

# HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES THIRTY YEARS AGO

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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## It's Worth the Trip—

It's time again for the annual Morrow County Fair and Rodeo—a big five-day program that offers something of interest for every resident of the county.

There have been a great many people who have been working for weeks to make all of this year's show one of the best ever and we know that they are going to be proud of what they have done. They should be—and we who may only be

observers can also be proud of the job that has been done. Everyone who has had a hand in preparing a part of the show deserves a lot of thanks.

Now, however, most of the work is done, and whether you have had a part in the show or not, the time has come to enjoy what is awaiting all of us. Let's all find time to take in much of it for there are shows, events, displays and exhibits that will appeal to all. It's our fair and rodeo—even if our individual part to play is only to visit and to see. It will be worth everybody's time.

## TO THE EDITOR . . .

To the Editor:

So they're putting us on the defensive, amusing to the readers and free copy to the editor. Well, let's just turn it around and put the shoe on the other foot, it will fit alright.

Let this high yield be a lesson in conservation. This ranch is new God given rich virgin land and the 177 acres in question is the best of a 1300 acre field. Go west young man and plow up a new farm. I've worn out three farms already does not apply here, due to the intestinal fortitude of the Hynd Brothers.

In our conservation practices we managed to control everything but cheat grass, although we have never received the grassman award for so doing. However, as badly infested as our fields were we had almost none on this small field.

This ranch was developed by John Graves and he filled a 9000 bushel grain bin in my elevator from 120 acres in 1948. I never saw the growing grain but I got the wheat and had his word for the acres. However, he was smarter than I, he never talked about it.

We harvested with four 16½ foot Harris combines on which the bulkers hold 65 bu. and with extensions hold about 80 bu. and all four drivers agree they could not get over ½ mile to the bulk-er. They got 5 bulkers to the round on this field. 80 bushels to the acre is common in the Grand Coulee irrigation project on desert land. Our land is far superior and the only difference is water and this year we had the water.

This year I had the good fortune to accompany the Heppner Chamber of Commerce on the annual field S. C. S. tour sponsored by the group. We saw the terrific damage wrought by water erosion in the Sand Hollow district and we also saw the outstanding job of conservation done by Allen Tom in controlling erosion on his farm. It was on some of this land he received a 61 bushel yield. This land was very badly eroded when he purchased it a few years ago. It had probably a 40% top soil loss. Is it beyond reason that had he had the use of the lost soil that his yield could have been one-third more?

Wheat farmers in this county can well profit by taking a page from Allen Tom's and the Nelson Brothers' book. There have been no home fires burning on these ranches in the spring of the year as we all have seen burning at night in the stubble fields of their neighbors.

No, Jess, you just can't figure on increased land values on your ranch, you are forty years to late.

Orville Cutsforth

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Blake, Mr. and Mrs. Earle Gilliam and Leonard Gilliam have returned after spending the past two weeks at the coast near Depot Bay.

## THE FLOOD STORY—

# Heavy Runoff Seen During Area Storms

(This is the second of a series of articles taken from a report by Quentin Bowman, engineer for the state water resources board. It deals with Willow creek floods, water flow, etc. The articles are presented to show the value of proposed flood control and irrigation dams.)

In addition to the five disastrous floods of major proportions, about 10 minor floods also occurred during the 60-year period of historical flood record to 1942. These minor floods, resulting from lesser storms in intervening years, did not cause any extensive or general damages over the basin, but damages in particular sections were notable.

The magnitude of minor floods at Heppner ranges from about 3,000 to 6,000 second feet. Estimates of the discharge of the 1934 flood at Heppner, based on stages and on the extent of overflow, show considerable variation for the different reaches. The maximum discharge of this flood, however, probably did not exceed 13,000 second feet. The discharge of the 1903 flood accumulated above Heppner is estimated at about 1,100 acre-feet. Inasmuch as the stages reached in the flood of 1883 exceeded those of the 1903 flood, the discharge probably equalled or exceeded 36,000 second-feet.

The existing channel capacities in Heppner range from about 1,100 to 5,800 second-feet. The capacity of the most critical sections ranges from 1,100 to 2,400 second feet. The safe channel capacities of other critical sections in stretches of the main stream below Heppner vary from about 1,800 to 3,000 second-feet.

### Flood Frequencies

The probable occurrence of the cloudburst type of storm in any definite period of years is dependent on so many unrelated factors that reliable forecasting is impossible. No known basis exists upon which to predict this type of flood, as two major floods could occur in one summer or even within one week. The occurrence of floods greater than those of 1903 or 1883 is possible for the reason that both the center band and outer perimeter of this type of storm might easily cover a wider area and thereby produce higher peak flows and larger runoff.

### Extend and Character of Flooded Area

After the 1903 flood, the city of Heppner was rebuilt in its original extremely hazardous location, directly in the path of cloudburst flood-waters. The towns of Lexington and Lone, below Heppner, are located in the valley of the main stream, subject to serious damages from floods. The hamlets of Jordan, McNab, Morgan and Cecil are stations along the railroad line in the lower valley—these are also subject to flooding, but not affected by minor floods. The valleys of Rhea and Willow creeks between the community centers are inhabited principally by the owners and employees of the stock and wheat ranches that lie on the higher rolling areas of the basin. The concentration of farm residences in the valley areas in the direct path of cloudburst floods is due to the availability of water supply for production of hay and other stock feed and for domestic use.

(Next week—irrigation and the flood problem).

## From The County Agent's Office

By N. C. Anderson

Particulars of the wheat acreage reserve and conservation reserve programs for 1957 were announced last week. County agents and ASC committees attended a meeting at Pendleton on Tuesday and Wednesday when details for the program were outlined. In the acreage reserve program for 1957, winter wheat producers will have until September 21, 1956 to sign 1957 acreage reserve agreements. This program looks very good for wheat growers and it is my opinion that there will be a lot of participation in Morrow county.

Farmers who have established wheat acreage allotments are

the only ones in Oregon eligible to participate in this program. To participate, a farmer must sign an agreement with his county ASC committee to reduce his 1957 acreage of wheat below his farm allotment. The amount of wheat below his farm allotment. The amount of acreage that can be placed in the reserve is allocated to each county. Contracts will be accepted on a "first come, first served" basis until the allocated total for a county is contracted. Participating farmers will receive payments intended to compensate them for the loss of net income from wheat that would have been produced on

From Files of the Gazette Times Sept. 2, 1926  
The Morrow county Wool and Grain Show scheduled during the Heppner Rodeo September 23-4-5 will be featured by a sack sewing contest, according to Roger W. Morse, county agent, in charge of arrangements.

Miss Leora Devin will leave for Stanfield on Sunday, where she will be a teacher in the grades for the coming year.

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. McCarty returned home at noon yesterday from their trip to Yellowstone National Park.

Erick Bergstrom of Gooseberry was attending to matters of business here yesterday.

Harry Munkers and Family returned last week from a trip to the Mt. Adams country.

Raymond Ferguson and wife, Jasper Crawford and Miss Mary Crawford returned from a visit to Wallowa county on Friday.

H. B. Turney and wife of Toronto, Canada, are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hynd of Cecil.

Certificate of Incorporation was received from the office of the secretary of state Wednesday, issued to Heppner Rodeo, the name adopted by the association. The incorporators are C. W. McNamer, L. V. Gentry and Chas. Latourette, the present board of managers.

land placed in the acreage reserve. The 1957 acreage reserve rate for wheat is figured at a national average of 1.20 a bushel. Payment is computed by multiplying the normal yield for the farm or the normal yield for the land designated in the agreement as the acreage reserve times the base unit rate for Morrow county which will average somewhere around the national average of \$1.20 a bushel.

The conservation reserve is the long-term part of the bank. It differs from the acreage reserve section, as it is designed to divert land regularly used for crop production to conservation uses. The conservation reserve provides cost sharing assistance to farmers in making such shifts. To participate in the conservation reserve, farmers must sign contracts with the Department through the ASC committee. Contracts will range from three to ten years. Two kinds of payments are made under the conservation reserve program.

The first is a cost-sharing payment to assist in the establishment of soil and water conser-

vation practices on the land designated for the conservation reserve. This payment can range up to 80% of such costs. It will be made only in case of contracts covering a period of at least five years. The other is an annual payment on the land put in the conservation reserve. This will be the amount obtained by multiplying a per acre rate by the number of acres put in the reserve. The national average per acre rate is \$10 but this will vary among states and counties. Land in the conservation reserve cannot be cropped or grazed while the contract is enforced.

In order to explain both of these programs to the farmer, an educational meeting has been scheduled at the Lexington Grange hall to be held at 8:00 p. m. on September 4. Complete details will be available at this time and farmers will be given the opportunity to sign applications until the September 21st deadline.

The Morrow county wheat allocation committee has just completed allocation of 1200 bushels, Columbia and 4,000 bushels of Omar wheat. This was allocated to 32 Morrow county farmers.

Seed of these two varieties will be in good supply in 1957 for all farmers who wish to seed them.

At a recent meeting of the state allocation committee, Morrow county was allocated an ample supply of the new hard white spring wheat which is known as Rio-Rex 41. This new variety is reported to have many of the characteristics of Rex but having good milling qualities. Morrow county, being one of the top Rex producing counties before its dis-count, was allocated a good quantity of seed for planting this fall. Applications are being taken in this office now. Seed increase of this new variety will not be handled as Omar and Columbia. While the county seed allocation committee would like to have a number of growers to produce certified seed, there is some of this seed that will be allocated to farmers on the basis of production of good clean seed for their neighbors and themselves. Time is short so farmers are urged to get their application in now if they are interested in this variety. Seed will be allocated within the next week.

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## NEW HIGH COURT JUSTICE

William M. McAllister, Medford, prominent Republican and former speaker of the House of Representatives was appointed to the Oregon Supreme Court by Gov. Smith immediately after his return Friday from the national Republican convention in San Francisco.

A few minutes after the announcement of the appointment McAllister was sworn into office by Chief Justice Harold J. Warner.

The new justice promptly announced he would be a candidate to succeed himself at the November election for a full six-year term. His appointment is for the un-expired term of the late Justice Earl Latourette who died of lung cancer Aug. 18 in Portland.

Continued on page 7

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## STAR THEATER HEPPNER

Thurs.-Fri.-Sat. Aug. 30-31. Sept. 2

The Leather Saint  
With John Derek and Paul Douglas plus

Day of Fury  
With Dale Robertson  
Sun. Mon. Sept. 2-3

The Man Who Knew Too Much  
James Stewart and Doris Day  
VistaVision and Technicolor

Tues., Wed., Sept. 4-5

Alexander The Great  
Robert Taylor, Richard Todd, Dana Wynter. CinemaScope & Color

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