

Heppner Gazette Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
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ROBERT PENLAND
Editor and Publisher
GHETCHEN PENLAND
Associate Publisher



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ODD ENDS...

A decision of the state tax commission that the Harvey Aluminum plant in The Dalles must be valued at over \$42,000,000, overriding the Wasco county assessor's figure of about \$23,000,000, has brought a storm of protest from Wasco county, and well it might. Its possible effect on the economy of the county is explained in the following column in The Dalles Chronicle written Tuesday by Bob Paulos, publisher of the Chronicle. It can easily be understood how such a ruling can effect the coming of industry to Morrow or any other Oregon county.

Latest action of the State Tax Commission in ordering Wasco County Assessor Mac Wood to enter a valuation on Harvey Aluminum Co. of more than \$42,000,000 strikes a stinging blow not only on the economy of our county, but on the state as well.

Why the Tax Commission must persist in an attitude for which the end result is merely driving industry out of the state is beyond our comprehension.

Presently, Wasco County officials have an urgent mission. The tax commission has handed down a decision which leaves no way open for the county to stand up for its right of equalization of the tax load. Only recourse for the Harvey firm, apparently, is legal action against the Commission.

After determining the proper procedure, Wood must either place the new and higher valuation on his tax roll or face the danger

of being ousted from his position and replaced with a new assessor. This may seem incredible, but under the present Oregon law the assessor, a public official elected by the people, can be replaced by the Tax Commission bureaucrats, all appointive officers.

The County Board of Equalization had set a figure for Harvey of about \$23,000,000, after serious deliberation by reasonable men. We have heard studied opinions by learned men that the figure was fair to all taxpayers. But the Tax Commission insists on having its own way.

The State Tax Commission has refused now to accept figures of both Holbrook and Walstrom and Marshall and Stephens, two firms of experts in the field of appraisal. We question whether there is a single man on the staff of the Tax Commission which can lay claim to more experience or ability than do employees of the two appraisal firms mentioned. And we'll put Mac Wood's appraisal staff up against the state group too.

This is serious business. The courts could prove Harvey is right. Such a finding would make it necessary for the county to repay taxes improperly collected. County Judge James Hunt and Wood estimate this amount over a three to five year period could total in excess of \$1,000,000, and it would have to be paid.

Where would Wasco County be if it suddenly found itself faced with the necessity for paying a \$1,000,000 rebate—in a single year—through increasing its mill levy on all of the county's taxpayers?

TO THE EDITOR...

Mr Robert Penland
Editor and Publisher
Heppner Gazette-Times
Heppner, Oregon
Dear Mr Penland:

In the last issue of your paper you headed the printing of our letter regarding thermometers and your reply thereto "Arlington Gets Hot Under the Collar". Man, we weren't hot only under the collar, we were hot all over. Who wouldn't be when the official temperature was 109 degrees? Or even 103 degrees as in your fair, "cool" city?

We withdraw our statement that you had printed a voluntary verbal inexactitude and transfer it to the thermometer you read (it can't talk back or argue), since we have no reason to doubt that "you were there". But we do have reason to doubt that the thermometer was in a position such as to give a fair reading. Also that this was the hottest place in the state (to which "dubious honor" we did not lay claim). Our great state covers a lot of territory, you know, and we can think of several parts of it that could have been hotter if the temperature here was rightfully 123 degrees.

You say you believe in your thermometers and know where of you speak. We believe those are rather hazardous statements. Now may we ask you a few questions? Isn't it possible that the thermometer you read was on the side of a masonry or metal building directly in the unshaded glare of the admittedly very hot rays of the sun? And if so, that its reading was one that should be publicized? And are you certain it belongs to a member of our Chamber of Commerce? And do you doubt that the official temperature was 109 degrees as is more or less implied in your forceful answer to our letter?

Yours for more thermometers and less hot air,

The ARLINGTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE COMMITTEE ON THERMOMETERS (Shortened from the previous letter, suggested by your re-

ply thereto).
L C Buchner, Chairman
Approved:
Les Grant, President
Arlington Chamber of Commerce

(Editor's Note—As to the location of the thermometer that read 123 degrees, it was on the north (supposedly cool) side of a brick building and it was in the shade—not in the direct rays of the sun. When this writer noticed the location and the reading on the day in question, we came to the same conclusion as did you folks, that we, too, were "hot all over." Even at your official 109 degrees, you had reason to be.

As to whether the owner of the thermometer in question belongs to your chamber of commerce, I cannot say, but as active (at least vociferously) as your group is I supposed that he was. If not, I would recommend that your membership committee contact him in the near future. Then you could be in a better position to control the reading on his thermometer.

I do not doubt that your official temperature on that day was only 109 degrees, but that's still too hot for a Heppnerite. We again extend a cordial invitation to your fine people to come to Heppner at any time to cool off.

Yes, there has been a noticeable increase in warm breezes blowing UP the Willow Creek canyon the past week or so.)

To the Editor:
It seems there wasn't much mention made in the paper about the fire on my place and so many have been asking me about, so thought I might say a little about it.

The fire started at the house which stood in the middle of the field. It took the house, granary, chicken house and brooder house. It then cut a swath to the road taking about 12 acres of wheat.

Had it not been for the help given by the crowd of people gathered there, much more damage would have been done.

I know there was no notice of the fire sent to the printer of the paper, therefore there was no note made of it.

I have farmed since I was 21

years and this has been the first fire I have ever had.

I want to thank the people at this time for working so hard in trying to save the grain.

Alfred Troedson

To Whom it may concern:
The party or parties who had the party at Cutsforth park Friday, July 22, and who left an article of clothing, plus whiskey and beer and pop bottles and an opened and scattered box of kitchen matches, may have your jacket by claiming it.

I didn't mind so much cleaning up the empty bottles, but it seems to me that anyone should have more sense than to leave a lot of matches lying on the ground in a forest area in weather such as we have had where any little spark could start a forest fire. Our whole livelihood depends on those trees and we should respect them more than that.

The jacket is waiting for its owner.

Donald Mills

County Agent's News

By N C ANDERSON

As harvest draws to an end, and we visit with many of the ranchers, some are discouraged; others satisfied with this year's crop. All admit that things could have been worse, however, some are harvesting the poorest crop in a number of years. As the "upper country" is in full harvest swing, pinching, resulting in light test weight grain is the rule. Each year we have reports on the various varieties and how they have performed in the various communities. Those who seed early, generally are well pleased with Omar. Several in the higher country are praising Burt this year in that it matured without being hurt near so much from the heat as some of the varieties such as Omar and Golden. Wheat yields have been reported all the way from 15 bushels to 35; barley yields from a thousand pounds to twenty-four hundred pounds.

An interesting report came out last week from the ag marketing service and Oregon State College on a barley variety survey. While

THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the files of the
Gazette-Times
August 7, 1930

G A Bleakman was appointed deputy marshal and night watchman to succeed Walter Matteson, by Mayor McCarty at council meeting Monday evening.

The local telephone force was treated to a chicken dinner at the boarding house of Mrs E E Adkins in this city Tuesday. R F Wigglesworth of the Bell ranch, being the host. The telephone office was represented by Miss Opal Briggs, manager, Mrs A J Chaffee, Mrs Glenn Hayes, Mrs John Osteen and Mrs Mabel Wehmeyer, operators and W J Smith, line operative.

Miss Edna Rauch and Henry Rauch, Jr called at the Klinger home on Thursday.

Mr and Mrs Frank Gilliam, Mr and Mrs Chas Vaughn, Mr and Mrs E E Gilliam and children, Miss Ona Gilliam and Leonard Gilliam and sons spent Sunday at Hidaway Springs.

Miss Arleta Farrans has been chosen queen of the Rodeo which will be held soon in Heppner.

Hannchen was again the leading barley variety in Oregon. Alpine has made the biggest increase, jumping from 3% of the state barley acreage in 1929 to 18% this year. Hannchen accounts for 30% of the 1930 planted acreage. Alpine, in the Columbia basin area, including Morrow county, gained from 4 to 18%. Flynn, grown mainly in this district accounts for more than one-half the total production and ranks third in the state this year. Trebi and White Winter club have dropped sharply in percentage of total planted acres since 1929. A spring variety which seems to have a lot of popularity this year, is Harlan. This variety, released several years ago and grown in Morrow county, was almost completely discarded in favor of Flynn. The first seed for increase from this variety was obtained for Frank Anderson, Heppner rancher, but was waylaid one year when the Pendleton branch experiment station found out that we had gone

directly to Idaho for this release. It was increased at Pendleton where it has done substantially well. While our farmers had discarded it several years ago, those in the heavier soil areas of Umatilla county continued to grow it where it has been picked up and seeded in Morrow county again. One of the ranchers who like it is Ed Buschke, Morgan. He reports growing number one barley this year, yielding about a ton. He says the variety stands up well and doesn't shatter.

Last Friday, Rex Warren, farm crops specialist from Oregon State College, spent one day in the county. We took advantage of his visit to check some weed demonstration plots and observed the type of control we were getting with a lot of different types of chemicals, some on the market and others in the experimental stage. We have a number of plots scattered throughout the county, using a list of chemicals that to the average person, the name would not mean too much. To the research man, many of the new ones are showing much promise for hard-to-control weeds. Our major weed problem, morning glory is being successfully controlled by TBA and TBA-combined materials. While we do not know how much weed killer was used by farmers who did not sign up for ACP cost-share practice payments, there were 2886 gallons of TBA or enough to treat 289 acres of this material applied by those who did sign up for the practice in 1929. As we check these treated fields this year, we find excellent control.

Included in the demonstrations this year were some chemicals tried out for rye control on road right-of-ways. These, with other demonstrations in Eastern Oregon, show a promise of good rye control at a reasonable cost if applied while the rye is in the seedling stage. This is not much different than other weeds where we treat most of our weeds before they have grown to near-maturity. A very promising application is that of four pounds of 50% wettable Atrazine and 2 pounds 50% Amitrol, with 20 gallons of water per acre. This can be applied any time after the rye is growing, preferably in late fall or early winter but dependent upon fall moisture. Rex reported favorable results

HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES, Thursday, August 4, 1960



MUST BE "IT"

On Sunday a rare opportunity for more nation-wide publicity for Oregon showed when Miss Salem — Rosemary Doolen was crowned Miss Oregon. To gain the crown she competed against the state's 18 most talented and beautiful young women. The win was based on poise, personality, appearance and talent.

"The girls displayed as much talent as I have ever seen together on a contest stage," said Robert Nesbitt, Atlantic City, president of the Miss America Pageant.

Miss Oregon is a sophomore at Willamette University, where Gov Hatfield graduated and later taught. She is 5 feet 6 inches tall, weighs 128 pounds and measures 35-25-36.

She will represent the state in the Miss America contest next month at Atlantic City.

GUARD TRADE SECRETS

An employee can't pass on his employer's trade secrets to his new employer when the employee changes jobs, the Oregon Supreme Court said this week.

A Portland woman had worked for Allen's Press Clipping Bureau for 10 years, and had signed an agreement that if she quit, she wouldn't work for a competitor for one year after quitting.

She did quit, and went to work for Northwest Clipping Bureau. Allen's sued to try to force her to quit her new job. Circuit Judge Paul R Harris ruled that she had to quit her new job because of the agreement she had signed. However, the Supreme Court reversed the lower court. It ruled that the agreement was not enforceable. However, the court said there is an implied obligation of an employee not to use trade secrets of confidential information for his own benefit or for the benefit of another.

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USE GAZETTE TIMES
CLASSIFIED ADS



BEFORE FIRE STRUCK, this was a green and growing forest. It was a place for pleasure where people picnicked, hiked and hunted. It was also a place for work where men made their livings harvesting and growing trees for lumber, plywood and paper. Each year forest fires, most of them man-caused, destroy enough wood to build 86 thousand homes. You can help halt that loss by always being careful with fire in the woods.



Kinzua Corporation

STAR THEATER

Thurs., Fri., Sat., Aug. 4, 5, 6.

Walt Disney's
Kidnapped

With James MacArthur, Peter Finch, Finlay Currie. PLUS

Hot Rod Rumble

Added excitement.

Sun., Mon., Tues., Aug. 7, 8, 9.

Visit To A Small Planet

Jerry Lewis saucering down from outer space. Sunday at 4, 6-15, 8-30.

COOL OFF!!!

MONDAY NIGHT, AUG. 8, NBC-TV

ESTHER WILLIAMS

AT CYPRESS GARDENS!!!

STAR-RING ESTHER WILLIAMS

WITH HER GUEST STARS

FERNANDO LAMAS

JOEY BISHOP

DICK POPE, THE AQUAMATS, THE AQUAMANIACS, CYPRESS GARDENS SKI

BALLET, WORLD CHAMPION DIVERS, CYPRESS GARDENS AQUABABES.

UNITED STATES BREWERS FOUNDATION

