

# Heppner Gazette Times

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## At The Legislature--



### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

An important feature of the legislative session that few know about takes place an hour or so before either house convenes. The Governor, president of the senate and speaker of the lower house meet in the governor's private office to discuss legislative procedure and many matters pertaining to current legislation.

The president and the speaker each has a "say" that carries more or less weight but the governor has the power of veto that requires a two-thirds vote of both houses to override.

### STUDENTS VISIT CAPITOL

As usual many groups of school children from all over Oregon have been visiting the Capitol since the legislature convened.

Capitol guides estimate 9,000 have been shown through the building, taken for trips up in the dome and seated in the galleries of the senate or house to observe the lawmakers in action. Too many of these groups are so boisterous they disturb the legislators and other state officials in the building and frequently have to be warned. Heel-scraping on the marble floors not only marks the marble but it marks the individual as a moron heel.

Vandalism is common, with the groups from the larger cities doing most of the damage. It will cost several hundred dollars to replace articles stolen and to repair damage done this year. Brass door-knobs with the seal of the State of Oregon that cost \$15 each and brass push buttons on elevators are a few of the many articles that will have to be replaced.

The walls of the dome are covered with names and doodling in ink, grease, pencil and lipstick or are scratched. In the dome boys have held each other by the feet and while hanging head down have painted their initials on the outer walls of the dome.

Recently a group was observed that was noticeable different from the average. They were orderly and showed a respectful interest. We inquired about them and found they were to be introduced by Representative Loren L. Stewart.

They were from Mountain View School, instructor, Bob Gerstenberger; Dorena school, Milton Haddis, instructor, and Saguinaw school, Richard L. Cantwell, instructor, all in Lane county.

### SIGNED BY GOVERNOR

The principal bills signed by the governor the past week include:

SB 16—Provides green arrow signal on highways for motor vehicles and pedestrians where there are no other signals. SB 20—Prohibits pedestrians from crossing highways except where there are marked crossings. SB 31—Authorizes State Land Board to transfer title to certain shore lands in Hood River county. SB 33—Gives citizens right to appeal when tax collector has erred in overcharges. SB 67—Eases law on appeal from revocation of liquor licenses. SB 72—Makes county clerks sole collectors of dog licenses. SB 106—Provides that revised statutes adopted by legislature shall not be printed in session laws.

HB 41—Authorizes \$32,000,000 in highway bonds. HB 315—Deficiency appropriation of \$40,500 for vocational rehabilitation. HB 323—Repeals law which authorizes Public Utility Commissioner to employ expert help. HB 397—Repeals obsolete law.

### TAXES

Property taxes levied for local government and districts in Oregon total \$114,420,362 for the current fiscal year, or \$7,400,000 more than the last fiscal year.

Taxes levied include: School districts \$65,017,771; cities and towns \$18,069,770; counties \$18,036,819. There is \$702,163,505 worth of tax exempt property in Oregon; more than half of this is owned by the federal government, 16 per cent by school districts, 18 per cent by the state, counties and cities, less than 5 per cent by religious organizations, irrigation districts and ports.

Oregon's taxes are the seventh highest in the entire nation.

### ANOTHER OREGON FIRST

Oregon is the first state to use the new instrument known as the telebinocular to test drivers' vision in connection with the examination for drivers' licenses.

Since the instrument was first used in Oregon five months ago, 586 persons applying for licenses have been referred to professional examinations to determine if vision correction would qualify them for licenses.

### GUERNATORIAL APPOINTMENTS

Late Friday afternoon Governor (Continued on page 8)

## 'Don't Play' Warning Again Issued Kids



NOT PLAYTHINGS—As a means of warning both children and parents that blasting powder and caps are not things to play with, "Shorty" Peck, powder man on the Heppner sewer construction job, holds a couple of sticks of the powder and two of the wired caps. It has been reported that one or two children have been found playing with the dangerous "toys" and both the construction men and members of the city council again urge all children to keep away from the construction—and especially the powder. Construction men pointed out that the brightly colored wired caps are particularly attractive to children, and after the charges are fired there are numerous wires left around, which are harmless. But, if there happens to be a little copper colored tube still attached to any wire, "leave it alone". Workmen make every effort to keep the powder out of reach of small hands, but obviously can't watch it every second. (GT Photo)

## Mountain Snow Pack Water Content is High

Fears of farmers and cattle men that next summer's water supply might be low were alleviated this week following the February snow survey completed last Friday.

Water content of snow measured on the Arbuckle mountain snow course averaged 38 percent above normal and slightly above last year's record at the same time. Tom Wilson of the Soil Conservation Service and Whitmer Wright from the Forest Service

vice skied into the snow course and reported 38.6 inches of snow with a water content of 15.5 inches which compares with 43.8 inches of snow but only 15.2 inches of water at the same time last year. Measurements taken for the last 11 years show a February average snow depth of 35 inches with a water content of 11.2 inches.

"Water-soaked soils are frozen and well saturated favoring a well sustained flow of water from the snow pack", Wilson said.

## FEBRUARY RAINFALL NEAR RECORD, FARM LANDS WELL SATURATED

When all the records were tallied up this week, Jupe Pluvius gave Morrow county the wettest February since 1949 and the fifth wettest since records have been kept in Heppner. Total precipitation measured during the month by Leonard Gilliam at the local station was 2.02 inches. In

the Gooseberry section, Leonard Carlson checked 2.05 inches.

The slightly more than two inches at Heppner compares with 1.14 inches for February last year and brings this year's total to 3.67 inches. At the Gooseberry station the total for the first two months of 1953 is 4.31 inches, better than double what fell on the area a year ago.

This year's rainfall only missed equalling the 1949 mark by .01 inch and ran far ahead of the February average. Most farmers report fields are well soaked and in many cases are still too wet to cultivate.

## Cattle, Prices Up At Hermiston Sale

HERMISTON—The market was steady to strong at the Hermiston Livestock Auction Friday with 381 head of cattle consigned and a dollar volume of \$44,081.15. 310 head of cattle were consigned this week a year ago.

Calves—baby calves 12-25.50; weaner calves 22.50-25.75; feeder calves 21.50 with 22 steers calves, weight 1230 lb., going for 22.80; veal 25.50-31.50.

Steers—stocker steers, quality better than last week, 18.25-29.50; feeder steers 19-21; fat slaughter steers 21.00-22.10.

Cows—Dairy cows 135-187.50; dairy heifers, fleshy, 13.75-16.25; some holstein heifers up to 17.85; stock cows 125-135, one lot of four cows with three calves at side, cows sold for 205 hd.

Slaughter cows—commercial 15.50-17.10; utility 13.50-14.50; canner-cutter 11.50-13.75; shells 9.25-10.25.

Hogs—weaner pigs 9.00-14.50; feeder pigs 17.25-18.00; fat hogs 22.20-22.50; sows 15.75-18.00, a few light sows at 19.00. No sheep were consigned.

Lee Beckner, Fred Hoskins and W. A. Heath & Son were among the consignors. Beckner sold a bull, Hoskins sold seven cattle, and the Heaths sold two cattle.

John McIntire of Boardman sold the top hog at \$22.50 cwt.; Henry Kopacz of Hermiston topped the market for sows with an animal going at \$19.60. A. M. Rennicker of Umatilla consigned the best calf, selling at \$26.50 hd. J. B. Wilson of Walla Walla sold three registered cows for a top price of \$250 hd. The best bull, weighing 1780 lbs., sold for \$19.85 cwt.

Mrs. Tom Howell is undergoing medical treatment at The Dalles hospital. Mrs. Howell was transferred from the Pioneer Memorial hospital several days ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Blake have returned from Portland where they attended the 80th birthday anniversary open house for her mother.

# Heppner Wins First Round in District Basketball Playoffs

## Written Health Permits Now Needed By Absent Students

County health officers advised parents this week that all school age children who have been out of school due to contagious illness for two or more days will be required by teachers and school officials to bring a written permit from a doctor or county health officer before being allowed to re-enter classes.

Martha Tapanainen, county health nurse, said the requirement applied to all children in the county and has been ordered to prevent further spread of several contagious diseases which had threatened to reach epidemic proportions in some sections.

## Council Works On Complicated Sewer Use Ordinance

Heppner city fathers spent a good part of Monday evening working on a new ordinance designed to control and regulate the sewer system now under construction in the city. Routine business matters occupied the rest of the regular council session.

The proposed ordinance, prepared for the city by the engineering firm of Clark and Groff and patterned after similar ordinances in other Oregon cities, sets out in detail how the sewer system will be operated, how residential and business hook-ups shall be made to the main line, plumbing requirements within a building, the use of private sewers and many other matters directly related to the use of the new system.

The group discussed numerous changes and additions to the code to make it conform with the local requirements, including the setting up of fee schedules for inspections, the time limit within which all residents must connect with the system and regulations governing the use of private sewer systems, or septic tanks, in areas where a sewer line cannot be extended to reach some properties.

One point which brought considerable discussion was the requirement that all septic tanks be filled after the sewer is operating. It was pointed out that though many such tanks in town are in good condition now, disuse over a period of years could cause decay with the possibility of collapse at some time in the future. The council tentatively agreed to require subsequent filling of all tanks as a safety measure, especially as a protection for children.

With several points still to be decided, the council adjourned the meeting until later in the week to give more time for consideration of numerous points of the ordinance.

The group indicated that it planned to publish the ordinance in full, following its adoption, to give residents an opportunity to better understand its many points.

## Scarlet Fever Now on Decline

The outbreak of scarlet fever which last week caused considerable anxiety among parents and physicians, has apparently been controlled, Dr. A. D. McMurdo, county health officer said Wednesday. Only one new case has been reported to him during the week.

McMurdo felt the warning, issued last week from his office, had served its purpose well in urging parents and children to aid in preventing the spread of the disease. He stressed, however, that it is still necessary to use caution until it is certain that no cases exist. He said there is no way of knowing for certain how many cases of scarlet fever there were in the county for most doctors felt that there were many which were not reported. All remaining known cases in the county are well scattered, McMurdo said.

## Local Winners Lose In La Grande Elks Scholarship Contest

Although the two local winners of the Elks National Foundation scholarship announced last week, Jack Sumner and Patricia Peck, both of Heppner high school, failed to win in the district contest held Sunday at La Grande, they will receive the \$200 award given by the local lodge, scholarship committee officers pointed out this week.

Sumner and Miss Peck were chosen from among seven Ione, Lexington and Heppner students for the "Most Valuable Student" award by a committee of three judges, Mrs. Lucy Rodgers, Jack Loyd and Harold Becket. The contestants were Franklin Miles, Lexington; Donald Bristow and Michael Reisinger, Ione; and Rita Cox, Michael Grant, Miss Peck and Sumner of Heppner.

All entrants from the district who competed at La Grande were offered scholarship awards at Eastern Oregon College of Education at La Grande.

Winners at the La Grande contest who are now eligible to compete for the state and national awards were Dale Metcalf, Pendleton and Barbara Klunder, Baker.

The local Elks committee that handled the contest included Leslie Grant, Harold Becket and Leonard Pate.

## MEMORIALS FESTIVAL COMMITTEE TO MEET

The Morrow county Home Economics Extension committee will meet Monday March 9 in Heppner at the home of Mrs. Maud Casswell at 1:30 p. m.

The purpose of the meeting is to start planning for the annual Homemakers Festival to be held Tuesday May 5.

News received in Lexington on Monday was that Mrs. Elmer Hunt of The Dalles is ill in a hospital in that city.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Wise spent the weekend in Spokane visiting their daughter, Miss Darlene Wise.

Mr. and Mrs. Emory Settles have purchased the house from Mrs. Pearl Devine located on the corner of S. Court and Cannon streets. Mrs. Devine has moved into her new home on Chase street.

## Check Writer's Persistence Lands Him in Local Jail

Dean Leroy Stout, 26, Vernonia was jailed Tuesday evening on a bad check charge filed against him by district attorney Bradley D. Fancher.

According to local police Stout had passed several checks to various Heppner merchants earlier in the day, but had made some of them good, however, even after a warning by police he continued the practice which finally landed him behind bars later in the day.

Stout admitted under police questioning that he is wanted in Vernonia on a similar charge.

Officers were unable to determine immediately how many of the worthless checks were still out.

## Hospital Head Resigns, Former Administrator Back

P. W. Mahoney, chairman of the board of directors of Pioneer Memorial hospital said Wednesday that the board has accepted the resignation of E. L. Gronemyer as hospital administrator effective April 1 and at the same time announced the selection of John Ernsdorff, former hospital head, to again assume the position.

Gronemyer took over the duties as administrator of the local hospital July 1, 1952 when Ernsdorff resigned to take up other work in the Spokane area. He came here from Seattle.

Ernsdorff will return in time to aid in planning the construction of an additional bedroom wing on the building, funds for which were voted at the November general election. Work on the new wing is expected to start about July 1.

Gronemyer said his future plans were indefinite, but that it was possible that he would remain in Heppner.

## Defense Bond Quota Is Set for County

Morrow county has been given a 1953 quota of \$271,000 for Defense bond sales, Jeff Carter, county bond chairman stated this week. This is the first year for some time that any area has had a definite quota assigned to them, he said.

The quota applied to the sales of all types of defense bonds and represent 0.6 percent of the total set for Oregon. Sales in the county during January amounted to \$7700, Carter said.

It was emphasized that an attempt is being made nation-wide to explain to holders of war-purchased bonds which are now coming due, that they can retain those bonds for another 10 years and will continue to receive interest on the total amount of the bond. They do not have to be cashed at the end of their 10-year period unless the holder desires.

## Episcopalians To Hear Lakeview Pastor

Word was received from Bishop Lane Barton this week that Rev. Dr. Tragitt, pastor of the Lakeview Episcopal church will be in Heppner Sunday to hold services at All Saints Episcopal church.

Rev. and Mrs. E. L. Tull, former pastor here, left a week ago to take over duties at Hoquiam, Washington.

## ANNUAL P-TA "TALL, SHORT" HOOP GAME SET FOR FRIDAY THE 13TH

Arrangements are nearing completion this week for the annual P-TA sponsored scholarship benefit "tall man, short man" basketball game which is to be held at the local school gym Friday, March 13 at 7:30.

The annual affair, which this year has been altered from the usual "fat man, thin man" category, promises to be one of the major sporting events of the year, according to P-TA officials who announced that Everett Keithley will be captain of the tall, and

Jack Van Winkle is to oversee the talents of the little fellows. A complete roster of the team members was not yet available, but will be given next week. Clarence Johnson will have charge of the ticket sales.

E. J. Dobbie, high school vice-principal will arrange for additional entertainment during the evening.

Money raised by the game will be used by the P-TA for a scholarship fund to be awarded some Heppner high school senior for further education.

## Mustangs Meet Sisters Today In Second Round

By Kenneth Easter

THE DALLES—Heppner's Mustangs sailed over the first hurdle in the district 6-B basketball playoffs at The Dalles Wednesday afternoon by downing a much weaker Lapine club 80 to 41.

The game, played at 2:30, was the second of six games played in the first round of the single elimination tourney which included 14 teams from the district.

Right from the start, there was no argument about which team had the run of the floor, for by the end of the first quarter Heppner held a commanding 22 to 9 lead. They continued to stretch this during the next period to finish the half on the long end of a 35 to 16 score. During the last half the Mustang reserves took over and they continued to pile up points as the third period ended with Heppner clear out of sight of the hapless Lapine five with a tally of 57 to 28. They coasted on through the final period to win by the lopsided 80 to 41 score.

High point man for the Mustangs were Bill Hughes, Dick Kononen and Jack Sumner, each with 12 points and Jerry Hague-wood with 11.

## PLAY SISTERS TODAY

In the third game of the first round, played at 4 p. m. Wednesday, Sisters had little trouble downing Dufur 59 to 36 to win a chance to meet Heppner in the second round of the elimination at 4 o'clock today (Thursday). Comparative scores would give the Mustangs a decided edge over the Deschutes county team, but they faced much stiffer competition in their first game than did the Mustangs. The Heppner boys, after seeing Sisters in action, nevertheless felt they had a good chance to continue their winning ways. Should they take the Sisters game they will meet the winner of the other leg of the elimination play at 7:30 on Friday night. The championship game will be played at 9 o'clock Saturday evening.

## Red Cross Drive Well Under Way

Mrs. J. J. Farley, county Red Cross drive chairman, told the Gazette Times Wednesday that she has received \$624.15 from drive workers in the first three days of the current campaign. The funds so far turned in have come from Lexington, Morgan and a few of the Heppner workers. This is about one-fourth of the county quota.

Mrs. Farley again emphasized the urgent need the Red Cross faces for additional funds to continue the production of gamma globulin, an antibody now being used to combat polio. The county quota was raised slightly over last year to meet this extra responsibility and cost.

Mrs. Farley also urged local workers to complete the canvas of their areas and report to her as quickly as possible as the local committee is trying to attain the record for being the first county in the state to meet its goal.

## Scout District Meet Set for Arlington

The regular monthly meetings of the Covered Wagon District, Blue Mountain Council, Boy Scouts of America, will be held on Tuesday, March 17th, 8:00 p. m., Arlington high school, Arlington. Dick Wightman, of Heppner, district chairman; Bruce Mercer of Condon, district commissioner; and Jack Long, district scout executive, will be in charge of the meetings. All adult Scouters from Gilliam, Wheeler and Morrow counties are invited to attend.

Leadership training will be given for the pack and troop leaders at the roundtables. The preparation, planning, and conducting of special events with movies shown on the camping and circus themes will be presented.