

# Heppner Gazette Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER  
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## Just Common Sense

This week is Conservation Week in Oregon and we doubt that even if it had been planned, it couldn't have been set at a more appropriate time in Morrow county. In no place in Oregon, or in fact, most of the entire country, is conservation held in any higher regard than it is here... and, after last week's not-so-gentle reminder that we can still have floods, the saving of water and topsoil is even more important to all of us.

to our residents. Many more will come in other years for our farmers are among the leaders in realizing the value of saving what soil we do have.

Most obvious of the many conservation practices carried out here are such noticeable things as strip farming, trashy fallow practices which help stop water and wind erosion and similar types of soil-saving methods. Many, many more such practices are being carried on by many other farmers whose names have not been yet put in headlines, but who are doing a consistently better job of farming, not only for themselves, but for future generations. Their turn will come for recognition, and along with them will be the directors and employees of the Heppner Soil Conservation district. They, too, deserve much credit.

Our emphasis here has been largely on soil, but the efforts being made in this area for the conservation of timber resources, water, and wildlife are not inconsequential. They also are under constant consideration by those who are most closely connected with them. They all have a much bigger bearing on the economy of Morrow county than most persons realize at a casual glance. They are all natural resources—things that are ours to use and enjoy, but also things we must not waste.

Conservation Week has as its purpose the education of the general public in the need for such efforts. Here, in our county, many groups and individuals are taking part in this effort, and their work will not go unneeded if each of us will try to understand how we can help. The Conservation Pledge applies to us all if we live by it. It asks, "I give my pledge as an Oregonian to save and faithfully to defend from waste the natural resources of my state... its soil and mineral, its forest, waters, and wildlife."

It's easy to do... it's just plain common sense.

## SLANTS FROM THE SESSION

By Nicky Tom

This column will wind up my career as a newspaperwoman, an experience which has been most interesting and educational. I have certainly had one lulu of a session to report on.

As things stand at this writing, the House and Senate plan to adjourn "in an orderly manner", to quote Senate President Overhulse, tomorrow, May 21, at 5:00 p. m. That will be the 128th day, breaking the previous record of 116 days.

The session has cost the state around \$1,150,000, compared to a total of \$748,265 in 1955. Salaries for legislative employees have run \$3,000 per day. Printing costs were up 840,000 over the last session, and the expense for proposed interim committees will increase from \$114,000 to \$313,000.

Now that the major tax bill, which Senator Musa referred to as the "Rotten Apple Tax Program", has passed both houses, it would be well for all salaried people to carefully examine their paychecks in late August or early September. That is when the tax program will begin to make itself felt.

Senator Phil Lowry, Medford, discussing the new program on the Senate floor, said the bill which promised to repeal the 45% surtax was actually a 51% surtax and "a flagrant breach of promise by the Democrats to the Oregon taxpayers."

"Our people were at least led to believe their taxes would be lowered", stated Lowry. He described the bill as "a monstrosity and the highest income tax in the United States."

Senator Musa, in the floor debate, said that this kind of tax is the best argument for a sales tax. It seems to be rather generally accepted now that if the Democrats retain control of the House next session they will still be shying away from the sales tax, despite growing public demand for it. The method they

will probably employ to increase revenue in the 1959 session will be removal of the federal tax offset. This simply means taxpayers will be given no credit for payment of federal taxes when paying state income tax—you will pay a tax on a tax.

One of the most important school measures passed this session is SB 174, which might be called the rural school district reorganization bill. All school districts, including first class, will be under the rural school district. The rural school district board, as such, will be abolished. In its place will be a county school board, which will not have budgetary control. Responsibility for budgets will be placed entirely in the local school board.

This bill will not affect Sherman, Gilliam, Wheeler or Morrow counties, since they are already under the rural school board, unless they elect to go under these provisions. It will, however, apply to Wasco and Umatilla counties.

Taxpayers in Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler counties who are now being double taxed for high school purposes will be happy to learn that HB 747, which provides for a refund in these cases, has passed the House and should pass the Senate tomorrow.

Of major interest to our area has been the passage of what was originally called the "Key District Formula". Any resemblance to the original plan has long since been amended out of the bill. Eighty percent of the fund will now be apportioned on a flat grant basis according to Average Days Membership, rather than on the formula based on the Key District.

The remaining 20% will go to the poorest districts in the state as equalization money. Allen objected to this plan because 89% of the equalization money will go to the O and C counties, which use none of their O and C money for school purposes. Representative Stafford Hansell introduced HB 809, which would have given 60% of the O and C money to schools. The bill,

unfortunately, was tabled.

With an increase of \$15 per child to the Basic School Fund, which means an increase of taxes at the state level, our 22nd representative district will actually receive less money than it now does. Under the new distribution formula some districts will receive a 20 mill reduction in property taxes, but our area will not fare so well, since our share of Basic will be less than in the past. The formula Allen presented would have given a slight increase to all of our districts.

The other school measure of particular interest to our area is the school district reorganization bill. It passed the Senate with several amendments. Allen plans to send an outline of the amended bill to our newspapers after we return home.

With any luck at all we should be home well before this column is printed. To all of you who have offered kind words, many thanks. It has been fun, but it will be a relief to exchange the typewriter for my stove.

## 4-H Club News

### RHEA CREEK 4-H CLUB

The monthly meeting of the 4-H club was held at Mr. and Mrs. Van Bloklands home May 19. Everyone of the members was present. We had a test on parts of animals of hogs, sheep, calves.

We chose the members to go to the 4-H club summer school and they are Nat Webb and Archie Ball. Alternate is Kenny Wright. Refreshments were served by Mrs. Van Blokland. William Rill, reporter

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## From The County Agent's Office

By N. C. Anderson

Recently the Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Taft Benson announced several actions on the 1958 wheat crop. They are 1. proclaim marketing quotas on the 1958 crop of wheat. This fifth successive proclamation of wheat marketing quotas is required by wheat supply that is 56% above the marketing quota level. 2. proclaim a national acreage quota of 55 billion acres the minimum permitted by law. 3. announced state shares of the national allotment. 4. set June 20, 1957 as the date for the referendum to determine producer approval or disapproval of quotas. 5. set the minimum national average support price for 1958 crop wheat in the 36 state commercial area at \$1.78 per bushel, if quotas are approved. This price reflects 35% estimated transitional parity. For price support computations the wheat supply is estimated at 141.8% of the normal supply and indicates a support level at the minimum of the variable range for 75% of parity. 6. announced 36 state commercial and 12 state non-commercial wheat producing areas for 1958.

## THIRTY YEARS AGO

From Files of the Gazette Times  
May 26, 1927

Lexington graduates a class of nine at the high school auditorium Friday evening. Those receiving diplomas were Elmo Nolan, Harold Sherer, Mabel Wright, Eva Padberg, Leonard McMillan, Elmer Palmer, Buster Gentry, Edward Keller, and Charles Wilcox.

Manager Cox of the Morrow County Creamery company of this city has added more improvements to his already efficient plant. This is an ice cream cabinet with a capacity of holding some 50 gallons of ice cream and keeping it in perfect condition.

The Misses Esther Thorpe, Helen Fredrecksan and Beth Bleakman, teachers in Heppner school the past year, departed Saturday in the Thorpe coupe for an extensive tour of the home state.

Miss Leora Devin arrived home the end of the week from Stanfield, her school having closed there on Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Bayless will depart early the coming week on a journey by auto to Mr. Bayless' old home in Virginia.

Without the use of our natural resources, this would certainly be a dismal place. Furthermore, without use and a lot of it, many of our natural resources would be completely wasted. A state wide look at agriculture in 1956 will emphasize this point. From only 3 1/2 million acres of land, crops were harvested with a total value of \$247,000,000. Use of our soil returned a yield of new wealth at the rate of \$78 per acre. Little permanent damage was done to the soil. Actually, it is improving in productivity from year to year here in Morrow county where conservation has been practiced over the years by the majority of our people we have found that we can produce and still conserve.

Dates for the 1957 annual grazing alfalfa demonstration tour have been set. The tour will be held on June 13, 14, 15 with E. R. Jackman, range crop specialist, Oregon State college assisting. This will be the fifth annual tour sponsored by the Morrow County Livestock Growers Associations range and pasture improvement committee. Several farms will be visited each day to inspect and compare various alfalfas seeded with grass for pasture and range improvement. Further details at the stops for each day will be outlined in this column at a later date.

Tom Burns of Portland visited last Thursday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. LaVerne Van Marter.

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Hall were in La Grande over the weekend where they visited with Mr. and Mrs. Luther Hall.

## HOOF AND HORN LIVESTOCK CLUB

The Hoof and Horn Livestock Club met at the home of Mrs. Elaine S. George on Sunday, May 19th, at 2:30 p. m. President Jerry Anderson presided. The main topic of discussion was the Oregon Wheat League Fat Stock Show in The Dalles the first week in June. Plans were made for those who will attend.

There was a demonstration of sheep blocking. Refreshments were served. The next meeting will be at the Wagenblast home in June. Kit George, Reporter.

## FUR AND FEATHER CLUB

The Lexington Fur and Feather club met Saturday at the home of Hugo Leyva. All members were present for the meeting.

Plans were made for a field trip to be enjoyed by leaders and the group later in May. Refreshments were served. Kenny Jones, reporter

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Wall and son Jimmy of Kinzua were Sunday guests at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. McQuarrie.

**LIVESTOCK MARKET**  
Cattle—Hogs—Sheep  
**SALE EVERY TUESDAY**  
12 Noon  
On U. S. Hiway No. 30  
**NORTHWESTERN LIVESTOCK COMMISSION CO.**  
JO 7-6555 Hermiston, Oregon  
Frank Wink & Sons, Owners  
Don Wink Mgr.  
Res. Hermiston JO 7-3111

**POUR YOURSELF A GLASS OF THE CASCADES**

This is Oregon Conservation Week. It will end with Stewardship Sunday on May 26th. In Morrow county chairman Newt O'Harra, who was appointed by Governor Robert Holmes earlier this spring, has worked diligently in lining up a series of events for the week to point out to our farm and townspeople alike the need for conservation. During the week the meaning of the word "conservation" has been stressed. Many times this word has been used to a point where it implies save, protect and defend against waste and destructive forces including use. This unsavory implication destroys the effectiveness of the word.

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**STAR THEATER**  
HEPPNER  
Thurs., Fri., Sat., May 23-24-25  
**Seventh Cavalry**  
Randolph Scott, Barbara Hale, Plus  
**Earth Vs. The Flying Saucers**  
Sun., Mon., May 26-27  
**Bundle of Joy**  
Eddie Fisher, Debbie Reynolds, Adolph Menjou  
Sunday at 3, 6:10, 8:20  
Tues., Wed., May 28-29  
**ZARAK**  
Victor Mature, Michael Wilding, Anita Ekberg. Family Nights.

**Frank H. Staples**  
Morrow County Supervisor

**Mutual OF OMAHA**  
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