

THE 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.

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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.

Let's Keep Backing the Dam

Because the public hearing on the Willow Creek dam early this year was so highly favorable for supporters of the dam, there may be a tendency for some to think that the battle is won, that we on the local level have expressed our feelings, that this expression is in the record and we need not reiterate it.

Unfortunately, however, if this project is ever to reach culmination, it will take continuing emphasis. The need will have to be told and retold. Complacency would be fatal.

One would expect that the public hearing would have a preponderance of favorable testimony, as it did, but now the project is entering into a higher level. It is starting the rigorous route of getting approval in Congress and through governmental agencies which need to look favorably upon it. Probably any one of them could kill the proposal or at least give it a serious setback.

If Heppner and Morrow county really want this dam, the big test is yet ahead. There is keen competition from all over the nation for the public funds available, and it is our job to show that this project is among the foremost needed.

It is imperative that there be representation at the Rivers and Harbors Congress in Washington, D. C., in June so that appearances may be made to reiterate the local interest, to give a first hand report from the local level to emphasize the urgency of this project and its importance to the future and economy of Morrow county.

Two men who recently have done the most in working for the project, Judge Oscar Peterson and Oliver Creswick, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce development committee, have been urged to attend the Congress to represent the county. Creswick, who conducted an irrigation survey among farmers, painstakingly compiled information on the project, and with Judge Peterson worked with Army Engineers and spearheaded the hearing, has sponsorship of the Chamber of Commerce in making the trip. However, it doesn't have all the funds to underwrite expenses.

Those who have given the dam their support, who realize what it means to this area, and who wish to see it reach a successful conclusion have an opportunity to give material assistance by making a contribution to the expense of the forthcoming trip. The amount needed, \$400, isn't great if many people would make small contributions.

Both the Army Engineers and the Inland Empire Waterways association have stressed the importance of representation at the Congress. Every businessman, every family in south Morrow county, and ranchers have a stake in this. Let's get the job done.

Epilogue: A letter to the editor, elsewhere on this page, reveals the writer, Don Turner, titular head of the Republican party in Morrow county, as a master of subtle invective and innuendo of the style in vogue in journalism many years ago. Col. John Watermelon Reddington, one of the first editors of the Heppner Gazette, may have relished it.

We respect Mr. Turner for his intelligence, his ability and convictions. However, he dissipates his effectiveness with a sarcasm that seems to stem from a bitterness borne, perhaps from a loyalty to his party principles—the same party, indeed, as that of the editor.

It is our feeling that his letter is an expensive indulgence and it is for that reason that we make this comment, although it is our policy in general to restrain ourselves in writing editor's notes to letters submitted. Mr. Turner, we believe, has the right to express himself and has insisted to us that he wants to say what he has written.

The letter will tend to alienate at a time when we need unanimity. After all, Morrow county should not regard the Willow Creek dam as a political plaything to bandy about, but a project that deserves and requires the best efforts of Democrats and Republicans alike to achieve.

If there are those better qualified to promote the county's interests at the Rivers and Harbors Congress and they are willing to go, then they should be sent.

On the basis of work performed on the dam to date, however, Judge Peterson and Creswick have shown the most interest and enthusiasm, and, as a result, have been the most effective.

Mr. Turner has told us his conviction that the Willow Creek dam is needed. It will be to the best interests of all concerned, then, if he uses his party leadership to come about and seriously devotes his abilities to help get the job done.

Wheat Fact and Fancy

(From the Des Moines Register)

The Farm Bureau is conducting a major drive to defeat the new wheat program which will go into effect in 1964 if two-thirds of the growers vote in favor of it in a referendum in June of this year. The Bureau says the basic issue is "whether the farms of America are to be managed by farmers or by a government bureaucracy." It says a favorable vote would "give a great boost" to the administration's efforts to expand "supply management" to other commodities, but a "no" vote would be interpreted as a sign farmers do not want additional compulsory supply management programs.

This view of the wheat referendum seems unduly apocalyptic. If farmers vote for the program, they will not be committing themselves to it for all time to come, but only for the 1964 wheat crop. If the program proved in practice to be as bad as the Farm Bureau says it is, surely this would be apparent to farmers, and they could reject the program on the next vote. And Congress could change it. What farmers are voting for in this referendum is not a new direction for all farm programs, as the Farm Bureau says, but a trial of a new plan for wheat.

The Farm Bureau is sounding dire warnings about the wheat "controls" which Charles E. Shuman, president of the organization, says are the "tightest, most restrictive ever proposed for any farm crop." That is extreme language, and it is careless language. Many kinds of controls have been proposed since 1920. The wheat controls are no "tighter" than those which have been in effect for tobacco and cotton for years and are not as tight as the controls for sugar. The Farm Bureau consistently backs these programs.

If two-thirds of the farmers vote in favor of the program, every wheat grower will be required to comply with his acreage allotment. He can grow as much wheat as he is able to grow on the allotted acres, but he will receive the full support (about \$2 a bushel) only on a number of bushels to be determined as his share of the national supply used for domestic food consumption plus a portion of exports.

There are no more "controls" no the farmer than in the case of any crop where mandatory acreage allotments are in effect, as they have been in wheat for years. The main difference in the new program is that the price support will be a "two-price" deal: The grain not eligible for the top price support

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

WHEN THE story broke in The Oregonian Monday morning that Boeing Company had "no plans for Boardman," and it was pointed out to us by Al Lamb, we took it with a grain of salt because we had just received a special article from Chuck Grell of the Capital Journal, Salem, who had gone to Seattle to interview the Boeing people. We interpreted his story quite differently from the Oregonian article.

Later the same day, a wire service story appeared in the East Oregonian which confirmed our thinking—that Boeing still very much has plans for the Boardman site, just as Grell tells in his article. He had called us recently and told us of his interview and courteously offered to send us a copy of his article. It is printed in this paper and gives the best firsthand rundown from the Boeing viewpoint that we have seen to date.

We don't know of any continuing story that has been more prey to rumor, conjecture and speculation than the Boardman development. One paper will take a statement from a Boeing official or a government spokesman and give it an entirely different slant from another, and this is about what occurred in Monday's papers.

Development on the Boardman site is inevitable. Even if Boeing had never entered the picture it is bound to come sometime if for no other reason than because of the trend towards the total development of the Columbia River with its power and transportation resources. Those who can recall how undeveloped it was along highway 30 from Hermiston to Portland in contrast to what it is today, industry is bound to come in a growing nation with a greatly expanding population.

WITH THE death of Roscoe Cox last week went one of Morrow county's more colorful citizens, according to Orville Cutsforth. Sometimes known as "one snort" Roscoe because of his expert marksmanship with a rifle, Cox had a rich repertoire of stories of his firsthand experience accumulated since he first came to Morrow county in 1903, Orville declares, and the Lexington rancher used to delight in hearing the quiet Mr. Cox tell them.

One of the best of his tales was that of his killing a bear with a hatchet while riding on its back. "That was the tallest bear I ever did see," Cox recounted. Some might think the tale is equally tall, but Orville is confident it is true.

Roscoe, many years ago, was on horseback in the Rock Creek area and spotted this big bear. He lifted his rifle, shot once and hit the bear in the head. Apparently undergoing its terminal agony, the big bear lumbered down a hill and went into a hole.

Cox followed, got off his horse, went to the hole and, unable to see inside, reached in with one hand and felt the bear's rear paws. Satisfied that it was dead, he tried to figure out how to get the animal out of the hole because he wanted to salvage the hide.

He got some pieces of wire, twisted them together, and looped one end around the paws. Then he cut a sapling with a shingling hatchet and by hooking the pole through the wire and working it back and forth, edged the bear outward.

Once he had succeeded in this, he straddled the bear, with a hatchet in his hand, and examined the bullet wound on the animal's head. To his consternation, he found that the bullet had just grazed the head. At that precise moment, the bruin gave a snort and jumped to his feet with Cox mounted on him. The old bear took off down the hillside with Roscoe a-straddle him, going full tilt, the bears claws raking Cox' shins at almost every step.

The old-timer, who had come here from Virginia figured he had to dispart the animal with one blow of the hatchet and he let go with a big larrup and penetrated the head with the blunt side of the tool. This did the job.

Cox showed the hatchet to Cutsforth as he told the story, and following Cox' death, Cutsforth tried to find it at the man's trailer house, but he couldn't locate it.

Among the items found in his effects, though, were 61 elk's teeth that his son, Herman, took

back east with him this week after the funeral Saturday.

Undoubtedly Cox had a rich storehouse of Morrow county folklore. It is truly bad that someone didn't get it down before his passing.

WILEY KNIGHTEN of Heppner, who was Sherman county school superintendent for many years, participated in his 41st consecutive Oregon Education association convention in Portland when it was held there March 21 to 23. His long interest in education was recognized in the most recent issue of "Oregon Education," publication of the OEA, together with his picture. Pictures of retiring state president, Robert Van Houte, are also prominently featured in the publication. In one he is shown with Lavrent Botokeky, minister of education of the Malagasy Republic of Africa. To those of us who haven't kept up with the rapidly changing geography of the world, Malagasy Republic may be better recalled as Madagascar.

FROM A RESIDENT who lives in a location that commands a full view of the new high school on the hill above comes the thoughtful suggestion that something should be done to clean up the littered hillside that mar the beauty of the new structure. It is a good suggestion. In the good old days when the school grounds got cluttered, the whole student body was asked to take a half-hour or so and get the job done. Maybe when the move is made, or even before, two or three hundred youngsters could be turned loose for a short time to pick up the paper and debris that tend to make the area unsightly.

JOE BROSANAN, who underwent long hospitalization in Pioneer Memorial after the tragic accident near Ione at the first of the year which claimed four lives, is coming along very good in Providence hospital, Portland, now, Will O'Harra tells us. He was transferred there about three weeks ago.

WHILE THINKING on the subject of accidents, you might help prevent some future tragedy to your family or friends if you get seat belts installed in your car at Ione Saturday. The Lions are doing it at cost. That's a mighty good investment at lowest price, and in so doing you are helping the club, too. It's at Jim Barnett's Chevron Station from 8 a.m. on.

EVEN TO newspaper people things can happen right under your nose without you knowing it. Two weeks ago today, the ambulance drove up to Economy Market and took Millie Howell to the hospital after she had become ill and collapsed. Even though we are just across the street we didn't know about it until yesterday when she came in to run a card of thanks in the paper to friends for kindnesses shown her while she was hospitalized. It's good to know though, that she has recovered and is able to be about again. She and hubby, Tom, work awfully hard—too hard.

Social Security Visit Day Changed

Beginning with the month of April 1963, the Social Security representative will be at the Heppner City hall on the third Thursday of each month rather than Wednesday as before. The hours will remain 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The change of schedule has been made necessary due to increased service in the La Grande District office service area, according to Vernon A. Welo, District manager.

Ron Reid Closes Flower Shop Here

Ron Reid, owner of Ron's Flowers, announces that he has sold his stock of gifts and plants and closed his business March 30.

He is now associated with Helen Cox, owner of Helen Cox Flowers and Gifts. They plan to continue offering gift lines, floral arrangements, plants, and will add an interior decorating service.

Metsker maps of Morrow county, \$1.25, at the Gazette-Times office.

(probably about one-seventh of production) will receive a lower support comparable to feed grain supports, about \$1.25 a bushel. Growers also will get a land-retirement payment for acres taken out of wheat.

The Farm Bureau correctly says that this new program will result in some decline, probably small, in the total net income received by wheat growers (but not in average income, because the number of growers is dropping). The two-price support plan results in a lower "blend" price support for wheat.

But rejection of the new plan would mean a much larger drop in wheat income. Price supports for all wheat produced would drop to 50 per cent of parity, about \$1.25 a bushel.

It is hard to see how the Farm Bureau leaders can get so wrought up about "compulsion" and "dictatorial controls" which do not go into effect unless two-thirds of the producers vote to accept them. What the government is saying is that, if two-thirds of the producers favor the controls, then everyone who chooses to grow wheat will have to go along. Every business has regulations, governmental or private.

It seems not unreasonable that the government ask farmers to cooperate in limiting production if they want a guaranteed price for their product. If they don't want to comply with acreage allotments in return for a higher price, well, that settles that. But it isn't an issue of "government Management" of farms, nor is it setting the course of farm policy forevermore.

TO THE EDITOR...

To the Editor:

According to your newspaper, the Heppner Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a pilgrimage to Washington, D. C., on behalf of the proposed Willow Creek dam. Contributions were requested, and, assuming this to be a typical well-conceived and organized Chamber project, I was about to mail in a contribution to help get Judge Peterson and Oliver Creswick packing.

Then, another idea occurred to me that seems more likely to succeed. Let's send Mayor Lamb to plead the case of the Willow Creek dam. After all, he has proven connections in our nation's capitol. He was Ullman's campaign chairman and therefore deserves some more favors from our district Congressman, and Ullman, with his outstanding record as a spender, is certain to never quibble over costs, needs or other justification. If more influence is required, Mayor or Lamb can call on Senator Morse and Mrs. Neuberger for help. With their tremendous influence in the Senate, and with Ullman on the House Ways and Means Committee, the dam should be under construction by mid-June.

Mayor Lamb has already proved his tremendous worth as an emissary. Last year, at the taxpayer's expense, he made a wonderful contribution to the nation's welfare by touring a part of Africa, under the sponsorship of Secretary Hodges and the Department of Commerce. He came back with the astounding news that many nations in Africa were under-developed, that there were no communists in Africa, and he obtained photographic proof of the immodesately bovine qualities of some black native females.

With this outstanding record, Mayor Lamb would have no trouble getting a dam on Willow Creek. But, to make certain that his trip doesn't end in failure or delay, may I suggest that he be accompanied by Robert Van Houte. He is another good Democrat, with a proven record of accomplishment, who, like Mayor Lamb, has enough able and conscientious assistants, to have plenty of time to pursue more weighty and important activities. I think this suggestion has merit and deserves serious consideration. Who better than these two of the New Frontier could help improve the lot of our old frontier. Furthermore, we need Judge Peterson here to keep up the roads and complete his Boardman project, and we can't possibly spare Oliver Creswick.

Juniors Lead Ione Honor Roll Students

Honor roll students for third nine weeks of work at Ione High school were released by Gene Harryman, principal, this week.

Three seniors attaining the necessary GPA averages were Bill Akers, 3.60; Tass Morrison, 3.60, and Louise Pointer, 3.25.

One junior, Arleta McCabe, led all honor students with a perfect 4.0. Other honor juniors were Tom Heimbigner, 3.80; Judy Sherrer, 3.66; Merrie Jo Morrison, 3.60, and Steve Lindstrom, 3.40.

Sophomore honor students were Cheryl Lundell, 3.83, and Sid Zinter, 3.83.

Two freshmen girls, Cheryl Smouse and Karen Hams, each with 3.83, attained honor ratings.

Honorable mention went to four juniors, each with a 3.0 average, Barbara Bishop, Delores Emert, Cheryl Benson and Dick Hynd, and two sophomores, Bob Emert, 3.20, and Frank Wiley, 3.0.

Summers Make Honor Ratings in Colleges

Among those attaining honor roll ratings at Oregon State University for the mid-term was Jack Sumner, senior student in agriculture, and son of Mr. and Mrs. Cal Sumner, Heppner. His grade point average for the term was 3.81.

Jay Sumner, another son and graduate student at UCLA, Los Angeles, Calif., also attained honor ratings with a GPA of 3.5 for his first semester's work. He is working for a master's degree in business statistics.

Taxpayers Offered Help on Returns

A. G. Erickson, director of the Internal Revenue Service for Oregon, announced today that additional assistance will be provided in Pendleton for taxpayers needing help in completing their 1962 Federal income tax returns. The office at 611 S. E. Emigrant in Pendleton will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. on April 8 and on April 11 and 12, 1963. The telephone number to call is 276-7652.

Payroll deduction slips are on sale at the Gazette-Times.

someone might die or get a ticket for speeding.

Incidentally, as long as Mayor Lamb is spreading his influence, why not have the State of Oregon widen the bridge at the North end of Main Street, a project of great need in Heppner for years. All he'd have to do is call Jack Smith in Salem.

Don Turner
Lexington.

McDaniels Entertain Week-end Visitors

Week-end visitors at the Sam McDaniel home in Hardman were their grandson, Tommy Mahon and his friend, Gary J. Bakeman, both stationed with the navy in San Diego, Calif.

They arrived in Pendleton Friday by plane and returned to their base Sunday evening. Tommy has recently been advanced to petty officer 3/c rating.

Coming from Elgin to see her brother and visit the McDaniels was Miss Joan Mahon, in company with Miss Vickie Delong. They returned to Elgin Sunday evening.

Looking for mimeograph stencils? The Gazette-Times has them for sale, including special church bulletin style.



COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

LEGION MOVIES
Friday, April 12, 8 p.m.
"You Can't Take It With You," starring Lionel Barrymore, Jean Arthur, Jimmy Stewart.
Plus one-half hour of cartoons.

COMMUNITY GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE
Heppner Christian Church
Seven 20-minute sessions starting at 12 noon. Public invited.

EASTER FOOD SALE
By Heppner Soroptimist club
Saturday, 10 a.m., Central Market.

BAKED FOOD SALE
By American Legion Auxillary
April 13, 10 a.m., Heppner Red and White store.

EASTER MONDAY CARD PARTY
Episcopal Parish Hall
Monday, April 15, 8 p.m. \$1 per person, prizes, dessert.

BAND CARNIVAL
Fair Pavilion Bldg., Sat., Apr. 27. Full evening of fun, starting at 5:30 p.m.
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