

# HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

The Heppner Gazette, established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times, established November 18, 1897. Consolidated February 15, 1912.



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Published Every Thursday and Entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as Second Class Matter. SUBSCRIPTION RATE, \$3.00 PER YEAR—SINGLE COPY, 10 CENTS

## An Experiment That Could Have Important Results

The beginnings of what could very possibly make a significant change, sometime in the future, in the economics of Morrow county can be seen in an article that will appear today in the Oregon Farmer. It is a progress report in a new method of wheat farming that does away with summer-fallowing.

The article, which will be in the hands of most ranchers within a few days goes into considerable detail as to experiments carried on by Washington State College on the use of nitrogen fertilizer and every-year cropping. Such farming operation is not something unheard of by our ranchers, for it is being tried out by several in this area, and many have reported a yearly crop reasonably close to the yield obtained every other year under summer-fallow. According to the Oregon Farmer report on test fields in Washington, two average crops raised with nitrogen gave a total of 54 bushels, whereas the summer-fallow crop average was 32 bushels. Estimated cost of fertilizing was 10 bushels which gave a net gain for two years of 12 bushels per acre—and "that ain't hay!"

We are not qualified to enlarge on the experiments, nor do we intend to try, but we can see pretty plainly what the results could be and what it could mean to the people and businessmen of Morrow county. Suppose the average yield in the county were increased over one-third, or, in effect, the useful acreage of the county was increased

proportionately. Obviously it means there is going to be just that much more income within the area—a fact that will make every businessman's eyes light up.

There is another thing too, that to our idea is even more significant, and though we are just surmising, it sounds reasonable that if the system proves effective, the number of individual wheat ranches in the county will show a decided increase. Certainly we don't begrudge any farmer anything that will increase his income, but with taxes as they are—and undoubtedly will be for a good many years to come, there comes a point of diminishing returns . . . a point where the additional acreage and work connected with it does not justify the income the rancher can keep after taxes.

Where that point is and when it will be reached we don't know, but it is and can be a definite reality. In fact, we've heard reports of it already from ranches where half the soil lies idle each year. When and if it all produces efficiently each year, that point will certainly be reached much sooner.

Large ranches have definite advantages, but so do large numbers of people, and anything that can make a given plot of ground support an extra person is worthy of some careful consideration.

We believe Morrow county has a bright outlook for the coming years and such a system of full soil utilization certainly isn't going to dim that outlook one bit. True, it's still in the experimental stage, and there is much to be learned, but it looks good.



### CANDIDATES FILE

On the second of January eight candidates had filed to have their names appear on the ballot of the primary elections next May. All are republicans.

Merrill B. Moores and Paul F. Mytinger, both of Portland and K. G. Thompson, Salem, filed as delegates at large to the republican national convention.

Tom H. West, Portland, filed as a delegate to the republican national convention from the 3rd congressional district. Rep. John P. Houndsell, Hood River, filed as a republican candidate for senator from the 16th senatorial district comprising Hood River and Wasco counties. He represented Hood River county in the house of representatives during the sessions of 1949 and 1951. Sen Ben Musa, The Dalles, one of the nine democrats in the upper house, now represents the 16th senatorial district. His present term expires November 4, 1952.

Emmet T. Rogers, West Salem, filed for state representative from Polk county. He says he first registered as a republican 32 years ago and has "had a varied

career."

The position is now held by Rep. Frank Farmer, Rickreall.

### GYP PEDDLERS AT WORK

The state police department has sent out a warning to householders to beware of doorbell ringing peddlers who offer yardage which they claim to be "pure English woolens."

An arrest was made in Salem this week of a woman accused of obtaining money by false pretense when goods represented to be wool proved to be rayon.

The complaint was made by two Silverton school teachers. Bail for the peddler was set at \$1,000, but the accused was committed to jail. Officers making the arrest said the goods were marked to indicate it had been made in England and was pure wool.

### COVERED WAGON CENTENNIAL

The governors of 10 states whose histories are most directly interested in the Old Oregon Trail have been invited to attend the Covered Wagon Centennial celebration opening in Portland on Jan. 22.

Governor Douglas McKay headed the invitation committee that sent the bids.

The world premier of "Bend of the River," a Universal-International technicolor production filmed in Oregon will spark the celebration. The premier will be held at J. J. Parker's Broadway Theater. Other features planned will be a sternwheeler race on the river, and what is hopefully expected to be the world's largest square dance, a chuck-wagon dinner of all-Oregon delicacies, a morning parade through Portland and a banquet honoring the governors and stars of the film.

### NON-PARTISAN PRIMARY

Several granges in the state have approved a plan to change election laws to allow voters to cast ballots in any party primary they choose at the time. All voters would receive the same ballot at the primary election instead of separate ballots naming candidates of the voter's party registration only.

The measure will be considered by all granges in the state.

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## AIR, AUTO DESIGN DRAMATICALLY WED IN NEW CAR



TOLEDO, O.—Here is the first picture released by Willys-Overland of its long-awaited passenger sedan, the first to be built by the company since it went into all-out production of Jeeps for war in 1942. This model, to be introduced by dealers early next year, is the "Aero Wing," so named because its construction and styling represent a "dramatic marriage of the most advanced principles of aeronautical and automotive engineering," according to company engineers. They described the car as "designed to meet the conditions of high-tax, high-cost living. It is the first time that the ride and handling characteristics of expensive, long wheelbase cars have been secured in a car of external compactness and outstanding economy." Tests cited by the company indicate the Aero Wing will, speed for speed, go farther on less gas than any other full-size car. It is reported to deliver up to 35 miles to the gallon at a speed of 30 miles an hour with overdrive using regular gasoline.

## From The County Agent's Office

By N. C. Anderson

With the coming of the New Year, thoughts turn to, among other things, income tax, the farm records that were kept last year and resolutions for doing a better job of record keeping in 1952. Some farmers report that the resolution for better record keeping waxes hotter around March 15 than right at this time.

Resolved to do a good job of record keeping in 1952, many farmers have picked up the Oregon Farm Account Book or Oregon Farm Record book during the past few days. These farmers were Ralph Beamer, Heppner, E. M. Baker, Ione; Roy Lindstrom, Ione.

The Oregon Farm Record Book

is newly revised this year, with many extra columns added to make it easier to fill out income tax returns. The Oregon Farm Account Book is the same as in the past and is used primarily by farmers who file their income on an accrual basis.

Both are available at the County Agent's office, at cost.

For those farmers who might be interested, we have just learned that C. E. Stretcher, Route 3, Sherwood, Oregon, is offering some fall Duroc boars and gilts for \$50.00 F. O. B. Sherwood.

A lot of interest has been shown by our farmers who have called at this office over the recent news release on Krillium, the brand new synthetic organic chemical. It is reported 100 to 1000 times more effective in improving soil structure than compost, manures or peat moss. The chemical was developed by Monsanto Chemical Company.

Among the claims made for the chemical soil conditioner, is that of rain erosion. It improves water percolation and infiltration into the soil as much as 300 per cent. It also shows an increased ability to hold water against evaporation.

The use of Krillium, it is claimed, not only saves the water in the soil but also helps to prevent accumulations of water-soluble salts, such as alkali, in the surface soil in irrigated areas. The soil too is made more workable, and provides more aeration for easy access of oxygen to the plants roots.

Many more advantages are claimed for this new soil conditioner.

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five, soil and water projects drawing two hundred twenty three farmers to the office.

Each Wednesday morning is news day with news prepared to send to seventeen different sources, radio, farm magazines and weekly farm sections of daily newspapers, with of course the weekly county newspaper reaching a goodly share of our farm people. One hundred thirty-nine different articles were released.

Right along with this method of getting information to farmers was the circular letter, with an average of six of these sent out each month. These were divided between 4-H and adult work. Another important source of agricultural information were the six thousand eight hundred thirty five bulletins distributed through the office. One thousand six hundred ninety letters were written to our farm people.

Averaging a little more than four meetings a week during the past year, one hundred fifty three were arranged by the agent, with fifty nine farm and other organization meetings attended by the agent.

In carrying out the projects of the year two hundred nine days were spent working with adults, ninety six days with 4-H members. The time spent in the office and time spent in the field was about equal both in 4-H and adult work.

During the past year one hundred eighty different 4-H members were enrolled in two hundred seventy five different projects. Of these one hundred eighty members, one hundred sixty one completed their projects.

In carrying out the Extension work for 1951, the agent drove fourteen thousand five hundred thirteen miles, the greatest majority of this being within Morrow county.

Morrow's County Extension program, like every one in Oregon, is supported by county, state and federal cooperation. Counties provide funds equal to the cost of operation of the county office while salary of agents come from state and federal funds. Trends during the past several years have been toward increased appropriations from state and county funds with Federal now supplying only a small fraction of funds needed to carry on this work.

Demand for farm people for this educational program has strengthened until now almost 200 workers in Oregon are helping farmers and towns people with all phases of farm and urban living by activities such as carried out in Morrow County this year.

## Year's Activities Reported By County Agent

As another year 'round, annual reports are the popular activity of the day at the county agent's office reports, N. C. Anderson, Agricultural Agent. The Extension annual report has just been finished and in the mail. Annual reports of the Heppner and Boardman soil Conservation Districts will be the diversion for the next few days.

In digging through reports and records for the past year in preparing the agricultural agents annual report some interesting data was found. First, for those that ask the agent why he never visits their farm, three hundred ninety five different farm-visits were made last year, with four thousand forty-six office calls received. These were both telephone and actual office visitors calling for agricultural information. Over thirteen hundred of these were miscellaneous calls, with beef cattle problems accounting for two hundred forty-

When will it be available for commercial use? That's the disappointing part. The product is still in the development stage and will not be on the market in substantial quantities before 1953.

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