

# 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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## Help Needed on a Worthy Project

Beta Omega Sorority of Ione, an organization that has accomplished many worthy projects for the county despite a small membership, has embarked on another undertaking that is worthy of the assistance of other organizations and individuals.

The sorority has launched a drive to raise \$1900 for purchase and installation of a water softener in Pioneer Memorial hospital. This doesn't seem like a glamorous or dramatic project but it is an important and vital one.

Kickoff of the drive was a recent fruit cake sale, and Beta Omega raised \$125 to start the fund, but that leaves a long way to go.

Dinner proceeds at the Ione Fall Festival Sunday, December 13, will go towards the needed sum, and one thing everyone can do to support this cause would be to go to the dinner.

Those who may have seen the sections of pipe, cut from the hospital's plumbing system, in the sorority's recent display in Gardner's Men's Wear window will get part of the idea of the need for the water softener. The hot water system at the hospital has been almost literally clogged with accumulating minerals, and the repairs are costly.

Will O'Harra, hospital administrator, points out that the softener would mean savings on soap and repairs, assure a continuous and adequate flow of hot water, and would provide for better care for patients. It would mean better skin care and eliminate bed sores for those who are confined for long periods of time.

Water at the hospital is harder than that of the city system. It comes from the system that supplies the county courthouse and is separate from the city system.

Beta Omega knows that this will take some time to accomplish, but the members are going to see it through. Their record of projects shows that they don't stop short of completion of a job.

They feel that the public first must be aware of the need, and that is the reason for this editorial. Anyone who needs further information is invited to visit with O'Harra on the matter. He has a good many samples of pipe sections clogged with minerals that he can show.

The sorority invites and urges other organizations to assist with contributions and donations. Individuals, too, can make contributions. These may be submitted to Mrs. Art (June) Lindstrom, chairman of the project, or to Mrs. Joe (Betty) Hausler, president of Beta Omega.

As everyone knows, Pioneer Memorial hospital fills a vital role in this area. It has been a godsend to our people and to the entire area. It stands on the hill overlooking Heppner today because the people were aware of the need and pitched in to share in making it possible. Since it was constructed, many individuals and organizations have shared in improving its facilities through their donations of money and embarking on projects for new equipment.

The project of Beta Omega is another to help the hospital keep up to date and to give its patients the best possible care.

It is hoped that this message will stimulate thinking on the part of those who may be in a position to influence other organizations to help or to stir individuals in sharing with the cost.

The first step that can be taken is to attend the dinner at Ione Sunday. You'll take full measure for your money in the fine dinner planned, and you'll have the bonus of knowing that your participation is going to keep on helping in benefits from this project at the hospital.

## Don't 'Hide Your Light . . .'

There is an old saying, or a corruption of one, that says, "Don't Hide Your Light under a Bushel."

This, in essence, admonishes a person of good works to let these be known, ostensibly so more good works may be stimulated.

Occasion for this thought is the statement by Mrs. Joe Hausler at the Chamber of Commerce Monday that Beta Omega sorority of Ione, which has accomplished many worthy projects, has received little publicity and many people do not know of the things they are doing.

This is the cue for us all—like all other news media—to point out that we are always happy to report to the best of our ability the worthwhile things that are done by people and our organizations. If such things do not receive adequate publicity, chances are that the news media do not know about them. It goes without saying that these media are far better equipped to disseminate publicity than that which comes by word of mouth.

One of the things in the newspaper business that continues to surprise us—every day—is that so many persons do not know how to go about getting their legitimate news in print.

In talking with Mrs. Rachel Dick, Heppner High Journalism instructor, the other day we made this point and suggested that a course in journalism would be quite fitting for all students on the assumption that some day most of them will have need to communicate through news media—either on behalf of an organization, or in some political affiliation, or for some educational purpose.

Some folks think that when they turn their news into a paper it smacks of boasting, but we say again, "Don't Hide Your Light under a Bushel." A weekly paper, particularly, is a community enterprise. It cannot pick news out of the air. Many think that it is the first to know about things, but actually, it often doesn't learn about happenings until a large majority of the citizenry has already heard of them—for the very reason that many think it has previously received the information. We have no occult powers and are not endowed with extra sensory perception.

Those who are interested in getting community help will find a ready friend in the newspaper—to the limit of its time and space, yet reserving the right to evaluate its importance and news value.

In a sense, the best reporters a weekly paper has is its corps of citizens who take the time to grab the telephone when something happens—whether it is an accident, a fire, some important visitors, something going on in the schools, or some projects getting underway.

In the case of the Gazette-Times the area of coverage sprawls more than 100 miles—from Boardman and Irrigon in the north, to Monument, Spray and Kinzua in the south. This is far greater territory than most weeklies in the state must cover. The four regulars and seven correspondents on our staff just can't cover everything that should get publicity.

## Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

PROBABLY there are quite a few persons who do not realize that continuous editions of a weekly newspaper comprise a valuable and accurate historical record for the community it represents.

Copies of every issue printed are compiled into annual bound volumes and are available for research on matters of interest. Not infrequently does someone come to this office, for instance, to seek an item concerning a birth to establish proof for a birth certificate.

Recently, Mrs. Carl Marquardt and others went through the papers for years back to find the names of former students of the high schools of Morrow county in the earlier days, editors and publishers probably didn't realize the importance of keeping their files in good shape. Some of them were tied together with string, and with the passing of years, became torn and dog-eared.

In recent years, however, most publishers have had their annual files bound in large books with hard covers, as we do here. Some daily papers preserve their records by microfilming, and some libraries and historical societies also preserve newspapers by the same method.

UNFORTUNATELY a fire, apparently in 1918, destroyed the newspaper office here, and it took with it all the prior copies of the Gazette and the Times, which were consolidated in 1912. So we have no copies available prior to about 1920.

This was a tremendous loss. Those earlier papers are just about invaluable today. Once in a while some single copies will crop up. They are even found in the walls of old buildings now being torn down, being used there as insulation to keep out the cold.

THIS IS by way of preface to the fact that we are at a loss to find out an accurate record of the early history of Gilliam and Bisbee which will go out of business following this weekend's auction sale. A letter elsewhere in this paper, from Harry Hill of Coos Bay, gives the record on Frank Gilliam going into the business in 1887. The point we are not sure of is whether he started the business or if it were already established under another name at that time. A man named Coffey (and we have been unable to learn his first name) went into business with Frank, and the store at 1887 was known as Gilliam and Coffey.

Maybe someone within the scope of our readership will have some information on this. Perhaps Ora Yeager at Castle Rock, Wn., can help us out.

Neither Earl nor Leonard Gilliam, who with Lou Bisbee, were operators of the store for years, can enlighten us. Another interesting question—is there any other business here that has had a longer tenure than Gilliam and Bisbee?

If it were started in 1897, the Gazette-Times has it beat, since the Gazette was established March 30, 1883. The Times came along in 1897, and the papers were consolidated in 1912.

SAD TO SAY, this editor has done very little in delving out historical articles since coming here 4½ years ago, and it doesn't appear that he is going to have much time to do it in the foreseeable future.

In taking a few minutes to check our "archives" here, we have located one paper printed in 1888 that has a Gilliam and Coffey advertisement on Hills Bros. farm wagons.

Then we spotted another in The Daily Heppner Gazette of June 5, 1891. (Heppner once had a daily paper!) This one was for Gilliam and Bisbee (Frank Gilliam and T. H. Bisbee, advertising general hardware, stoves and tinware, plumber's materials, Cyclone and Star windmills and a carload of Studabaker wagons. "Anything in the back line from a \$300 top buggy to a \$25 road cart," it says. Location is "next door to bank building, Main street."

Another in the Gazette of November 27, 1896 (notice again the Weekly Gazette) advertises from Gilliam and Bisbee, "We are not the Largest Merchants in the World," then lists many items. "We have Good Goods at Fair Prices and Cheap John Goods at Cheap John Prices," it says.

In the same assortment of old papers and pictures, we find an old time picture of the old store near the bank building. If we can get this to reproduce for an engraving, we'll try running it in an ensuing edition of the paper.

WHILE WRITING of things historical, it is in order to point out that Betty and Carl Marquardt are doing an excellent job on their Lexington school book, which will be out in print soon. It is rather amazing to see all the pictures of former students and teachers they have uncovered. It's going to be quite

a work and a valuable one, sure to awake many memories of former students of the school. They have a good number of orders for the book and it is quite probable that libraries and historical societies will want copies, too.

Since only a limited number of them are being printed and most were ordered at the time of the Lex reunion, there won't be many available for sale beyond those already reserved, but there may be a few.

Others are planned for Heppner and Boardman to follow the Lexington book.

WE OVERHEARD some folks talking Saturday evening about how difficult it was to find a place to park downtown Saturday. This was due, of course, to Christmas Opening. Some others around town had expressed the thought that "just kids" were taking part, but the kids didn't drive the cars to town!

Everyone had a lot of fun on the guessing contest, and it seems to us that the winners were about evenly divided between children and adults. They are listed elsewhere in this paper.

One of the most amused—and at the same time, delighted—winners was Opal Briggs who won a man's sweater at Gardner's Men's Wear. We'd suspect that one of her several nephews is going to get a real nice Christmas present.

Old Santa Claus had an exceptionally busy time for an exceptionally busy person. He ran out of candy, but some youngsters may not get what they want for Christmas because they were a little greedy and walked off with four or five sacks of candy while others didn't get any. Maybe some different system will have to be worked out when he comes next year.

Incidentally, some of those who got up real close to Santa were impressed by the rather striking facial resemblance to the Rev. Al Boschee, pastor of the Christian church.

WELL, OUR basketball teams are off to a good start, the Mustangs having taken both the Jayvee and varsity games at Enterprise Saturday night. This Saturday night is the home opener here against Pilot Rock, and it is sure that a good crowd will be on hand. Wear your booster buttons, folks!

ONE OF THE very nice things that our business people do in connection with high school athletics here is to sponsor printing of programs for football and basketball. It is probably fair to assume that Heppner has the best programs in the Greater Oregon league because of this interest.

A group of firms again is home basketball games and sponsoring free programs for there will be space on them for keeping score. At this writing it is not known for sure whether it is possible to get them out for the Pilot Rock opener, but if not, they will be coming up for future games.

Those sports fans who appreciate getting these free programs should take a moment, when an opportunity arises, to tell the sponsoring firms that the programs contribute to the enjoyment of the game.

## Safety Director Warns on Signals

With the onset of winter and reduced visibility, Oregon drivers were again reminded that state law now requires turn signals to be given at least 100 feet before turning or changing lanes.

Vern L. Hill, director of the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles, notes that the law formerly required that turn signals be given only 50 feet in advance of a turn, said: "Higher speeds and reduced visibility make giving turn signals well in advance not just a matter of being legally right, but a matter of life or death."

Figures from the Department's Traffic Safety & Education Division show that turning errors (14 per cent) and driving on wrong side of the road, straddling or driving in wrong lane (seven per cent) are involved in more than one-fifth of all of the State's accidents.

## A COOL THOUGHT

Here's a cool safety thought from the Traffic Safety & Education Division of the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles: Ice at 30 degrees above zero is twice as slippery as it is at zero degrees. If you don't believe it pick up an ice cube fresh from the refrigerator. Sticks to your hand, doesn't it? Run water over it. Now, it's slippery. Ice on roads acts just the same. Slow down. Allow for all degrees of skidding.

We need the public's help, and we appreciate it. This helps make a better paper and consequently helps boost the community.

If something occurs to you, your family or your organization that is news, don't be unduly modest about it. We like to let everyone know how our folks are getting on, achieving and how the community is moving. "Don't hide your light . . ."

## TO THE EDITOR . . .

Dear Mr. Sherman:

You noted in the last copy of the Gazette that you were going to try to find the starting date of the Gilliam and Bisbee store in Heppner. I will enclose a copy, from biographical sketches on Morrow County pioneers, as listed on Hon. Frank Gilliam, one of the founders of this store:

Hon. Frank Gilliam — The eminent citizen and esteemed pioneer whose name heads this article is accorded a representation in this volume, both because of his marked capabilities, which have won him distinction, and his intrinsic merit and unswerving integrity, that have gained and held the confidence of his fellows. Possessed of those qualities that mark the typical pioneer, and dominated by a wisdom that searches out the most intricate proposition without compromise, and maintained by a continuity of purpose that brooks no defeat, Mr. Gilliam is a man that by force of right must fill the position where his fellows have so hesitatingly installed him, leader and in which he has ever displayed that depth of resource and faithfulness characteristic of his whole career.

Mr. Frank Gilliam is a son of Jasper and Rose Gilliam and was born in Clackamas County, Oregon, on November 29, 1854. His parents came to Oregon in 1852 from North Carolina. Ten years later the father died and the family removed to Multnomah County, where the subject of this sketch received a public school education and remained until 1870 the date of his emigration to what is now Morrow County. He located on Rhea creek, about ten miles from Heppner, and engaged in stock raising until 1887. At that time he embarked in the hardware and implement business, where we still find him, now as the senior member of the firm. His business flourished from the start and he is still favored

with a generous and ever increasing patronage.

Mr. Gilliam has ever devoted that time and attention to political matters that become the loyal citizen, and for the past twenty years the people have constantly placed upon him the public trusts of various positions. In 1890 he was elected Mayor of Heppner and has served in that office since. He was one of the first Commissioners of this County and has also served as treasurer for four years, besides various other positions.

The marriage of Mr. Gilliam and Miss Effie J. Wright occurred in Heppner, on November 20, 1882, and to them have been born the following children: Ona V., Leonard L., Clinton C., Edwin E., and Hazel. He is a prominent member of the A.F. & A.M., having taken the thirty-second degree, belongs to the W.O.W., the A.O.U.W., and the B.P.O.E. Mr. Gilliam has wrought long and faithfully in this section, demonstrating his ability both as a stock raiser and businessman by his almost unbounded success, while he has also exemplified the typical citizen, the faithful public official, the kind and upright neighbor and the true gentleman of honor.

You will note that the store was started in 1887. Some of the old timers will probably remember the location of the first store. It was located for years at the present location of Cal's tavern, next to the First National Bank. I hope this might be of some help to you in locating some more information.

Very truly yours  
Harold Hill  
Rt. 3, Box 773  
Coos Bay, Oregon

## KEEP WINDSHIELD CLEAR

Peek-a-boo driving is kid stuff, says the Traffic Safety & Education Division of the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles. Rubbing peep-holes in your windshield is a good way to go where you're not looking. Clear all of your car's glass—windshield, side and rear windows—of ice, frost, fog or steam before you drive.

Tell the advertiser you saw it in the Gazette-Times.

A guest of Mrs. Emma Hoops over the Thanksgiving weekend was her grandson, Robert Shaw, a sophomore at Oregon State University. He is the son of her son-in-law and daughter, Col. and Mrs. C. A. Shaw, of North Springfield, Va., and attended grade school here when Mrs. Shaw resided here.

## COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

**Coming Events**  
HEPPNER HIGH BASKETBALL  
Friday, December 10, DeSales at Walla Walla  
Saturday, Dec. 11, Pilot Rock here  
Support the Mustangs!

COWBELLE LUNCHEON AND ANNUAL MEETING  
Friday, Dec. 10, 1 p.m.  
Heppner Grill dining room  
Important business meeting

IONE FALL FESTIVAL  
Ione Grade School Gym  
Sunday, Dec. 12  
Dinner, 12:30 to 2 p.m.  
Booths open at 2 p.m.  
Lots of fun for everyone.

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM  
High School Multipurpose Room  
Friday, December 17, 7:30 p.m.  
Band, chorus music, "black light" skit  
Everyone welcome!

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