

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MOBROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
PHONE 676-9228

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.

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

Anti-Digit Dialers Sing the Blues

It is amusing, after nearly a year of successful operation of all-number telephone calling here, to read in the Reader's Digest that California cry babies are battling the coming of digit dialing to that great state.

One Santa Rosa resident is quoted as saying, "Give me Liberty or take the blinking phone out."

John O'Hara, author of "Butterfield 8," is said to have declared, "Where would I have been if I had had to call the hook '288'?" (We submit that he probably wrote a wrong number anyway).

And one wise guy vented his protest by telling the operator, "Give me four billion, one hundred fifty-five million, eight hundred forty-two thousand, three hundred and one."

At this juncture, we'll take the stand, with our right hand on the 1963 edition of Pacific Northwest Bell's Telephone Almanac, that all-number dialing is a boon and a blessing.

Even though we are about due for our first year service stripe on the system, we still find it a pleasure to be able to dial direct, through the number arrangement, to Portland, Spokane, Los Angeles, and hear the party answer in no less time than it takes to call Charlie Ruggles across the street.

We have always felt that Californians were intelligent people (even though they sometimes don't drive that way when they travel our highways), and they surely can see how numbers are less confusing and less subject to error than the letter prefixes. When one tells an operator, for instance, that he wants "MA 3-3451," she is liable to hear it, "NA 3-3451." The same confusion exists between B's and D's, P's and T's, B's and V's and others.

As we understand it, the number system makes the direct dialing network possible because it opens up a much larger scope of connections, whereas the letter prefixes limited the possibilities.

It appears to us that the Californians don't know when they are well off. One might suggest that if they are so busy that they can't dial a couple extra numbers on a phone call, they might revert back to smoke signals or tom-tom drums for communications.

But apparently The Bell System is more patient with its dissenters. We understand that they now have a gadget that is going to dial their numbers for them.

O. K. Go ahead and spoil them!!

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

WELL, the mystery is solved—the one about Supertino, Calif. The post office figured it out just before we went to press last week. Don Gilliam heard Postmaster Jim Driscoll mumbling about it and right away said, "It's Cupertino, not Supertino." And that was right. The lost city is located in the San Jose area.

After the little item appeared in last week's column, we got a number of calls, starting bright and early Friday morning. First was Mrs. Jim Thomson, who recalled that the Neil Shuirmans, formerly of Heppner, live there. Then Charlie O'Connor of Ione called, remembering that Mrs. Shuirman was formerly of Ione. Ed Espey, Humphreys Drug pharmacist, who once lived in Monterey, came in to tell us about it. And so it went. Several others had it correctly pegged.

So we got the address changed and now everything is hunky dory. Thanks for your interest.

CHIEF OF POLICE Dean Gillman got interested in helping

out a man, William Sanders, who came to town the other day, said he was born 25 miles from Heppner in 1917, but his parents died shortly after his birth. He was adopted by another couple and now is trying to trace back in hope of discovering if he has any other aunts, uncles or other kin.

So the chief and I started digging through the Gazette-Times files. We found an item about the man's birth, to Mr. and Mrs. William Sanders at Reid's Mill with Dr. A. D. McMurdo attending.

But that's all we could find. There was nothing in the ensuing year about the parents' deaths that we could locate. So we had to let it go at that.

The chief recalled that there had been a big influenza epidemic in 1918 and thought maybe that it had claimed the parents, but we could spot no obituary.

Did find an item about Dr. McMurdo himself being caught in the epidemic, but he survived, of course, and is still going strong.

New Representative on the Job

Jack Smith of Condon took his seat in the 1963 legislative session recently as one of the members of the House of Representatives in Oregon.

Although he is only one of 60 representatives serving the state, he represents nearly one-tenth of the state's territory as he serves for Umatilla, Morrow, Gilliam, Sherman and Wheeler counties. They embrace 9,038 square miles, while the total for the state is 96,981 square miles.

Senator Ben Musa of The Dalles, one of 30 state senators, covers almost as much territory as does Rep. Smith but not quite. His total is 8,723 square miles as he serves Gilliam, Hood River, Morrow, Sherman, Wasco and Wheeler counties.

As president of the senate this year, Sen. Musa brings some additional prestige to the 18th district of which Morrow is a part.

Because of the rambling territory they serve (and because the reapportionment bill did not pass), our lone shared senator and our lone shared representative have their work cut out to keep in contact with what is going on around their districts.

Rep. Smith has done well as a "freshman" representative to get the committee appointments that he has. He has been named vice chairman of the agriculture and livestock committee, and is a member of the education and taxation committees, three important ones indeed.

Before the legislature convened he called meetings with different groups of his 28th district to hear of their problems and needs, including county officials, school officials, farmers and others. This should help give him a good start, and it indicates that though he has a lonesome job in covering his five counties, he intends to represent them well.

In his busy schedule, Rep. Smith hopes to find time to write a weekly report of the activities of the 52nd legislative assembly for this paper and this contact, too, will be helpful in reaching the people.

There is little doubt that Rep. Smith and Sen. Musa will be among the busiest people in the legislature!

TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Editor:

President Lincoln believed "All men are created equal." Webster dictionary gives "like in value, quality, status or position."

If the definition of "equal" actually means equal, why do we have such a variation of punishment or privilege?

We have a county school sys-

tem. The rules that govern the school should apply to all the schools in the county. If Heppner students are dismissed as soon as semester examinations are completed, why weren't Ione students given the same privilege?

I have no doubt that the county superintendent, school board, teachers, and parents are interested in bettering our schools but some of the smaller problems are being neglected by the bigger problem of taxes, new buildings, transportation and the like.

If we as citizens could depend on being treated as equals from local through county, state, and national levels perhaps a great many problems would be settled.

The papers are full of injustice in the punishment of crimes. Two persons involved in a crime. One gets life in prison the other the death penalty. Equal? ? ?

Lets all remember the word "equal." It still means today what it did when Abe Lincoln delivered his Gettysburg address and perhaps is needed as much now as it was at that time.

Sincerely,
Sue Townsend Ione

To the Editor:
Enclosed find \$5.00 to be added to my Times in advance. I can't do without it, and so will pay in advance early. I've taken it ever since I used to live near there over 40 years ago, so can't do without it. And I like to hear of the old timers.

So thanks and all good wishes for always.

Your friend,
Mae Warren
641 S-14 Street
Redmond, Oregon

To the Editor:
Dear Editor:

Your fine cooperation in the Christmas Gift Project, Eastern Oregon State Hospital, is deeply appreciated. Generous news space in your columns helped greatly. Our goal of two gifts for each of the 1300 patients was reached, and in addition, they will receive birthday gifts during 1963.

Altogether, the gifts were almost double those of last year. We feel that such an accomplishment would have been impossible without the aid of the press.

Sincerely and gratefully,
Mrs. H. W. Dickson
Pendleton chairman
(Mrs.) Alda Walster
Director
Volunteer Services
Eastern Oregon State Hosp.

But, fellow citizens, despite the fact that the lads have taken three wins in a row in what loomed as their toughest games, the season is still young and they are marked as the "team to beat," which is an unenviable position.

Let's don't put the pressure on them too much, while giving them all the support we can, and maybe quite a few of our people could make some reservations at Coos Bay in March.

Wow! My forehead is hot, must be getting . . .

Meeting Slated To Hear Agronomist

Bud Harshman, soil agronomist for Phillips 66 Agricultural Ammonia, Bartlesville, Okla., has accepted an invitation to speak at a meeting of the Ione Lions club on February 11. Herb Ekstrom Jr. of Ekstrom Farm Chemicals, Ione, announces.

He will speak on anhydrous ammonia and aqua ammonia and how it will react in the soil. Harshman will also answer any questions that might be asked on the subject. Ekstrom believes that he will be able to give some enlightening information on rust and its control.

The no-host dinner will be at 7:30 p.m. on February 11. Ekstrom asks that all planning to attend contact him before January 28 so that dinner arrangements may be made. His telephone number is 422-7289.

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COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

LEGION MOVIES
Saturday night, 8:00 p.m.
Legion Hall
This week "Torpedo Alley"
Plus one-half hour cartoons.

HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL
Heppner Mustangs vs. Pilot Rock Rockets.
Heppner High Gym
Fri., Jan. 25, 6:30 and 8 p.m.

FREE YOUTH MOVIE
Full length film, "Teenage Rock"
Grade school multipurpose room.
Saturday, Dec. 26, 7:30 p.m.
Followed by entertainment and refreshments.

PUBLIC CARD PARTY
St. Patrick's Parish Hall
Tuesday, January 29, 8 p.m.
Bridge and Pinochle
Tickets \$1 each

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C. A. RUGGLES
Insurance Agency
Heppner
P. O. Box 247 PH. 676-9625

Arnie Hedman and Gil Lujan Announce The

GRAND OPENING

OF

Case Furniture Co.

OF HEPPNER, OREGON

Saturday, January 26, 1963, at 8:00 A.M.

FREE DOOR PRIZE:

\$64.50 Metalcraft 5 pc. DINETTE SET
-- And Other Prizes to the Lucky Winners!



OWNERS ARNIE HEDMAN (left) and Gil Lujan (right) with Mrs. Fay Wilson, assistant store manager.

REFRESHMENTS
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New Stock of Furniture
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EXPERIENCED CARPETING AND LINOLEUM
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STORE HOURS 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.