty told the board of directors Monday night.

According to the latest figures AC Houghton Elementary, Columbia Jr. High, Heppner Elementary and Sam Boardman Elementary schools all showed an increase in attendance over 1980-81, while Heppner High, Ione and Riverside High schools all showed decreases.

|              | 1980-81 | 1981-82 |
|--------------|---------|---------|
| AC Houghton  | 280     | 298     |
| Columbia     | 121     | 143     |
| Hep. Elem.   | 357     | 364     |
| Hep. High    | 201     | 194     |
| Ione         | 192     | 164     |
| Riverside    | 257     | 255     |
| Board. Elem. | 276     | 312     |
| Total        | 1684    | 1730    |

In other business, the board:

- formed a committee to study a proposal by the superintendent that the district send out questionnaires to sample public opinion on the district's operation of the schools;

- voted to increase school lunches from 40 to 50 cents for grades one through six, 40 to 60 cents for grades seven through 12, and 50 to 75 cents for adults. The increases are the result of less state funding of the lunch program. The increases will go into effect November 1, 1981, the board said;

- granted maternity leave to Lisa Nelson of Heppner Elementary school;

- voted to hire two new aids for AC Houghton and Sam Boardman schools to help with kindergarten classes;

- appointed Eddie Brosnan, Butter Creek, Keith Rea, Ione and Perry Morter, also of Ione to the district transportation committee;

- voted to sell three used school buses to the highest bidders. Earl Harman of Hermiston bid \$666.66 for a 1964 GMC and \$888.88 for a 1966 Ford. Irvin Rauch was high bidder for a 1966 GMC, with \$811;

- okayed a request from the Church of the Latter Day Saints, to rent out district offices in Lexington for meeting space. The district will rent the space for \$25 per meeting;

- tabled a resignation from Marv Peterson, an Ione teacher, from the position as advisor to the school year book committee; and

- board chairman, Jean Bennett appointed Irv Rauch, Bob Byrd and Jerry McElligott to a committee to negotiate with the district's certified, or teacher, employees.

## Concerned Consumers group reminded of board meeting

Columbia Basin Electric Co-op Board of Directors will meet Thursday, Sept. 24, at 1 p.m. in the board room at Columbia Basin's office in Heppner, reminds Dexter Miles, head of the Concerned Consumers group.

Miles reports that at this meeting the board is to take

action on the petition presented to the board concerning the recent electrical rate increase.

A petition was circulated to members of the community, customers of Columbia Basin Electric after the board's decision to increase residential electrical rates between 44 and 54 percent, while large

irrigators rates were increased from 12 to 16 percent. Petitioners think the rate increase is unfair to residential customers and are asking the board to reconsider.

Upon presentation, the petition had 777 signatures, now the petition probably has "over 1,000," said Miles.

## Legion to sponsor Hunters Breakfast

The American Legion Post No. 87 will again sponsor a Hunter's Breakfast, Friday, Oct. 2, at Ron McDonald's Chevrolet showroom in Heppner. The breakfast will begin at 4 p.m. and last until 6 a.m.

Saturday morning.

Breakfast will include ham, eggs, hot cakes, coffee and milk. Prices are three dollars for adults and two dollars for children under 10.

## Morgan sentenced September 18

Frank Albert Morgan, 20 of Boardman, was sentenced Sept. 18 at the Morrow Co. Courthouse in Heppner. Morgan was sentenced to three years probation, \$350 fine, make cost restitution and 45 days in jail, with credit given for time previously served

after pleading guilty to a charge of theft in the first degree, reports the district attorneys office in Heppner.

Morgan was one of eleven arrested June 20, after a four-month-long sheriff's investigation. A charge of solicitation to commit murder was subsequently dropped.

## Fire causes 8 in Olex area 24 hr. outage

A fire in the Olex area left about eight customers without electricity from about 4 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 13 to 4 p.m. Monday, Sept. 14, said Columbia Basin Electric Co-op Manager Fred Toombs.

Although Columbia Basin refused to comment on the cause of the fire, Toombs said the outage covered about three or four total miles.

Toombs asks anyone who sees an electrical pole burning

or fire near a pole, to call Columbia Basin Electric collect and they will put the fire out. "It's a lot cheaper to put out the fire than to change the poles," he added.

## New patio dedicated to nursing home residents



Pioneer Memorial Hospital Auxiliary dedicated their new patio to the residents of the Pioneer Memorial Nursing home, Thursday, Sept. 17.

It had been a project of the Auxiliary to raise funds for the patio through the sale of cookbooks and donations from individuals and service organizations. The Auxiliary

is now selling tickets on a doll dressed in a nurses uniform with a wardrobe designed and donated by Erma Keithley.

The doll is now on display at Gardner's Men's Wear in Heppner, where tickets are available for 25 cents each.

The drawing will be the first day of Artifactory.

The patio is complete and is being enjoyed by all, but funds are still needed to meet financial obligations and to buy lawn furniture, said a spokesperson.

The residents have already enjoyed a watermelon feed and have attended church services on the patio, she added.