

At The Legislature--



LONG SESSION LOOMS

Out the window this week went the placid optimism that the present legislative session would be a short one.

These delaying conditions suddenly developed:

1—A record number of bills appeared.

2—Discovery that bills now must be changed so that they will conform with the new state law code.

3—Little consideration has yet been given major legislation—finances, public welfare, education, labor power, highways, liquor, reorganization.

NEW LEGISLATIVE BILLS

A new state official, legislative analyst, would be created by a bill sponsored by Senators Belton and Merrifield and Representative Ziegler. The analyst, in effect, would be the legislature's liaison with state departments.

A labor bill sponsored by employers would ban the closed shop and forbid coercion in attempting to get workers to join a union.

The people would lose their veto power over tax bills under a proposed constitutional amendment introduced by Representative Earl Hill. It would permit the legislature to attach the emergency clause to tax bills thus preventing referral to the people.

A new bill by Senator Ellis would change the retirement age for public employees from 65 to 70 years, with the provision that they could remain longer unless employer says they are unable to do their work.

A bill by Senator Newberger would permit the governor to appoint any citizen to the state forestry board. The eight member board now must consist of representatives of logging, lumber and grazing groups.

NEW LAWS

People would get the same rights as dogs in a bill passed by the legislature and now before the governor. The act makes it illegal for a motorist to kill or injure a pedestrian and then leave the scene of the accident. It corrects an oversight in the present hit-and-run law, which applies only when other vehicles are involved or when a dog is struck.

ENTREAT TO MCKAY

State Grange Master Elmer McClure said Monday that granges of the west coast states have asked Secretary of the Interior McKay to retain the present priority system for public power districts in the Bonneville power act.

Also the government should retain ownership of reclamation projects built with public funds and that there be no relaxation of the 190-acre limitation in the federal reclamation law.

PELTON DAM BRAWL

A public hearing on the Pelton dam controversy Friday brought crowds of late witnesses and rosters that rivaled the oleo hearing throngs of the legislative session. The large hearing room and wide halls leading to it became sounding boards for sub-human behavior. Police were called to keep order.

Two bus loads of Central Oregonians who arrived an hour before the time scheduled for the meeting were not all able to find seats. They came to rab for the Portland General Electric Company's proposal to build a dam on the Deschutes River.

Proponents testified the dam would provide 100,000 kilowatts of power. Opponents testified it would be only 42,000 and at best would be only a drop in the river to alleviate the power shortage. A proponent said the dam would build up a sportsmen's paradise. Others said the dam would ruin fishing for sportsmen and commercial fishermen would suffer the loss of spawning beds above the dam that would ruin the planned build up of 3,000,000 pounds of salmon a year.

PEN SOCIAL NOTES

Convicts at the state Penitentiary are making the headlines oftener than the legislators.

Last week two trustees strolled away to downtown Salem, took a car or two, and went for a nice evening ride to Albany and Corvallis—returning after midnight in a State Police car accompanied by officers.

A life-timer, Dupree Poe, and two playmates had a game of foust with Guard Howell which finished with a black eye and cuts on head and mouth. Then other pen officials called "foul" with a gas gun.

Guard O'Brien's breakfast was spoiled when he was knocked down by a convict who was trying to break through the breakfast line for a second helping.

Two other convicts are sojourning in the pen hospital after a discussion pertaining to each other's genealogy. One is reported to have used a knife and

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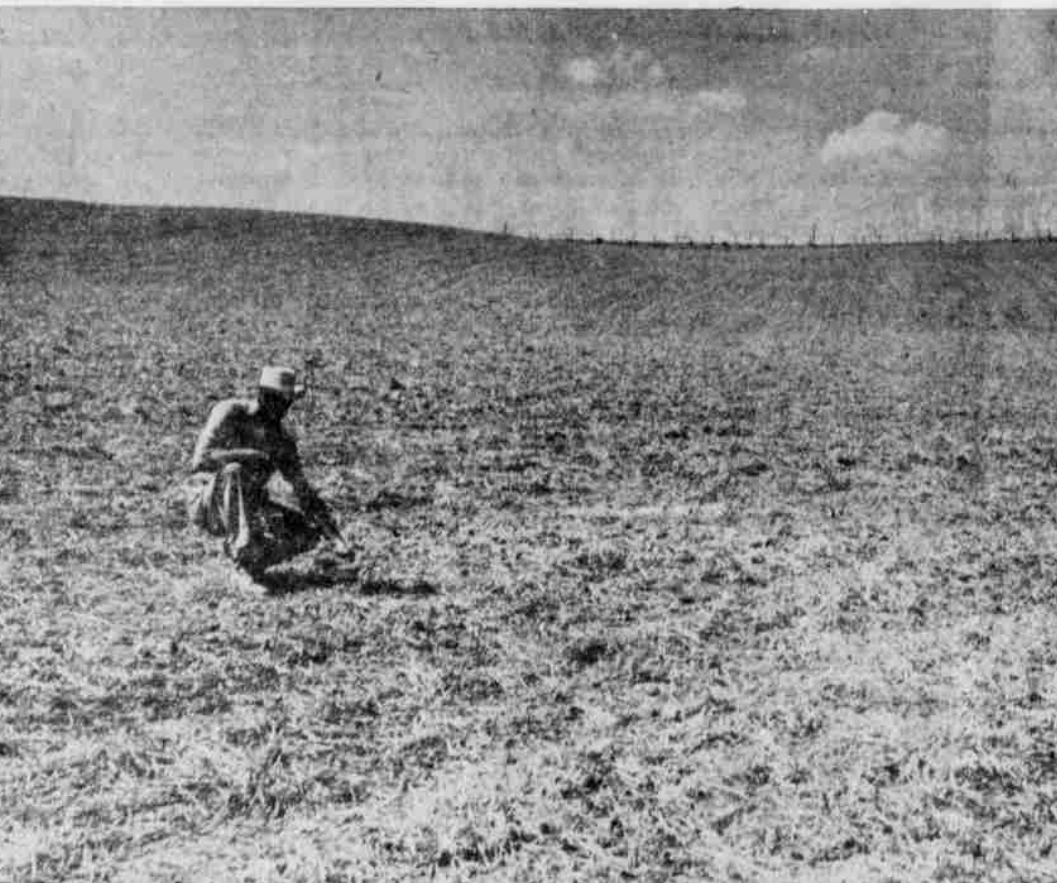
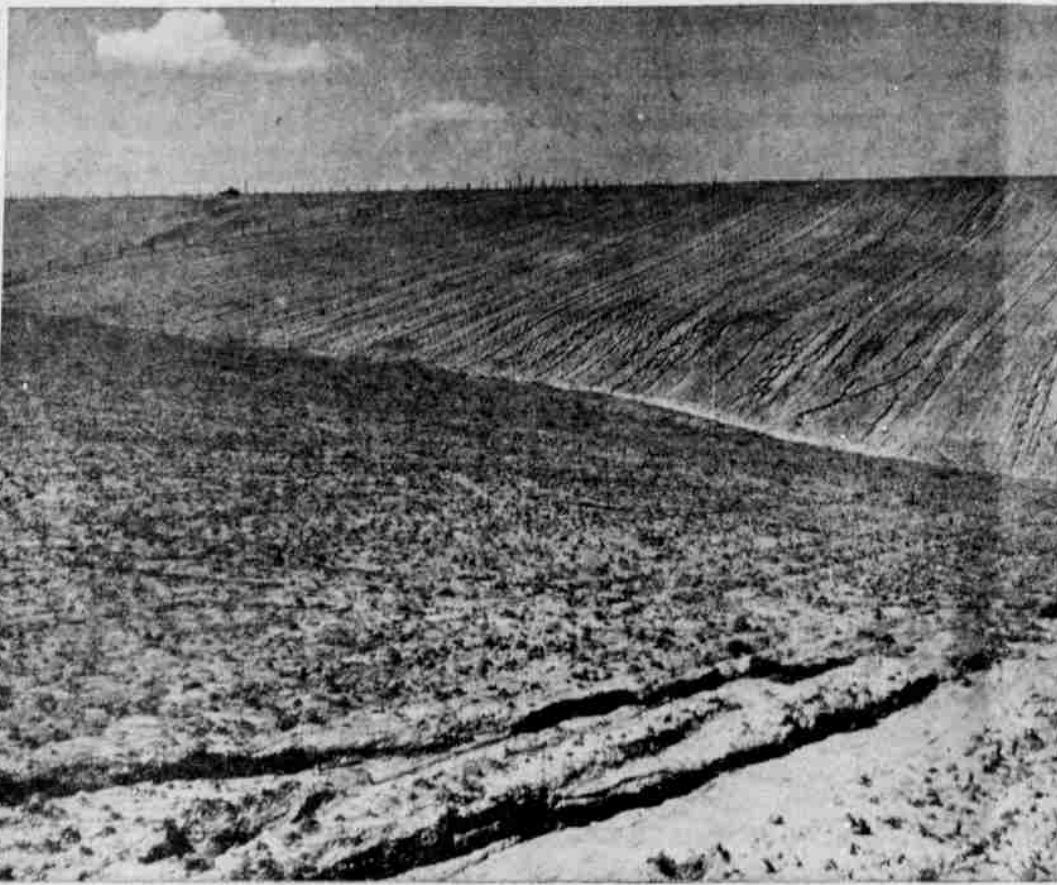
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Value of Soil Erosion Prevention Methods Graphically Illustrated



RAIN DAMAGE—How heavy rains effect two adjacent fields farmed under differing methods of cultivation is graphically illustrated in these two pictures showing heavy wash in one and no soil loss in the other. Story below gives complete information on the two fields.

(Soil Conservation Service Photos)

The value of stubble mulch as one of the basic farming practices to prevent soil erosion was stressed at the annual meeting of the Heppner Soil Conservation District held Monday, Feb. 2 at the Lexington Grange Hall.

With the coming of spring rains, one has only to drive around the county to see the sheet erosion and gullies on unprotected fallow fields and the control of erosion on stubble mulch land, Tom Wilson, work unit leader of the Soil Conservation Service, pointed out.

As a graphic illustration of the damage a heavy rainfall can do

to an unprotected field, the photograph above at the top shows gullies resulting on unprotected fallow on the Carl Bergstrom ranch in the Eightmile section on August 10 last summer when .91 inches of rain fell in thirty minutes, a downpour of almost cloud-burst proportions.

About 75 to 100 tons of topsoil per acre were lost from this field on which stubble had been burned and then worked with a moldboard plow.

In contrast, the lower photo shows the adjacent field on the Raymond Lundell ranch which showed no evidence of soil loss

from the storm. Both pictures were taken a few days following the storm.

The stubble mulch on the Lundell field was prepared with a stubble cutter, goble disc and rod weeder, resulting in very effective control of erosion.

"Stubble burning can result in aserious sheet and gully erosion even during moderate rains as shown by this springs runoff," Wilson pointed out. "The loss of this precious topsoil will in time leave the fields worthless for food production for coming generations."

TEMPERATURE DROPS BUT DAFFODILS IGNORE FROST TO START BLOOMING

The weatherman changed his style slightly during the past several days to give Morrow county, and most of the state, some weather that was a little more like normal for February, though he didn't bear down too hard in this section.

Heppner recorded a low of 22 degrees on both Sunday and Monday mornings and the mercury fell to 26 Tuesday morning, but the gentle frost seemed to have little effect on the growing ideas of many flowers and plants.

Flossie Coats, the Gazette Times correspondent at Boardman reported that though the thermometer dropped to 20 early Sunday along the Columbia, she

had a report that daffodils here were blooming in Mrs. Walter Hayes's garden the same day. Mrs. Hayes claims the first blossoms, but many other residents have buds ready to pop out. There have been numerous reports of crocuses and other spring flowers in bloom throughout the Heppner area.

Though no rain has fallen for the past few days, precipitation early in the month totals 1.11 inches at Heppner.

Two Lex Teachers Submit Resignation

Lexington school superintendent, James Vanover announced this week that two Lexington teachers had submitted their resignations to the school board, effective at the end of the present school year.

Those resigning are Fred Gomes, band instructor and seventh grade teacher, and Mrs. Mary L. Bates, high school English and girls' physical education instructor. Mrs. Bates does not plan to teach next year.

Art Ritchie of Ione was a business visitor in Heppner Monday.

I. O. O. F. Again To Sponsor U. N. Pilgrimage

Willows Lodge No. 66, I. O. O. F. will again participate in the U. N. Pilgrimage of Youth project sponsored by the Sovereign Grand Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Oregon. Through this plan, fourteen Oregon high school students are to be given the privilege of seeing the United Nations at work, visit New York and Washington, D. C. as well as various other national shrines along the route. This is an all-expense paid tour and is scheduled for July.

Because of increased interest in the project, Oregon has been divided into districts with Heppner included in District 16 which comprises Umatilla and Morrow Counties.

The topic for this year's contest is "My Community and the World" and any high school sophomore or junior may enter an essay. The details of the elimination contest have not been announced but it is expected that the final elimination will be held in Pendleton where broadcasting facilities are available.

Four lodges in the District, Milton-Freewater, Pendleton, Echo and Heppner, have signified their intention to sponsor the contest in their own locality. Each lodge has guaranteed a percentage of the cost of the tour and the lodge whose student wins the district contest will then pay the rest of the cost.

The project committee for District 16 includes T. B. Bomboy, chairman, Eureka Lodge No. 32, Pendleton; Jesse C. Payne, Willows Lodge No. 66, Heppner; and Tex Wilson, Overland Lodge No. 23, Echo. The committee in charge of the local contest includes R. G. McMurtry, Jesse C. Payne, Mrs. Lucy E. Rodgers and Mrs. Lena Kelly.

Death Takes Former Heppner Minister at Hemet, California

Word was received today of the death at Hemet, California, of Rev. Bennie Howe who was pastor of the Heppner Methodist church from 1941 to 1945. He died on February 10.

No details were available except that services will be held at the Harford Funeral Parlor in Hemet on February 16.

He is survived by his wife, Clara, one son and one stepdaughter.

Bank To Assist In Sending Aid To Flood Victims

Oregon families desiring to send financial aid to relatives and friends in flood-ravaged Holland, Belgium and England can do so without the usual transmittal service charge, through the Heppner branch of First National Bank of Portland, it was announced today by J. H. Bedford, manager of the local branch of the First National.

First National has numerous correspondent banks in the affected countries and money can be sent directly by air mail through any of the state-wide branches and affiliated banks without any delay or formality and free of charge, Bedford added.

Social Security Representative Due

Social security benefits which may become payable to a self-employed individual or his survivors are based on the tax returns which he is required to file each March 15. Be sure to report your earnings for social security along with your regular income tax return for 1952. Your social security account is an insurance policy with your government.

The field representative from the La Grande social security office will be in Heppner on Thursday, February 19th. He can be contacted at the City Hall in Heppner between the hours of 9:00 a. m. and noon if you want information about your own social security account.

FARMER'S PROGRAM TUESDAY

Empire Machinery company of Heppner will hold its annual John Deere Day show and program next Tuesday, February 17, according to Bob Grabill, local manager.

The program will start with a free lunch for farmers and their families at noon and will be followed by special shows at the Star Theater.

Journal Article Tells Flood Story

An excerpt from the book "Early Morrow County History" soon to be published by O. M. Yeager, former Heppnerite now residing in Castle Rock, Wash., appeared in the magazine section of last Sunday's Journal. This was titled "When Hell Broke Loose in Heppner" and is an eyewitness account of the Heppner Flood as told by Leslie L. Matlock to the author.

Accompanying the article are pictures of Matlock, one as he looked when he made his famous "Paul Revere" ride to Lexington to warn the citizens of their danger and the other as he looks today.

March of Dimes Approaches Goal

The Morrow county March of Dimes drive was within just a few dollars of going over the top of its \$3,000 quota this week as treasurer Robert Ferrell reported the fund now stands at \$2969.64, with several communities still to report.

So far Heppner has collected \$1618.24 and the rest of the county \$1351.40 and Hardman still holds the county per-capita record with \$301.10, but Lexington is running a close second with more than double the amount of last year's collections. Incomplete returns from there credit them with \$346.04. Mrs. Ruby Roberts, lone postmistress, has reported \$312.74 from collections and boxholder cards.

Mrs. Joseph Hughes, county drive chairman said this week that she has been told by some of the workers that there is enough money yet to be reported to assure the county of its quota. She said she hoped to be able to give the final complete figures by next week.

Barratt Named New Draft Board Member

The appointment of two new members for Tri-county board number 31 was appointed this week by state Selective Service headquarters. They are William F. Barratt, Heppner and Robert B. Eaton, Condon.

The new members were contacted recently by C. E. Fitch, operations officer of state headquarters, following the resignations of Conley Lanham, Heppner and J. G. Schreiner, Condon. The third member, Jack Combes, Fossil, will remain on the panel. Schreiner has held the position of chairman since organization of the local board in September 1948. Lanham has served since July, 1950.

The board also announced that three registrants will be inducted into the armed forces in the February quota. Manley W. Olson 20, Olex and Phillip L. Hickey 20, Blalock will report to the local board office February 12 to be sworn into the Army in Portland the following day. Donald H. Spitzer, 19, Lonerock volunteered for immediate Army induction earlier this month.

School Board Accepts Resignation Of Superintendent

The Heppner school board Monday evening accepted the resignation of Leonard L. Pate as the superintendent of the Heppner schools and expressed appreciation to him for his many years of service and for the work he has done to build up the school system.

Pate announced his resignation two weeks ago but the board had not had a regular meeting until Monday to act upon it. Members of the board said that they had no one in mind yet to replace Pate, but would start making inquiries shortly.

The board is still working on the problem of school expansion but have not yet arrived at any definite conclusions as to the location of any new building.

LICENSE EXAMINER TO BE IN HEPPNER

A drivers license examiner from the secretary of state's office will be in Heppner Tuesday, February 17, an announcement said today. He will be on duty at the courthouse from 9:30 to 3:30.

Mr. and Mrs. Don Robinson and her mother, Mrs. Merle Kirk of Hermiston, were in Yakima over the weekend to attend a stock sale.

Red Cross Nearly Ready For Start Of Fund Drive

Plans are now being readied for the annual Red Cross drive scheduled to open across the country on March 1. Mrs. James J. Farley, county drive chairman announced this week.

Mrs. Farley stated that she is now completing a list of workers and expects to announce the names next week. The quota set for Morrow county for the 1953 drive is \$2289, half of which remains with the local chapter for local use.

Mrs. Farley pointed out that one of the major points of the coming campaign is to secure sufficient funds and blood to continue the Gamma Globulin project which the Red Cross is actively supporting. Gamma Globulin is an immunization serum taken from human blood which has been found extremely beneficial for immunization against measles which more recently has been used with considerable success in the battle against polio.

The Red Cross plans to continue its well-known blood program and will aid in the manufacture of the globulin with money obtained during the coming campaign. The globulin is now produced on a very limited scale at considerable expense, and one of the Red Cross objectives is to expand this part of the program in an effort to have enough on hand to treat as many cases of polio as possible during the epidemic periods next summer and fall.

Many local projects are also handled by the local Red Cross chapter, though their varied nature keeps them from being as well known as are the several national programs. One of the most important however, is its job as contact between home areas and servicemen in times of family or other types of emergency. There have been several cases where the local chapter has aided in the return of servicemen to their homes in time of need.

Mrs. Farley said that she had every hope that the Morrow county chapter could continue the record established during the past several years and be among the first counties in the state to report fulfillment of its quota. Last year Morrow county was second in the state, and this year plans are being made with an eye towards being the first county over the top.

F. F. A. Gets Trailer Scales For Project Animal Weighing

The construction of F. F. A. trailer scales was completed last week by the senior agriculture class at Heppner high school and were used for the first time on Saturday to weigh out five bull calves on feed as F. F. A. projects, and two steers, instructor James Allen said this week.

It is the first time that any of the project animals have been weighed.

The use of the scales was made available by Bill Barratt and the boys in the shop put it on wheels and built the rack.

In the first weighing it was found that Allen Hughes has an outstanding bull calf, just over 12 months old that weighed 920 pounds. Eddie Brosnan is feeding a bull calf purchased from Dallas Craber that has averaged 2.8 pounds gain per day since being put on feed. In the future all project animals will be weighed once a month so members can keep an accurate record of the rate of gain.

Lower Bull Prices Expected at Ontario

A buyers market is in prospect at the Oregon Cattlemen's Association graded range bull sale at Ontario, on February 14 is the appraisal of Frank Anderson, local rancher, who indicated he plans on attending. "While the Association has gathered together a great set of bulls, it goes without saying that in view of the lowest and slowest cattle market in years, ranchers aren't going to be able to pay any big money for bulls", Anderson continued.

Anderson went on to state that pen lots of two, three, four and five head of Hereford and Short-horn bulls will be offered in addition to single lots. "The bulls will all be graded and every animal that isn't up to Association standards of health and quality will be sifted from the sale", he concluded.

Mrs. E. R. Fatland and son, Jack, of Condon spent Sunday in Heppner.