

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 Heppner,
Oregon, as second-class matter.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

One Year	\$2.00
Three Years	5.00
Six Months	1.00
Three Months	.75
Single Copies	.05

Official Paper for Morrow County

Local Government Faces Dilemma

LOCAL government—the closest and beyond question the most vital of all governmental divisions in the lives of the people—is today facing a critical situation. Local government, we refer to as the county, city and school districts, those divisions controlled by the people in the immediate community, or to be more exact which local people are presumed to control.

In the face of increasing prices—the labor cost especially—and with powers of taxation except that of taxing real and personal property usurped to use of state and national governments, and with a six percent limitation placed upon the property taxing privilege, local governmental divisions are hard put to raise revenues sufficient to carry on functions expected of them.

And it may be injected here, too, that officers expected to carry on as usual in the face of increased living costs may not readily have salaries increased in proportion since these are fixed, largely, through legislative inaction.

It is not here presumed to seek a special legislative session, as is being asked by certain Portland interests. However, should cause for such session exist, to us it appears that relief of local government claims recognition for number one position. Surplus state funds of which we read, all of which were collected in the several communities of the state, might well at this time be diverted back to the grass roots from whence they came, and they would be appreciated no end.

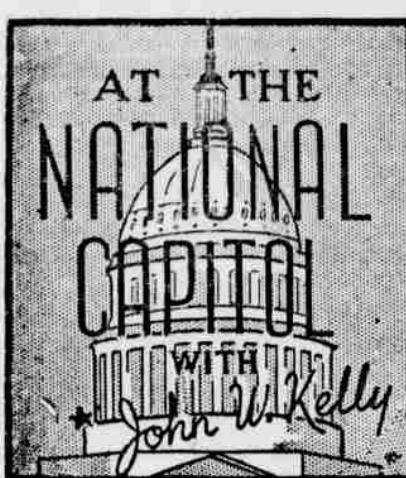
There is a case in point. The county budget item for roads has long been the buffer of all budget items to take the shock of the ups and downs in fixing the county tax levy. Other expenditures, year in and year out, largely remain fixed or in some instances require increasingly larger sums, as in the case of welfare work the last few years. Budget makers have at all times desired to keep the total levy at as low a point as possible, so they have jockeyed the road item.

People do not want, and can ill afford, to do without good roads, and Morrow county is blessed with a lion's share of county roads. (Other counties have been supplied almost to the point of sufficiency with state and federally constructed highways.)

This year with no budget increase for county roads, and with increases in the cost of labor and materials it is self-evident that Morrow county will not be able to proceed as before with its road maintenance and construction program, unless more help is received from elsewhere.

National emphasis is being placed at this time on trunk arteries vital to the defense program, and the state is following the national lead. No federal money will be available in Oregon for other roads this year. This puts the state in poorer position to give the counties any additional lift, except that state highway revenues from licenses and gas tax have been boosted materially by the general inflationary trend.

Local officers who are taking the lead in discussions of this problem before several state meetings are disinclined to ask for more than the 15.6 percent of the state highway revenues received by counties last year to apply on county roads, in face of the defense program. They do, however, feel that the basis of apportionment to the counties, that of the number of motor vehicles registered within each county, should be changed to a mileage and value-



Washington, D. C., Nov. 6.—Those farmers of Oregon who use tractors in their operations and have difficulty in obtaining parts when they break down, because of shortage of steel, will be interested to learn that the second lend-lease bill provides for 10,285 tractors to cost \$10,000,000 and these are presumed to enable the British to cultivate four million acres of land. The farms in England, Scotland and Wales are not like those in Oregon, but quite small, instead of containing several thousand acres. Suspicion has been voiced by half a dozen members of congress that the tractors will not be feasible for English use because of the small plots to be cultivated and, anyway, 10,000 men would have to be trained to operate them when these men might be in uniform instead. The assertion was made on the floor of the house that the British intend re-shipping the tractors to Africa where they can be used in competition with the American farmer. These suspicions and charges failed to keep the tractor item out of the bill.

Bond salesmen in the northwest about 20 years ago unloaded on private investors (thrifty American citizens who had saved money) a large part of a Russian issue amounting to \$75,000,000. Most of the banks of that region placed some of their funds in \$15,000,000 worth. Both issues were boosted by the United States government and people and banks were encouraged to buy. The government itself took \$375,000,000 of Russian securities. Not a red cent has ever been paid as interest or on the principal. The Bolsheviks repudiated the securities and since then American taxpayers have been holding the bag. When President Roosevelt recognized the Soviet in 1933 Foreign Commissar Litvinoff (after presenting the president with a complete set of Russian stamps for his collection) agreed that negotiations would be taken up to make some sort of redemption of the bonds. Nothing happened.

Now that the president is supplying Russia with tanks planes and ammunition a number of bondholders in Oregon are prodding their delegation, urging that now is the time for the government to insist that Russia do something about having the Soviet redeem these old obligations, arguing that as they must tax to pay for the goods going to Russia that country should be willing (or compelled) to make good on the securities.

John Boettiger, son-in-law of the president, is reported as having cooled off about the government doing something for the logged-off lands and the disappearing forests of the northwest. Mr. Boettiger was sold on the idea when Henry A. Wallace was secretary of agriculture, and Wallace wrote pages for the Seattle P-I. (The gravity of the situation was first brought to Wallace's at-

tion basis. This would give Morrow county a better break.

Morrow county does not get back from the state all the money collected from motor license fees alone. It gets back not a penny of the gas tax money collected within its confines, to say nothing of the income tax money and many other revenue sources imposed upon its people by the state.

It is understandable, to a degree that national defense must of necessity curtail some activities. Road upkeep and repair, generally, is patent not one function being considered by the federal government, for of late a survey is being made of bridges on all county roads in Morrow county, by federal employees, apparently to determine whether these roads may be used as detours in military maneuvers. The roads, too, are important in keeping up the supply lines from the farms.

tention by a timberman of Oregon and his statement was confirmed by the forest service). The son-in-law said he would take up the matter personally with the president and see that there was some action. Since then nothing has happened.

Those congressmen who have legislation to deal with the subject are now marking time; waiting for the green light. They suspect that presidential approval will be withheld until a decision has been reached whether Secretary of the Interior Ikes shall have the forest service turned over to him. Mr. Ikes is still coveting that division, now in the department of agriculture.

William R. Davis of the national mediation board says the labor troubles in the northwest are due largely to the immaturity of the labor organizations in that region. The lumber situation is due, says he, to fierce rivalry between AFL and CIO, and Dr. Dexter Keezer of Reed college has been appointed chairman of a commission to the mediation board a stabilization program for the entire Douglas fir industry. The board has been waiting for weeks for these recommendations and hopes they will be presented at an early date. National defense mediation board does not want another outbreak in the lumber industry.

County Represented At High School Meet

Eastern Oregon College of Education, La Grande, Nov. 3.—The annual high school student body officers conference held Saturday at the Eastern Oregon College of Education was considered most successful, with 137 delegates representing high schools of seven eastern Oregon counties in attendance. Ray Johnson, Ontario high school student body president, was chairman of the conference.

Union high school was selected to head the group for the coming year and will be in charge of the conference which will be held at the college in the fall of 1942.

Morrow county was well represented at the conference, with Heppner, Ione and Lexington high schools sending the following student body officers: Heppner, Wanda Howell, treasurer; Dorotha Wilson, yell du-
chess; Jim Barratt, sergeant-at-arms; Bill Scrivner, vice-president, and Miss Frances Weaver, adviser.

Lexington, Joe Way, vice-president; Carl Marquardt, president; Marcie Jackson, secretary; Levella Pieper, yell queen; Wittmer MacDonald, coach, and T. R. Burton, superintendent of schools.

Ione, Charlotte Sperry, yell leader; Ernest McCabe, transportation manager; Roland McCabe, vice-president; Gene Empey, president; Pete Cannon, athletic manager, and Betty Lou Lindsay, editor.

Tom Johnson arrived this week from Salem where he has been located for several years and has been enjoying renewing old-time friendships. He has been suffering from a heart affliction for some time and has been unable to do any heavy work.

Pat Hart is in the city from Pendleton assisting with finishing work on the new Catholic church. Pat was a resident of this county for a good many years a number of years ago and has been renewing old-time acquaintances.

Dance at Ione Grange hall, Saturday, November 8. Music by Men About Town. Admission 85¢ including tax.

Mrs. John Turner arrived Sunday from her home at Baker to see her brother, Joel Engelman off as he left yesterday for the navy induction station at Portland.

Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Hall went to Portland yesterday with Mr. and Mrs. Norman Florence, and Mr. and Mrs. Hall expected to visit for some time at the home of their daughter, Mrs. William Goulder.

Is your life insurance ALL GREEK to you? A. Q. Thomson gladly explains insurance contracts without obligation, of course.

Dr. J. P. Stewart, Eye-Sight Specialist of Pendleton will be at the HEPPNER HOTEL on WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12th.

The best medium for selling or trading is a G-T want ad.

DEFENSE BOND

Quiz

Q. How many Defense Savings Stamps does it take to fill an album?

A. Seventy-five 25-cent stamps; seventy-five 50-cent stamps; seventy-five \$1 stamps; or fifteen \$5 stamps. The completed albums are immediately exchangeable for Defense Bonds (Series E) at your post office, or through your bank.

Q. Who directs the National movement to sell Defense Savings Stamps in retail stores?

A. The Treasury's Retail Advisory Committee, of which Benjamin H. Namm, of the National Retail Dry Goods Association, is chairman. Officers of 13 other great national retail organizations comprise the committee.

NOTE: To buy Defense Bonds and Stamps, go to the nearest post office, bank or savings and loan association; or write to the Treasurer of the United States, Washington, D. C. Also Stamps are now on sale at retail stores.

Stewart-Carlson Rites Told From Silverton

Recent nuptials of Miss Frances Stewart and Charles Carlson are told in a newspaper report from Silverton. Mr. and Mrs. C. S. Carlson, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Carlson, Mildred and Lewis, and Mrs. Jess Wardfield were in attendance from Ione. The clipping reports:

Beautiful in arrangement will be the marriage tonight at 8 o'clock at the First Christian church of Miss Frances Stewart, charming daughter of the I. L. Stewarts of Silverton, and Charles Carlson, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Carlson of Ione, with Rev. Russell Meyers reading the single ring ceremony. Mrs. Irene Morley Franke of Silverton will play the wedding marches and Mrs. Norman Everson of Hood River will sing "Oh, Promise Me" and "Until."

The bride, to be given in marriage by her father, will wear an ice blue slipper satin gown modeled on princess lines with full court train and buttons to the waist line. The slightly puffed - at - the - shoulder sleeves are buttoned over the hand and trimmed, as is the square cut neckline, with rare lace brought from Paris, France, early in the century and presented to the bride-to-be by Mrs. F. W. Poorman of Salem. Her veil is train length, tulle edged, with three rows of lace cascading from the seed pearl coronet. Her only jewels will be a single strand of small pearls, a gift of the bridegroom.

The bride will carry a white prayer book topped by a single gardenia, and with a cascade of white satin ribbon and large bouvardia.

The altar, centered with a lighted cross, will be banked with woodwardia fern flanked by potted palms and cathedral candelabra with white baskets of chrysanthemums in the foreground. Each window will glow with a single lighted white taper.

The bride's attendants will be her sister, Mrs. Perl Bye, as matron of honor, and as bridesmaids, Mrs. Kelley Standard of Salem and Mrs. Al-

At Heppner • •

CHURCHES

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Martin B. Clark, Pastor

9:45, Bible school.
11, Communion and preaching.
6:30, Christian Endeavor.
7:30, Evening service.
7, Thursday evening, prayer meeting.
7:30, Thursday evening, Bible study.

PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Sterl D. Spies, Pastor

Sunday school, 9:45 a. m.
Worship, 11 a. m.
Evangelistic services, Sunday, 7:45 p. m.
Tuesday, 7:45 p. m., cottage prayer meeting.
Thursday 7:45 p. m., Bible study at church.

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

BENNIE HOWE, Minister

Sunday, Nov. 9th: Divine worship, at 11 a. m. Church school at 9:45 a. m., Mrs. Lucy Rodgers, superintendent and Miss Warner, primary superintendent. Evening worship at 7:30 p. m.

Bible study and prayer meeting every Thursday evening at 7:30 o'clock.

Thought for today: He that would have friends must show himself friendly.

Blankenship Address Honors Selectees

Lack of physical fitness of so many young men as indicated in rejections for enlistment or selection, reacts as a tribute to the physical fitness of every young man accepted for armed service for his country, declared Alden Blankenship, city school superintendent in an address at Monday's Lions luncheon in honor of the young men who left Wednesday for induction into different branches of the service.

While the upset in every young man's life on entering the service is a disturbing factor, Blankenship saw in the opportunities to travel, training for specialized work and the general disciplinary morale of the army or navy plenty to compensate.

Joel R. Engelman, naval enlistee, and his sister, Mrs. John Turner, were special club guests. Other boys leaving for the service were unable to attend.

Mr. and Mrs. Melvyn Johnson of Dallas, report the recent birth of a son. Mrs. Johnson was formerly Gladys Reaney of Heppner.

fred Pietela of Astoria. Their identical gowns as of heavy, floral etched taffeta, floor length, short puffed sleeves are buttoned over the hand and trimmed, as is the square cut neckline, with rare lace brought from Paris, France, early in the century and presented to the bride-to-be by Mrs. F. W. Poorman of Salem. Her veil is train length, tulle edged, with three rows of lace cascading from the seed pearl coronet. Her only jewels will be a single strand of small pearls, a gift of the bridegroom.

The bride will carry a white prayer book topped by a single gardenia, and with a cascade of white satin ribbon and large bouvardia.

Clifford Carlson of Ione will be his cousin's best man and ushers will be Jim Ekman of Silverton and Claude Brashers of Lyle, Wash.

A reception has been planned in the church immediately following the ceremony....

For going away the bride will wear an all-black ensemble of sheer crepe, velvet bolero, a fitted wool coat and matching accessories. Her corsage will be gardenias.

The young couple will be at home in Ione after November 15.

Wanted TURKEYS

Dressing Plant Starts November 1st

Will Dress For Anyone — Write or Call for Dates and Prices

WILL BE BUYING AFTER NOVEMBER 1st

—:- Phone 681 Anytime —:-

G. G. SMITH
STANFIELD, OREGON