

## Heppner Gazette Times

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Official Paper for Morrow County



1937		MAY							1937	
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From across county comes word that Condon, Fossil and Kinzua have divorced the Wheatland baseball league and are playing independently. Each, so Dame Rumor has it, would like to play a Heppner team. So far, no aggregation has put in an appearance here. Wonder what's going to be done about it—if anything?

The weather took a turn for the warmer last week end. It felt like good old summertime for a few days. Tuesday night came sub-freezing temperatures, and frost. Such the vagaries of a late Spring, with all looking askance just now to any likely-seeming rain cloud.

Maybe it wasn't the most important news of the week, but probably it created the most public interest—the news of Wallis Simpson obtaining her absolute divorce and freedom to marry David Windsor. May it be hoped that England's abdicated king has paved the way for every young fellow to have the right to choose his own mate, when, and if, of course, that right is compatible with the general welfare.

Actual oiling of the Lexington-Jarmon road was started this week. That's news which Morrow countians have worked for several years to create. Some secretiveness has prevailed on the part of the state highway commission as to how far the present work will go. But speed the day when a good-surfaced year-round highway will cover this route. It is important both as a local market road and intersectional thoroughfare. When it is completed and the Oregon Trail relocated, Heppner people, as well as those farther north in the county, will find this the fastest and best road to Pendleton and other points east.

Another road is gaining attention of local highway fans. It is a proposed trunk highway to shorten the distance from Heppner to Portland by 35 miles. With parts already improved and other stretches contemplated for construction, it ties in the Heppner-Condon highway with a route through southern Sherman county on almost a direct off-river line to join the Mt. Hood and Wapinitia cut-off highway at Sandy. From Sandy an improved road cuts off to Oregon City to make a saving of another 20 miles for eastern Oregonians heading for Willamette valley points south of Portland. A recent meeting of some 300 road boosters from different points along the proposed route was held at Wamic, and more will be heard from it.

### CONDITION SERIOUS.

Mrs. Edward Chinn was reported yesterday as in critical condition at a Portland hospital following a major operation which she underwent a few days ago.

## CHARLIE VALENTINE ONCE LIVED NEAR BIRTHPLACE OF NEW QUEEN

When England's new Queen Catherine takes the throne next week, the event will hold not a little heart interest for one Morrow county resident. For before he came to Morrow county more than fifty years ago, Charlie Valentine, the person indicated, lived within 12 miles of Glamis castle, Queen Catherine's birthplace, and had seen it many times.

Mr. Valentine was born at Dundee, Angus county, Scotland in 1862. His father was acquainted with Watson, the man who first bred Pole Angus cattle and whose son, Willie Watson, introduced the first purebred cattle of this strain into Oregon. He said that, so far as he knew, himself and Ralph Bengue were the only two original settlers left in their section. Both came to the county in 1882, and both stopped first at Athena. Morrow was then still a part of Umatilla county; Heppner was just a small trading post, and places which had been settled were mostly along the creeks. The hills still had their

native coat of bunchgrass.

Mr. Valentine came to America on the old States liner State of Florida, later converted into a cattle ship and lost at sea. He has been back to the old country but once, that in 1909, making the trip on the Mauretania. His first trip was made in the days when immigration was at its height, and he recalled seeing many colorful sights of people from various countries in native costumes headed for America.

Much change has been noted not only in Morrow county, but in the country as a whole and the old country as well in his period of recollection. Still, he believes the British isles to be the greenest country on earth, and that the old country was mighty productive is attested by the fact that the father of Bob Hynd, former prominent Morrow county man, a neighbor of the Valentines in the old country, paid \$20 an acre cash rent a year and still succeeded. And values were generally lower then than now, he said.

## Auditor's Report Shows Improved County Condition

### Cash Status Maintained in 1936; Rate Base Lowered.

A generally satisfactory accounting system, and few clerical errors are revealed in the audit report of Morrow county offices for 1936, copies of which have just been received at the courthouse. The report was made by S. W. Starr, supervisor of the division of audits of the secretary of state's office, following a check made by his assistant, Bernard C. Davis. Commendation was given county officials for their assistance and cooperation.

The audit reveals that Morrow county operated on a cash basis throughout 1936, with a single exception, the report stating: "All current operating expenses incurred by the county, except non-high school district obligations, and all road bonds and interest thereon maturing during the year were promptly paid and cash reserves were on hand in all county funds at December 31, 1936. The non-high school district funds were on a warrant basis during virtually all of the year 1936, but the tax turnovers received by the county treasurer in December, 1936, restored the fund to a cash basis."

The audit report reveals a generally heartening trend in the financial status of the county. While the assessed valuation was cut 25 percent to \$8,745,334, representing 68 percent of the actual value, the tax rate was increased but slightly for 1937. At the same time the amount of uncollected taxes for the year 1936 was the least of that for any of the last several years.

The fixed debt, including \$627,560 road bonds and interest, is not alarming when it is considered that retirement is on current basis, with a set schedule for payment of the amount in annual instalments with the total debt to be liquidated in 1935. Present assets offset this amount \$42,650.42, and provision for turning monies received from the motor license fund, estimated at \$143,903.17 for the period, to apply on the debt, there is left an estimated amount of \$441,026.41 to be raised by tax levies before the debt is finally liquidated.

### SCHOOL PROGRAM SET.

Gooseberry and Rocky Bluff schools are presenting a program at Gooseberry school Friday, May 7, at 8 p. m. After the program we are having a weiner roast, so bring your sticks and come help us have a good time, say the sponsors. The admission charge will be 10 cents.

There will be a dance at the Legion hall, Ione, Saturday, May 15. Music by the Troubadors of Hermiton.

## District Libraries Meet at Arlington

A panel discussion to be participated in by mayors, councilmen and library trustees will be a feature of the district meeting of public libraries at Arlington next Wednesday, announces Miss Harriet C. Long, state librarian, who is directing the event. City and library officers of Heppner and all others interested have been given an urgent invitation to attend, and those wishing to do so who have no means of transportation are asked to contact Alvin Kleinfeldt or J. O. Turner, the local transportation committee.

Among questions to be answered in the panel discussion are: How can the public library be made to function effectively in the community? What is the place of the library in city government? These, and many other questions pertaining to the management of the local library are expected to bring out helpful suggestions.

## Local Club Head Hears Dr. Townsend

Mrs. Alta Brown, president of the Heppner Townsend club and a member of the second congressional district Townsend board, attended the large assemblage in the Portland auditorium last Sunday. She reported the address of Dr. Townsend as most inspiring.

"Dr. Townsend made one of the best talks I have ever heard him make," she said. "He denounced the president's proposal of change on the supreme court. He said the sit-down strikes were unlawful, and will react against the labor organizations. He said if business men hope to succeed there must be an increase of purchasing power. The plan is now being studied in Europe and in Canada."

### DR. TOWNSEND TO SPEAK.

Dr. Francis E. Townsend is to speak at the civic auditorium in Pendleton next Sunday evening at 7:30. This is a specially arranged appearance of the doctor as it was originally planned that he would make but one stop in each state. Madame Stark, song-bird of the Townsend Plan, will sing. There will be no admission charged. It is expected that thousands of Townsendites and others will be at this mass meeting.

### TRACK WINNERS.

Continued from First Page  
Jones, Irrigon, second; Farrens, Ione, third.

Girls—Class B  
75 yd. Dash—Allen, Irrigon, first; Gorger, Ione, second; Bothwell, Heppner, third.

Baseball Throw—Allen, Irrigon, first; Gorham, Boardman, second; Bothwell, Heppner, third.

Girls—Class C  
50 yd. Dash—Blankman, Heppner, first; Seehofer, Heppner, second; O'Hara, Heppner, third.

Baseball Throw—Irwin, Heppner, first; Green, Eight Mile, second; Sperry, Ione, third.

Girls—Class D  
50 yd. Dash—Gorham, Irrigon, first; Howell, Heppner, second; Poulson, Irrigon, third.

Baseball Throw—Tetz, Heppner, first; Poulson, Irrigon, second; Ledbetter, Ione, third.

Girls' Relay—Heppner, first; Irrigon, second; Ione, third.

## Locals Score 75 In Tournery Wind-Up

Heppner Rod and Gun club turned in a perfect 75 team score in the final round of the Oregonian telegraphic trapshooting tournament Sunday to win two and tie two of its matches for the day. Their record for the shoot shows 11 wins, 6 ties, 5 losses, and three matches unreported.

Seventeen shooters visited the traps Sunday and had scores as follows:

100 targets: A. D. McMurdo 88, Judge Carmichael 80.

75 targets: J. H. McCrady 70, John Lane 66.

50 Targets: Adam Knoblock 48,

Ray Massey 45, Ben Patterson 45, Gene Ferguson 39, Mark Merrill 39, Vivian Kane 39, R. M. Rice 37, Merle Cummings 30, John Wightman 30.  
25 targets: Chas Vaughn 25, Herb Hynd 17, Bert Kane 15, Claude Graham 15.

### CITY PROPERTY EXCHANGED.

All papers in connection with the transfer of the city property on the corner of Willow and Gale streets to the local American Legion post were signed, sealed and delivered Monday. In exchange for this property the city accepted the former Legion swimming pool property in the south end of town. The post expects to build a home on its new property.

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