

PROSPECTS FOR CITY SEWER DIMMED BY CHANGE IN PLANS

ATTEMPT MADE TO CHANGE RULING

The prospects for a new sewer and disposal plant and an improved water system in Hermiston became somewhat dull this week with the announcement by the federal government officials that bonds must be paid primarily by revenue bonds and secondarily by an ad valorem tax. This means that if the revenue is insufficient to meet interest and retirement, a general tax must be levied to cover the difference.

The city council, which has been working on the matter for some months, had planned to call a revenue bond election soon to meet the city's share of the proposed \$87,000 new sewer and \$56,000 water system improvement. Now, however, city officials are confronted with changes in the original plans which may unless the setup can be changed, tend to upset the "appreciation."

According to original plans with the defense public works division of the federal works agency, the city was to receive grants for part of the costs, the city to assume about \$40,000 for the sewer and disposal plant, and \$25,000 for water extensions and possibly a new well. These sums were to be met by revenue bonds.

An attempt will be made to change the setup according to original plans. Representatives from the Seattle office of the F.W.A. are expected here this week to further discuss the matter with city officials. The latter group is quite frank in saying that unless the original plan is followed no election will be called.

Engineering work has been completed for both projects and, until the above news was received, it was felt that everything was in readiness for the calling of an election and ultimate construction operations. Mayor McKenzie has received word from the government that priorities have been set up for the materials necessary.

However, all hope is not lost, and an earnest attempt will be made to clear up the above obstacle in order that a sewer might become a reality in Hermiston.

AMBULANCE FUND GAINS IN SIZE

The Hermiston ambulance fund has now reached a total of \$936.00, according to Sam Moore, who is heading the drive. The Hermiston post, American Legion, launched the drive recently by donating \$400 towards the cause. The Ladies Episcopal Guild has also given \$400 towards the fund which will greatly aid the project.

This community is greatly in need of an ambulance and it is urged that anyone interested subscribe to the fund. It is hoped that the ambulance and necessary equipment can be ordered before Christmas. The donors will be published each week.

The donations to date read as follows:

American Legion Post No. 37	\$400.00
Ladies Episcopal Guild	400.00
Umatilla Project Farm Bureau	100.00
Sam Moore	10.00
B. E. Getchell	1.00
Home Economics club and Columbia Grange No. 867	25.00
Total	\$936.00

ACCIDENT VICTIM MUCH IMPROVED

Little Dwight Miller, who was quite seriously injured in an automobile-bicycle collision Tuesday morning near Tertel Town, is greatly improved at latest reports. He suffered a broken right leg and a fractured skull, as well as other minor bruises. The accident occurred shortly before eight o'clock as Dwight started on his paper route. He was going east towards town when his bicycle was struck by an automobile driven by Miss Jane Jackson.

U. S. O. CHRISTMAS PARTIES COMING

According to Miss Mary Lou Johnson, different groups of U.S.O. organizations are planning Christmas parties this week. The business girls are planning a party for Friday night, while the story hour and handicraft groups will celebrate Saturday.



And lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, frankincense and myrrh.

The Gospel according to St. Matthew



EVACUATION AT SCHOOL SUCCESS

A practice evacuation was held at the local high school this week as part of the defense program. According to Supt. W. G. Kersbergen it took two minutes to clear the building of all students and teachers who were told to get all personal belongings and clothes, but not their books. Within three minutes there wasn't a student in sight of the building.

A further check was made to see how soon students could get to their homes within the city. It took from three to 16 minutes for all students to reach their respective homes. Students who usually ride in buses were told to go to some friends home in the city.

During a fire alarm, where students do not take coats and hats, a record of 57 seconds has been established.

POST OFFICE TO BE OPEN LONGER

Postmaster W. E. Logan has announced that his office will be open Saturday night until 6:00 o'clock in order to help take care of Christmas mail. Many workers at the Umatilla Ordnance depot and elsewhere find it difficult to come in by closing time in the evening.

The office will be closed all day Christmas and New Year, according to Mr. Logan.

ENGINEERS TAKE CHARGE OF WORK AT ORDNANCE SITE

Major changes enacted by congress recently which took construction of defense projects out of the hands of the quartermaster corps and delegated that responsibility to the corps of army engineers, were received at the Umatilla Ordnance depot Monday. The work at the depot is now practically completed but what still remains to be done will be under the new setup.

Major Harry Schuppner, who has heretofore been constructing quartermaster, will now be a resident engineer, under command of Colonel Moore, division engineer, at Portland. The change was made here with little confusion with most of Major Schuppner's officers assigned to the corps of engineers. In most instances, these officers were not quartermaster department officers but assigned to the Q.M.C. from different branches of military service.

Finishing details of construction are now receiving attention by J. A. Terteling & Sons, contractors. The field crews have been greatly reduced in the past few weeks. This firm poured a runway at the Arlington bombing field during the past 10 days in addition to the work at the Ordnance depot here. This work was completed the middle of the week.

SUNDAY BLACKOUT NOT SATISFACTORY

A practice blackout in Hermiston Sunday night was not as complete as had been hoped. Although approximately 95% of the city was blacked out, the small percentage of scattered lights here and there spoiled the picture, according to Sam Moore and R. H. Piersol who were atop the butte to check the blackout.

Hermiston main street and Tertel Town was almost 100% black as were several other sections of the city. The worst offenders in the blackout were residents in the Cox addition and several trailer houses located within the city limits. In some cases where shades were drawn, lights could be seen from the outside.

No further blackouts will be attempted in the near future.

STANFIELD TO HAVE TRIAL BLACKOUT

Clyde Kenison, civilian defense coordinator at Stanfield, is announcing a practice blackout in Stanfield Sunday night from 7:00 to 7:30. This will be the first time that a blackout has been attempted and it is urged that all cooperate to the fullest extent.

Similar rules and regulations as have been used elsewhere will be followed at Stanfield.

DEFENSE CHAIRMEN APPOINTED AT MASS MEETING SUNDAY

CITY IS PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES

A large sized crowd was present Sunday afternoon at a mass meeting held in the high school gymnasium. James D. Todd, local defense chairman, was general chairman of the meeting and told of the defense movement with Mayor LaGuardia of New York as national leader and Jerrold Owens as Oregon's state coordinator. In Oregon each county is represented on the state board with Sprague Carter of Pendleton representing Umatilla county. County Judge Carl Chambers, at a recent meeting in Pendleton, named Mr. and Mrs. James Todd to serve in Hermiston.

The civilian defense program has been divided into various divisions with chairmen as follows: public utilities, Art Thrasher; necessities, H. K. Dean; protection, Sam Moore, communications, N. W. O'Donnell.

Mr. Thrasher, in discussing his particular division, told of what had been done and what was being planned to take care of the power, water, fuel and sanitation problems in Hermiston and vicinity. He has named Curtis Simins as head of the power department; Kenneth Gibbs, water; R. A. Brownson, fuel, and Dr. F. B. Belt, sanitation.

He further stated that a guard is stationed at the city reservoir and plans are being formulated for additional water supply in case of emergency. A guard is also on duty at the transformer which controls the power used by the Umatilla Ordnance Depot. Fuel and transportation facilities are also quite well taken care of here. Electric power is quite sufficient, even though trouble should arise in a certain area, as it can be reversed to come in from another line.

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LOCAL YOUTHS ENLIST IN NAVY

Hermiston is doing right well in furnishing men in the United States armed forces. The most recent additions to the navy are five young men who left this week for various locations. Those going were Gene Miller, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hogan Miller; Leslie Estle and Bob Estle, sons of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Estle; Harold L. "Manny" Woodward, and Jim Geer, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. W. Geer. The former four enlisted at Walla Walla and Mr. Geer at Portland.

It is expected that several more will leave within the next 10 days.

SECOND CALL MADE FOR RED CROSS

Due to the extra demands placed on the American Red Cross, a second roll call is in progress. A sum of \$50,000 is asked for an American war fund, for use in civilian defense work, military and naval welfare service, aid to families of men in the service, Red Cross nursing service to the U. S. army and other services.

The quota for Umatilla county has been set at \$5,250 with the Hermiston share to be slightly over \$400. The first three days of the voluntary call here netted \$202.10.

The second call is voluntary and no drive will be made unless the prospects for the new quota look dismal. Receiving stations are the First National Bank, Dr. F. B. Belt's office and at The Herald where the ladies of the Eastern Star, Rebeccas, Altar Society and Legion auxiliary have been stationed. Cooperation is urgently asked in this humanitarian appeal.

GRADE SCHOOL PROGRAM SET FOR FRIDAY NIGHT

The Hermiston grade school will present their annual Christmas program Friday night, December 19, at the high school auditorium. The play will be under the direction of Ted Roy.

The cast of characters include: Rex Casper, Betty Cox, Richard Snyder, Patsy Berg, Donald Roberts, Patricia Kerwin and Rosemary Doyle. There will also be a large chorus and those taking part in numerous tableau pictures.

The story of the play is centered around interesting facts about the most familiar carols, their origin and how they happened to be written.

Preparedness Week

