

Heppner Gazette Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
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ROBERT PENLAND
Editor and Publisher

GRETCHEN PENLAND
Associate Publisher



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What Is The County Unit School Plan?

One of the most important measures that Morrow county voters will decide upon November 4 will be the measure seeking the creation of a county unit school district (or system) within the county. The action on this plan is being taken to assist with the required school reorganization law which was passed by the last legislature.

The law under which such a district can be formed is somewhat complicated, and it is further complicated by the fact that the reorganization law takes precedence over the first one in many points. This fact may bring some minor changes in the operation of a county unit district in the future, but they will not be of great consequence.

There are many questions that voters are asking about a county unit system—and they should ask them and know as many of the answers as possible before they vote. It would be almost an impossibility for us to go into all facets of the plan here, but we will attempt to clarify some of the main points.

The county unit system would create within Morrow county one county school district comprising the complete area of Morrow county.

One county district school board composed of five directors (probably later enlarged to seven directors under terms of the reorganization act) would be elected from five zones to be established in the county.

All real and personal property and uncollected taxes belonging to all districts (in existence at the time of the formation of the county-wide district), joint districts, county or district high schools etc would become the property of the county school board and would be subject to the control of said board. Also all indebtedness of the original districts would become an obligation of the county unit district.

The county school board would have the power to employ the superintendent and all necessary assistant superintendents, supervisors, teachers, etc. It could sell and convey such lands and other district property it deemed not necessary for school purposes. It could designate the high school which the pupils of any part of the county school district shall attend, enter into contracts with other school districts for admission of pupils from other districts (in effect, on a tuition basis). It could consolidate schools and arrange necessary pupil transportation when deemed advisable.

There would be created within the boundaries of the county district, sub-districts (probably where existing schools now exist) and each sub-district would have a local school committee of three members. They shall care for school property and report to the county district superintendent on the wishes and needs of the sub-district school. They may also reject teachers assigned to the school by the county school board.

That, basically is the meaning of the county unit school plan. Its establishment and operation is of course implemented by many other points of the law which fall largely into the classification of the administration and management.

One very big point in favor of the county unit school district is that automatically Morrow county would gain between \$800,000 and \$1,000,000 in taxable valuation which now goes to other schools in Gilliam and Umatilla counties because of joint districts which lie in both Morrow and the adjoining counties. At the present time students living in these joint districts go to school in Arlington or Echo and in all probability they would continue to do so, but they would go under a tuition plan (with the tuition paid by the county district) rather than under the tax plan which is now in effect and has resulted in school districts in this county losing

a considerable amount of money. The county unit system can be established in Morrow county by a majority vote of the voters in the general election November 4. Each individual present district does not have to approve it—just a majority vote of all county voters can bring its formation.

Also of worry to some taxpayers is the question of how existing indebtedness (or lack of it in some districts) will effect taxes in any given district. The answer to this question is a complicated procedure which we doubt that we could explain in understandable language, but in effect the law provides for an appraisal of all school property by the county school board and a credit (or debit) to individual districts for their financial position in relation to the district as a whole.

Other residents are worrying about whether a present district could find itself without a school if the county unit plan is approved. It is possible that the county school board in the interest of economy and improved educational opportunities for students could order the closure of a school and transport its students to an adjoining school, however, in most cases this would probably occur only in the case of high schools. The county district board would have the power to consolidate present schools if deemed advisable, or to build new ones where needed, but such action is not an arbitrary part of this measure. If such action were taken in the future it would be after due deliberation and consideration by the board which would represent the whole county.

Should the county unit system be approved in Morrow county, no changes could be made in any school until the completion of the present school year.

It is our understanding from persons who are closely concerned with the school problems of the county that there would probably be only a small dollar saving in school cost under the county unit system, at least for the present. There would however, be the chance for better educational programs and opportunities for all students in the county.

A big complaint of the county unit plan is the fear by some that the individual present district will lose its control of its own school. Some of this fear is offset by the requirement that each sub-district, which would logically be the present districts, will have its own local school committee. There is also another point to consider and that is the necessity for some sort of reorganization in the very near future. If this reorganization isn't done voluntarily, it will be done by the state and it might then be done in a manner not to the liking of anyone in the smaller districts. There is also a decided movement to get an even larger percentage of total school money from the state (basic school support), and as this percentage rises, so will the percentage of control which comes from the state—the two always go hand in hand. To offset this possibility, a county unit plan is seemingly acceptable to the state as a reorganization measure, and it is one in which the voters of the county concerned will have a say. We believe that it is much better than having the state eventually tell us what to do with our schools, whether we like their ideas or not—and it must be remembered that present laws, even, make such a thing possible merely by withholding state funds if we do not comply with requirements.

It is this paper's belief that the proposed county unit school plan would work to the benefit of all education in Morrow county, and eventually to the taxpayer's benefit. There will be many competent discussions of all phases of the plan between now and election day and we urge everyone who can to attend one or more of them to get a better understanding of the overall picture.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the files of the Gazette-Times
October 11, 1928

A party of seven, consisting of Ed Bennett, Austin Devin, Lawrence, Harley, Delvin, Lyle and Lorin Matteson and Eldon Cave were deer hunters who had good luck this week.

Among those noted at Hermiston Saturday for the project fair were Gay M Anderson, wife and daughter, Mrs Fred E Farrior, Mr and Mrs R W Turner and son, Mr and Mrs Vawter Crawford, Mr and Mrs Harry Turner, Mr and Mrs Chas Jones and family besides all the members of the football squad and their attendants.

The Peoples Central Market was opened for business again on Saturday, the business having been purchased by Henry Schwarz and his son Leonard.

Mr and Mrs Glen Jones are preparing to move to their new home nearing completion on the Heppner Flat ranch of Mr Jones.

George J Currin and his son, Hugh Currin came over from the latter's ranch near Pilot Rock on Tuesday.

over the past few years. All alfalfa growers were extended an invitation to attend the aphid control tour at the Andrew Brothers, Echo Meadows farm Wednesday afternoon of this week. Their damage will be observed and a resistant variety Lahontan will be compared with other varieties for damage. Spray demonstrations by airplane and ground applicators will also be a part of the program. If interest warrants we will plan to do further demonstrational work here in the county on the control of this new insect and acquaint people with its damage. We have a new bulletin "The Spotted Alfalfa Aphid - how to control it" which interested persons can have by calling at the office.

Professional people who service consumers with meat information and want to know more about meat are invited to a meat information school at Pendleton, October 21 at the Vert

Memorial Little Theatre building. According to Miss Frances Harvey, local arrangements chairman, the school begins at 7 PM and ends at 10 pm.

William Robichaud, expert from the National Livestock and Meat Board will conduct the school assisted by Dorothy M Sherrill, Oregon State college extension service. Robichaud will show how to get several cuts from one cut of meat, demonstrate attractive ways of cooking, serving and carving and offer money saving ideas that can be passed on to consumers. Both extension agents; Mrs Katherine Hager, home economics instructor, Heppner high school; L L Robbins, vocational ag instructor, Heppner; Mrs N C Anderson, meat promotion chairman, Morrow county Cow Belles, Heppner and Mrs John Graves, beef promotion chairman, Oregon State Cattleman's Association. Hardman are planning to attend. Retailers, restaurant operators, and chefs who are interested in attending this school can get more information from this office.

I had a chance to do a lot of range inspection work in the North Morrow range area last Tuesday afternoon while walking several miles to get help to be pulled out of the sand. On the Alec Lindsay range where Alec has done a considerable amount of seeding from time to time during the past seven years, at least a part of the seedings are paying off with much improved forage on the range. Cattle were found to be working a seven year old seeding of crested wheat grass quite thoroughly and from the looks of the cows and calves they are not wanting for something to eat. A new seeding made last fall of pubescent wheat grass is looking excellent. We might also add that Alec has recently added four top quality bulls to his herd. These were purchased a week ago at the annual Lakeview sale. Alec has consistently bought the top bulls available in the state. His calf crop reflects this quality with thick, deep kind of calves that any range man would be proud to market.

Billy Doherty is picking out one of Alec's top steers this year as a 4-H project. During the past week Billy has also purchased

two feeder steers from the John Kenney herd which he will feed out.

LEXINGTON

Mr and Mrs Don Hatfield had as their dinner guests Sunday secretary of State Mark Hatfield and wife and George McMurphy of Salem.

Those from Lexington attending the reception for Mark Hatfield at the school house in Heppner were, Mr and Mrs Jack Barak, Mr and Mrs Ken Peck and Don Hatfield.

Irene Nolan was teacher in the 3rd and 4th grade rooms a couple of days last week in the absence of Mrs C C Carmichael.

The seniors motored to Ione on Thursday where they heard an instructive talk on college by Francis Nickerson.

Lexington Jackrabbits motored to Ione on Friday where they met the Ione team in a most exciting football game of this season. The score was 31 - 18 in Lexington's favor.

Lexington P-TA will meet on Tuesday at the school auditorium at 8 p m. The program will consist of several numbers by the second grade under Mrs Alyce Waddill and some other special number and refreshments in the cafeteria.

NAVY SQUADRON RECEIVES AWARD

C J Bevan, son of Mr and Mrs L E Bevan of Hardman, who is stationed at Whidbey Island, Washington Naval air station in an attack mining squadron, reports that his squadron recently received a Safety and Efficiency award for 1958. It was presented by Rear Admiral John Perry to Commander John P Wheatley, commanding officer of Attack Mining Squadron 10.

Bevan is currently in a flight crew on one of the P2V Lockheed patrol bombers of the squadron.

IF YOU DON'T MIND stumbling over those treasures you've been saving for the Civic League's Fall Rummage Sale for just a few days longer, we'll pick them up soon! Call Mia Bongers, 6-9437 or Gwen Healy, 6-9929. 30-31c

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Charles V Knox, minister
Bible school, 9:45 am.
Worship, 11 a m.
Choir practice, Thursday, 7:30 p m.

IONE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
Charles Wilkes, Pastor
Sunday school at 10 am.
Morning worship 11 am.
Young People's meeting at 7:00 p m.
Evening worship at 8:00 pm.
Prayer meeting at 8:00 pm on Thursday evening.

GO TO THE STAR THEATER TONIGHT!

SAVE

ON A NEW 1958
EVINRUDE
IN OUR
'Clear the Decks' SALE!

While they last—prices reduced on all '58 Evinrudes!

Come in for a good deal—today!

- 1-7 1/2 h.p., was \$278 now \$220
- 1-35 h.p., was \$515 now \$355
- 2-35 h.p., electric, was \$608 now \$450
- 1-50 h.p., Four-Fifty, was \$768 now \$530
- 2-50 h.p., Starlite, was \$868 now \$600
- 15% discount on Fibreglass Boats

BUILDERS SUPPLY

Ph 8-7242 Ione

County Agent's News

By N. C. Anderson

A recent reminder from Robert Every, Oregon State college extension entomologist was that this is the time to be making application of the new systematic treatment for cattle grub control. There are two of these insecticides sold under the trade names of Trolene and Co-Ral. Properly used these kill the grubs within an animals body before they encyst in the back region. Trolene is administered in the form of a bolus (by mouth) and Co-Ral applied as a spray. The bolus contain 15 grams of active ingredients and one bolus can be used for each 300 pounds

of animal body weight. Co-Ral comes as a 25% wettable powder. Sixteen pounds of this is used to prepare 100 gallons of spray. It will require about one gallon of spray to treat each animal. A thorough wetting is important as the spray must come in contact with the skin to give control. Now is the time to make these treatments which can be done up to November 15. It is expected that there will be a lot of cattle in Morrow county treated with these new treatments to aid in the recovery of some of the 155 million dollars that results in the United States annually in hide damage, meat trim and loss of weight due to

heel fly annoyance. Tests conducted by some of our state colleges show that cattle treated with these grub killers gained 1 1/2 to 3/4 pound more a day than untreated cattle on the same feed. They returned \$1.23 to \$6.42 more per head when they were marketed.

A new insect pest which we predict will be number 1 problem in alfalfa production in 1959 has been found in the alfalfa fields which have to date been inspected on our creek bottoms here. This new insect is the spotted alfalfa aphid that many alfalfa growers have read about in the many farm magazines

STAR THEATER

Thurs., Fri., Sat., Oct. 9, 10, 11

SAYONARA

Marlon Brando, Red Buttons, Patricia Owens.

Sun., Mon., Oct. 12, 13

Marjorie Morningstar

Natalie Wood, Gene Kelly, Claire Trevor and many more.
Sunday at 4, 6:20, 8:40.

Tues., Wed., Oct. 14, 15

From Here To Eternity

Burt Lancaster, Montgomery Clift, Deborah Kerr.

Advertisement

From where I sit ... by Joe Marsh

Dad Knows His "A-Bee-C's"

Quite a "to do" on Main Street yesterday—lucky that Dad Blake was on the scene. Seems a swarm of bees appeared from some place and hovered low over the sidewalk between the bank and Post Office. Everybody got sort of panicky. Then Dad appeared... He borrowed a woman's purse-mirror and flashed a beam of sunlight into the swarm. Then he swung the beam slowly across the street into the eaves of Allen's warehouse. Right! The bees followed the light and roosted there.

From where I sit, every problem needs just one good solution. And it occurs to me that in living with our neighbors, our Founding Fathers gave us the right idea. It's called "tolerance." In practice it means that your choice of tea or buttermilk should be as honored as my preference for a glass of beer. Makes for a "hive" of good neighbors.

Joe Marsh

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Chevrolet Task-Force 59 arrives!



New might! New models! New money-saving power!

Never before have trucks brought such ironclad assurance of reliability and economy to your hauling job. Chevrolet's '59 line rolls in with new ways to ride high costs right out of your operation!

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A new high-performance Thriftmaster 6—featured in all Series 30 and 40 models—delivers up to 10% greater gas economy. There are bigger brakes in all Series 31 and 32 light-duty models. New Positraction rear axle in the same Series as an extra-traction, extra-cost option! Greater durability has been built into all Chevrolet cabs.

With new advances, new Task-Force advantages beneath that bold '59 design, Chevy trucks are surer than ever of staying and saving on your job. Look 'em over first chance you get. Your Chevrolet dealer has a model that's bound to fill your bill!

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