

Heppner Gazette-Times

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
PHONE 6-9228

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Fine Show—Worthy Cause—Poor Turnout

It's a bit puzzling to figure out why the PTA-sponsored Great Virgil show drew such a disappointingly small audience Saturday night.

The committees had worked hard to publicize it. Posters and placards had been up for at least a month; the paper carried stories and ads for three weeks; and a sound truck went around town with costumed characters several times to boost for the show.

There seems to be a great deal of interest in PTA and its worthy projects here, but probably less than 30 adults attended the show. Most of those who made up the \$143 gate were children.

If the show had been a mediocre one, we wouldn't have felt so disappointed about the lack of attendance. But the Great Virgil proved that he was no run-of-the-mill magician. We have never seen a magician perform either in the flesh or on television who was as good. Those who saw him and his partner, Julie, will agree.

Perhaps it was partly due to the fact that hunting season was on. Maybe the fact that there is quite a bit of flu and sickness around had something to do with it.

But it appears that it is becoming increasingly hard for people to turn out for such programs. Maybe television is spoiling us. Chautauqua, vaudeville and minstrel shows have all fallen by the wayside, and in their demise we have lost something that was thoroughly enjoyable. Perhaps a few years ago a man the caliber of the Great Virgil wouldn't have come to a little town like Heppner at all, but it could be that times are becoming increasingly tough for a traveling performer.

It certainly appeared so Saturday night—much to the regret of those who had faith that the program would draw a big crowd. It is to be hoped that more interest will be shown in the PTA-sponsored amateur show, which will be the next venture of the local organization, in an attempt to raise revenue for its projects.

Let's Stop Abusing "It's"

One of the most abused words in the English language is "it's," possessive of "it." Every week at least one story comes to the paper—and some from high sources—incorrectly using the contracted form of "it is"—"it's"—to show possession; thus, "it's regular monthly meeting." The apostrophe takes the place of the "i" in "is."

"It's" is one word that shows possession without the apostrophe. Most of our populace knows this, of course, and we have little hope of curing the rest, but after copying this abused word for years, we could no longer refrain from mentioning it. It's the least we could do to give the word its proper dignity.

Check for Fire Hazards This Week

This is National Fire Prevention week (October 8-15), and it could be observed no more appropriately locally than by each head of a household going around to check his place of residence on the matter of fire hazards.

There is that frayed, old electric cord that serves the front room floor lamp. This is a mighty fine time to repair it. The children may have piled cardboard boxes by the furnace. This is the week to clean them up.

Have you had a home fire drill lately? Has your family talked out a plan of escape in case fire broke out in any of several parts of the house? This is the week to take a few moments for discussing it.

Fortunately, serious home fires have been rather few in our area. Maybe this means our citizens are extra careful. But this is the week to take inventory to see that we are not giving fire a place to start. Winter's coming on, the old furnace or heater will be stoked up—has the flue been cleaned, checked for cracks?

Fire prevention week is the time, too, to say a word of appreciation to our volunteer firemen who do such a fine job year around. To Chief Charlie Ruggles and his men, we offer a hearty "Thank You."

Their service to a community is invaluable, and it is surely great to know that they will come on the double if fire does get started.

TO THE EDITOR . . .

Dear Wes:

Just to set the record straight, I did NOT shoot at the bear. Your report that I did so does not help my reputation with those who agree with me that bears will become extinct if hunters continue to shoot them. I'll never hear the end of it with the rest of them anyway—and they know I didn't fire a shot because so many of them were in the vicinity.

I have never before encountered a bear in these mountains, so I purely enjoyed watching him.

As a matter of fact, he couldn't have come upon a hunter from whom he would have been safer. I am a notoriously poor marksman. The deer I have shot have stood calmly and watched me in fascination until I zeroed in with the last shell in my gun. I have never hit a moving target.

I picked up my gun in self-defense when I saw the bear coming toward me. Thank goodness he reversed his field rapidly! I tore me and my pants getting across the fence to see where he went. As he skeedaddled up the other side of the draw and across to the big canyon, I longed for my movie camera.

Several hunters shot at him later but we think he escaped unhurt. Laddie found bear tracks near there in the snow last weekend.

Rachel Dick P. S. You were correct in reporting that I did not know whether it was legal to kill bears. I wasn't sure because I am not a bird hunter, and if that statement sounds crazy it is because you are not aware, as I was not until last week, that the regulations pertaining to bears in Oregon appear on the bulletin which contains the regulations for shooting birds and not with the bulletin for deer, antelope, and elk. Apparently the State Game Commission thinks hunters with shotguns are more likely to encounter a bear than those with big game rifles.

Dear Gazette People:

We've been gone nearly a year now and still look forward each Saturday to catch up on all the news in the Gazette-Times. Especially enjoy the two new columns—by the editor and by Jo Pettyjohn. Renewal enclosed.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Alex Thompson

Car Accident Couple Released, Return to Home

By MARY LEE MARLOW

BOARDMAN—Mr. and Mrs. Emile Ash, who were seriously injured in a car accident here Sept. 7, returned home from the Good Shepherd hospital last Friday. Mrs. Ash's daughter, Mrs. Louise Baracco, of Portland, is here to care for them. Week-end visitors at the Ash home were Mrs. Ash's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Gibbs of Kennewick, Wash.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Briggs went to Delake over the week-end to visit Briggs' sister, Mrs. Stella Thomas, who is ill following a severe heart attack.

Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Rash and daughters Valerie and Denise of Portland were week-end visitors at the homes of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rash, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Zivney.

Mrs. Nels Kristiansen was honored on the occasion of her birthday last week when a group of friends called. Present were Mr. and Mrs. Arnin Hug, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Rash and Dorothy and Diane, Mr. and Mrs. Elvin Ely and Eileen, and Mr. and Mrs. Henry Zivney and Roger.

Mrs. Orville Gastineau and son Bobbie of Priest Lake, Idaho, are visiting at the home of her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Everett Daniels. Mrs. Gastineau is here to take care of Mrs. Daniels, who is recuperating from a car accident. Another sister, Mrs. Paul Daniels of Sandpoint, Idaho, has returned to her home after being here for two weeks caring for Mrs. Daniels.

Mrs. Ronnie Walker and son Mike of Sandpoint are at the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Myron Watts, to care for Mrs. Watts, the other accident victim. Mrs. Watts' sister, Mrs. Bill Foster of Valentine, Nebr., has returned home after a visit at the Watts home.

Mrs. Charles Anderegg has returned home from a two weeks trip to her home at Long Beach, Wash. Visiting her there was her sister, Mrs. Walter Conway of Corvallis. Mrs. Anderegg also visited her daughter Barbara at OSU at Corvallis, and her son

Chaff and Chatter

By Wes Sherman

ACCORDING TO John Bennett,

Portland, who writes a forestry column called "Timberline" that is distributed among publications of the state, a survey of 500 California deer hunters revealed that 36 per cent did not know what the word "flammability" means. We might add that quite a number of Oregon hunters wouldn't know the meaning of the word, either, judging by the number of camp fires they left unattended and the number of forest fires they caused. Just ask Forest Ranger Sam Miller.

We suspect that most of the careless ones are the hunters from cities who have little realization of the damage their carelessness can do.

Benneth also has another interesting bit in his most recent column: "More white men are now shot for deer by mistake than used to be shot by Indians on purpose."

LAST WEEK was a bad one for columnists of the G-T. "By Jo" forgot to include a cup of cold water in Mrs. Marshall's recipe

and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. James Garvison, at Oregon City.

Barbara S. Anderegg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anderegg, has been pledged to Alpha Omicron Phi sorority at OSU at Corvallis.

Mrs. Frank Marlow and her father, W. W. Hartle, spent two days in Walla Walla, Wn., visiting her aunt, Mrs. Ernest Zerba. Sunday visitors at the Marlow home were Mrs. Zerba, and Mrs. Marlow's sister, Mrs. Clarence Thomas and son Roy of Riggins, Idaho. Their father returned home with Mrs. Thomas to visit.

The Ladies Aid Society of Community church observed Prayer Day at their meeting Wednesday afternoon of last week at the church. Hostesses were Mrs. Nate Macomber and Mrs. Glen Carpenter.

Mrs. Rol Burg read an article, "How To Accept Difficulties," for the Spiritual Life program.

The date for the annual church bazaar was set for the evening of Nov. 17. Committees appointed were: food, Mrs. S. C. Russell, Mrs. Rollin Bishop, Mrs. Claud Worden, Mrs. E. J. Moore and Mrs. John Summers; white elephant booth, Mrs. Leo Potts; candy booth, Mrs. Bernard Donovan, Mrs. Louise Earwood and Mrs. Margaret Klitz. The program chairman will be announced later.

William P. Monahan, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Monahan, has been recalled to duty in the army and will report to Fort Lewis, Wn., October 16. He was released in July, but received word recently of his recall. The Monahans have three sons in active service, one each in the army, navy and air corps.

for "Whacky Cake." and the phone started jangling frantically here towards the end of the week. Without the water, the whacky cake must have been even whackier. It could have been that many a husband, having tasted said cake, might have forced his spouse to take a solemn oath never to copy a recipe out of the paper again. "By Jo" apologizes this week, we see.

But if Jo was short some cold water, I could loan her some, for I am getting plenty for erroneously reporting that Rachel Djek shot at that bruin that ambled towards her in the woods the other day. (See letter to ed).

WHEN THE Ione-Helix football game was due to start the other day, the appointed officials failed to arrive. A little investigation uncovered the fact that the pair had gone to Helix, only to find that nary a football player was in sight there.

But two reliable substitutes were available at Ione. Jack Loyd and Junior Stefani, both experienced arbiters, took over and did the job. Stefani is a certified official, and Loyd formerly was certified.

LOYD, by the way, helped save the day for the Chamber of Commerce when he resurrected his model sawmill to put in the Chamber's booth at the Pacific International Livestock Exposition, which starts Saturday. Jack built the sawmill a number of years ago. Operated by an electric motor, the model has logs coming up the slip while the carriage works back and forth. When Jack heard the C of C plea for help, he dug out the model, fitted it together and with a little help on the painting got it ready to go again in short order.

IF BOB ABRAMS hadn't come to the G-T office seeking a cardboard tube for a member of his family, the Boeing Airplane Company probably wouldn't have been represented in the Morrow county P. I. booth. While prowling around the place here in an attempt to find him a tube (like those that calendars come in), we picked up a good one in the corner that we thought contained an Army Corps of Engineers map.

To our horror, we saw a Boeing label on the outside. This was the tube that contained all the big colored pictures that Boeing had sent to go in the booth. By mistake, when Bob Platt took the stuff to Portland, we grabbed up the Corps map instead of the Boeing pictures. We hadn't intended to use the Corps map in the booth, but by this time the decorators at the P. I. may al-

ready have it on the wall. Oh, well, it is interesting, too. It shows how the John Day dam will affect Morrow county along the Columbia river.

We sent the pictures off in the mail immediately after Bob was here and thank him for calling attention to the mistake, even if unintentional and coincidental.

CHARLIE RUGGLES says a large number of motorists pay little or no attention to the school crosswalk near the library-museum. He says that many a motorist who stops for pedestrians at the main corner of town practice no such courtesy at the school crosswalk, and the youngsters take their chances when they go to cross the street. As the saying goes, let's give the children a "brake" and not a "break."

YOU'VE heard of the famous character, fictional or otherwise, named "Whispering Smith." Most Heppnerites also know Mike Whitesmith, C of C president and Penney Co. manager. Well, this week meet "Whispering Whitesmith." Big Mike has a severe case of laryngitis.

—AND WE certainly do take a deep bow to the school board for passing the resolution to limit meetings to 11 p. m. and adhering to it to the letter on the first try. Quite a few dispositions ought to be a "little bit better" on Tuesdays now that 1:30 a. m. meetings are a thing of the past.

STAR THEATER

Fri., Sat., Oct. 13-14
Dondi

David Kory, David Janssen, Patti Paige, Walter Winchell, Mickey Shaughnessy. The lovable little tyke fits perfectly into the slapstick stirred up by his army pals. Patti Paige provides several songs. Family. PLUS

Let's Go Navy

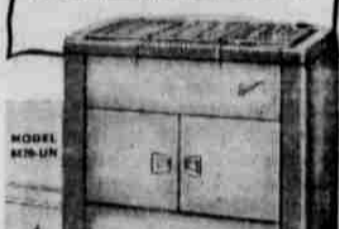
One of the more hilarious old Bowery Boys comedies. Starts at 7:30, feature break 9:30, show out 10:35. Anyone wishing to see ONLY the DONDI film will be admitted at 10:30.

Sun., Mon., Oct. 15-16

One Eyed Jacks

Powerful, turbulent, engrossing outdoor-action epic. Marlon Brando, Karl Malden, Katy Jurado, Ben Johnson, Slim Pickens and the Mexican actress Pina Pellicer. Some violence puts this on the adult side. Sunday at 5 and 7:40, Monday at 7:30

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S. McMurdo To Serve Benton Cancer Board

Scott McMurdo, son of Dr. and Mrs. A. D. McMurdo, is advanced to membership on the board of directors of the Benton County Cancer Society in Corvallis. He served the past year as president of the cancer unit which made an outstanding contribution to the success of the Oregon division of the national program.

Through the work of 245 volunteer workers, Benton county's 1961 cancer giving totaled \$4199, under the leadership of Mr. McMurdo and his staff. Dr. Robert Newburgh has been elected president for the new year, replacing Mr. McMurdo.

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Sparky says:

If Fire Strikes Your Home...

GET OUT of the house the minute you discover it or smell smoke! ALWAYS be ready to use different escape routes from any room in your house! TEST doors before opening. If doors are hot, block them with furniture or wet mattresses to keep out smoke and gases. Get out another way! NEVER jump from upper-story windows except as a last resort! Wait for firemen. HOLD your breath if you have to make a dash through smoke and flame! REMEMBER, the air is usually better near the floor in a smoke-filled room! CALL the fire department at once! They know how to fight fire. Don't waste your time or your life trying to fight a fire, unless it's so small you're sure you can control it with the right extinguisher. DON'T ever go back to a burning building for any reason! Smoke and fire gases from even the smallest fire can be deadly. GET medical treatment at once, if you're burned or exposed to fire and smoke! Seemingly minor burns or smoke inhalation can have fatal results.

DON'T GIVE FIRE A PLACE TO START!



ATTEND THE THIRD ANNUAL Soil Conservation Speech Contest Heppner Grade School Multi-purpose Room MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, 8 p. m.

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