

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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Subscription Rates: Morrow and Grant Counties, \$4.00 Year; Elsewhere \$4.50 Year. Single Copy 10 Cents. Published Every Thursday and Entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as Second Class Matter

A PIONEER OREGON NEWSPAPER

The following is extracted from a story by George Turnbull in the April issue of the "Oregon Publisher," in which he writes about pioneer Oregon newspapers:

Seven early Oregon weeklies which have come successfully past their 75th birthday anniversary may be worth a little attention in this issue of the Publisher.

The earliest two of these are the Blue Mountain Eagle, now published at John Day, in Grant County, and the Dallas Itemizer-Observer, of Dallas, Polk County.

The other five are the Lakeview Examiner, the Silverton Appeal-Tribune, the St. Helens Mist, the Heppner Gazette-Times, the Fossil Journal.

Of course, Oregon's oldest daily papers, the Oregonian and the Oregon Statesman, Salem, started as weeklies, but their weekly issues have long since been given up. The seven touched on in this issue of Oregon Publisher have never entered the daily field.

In some details, the story of these papers compares in interest with the saga of the Oregon dailies. Some of Oregon's most interesting editors and publishers have been in the weekly field.

Let's pick up a few of the details of interest in these old-timers . . .

It's difficult to start writing about the Heppner Gazette-Times without drifting over into recollections of the colorful cracks and odd displays of wit achieved by Gen. O. O. Howard's Indian scout J. W. Redington, the paper's most picturesque editor. In those early days there didn't seem to be enough news to keep a reporter busy, and Redington used to fill in by selling advertising and pursuing the elusive subscriber.

"I attached one subscriber," he once reported, "by swapping a year's subscription for a bear to Merchant Wolfard at Silverton." This happy warrior of the plains is credited with having given Owen Wister a lot of good stuff for "The Virginian."

But Redington didn't start the Gazette. Credit for that goes to J. H. Stine, who launched several other Oregon papers. He ran off the first issue of the Gazette on his old Washington hand-press March 30, 1883. He didn't stay long; he was always eager to be going somewhere.

Redington was his successor. The new owner is remembered for the snappy billboards he set up along the north central Oregon roads to advertise his paper. He proclaimed that his newspaper was going to be "Hell on Horsethieves and Hypocrites" and "Bang-up for Bustles." To read his paper, one would get the idea that Redington was always looking for a fight. But Brant Ducey, U. of O. graduate student, who is doing a full-length story of Redington, is convinced that the old scout really was mild-mannered and peaceful and that any fights he had were forced on him.

The Times, the other half of the combined paper, the second of that name in Heppner (the first was the creature of young Homer Hallock) was started by another of those inveterate founders of papers, E. M. Shutt, who got the paper going on Nov. 18, 1897. Elected sheriff in 1902, he sold the paper to A. J. Hicks, who is remembered as having installed a real type-setting machine, a Simplex, to set up his paper.

Vawter Crawford took over the Gazette in 1910. In 1912 he bought the Times from Shutt, who had taken it back, and consolidated the two papers. The paper remained in the Crawford family for close to forty years. It was sold to Robert Penland, formerly of the Lebanon Express, in 1951, and Penland carried on until last October, when he sold to the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Wildman from Phoenix, Arizona.

In 1961, the Gazette-Times is still Hell on Horsethieves. We're working out a policy on Hypocrites. w.o.w.

TO THE EDITOR . .

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter to the editor in regard to the article printed in the last issue of the Heppner Gazette, Thursday, April 6, 1961.

This article pertains to the recent collision of the police car and the car driven by my wife.

I am not going to put my wife's version of this collision in this article. I imagine a story could be written and printed in the paper stating that she was completely in the right. My feeling is that her side of the story as for a public sentiment is concerned would have no bearing on the outcome or decision in who was responsible for the accident. I feel that the insurance companies are capable of deciding who was at fault, without my passing judgement on what caused the accident.

There is one thing that should have been added to the article in last week's paper, the traffic ticket which was issued for violation of the basic rule, doing 60 m.p.h. in a 25 m.p.h. zone. The \$50.00 fine for this violation I am told, by an attorney, was very high for a person never having a traffic or parking ticket of any kind.

30 YEARS AGO

From the files of the Gazette-Times

The Star Theater will be closed Monday and Tuesday when the present talkie equipment will be replaced with more modern equipment.

Heppner's golf course presents its most inviting appearance this spring, having undergone much improvement.

Roderick Thomson and Terrel Bengo, O.S.C. students, were home on the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. R. B. Rice of Artesian Well farm, were visitors

It wasn't explained that the traffic violation and the wreck were two separate cases, neither having any bearing on the other. Also the damage to my car was stated at \$200.00, the correct figure is \$539.00.

Since we have freedom of the press I took this opportunity to explain to the public that there are always two sides to every story and this letter should be printed in the paper so the reflection of responsibility would not be on either party.

Sincerely,
Kenneth Sawyer

My Neighbors



"Now, Senator, do you think it was fair to slip your fiscal problems in with his homework?"

In the city on Saturday.

Encouragement to wool growers is seen in late wool market reports received by the Pacific Co-op.

Mr. and Mrs. Loyal Parker left for their new location in Dayville where he will have charge of a hay ranch there.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Roberts are moving into the C. W. Mc-

Namer house on Second street in Ione.

New Easter fashions at the J. C. Penney Co. store—men's spring suits, \$19.75 (same quality, \$3.00 more last year); men's dress shirts, 99c; tailored lingerie, 49c; ladies shoes, \$2.98 to \$4.98.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Buschke of Ione were Heppner visitors on Monday.

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Freezer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Knife Sharpener |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dryer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shaver |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Washer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Water Pump |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dishwasher | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grinder |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Television | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arc Welder |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Radios—2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food Mixer |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Iron | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Furnace Motor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vacuum Cleaner | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electric Blanket |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Power Tools—2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yard Lighting |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Record Player | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gasoline Pump |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Coffee Maker | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Compressor |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Toaster | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandwich Grill |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fry Pan | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lighting |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Waffle Iron | |

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ONE NEWS

Kathleen Mahoney Mather, Pendleton, was a visitor of her sister, Mrs. A. C. Ball, over the week end.

Several women of the Heppner Methodist church will attend the district meeting of the Women's Society of Christian Service in The Dalles Friday.

Mrs. Bob Peterson and Mrs. Louis Carlson were in Pendleton on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Aune and son, and Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Parker and son and Mrs. Ray Barnett visited in Irrigon at the home of Mrs. Fred Buchanan on Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Sherer and Judy were Portland visitors on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Delmar Crawford spent a few days last week in Portland where their daughter, Marlene, had dental work done.

Mr. and Mrs. Edmond Bristow received word from their son and daughter-in-law, Lt. and Mrs. John P. Bristow, that they had adopted a son, Douglas James, who was born March 30.

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STAR THEATER

Fri., Sat., April 14-15

The Last Days Of Pompeii

Steve Reeves, Barbara Carroll, Angel Aranda. The mighty spectacle of the city that died in the flames from erupting Vesuvius. Plus a Dilly of a Chiller.

House On A Haunted Hill

Vincent Price, Carol Ohmart

Sun., Mon., April 16-17

Butterfield 8

Elizabeth Taylor and an all-star cast in John O'Hara's darling novel. CS and Color. Adult drama.

Sunday at 5 and 7:05