

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

The Heppner Gazette established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times established November 18, 1897. Consolidated February 13, 1912.



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Subscription Rates: \$4.50 Year. Single Copy 10 Cents. Published Every Thursday and Entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as Second Class Matter.

Rebuttal to an Editorial

An editorial in the Condon Globe-Times last week quoted a Morrow county resident as saying that would-be volunteers in this county were "restrained" from helping on road repairs following recent floods. While criticizing the Morrow officials and road department, the man commended the Gilliam officials for the good work they had done on the restoration of roads.

We'll have to take exception to the criticism of our officials and road department. Our observation has been that they have done exemplary work in a very difficult—indeed, sometimes almost impossible, situation, just as was done in Gilliam county. In fact, the work of all responsible persons in meeting the emergency was rather awesome—including state highway crews, county crews in all counties of the area, the railroads and others.

It certainly can be understood that a resident hard hit or isolated by the floods could be considerably upset. To him it might well seem that nothing was being done about his problem, but man! There were problems everywhere. The county had to work on the worst first. For days after the first flood, equipment couldn't travel on most of the mushy-soft roads.

As to the charge that "volunteers were restrained," it might be noted that many volunteers pitched right in and helped. Of the editor's personal knowledge were these—Don Turner and Gene Cutsforth on culverts near their places, Ray French in the upper Butter Creek area, Ken Peck on the Willow Creek road, Al Bunch and others on Clarks Canyon road. There must have been many more. In one or two instances it might have been that the road department advised against volunteer repairs when the material or equipment was not available to do a job that would hold up.

The Morrow county court states that they know of no road in the county that isn't passable now, or an alternate route provided, although little as yet has been done towards permanent repairs. In the case of the bridge washouts on Butter Creek, a detour road has been constructed to reach those stranded, working Sundays and long hours to do the job. The road crew pitched in to reach the Ray French and Paul Hisler families after the last flood, too, because they were isolated. It got right to work after the same flood to open upper Willow Creek, badly damaged by washouts.

County Judge Paul Jones and Commissioner Gene Ferguson spent Christmas Day helping out when the Al Bunch elevator went down in the December flood. Repairs were made to the Clarks Canyon road to get the grain out. The judge was out with Doc Sherer until late at night during the second flood, placing flares and checking on damage.

It has been a terribly hectic time for all, and particularly so for the county road department and county court. All information that has come to us is that they have done a good job meeting the emergencies. The spirit of those who pitched in to help out, as was pointed out in an editorial at the time of the Christmas flood, demonstrated what good people we have here.

Our good friend, Editor Clay Brownhill, concludes his editorial, "Just another reason why this area is a desirable place to live." We surely agree, Clay, but don't stop at the Gilliam county line!

Road Levy Election Important

February 24 is the date for the special election on the county road levy, calling for an annual sum of \$125,000 per year for the next three years. This is a very important matter and something that every voter should earnestly be studying now.

Although once defeated (in November, 1964), the levy's passage might be considered a foregone conclusion in the wake of devastating damage by the floods. However, those in favor of the levy realize that its approval cannot be casually assumed.

The county road department has depended on this serial levy method of financing for years. What is asked at the forthcoming election is nothing more than that which has been the foundation of the county's road program in recent history.

As in all Oregon counties, some outside sources, other than taxes, bring receipts to the road department. It is estimated that in the 1965-66 year, such other receipts will approximate \$90,000. Without curtailment of the road program, this would last the county about four months at the current rate of expenditures of \$20,000 per month.

Application for federal funds for flood repairs complicate the picture. It should be remembered that while the county has applied for aid funds which in total approximate \$400,000, indications are that it will get only a percentage of this, and it could be a small percentage. These aid funds, too, are designed to bring county roads back only to bare minimum stand-

ards, in other words, to restore them to passable condition. It cannot be considered that they will make any improvements to the roads or to maintain them. Nor can it be assumed that the aid funds will fully cover damage done. It is a virtual certainty that they will not.

Although the road fund had a carryover of \$30,000 in the current year's budget from the previous year, all funds in the department will be exhausted by July 1. By the way, the carry-over remained in the road department and was not placed in the general fund, contrary to the impression which some have received.

Perhaps it was less painful to pass a road levy when it was expressed in terms of mills instead of a total sum, but the law now requires that it be expressed in terms of the proceeds. However, the result of the change is to the voters' interest since the fixed amount does not allow for escalation if valuation increases. That was the reason the change was made.

Flood damage isn't the only challenge facing the road department. Severe breakup is expected because of the hard winter. For those who must depend on county roads, this levy vote will be a crisis. If it is defeated, residents will have to plan on rough and rugged travel in the time ahead.

We Have a Winner Going

Don't be fooled by the standings of the Greater Oregon basketball league. Heppner is in third place and some may count them out, but this team plays like a winner. They may not come out as champions, although they still have a chance, but it is quite certain that they will make it a hot time for leaders before the season's final game is played.

The squad looked a bit awkward and fumbling at the start of the year, undoubtedly due to the fact that there are so many young players on the squad. But they have become a fast-breaking, fast-moving, ball stealing team that harasses opponents with a pestiferous full court press. They now show a polished floor game with each boy giving his best. Coach Bob Clough's platoon system has made a strong aggregation from top to bottom of his traveling squad.

Against Burns and Pilot Rock they showed they can give away an average of four to six inches in height advantage and still take command.

Ironically, the Mustangs have been winning most of their games despite poor shooting. They have outplayed every opponent on the floor but have had trouble getting the ball through the hoop. It is to be hoped that this is just a slump and that they will come on to blaze the net before the season is over. Not a man in the lineup scored more than eight against Burns, a game the Mustangs won, 47-45. Of course, this shows balance, but the shots missed mercifully go unrecorded.

If they develop their firepower, watch out, Pilot Rock and Grant Union! Heppner's basketball team is a winner, and they are perfectly capable of topping both the Prospectors and the Rockets in coming league games here.

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

PEOPLE dropping in the office today are still bundled up in coats even though it looks nice and bright outside, as if spring is on the way. Won't be long until we'll be looking back with some longing on the cooler days. Air conditioners will be turned on and folks will be greeting one another, "Hot enough for you?"

Or you might be out perspiring as you mow the lawn. Which reminds us of the definition of a bird that gets caught in a lawnmower: Shredded tweet!

QUESTIONNAIRES we get from different sources on current problems keep reminding us how pitifully uninformed we really are. One came in today, for instance, asking opinions on Viet Nam—whether to maintain the status quo there, pour money in and escalate the war, or get out. Which one would you circle? Neither could we.

We felt like the lady who was asked what she thought of Red China.

"Oh, I really don't know, dear," she replied, "but I suppose it wouldn't be too bad with a white tablecloth."

THE ARNOLD RAYMONDS had an appointment in Pendleton the other day and had to hurry to get there on time. However, they found they had to make

a stop for gas in the city before they could continue to the destination. At the service station the kids popped out to stretch while the rig was being serviced.

Came time to depart, and the family scrambled back in the car and off they went. Some 15 or 20 minutes later, momma asked poppa, "Where's Phillip?"

Phillip wasn't there. They thought he might be in the outer office of the building they were in. He wasn't. Then came the dawning. Phillip must have been left at the service station.

They hurried back and were relieved to find him there, the service station attendant, consoling the lad all the while and telling him that mother and dad would come back for him.

This was as bad as one that happened to a neighbor some 8 or 10 years ago. The couple decided to move to another town, some 250 miles away. The father drove a truckload of furniture on the move and the mother followed in the car. The dad figured that his wife would bring their only son, but when the boy wasn't around when she left in the car, she assumed the lad had gone with the father.

Both went off without him, of course, and when the lad came home from play he found only a dark, empty house.

There were other relatives that came to his rescue until the

Yester-Years

THIRTY YEARS AGO

February 7, 1935

Morrow County Lamb and Wool Growers elected the following officers for the year: R. I. Thompson, president; H. A. Cohn, vice president; Joseph Belanger, secretary, and Frank Wilkinson, William Hynd and Bill Kilkenny, directors.

Hardman High school gave a benefit dance at the IOOF hall. \$15 was cleared which goes for the benefit of the graduating class. Mrs. Carey Hastings and Miss Zetta Bleakman served supper at the Hastings home.

Heppner High's "Fighting Irish" barely edged out Ione's basketeers in a fast game at the local gym. The final score was 21-19. The starting lineup was Gilman, Furlong, Van Marter, Driscoll and Green. Ted McMurdo helped his fraternity, Sigma Phi Epsilon, win a dual swimming meet on OSU campus by placing first in the 100-foot breast stroke event.

TWENTY YEARS AGO

February 15, 1945

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Way of Lexington received a Purple Heart, awarded posthumously to their son, Stanley, who gave his life in the service of his country in the Normandy campaign.

B. C. Pinckney turned over the Chamber of Commerce gavel to K. A. House. Pinckney had held the office three of the five years since the chamber was formed.

Spend Ration Points Wisely! Sugar Stamp No. 34 is now good for five pounds of sugar.

More than a ton of used clothing was shipped from Heppner to the Russian relief center in Portland, according to Mayor J. O. Turner.

TEN YEARS AGO

February 10, 1955

New arrivals during the past week were to Mr. and Mrs. Wil-

Church Plans Special Meetings Next Week

Bishop Lane W. Barton will be present at All Saints' Episcopal church Sunday, February 14, for special services, according to Father C. Bruce Spencer. Bishop Barton will preside at Confirmation Services at 10:00 a.m. A potluck dinner will follow in the parish hall.

On Tuesday evening, February 16, the church will sponsor the visit of Leonard Kombe, one of a team of four who is serving in the mission field in Central Africa and now visiting parishes in Eastern Oregon. Mr. Kombe has been headmaster of Livingstone Day Secondary school at Livingstone, Zambia, since 1963. The public is invited to attend and hear the speaker.

parents pieced together their crossed signals.

LAST WEEK we got our Ayers crossed. It was Mrs. Frank Ayers who had the treadle sewing machine that is going to Viet Nam for Mike Benze's work, and not Mrs. Clayton Ayers. We'll pause here to slap our hand and say that we're sorry to both Mrs. Ayers.

THIS WEEK'S THOUGHT: Conscience is that small inner voice which tells you the Internal Revenue Service might check your return.

liam Scott, a daughter, Jillane Marie; to Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Weddle, a son, Howard Brown, and to Mr. and Mrs. James J. Farley, a daughter, Shannon Ellen.

Building permits for the year 1964 totaled \$19,050, according to City Recorder Ted Smith. This does not include \$100,000 for the hospital addition, which would bring the total to \$119,050.

Heppner TV Co-op is in the process of being formed. Serving on the committee are W. C. Rosewall, Harry Duvall, E. C. Dougherty and E. O. Ferguson.

New city entrance signs were installed at two of the three main highway entrances to Heppner.

TO THE EDITOR...

Dear Mr. Editor:

With your permission, I would like to correct an error in the letter from Mr. Leach published last week in the Times.

Henry C. Thomson and Oscar F. Thomson were brothers. Henry was born January 23, 1829, and Oscar November 25, 1830. They went by team from Missouri to California in 1850.

Oscar came to Umatilla, Umatilla county, Oregon in 1865. He married Susan Atwood in 1867. She came from Iowa to Butter Creek in 1863. Umatilla county by team, with her parents, C. B. and Lucy Atwood and lived on the ranch now owned by Mr. Ammon.

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar F. Thomson lived in Umatilla until 1869, then moved to Pendleton. In 1872 they bought and moved to the ranch on Butter Creek, now owned by Mrs. Princess Thomson, widow of D. Sloan Thomson.

Mr. Atwood died in 1879 and Mrs. Atwood married Henry C. Thomson. They owned the ranch on Butter Creek, where Mr. Proudfoot lives, until 1904 when it was purchased by Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Jarmon. Mrs. Jarmon was the former Lucy M. Thomson, oldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar F. Thomson. I am their second daughter, two years younger than Lucy.

Oscar Thomson died in 1909 and Susan Thomson in 1934.

Very Sincerely,
Mrs. C. H. Bartholomew

Dallas Ward III

Dallas Ward, former outstanding athlete here and at Oregon State University, suffered a serious heart attack in Minneapolis, Minn., Saturday, according to information received by Mrs. Charlotte Walker of Hardman. Mrs. Walker's late husband, Estlie Walker, was a step brother of Ward's. She said that Ward, now assistant coach at the University of Colorado, suffered the attack while on a scouting trip. He formerly was head coach at the university.

Boxboard for making signs and decorations at the Gazette-Times.

Mrs. Emil Grosheens was called to Portland February 6 following the death of her aunt, Mrs. Ola Smith, staying several days to attend the services. Mrs. Smith was a former teacher and principal in the Portland school system.

Public Notices

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Oregon State Highway Commission has proposed plans for relocation and construction on the Irrigon Junction-Umatilla County Line Section of the Old Oregon Trail (Interstate 80N), lying in northeastern Morrow County, Oregon.

This notice is given in compliance with federal regulations and state statutes pertaining to this type of project whereby it is required that public notice be given to enable interested persons to request a hearing on the proposed project. If any interested person desires such a hearing, a request for a hearing should be directed to the Morrow County Court in Heppner, Oregon, on or before Wednesday, February 17, 1965.

Floyd Query, Secretary
OREGON STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION 49-506

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

HEPPNER HIGH BASKETBALL

Friday, February 12
Sherman Co. at Moro.
Jayvee game, 6:30 p.m.
Varsity game, 8:00 p.m.
Support the Mustangs!

ST. PATRICK'S ALTAR SOC. FOOD SALE

Saturday, February 13
Central Market, from 10:00 a.m.

BLUE AND GOLD DINNER

All Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, parents and friends.
Saturday, Feb. 13, 6:30 p.m.
High School Cafeteria

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE DINNER

Monday, Feb. 15, 6:30 p.m.
St. Patrick's Parish Hall.
Guest speaker, Warne Nunn, assistant to Governor Hatfield, Salem.

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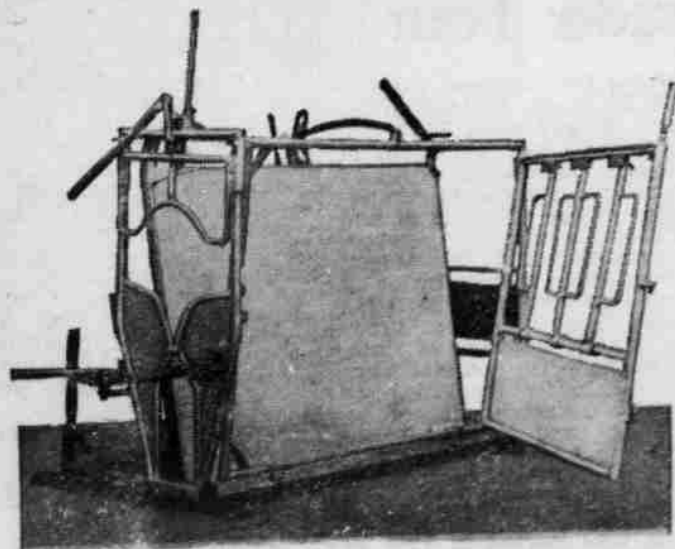
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Remember that the drivers in the Performance Trials are skilled professionals, and the cars finely tuned standard production models. (If it can be said that the Special is "Standard" anything.) Also remember that the trials are an exhausting, carefully graded test of a car's all-around ability. In economy, acceleration and braking. Small wonder the Special came out on top. Handsomely.

(The specific detail? Our hero averaged 20.689 mpg in economy, to score second among 10 cars. It accomplished the acceleration test—from 25 to 70 mph—in 9.315 seconds, for a fifth. And took another second in braking: from 65 to 0 mph in 172.0 feet. The cumulative result: we won all the marbles in Class IV.)

Now then. If you're going to enter something—like a car—you might as well do it to win, too. Your Buick dealer can introduce you to the driver's seat of a Buick Special.

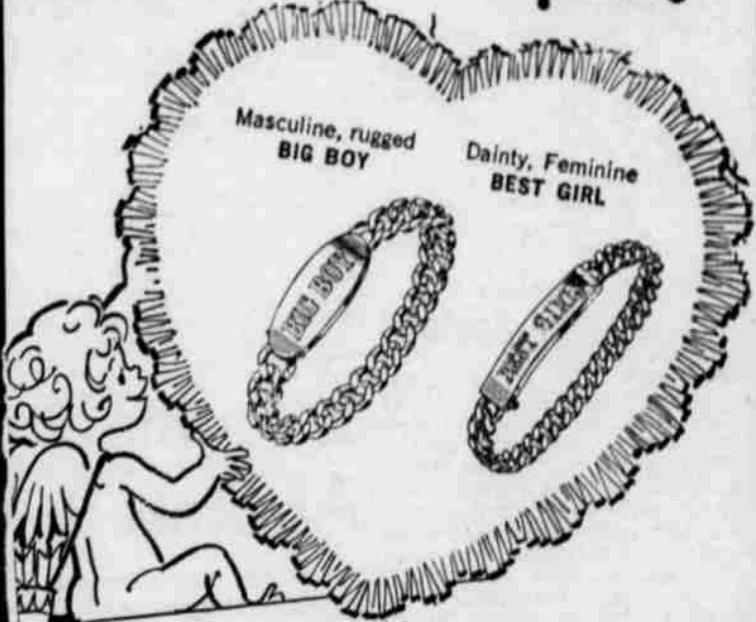


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