

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
PHONE 676-9228

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Now is the Time to Speak Up on Dam

With the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and Bureau of Reclamation personnel working diligently on preliminary studies on the proposed Willow Creek multipurpose dam, now is the time for organizations, local governmental units and individuals to express themselves to the Corps, to the Bureau, to our Congressional delegation and to legislators.

Two engineers were in the area recently to conduct interviews for the purpose of attempting to determine the economic future of the area and to get an overview of local interest on the dam project.

The proposed irrigation feature of the dam was explored tentatively at a meeting held in the courthouse recently, and this will be probed in more detail at a meeting set for tonight, Thursday, September 6, in the courthouse. All ranchers who would be affected by the irrigation feature should be in attendance and others interested in the dam should also attend to hear some of the thinking and ideas expressed.

In the short time the editor has lived in Heppner, little has been said against the project as a flood control and recreational project. Need for both of these seems unquestioned.

One of the engineers pointed out at the recent irrigation meeting that the volume of water that flooded Heppner in 1903 was not great. He said that only about 1100 acre feet was in the flood that virtually wiped out the town and killed 247 persons. He aptly pointed out that there is no reason to believe that conditions present then are not still with us today, and also suggested that there is no reason to believe that this flood was the worst that could happen. One of greater volume might occur, just as new "worsts" are being experienced every day in disasters somewhere around the country.

As tentatively outlined, the proposed dam would allow 3000 acre feet as a flood control feature, nearly three times the volume that hit in the deluge of 1903. If it were decided to add the irrigation feature, the dam would be built proportionately larger to provide for this additional storage.

At this time, it has not been decided whether to include the irrigation aspect as one of the multipurpose features, and those who have views on the matter should present them at the meeting Thursday.

However, whether it seems feasible to add irrigation or not, the ever-possible threat of flood here should not be forgotten as a primary reason for the dam. While some conditions may be better now than in 1903—the creek channel may be kept cleaner, woven wire fences may no longer cross the creek, and so on—the geography and topography are no different, and Heppner, as well as the valley to the north, still lies starkly exposed to the threat of cloudburst and flood. At this time we can think of no area anywhere which has this exposure in greater degree.

In this same survey the engineers are also considering the dangers to Lexington and Ione, the latter which was hit with a costly flood last August 15 that caused high property damage, coming down Rietmann canyon.

The thing that should be emphasized again and again to those who recognize the need is that a show of interest is vital if this dam is ever to be built. Individuals can show this interest by attending meetings, hearing the pros and cons, writing letters to the Engineers, to Congressmen and to others connected with it. Organizations can send delegations to meetings, pass resolutions, and contact political candidates as to their stand on the project.

In our modern society, there is tremendous competition for allocations by local areas for government projects. Many areas have learned to develop their propaganda planning to a science. Those who are backward about expressing themselves just naturally get left out.

Those connected with this study have informally suggested this in conversations with our local people. That should make it clear enough.

It is time to take heed and get busy.

What Happened in Seaside?

Oregon parents who read the accounts last year of teenagers and students rioting on a holiday binge at Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., probably shared a common feeling of incredulity at the youngsters' behavior. They probably thought, in essence, "Thank heavens, our kids don't do things like that!"

Now a Seaside has learned that kids in the Northwest do do things like that.

H. G. Matson, superintendent of the State Police, said that last week-end's riots, which were spurred by no particular cause—such as a communist rally or a race riot—was the worst incident he could recall in 31 years in law enforcement. Some 1500 young people were estimated to be involved in the riots which ransacked the town. National Guardsmen and State Police joined local police and firemen in bringing the situation under control.

We in eastern Oregon might look at the coastal town's trouble with complacency and repeat, "Thank heavens, our kids don't do things like that."—And we sincerely hope that they aren't capable of such things. We like to believe that they have better judgement.

But parents and adults everywhere should be concerned about this. It can hardly be dismissed as an isolated incident, but it appears to be a part of a rising tide that is a symptom of something radically amiss in our society.

It ties in with reports of increased malicious vandalism, with the rise in juvenile crime, and with the recent report on "Erosion of Principles in America" by the Tulsa newspaper editor.

It seems to indicate that while we have been so concerned with keeping up with Russia on scientific fronts we have been sadly neglecting the social front at home. We need to examine what we are doing to teach a sense of responsibility, both at home and in schools.

We are making home runs in getting men into orbit, but we aren't getting to first base on social progress. In fact, we seem to be striking out.

It has been pretty well conceded for a number of years that what is happening to our young people can be laid pretty directly at the doorsteps of their parents—and this is a responsibility that we cannot dodge.

In this connection, we had to admire the reported stand of Police Chief John Yarmochick of Seaside when parents started calling him from all points after hearing the news of the riots and that a large number of young people were jailed.

When they asked if their children were in jail, he told them to come to Seaside to find out. When they replied that they didn't know for sure that they were in Seaside, he declared that as parents they should know where their children are. This point is well taken and a stand to be admitted in view of the pressures that are placed on officers in such a situation.

It's the easy way to say, "These kids are no good," and dismiss it with the shrugging idea that we will always have some bad apples. But that isn't the full answer. There is little to indicate that these youngsters are anything but normal under different circumstances.

We're inclined to think that as parents we're surrounding their lives with our own irresponsibility, junk and trash and on that murky and insecure foundation expect them to come out with strong moral fiber.

As we develop a more luxurious and leisurely life for ourselves, we shun our own responsibilities and require too little of our youngsters to give them strength. There are no chores for city youth today—no wood to cut, a touch of the thermostat

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

THE OLD SAYING GOES, "The best laid plans of mice and men often go astray," but usually they turn out pretty good in the end. In the case of the Street Parade Saturday, everything had been planned in detail for some time in advance. A system of walkie-talkies was set up to coordinate things, and Dr. Tibbles was to be in charge but at the last minute, the doctor got an emergency call. Al Fetsch, also supposed to help get the parade underway, was called upon to ride to fill in. Orville Cutsforth, in charge of the parade, organization, was late because his watch had stopped, and he was delayed in getting steam up in his traditional old steam engine.

But Jim Farley and others were recruited, and through some last-minute assistance the parade got underway, apparently without a hitch. There were quite a few comments that it was the best organized of any parade in recent years.

It was a dandy, all right, and Announcers Harold Erwin and LaVerne Van Marter added a great deal with their comments at the reviewing stand. Behind the scenes of the whole thing was C of C President Fred Gimbel who worked like a beaver and sweated out all the arrangements.

BUT IF THEY had troubles, so did we. Just as the beautiful Rainbow float came by, we were in the midst of changing film in our camera and so didn't get a picture. We didn't feel too badly about it, because we figured we could catch it on the way back (one of the advantages of a 2-way parade). In the meantime the announcement had been made that the Rainbow float was the grand sweepstakes winner.

But we waited and waited and it never did come back by. Later we learned that the car pulling the float had started to heat up, and it had to get out of the line of march.

We hopped in the car to run it down, not more than 15 minutes after the event was over, and located it at Inland Chemical. But already they had it half torn down. Hence, no picture of the sweepstakes winner. Wow, you gals were in an awful hurry to take it apart after going to so much work to put together

a winner. Actually we never even got a good look at it, the head being buried in camera as it passed up the street.

BY THE WAY, we took some 200 pictures of the parade and horse show, as well as a few of the rodeo. If you are desperate for a picture of most anything but the Rainbow float, we may be able to solve your problem, but we make haste to add, we didn't get everything.

JIM FARLEY, Buick-Pontiac-Rambler-Jeep dealer, wins Morrow County Calf roping; Roice Fullerton, Chevrolet dealer, wins prizes in the horse show and is on horseback in the parade and rodeo. Gene Teague, Chevrolet dealer in Stayton, comes all the way over here to be grand marshal on his beautiful palomino, and he added a great deal of color to the parade.

But if one didn't know better, he'd think auto dealers were in favor of going back to the horse and buggy days.

IN THE CONTEST FOR oldest cowboy in the parade, Frank Turner has issued a statement conceding defeat to John Kenny, a late entrant. Frank has this to say:

"Too young! With all my efforts I did not make the oldest cowboy. Congratulations, Johnnie. But I do resent your changing my diapers—you were not old enough for that. (Ed Note: At the judges stand, Kenny was quoted as saying that he was enough older than Frank to change the latter's diapers in the years ago).

"It was a pleasure working with Barbara and her fine registered American Saddle, and Nancy performed beautifully. "Johnnie was born October 10, 1885, and my birthdate was November 22, 1885, or only 43 days difference. We were born in the same canyon and have lived here since.

"I must thank Barbara for her horse, Jimmie Farley for his saddle and Bill Blake for the boots. (Wore my own shorts and socks). Just too young, Frank."

WELL, IT was a great week-end. Everything seemed to hit the "better than ever" rating with the possible exception of the picnic, where it was reported that attendance was very light. Ralph

heats the house; no lawn mower to push, they ride on a gas-powered mower.

Somehow parents have come to believe that their greatest parental duty today is to keep their children entertained, rather than to do anything that would build solid character.

There was a letter in the East Oregonian the other day that brings out today's dilemma. The original was written by a county probation officer in Colorado: "Always we hear the plaintive cry of the teenagers: 'What can we do . . . ? Where can we go . . . ?'"

"The answer is, 'GO HOME!'!! Hang the storm windows, paint the woodwork, rake the leaves, mow the lawn, shovel the walk, wash the car, learn to cook, scrub some floors, repair the sink, build a boat, get a job. Help the church, visit the sick, assist the poor, study your lessons, and then when you are through—and not too tired—read a book.

"Your parents do not owe you entertainment. Your town does not owe you recreational facilities. The world does not owe you a living. You owe the world something. You owe it your time and energy and talents so that no one will be at war or in poverty or sick or lonely again.

"In plain simple words, grow up. Quit being a cry-baby; get out of your dream world and develop a backbone, not a wishbone. Start acting like a man or a lady."

The man has a good point. It isn't that we think our young people are "going to the dogs." There are many who embrace the highest type of citizenship. But it is getting so that many parents scarcely have the courage to suggest such a sordid pastime as reading a book for fear of getting that "Crazy, man?" look from their offspring. TV, now routine entertainment, takes less effort.

Heads will shake over the Seaside affair for some time, but if it shakes up parents enough for them to examine themselves in light of their children's developments—and then strive to take steps to put their own homes in order—some good may come of it.

It is easy to blame the kids—and undoubtedly some of their skulls should have been thumped at Seaside—but the bitter truth is that we breed the background for such incidents as these. We can face up to the facts, or turn our backs and wait for it to happen again someplace else.

Richards and his committee had done a fine job getting things ready, but apparently everyone was too busy to show up. Maybe this should be dropped in another year.

IF ED SULLIVAN had been here to see the rodeo over the week-end, he would have declared, "It was a really great Sh-e-e-w." And it was. It was mighty hard work for one young banker who had the job of acting as secretary. He had everything in very good shape, but he discovered he had a whale of a task on his hands. We're referring to Bert Huff. His records on the rodeo are just what you would expect of a banker, neat as a pin and everything recorded in apple pie order.

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Editor:

Mr. Chandler appears to have hit a new high in outrageous statements when he gave his talk to his Heppner audience. According to the Oregonian he charges that Al Ullman will spend \$75,000.00 to beat him in the election coming up. Al's campaign in the past elections have always been held to less than \$10,000.00 and there certainly is no indication that he will have any more to spend this time.

I was district chairman of one of Al's past campaigns and I know that Ullman's campaign costs are very low of necessity. I watched the 1960 race and saw evidence of rather heavy spending for billboards and other expensive media by Mr. Fair, Al's opponent, but Al himself in the 1960 and earlier campaigns confined his campaign almost entirely to personal visits and inexpensive cards and literature. I have assurance that the 1960 race will be conducted in the same manner.

Apparently the Republican nominee intends to either use the big lie technique to cover up his own lavish spending plans or is disappointed at the size of campaign funds being made available to him. I am sure there is no word of truth to these unfounded charges made at the Heppner luncheon. Could these charges be a build up for greater and more baseless smears?

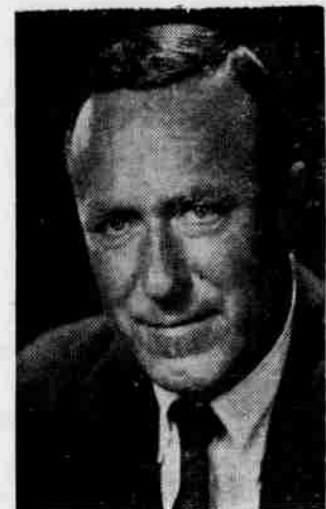
Wilbur Mills, chairman of the Ways and Means committee, recently wrote saying: I am proud to have Al Ullman on the Ways and Means Committee. He is hard working, conscientious, able and effective. Al is completely dedicated to the interest of his district, state and nation."

As to the farm bill supported by Al Ullman, he need offer no apologies. Much of this bill effecting wheat was written with the aid and cooperation of the National Wheat Growers Association. The defeated bill carried a provision authorizing the Secretary of Agriculture to remove restrictions on wheat varieties being in short supply. Our own White wheat is no longer a surplus item and this provision was killed with almost solid Republican help.

Very Truly yours,
Newt O'Harra

New Baby Greeted

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Hamm, Richmond, Va., are the parents of a son born September 3. The young fellow joins two sisters, and the grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Elwyn Hughes of Heppner. As of this printing the baby had not been named. Mrs. Hamm is the former Margaret Hughes. Don Hughes, son of the Hughes, and Bob Irby, son of Glenn Irby are staying with the Hamm family and worked in Virginia during the summer. Don will attend Richmond Business Institute this fall and Bob will return home.



WALTER W. STRALEY
President, Pacific Northwest Bell

Pendleton Hosts Telephone Board Meeting Sept. 13

Pacific Northwest Bell Telephone Company's board of directors and officers will get acquainted with Pendleton and the surrounding area next week when they hold their September meeting at the Pendleton Country Club.

The meeting will take place Thursday morning, September 13. After the meeting the board members and officers will host a luncheon at the club for local civic leaders.

Marion T. Weatherford, Arlington rancher and a member of the company's board, will be master of ceremonies. Walter W. Straley, PNB president, and Thomas E. Bolger, Oregon area vice president and general manager, will speak about the new company's operations.

While in the Pendleton area the members of the board and the officers will attend the Round-Up and the Happy Canyon pageant. Straley will be a judge in the American Indian Beauty Contest, scheduled just before the parade Friday. The board meeting was timed to coincide with the Round-Up and its associated events.

"We share pride with the people of the Pendleton area in this outstanding event," Straley said. "We are most happy to be able to see the world-famous attraction."

Dale Slusher, Pendleton manager for PNB, pointed out that the board members and the company officers are deeply interested in getting closer to the region their company serves. PNB is bringing its top management and directors into the area to get acquainted with local business leaders and citizens, Slusher said. They will also visit some of the local industries during their stay.

During the last five years, Slusher explained, PNB has spent an average of almost \$900,000 a year in the Pendleton area. One of the major undertakings was the cutover to Direct Distance Dialing last spring. PNB serves 11 exchanges in the area which includes Umatilla, Morrow, and Gilliam counties.

Art Class Available If Enough Interested; Register By Monday

A college extension class in art will be taught in Heppner this fall if fourteen students indicate that they will register for the instruction.

The class, which carries two hours' college credit, will be taught by an instructor from Eastern Oregon College at La Grande.

The evening on which the class will meet has not yet been set. It will meet one night a week for ten consecutive weeks from 7 to 10 p.m. No outside preparation is required; all work is done in class. No previous art instruction is necessary for a student to be accepted, and the medium in which the students work is based on the ability and training of each individual.

Persons interested in registering for the class are asked to contact Hillard Brown or Mrs. L. E. Dick, Jr., immediately. The class will not be included in the extension schedule for this fall unless fourteen people will be registered, and the college must be notified by Monday whether enough people are interested.



COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

LEGION MOVIES
Friday, 8 p.m., Legion Hall
Always a Good Show!
This week Walt Disney's "Toby Tyler"
Plus one-half hour cartoons.

PTA TEACHER'S RECEPTIONS
HEPPNER, Friday, Sept. 7
Catholic Parish Hall, 8:00 p.m.
IONE, Friday, Sept. 7
High School Cafeteria, 8:00 p.m.

Come And Welcome Our New Teachers

MORROW COUNTY FARMER'S UNION
Tuesday, September 11, 8:00 p.m.

Subject: Wheat Legislation
Old Heppner Library Building

This space will be used each week to announce coming events of a public service nature at no charge.
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