

# THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER  
PHONE 676-9228

The Heppner Gazette, established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times established November 18, 1897. Consolidated February 15, 1912.

WESLEY A. SHERMAN  
Editor and Publisher

HELEN E. SHERMAN  
Associate Publisher



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.

OFFICE HOURS: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Suggested Resolution—Cut Accidents

Auto and highway accidents in Morrow county are occurring far too frequently, the number being greatly disproportionate to our light population.

The year 1963 ended with a wave of accidents, one particularly bringing serious injuries to several young persons and causing anguish and anxiety to their families.

Such accidents touch everyone in a community such as ours because our people are close—everyone knows every other person, or at least knows of him. Thus, all share in the woes that follow in the wake of accidents, and the concern is not of passing moment but of genuine solicitude.

It is time to resolve to cut the number of accidents that occur in our area, and the fact that this is the traditional time for resolutions is only a coincidence. This matter of vehicular accidents is of too great concern to be a manufactured excuse for a resolution. The public, concerned by the miseries that accidents are causing our people, should become particularly aware of this tragedy that is occurring and each should resolve to do something about it.

Some accidents are of the rash variety, brought on by pure carelessness; others may be from errors of judgement; some might be from mechanical failures; and still others may be charged to hazards of the highway. Whatever the causes, the consequences and the high price exacted are the same.

We have been fortunate here in one respect. Although we have had a number of very serious accidents, loss of life has been at a minimum, and for this all should be grateful. But injuries have been painful; they have been disfiguring; they have changed happy futures into slow and rigorous adjustments to the inevitable conditions inflicted by the accidents. These accidents have brought heartaches to happy families and leave their scars forever.

While accidents here are disproportionately frequent to our light population, they may also be partly charged to this condition. Knowing that there is light travel on our highways, too many of us drive as if we were alone on the road. One may go for miles without meeting a car, but he never knows when, around the hidden bend of the curve he may be cutting, another car may be fast approaching.

There are long stretches that must be driven for a person to get where he is going, and the tendency is to rush it, to take a chance. While the odds may be in the driver's favor, in the end he will lose for although he may get away nine times with the chance he takes, the tenth time may stop him cold.

Our public gets used to driving freeways, but when we come back home, we travel highways that were built in and for Model-T age. They have waves, dips, blind curves and tricky characteristics.

The prudent driver is aware that a road of this type cannot be negotiated at the same speeds and in the same security as a modern freeway where hazards have been engineered out.

Another angle on the matter of accidents was discussed in a recent editorial in this paper. It was pointed out that by failing to offer sufficient recreation for our young people here, we face the consequence of accidents when they travel elsewhere for recreation. This was the case in the most serious of several accidents that happened last week. Three young men were coming back from a movie in Pendleton at a late hour. Circumstances surrounding the accident indicate that they were conducting themselves with propriety. The mishap occurred on one of those tricky stretches just a couple of miles from Heppner. The night was dark and rainy, visibility was limited, the boys were sleepy. It isn't our purpose to fix the cause of the accident; only to acknowledge that it occurred. It wouldn't have happened if they had gone to a movie at home in Heppner, but there is no theater here.

A committee is now working on a recreation building with the idea of soon having something to propose to the city and the people. Tentative plans have been drawn by an architect and a site is under consideration. It appears that in a short time the public may consider the answer to this matter.

Working on another angle, the Chamber of Commerce, the county, farm groups and others have been appealing to the highway commission to improve Willow Creek highway where many of our accidents occur, and it is hoped that this may bear fruit in 1963.

But regardless of these things, the responsibility still rests with the fellow behind the steering wheel. As this new year starts, it is an appropriate time to resolve to drive prudently, to follow the basic fundamentals of good driving—keep to the right, especially on curves; pass only where visibility shows that sufficient distance is clear and unimpeded; travel at a speed consistent to be safe in view of all conditions.

Anything we do to reduce traffic accidents will cut suffering, anxiety, anguish and property damage by that much.

## Thought for the New Year

Quoted in a bulletin of the Oregon Newspaper Publishers association is an item that may give us pause for thought at the start of a new year.

- It is as follows:
- "People go:
1. From chains to spiritual faith.
  2. From spiritual faith to courage.
  3. From courage to liberty.
  4. From liberty to abundance.
  5. From abundance to selfishness.
  6. From selfishness to complacency.
  7. From complacency to apathy.
  8. From apathy to dependency, and
  9. From dependency back to bondage."

## TO THE EDITOR...

Dear Editor:  
Enclosed find my check amount of \$4.50 for subscription to your paper. I look forward every week to learn what you have to offer for Morrow County and its good people.  
My best wishes for a prosperous and Happy New Year to you and your staff. Give my regards to your readers.  
Sincerely,  
Laurence E. Reaney

## Green Families Visit

Mrs. Mattie Green accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Herman Green and family to Pendleton on Christmas Day where they were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Green.

On Thursday, Mrs. Mattie Green had as houseguests her daughter, Mrs. Wallace (Mildred) Green of Gresham and grandson and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Green of Tacoma, Wn. Mr. Green is employed for the Boeing missile development in Tacoma. They also visited in La Grande and Pendleton before leaving Saturday for Gresham.

## Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

THIS IS the day that we have to learn to write all over again—at least we have to learn to write "1963" instead of "1962," and it isn't easy. Charlie Ruggles reports that he got in a good practice today since he was filling out some forms and had to write "1963" at least 50 times. But yet when he notarized a form for us he fell right back into his old habits and made it "1962."

ONE WAY to tell that the old year is over and a new one is starting is that things start to go up again—postage rates increase, social security takes another climb, and so on.

After January 7 a 4c stamp won't take a first class letter anywhere around the country, but that doesn't mean that you should burn up all the ones you have on hand. Postmaster Jim Driscoll reports that quite a few persons are trying to trade in their old stamps, but Uncle Samuel's post office department won't permit this.

The 4-centers are good for letters mailed in town for in-town delivery, and, of course, you can buy a batch of 1-cent stamps to go with them on letters sent elsewhere.

If you have a stock of 3-centers on hand, you'll have to buy 1-cent stamps to go with them for local delivery, or 2c stamps to send them elsewhere. If you get too confused, you might buy a flock of carrier pigeons and start your own mail service.

THE OLD YEAR left with a run of springlike days, and you would think this would make everyone cheerful, but it didn't. In fact, members of the ski club are quite dejected about it. They have their equipment all ready, their enthusiasm is high, but they cannot slalom down a muddy hillside.

Ken Peck announced this morning, with the corners of his mouth turned down, that the January ski school has been postponed indefinitely.

Maybe we are just going to have to tough it out and resign ourselves to a balmy winter. Wiley Knighten met his son, Wiley Jr., in Seattle over the holidays and the younger man, who travels all over Alaska for the Federal Aviation Agency, reported that the coldest weather he has hit there was 13 below. Of course, that is plenty cold in our terms but it is warm as compared to the 50 degrees below found around Thanksgiving time in 1961 in Alaska. Maybe it means that the Arctic region isn't going to send any cold weather our way.

It is an odd thing how we complain about cold winters and snow, but do you realize how dependent we become on cold weather? We need the snow for moisture, and we need it for recreation. When the weather stays warm in winter, merchants notice a severe slump on sales of boots and heavy clothing. Tire companies, loaded with winter tires, are hard hit. And so it goes.

ONE OF THE biggest recording hits in this era of stereo and hi fi is Vaughn Meador's mimicking of "The First Family." In it, as everyone knows, he lampoons President John F. Kennedy, and apparently most everyone gets a big charge out of it.

But the thing we get a chuckle out of is the fact that the administration will have the last laugh when Meador goes to pay

his federal income tax on the sale of 4 million-plus records come about April 15.

We wouldn't be surprised to see JFK come out with a smash hit imitating Meador's wailing and weeping on taxes.

IN THE MAIL comes a postcard from Ralph Crum, traveling in the southwest. Ralph apparently has been visiting all the big dams down in that region and the card has a picture of Hoover Dam. Ralph says that he is trying to find one that he can bring back and use for the Willow Creek project, but all are too large to fit in Heppner, says he.

HEPPNER HIGH'S basketball team with a 5-1 record at the moment is drawing attention in A-2 circles around the state. A poll in the Oregonian Monday showed the Mustangs getting six votes, which put them at the time in 11th place among the state's A-2 teams. To the best of our reckoning, the six votes are the most given to any Eastern Oregon A-2 team and at this stage of the game places Heppner even over Vale which has

three votes. No other greater Oregon league team is rated.

While it is some honor to be thus in the limelight, it has its disadvantages. It means that every other team in the league starts gunning to be the "giant killer." Coach Bob Cantonwine's team, on the strength of the caliber of boys back of this year and some upcoming prospects, was tabbed as the team to beat before the season started.

Now the Mustangs know full well that they have a big job between them and a league title, so much of a job in fact that it is even a little premature to talk about it. Against Pilot Rock they had this illustrated with emphasis when the Rockets beat them in a non-league encounter. Heppner has another game with them here on January 25, this time a league contest, then a second non-league contest with them here on February 2 before a final counting tilt with the Rockets there February 22. So the Mustangs have an opportunity to make up for the loss.

Strong competition in the Greater Oregon circuit will come from Burns and perhaps from John Day and Sherman County.

We think the team has the real goods this year and with the vacation doldrums over, it will be settling down to work for league play which opens with Sherman at Moro Friday night, January 11. Loss of big Doug Dubuque at center hurt the team because he was a main-

stay. There is some hope that he will be back later in the year, but if he can't make it, Coach Cantonwine still has the "horses" to fill the gap. Heppner has good height in John Porter, Lee Padberg and Dick Springer on its starting five. It has a sparkplug in Shan Applegate. Padberg, as demonstrated last year, is capable of catching fire and burning the net, and a big boost may come from fellows like Ken Wright, last year a jayvee and reserve who swished 17 points on a hot night against Stanfield here Saturday. The bench may bring out some added strength before the season is over.

Take all these ingredients, mix in some zeal, spirit and enthusiasm, and our boys could go far. They need the solid support of the town, and all sports fans should get out to the games to back them.

Spirit of the townspeople during football season was wonderful and the results were reflected in the performance of the team. Basically the same boys are playing basketball, and they are deserving of the same support. Let's give it to them.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Frank S. Parker during the holidays were their daughter, Mrs. Frances Mitchell, their son, John, and his son, Tony, all of Portland. Also visiting with the Parkers was their grandson Jay Parker, of Pendleton.

Mrs. Amanda Duvall had as her dinner guests Friday evening Barney Neistadt, and Mr. and Mrs. Barney Malcolm, Gale, Gamille and Benham.

Mr. and Mrs. Wes Sherman and family were in Stayton Saturday for the wedding of their son, Richard, to Miss Rose Marie Samek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Samek of Stayton. Before returning Sunday the family visited friends in Stayton, Dallas and relatives in Forest Grove. They also attended the finals of the Far West basketball classic in Portland Saturday night.

## Got A TAX HEADACHE?

Morrow Stock Growers Panel On Taxes May Prove To Be The Aspirin You Need.

(See Page 4, Sec. 2)

# At CENTRAL You'll Find Many BARGAINS For

MAY WE REMIND YOU OF THE MANY VALUES IN HEPPNER ON THE OCCASION Of The Merchants' Week-end Clearance Event



Our Shelves Are Loaded With Fine Food Values And We Invite You To Come In And Shop

AS YOUNG MR. 1963 ENTERS WE LOOK FORWARD TO SERVING YOU EVEN BETTER THROUGHOUT THE NEW YEAR

Phones: (Gro.) 676-9614, (Meat) 676-9288



It's nice to save twice—low prices and S&H Green Stamps



## COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

### Coming Events

LEGION MOVIES  
Friday night, 8:00 p.m.  
Legion Hall  
This week adventures of the "Kon Tiki."  
Plus one-half hour cartoons.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL  
Heppner vs. DeSales, Saturday, January 5.  
Jayvee game 6:30; Varsity, 8 p.m.  
Heppner High Gym  
Support the Mustangs!

OES SOCIAL CLUB  
Saturday, January 5, Masonic hall, 2:00 p.m.

MARK THE DATE!  
Monday, Jan. 14, 1 p.m.:  
Important Public Hearing on Willow Creek Dam Project. Be Informed!  
Heppner Elementary Auditorium.

Happy and Prosperous NEW YEAR To One and All!

SPONSORED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY  
**C. A. RUGGLES**  
Insurance Agency  
Heppner  
P. O. Box 611 PH. 676-9625

