## Heppner **Gazette Times**

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE Established March 30, 1883; THE HEPPNER TIMES. Established November 18, 1897; CONSOLIDATED FEBRUARY 15, 1912

Published every Thursday morning by CRAWFORD PUBLISHING COMPANY and entered at the Post Office at Hepp-ner, Oregon, as second-class matter. JASPER V. CRAWFORD, Editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Six Months Three Months Single Copies

Official Paper for Morrow County

## STATE CAPITAL

By A. L. LINDBECK

- Growing Levies
- More Jobs
- Listless Campaign

Salem-State tax levies within the constitutional six percent limitation are growing at the rate of approximately a quarter of a mil- Portland. lion dollars a year, according to figures compiled by the state tax commission. The increase in the 1940 levy over that for 1939 was \$246,103. Next year it will amount to more than 250,000 will avail themselves than \$276,000 if full advantage is of the opportunity which it will cost where truck roads have not been taken of the constitutional "restriction" which now appears probable. That means that every four years another million dollars will be added to the tax burden for state purposes without any further action by the voters, assuming that the cost of state government continues to grow.

Tax commission figures show that in the 23 years since the constitutional "restriction" has been in effect the state levy subject to that limitation has increased by more than \$1,797,000. In the last ten years the increase under the stimulus of the six per cent increase has exceeded \$1,744,000.

Portland continued the black spot on Oregon's traffic map. While traffic fatalities in the state outside of Portland totalled only 67 for the first four months of 1940, compared have each institution head make a to 72 for the same period last year, a decline of seven per cent, 32 persons met death in traffic accidents in Portland during this period compared to 20 for the first four months plans, the board of control, in con- Colosso's are living in Arlington of 1939, an increase of 60 per cent ference with institution heads, will now. figures compiled by Secretary of State Snell show.

Reflecting increased industrial activity throughout the state, due largely to war demands from European nations, job placements in Oregon for the first four months of 1940 show an increase of 581/2 per cent improvements not so urgent will be over the record for the same period in 1939, it was reported by Director L G Stoll of the state employment office. Stoll also reports a decrease of 25 per cent in the file of active job seekers compared with the record of last year with the several state institutions so that the employment department already beginning to worry over the prospect of a shortage of workers to harvest Oregon's crops this summer.

Five Oregon automobile license plates of the vintage of 1906 to 1910 were presented to Secretary of State Snell this week by Walter M. Cook of Portland, for preservation in the state's collection. These plates were issued to cover a one-cylinder Cadillac, a Corbin, a Maxwell, a Knox and a York, all pioneers in the motoring field and all now long since out of manufacture except for the Cadillac. Cook was unable to recall the procedure by which he acquired the license plates in those early days and state records fail to throw any light on the situation. In presenting the plates to the state Cook recalled that he was once fined \$5 for violating a traffic speed law by travelling 12 miles an hour on Holladay avenue in Portland, two miles in excess of the speed limit at that

Political observers as well as can-

didates who have been beating the brush in an effort to arouse the voters agree that the current campaign which will culminate in Friday's primary election, is one of the most listless in the history of Ore-

Accepting these reports at their face value it may be assumed that the situation traces back to the fact that the war in Europe has robbed the campaign of much of the publicity newspapers are accustomed to devoting to politics, coupled with the further fact that the campaign has produced neither an issue nor any outstanding personalities that might be expected to arouse voterappeal.

In view of this situation predictions are for a very light vote throughout the state Friday except in those sections in which the PUD is an issue and which is expected to bring out many voters who otherwise would not take the trouble to go to the polls.

Except for the three-way contest on the Republican ticket-the twoway Democratic contest is generally regarded as a futile gesture-there are but few races in this primary campaign and in this case the average voter appears to take the position that it does not make a great deal of difference who is nominated, whether it be Earl Hill of Cushmn or Floyd Cook or Leslie Scott of

Of the 531,000 registered Republicials here predict that not more in another parachute. the taxpayers of the state an estimated \$80,000 to provide. Of this reach a fire after it has been discov-000 in the employment of election makes control difficult and expenofficials, in rentals on polling places and for the printing of the ballots it does. I believe that control phlets and in supplying pencils, mented with this method of fast tally sheets and other election sup- transportation last fall and results

Budget Director Dave Eccles spent the past week in a tour of eastern northern Rocky Mountain region." Oregon, visiting state institutions in a preliminary study of building needs which he expects to incorporate in his proposed six-year construction program. Eccles plans to survey of his building needs, present and future. When these have been submitted, according to present classify each request as to its relative urgency. Those most urgently needed in order that the institutions may keep pace with their growing populations, will be incorporated in the next budget for consideration by the legislature when it meets in January. Buildings or set aside for future consideration, two or four years hence. Eccles does not propose to set up any hard and fast construction program but to present to the lawmakers a comprehensive picture of the needs of they may know what is facing them in the future as well as in the immediate present.

## TREASURER



LESLIE M. SCOTT "An All Oregon Man"

Republican Primaries May 17, 1940 Ad paid for by Scott for Treasurer Committee.

## Fire Fighters to **Drop From Planes**

Unloading fire fighters from airplanes will be tried on a working basis this summer with project headquarters on the Chelan national forest at Winthrop, Wash., according to assistant regionel forester M. L. Merritt, U. S. forest service, Portland, Oregon.

"We are acquiring 16 parachutes, 16 especially designed jumping suits, and 16 eight-pound smoke jumpers' radio sets," Merritt said. "Some risk will be involved, but tests made last fall indicate that it is safe to jump ber of the coming year's etiquette in mountainous terrain. The jumpers, as well as the pilots, will be given a course of training before the fire season opens. The parachutes are designed to give a falling speed of 12 feet per second, and flaps are attached with which to steer. The parachutes can be steered quite effectively. The suits are of heavy canvas, reinforced to secure safety. Ankle, knee and body braces, and a helmet with a metal mask, are part of the suit. The jumper will carry 200 feet of rope by means of which he can complete the descent in case he lands in a

"The radio sets are about the size and shape of a cigarette carton and fit into a pocket on the parachute pack. As soon as the jumper lands, cans and Democrats who are eligible he radios that he is safe, and his to participate in the election, offi- fire fighting tools then are dropped

"In some of the mountain areas built, several hours are required to estimated \$80,000 the several coun- ered," Merritt said. "During this ties will spend approximately \$55,- time it may spread to a size that sive, in addition to the damage that while the state has spent approx- costs and damage can be cut by imately \$25,000 in the printing and the prompt arrival of one one or mailing of the official voters' pam- more good fire fighters. We experijustified trying it on a larger scale this summer. Half the eqipment being purchased here is for use in the

### BOARDMAN ITEMS

Mrs. N. A. Bleakney and children, Mr. and Mrs. Claud Coats and Echo and Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Barlow and Carma enjoyed a turkey dinner at the Bates' home Saturday evening.

Mr. and Mrs. Veto Colosso and family were guests of Mr. and Msr. Paul De Mauro for the week end.



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#### COUNTY NURSE LEAVES

Miss Lucille Vale, county health nurse, concluded her second six weeks in Morrow county and left Wednesday evening for Moro where she will be employed until July 1. Miss Vale had a crowded schedule during her six weeks here, holding numerous infant and pre-school child clinics in addition to the regular schedule in the schools.

#### GETS COMMITTEE BID

Oregon State College, Corvallis, May 15.—Harriet Hager of Heppner, sophomore in secretarial science, was recently invited to become a memcommittee, which is in charge of the Associated Women Students' program for standardizing and improving campus social procedure.

Mrs. W. O. Bayless and grandson, Bobby Swick, spent the week end at the Howard Swick home on Cottonwood creek near Monument.

#### STORE FRONTS PAINTED

The spirit of improvement that has prevailed in Heppner this spring seized the Masons the past week with the result that the D A Wilson and W. O. Dix store fronts are glistening with fresh coats of paint. Wilson's place received the conventional white while Dix's advertises the Red & White store system. Harry Archer was the craftsman in charge.

#### Heppner Trading Post

"The House of Bargains"
OIL STOVES\$1.10 up
CUPBOARDS \$3.00 pu
CHAIRS50c up
WINDCHARGER \$8.00
SEWING MACHINES \$6.00 up
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Tables, lamps, stoves, dishes, ra-
dios, batteries, shovels, axes and
handles, chains, beds, trunks,
guns, forks, etc. You are always
welcome-come look things over.

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