

# THE GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER  
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WESLEY A. SHERMAN  
Editor and Publisher



HELEN E. SHERMAN  
Associate Publisher

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## Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

WHEN CONVIVIAL friends gather to see the old year out on New Year's eve, some surprising things happen. It was such a gathering at the Herman Winter home Friday night that the group conceived the idea of telephoning the Nels Andersons in Niger, Africa.

Seems that the year before, when the Andersons were in the group, the men became involved in a friendly wager on something that was to be determined during the course of the year. As the year 1966 neared, they were a bit confused as to what the bet had been, so they decided to call the Andersons for Nels to settle the matter, and at the same time to wish the departed Heppnerites a Happy New Year.

It proved to be a rather involved process. The call first went to Pendleton, and it took a bit of doing to convince the operator that the call was in earnest. She finally connected Winter, who was doing the phoning, with the New York exchange for the international hookup. From there the call had to be routed through Paris, and the line was held open for a half-hour while this was being accomplished.

During this time, Herman gave the New York operator quite a Chamber of Commerce pitch on Heppner and used some of the questions we had in this column recently on Oregon and Morrow county to acquaint her with this part of the U. S. In turn, she reported that she had never been out of New York City and lived in a 23-story apartment building.

Finally the French operator came on. She had a heavy accent but got the message on what was wanted. Herman then listened to some French dialogue while the Paris operator was reaching Niger. Since Winter didn't know Nels' address in Niamey nor his phone number, it took a bit of doing to run this information down. Finally they got a neighbor, on the phone, and eventually about 12:30 a.m., Herman heard Nels' voice.

Winter told him who was calling, and the only response was "Oh!" Whereupon Herman asked Nels if he remembered what the wager was about. Reply to this question is unreported, but Nels, in his newly-acquired French might have replied, "You etes mal a la tete." (Literally, "You are bad in the head," or more popularly, "You're crazy!")

Anyway, the conversation was as clear as if Nels were in Ione, Herman said. The Andersons appeared to be a bit homesick and were happy to hear from the folks at home. It was 9:30 a.m. in Niger and Nels asked that his regards be conveyed to all their friends.

With the call completed, the boys started another wager on the cost of the call. It wasn't until 3 a.m. that they got the word back—\$35. Jim Driscoll had guessed \$37, and he was judged the winner.

ANOTHER DISTINGUISHED couple joins the Gazette-Times family of readers this week through the courtesy of Herb Hynd. He has entered a subscription for Doc and Yvonne Severinsen, Warwick, N. Y., after he and Mrs. Hynd spent three days visiting the Severinsens last week. Warwick is about 60 miles from where Doc performs for NBC-TV.

Doc, as virtually all of our readers know, has gained fame with his probably unexcelled skill playing the trumpet and

is a member of the NBC orchestra. He is a regular on Johnny Carson's Tonight Show and is often seen and heard on the program.

Mrs. Severinsen is a niece of the Hynds and they have also known Doc for many years, probably since the days he gained his start at Arlington.

While the Hynds were in New York, Ora Evans, mother of Yvonne and now of Portland, and Emma Evans were also visiting. We saw Ora on television in the audience on last Thursday night's Tonight show, which was produced in New York a day earlier.

Well, Herb said he had a great time in New York. He and Beth attended one program and Doc got them spots in a ball TV picture just above where Johnny performs, probably not 10 feet from him. The Hynds sat with an NBC censor, Jane Crowley, whose job it is apparently to scrutinize the program for anything that is considered unsuitable for the public's consumption. Anything censored is cut out of the tape.

Herb also told of going one afternoon to watch a group make a commercial. He said that the performers went over this commercial, a singing one on Corn Flakes, 58 times before they were completely satisfied. When it was completed, it was perfection indeed.

The Severinsens took the Hynds around New York, showing them the NBC building and Rockefeller Center, a horse show in Madison Square Garden (which made them feel at home), and other sights. Herb was really impressed.

He was amazed at the jaywalkers all over the downtown streets of New York.

"Some gal will park her car in the middle of the street and get out and pay no attention to anybody," he said. "They'll honk and yell, but it doesn't do any good. I've never seen anything like it."

They strolled by Tiffany's. Herb saw a diamond ring in the window that caught his fancy and thought he might buy it for his wife. He thought the tag said \$70, but closer inspection showed that it was \$7,000. "It was the cheapest thing in the window!" our Cecil friend exclaimed.

Doc introduced the Hynds to members of the NBC orchestra, and the visitors were really taken with them.

"We kind of get the idea they carouse around and live it up, but don't you think it. They are earnest and serious about their jobs. They have gained the top and they know it. They also know that if they make one bobble on a program they may be through and there is a thousand others climbing up ready to take their place."

Doc practices three or four hours per day, Hynd said, and it was a distinct pleasure to hear him practice. "It was the sweetest music I've ever heard."

The Hynds had taken the holiday trip to go to Detroit to visit their daughter and son-in-law. They visited the auto factories while there and had a good time, then stopped again on the way home from New York. But they weren't impressed with Detroit as a city.

They left Detroit at 12:30 Saturday—after lunch—by plane and stopped at Chicago and Seattle before reaching Portland. They drove home to Butterby Flats on Willow Creek from Portland and at 8:30 Saturday evening Herb was comfortably

the city audit last month called attention to the fact that the monthly sewer charges from the city's 600 users are now failing to carry costs of operation and bond retirement, falling behind by about \$8000 per year. At the present time this is draining funds from the water system and presents a situation that cannot be allowed to continue.

Faced with the problem, the city council could have taken one of two courses: 1. Impose a tax levy again, under authority given on the original vote on the sewer system, sufficient to cover the annual deficit. 2. Raise the monthly sewer charge.

At the meeting Monday night, the council decided on the latter alternative for several good reasons although it might have been easier to re-impose a tax levy. It should be pointed out that this levy would not need to be 10 mills. A considerably smaller levy would cover the deficiency.

It is the feeling that there is already too much burden on the property taxpayer and that anything to add to the load should be avoided. A second reason is that the sewer charge increase would reach all users and not just property owners. For instance, those who live in trailer homes will pay their share.

The current residential rate is \$1 per month but that for commercial users varies, going as high as \$15 in the case of the hotel. The "across the board" increase will mean that all users will pay just \$1 per month more, this on the theory that commercial users' differential is already provided in the current scale.

Sewage users have been getting a good bargain at the residential rate of \$1 per month. Many neighboring cities have been charging much higher rates, going up to \$3 per month or perhaps more.

In reaching the decision to increase the rate, the city council well realize that it may be subject to criticism by some who resist any increase in charge for city services. But it was faced with a problem that it had to meet, and it is taking the course that is fairest for all.

Another thing that the public might bear in mind is that an influx of population that could come with the dam construction here would tend to impose more demands on the sewer system with perhaps some increased cost to the city. Should a good percentage of these newcomers live in trailer houses, they will share in the sewer charges rather than property owners bearing the brunt through a tax levy.

Heppner's city government has been conservative in expenditures and sensitive to the financial interests of its residents. The city operates at minimum cost and our people are getting good value for the money they spend for city services. There is no reason why they should not accept this increase as a necessary step in facing a problem that must be met.

## TO THE EDITOR.

To the Editor:

I would like to thank you publicly for your cooperation with the domestic utilization committee of the Oregon Wheat Growers League in publicizing the cooking school and promoting the use of wheat products.

We encourage the use of wheat as food. Not only because it is a major source of income and the backbone of Morrow county's economy, but also because it provides valuable nutrients for the daily diet.

Cereal products comprise one group of the basic four foods necessary for good nutrition. Wheat, one of the cereals, is a good source of protein, iron, and B vitamins—all of which are necessary for body building, body maintenance, and a feeling of general well being. Wheat, in all its various forms can provide a good variety of satisfying nutritious foods. No one need apologize for promoting wheat—a top Morrow county product.

I would like to add that most of us who are active in agriculturally oriented groups appreciate the attention and space you give to the problems and affairs of Morrow county agriculture in *The Gazette-Times*. You have proved yourself to be a friend to the farmer.

Sincerely yours  
Mrs. Grace E. Drake  
Past Chairman Domestic Utilization Committee

seated in his easy chair watching TV.  
But now the question is: How we gonna keep 'im down on the farm after he's seen N. Y.?

SPEAKING OF NEW YORK, our condolences to the big city while it is paralyzed with the transit strike. They can throw all the transit strikes they want to in Heppner and we won't mind!

IN INSTALLING C of C officers Monday, Al Boschee interspersed some cute stories that will make him in demand, we predict, as a local master of ceremonies. He aimed one at Randall Peterson, retiring president, who despite his fine qualifications as an ideal husband, remains a bachelor.

Al told the story of the fellow who expected perfection in a wife. This man informed a friend that "she must shine like a light, sing, dance, be musical and remain silent when told to be quiet."

"You don't want a wife, replied his friend. You want a TV set."

## Chapins Report Gorge Snow Bad

Driving conditions in the Columbia Gorge Monday afternoon were the worst they had ever seen, Mr. and Mrs. Ambrose Chapin reported upon their return from Camas, Wn., after spending the holidays with their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Slyter, and family.

"There were more cars off of the highway than there were on it," Mrs. Chapin said. The highway surface was so bad that they dared not stop to lose their traction even though their inclination was to render assistance to others in the ditch.

Heavy wet snow falling clung to the windshield so that the wiper could scarcely carry it away and "big globs" of snow formed on the headlights, sticking out several inches.

Last week, the Chapins' grandson, Mike Slyter, made the headlines by participating in the rescue of a girl from a lake near Camas. He was returning with other Camas High players from a basketball game at Evergreen when the bus was stopped and a frantic mother told them that her car had plunged into the lake and her daughter was still inside.

The Chapins said that the grandson shrugged off all the publicity that he and other team members were getting with the comment, "Hero today, forgotten tomorrow."

The Heppner couple was in Camas for the past two weeks.

## Episcopal Bishop Coming Saturday

Bishop Wayne W. Barton of Bend will come to Heppner this week-end to meet with the vestry of All Saints' Episcopal church and to conduct services in the church Sunday, Bob Abrams of the church announces.

The bishop will meet with the vestry of All Saints' Saturday afternoon and will consider the matter of securing a priest to fill the vacancy left when Father C. Bruce Spencer was appointed to Coquille.

Bishop Barton, who presides in the missionary district of Eastern Oregon for the Episcopal church, will conduct early communion service Sunday starting at 8 a.m. at All Saints'. There will be no regular 10:00 a.m. service or Sunday school classes this week.

Yes, the Gazette-Times can print the form you need for business or ranch use. Phone 676-9228.

## Bank Proposes 25% Dividend

Ralph J. Voss, president of the First National Bank of Oregon, has announced that the board of directors of the bank has proposed the payment of a 25% stock dividend.

The proposal which is subject to the approval of the Comptroller of the Currency will be submitted to the shareholders of the bank at their annual meeting to be held on February 22, 1966. If approved, the stock dividend will be paid on or about April 1, 1966 to shareholders of record at the close of business on March 15, 1966.

The Gazette-Times appreciates getting news copy early.



**Coming Events**  
HEPPNER HIGH BASKETBALL  
Friday, January 7, Enterprise at Heppner  
Tuesday, January 11, Ione at Heppner  
Friday, January 14, Madras at Madras  
Support the Mustangs!

CHILI, CHICKEN NOODLE FEED  
Tuesday, Jan. 11, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.  
By Grade and High school PTA  
Before Heppner-Ione game  
Tickets \$1. 75c, 50c.

PUBLIC INSTALLATION  
Rebekahs and Odd Fellows lodges  
Saturday, Jan. 8  
Potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m.  
Installation, 8 p.m.  
Public invited.

OES SOCIAL CLUB  
Saturday, Jan. 8, 1:30 p.m.  
Heppner Masonic Hall.

HEPPNER MOTHER'S CLUB  
Monday, Jan. 10, 8 p.m.  
Home of Mrs. Mel Dixon  
Important Business Meeting.

SPONSORED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY  
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Heppner

## Chamber Works for Community

"If Chamber of Commerce members didn't care what happened to their community, they wouldn't be here," said the Rev. Al Boschee in installing new officers of the organization Monday. "They want to make our community the best place possible to live and to raise their families. Members are willing to give of themselves, of their time and income to be of benefit to the community."

These statements will stand scrutiny. Because of the fact that there are so many professional and business people here who are genuinely interested in Heppner and Morrow county, the Heppner-Morrow County Chamber of Commerce is a particularly strong organization. Attendance at each weekly meeting has been running at about 35 persons, and this is a figure that Chamber of Commerce in many communities with population up to 5000 cannot exceed.

At a recent school board meeting, a question was raised about a bill presented for a district membership in the Chamber of Commerce. Supt. David Potter, in reply, said that the directors could act on the matter as they wished but that he sincerely believed that this organization was the best in the county for the interest, concern and active work it demonstrates towards betterment of the entire county in all phases.

Primarily, a Chamber of Commerce is designed to promote business and commerce. In a rural area such as ours, however, it extends itself to cover a considerably wider range of activity. As the Rev. Boschee so aptly put it, it is concerned with everything of community betterment.

The Chamber of Commerce here is a symposium where ideas are brought up and discussed freely. These may be matters related to schools, business, agriculture, recreation, roads, taxes, legislation, or any of many subjects. From the ideas brought up by members in this free interchange action is often generated that results in constructive good and progress.

The Chamber here also works as a liaison between official and unofficial agencies. City, county and state officials come to speak and report on needs and problems, and the Chamber steps in to work cooperatively. Members have joined with county officials in attending highway commission meetings to ask improvements on state highways; they worked towards securing industrial sites on the Columbia riverfront when the entire area was designated to become a wildlife refuge; they have given every support to the Willow Creek project; they are assisting the county and other agencies in developing recreational areas; they back merchandising promotions; they express themselves on legislation of importance to the area, regardless of whether it concerns only a specific segment of our population or the entire county. Influence of this organization has helped shape some state, and even national legislation.

While most of the members are from Heppner, the organization has devoted as much of its time in working for development of North Morrow county and other parts of the county as it has towards Heppner and the southern part.

In the coming year, the Chamber of Commerce faces what could be its most important time. This is the year that the Willow Creek project could become a certainty. This is the year that significant matters are fomenting in the north, notably the proposed development of irrigation lands and changes in progress because of the impending completion of the John Day dam; this could be the year that Heppner business moves forward with alert and concerned effort by business people and residents or it could sag from indifference and apathy.

Morrow county people cannot afford to be indifferent. There are too many horizons opening. The stake is too great. The challenge is here. Those currently active in the Chamber of Commerce understand this.

The organization has one noticeable weakness. While it gets exceptionally strong support from professional people, from county officials, from school administrators, from industries and even from agriculture, it gets only fair support from those who should be among the most concerned.

We're speaking of the retail business people in Heppner. Many of those operating businesses are not members of the Chamber and a relatively small percentage attends regularly. It is understandable that those who operate single proprietorships or husband-and-wife partnerships have a difficult time getting away to attend meetings and that they have their hands full managing their businesses. However, those who do attend have similar problems.

In a community such as this, each business is dependent on the other. All need to work for the common good, and all should be vitally concerned with matters of fundamental interest to the community.

No matter how self-sufficient a businessman may be nor how successful his firm, he would have a difficult time without the other businesses which surround him. A business community such as Heppner may be likened to a large department store. Each of its segments performs a different service or offers different goods for sale, but each segment supports and benefits the other, and all need to be efficiently coordinated and work together cooperatively.

As this new year starts with the many important things in view here, it is vital that all business people pitch in to take part voluntarily towards the end that Heppner and Morrow county may move ahead strongly.

The Chamber of Commerce needs the help of all these good people and a hearty welcome awaits them.

## Fee Increase Fair and Sound

Action by the Heppner city council to increase monthly sewer charges by \$1 per month "across the board" to residential and commercial users alike is fair and sound in meeting the problem of insufficient revenue to pay costs of operation and amortizing indebtedness against the sewer system.

An ordinance with emergency clause included is expected to be adopted at a special meeting next week so that the increase may go into effect for the month of February.

Many residents will recall that property owners paid a 10-mill levy for 10 years with the proceeds being applied against bonds that were sold to finance the city's disposal plant and sewer system. This levy was discontinued in 1961. It was felt then that revenues had accumulated sufficiently and that income was sufficient to continue without it.

Elimination of the levy was quite a benefit to taxpayers. Certainly it had imposed a financial burden far beyond the \$1 per month increase now pending. However, the bonds were not retired as of that time. They will not be amortized until 1974.

The bonds were voted by the people as general obligation bonds; that is, to be paid back by a tax levy, but they carried a revenue feature which permits them to be retired from income received from monthly sewer fees.

Allen Langenwaller, accountant, in making his report on

Everybody—We Mean, Everybody—Is Going!

# FOLLOW THE CROWD To The PTA

## CHILI And NOODLE SUPPER

Before The Heppner-Ione BASKETBALL GAME

TUESDAY, JAN. 11

5:30 to 7:00 P.M.

Heppner High Cafeteria

Chili and Chicken Noodles, Pie, Coffee and Salad

All for Only—

ADULTS	\$1.00
GRADE SCHOOL	75c
PRE-SCHOOL	50c

FOR BENEFIT OF PTA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

ADVANCE TICKET SALE BY GRADE SCHOOL STUDENTS

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HEPPNER—ARLINGTON—IONE  
MEMBER, FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION