

# THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER  
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## 4-H Means Healthy Communities

It's an almost sure sign of a healthy community in areas where 4-H clubs are strong. It means that its young people are occupied in worthwhile activity, doing constructive work for the future. Thus, the entire community has more interest than just a passing pride when it joins in observing annual 4-H week.

From the activity of the local clubs, nurtured by dedicated leaders, springs the vitality of the 4-H organization. Evidences of good work being done here is apparent on every hand—in honors won, news reports, appearances at meetings, projects underway, window displays.

Although essentially a rural movement, 4-H has branched into many fields akin to agriculture so that even non-farm youths have opportunity to take part and learn by doing.

It is fitting on this National 4-H week that a goodly portion of this paper is devoted to the county club program. We are honored to have them with us, and the willingness of county businesses and individuals to support the club is certain evidence of its importance in our way of life.

## Good Work on an Essential Job

When Herman Green appeared at the city council meeting to request a change in his city sanitary service franchise, it was granted without hesitation. He asked for a 50c per month additional payment from residential subscribers to the garbage service when it exceeds 30 gallons per week.

It was a modest request. Green performs a necessary and important service for the city and he does it well. Unfortunately most of the good comments by councilmen were made after he left the meeting. Other cities have had rather bitter troubles over the matter of disposing of its waste, but not in Heppner.

Green is punctual and regular on his pickups. Some residents use heavy 50-gallon drums, and he has accepted them to this time without extra charge, although most communities, in their franchises, have stipulated the 30-gallon limit.

He deserves the consideration of extra payment for an extra burden. There is a tendency to take for granted the everyday services that are performed steadily without murmur or complaint by the one doing them. This is an opportunity to show a little appreciation for a job well done.

## Good Bills in the Hopper

Judging by the bills in the hopper to date, this session of the state legislature has opportunity to go down in history as a real "do something" legislature.

Frequent legislatures in the past have been tabbed "do nothing" sessions. There have been occasions when the legislature has devoted valuable time to petty matters (such as the big fuss over the "popcorn" bill in one session that would have prohibited popcorn in theaters), and at other times it has so badly mutilated good bills that were introduced that nothing effective emerged.

In the area of social legislation, some significant bills have been introduced in this session, and it is to be hoped that the end of the legislative deliberations will find constructive results without dissipating compromises.

One proposal would require drivers to consent to chemical tests for drunken driving, and each would sign this consent before he was licensed. This is a reasonable request and the law is needed. A recent article in a Sunday supplement pointed out that liquor is involved in far more accidents than the public realizes. This is true.

Newspaper reporters covering auto accidents may know, just as officials do, that liquor is often a contributing cause, but unless some charge was made relative to it, the fact cannot be published without being on shaky ground.

It was on July 4 three years ago that a father and his children took a drive on the North Santiam highway, leaving the mother home to get dinner. Returning home, another car veered directly into their path, and three in the family were killed, as well as the driver (the lone occupant) of the other car. Oddly enough, a state policeman witnessed the accident in his rear view mirror. There was no doubt that the driver of the death car was intoxicated. But the story was never reported that way. He was dead; thus, there were no charges filed against him. But the evidence was all there, and a happy family was consigned to tragedy because of a drunken driver.

Regardless of a person's views on drinking, all will concede that there is no place on the highway for intoxicated drivers, and it is time that we face up to the problem.

Another good bill on social legislation is that which would provide for civil proceedings to commit those who are considered "dangerous" sex offenders. The bill makes good sense. While such sex offenders should have some sympathy because they are essentially sick, they are a menace to society when they are at large, and their crimes are among the most heinous of all. Some of these have been in the news in recent months. It is to be hoped that some good comes from this bill.

A third bill that comes to mind is the one that is designed to combat obscenity. It is one of the mysteries of our society to understand why we tolerate trash and filth in magazines, in our movies and in other media, at the same time protesting because our children become delinquents.

From such bills as these, it is to be hoped that effective social legislation will emerge from the session. While minds are predominately concentrating on taxes and fiscal needs, attention should also be focused on these other important areas, and residents should express themselves to their legislators on them.

This session has opportunity to be one of the most significant in the state's history. The remaining few months will see how it measures up.

## Club Has Display

"Grooming and Wardrobe Planning" were the main ideas displayed by the Sew-a-Long club of Heppner in their window display for 4-H week.

The girls met at 1:30 Saturday

at the Penny's store and began setting up the display. There was no regular meeting, but a few girls met afterward and began sewing on their articles.

The next meeting will be held on March 16.

Judy Smith, reporter

## Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

A LETTER that was addressed to the "Mayor of Ruggs" was delivered by the carrier to Mrs. Harold (Mary) Wright in that community the other day.

This rather nonplussed Mary in the unincorporated little village. She called Mrs. A. C. (Doris) Ball and asked if they should hold an election. They decided that Mary should go ahead and take care of the letter, which indicates that if an election were held at Ruggs, she might win the mayoralty.

Anyway, the epistle was from a school lad who apparently had spotted Ruggs on a map, and he wanted to know all about the town for a school report.

Mary came through like a one-woman Chamber of Commerce, sent a booklet on the county and wrote all the dope about Ruggs.

PARKING METERS will stay on the streets in Heppner, but there is one that will come out. It is the one that brought the least revenue of any in town—probably doesn't even pay for its maintenance. It is the lone meter that is located on Center, west of Main, and is placed in front of the welfare office. There are two reasons why the meter doesn't bring any revenue. In the first place, its potential customers are the least able to pay, being visitors to the welfare office, and in the second place, all they have to do is move over a car width and they don't have to pay anyway.

ALL EYES of the community are on Bill Blake this week, and the big question is: "Will he do it?"

It started like so many discussions—around a cup of coffee. Some figured this matter of hiking 50 miles in 16 hours is pretty tough; some think it is easy.

Somehow, Bill got himself cornered, and the wagers were threatening.

He figures that he can make 50 miles in 16 hours, although in an exclusive interview this week, he rubbed a contemplative hand over his midriff, which probably has expanded a little since days in service.

Willie has it all figured. He would go right down the Willow creek highway to the Highway 30 junction, then turn west for

three miles to finish the 50, downhill most of the way.

He would start at midnight and figures if he were not at Morgan within seven hours, he would have to give up.

If we were wagering on the matter, we'd back Bill on the theory that he has enough determination to make it.

Personally, if we were going to try the same stunt, leaving at midnight, we'd figure we could easily be in Lexington by noon.

AN OLD FRIEND is coming home soon. The Gazette-Times will get a newspaper press on March 21 that was with us for more than 14 years when we worked with the Itemizer-Observer in Dallas. It was sold to the Woodburn Independent some years ago, and now we are buying it from that paper.

Most of the Welcome Edition of the G-T of June, 1961, was printed on this press.

It will be quite an undertaking to get the big fellow in—weighs 16,900 pounds—and it should be quite a show when it is moved in. We will serve notice now that the paper that week—the issue of March 21—will be printed on Wednesday, March 20, a day early, so we can get the job done and keep the plant in operation, both on commercial printing and the newspaper.

WE NOTICED with some sadness that Sherman County bowed to Vale, 71 to 56, in the first basketball game of the 2-of-3 series for the right to go to the state tournament. But this doesn't mean that the Huskies are out of it. They had to travel to the red-hot basketball town of Vale last week, but now the series moves to Moro, and the results may be quite different.

Had Heppner won the right to play Vale, we would have figured that the Vikings would beat them at Vale, but we thought the Mustangs could win the next two here. Sherman County has a chance to do the same, and we're pulling for them.

MEANWHILE, Heppner's Mustangs, despite their loss to Sherman is still highly regarded. With their basketball togs in mothballs for the season, Coach

Bob Cantonwine's boys are still rated in the Oregonian poll, among the "also rans."

IONE'S CARDINALS have an irrepressible spirit and they did a marvelous job at the district 7-B tournament. Their losses were heartbreakers. Actually, although they finished fifth in the standings, they were just a whisker away from higher rankings and weren't too far from winning the title. Great credit goes to the school for winning the sportsmanship trophy while losing the top ratings.



## Coming Events

LEGION MOVIES  
Friday, March 8, 8 p.m., "Tonight's the Night" in color, starring David Nevin, Yvonne DeCarlo, Barry Fitzgerald. Plus one-half hour cartoons.

WILLOW GOLF CLUB  
Workdays, Saturday and Sunday. Help get the course in shape for summer fun.

HEPPNER PTA  
Wednesday, March 13, multipurpose room, 8:00 p.m. Exchange students to speak.

LEXINGTON PTA  
Tuesday, March 12, Lexington grade school. Speakers from State Hospital, Pendleton.

PTA TALENT SHOW  
Plan now to participate. Variety of talents needed. Friday, March 15, 8 p.m.

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