

Heppner Gazette Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
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TO THE EDITOR...

To the Editor:
I wonder why it has become public sport to pick on the farmer, especially when it comes to subsidies. Uncle Sam hauls the Life, Look, Saturday Evening Post and many others all over the United States and most of the world at about 5 percent of cost and of course that is no subsidy to them, their employers or readers, is it? Life magazine is supposed to receive about \$9,000,000 in reduced postal rates, and the rest of the publications in proportion. The articles I have read in these publications are half truths. For instance from the floors of congress to the press here at home, there was much to say about my neighbor receiving a \$104,000 wheat pay-

ment from the Commodity Credit Corp. Actually there was not one cent of government money involved. This amount was a mortgage on the wheat crop and financed by the First National Bank of Heppner. Ninety-two thousand dollars of these funds were expenses in raising this crop and the money spent in Heppner. The wheat was later sold on the open market and the loan was repaid by the operator. The only time the taxpayers funds become involved is when these loans become delinquent, the same as F H A and Veterans Administration Loans.

Agriculture is industry's largest customer in the use of the four basics, steel, petroleum, chemicals and rubber. How can industry and its labor exist with its best customer getting not 100 per cent but 65 per cent of parity. A depressed agriculture has always led to a general depression. Because there are less farmers, it doesn't mean that there is any less of these four products used.

During the years 1956 and 1957 I sold my wheat to the private trade for 10 to 40 cents per bushel above the government loan price. Now if this so called friend of the farmer in Washington, D C was thinking of the taxpayer and the cost of the government farm program, why didn't he liquidate the Federally held grain instead of allowing the grain trade to export it at a huge profit for two years? Why should anyone deliberately lower the value of this loan collateral as he has done for years with the market value of the commodity credit stored grains. The billion dollars he says the farmers are getting for storage on loan grains just is not so. How is the farmer getting it? This grain is nearly all stored at terminal elevators and the port cities are getting it.

When this aforementioned friend was first appointed in 1953, the Department of Agri-

culture was spending about three quarters of a billion dollars for Forest service and everything. Now he is spending over seven billion annually and he said he is a saving man. There has been over thirty five billion dollars spent and mostly wasted since he was appointed. All of this money used to destroy the farm program in every means at his disposal. History will record this expenditure the greatest rape of public funds the world has ever known.

I am the largest grain grower in this county and I have never been asked to leave out one acre of land or controlled production in any manner. I was required only to shift 36 per cent of my acres from wheat to barley and have done so for seven years and my 900 acres of barley along with my neighbors has aggravated the corn surplus all over the nation and barley is more costly to handle and store than wheat. We had always left our diverted acres uncropped under other administrations but under this industrial minded administration unfarmed acres would have meant the sale of less steel, petroleum, rubber and fertilizer besides the success of the farm program. The secretary has never asked for unit control pounds, bushels, bales, and etc. instead of acres. Why? It again would have meant the sale of less goods by industry.

In the Secretary of Agriculture's determined policy to destroy the farm program at all cost and in so doing the farmer too, he has set labor against the farmer by saying that the high cost of living is due to the high price supports. High? No price supports have ever been at parity. We could give our wheat to the flour mills and a 34c loaf of bread would still cost the consumer 30c. Milk bottles could be filled with water and it would still cost the consumer 17c per quart. Wheat has come down in price 50c per bushel in the last

From The County Agent's Office

By NELS ANDERSON

This week's news column is being written in The Dalles while attending the Oregon Wheat Growers League Junior Livestock show and sale. It is the thirteenth annual show and sale and is bigger and better than ever. Hog numbers are almost double last years; the big-

gest yet. Sheep and beef numbers are about the same. From Morrow County, 4-H and FFA beef exhibitors are much greater with 14 4-H and 7 FFA fat steers. FFA exhibitors are Joe and Tim Yackley, 3; Don Hughes, 2; Mike Gray and Jerry Anderson. Exhibiting the 14 4-H steers are Billy Doherty, 2; Mickey Van Scholack, 2; Karl Beach, 2; Sandra Beach, 2; Tom Martin, 2; Eric Anderson; David Anderson; Russell Dolven; and Kenneth Wright. Showing 4-H hogs are Dennis Doherty, 1; Tony Doherty, 2 of three and a single; Kenneth Smouse, 2 singles. Exhibiting 4-H lambs are Jerry Anderson, David Anderson, Archie Ball, Nat Webb, Dennis Doherty, Tony Doherty and Kenneth Lynn Smouse with singles; Dennis Doherty and Kenneth Lynn Smouse with pens of three.

Monday's 4-H judging contest results put several Morrow County members among the top scorers with the team of three from Lexington Livestock club, Karl Beach, Sandra Beach and Tom Martin in 3rd place. Karl was top beef judge. Kenneth Smouse was third high livestock judge. Results of the FFA contest were not yet announced at this time.

Ranchers who have turned to ensilage as a way of preserving their first cutting of alfalfa were happily haying last week as showers put conventional methods to a standstill. Traveling down Willow creek Sunday afternoon on the way to The Dalles Fat stock show several trench silos were filled or in the process of being so. Delbert Emert, Lewis Halvorsen and Phil Emert, lone are filling silos again this year as are Krebs Brothers, Cecil. These livestockmen like the trench silo way of preserving first crop alfalfa and alfalfa-grass cuttings. Some of their reasons:

"We like to get the first crop irrigating before the creek goes dry"; "Foxtail and cheat grass in first cutting doesn't spoil our first cutting when put up in ensilage"; "We never put up the first crop without at least part of it getting spoiled by rain—rain and damp weather doesn't bother silage making"; "It's the closest thing to green grass we can feed in the winter—makes the ewes and cows give lots of

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the files of the Gazette-Times June 13, 1929

Six Heppner boys have enlisted for the annual Citizen's Military Training Camp at Vancouver, Wash July 2 to 31. They are Gay M Anderson, Harlan J C Devin, Clarence W Hayes, Jack M Casteel, Maurice W Edmondson and Harry B Wells.

Morrow county students who received degrees from the University of Oregon on Monday, June 10 were Luola Bengt, William Vawter Parker and Mary Clark all of Heppner.

Raymond and Charles Lundell and Erling Thompson are lone boys who are in attendance at the two weeks' course in club work given at Corvallis.

Members of Heppner Lodge No 69 A F & A M and Ruth Chapter No 32, Order of Eastern Star who are in Portland attending grand lodge are Dr A H Johnston and Mesdames Charlotte Gordon, Hattie Wightman, Sara McNamer and Caroline Johnston.

year and bread has gone up in price 5c per loaf.

The cattle man has done all right without price supports. Why? Because high feed costs have kept numbers down within reasonable limits, but now we have cheap feed and by next year we will be smothered with hogs as we are now with chickens and two more years will see the ruination of the cattleman. Mrs Housewife don't anticipate a lot of cheap meat for your table, you will never get very much of it and if you do your husband won't have a job. Let's be honest. These are my views and convictions.

O W CUTSFORTH
Lexington

milks." If the old expression "a million dollar rain" means anything last weeks rain was one. Farm visits early in the week showed some grain fields suffering, so the general one-half to three-quarter inch rain made several extra bushels-per-acre in all communities. In some spring fields this was what it took to give it the push that was needed to at least give it half a chance. From the smiles on everyone's face we expect that no one objected to the rain.

A visit to the Henry Baker ranch, near Lone, will convince

"non-believers" that a little care pays off in growing a farm wind-break. While the Caragana-Austrian pine combination planting is designed to protect the house and yard only it has responded wonderfully to proper care and a little water. The Caragana has been pruned to branch close to the ground and serve as the "wind-stopper" needed while the slower growing pines are becoming established. They are now growing as much as three feet each year. Both rows fit in well with the nice lawn and yard the Baker's keep. Anyone, with patience and care can have the same results.

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From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Trouble "Shooters"

Stretch Taylor, captain of the high school basketball team, thought up a great way to keep the new schoolyard clean.

The teachers were having trouble keeping the kids from leaving their ice cream wrappers, empty milk cartons and paper napkins in the area after lunch and after school... in spite of the handy trash cans.

So Stretch got the idea of equipping each can with a small basketball backboard and a sign saying "Shoot a basket." From the way the trash problem disappeared, our school should have a basketball powerhouse next season.

From where I sit, every problem needs just one good solution. For instance, it occurs to me that in getting along with our neighbors, tolerance is the solution. That means that your choice of tea should be honored just the same as my preference for a glass of beer. Makes for a "high scoring" combination in the friendship department.

Joe Marsh

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STAR THEATER

Thurs., Fri., Sat., June 11, 12, 13.

Gun Runners
Audie Murphy, Eddie Albert, Patricia Owens, Everett Sloan.
PLUS
Kathy O'
Dan Duruya, Jan Sterling, Paty McCormack.

Sun., Mon., Tues., June 14, 15, 16.

The Journey
Deborah Kerr, Yul Brynner, Jason Robards Jr. Sunday at 4, 6:20 and 8:40.

The People of Lone EXTEND A SINCERE WELCOME TO THE Bank of Eastern Oregon ON THE OPENING OF ITS New Lone Branch

The businesses and residents of Lone want to extend a hand of welcome to the Bank of Eastern Oregon. You have shown your confidence in our community by establishing a branch bank here and we appreciate the service that it will give us. We wish you the best of luck for your continued growth and expansion.



Dobyns-Hart Pest Control
Omar Rietmann Hardware
Akers Motor Service
Swanson & Hamlett Insurance

Bristow's Grocery
McCabe's Meat Market
Ekstrom Farm Chemicals
Jim's Chevron Station
Paul Pettyjohn, Shell Jobber

Peck Leathers,
Standard Oil Distributor
Stefani's Fine Foods
Morrow County Grain Growers

A. C. Swanson Grocery
Charles O'Connor Insurance
Melena's Builders Supply
Independent Garage
Dick's Market