

Heppner Gazette Times

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, \$4.00 Year; Elsewhere \$4.50 Year. Single Copy 10 Cents.

Soil Conservation

Guest Editorial by Robert C. Baum, Executive Secretary State Soil Conservation Committee

Governor Mark O. Hatfield in designating the week of May 3-10 as Conservation Week, recognized that "the conservation and wise use of the natural resources of the State of Oregon is of primary importance to our present generation and to generations yet unborn."

Soil, one of our basic resources, along with water, crops, and minerals is the foundation of our economy and way of life. Soil Conservation is particularly important to people of Oregon because our new wealth each year stems almost entirely from agricultural and forest production—both directly dependent on the soil. Oregon's 61,664,000 acres are used for nearly every crop grown in the temperate sections of the world.

To properly understand the problems and possibilities of soil conservation in Oregon, we should first have an understanding of soil, its importance to the farmer, the community, and the entire nation. Many of us are inclined to think only of the crops that are produced, giving little thought to the soil itself. We realize that every living thing on the land is dependent upon the production that comes from the soil. The productivity of this soil depends largely on the management and care on the part of the individual landowner.

Agriculture, as an industry in Oregon, has been in existence for over a century. While this country is comparatively young compared to other agricultural areas of the world, the strain of continued production is already beginning to

show. Soil surveys of the grainlands of the Columbia Basin indicate that over 40% of the cropland has lost 25% of the surface soil and that over 5% has lost over 75% of the surface soil by wind and water erosion. Other parts of the State have similar stories of erosion along rivers and stream-banks, formation of gullies on range and forest lands, and depletion of soil fertility through the loss of valuable plant nutrients.

More frequent floods, higher flood crests, and greater flood damages are among the unwanted by-products of soil erosion. Silt and sediment pour into stream channels, harbors, and reservoirs to reduce their carrying and storage capacity. At the same time erosion is increasing the cost of maintaining highways and railroads. Wildlife food and cover are destroyed and fish die in silt laden waters.

Landowners throughout Oregon, by groups and individually, are taking action to reduce soil losses and make even better use of their soil and related resources. This improved use and conservation of the soil results from the adoption of a program of management to fit the land based on its needs and capabilities.

Included are the use of erosion control measures, improved drainage and irrigation, woodland and range management, and proper crop rotations. Examples of group action are the many drainage, irrigation, and soil conservation districts, which local landowners have organized.

Effective soil conservation and use is desirable everywhere. It is mandatory in Oregon if we are to maintain and increase our agricultural production and our forests, range, fish and wildlife.

From The County Agent's Office

By NELS ANDERSON

Members of the Rhea Creek 4-H Livestock club last Saturday hosted the Hoof and Horn club to a field day at the Harold Wright ranch at Ruggs. The 42 club members present had a very profitable day with livestock demonstrations and judging.

TO THE EDITOR

To The Editor:

I have read "Train Wreck Near Morgan" and while I cannot tell the date, I do know that the engineer was not killed. The fireman jumped into the creek and was carried down stream several hundred yards, the water was not hot enough to burn him.

Mr. Frank J. Heibelt was a section foreman who had been stationed at Ione was riding on the side of the engine to watch for soft track, he was thrown into the flood and the body was not found for several weeks when it was discovered by Mrs. Broady. A reward had been offered for the finding. Mr. Heibelt was an active member of the Masonic lodge and attended lodge very regularly in Heppner and Ione and those lodges should have a record of his passing.

Mr. Heibelt had filed on a Homestead in Pettys Canyon and was a friendly man to all who knew him.

The train carried numerous box cars which were followed by some cars of cattle and the rear was a baggage car, then 1 passenger car.

Mrs. Helen V. Knappenberg of Ione, now a resident of The Baptist Home in Portland was a passenger on that train.

Bert Mason,
Portland

(Editors note—several persons have this week informed us that the wreck occurred early on the morning of May 12, 1917. We have also been told by many people that the engineer was also drowned, though the fireman jumped and was saved.)

Classes of fat steers, breeding beef, fat lambs and breeding gilts were judged during the day. The fat steers were furnished by Eric and Steve Anderson, Kenneth Wright and Bobby Harris. The breeding beef by Kenneth Wright; the lambs by Archie Ball and Nat Webb and the pigs by William Rawlins. While the planned noon picnic was interrupted by showers the Rhea Creek Grange hall came in handy as a good place to eat the potluck dinner served by the mothers of members of the clubs.

The community conservation field days scheduled for Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons of this week got off to a good start Tuesday afternoon when 36 persons attended the first day tour. The tours were arranged this week as part of the observance of State Conservation Week May 3 to 10. While only the Tuesday afternoon tour had been held at the time of this writing, much interest has been shown in the Wednesday and Thursday afternoon tours. Those taking part in the Tuesday afternoon tour enjoyed a chill lunch at the New O'Hara home, then visited conservation practices in the north Lexington area. Stops were made at stubble mulch fallow operations on the Alfred and Norman Nelson and Max Barclay ranches to observe effects of various types of implements used. Wheat seeded at the Max Barclay ranch in late July fertilized with 30 pounds of nitrogen in February of this year, was also seen as was a two year old four row windbreak on that ranch. The windbreak consists of a row of caragana, one of Russian olive and sand cherry mixed, black locust and Austrian pine. A farm pond at the Fritz and Kenny Cutsforth ranch which will be stocked with trout this week was visited as well as a seeding of alfalfa, intermediate and crested wheatgrass on land reclaimed from sagebrush at the Kenneth Turner Ranch.

The bid for 1000 gallons of Ester type and 300 gallons Amine type 2-4-D; 100 gallons Trichlorobenzole acid and 500 pounds Amino triazol for the Morrow county weed control program was awarded to Paul Petty-John, Ione as low bidder. Considerable interest was shown this year with eight concerns making bids for these weed killers. Ralph Marlatt, operator of the county weed sprayer, is busy trying to keep ahead of Russian thistles and other annuals on roadsides. Ralph is spraying in the north area of the county now. Anyone who wishes to have spraying done or report weed patches which might have been missed should call this office or the county shop.

Bruce Arnold of Pacific Wool Growers and superintendent of the wool shows at state fair and Pacific International called on Tuesday of this week to remind us that there will be both 4-H and open wool shows again at the Pacific International as well as continuing at state fair. We would like to urge all of our 4-H club members and other sheep men to pick their best fleeces for exhibit at the county fair, state fair and P I now before their wool is marketed. The best time to select the fleece is at shearing time when selection can be made more easily than sorting through all of the fleeces after shearing. Let's have a number of fleece exhibits from our sheep men this year.

Krebs Brothers, Cecil, started construction recently on a large

E. R. Jackman, range crop specialist, Oregon State College, will meet with the range and pasture improvement committee on Thursday evening of this week at this office. This committee consists of John Graves, chairman; Bernard Doherty, Harvey Smith, W. E. Hughes and Dallas Craber. It is a committee of the Morrow County Livestock Growers Association. They will plan range and pasture improvement projects for the year. Mr. Jackman will spend Friday in the county at which time we will visit a number of grass and alfalfa seedings which have been made during the past few years.

Word from Jim Hutchinson and Clarence Jean, representing the Oregon Wheatgrowers League in Korea write that the Bulgour project in Korea is going over quite well in introducing this new wheat food to Koreans.

In 1957, a 1200 metric ton shipment of Bulgour was sent into Korea and the market development work was carried on by the Washington Association of Wheatgrowers. This winter 4,890 metric tons of Bulgour has been sent to the Korean society for the promotion of Bulgour under two separate purchase authorizations by the USDA. It appears that the Koreans like this wheat food by the amount of increase in shipments from the original one.

John Kilkenny Jr. was visiting at the home of his parents on Hinton creek over the weekend.

Dr. Arthur Craig, dentist, returned from Portland on Wednesday.

Miss Mildred Farrans of Hardman spent the weekend visiting with friends and relatives in Ione.

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the files of the Gazette-Times
May 9, 1929

Appropriation of \$350 by the city council Monday evening assures the opening of the American Legion swimming tank this summer.

Heppner Rebekah lodge nominated officers for the ensuing year and elected delegates to grand lodge at its meeting Friday evening. Grand lodge delegates are Mrs. Charlotte Gordon, Mrs. Anna Brown and Mrs. Helen M. Walker.

Ione and Heppner high schools will clash for the fourth time this season at Rodeo field tomorrow afternoon, Ione to date having the edge by winning two out of three games.

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hay shed which will handle 10,000 bales of hay. The shed which will be roofed with steel will have full concrete floors and will be so constructed that it can be used for other purposes. The Krebs Brothers are planning to continue with putting most of their first crop of alfalfa in their trench silo and with the hay shed facilities will have top quality feed for their sheep and cattle this winter.

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KEEP OREGON GREEN

Chats With Your Home Agent

By ESTHER KIRMIS

Last Thursday was the day of "The Big Show" (in Ed Sullivan's language). It was the day of our Homemakers Festival held at the Willows Grange hall in Ione. The theme was "Yesteryears of Morrow County" in celebration of the Oregon Centennial.

Have you ever worked on a jig-saw puzzle that didn't make much sense until the last few pieces fell in place? Well, that's the way I felt about the festival. We had started plans for this festival back in November. Month by month I'd meet with the county committee members who in turn would take back our plans to their units. It was amazing to me to see how all things took shape and fell into place that final day. The gay enthusiasm and cooperation displayed by the women made this festival a greater success than I had ever dared dream!

Elsewhere in this paper you will find details as to the displays and the program of the day. But here are a few interesting sidelights... About 75% of the women appeared in pioneer dress. It made a very colorful audience. (I'd like to have had the "dry goods" concession that sold all that material!). Some women had actual dresses worn by their mother or grandmother. I particularly marveled at the huge lavender velvet hat worn by Mrs. Leo Ashbeck of the Pine City Unit. (A Lum Rhea descendant). Mary Ashbeck made quite a stately picture in her brown bustled suit and this hat that must have measured close to 12" in height.

The Willows Grange home economics club under the direction of Mrs. Mabel Ring, served 208 people that day. They did a professional job in feeding the group in less than an hour and a half. Over 75 people took part in the pageant, "Yesteryears in Morrow County"—most of them unit members.

Music for the performance was provided by Don Hekker, Ione as ballad singer; Mrs. Tom Wilson, Heppner as the fiddler; Elaine Laird, Heppner, who sang "Playmates" and Renn Harris, Robert Hoffman, Stewart Gribble, and Sam Green, from the Heppner high school, as a barber-shop quartet... Musical background was provided by Mrs. E. M. Baker, Ione; and Mrs. Norman Nelson, Lexington, led the community singing.

A delegation of homemakers from Umatilla county accompanied Miss Frances Harvey, Umatilla county extension agent, as visitors to our festival.

Over 20 women and children qualified as native daughters

Here Is Why The Heppner Soil Conservation District Is Among America's Best . . .

Cultivated Land	350,000 acres
Range Land	718,404 acres
Creek Bottom Land	12,045 acres
Forest Land	250,211 acres
Total Land	1,330,660 acres
Farm and Ranch units	305 units
WHAT HAS BEEN DONE (Progress Report)	
District cooperators 334	935,341 acres
Conservation Plans 322	916,433 acres
Active District cooperators, 276	822,498 acres
Soil Surveys	849,951 acres
Strip Cropping	10,781 acres
Crop Residue Use	133,047 acres
Improved Water Application	3,808 acres
Range Improvement	680,001 acres
Pasture Planting	2,269 acres
Range Seeding	3,624 acres
Windbreak planting	31 acres
Diversion Ditches	42 miles
Land Leveling	2,954 acres
Pond Construction	101 ponds

(their parents coming to Morrow county by 1870). I think they felt a bit like royalty that day. . . The Irrigon unit did a magnificent job on their covered wagon and mountain scenery backdrop. I didn't realize we had such artists in our midst. . .

The most piquant scene in the pageant was the wedding scene before a replica of Valby church altar, the first church built in Morrow county. The bride and groom were Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lindstrom. Roy's mother was the first bride of Valby church—being married in 1899. The seven brides of Valby since that time appeared on stage. They included: Mrs. Otto Lindstrom—1899; Mrs. Ernest Lundell—1904; Mrs. Emil Swanson—1904; Mrs. Louis

Carlson—1950; Mrs. Rod Kvistad in 1951; Mrs. Herb Peterson in 1955 and Mrs. Bob Peterson in 1955.

I got a laugh out of a quip made by Mrs. Marguerite Houghton of Irrigon who appeared as Lewis of Lewis and Clark fame; she had on a leather jacket with a fur collar. As I complimented her on her costume she remarked, "I'll bet I'm the only woman wearing mink today! . . . It was hard to recognize some of the women as they appeared in men's costume back stage. Such women as Mrs. Ernest Hekker as E. G. Sperry, (early Ione pioneer), Mrs. William Heath and Mrs. Paul Warren as Matlock and Kelly of Heppner fame; Mrs. Sue Vin-

(Continued on Page 5)



A FREE GIFT CARNATION

For Every Mother Who Eats With Us On Mother's Day, May 10

SPECIAL DELICIOUS Mother's Day Dinner

SERVED ALL DAY SUNDAY
GIVE MOM A TREAT

ELLA'S GRILL
HOTEL BUILDING

MORE PEOPLE ARE BUYING CHEVROLETS IN 1959 THAN ANY OTHER CAR

(as proved by official registration figures)

204,000 more people bought Chevrolets last year than any other car and there are over 2 million more Chevrolets on the road than any other car! You'll find more to like in Chevy, too!



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HEPPNER, OREGON

STAR THEATER

Thurs., Fri., Sat., May 7, 8, 9
Destination 60,000

Preston Foster, Pat Conway, Coleen Gray, Jeff Donnell, PLUS

The Barbarian And The Geisha Girl

John Wayne, Eiko Ando.

Sun., Mon., Tues., May 10, 11, 12

Rally Round The Flag, Boys

Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward, Joan Collins, Jack Carson. Sunday at 4, 6 and 8.



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Call it—
"Helping Bud to Blossom"

When his wife left on a visit, Bud Harper promised to take care of her potted plants. He moved them out to the porch where he'd be sure to see them—and then forgot them.

Week later, Mrs. Harper asked about the plants in a letter. Bud rushed out, expecting to find them dead. But they were in perfect shape—even the pots had been rearranged.

Naturally, Bud was mystified. Then he found a note on one of the plants: "We'll lose this one unless you put Am-

monium Sulphate on it. Pete." (He's the milkman.)

From where I sit, "neighborliness" is a wonderful thing, particularly when it's put into practice every day. This week, for example, why not have some neighbors in for a glass of beer or a cup of coffee? (Serving them their preference in beverages—that's "neighborliness" too.)

Joe Marsh