

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
PHONE 676-9228

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Senator Vernon Cook Writes Again

In days of old, knights so bold sallied forth with lances to meet the foe.

Today one of the accepted methods (no doubt improved and less bloody) of doing battle is to take pen in hand and compose a letter to the editor with the hope of withering an adversary in print.

Recently a state senator of Multnomah county used this technique to belittle Eastern Oregon as a territory comprised of sagebrush and primarily useful as a place for jackrabbits to frisk and gambol. On this dubious premise he made a case against reapportionment of the state legislature by the proposed All-Oregon plan.

Hoots of derision greeted him, vaulting him into facetious prominence, although the recognition he received in this part of the state was something far less than benign tolerance.

So now Senator Vernon Cook writes again. He steps forward as a willing leader against the reapportionment measure that will appear on the ballot in the general election, dedicating himself to save the state from decay and ruin.

In his letter (elsewhere on this page) he calls the All-Oregon plan a "vicious proposal." (Inference is that ornery eastern Oregonians are downright mean in attempting to get for themselves a semblance of adequate representation in the legislature.)

The Gresham man takes the position that any attempt to use area as even a partial basis for representation, rather than population alone, is strictly undemocratic and could only be conceived by "selfish special interests" for the "destruction of grass roots democracy."

We assume this means that it is O.K. for Multnomah county citizens to cherish their special interests, but it is taboo for eastern Oregonians to seek a share.

Mr. Cook needs to check closer on his "grass roots." The Federal system that governs our nation in Washington, D. C., is well-rooted around our democratic United States. Senators are chosen at the rate of two from each state. Nevada with only 258,278 persons has two senators. New York with 16,782,304 persons (65 times as many as Nevada!) has two senators.

U. S. Congressmen, however, are chosen by population, thereby making a good balance between area and population. Incidentally, the congressman who represents Oregon's second district (now served by Al Ulman) has the second largest district by area in the United States.

Contrast this system by that in the State of Oregon. The combined counties of Gilliam, Hood River, Morrow, Sherman, Wasco and Wheeler counties have one senator. The combined counties of Wheeler, Umatilla, Sherman, Morrow and Gilliam share one representative, and Umatilla enjoys the luxury of another of its own.

Multnomah county has eight senators and 17 representatives. There is no radical movement to overthrow the Federal system across our land. The people enjoy the combined area-population method of being served.

The trouble with Mr. Cook is that he has little conception of the problems of eastern Oregon and other parts of the state that suffer because of direly inadequate representation. He has already shown his disdain for our economic importance with his "jackrabbit and sagebrush" letter. Would he feel the same way if he lived here?

How about the difficulty of reaching a state representative on a matter of concern to a citizen when that lone representative serves five counties embracing 9040 square miles as opposed to the 424 square miles in Multnomah county, served by 17 representatives? The sheer distances involved make unique problems that many western Oregonians cannot comprehend.

How would Mr. Cook go about serving his constituents if he represented the residents of these 9040 square miles? How would he get around to hear their problems, find time to travel to see situations that need correction, to visit industries, to attend meetings, to make himself available for consultation to his far-flung constituency?

When he infers that the "wealthy ranchers" of eastern Oregon are attempting to overwhelm the poor downtrodden in the western part of the state, he is just naturally barking up the wrong tree. The people of eastern Oregon are human beings with real problems that deserve fair hearing and fair representation. Fortunately, many friends in other parts of the state are broad enough to recognize this, and some of the leaders of the All-Oregon plan come from elsewhere.

Eastern Oregon has no desire to deprive any citizen of his rights to representation but thinking people everywhere recognize that population is not the only criterion for representation.

As Senator Cook and his cohorts gird for battle against this measure, eastern Oregon must unite for its solid support.

We should thank Mr. Cook for writing the letter that serves so well to show some of the narrow-minded and selfish thinking with which we are faced and points up the need for getting at the task that lies ahead.

May none be duped by flag-waving letter writers on this proposal.

Or as Cook might phrase it if he were on our side, "Let us arise to preserve the hallowed and cherished principle that the rights of the minority must be preserved with honor and vigilance!"

Another Slaughter Over Labor Day?

Looking back on the human slaughter of 23 persons dead on Oregon highways last week-end, one must cringe to contemplate with horror that this might be repeated on the holiday week-end ahead. Labor Day week-end is a notorious time for traffic deaths.

Thousands take to the road for the last holiday of the summer, and Governor Mark Hatfield, noting the toll of last week-end, has issued a statement urging care and caution.

"With the Labor Day holiday approaching, I sincerely urge all Oregon motorists to use the greatest possible caution when driving this coming week-end," he writes. "Distasteful though it may be, the truth is that we are always just seconds or inches away from violent death whenever we are traveling in automobiles. A second's carelessness at high speed, an unguarded moment at an intersection, a thoughtless move in heavy traffic—it could happen to any one of us. Driver vigilance is the only defense against the fate suffered by 23 persons this week-end and more than 280 so far this year in Oregon."

As the holiday arrives, we would like to point out that time may be precious, but life is priceless. Here are a few tips: Don't learn traffic laws by accident. Always think for two—the other driver and you. Train your mind to mind the train. One accident may cost your driver's license. Can you afford a chauffeur?

May we count on seeing you again—when the week-end driving is over?

Jerry Green Returns From Hawaiian Duty

Jerry Green, son of Mrs. Homer (Pearl) Green of Lexington, is back home after receiving his discharge from the 4th Cavalry of the Army Tuesday, August 21.

He was stationed in Hawaii for 18 months and in Thailand for 1 1/2 months, returning recently to San Francisco. Jerry had been home on a visit in

April. He graduated from Heppner High school with the class of 1956.

Mrs. Emma Anderson, Colorado Springs, Colo. is here visiting her two daughters, Mrs. Elsie Cole and Fern Graves. She arrived in mid-July and plans to stay several more weeks.

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

IN CASE you live in Pendleton, we would like to point out emphatically that the Morrow County Rodeo is not over. It doesn't start until Saturday after the Horse Show tomorrow (Friday). Gerald Swaggart came in Wednesday night feeling a little bewildered. He had been to Pendleton and everywhere he went, people had the understanding that the Morrow Rodeo was over. Apparently they had been reading about the fair and figured the rodeo was held in connection with the fair.

We have had stories and pictures of the rodeo in virtually every paper in Eastern Oregon with the correct dates, but apparently some folks just don't read very good.

JUST ARRIVED this (Thursday) morning is a picture of Marjorie Clark, queen of the first rodeo in 1922, and unfortunately too late for last week's Rodeo Edition. The picture was sent to Frank Turner by Mrs. Clara Boyer of Mt. Vernon, widow of Guy Boyer, a former old-timer here. The first rodeo queen is now Mrs. Gordon Ridings of New York. We'll try to get it in the paper at a later date.

Mrs. Boyer called Turner after receiving the Rodeo Edition, then sent the picture.

FREAK ACCIDENTS have been in the limelight around here recently. We know Velma Glass will look daggers at us, but we must report on the mishap that involved her and her son, Tom.

They had just bought a new red Corvair, and Tom was parked at the swimming pool one recent day. As he started to back street collided with the Corvair away, a car coming down the on the side. Of course, Mrs. Glass was driving the second car. Both were quite heavily damaged.

We know just how sick they felt. It once happened in the Sherman family. No. 1 son backed his Model-A Ford into the front of our Packard and caused \$300 damage. So don't feel too badly, Velma and Tom.

OF COURSE, Wayne Ball had something of a legitimate excuse for being nervous, since his accident had happened just before his wedding last week. He had taken his car to Fulleton's garage for repairs so it would be all ready to go after the wedding.

The Fulleton's had almost finished work on a car that had been damaged and traded in to them, and it was parked outside. As Wayne backed his car out in a rush to go to a wedding rehearsal, he did not notice the parked car, and crumpled the fender again. His car was not damaged.

NOT AT ALL funny was the experience of Jim Phegley, who rolled over out on the Hinton creek road recently, 12 miles from Heppner. In recovering from the accident, he left some \$200 worth of tools scattered about. They were thrown out when the car rolled over. Next morning when he came back to the scene, the tools were gone. They are listed in a lost and found ad on the classified page.

FLASH just comes in that the Rev. Melvin Dixon caught a 33-inch fish, weighing about 15 lb., in the Columbia river Wednesday. He thinks it is a steelhead but Howard Bryant rather reserves the opinion that it is a chinook. Howard says it is about

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

LEGION MOVIES
No movies, this week only. Resume next Friday, 7:30 p.m.

ATTEND ALL THE BIG WEEK-END EVENTS!
Wrangler Horse Show—All day Friday from 9:00 a.m. No admission

Street Parade—10:00 a.m., Saturday, downtown Heppner.

County Picnic—Courthouse lawn, noon, Saturday.

Rodeo Events—Saturday, Sunday, 1:30 p.m., Saturday night, 8:00 p.m., followed by Rodeo Dance.

Cowboy Breakfast, Sunday, 7:00 a.m.

EAT THIS WEEK-END AT THE "SNACK SHACK" on Rodeo Grounds
Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chili, Sandwiches, Coffee, Soft Drinks.

Sponsored by American Legion Auxiliary

This space will be used each week to announce coming events of a public service nature at no charge. SPONSORED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY

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TO THE EDITOR...

Dear Editor:

Thank you kindly for sending me the Gazette-Times. I am enclosing subscription fee, a check for \$4.50. I would miss the news as well as the reminiscences of bygone days. I was in Heppner from 1940-1955 so I know most of the people. Some day I am coming up there to play golf.

Sincerely, Francis McCormack.
P. O. Box 247, Redmond.

To the Editor:

Every supporter of fair representation in Oregon's Legislature, based upon people rather than area, should be concerned that the Associated Oregon Industries area representation plan, variously described as the "Annala Plan," the "Citizens Committee Plan," or "Ballot Proposition Number 9," is being presented to the voters at the November 6 General Election. While I am confident that the

collection of coral and sea shells sent by relatives who enjoy skin diving.

It is refreshing to visit with a person like Mrs. Brosnan. (And she makes very good cake, too).

voters will defeat this vicious proposal, if they understand what it is intended to accomplish, unfortunately, Oregon's Supreme Court refused to approve a properly descriptive ballot title.

In view of all the national publicity on reapportionment, many voters, unless they are informed to the contrary, may think that a more representative rather than a less representative proposal is being submitted to them. This is not the case.

The people's best recourse is to support the efforts of the Bi-Partisan Committee to Retain Equal Representation to defeat this undemocratic proposal. No one but the selfish special interests is ever benefitted by the destruction of grass roots democracy which this amendment proposes.

Fortunately, on the question of the adoption of this proposal, every man and woman in Oregon will have an equal voice, with each being entitled to cast one vote, without regard to how much land he owns, where he lives, or how wealthy he is. I cannot believe that the people of Oregon will knowingly give up their sacred right to an equal voice in government. Oregon has the most representative legislature of any of the United States. Let's stay in first place and not take "9" steps backwards!!!

Sincerely, Vernon Cook

Rodger Harris Home From Korean Service

Rodger Harris, son of Mr. and Mrs. Max Harris of Heppner, was discharged from the Air Force on August 10 after serving 13 months in Korea. He has been visiting his parents here after arriving back stateside.

Harris, who served as a civil engineer in the Air Force, plans to enter Idaho State College at Pocatello and expected to leave this week. He graduated from Heppner High school in 1958.

Winter Schedule Set At Methodist Church

Services at the Methodist church Sunday will continue on the summer schedule with morning worship at 9 a. m., but return to the regular schedule on Sunday, September 9, the Rev. Melvin Dixon, pastor, announces. At the change, Sunday school will be at 9:45 and morning worship at 11 a. m., he states.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Johnson and family and Ronnie Creswick were in Seattle August 9 through the 12 to see the World's Fair. They were guests of Clarence's aunt, Mrs. Agnes Nelson. During the time they were there the Fair had record attendance of 71,000 and 79,000.

EVERYTHING IN YOUNG MEN'S CLOTHES FOR

BACK TO SCHOOL

PANTS --- \$4.29 to \$7.50

Many styles of tapered pants in cottons, synthetics and blends by Lee, Dickie, Day and Wrangler.

SHIRTS \$1.95 to \$5.95

Short sleeves, 3/4 sleeves, full-length sleeves, including button down collars, Gaucho front, tab snap collars and conventional collar styles.

SOX 59¢ to 79¢

White crew sox from size 7 through 18. Many others at \$1.00 pair, including Allen-A's Ban-Lon in solid colors with the 5-yr. guarantee.

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14 styles and many colors to choose from.

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Many styles included in our large selection.

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IN COTTON

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SHOES

LOTS OF STYLES INCLUDING 12 STYLES OF STEP-INS

FROM \$13.95

Miscellaneous :

Sweat Sox Underwear Hankies Athletic Supporters

O'ALLS, Lee's and Wrangler's \$3.15 to \$4.95

SIZES 3 THROUGH 44 WAIST. LEE'S IN REGULARS, SLIMS AND TAPERS.

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