

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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Interest Needed on Wheat Program

One of the practical reasons why the national situation on wheat is in such a confusing state is that not enough mail has been received by congressmen and senators to show interest in the matter.

This is something that the Oregon Wheat League hopes to rectify by instituting a letter-writing campaign, details of which are in a story elsewhere in this paper.

It is a major project to get Congress really at work on a down-to-earth plan in the first place because so few are actually farmers, and also because farm state delegates are so far outnumbered by others in the legislative bodies.

Since the wheat referendum was defeated last year, those close to the matter have implored farmers to come up with a plan upon which they can agree and press for it.

Wheat growers well know that as a group they have not presented enough of a uniform front to the Congress, but they hope to rectify that now and ask the support of others sympathetic to their cause.

They are supporting Senator George McGovern's voluntary certificate plan and hope that it could be enacted for the 1964 crop, which means intensive action is needed.

Walter Jacobs of Ione, public relations chairman for the state wheat league, is working hard on this campaign, and urges everyone to write to key figures in Washington, D. C., including those on agriculture committees and Oregon's delegation there.

It must be recognized that this is a vital matter for Morrow county, as well as other counties in Oregon which are dependent on wheat raising for a substantial part of their economy. It is virtually as important to business people in these counties as it is to the farmers because a considerable portion of the income in business comes through wheat growers. Jacobs has pointed out that most ranchers in Morrow county have held to their wheat acreage allotments in the belief that some program would be adopted and have not planted fence-to-fence, and this in the face of what they verily believe will be \$1.25 per bushel wheat if some program is not adopted.

If it be true that the growers have been slow to present a unified front on this matter, it is also true that those dependent on farming in counties like Morrow—the businessman, in particular—have been delinquent in becoming informed enough to help take up the cudgel for those who contribute so much to the health of business locally.

The league does not ask that anyone compromise his convictions. Those who may be opposed are invited to write, too. But those who feel they can get behind the growers and their stand on the McGovern proposal are urged to pitch in and get those letters in the mail as soon as possible.

'63 Forest Fire Record Said Good

Pacific Northwest citizens have received a Christmas present ahead of time in the form of thousands of acres of forests that were saved from fire in 1963.

J. Herbert Stone, regional forester of the U. S. Forest Service said that although 1,823 fires blackened 7,345 acres of National Forest lands in Oregon and Washington during 1963, the record is considered good in view of the high fire hazard stemming from the Columbus Day, 1962, blowdown timber.

In the 1962 season, by comparison, 1,228 fires on Pacific Northwest forests were held to 3,672 acres.

With tons of downed trees and debris littering timber lands in Oregon and Washington after the October 12, 1962, storm, foresters were fearful that 1963 would be one of the worst fire years in history.

The fact that it didn't happen can be attributed to three factors, Stone pointed out:

"We had fine cooperation from the forest users. The weather was favorable. And fire suppression forces carried out their work quickly and effectively, resulting in an average loss of only 4.02 acres per fire on the National Forests."

Country Cutters Club Has Zipper Lesson

The Country Cutters 4-H club met at the home of Sandra Carlson, Saturday, December 7.

We checked our goals for the coming year. Our leader, Betty Carlson, showed us how to put a zipper in. The rest of the meeting was spent practicing sewing zippers.

Refreshments were served by Sandra. Our next meeting will be on January 4, 1964.

Kristine Peterson, reporter
Tell the advertiser you saw it in the Gazette-Times.

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

ALTHOUGH having major responsibility in staging the Far West basketball tournament in Portland this week, Jim Barratt, athletic business manager of OSU, and his family sneaked off for a couple of days to be in the old home town of Heppner for Christmas.

He came lugging a big portfolio of dope on the tournament, however, and has been hounded by phone calls ever since he has been here.

Always exuberant and enthusiastic, Jim (once called "Junior" in his home town and so referred to by Dr. Tibbles in greeting him this week), had plenty of joyful news for home consumption this week. He bubbled over with it as a guest of the Chamber of Commerce Monday.

Michelle (Mike) Morrison's selection as queen of the classic over beauties from the seven other colleges represented was one of the happiest items of glad tidings that they brought.

The candidates were not identified in the selection process, but Mike's poise and charm won over another top candidate, Judy Green of Brigham Young.

Jim says that Mike is a natural on television and radio and seems to be perfectly at home.

More good words emanated from Barratt concerning Dick Ruhl, who has carved a name for himself in OSU football.

"Dick did a great job at OSU," Jim said. "We think he will be the best linebacker on the Pacific coast next year."

Dick has another year of eligibility if he can be prevailed upon to lay out a term and come back next fall.

Morrow county currently has quite a one-two-three punch in publicity through the OSU athletic system in Barratt, Ruhl and Queen Mike.

WE'RE STILL HOPING that Jim will run down the matter of whether his dad, Garnet, is going to be on the TV program, Bonanza, or not. Since this story got started, Bonanza's rating in Heppner must have just about set a new record, but no one has spotted Garnet in a cowboy suit on the program yet. Jim said he would phone and find out about it.

DAVE GEORGE should have some kind of plaque set up by the student body in Heppner High school. He was the first to score points in a varsity basketball contest in the new gymnasium, getting the first three in fact—a field goal and a free throw against Condon. That should be something he can tell his grandchildren in later years.

MORROW county folks who read the Gazette-Times from cover to cover are topped by readers in Vietnam. Mrs. Terrel Bengge sends copies of the paper with magazines every month to her son, Mike Bengge, who is teaching there. But by the time he gets to the papers after the natives have read them, they are so tattered and worn that they are unreadable. It is nice to know that we have such avid readers, but it is no compliment to us.

Breeds on Range Hearing Jan. 14

Purebred bulls of more breeds of cattle would be permitted to run on the open range in Oregon under changes proposed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture in regulations on breeds allowed on the open range.

A hearing on the proposed changes has been set for January 14 at 10 a.m. in the Agriculture Building, Salem.

The department proposes to enlarge the list of breeds to include Angus, Shorthorn, Hereford, Charolais, Santa Gertrudis, Galloway and Devon.

Angus, Shorthorn and Herefords have been the only breeds on the list.

The hearing is open to the public and interested persons may also send their views and evidence to the department until the date of the hearing. Copies of the list of breeds the department proposes to permit on open range can be obtained from the department.

particularly. They go for all reading matter the same way. Some have expressed interest to Mrs. Bengge in sponsoring some of the pupils there as a project, and some clothing has been received.

RAY GONTY, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gonty of Heppner, is a policeman in Seattle. He received prominent attention recently when he participated in the capture of some holdups after a grocery store holdup. Officer Gonty was involved in a chase through the Queen Anne district, and with other officers, got the culprits. His picture was in a spread in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer on December 10.

SEE BY THE papers that in some city they suspend their community Christmas tree from the end of a crane boom, maybe 100 feet in the air. Maybe we ought to do that here to keep the lights intact on it. Last year they were stolen and this year they were broken by a prankster.

TO THE EDITOR...

To the Editor:

This is about the same letter published in the East Oregonian last week. I sent it to Umatilla county because they favored it as it stood to benefit from the Boeing deal and stood not of the coast. And as I've had several requests to write it here at home I've decided to do so.

I think we are over optimistic about the Boeing lease of the Boardman lands.

If I were Boeing's attorney's and were drawing up a lease to submit to the state of Oregon and saw the need to arbitrate each point, I'd shoot for the moon and I'm told that is just what they did.

They could have needed a 25 year lease; wanted 49 years so applied for an eighty year term. They needed a quarter mile water front, wanted a half mile so asked for the entire 8 1/2 miles (about as much as Portland's water front). They needed to freeze the real taxes against future raises at the true cash value now so asked to get them froze as of 1938.

Knowing the value of a 100,000 acre field for agriculture, they didn't apply for grazing rights, they asked for all agriculture uses. And with the tube in McNary dam to water it and as it has under it as far as we know, inexhaustible underground water, it could produce \$15 to \$20,000,000 worth of sugar beets annually.

And then to protect themselves from competition and to stop any such foolishness in the future they inserted another clause compelling the state to lease them all adjoining lands the state now owns or will ever own for the remaining 77 years at the same rate of 50¢ per acre.

Yes they shot for the moon and the school boys in Salem gave them the Universe.

O. W. Cutsforth

Saddlelites Elect

The first meeting for the year of the Saddlelite 4-H club was called to order by Dick Struckmeier. The purpose of the meeting was to elect officers. The club voted for Dick Struckmeier as president; Barbara Bloodsworth, vice president; Verina French, secretary, and Sandra Matheny, news reporter. Before adjourning we played a game led by Joe Hay.

Sandra Matheny, reporter

Mrs. J. O. Hager is convalescing at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hager, from a heart attack she suffered recently.

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It's our pleasure to send you our very best wishes for the coming year.

PETTYJOHNS' Farm and Builder's Supply HEPPNER

State to Begin Issuing New Auto License Plates

Oregon will begin issuing new style automobile license plates January 2, but the Department of Motor Vehicles says it will be five years before all autos are equipped with them.

Over a four year period, new plates will be issued to persons who buy new cars or move to the state. Replacement for mutilated plates will continue to be available. Remaining plates of the old series, first issued in 1955, will be replaced in 1968.

The new plates will contain a three letter prefix and three numbers (AAA 001), similar to the system used in Washington and at least three other states. The first letter will indicate the month of expiration, but the other letters and numbers will have no significance.

Color of the plates will be unchanged—yellow on a blue background. Missing from the new series of plates will be the slogan "Pacific Wonderland." The Legislature dropped the slogan to permit larger letters and numerals and a larger "Oregon."

Vern L. Hill, director of the department, says that taking the next five years to issue the plates will save \$200,000 because it will be unnecessary to make an immediate massive switch in filing systems or employ extra personnel to help make the re-issue.

The new system will permit an almost endless combination of letters and numbers. No effort will be made to spell words. Some letter combinations, however, will be eliminated since they might offend an owner.

Oregon has approximately 900,000 registered passenger cars.

Field Man Coming

Robert Albrecht, field representative for the Social Security Administration in Morrow county, announces that following the Christmas holidays he will be in Heppner on Thursday, January 9, from 9 a.m. until noon in the city hall.

One-Shot Roscoe

As Told By

ORVILLE W. CUTSFORTH

(Editor's Note: This is another in the series of stories about Roscoe Cox, legendary Morrow county figure who died earlier this year).

One time the bunch of us were hunting elk up by Ellis. We were lined up crossing the ridges, about six or eight of us. My wife was on the right as we trailed through this country. She scared up a pair of coyotes crossing a ridge. These coyotes ran by Roscoe. Roscoe shot one of them. He lowered his gun and didn't shoot the other one. Old Pappy Leyva was next to him and was watching him. Roscoe didn't know Pappy was there. Well, Pappy wondered why Roscoe didn't shoot the second coyote. He didn't know Roscoe was playing with him. The coyote ran by Pappy some distance and then Roscoe nonchalantly raised his rifle and shot this coyote in the rear end. The bullet tore a big hole in the coyote.

Pappy said this was the most wicked thing he had ever watched. He thought about the shot Roscoe had made, 200 to 225 yards, at a small end of a coyote dodging through the trees. He thought it was the finest shot he had ever seen and Pappy had been with the game commission for 40 years.

At noon we were gathered around the fire eating lunch and Pappy was telling about this shooting job that Roscoe had done.

My wife spoke up and said, "Roscoe, shooting the rear end of a coyote at 200 yards running through the brush, it would make about a 4 inch target. That's a pretty small target isn't it, Roscoe?"

Roscoe said, "No lady, all targets are the same size, you shoot the middle."

Mrs. Lula Pierce of Pendleton is spending Christmas week in Heppner with her son, his wife and family, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Pierce.

Visiting the James Phegleys through the holidays are Mrs. Phegley's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Phelps, who arrived here Saturday from Crescent City, Calif.



Coming Events

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT
Condon High School Gym
Heppner vs. Wheeler Co. High, Friday, Dec. 27, 6:30 p.m.
Condon vs. Sherman County, Saturday, Dec. 28, 6:30 and 8:00 p.m.
Admission, adults \$1, students, 50¢.
Support the Mustangs.

BENEFIT BOWLING TOURNAMENT
Fiesta Bowl, Sunday, Dec. 29, 7 and 9 p.m.
Benefit for Hospital Expenses of Shirley Cox.

SKIING AT ARBUCKLE
5" to 20" packed snow on hill. Tow operating Saturday, Sunday.
Skiing hours, 12 noon to 4:00 p.m.

SEASON'S GREETINGS
May the New Year Bring Peace and Prosperity to all.

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Looking Forward TO New Year 1964



Here's a royal welcome to the New Year, with greetings to our friends and thanks for all your cooperation in the past. May the months ahead bring you much happiness.

KINZUA CORPORATION

CONDON HOLIDAY

Invitational

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

DECEMBER 27 and 28

CONDON HIGH SCHOOL GYM

Friday Night's Pairings:

6:30 Heppner vs. Wheeler County

8:00 Condon vs. Sherman County

Winners Play and Losers Play Saturday Night

ALL FOUR TEAMS SHARE IN THE PROCEEDS

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$1

STUDENTS WITH CARDS 50c