

# Heppner Gazette Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER  
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## They Could Come Down

Automobile insurance rates are sky-high, people are saying. But, unless some unforeseeable miracle of common sense occurs, they are going to keep on going up!

Thus the question arises, who makes these rates?

And the simplest possible answer is we do—you and I and the hot-rodder over the way; the neighbors, including the old couple who only drive to the church on Sunday morning and around the countryside in the afternoon, and the teen-agers who drag on the turnpike in the small hours of the morning.

Rates are made by everyone who drives—including the drivers who serve on juries and award outlandish sums in damage suits on the theory that the money comes from the bottomless vaults of rich insurance companies, instead of the pockets of people like themselves who are paying insurance premiums; including the ambulance-chasing lawyers who specialize in such cases, the shady doctors who collaborate and build huge fees for themselves and unscrupulous but highly cooperative service garages. Nor should we, in all honesty, exclude the rank and file of those insured who suffer an accident and are persuaded they have a liability claim.

On the strength of the record—which shows that in only three of the years since World War

II have the insurance companies made money on auto coverage and in the last decade for which figures are complete (ending with 1959), went in the hole by \$750 million—insurance people have reason to suspect that there is some larceny in the soul of every one of us! If so, it is a stupid sort of larceny since, along with reckless and inept driving, it is hiking those liability rates up and up.

One fact of rate-making, however, which is not too well understood, provides some hope for reform by localities, if not nationally. This is that insurance rates are geared directly to the driving performance of the various communities. Losses are charged to the accident record of the territory in which the car is kept. Thus motorists in each area pay only the rates they have helped to create by their collective behavior at the wheel.

This is something everyone should remember, and something no one can run away from. Even if the sight of blood on the highway (including your own) doesn't bother you; even if police blankets shield you from the horror of mangled and lifeless traffic victims; any driving accident you may have and any damages you may collect anywhere in America, are charged right back on the record of your home town!

Holding the line and even reducing liability rates in this area is a do-it-yourself operation. But don't ever forget, it works both ways!

## THIRTY YEARS AGO

From the files of the Gazette-Times  
September 18, 1930  
Work of replacing 1.3 miles of the old concrete pipe of the main carrying the city water supply from the artesian well at the forks of Willow creek will be started soon.

All cars were headed toward the mountains on Saturday and Sunday. A party made up of Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Warren, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Nelson and Bert Botta left on Tuesday for the Fox valley country to spend a week or more hunting.

One of the important social affairs of the season was a dinner given Wednesday evening, Sept. 10 by the Women's St. V. club at the beautiful country home of Mr. and Mrs. Glen Jones.

E. R. Schaefer was in the city yesterday from his Freezout ranch, having just returned from a luckless deer hunt. D. A. Wilson, who returned to the city yesterday, hunted with Mr. Schaefer.

Among hunters bringing in grouse were Leonard Schwarz, Russell Pratt, Ed Bennett, Jas. Cash and Dick Wells.

very popular in Morrow county during the past few years. It provides a denser, more vigorous turf which is better able to resist the invasion of weeds. It withstands closer mowing and has greater resistance to turf wear. It will stay greener with less water than some of the other grasses during the hot months of July and August. It is seeded at the rate of 2 to 3 pounds per 1000 square feet. Use a light combing or brushing to blend the seed with the upper one-fourth inch of soil. This may be done with a broom rake, a flexible door mat or a piece of chain link fence. Avoid deep covering. Rolling is beneficial if not over done. It should be just enough to firm seed against the soil. Do not use a heavier roller. The most important step in caring for a newly seeded lawn is to keep the surface soil moist to germinate seeds and keep the seedlings alive. This may mean watering several times a day, depending on the weather conditions. Frequent light sprinklings, using a fine spray, should be used until the grass is fairly well established. Don't expect new seedlings to germinate overnight. Time varies according to species, temperature and moisture. Bluegrasses are a little slower than some grasses and

## Swine Testing Station Plans Sept 17 Sale

Improved efficiency and quality of Oregon pork production will get a key boost in mid-September.

About 55 top-quality boars from leading swine herds in the state have been carefully tested for performance by the Oregon Swine Testing Station and will go on sale Sept 17 at the station near Hermiston.

The sale is scheduled to start immediately following noon lunch available at the grounds, reports Dr. David C. England, Oregon State College animal husbandman in charge of the testing station. Sale visitors are invited to tour testing facilities and inspect animals and their records during the morning. A summary of the performance records is available now from county extension agents.

Located at OSC's Umatilla branch experiment station near Hermiston, the testing center was set up to determine inherited tendency of hogs for more efficient and profitable production of high quality pork. Testing is supervised by OSC research and extension personnel.

All boars will have passed strict tests for rate of gain and ability to convert feed efficiently into lean meat. They represent

cannot be expected to germinate and emerge before ten days to two weeks. While there are only the high spots of establishing a new lawn, we have an excellent bulletin entitled, "Home Lawns for Oregon", which was revised only lately, available at our office. I'm sure anyone would be interested in the bulletin which covers various pointers in making new lawns, caring for new and older lawns and discusses renovating of old lawns.

With public relations being recognized as a must in agriculture today, the Oregon State College extension service has prepared a series of conferences for all extension workers to be held this month. Appearing on the program of the two day workshops will be specialists who have had special training in public relations, as well as newspapermen and other lay readers who are recognized in the state as doing a good job in public relations. The Morrow county extension staff will attend such a workshop in Pendleton next Monday and Tuesday, the 19th and 20th. We hope that we might better assist our farm population with their public relation problems and understand some of the complexities a little better upon our return.

most major swine breeds from Oregon purebred herds. The boars went on test at 60 pounds weight and will have reached 200 pounds by sale time.

Performance requirements include average daily gains of at least 1.6 pounds, a gain of 100 pounds on not more than 350 pounds of feed, and not more than 1.4 inches of backfat. Dr. England said many of the boars have gained 100 pounds on less than 300 pounds feed and have exceeded two pounds average daily gain.

## OSC Ag Extension Service Program Picked for Award

Oregon is one of five states in the nation chosen to receive a special award for its state-wide extension service program in agriculture.

Charles A. Henderson, Klamath county extension agent, will represent Oregon county agents and Oregon State College extension service in receiving the award for extension service's contributions to Oregon agriculture.

Governor Mark O. Hatfield will present the award Sept 21 at a luncheon in Portland honoring all Oregon county agents. The awards program and luncheon will be sponsored by the agriculture division of American Cyanamid Company.

The recognition is also given for progress made by Oregon farmers in adopting scientific production methods in agriculture, said F. E. Price, dean of agriculture and director of extension at OSC.

A major purpose of extension

service is to extend knowledge in agricultural production and marketing and in home economics to people of the state as such knowledge is developed through research by OSC agricultural experiment station and the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Henderson was selected by Oregon county agents to represent them because of the outstanding record he has chalked up in the 37 years he has been Klamath county agent.

In 1955, the county honored him with a "Charlie Henderson Day". Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, the day was dedicated to "the man most responsible for the tremendous advances in agriculture in the Klamath Basin", marking 33 years of progress and a ten-fold increase in the county's agricultural economy.

F. L. Ballard, associate director of OSC extension service, said "no county agent in the history of county extension work in Oregon has influenced more cash farm income development than has C. A. Henderson."

Oscar Peterson, Morrow county judge, will represent this county at the recognition luncheon.



WHEN THIS HAPPENS, PHONE US and We'll Print Some For You In A Hurry!!

## From The County Agent's Office

By N. C. ANDERSON

On Monday afternoon 3 registered Hereford bulls and heifer calves owned by Herbert Ekstrom and Sons were graded and weighed. Grading and weighing was done as a part of the Oregon beef cattle improvement program that the Ekstroms have participated in for a number of years. This year for the first time, both Herb Ekstrom and Frank Anderson, Hereford breeders, have weighed their calves between 160 and 250 days of age in order that they might qualify those that meet the requirements for registration in the American Beef Cattle Performance Registry Association. These calves, to qualify for the individual performance registry, must if a male, weigh 475 pounds; females, 425 pounds at 205 days of age while nursing their mother and grazing on pasture. This at first may not seem like much, but as you check weights of your commercial calves at seven months of age, see how many meet this weight requirement. Very few herds weigh 475 pound males and 425 females from cows that have calved this late. Of course the bulls would have an advantage over steers but still this is somewhat of a tough requirement to meet. While we have not calculated entirely all of the bulls and heifers that will qualify in the two herds that are participating in this program, we know that each will have a number that will meet the requirements. I think that commercial breeders would do well to check when buying bulls, especially on these performance records. There are not too many breeders in the state of Oregon that are participating in the program, however, the number has tripled or quadrupled this year as demand comes for this type of performance recorded beef.

I commented in late August about the increased quality of Frank Anderson's Hereford herd, in comparison with a few years back. The same was found true Monday in the Ekstrom herd when, of the 33 calves that we worked that day, 20 carried a grade of 2 plus, 11 a grade of 2

and two head with a 1 minus grade. While I have graded hundreds of bulls, heifers and cows and have seen many graded livestock people, there are few that earn the 1 minus grade. The high number of 2 plus calves is an indication of the quality in the herd. While a separate report has been released on the fine placing that the Ekstrom Herefords made in competition at State Fair, I know that there were a number of breeders who have been in the business much longer than the Ekstroms who were eyeing this string at State Fair wishing that they might get their hands on these young calves. One each of the two bulls and two heifers shown at State Fair were graded a 1 minus while the other two carried 2 pluses. I am sure that none of our breeders need go out of the county to buy the type of breeding stock that it takes to improve their herds when we have cattle of this caliber at home.

For those wheat ranchers who have inquired from time to time at this office regarding the progress of the new dwarf wheat varieties which they have read and heard much of, there is some possibility that one of these varieties might be increased this year. There definitely would be no allocations for farmers before the 1961 crop and possibly later. If the seed is released no one will get very much and applications will be closely screened so only those who will take extreme care with keeping the seed clean and eligible for certification will be

considered. Our office will no doubt accept application later this fall or next spring for the state allocation committee to consider if seed is available next fall. We don't want a stampede over this announcement. It is merely a progress report on future plans so those who have been asking about the seed for the past three or four years can be considered when allocation is made.

The months of April and September have been found to be the two best months in the year, at least in Eastern Oregon, to establish a new lawn. Since September is half-way through, those who had planned to seed a new lawn this year should be getting into the act now or it will be too late. Some years October's weather is ideal for getting a new lawn started but we never know which years these might be until too late. For this reason, if you are planning a fall lawn, your soil should be prepared now or very soon by cultivating to a depth of three inches. It should be firm but not packed. The ideal seeding surface is moderately coarse with soil particles varying from pea to marble size. This provides crevices in which seeds can lodge and find moisture for germination. Here they will be sheltered from washing rains and drying sun. The presence of larger soil particles also helps prevent crusting. It is a good idea to have the soil well provided with nourishment. If your soil is not high in organic matter, built up with well rotted barnyard manure, an application of ammonium sulfate at the rate of 10 pounds per thousand square feet should be applied at seeding time.

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