

Heppner Gazette Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
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The School Budget Law— It Needs Revision

(The following article appeared last week in The Oregon Voter, written by Ralph T. Moore. It has a direct interest to residents of Morrow county, but as is pointed out below, the school budget problem is not confined to any single county area. The thoughts expressed are worthy of every reader's consideration.)

The growing public resentment over high taxes manifests itself in Oregon through the unusual frequency of voter rejection of proposed school budgets that are over the constitutional 6% limitation. In fact, our growing school costs have just about leached away any protection of taxpayers given by this venerable provision. It might as well be repealed in the interest of cutting school election costs.

Josephine County (to name just one of several among the latest) rejected its county school budget twice in succession and then wangled a tiny majority for it in a third election after some very intense electioneering by P-TA patrons and organized school teachers. The result still leaves a residual doubt if the budget was actually approved by a majority of voters. True, it got a majority of those voting but the majority was so small that it could be easily upset if those not voting could register their opinion. It thusly becomes another of those dismal instances where the voters are repeatedly bludgeoned with school elections until they obediently come up with the desired approval.

It would seem that our school budget election laws need some drastic revising if anything like fairness and equity is to be achieved. We do not hold repeated elections for public office until our boys finally make it. We have one election and then everybody abides by the result. It is hard to see why school affairs should be any different and justification for repeated trips to the voting booth is not apparent. At least we should force submission of a substantially reduced budget when the original has been defeated.

In the Josephine County case the budget was reduced only some \$11,000 out of a total of over \$800,000, an insulting sop to the opposition and a virtual thumbing of the nose at the sovereignty of voter decision. The result, though assuring operation of the county schools for the next fiscal year, leaves a very bad taste that suggests the Russian "da" and "nyet" techniques. If there is

to be any real meaning to these plus-6% school elections they should be made to conform to general election methods.

If the voters reject a school budget, its re-submission should not be sanctioned until it embodies a reduction of the order of at least 10%. For it is both an insult to the voters and an indictment of the sovereignty of our electoral processes to cynically submit substantially the identical figures heretofore rejected. It implies that the electorate doesn't know its own mind and must be made to obediently do as papa says and vote right. We have altogether too much of this sort of rannygazoo in school elections for the good of our State. Investors get to thinking that if this type of ramming issues down the voters' throats prevails in school elections then what has become of the constitutional property rights so plausibly set forth in the law? If for the schools then why not for government in general, with the voter reduced to mere rubber-stamp status? And where is any security of private property tenure in such a unilateral deal? Truly our school budget submission to the voters has become more the polite convention than the protection for the taxpayer it is supposed to be.

A great deal of our school trouble stems from the persistent and completely fallacious presumption that public education can be measured by the dollars spent more than by the actual results obtained. It is certainly a most convenient theory, this appraisal of education via the dollar sign, and lends itself well to state-aid systems that spread both burden and responsibility so widely that neither is felt directly by the home folks, at least to a degree commensurate with the taxation essential to its maintenance. It affords the subtle coercion needed for the techniques of operational standardization and particularly for the maintenance of teacher-salary schedules that are both generous and unresponsive to purely local conditions and resources. It freezes the teaching profession into a rigid structure akin to the frankly selfish labor-union type and divorces the teacher from classification with the ministry and the medical professions, both under strict dedicated status that enthrone service above self.

This writer doubts if this is what most school teachers want. Yet they are being dragged into it involuntarily as the dollar-sign looms ever larger in their profession. Truly, we need a courageous and objective review of the whole matter.

From The County Agent's Office

By NELS ANDERSON

While only a small amount has been harvested, those few growers of Alpine barley are happy with the prospects of this new winter variety. Claimed to be much more winter hardy than other winter varieties it withstood the past winter weather well. Seeded all the way from late September through November yield prospects appear the same. Yields at the experiment stations during the past two years that it has been grown have been substantially above other winter varieties. Those who are looking for a winter barley variety would do well to check on this and make arrangements for some seed to try it out.

Reports coming in from those who have harvested small acreages of barley and even some wheat are that some of our predictions for a considerably lower yield this year might be wrong. Cloudy cool weather the past couple of weeks has helped in developing a crop that might have otherwise been pinched due to the dry spring. While much of the grain in the higher country could yet be hurt by hot weather a good share of it is over the hump. We may have to revise an early estimate of an average yield of 25 bushels of wheat and 3/4 ton of barley.

Everyone is complaining of rye in their grain this year. It appears there will be a good demand for some clean seed wheat of the popular varieties. If you have clean wheat or barley for sale let us know so that we can pass the word on to those who have or will inquire for such sources.

We would like to remind all of our readers of this column of the referendum to be held July 23 on marketing quotas on the 1960 wheat crop. Everyone will receive a notice of the voting places of the referendum and if anyone should be left out they can get this information by calling the local ASC office. Farmers who are eligible to vote in the wheat quota referendum are all those who in 1960 will have more than 15 acres of wheat as grain on a farm, except for those who are participating in the 1959 feed wheat program.

We are receiving a lot of inquiries these days on recommendations for perennial weed control. This is good. It is good for three reasons, first, a good farmer cannot continue operating without a weed control program on his farm or ranch. A perennial weed control is as important as planting the best pro-

ven variety for the farm, as following a good conservation program, or treating grain for smut. Secondly, it is good to take advantage of the ACP program for weed control where cost-share programs will assist the farmer with 50% of the cost for the materials used and, thirdly, because farmers in Morrow county have asked that the weed district law be enforced starting in 1960. This means that everyone shall have started some active program of weed control by that time or be subject to the provisions of the law which was enacted by our farm people several years ago. While many are concerned with Canada thistle most of the inquiries are being made concerning morning glory control.

First we would like to remind you again that the most effective and economical way of controlling Canada thistle is spraying with amino triazole at the rate of 8 pounds per acre. If applied with a spray boom it should be mixed in 20 gallons of water or if applied by hand nozzle it will take 8 pounds in approximately 100 gallons of water per acre to wet the plants thoroughly. Those interested in morning glory control favor the relatively new chemical, TBA this year. Results from applications of this chemical under all kinds of conditions last year are good. If there is any one point that should be stressed it is to be sure to get the recommended amount on per acre. The Oregon State College recommendations are for 10 gallons of TBA per acre. Contrary to some advertisements that 5 and 6 gallons are getting good control you will have no constant, permanent kills using rates under the 10 gallon recommendation. Most farmers are interested in complete control when they go to the expense of applying sterilants of the type which TBA falls into. The 10 gallons of TBA should be mixed with 20 to 30 gallons of water per acre when applied with a crop spray boom. For treating individual patches with a hand nozzle it will take 10 gallons of TBA in at least 100 gallons of water to wet each acre as a heavy dew. One of the nice things about TBA is that it can be applied at anytime of the year with comparable effective results.

Frank Anderson, Heppner and Harvey Smith, lone both breeders of quality registered Hereford cattle have this week made additions to their herds which will improve the quality materially. Frank has bought the top

20 pairs of cows and calves from the Paul Muller Barlow Hereford ranch near Wamie while Harvey Smith has taken the yearlings from this same herd. I accompanied Frank to this ranch to look at this herd a month ago and was very much impressed with the quality. The Atok Lionheart bulls which Mr. Muller brought in from Canada several years ago produced some outstanding animals. We are glad to see this herd come to Morrow county.

Members of the Have Horse — Will Ride 4-H horse club in the lone community found out last Thursday how to earn money the easy way for their club. Members participating would not agree however that it was the easy way after leading their ponies around the block dozens of times giving rides to kids less fortunate than they. During the day \$12.50 was earned. The money will be used to buy outfits to wear by the club members in the Morrow County Fair and Rodeo parade on August 29. Gary Tullis, leader of the club, reported that another such pony ride had been scheduled for Saturday, however, we did not hear what the results were on this day.

4-H club members who exhibited and sold fat animals at the recent Oregon Wheat Growers League fat stock show and sale at The Dalles did very well at the auction. While we do not have the final average price received, lambs brought ten cents or more above market price, beef four or five cents, swine five or six cents. Buyers of animals exhibited by our club members were Bernard Doherty, Bank of Eastern Oregon; and First National Bank, Heppner; William J. Doherty, Mrs. Roy Martin, Harold Beach, and Morrow County Grain Growers, Lexington; Pendleton Grain Growers, Hermiston; Woolworths, First National Bank, Bill

Dick, Stadleman Ice Company, Mor-gas Company, The Dalles; Paulen Kafseberg, Wasco; A B Clough, Arlington; Northwest Livestock Commission, Hermiston; Brady's Market, The Dalles; Swift and Company, Portland.



SASSY SO AND SEWS

The Sassy So and Sews 4-H club met July 2 at the home of Terry Munkers.

Members present were Maureen Doherty, Leora Van Winkle, Jeanette Ledbetter, Phyllis and Linda Thornburg, Barbara and Mary Nichols, Glenda and Barbara McCorkle and Terry Munkers.

Visitors were Mrs. Leonard Munkers, Craig, Barry and Chris Munkers and Becky Doherty. We had our business meeting. We then worked on our projects. Most of us worked on head scarfs and but three of us have completed them. We are proceeding with our stuffed toys.

Five of our new members are planning to go to 4-H camp. Our next meeting will be held on July 18 at 2:00 p.m. at the home of the McCorkles.

Beverly Davidson, reporter

IONE NEWS

Mrs. Dale Bennett of Pendleton has been visiting her sister and family, Mr. and Mrs. David Baker. Mr. Bennett is helping with the work on the Baker farm.

A WHALE of a double bill: Audie Murphy western plus PURSUIT OF THE GRAFF SPEE, one of the most stirring dramas of our time. Both in color. Star Theater, Thursday-Friday-Saturday.

TO THE EDITOR . . .

To The Editor:

I love the picture in last Thursday's paper, but it is not the first school built in Heppner. The school shown in the picture was erected in the latter part of 1883 and the first classes were held there that winter. It was a two-story, five room school. I am positive that Mrs. Elsie Lacy Alger did not teach in this old school as she would have been too young at that time. I was attending this old school at the time of the fire in 1892 that burned it to the ground and so was my sister, Mrs. B. H. Peck. Elsie attended the new school built on the hill and may have taught for a term or so after graduating from there. She is a first cousin to Ralph Thompson. The very first school house ever built in Heppner quite a few years before this one was built became too small so they decided to build a new one on the same lot. Here is a little story about the very first school ever built, told to me by Billy Cowins just before Olive and I moved to Castle Rock. Story follows:

I attended the very first school ever built in Heppner, which stood on the lots now occupied by Wm. McCaleb and Doctor Wagner's clinic building. This school house was a long, narrow one story, two-room building. In the early part of 1883 the people decided to build a new and larger school house as the population had grown so fast there was not enough room in the old one. They sold the old building to Judge Dutton, an old pioneer of Heppner. He sawed the building

in half and moved it to a lot a short way up the street from the present location of the Christian church. Here he put the two halves back together and added a little on and made a dwelling out of it. It has been owned and occupied by Mrs. Lottie Scherzinger for many years and she still lives in the original school of Heppner.

One time Art Minor and I and some other boys stole a large wagon wheel from Nordyke's wagon shop (we had several wagon shops here then) and took it to the top of the big hill just west of the school house. We never even thought of wrecking the school house, but as you know, Art Minor was always putting us boys up to something we ought not to do. He conceived the idea of rolling the wheel down to see if it would scare the few teachers and small kids inside the building. It got to rolling so fast no power on earth could have stopped it. Once it swerved to one side and we held our breaths for a while, as we had become frightened by this time. But the very old Nick himself must have had hold of that old wheel. Down it rushed with faster and faster speed and finally with a large crash it struck the school house on the side to the north. It completely demolished that half of the building and knocked the only blackboard in the county about fifty feet across the street. I meant that part of Umatilla county that is now Morrow county. We didn't dare go back down the hill, but ran away and hid. I didn't dare tell this story until twenty years had rolled away, and then only to my father. You are the very first person outside my father

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the files of the
Gazette-Times
July 11, 1929

Little Josephine Case, of Portland, is spending the summer with her grandmother, Mrs. John Grimes.

Among wheat farmers in the Lexington section who begin their harvest this week are Earl Warner, Jimmy Leach, Nick Nichols, John Miller, who started their combines Monday.

Mrs. O'Shay and son Richard are visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Cohn in this city, to remain during the absence of Mr. Cohn who is attending the national Elks' convention in Los Angeles.

From Roadmaster McCaleb we gather the information that work of improving the county and forest roads in the timber belt east and south of Heppner is going on rapidly.

that I have ever told about this. I wonder what they will do with me after all these years? Maybe I will still have to go jail. Mr. Grant was the professor then. The very first professor in Heppner was a man named Kennedy.

Hope this little story related to me by an early day Heppner school boy, Billy Cowins, will be interesting to the people of Heppner.

Sincerely Yours,
O M Yeager
Castle Rock, Wn

Printing Is Our Business! See Us

STAR THEATER

Thurs., Fri., Sat., July 9, 10, 11
**No Name On The
Bullet**

Audie Murphy, Joan Evans,
Charles Drake, PLUS

**Pursuit Of The
Graff Spee**

With John Gregson, Anthony
Quayle, Peter Finch, Ian Hunter.

Sun., Mon., Tues., July 12, 13,
14

The Shaggy Dog
With Fred MacMurray, Tom-
my Kirk, Jean Hagen.

Sunday at 2:30, 4:50 and 7:10.
Boxoffice open 2 p. m.



From where I sit... by Joe Marsh

Slim Pickins-Up!

Slim Thomas' wife thought up a pretty slick way to get Slim to clean up their front porch.

Slim had a habit of leaving his tools there before coming into the house. And he'd always tell his Missus he'd get around to tidying up later.

So Mrs. T. nailed a large sign to the porch for all passers-by to see: "THOMAS' JUNK PILE, DUMP YOUR OLD EQUIPMENT HERE!" When Slim saw the sign he cleaned that porch so fast he was through before any junk de-

positors turned up. Threw the sign out, too.

From where I sit, sometimes it takes the "dramatic" to show folks they're wrong. But usually you can solve things by talking them out. For instance, my neighbor once objected to my preference for an occasional glass of beer. But after discussing it with him, he realized he accepted my choice as I accept his. What do you say we "clean up" all intolerant thinking?

Joe Marsh

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Take a tip from the experts . . . in their own words . . . and from on-the-record facts and figures: More than ever, Chevrolet gives you more room than any other of the leading low-priced three! More room to relax in, for instance. A sampling of official dimensions reported to A.M.A.* makes this clear. Chevy front seat hip room, for one thing, is up to 5.9 inches wider than comparable cars. And Chevy even offers more front seat head room than all but one of the high-priced cars!

Best Brakes Not only bigger, but built with bonded linings for up to 66% longer life. Just to prove what's what, Chevy out-stopped both of the "other two" in a

NASCAR†-conducted test of repeated stops from highway speeds.

Best Style It's the only car of the leading low-priced 3 that's unmistakably modern in every line. "In its price class," says POPULAR SCIENCE magazine, "a new high in daring styling."

Best Engine Every motor magazine has given Chevrolet's standard and Corvette V8's unstinted praise. As SPORTS CARS ILLUSTRATED puts it: ". . . surely the most wonderfully responsive engine available today at any price."

Best Ride MOTOR TREND magazine calls Chevy ". . . the smoothest, most quiet, softest riding car in its price class." You'll be

able to tell this yourself instantly, once you take the wheel.

Best Economy No doubt about this: two Chevrolet 6's won their class in the famous Mobilgas Economy Run, got the best mileage of any full-size car, 22.33 miles per gallon—with Powerglide.

Best Trade-In Check in any N.A.D.A.† Guide Book. Chevy used car prices last year averaged up to \$128 higher than comparable models of the "other two."

*Automobile Manufacturers Association

†National Association for Stock Car Advancement and Research

National Automobile Dealers Association



Visit the General Motors Exhibit at the Oregon Centennial Exposition in Portland, and see your local authorized Chevrolet dealer

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