

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES THIRTY YEARS AGO

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 Rates: Morrow and Grant Counties, \$3.00 Year; Elsewhere \$4.00 Year. Single Copy 10 cents

Time Marches On

Newspapers recently carried the story of a woman who underwent a major operation for the removal from her stomach of a fork which she had swallowed while trying to pick her teeth with one of the tines. The story did not explain how she happened to swallow the fork or why she was using the instrument in the first place.

It used to be that just about every table had a small jar containing a liberal assortment of wooden toothpicks. After a meal anyone with chunks of meat or raspberry seeds sticking in, between, or under his teeth could help himself to these sticks and pry away to his heart's (and teeth's) content until he had successfully dislodged the obstruction.

This was one of the relaxing parts of the meal and contributed much to the good digestion which people used to enjoy. Medical experts attribute much of the increase in ulcers and high blood pressure to the fact that people are now forced to find some way to endure food sticking in their teeth until they are somewhere in seclusion away from the table.

Instead of comfortably probing around in their teeth together, in a sort of mutual undertaking while they relax and wait for dessert, people now sit in tensed anxiety trying to think of an excuse for cutting the meal and visit short so they can go to work on their teeth in

private.

In earlier days many people carried toothpicks in their pockets, and some even had ones made out of ivory which were good indefinitely instead of being discarded after a single thrust or two. This was more economical, and an ivory toothpick in use had a certain elegance which was had to duplicate.

Not only did the use of toothpicks relieve tensions and promote a spirit of camaraderie, and aid digestion, but they could be maneuvered, manipulated and chewed on after they had served their primary purpose and this gave the diners a relaxed feeling of ease and contentment. Everybody worked together in unison and with a common purpose in this business created an atmosphere of good will and mutual tolerance.

It was quite all right too, if there was no regular toothpick handy, to pull out a pocket knife and whittle one out of a wooden match, but the wooden match is all but extinct, too.

The toothpick industry doubtless afforded employment to many thousands of people who are now either out of work or engaged in less productive efforts.

A return to the use of toothpicks should be encouraged. They did a good job and they were far safer than the tines of a fork.

(Wallowa County Chieftain)

From files of the Gazette Times
December 18, 1924

That a real test for oil will be made in Morrow county is the assurance given this paper by Sam Ganger of the Lone Hotel, who is authority for the statement that it will not be long before actual work of drilling is begun.

The annual election of officers was part of the official program at the meeting of Ruth chapter No. 32, OES on last Friday evening. Newly elected officers were: Mrs. Elizabeth Dix, worthy matron; Gay M. Anderson, worthy patron; Mrs. Beatrice Penland, associate matron; Mrs. Harriet Mahoney, secretary; Mrs. Olive Frye, treasurer; Mrs. Harriett Gemmill, conductress; Mrs. Sylvia Missildine, associate conductress.

Lexington is represented by six of the 3051 students registered at O. A. C. They are Dallas Ward, Elmo McMillan, Walter Nolan, Wilma Leach, Opal Leach and Maxine Gentry.

Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Krebs of the Last Camp were visiting in Heppner on Saturday.

California, 41 percent.

Rather than recommending any specific tax, however, Hall warned that "saving money" must get emphasis along with finding next tax funds. He insisted opportunities to trim costs have "hardly been more than scratched."

He pointed out that 34 percent of the 1953 national income went into government costs—8.8 percent of them local and state.

Changes in state income taxes considered to raise additional revenue were increased rates, elimination of dependency credits and other exemptions, and throwing out federal income tax deductions in figuring the state tax. All are due for legislative discussion.

Robert M. Hall, chairman of the Portland chamber of commerce taxation committee, suggested consideration of the California system which has a 3 percent sales tax on all but food and then an income tax for upper-income brackets. He said only a sales tax would bring the necessary funds to balance the budget.

C. F. Stephenson, president of the First National Bank, Portland, said Oregon "can't go any further with the excise tax without chilling the interest of prospective businesses which would want to locate here."

The property tax can be used to balance the budget up to the legal 6 mill limit. Senators Rudie Wilhelm, Jr., Portland, and How-



DR. JAMES W. NORENE, veterinarian, who last week announced the opening of his office for practice in Heppner.

Xmas Club Accounts Now Draw Interest

The First National Bank of Portland has announced "first" in banking service for Oregon residents—an interest paying Christmas club savings account, accord to J. H. Bedford, manager of the local branch of the state-wide bank.

Christmas club accounts have been available at some Oregon banks for several years, but First National is the first to pay interest on the savings.

Christmas club is a special bank savings account whereby customers deposit from 50 cents to ten dollars each week for 50 weeks. Then, just before Christ-

mas checks for the amount saved, plus interest, are sent to the members.

The new program will provide a prepaid Christmas next year for the thousands of persons who open a Christmas club account.

Local merchants will like Christmas club too, because it will make more money available for Christmas shopping.

MRS. TURNER RETURNS FROM VISIT

Mrs. Frank Turner has been in Portland for the past two weeks at the home of her sister, Mrs. Sophia Barr, who is recuperating from an arm injury.

Mrs. Barr will accompany Mrs. Turner home this week and will spend the holidays at the Turner home.

USE GAZETTE TIMES CLASSIFIED ADS

MERCHANDISE AND TURKEY

SHOOT

Sunday, December 19

MORROW CO. GUN CLUB



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Guess It's Called a Safety "Drive"

Whitey Fisher, from the State Motor Vehicle Department, dropped by to discuss some of our local traffic problems.

"Up at Center Junction," Whitey says, "they've got a new sign that really slows down the traffic going through town."

"The sign says, 'At 25 miles an hour, you can drive through Center Junction in 2 1/2 minutes!' It slows people down too—some just take it easy to check on that 2 1/2 minutes, I guess. Hasn't even been a dented fender since that sign went up."

From where I sit, it wasn't what the sign said, but the way it was said. People are usually pretty understanding if they understand what you mean. It's the same way with differences of opinion. Perhaps your neighbor prefers a temperate glass of beer, and you would choose buttermilk. What I'd like to see is for all of us to "slow down," talk it out, and be respectful of our neighbor's rights.

Joe Marsh

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RECENT LEGAL OPINIONS

A physician may lawfully disclose to law enforcement authorities a patient's confession of crime, as a privilege of confidential communication is a rule of evidence in civil actions only.

A star route mail contract carries is not entitled to a refund of gas taxes, since he is not engaged solely and exclusively in the transportation of rural free delivery mail.

The common law of England in regard to prohibition of public officers' business dealings with their respective principals had not been "modified by the statutes of Iowa" when the Oregon territorial act of June 27, 1844, was passed. It becomes the law

of Oregon by force of the constitution of this state. Sale of county land to a county commissioner who signed the order of sale must be deemed "void as against public policy," whether or not the public has in fact suffered any detriment.

FEWER MARRIAGES IN 1954

The Oregon State Board of Health does not report a diagnosis, only the figures, that Marriages in Oregon have dropped sharply this year from totals reported this time last year. The drop so far is 13.8 per cent. Divorces have decreased 7.6 and infant deaths are down 7.1. Nationally both marriages and divorces have shown decreases, though relatively smaller than Oregon's.

The principal causes of death to residents of Oregon were, diseases of the heart, 4,170; cancer, 1,594; intracranial lesions, 1,309; arteriosclerosis, 313; pneumonia, 229; suicide, 189; tuberculosis, 58.

UNEMPLOYMENT PAY UP

November's payments to unemployed workmen brought the total of \$21,893,800, higher than ever before recorded for a calendar year, in Oregon.

November added 10,300 to Oregon's listing of job-seekers but the 40,700 total estimated by the State Employment Compensation Commission was 5,200 below the figure on Dec. 1, 1953. Seasonable increases in unemployment resulted in payments to workers advancing to \$1,485,847.

TOP SPEED UP COURTS

Circuit courts of the state were given a new set of rules this week by the Oregon Supreme Court in an effort to speed up work.

Each circuit judge will have to submit a monthly tally on undecided cases in the high court. County clerks also will have to submit reports every three months on the status of all circuit court cases.

All court business, except motions, must be decided within three months, unless Justice Earl C. Latourette approves of a delay. Motions must be acted upon within one month.

Conference Hears Much Discussion on New State Taxes

OREGON STATE COLLEGE—New taxes loom for Oregon and changes in the present tax provisions seem certain next year, the state tax conference at Oregon State College last week (Dec. 9 and 10) indicated.

The conference provided a preview of what's ahead for Oregonians in the way of taxes needed to meet mounting government costs and a state deficit expected to run about \$60,000,000 in the next biennium.

A sales tax was center of new-tax talk. It drew spirited discussion from the 250 legislative, business, farm, labor, civic and school leaders attending.

Washington and California have the sales tax as a backbone of their tax programs. Dr. James K. Hall, University of Washington economist and key note speaker reported. In 1953, Washington got 52 percent of its total tax revenue from the sales tax and

CAPITAL SHORTS

The repeal of the milk control act had nothing to do with sanitation laws applying to milk production and distribution, officials in the foods and dairies division of the State Agricultural Department are contending. . . . If your automobile license expires in January you will be one of the first to get one of the new blue background yellow lettered license plates. . . . Sec. of Interior McKay addressed the western Forestry Association in San Francisco this week. The McKays will arrive in the Capital next week to spend the holidays. . . . The state budget for the 1955-57 biennium will be completed before Christmas. When approved by Governor Patterson it will be printed and delivered to the 1955 Legislature, meeting Jan. 10. . . . Contract for 4,100,000 gallons of gasoline to be used by the state next year was awarded to Tidewater Associated Oil Company this week.

KEEP IT HAPPY!

Safety isn't something we should seek on just one day! It should be our foremost thought At home or work or play!

Records show more accidents on the Days before & Christmas Eve! Let's concentrate on changing that; It's up to you and to me!

Let no one suffer pain or sorrow In any sort of way! Keep safe and keep our Christmas A truly happy holiday!

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STAR THEATER, Heppner

Admission Prices: 70c, 50c and 20c including Federal Tax.

Sunday shows during December start at 4 p. m. Evening shows start at 7:30. Box-office open until 9 p. m. Children's Free Christmas Show, December 18th at 2 p. m. No Show December 24th. Christmas Day and New Year's Day shows start at 4 p. m. GIVE STAR THEATER SCRIP BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS \$2.50

Thursday, Friday-Saturday, Dec. 16-17-18

THE LAW VS. BILLY THE KID
Scott Brady, Betta St. John. Technicolor Western based on American folk lore. Plus
GO, MAN, GO
The World Famous Harlem Globe Trotters and Dane Clark in a heart-warming, barn-storming story of a championship basketball team.

CHILDREN'S ANNUAL FREE CHRISTMAS SHOW SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18TH 2 P. M.
"MARCH OF THE WOODEN SOLDIERS"
With Laurel and Hardy
Candy Provided By Heppner Elks Lodge
SEND THE CHILDREN TO THE FREE SHOW AND GET THAT CHRISTMAS SHOPPING FINISHED!

Sunday-Monday, Dec. 19-20

LAST TIME I SAW PARIS
Elizabeth Taylor, Van Johnson, Walter Pidgeon, Donna Reed, Eva Gabor, Kurt Kasznar. Based on F. Scott Fitzgerald's "Babylon Revisited". Tuned to the song that provides its title, this Technicolor story tells of Paris when its lights came on again. Sunday shows at 4, 6:20 and 8:40

Tuesday-Wednesday, Dec. 21-22

THE WESTERNER
Brought back again—one of Gary Cooper's all-time-favorite outdoor melodramas.

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