

HEPPNER GAZETTE TIMES THIRTY YEARS AGO

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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Let's Finish the Job!

An envelope was dropped into your mailbox this week that deserves a few seconds of your undivided attention. Inside that envelope is a mailer for coins and bills and a message calling on you to help finish a job. The job is conquering polio.

It takes just a few seconds to buy your March of Dimes contribution into this little mailer. By

doing so in past years, you helped finance development of the Salk vaccine as a protective barrier against a dangerous disease.

By doing so this year, you will help the many thousands of patients who were born too soon to be protected against polio.

It is a job well worth finishing. But the mailer won't help if it is stuck away in a desk drawer. Let's fill these cards and put them back into the mail now. Let's finish that job.

TO THE EDITOR...

"Editor's Note—The following letter was sent to us along with the accompanying poem which is being printed with it. It is doubtful if Mr. Akers meant for his letter to be printed, but we felt many items in it would be of interest to our readers."

To The Editor—

I am sending you another poem to publish if you like. I do not know you and you do not know me. I used to know about everybody in Morrow county. Was in the hardware business in Heppner for a number of years. The firm was known as "Tash and Akers"; later as "Peoples Hardware Co." I used to own over 2000 acres of wheat land in Morrow county, but disposed of it just before the tractor came and prior to when they were blessed with plenty of rain and the guarantee of good prices. I thought I was lucky to get out when I did, tho' I had little to show for my adventure. Many who would have liked to have gotten out at that time, but were unable to dispose of their property and had to stay, now could be classed as rich. I have many friends still living in and around Heppner, also in Lexington and lone.

Altho I am getting along in years I am getting as much out of life as I ever did, and that is saying a lot. My good wife is mostly responsible for this. She was the widow of a Heppner minister whom I married about eleven years ago. She is very active in the church here that is at present erecting a new building. I am the father-in-law of the late Charlie Barlow the ex-county clerk.

My father came to Morrow county in the spring of 1887, and took a homestead in the Gooseberry country. Later homesteaded a quarter section there. I taught school for a few years in different localities in Morrow county. Many of my pupils are still living Mrs. Lester Doolittle for instance was one when I taught in Rood Canyon. The three or four school houses in which I taught are all torn down now. For instance, Rood Canyon school, Jackrabbit Canyon school and the Dryfork school.

What a change has come over the country in my lifetime. I could go on and on in my poetry describing it but that this would suffice. Am having 85 of my poems made in a book form by my granddaughter, Mrs. Bob Walker of Eugene. Could supply you weekly with one if you wish. Will be writing more on the issues of the day later.

Spencer Akers
Aumsville, Ore.
A Merry Christmas to you and yours.

Eighty-four Years
Yes, it's true, the records say,
I'm eighty-four years old today.

From The County Agent's Office

By N. C. Anderson

With the coming of the new year comes the reminder for many things that have to be done. One of these is preparation of income tax returns. A good set of records are a "must" these days of complicated income taxes. Several farmers called at the office last week to pick up copies of the Oregon farm account books. We have two types; one for reporting on a cash basis, the other for reporting on the accrual basis. They are available at cost. Another help which we offer is the

The biblical three score years and ten.

Which was allotted to women and men.

That mark I passed some years ago;

When we were busy with Tokyo; And Adolf Hitler in old Berlin; Headquarters for his hellish sin. How very well I do remember When on the seventh of December

And in the fall of forty-one, When we were busy with the Hun.

How the cunning little Jap, Caught us squarely in a trap; And sank our fleet in Honolulu bay.

And made a successful get-a-way. I well remember, yes I do, When the Kaiser dreamed he too Could dominate the land and seas, And bring all nations to their knees.

His dreams alas were also killed, But not till oceans of blood was spilled.

I remember when the model T Made its bow to you and me. This lowly auto blazed the way, For good highways in a later day. And revolutionized transportation.

In every state throughout the nation. I saw the tractor make its bow, And push old Dobbin from the plow.

It brought the farmer of the soil, Much better crops and less of toil. A walking plow was all they had, When I was just a teen-age lad. No motor then to pull the plow; What a change since then and now.

We had no use for gasoline; Such stuff as that was seldom seen.

And fashion too I must relate, Was different at this early date. High button shoes the women wore,

And petticoats, some three or four. Their skirts, they covered up their toes,

Also their heavy woolen hose. The all-prevailing derby hat Was worn by men both lean and fat.

There's very much more that I could say, About the fashion of the day, I'll sign off now and won't say more;

Enough for a man of eighty-four.

1956 Farmers' Tax Guide. We have had several calls for this tax guide but received our supply only yesterday. This is the tax guide that was so popular with Morrow county farmers last year. There are 17 chapters in the guide which discuss in simple language all the information needed in making a tax return. We have a limited number of these tax guides which will be distributed on a first come-first serve basis.

This past week while weighing 4-H club steers to determine the gains I found that grubs will no doubt be rudy to emerge about February 1. This depends entirely on whether however, if our mild weather continues some may emerge before that time. This means that livestock men will want to be thinking about grub control in the next month. Treatment should begin 30 to 40 days after bumps show. Treatments are then repeated at 30 to 40 day intervals until grubs disappear. Where there has been hopes the past two years of a new grub control method, Rotenone is still the only effective control.

Whether used in power spraying, hand dusting or hand washing Rotenone will be successful when properly applied at the right time. For spraying 7 1/2 pounds of 5% Rotenone per 100 gallons of water should be applied to the backs of the animals under high pressure preferably over 300 pounds pressure. It will take about one quart of material to cover the mature animals back.

The high pressure is necessary to break scabs off of the grubs and to penetrate the breathing holes. Hand dusting, farmers can buy commercial grub dusts suited for that purpose. The dust should be distributed well over the back and rubbed thoroughly into the grub holes. A quart fruit jar with 12 to 15 quarter inch holes punched in the lid makes a good applicator. Average amount of dust needed per animal is 3 ounces. A new method which looks promising but has not yet officially cleared is that of feeding a chemical to livestock to get rid of grubs. The material, if and when approved, would be fed to cattle sometime during the life cycle of the grub and would kill them before they came to the backs causing damage to the hide. In view of the problems which are now encountered in a good grub control program this promising method would be a relief to all of our livestock growers who are anxious to get rid of this pest that costs the livestock man millions of dollars each year.

For those farmers who are planning woodlot or shelterbelt plantings of trees, now is the

mailed with this letter which must be returned to this office in order to be included on the mailing list includes weekly market information reviews on all types of crops and livestock, market outlook reports and Oregon's agricultural progress. Kenneth Smouse, Ione was the first to return his check-list. Kenneth asked for weekly market information reviews on production, prices and costs; meat animals and wool; grain and hay crops; for intermittent Oregon farm and market outlook reports; and the publication Oregon Agricultural Progress. Approximately 75 farmers were on the mailing list during 1956 for this and other information.

From the grain and hay market review of December 28 comes a report that the heavy export sales early in the week boosted Portland cash wheat prices above the level of a year ago. A total of 27 cargoes of wheat were sold to Pakistan, Japan and India for February and March delivery. We noted by newspaper reports within the last few days that the United States entered into an agreement with Brazil under Public Law 480 for sale of several agricultural commodities. Included was several thousand tons of wheat. Other agricultural commodities were dairy products and lard. At the same time there was an unofficial report that Japan had announced that they would buy their wheat from other countries rather than the United States. The Oregon Wheat Growers League who have worked with officials in Japan over the past few years have felt that they had a market developed there have not yet been informed of this change in policy.

Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Sprinkle of Eugene were weekend visitors in Heppner being guests at the home of his brother, Lee.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Troedson and Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Minor of Morgan attended services in Heppner Sunday morning.

Vawter Parker, University of Oregon student who spent the holiday with his parents, returned to Eugene Sunday to resume his studies.

Sunday and Monday at The Star Theater—Greta Garbo and Richardo Cortez in "Torrent".

A few days ago a letter was mailed to all Morrow county farmers offering to include them on the mailing list for economic information mailed from this office or Oregon State college during the year. The check-list

plenty of problems during the year. Even with these problems our farmers came up with a crop production that equalled the 1948 and 1950 highs, this being done with the smallest total acreage in 20 years. More acreage was abandoned or diverted this year than at any time since the 1936 disaster year. On a per acre basis, yields were the highest ever. While national farm income turned up, following four years of decline much of this increase was from soil bank payments in some states. Farmers realized net income, based on the first nine months of 1956 was 4% above 1955. Oregon farmers during this same period showed an increase of 3% compared with 1955. Receipts were higher, both from crops and from livestock.

Hardly a week passes but what someone calls at the office asking about the value of screenings as a feed for livestock fattening or maintenance rations. Since there is such a great difference in the contents of screenings it is hard to give a definite answer to this question. First advice we give to the livestock man is to be sure that he knows which grade he is buying, whether No. 1 feed screenings, No. 2 feed screenings or refuse screenings. Since the question is not always easy to answer some of the answers which might be made were summed up in a recent lecture on screenings during the recent stockman's short course at Washington State College. quoting Billy Greg, seed technologist, from the department of agronomy, State College of Washington, "of the 120,000 lbs. in a carload of feed screenings made up at Vancouver, B. C. and unloaded in a community in the Columbia Basin, 48,000 lbs. were weed seeds of 21 different species. This on earload contained 4,365,360,000 weed seeds. Spread evenly over farm land in the State of Washington, this would average 260 seeds per acre. Multiply this by the 100 carloads

of screenings annually received by the one community, and an idea can be gained of the enormous quantity of weed seeds we are returning to our soil through livestock feed. Of screenings produced in Washington, a ton of pea screenings sampled contained only 100 lbs. of cracked peas; 1900 lbs. of weed seeds, including 1700 lbs. of wild oat seed." Mr. Greg named the weed seeds of the 21 different species which included such weeds as Canada thistle, corn cockle, fan weed, and black mustard. He pointed out that a test had been made to devitalize weed seeds in screenings by grinding or rolling and then pelleting, by heating, by dehydrating and by fumigating. It was found that no grinding methods was absolutely safe; fan weed seeds ground till they pass through a 3/64 inch screen were still visible. The hammermill or burr type grinder was found almost wholly ineffectual. Steam rolling was quite effective on looser hulled grain such as oats containing weed seeds, providing a minimum steam pressure at the rate of 90 lbs. was maintained with a temperature of 90-120 degrees and a drum temperature of 235-240 degrees with a minimum exposure of 7 minutes.

Digestion affects were found to be different on the various weed seeds. However, seeds of all species studied so far were shown viable after passing through the

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Better Check It for Size

Is your present fire insurance coverage geared to the current value of your property? If not, better take steps now to correct a situation which could result in serious loss. Let us check it with you.

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