

# THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

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MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER  
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## GUEST EDITORIAL

### The Positive Approach

By JANE RAWLINS  
Chairman, PTA Study Group

Recently formed in PTA is a study and discussion group where parents have been trying to find some positive policies and programs that will encourage good teachers to come to Morrow County Schools and when they do come, to stay here. Records taken from the district office reveal a high rate of turnover, not only of teachers, but of administrators and board members during the past eight years.

We believe that there are means (and we are determined to find them) of being about a situation where the community supports its school board, the board supports the administrators and teachers and all can work in harmony. We are convinced that only when we achieve this situation will we be able to change the rather poor image our schools have in education circles in this state, and be able to attract and retain top teachers in our schools.

If there is any fault to be found we freely admit it must be with us, the people of the county, for we are at the head of our schools and are finally responsible for them.

Among our topics of discussion have been the further developing of a program of counselling and inservice training for teachers to enable them to improve their performance on the job, policies of teacher contract renewal which leave the final decisions to the school administration, and last Monday we discussed means of improving communication between the school and community. We are not discussing personalities or pettiness.

Next Monday at 7:30 at the Heppner Elementary school we plan to discuss working toward a formulation of a philosophy of education. It occurs to us that since we are at the head of over a million dollar annual business, we should give some thought as to what kind of product we want to put out. We feel that a district-wide statement of philosophy and purpose (what we want to offer every child in our schools) would give positive direction to board members we elect, to administrators and teachers we employ, and to everyone in the school picture. The results of education are hard to measure, but they are real, and the 12 years that our children spend in our schools may well determine the rest of their lives.

We cordially invite all persons (teachers, parents, and others) who are sincerely interested in progressively better educational opportunity for our children. We are not asking people to "stick their necks out." We ARE asking you to bring your heads and use them as we think together as a community for better schools.

## Let's Beautify Our Town

Mayor W. C. Rosewall has proclaimed April 22 through 29 as Cleanup week in Heppner. Coincidentally, Governor Mark Hatfield has proclaimed May as "Beautiful Oregon Month."

In each case they are calling upon citizens to "clean-up, paint-up, fix-up."

At the Chamber of Commerce meeting a week ago, Mayor Rosewall said in this connection, "Your town can be just what you want it to be—what you make it."

Our neighboring city of Ione has started its beautification campaign and has set a fine example for the rest of the county. Mayor Jim Barnett reports exceptional cooperation on the part of the public.

The Ione Garden club has done outstanding work to make its city a very pleasant and beautiful place to live.

In his proclamation, Governor Hatfield points out that Oregon is blessed with outstanding natural beauty. He says, "The relative absence of unsightly litter along our roadways and in public and private recreation areas, the general attractiveness of rural and urban communities, and the beauty of home and public gardens are all conducive to further economic growth and the well-being of our people."

He urges all citizens to "encourage and take action toward controlling litter, eliminating air and water pollution, beautifying roadsides, improving city entrances, park and other public areas, removing community eyesores, and in general adding to the attractiveness of each area."

In Heppner, high school students will converge in a drive on cleanup throughout the city on Friday, April 29. With pickups and other vehicles they will haul trash and debris to the dump after they canvass the city for any litter that contributes to an unsightly condition. This will be a big boost to the local cleanup campaign.

But there is much more to be done. We have some rather prominent eyesores in town which need attention. We have some store fronts that downgrade our business district and badly need paint or repair. Some of the entrances to our city aren't exactly tidy. Let's give these things special attention in the coming week. It's time to get the weeds out of yards and parking strips, time to rake up trash scattered in yards and alleys.

We note a number of improvements already in progress. Several business houses have been painting display windows and interiors; the Wagon Wheel has a sparkling new banquet room; Ford's Tire Service has installed a fine new sidewalk that extends clear up to Farra's Shoe Repair; Central Market's store front was painted recently; and many other things are going on.

If everyone does something—every business and every resident—the difference in town will be tremendous.

Let's get to work and really beautify our town in the coming week.

## Thomsons Welcome Arrival of Grandson

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Thomson are announcing the arrival of a second grandson.

On Monday, April 18, a son was born to their son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Tom (Meredith) Walters of Canoga Park, Calif. He has been named Duwayne, and is welcomed at home by a three-year-old brother, Russell.

Mrs. Millie Doolittle returned Saturday after spending three weeks in Portland with her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Doolittle, and family. She also visited there with her son-in-law and daughter Mrs. and Mrs. C. H. Perrott, and family. While in Portland Mrs. Doolittle underwent treatment for arthritis and said that she is feeling much better.

See us for envelopes of all kinds. The Gazette-Times.

# Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

"MY TULIPS are sick, sick, sick! You ought to see my poor yard!" So exclaimed our Lexington correspondent, Delpha Jones, with anguish following the freezing nights early this week. She well expressed the feelings of others who lost flowers and fruit.

She had only one consolation. She had picked a big bouquet of flowers prior to the frost for her mother, and this kind act saved them from immediate destruction by the cold.

MRS. HERMAN GREEN and Mrs. John Ledbetter were in San Diego last week after taking Mrs. Ledbetter's daughter, Mrs. Bill Klinger, down to meet her husband. He was coming in on a transport ship after serving in the Vietnam and Philippine areas.

The two women decided to go to a movie and checked theater listings to find one that seemed to provide a good show. Then they called a taxi, gave the driver the name of the theater, and struck off. Oddly enough, the driver got confused while out on the freeway, couldn't figure out where to go and had to radio in for instructions. After they toured around awhile, he finally got them to the destination—a \$3 trip.

And you know what? It proved to be a drive-in theater. This is the first known case of someone going to a drive-in movie in a taxi, so a little birdie tells us.

BILL SIEWERT is going to have to make a big decision. Is it to be bowling or volleyball? When he brought in the bowling scores this week, we noticed he wasn't among any of the high scorers, a place where his name is often found.

The trouble? His fingers were all swollen from playing volleyball with the Heppner Heavies against the Christian church team. If he keeps on playing with the Heavies, he's going to have to ream out the holes in his bowling ball.

Earl Ayres is another casualty. His fingers were swollen, too. Adding insult to injury, he was beset with a stiff neck Tuesday and was quite a study in agony.

The Heavies — these eager beavers who get up at 6:30 and kill themselves off to cut down their waistlines—beat the Christian church team, two games to one. Now there are those who will say they won 3 out of 4, but won't go on record because we understand the outcome of one game was in doubt. A rematch is brewing.

MERRY CHRISTMAS! Surprisingly enough it was that to three persons in widely separated places this week. Newt O'Hara, who was hospitalized at Christmas time but has been home for a while, discovered 72 Christmas cards in a bag at his home. Someone had put them aside for him while he was ill, and so he is enjoying a belated Christmas this week.

And from Mr. and Mrs. Nels Anderson in Niger, Africa, comes a letter saying that they are just getting their Christmas mail with many cards, messages and gifts, together with a bundle of Gazette-Times. So they are enjoying Christmas, too.

Among the gifts was one from the late Al Lamb. They had only learned of his death a short while ago. "Now we won't get to thank him," writes Nels. Another chapter of Africa Calling will be forthcoming from Nels as soon as we can get it in type.

WE HAVE to marvel at Newt. He has gained weight and is looking chipper. He must have been the one they were talking about when they said, "You can't keep a good man down." Newt had a real tough time for three months, and it was tough and go, but he is smiling and feeling pretty good now.

"You know," he told us on a visit to the G-T office Tuesday, "a fellow said to me the other day, 'It must be real tough to be old.' And I replied to him, 'Well now, I don't know. You may never get the opportunity to find out.'"

(See Newt's Card of Thanks on the classified page of this issue.)

JOHN VENARD, First National Bank manager for the Heppner branch who suffered one of the most unusual injuries a fellow could have, slowly proceeded down the Main street sidewalk in a wheel chair the other day, and said, "I'm going to challenge La Verne Van Marter to a drag race."

Later, we thought he meant it. We saw the two proceeding on down the street in single file in their wheel chairs. But John would be no match for La Verne. They were headed for a cup of coffee.

That Achilles tendon in John's left leg snapped right in two as he was running for a doctor to aid a stricken bank patron a couple weeks ago. Suddenly there was no action in the foot, and John said that he experienced pain such as he had never known before.

again and get it tied back somehow.

WE OBSERVED National Gazette-Times Goof Week in last week's paper. It appears. And this just a short time after a Yakima subscriber made a special visit to tell us how few errors there are in the G-T. Some little gremlin changed "Mike Gray" to "Mike McCoy" in the story on Dick Robison's hardship.

And the United States suddenly forged forward with nine more states. "Lexington Girl Awaits Leave to 38th State," said our headline. This should have been "49th" of course — Alaska.

And, we said Jim Barratt had been named athletic director at OSU. Actually, he was named acting athletic director until a final choice is made.

We're kind of glad we made the latter error, though. He called us Tuesday to tell us about it, and we had a nice visit with him. Jim wanted to extend regards to all the home folks and said that he was especially proud of the showing of Coach Don McClure's track team in the Hayward Relays.

Jim is among the applicants for the athletic director's post, and we'd surely like to see him get it. Morrow county has contributed quite a few fine names to higher education circles—Roy Lueuallen, Francis Nickerson, Barratt, and others.

BUT THE GOOFS that don't get into type are sometimes the ones that tickle us. You should see the ones that just miss! Last week for instance, someone picked up the wrong standing head for Dee Gribble's "Over the Tee Cup." Jim Barclay's "Dribble Scribble" head from the Hehisch was on it when we noticed it in making up the page. Now wouldn't that have been good—"Dribble Scribble" by Dee Gribble?

FROM THE MAIL comes two letters, one from "John Doe" and the other from "Unhappy Reader," both concerning the dog problem.

"Dear Wes," writes the former, apparently taking the trouble to write lefthanded to disguise the hand, "I wonder if you have the intestinal fortitude to publish this. Yours truly, John Doe."

Included was a 30 column inch clipping from Letters to the Editor of another paper, going on about the shortcomings of dogs and dog owners.

It strikes us that this communication has a certain humor about it in the choice of terminology. The writer, who avoids using his own name and writes with a lefthanded scrawl, challenges our "intestinal fortitude." No, we aren't going to take the bait, John. If you have the fortitude and finances to pay for 30 inches of previously published material at regular rates and sign your name, we'll run it.

We will not run anything from anyone who hides in anonymity, and we aren't going to pay printer's wages to our boys to set up the stuff that has already appeared in general circulation in this area.

"Unhappy Reader" has a better case but it goes in file 13 because there's no name on record. By the way, our name is at the top of this column and in the masthead. We're on the record as responsible for everything we write in this paper.

Too bad "John Doe" and "Unhappy Reader" can't meet and commiserate together!

IF THE U. S. Treasury had a penny for every word that has been written in the endless controversy between dog lovers and dog haters, no one would have to pay an income tax. It's a problem that is going to be with us so long as people don't practice the Golden Rule.

We like good dogs. We had a white collie for 14 years as a constant companion in boyhood, and eventually she had to be put to sleep because of old age.

We have also felt the indignation of having dogs at large wreak havoc in our yard. There are points on both sides. Both the "haters" and the "lovers" need to use good sense and think of their neighbors as of themselves.

Until that is done, you can write "John Doe" or "Unhappy Reader" letters until you are blue in the face and it won't do an good.

The "haters" are going to have to reconcile themselves to the fact that dogs are here to stay, and the "lovers" are going to have to admit that human

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## TO THE EDITOR . . .

### School Board Role

To the Editor:

As you reported in last week's paper, a few of those in attendance at the regular school board meeting in Boardman questioned the board about its right to make certain decisions. At the time the answers seemed obvious, but in light of them and other similar questions which have been asked in the last few weeks, I believe that there is confusion in the minds of the public about the respective roles of the county school board, the county administrator and his staff and the advisory boards.

I shall attempt to answer these questions in a general way and also suggest the proper approach when a parent or a taxpayer have some problems concerning the schools.

First, the roles and duties of the board and administrators are quite well defined and are set forth in the School Board Member's Guide, a book published by the Oregon School Board association.

The basic function of the board is policy making and the function of the administrator is running the system in line with the policies laid down by the board. The board should not administer nor the administrator set policy. However, it is a duty of the administrator to suggest policy. As Roy Lueuallen remarked to me some years ago, most school problems result from one group usurping the other's position.

What is policy? Quite simply it is a written set of rules for the conduct of the board itself, for the duties of the administrators, for the staff, for the students, and fiscal policies. As you can see, if the policies are formed, made known to those concerned, and followed by the board itself, decisions are made simple.

Some weeks ago a problem arose in our schools. I was one board member who requested that an outside agency be called in to determine the underlying reason for these troubles. A committee composed of a school board member from Pendleton, an administrator from The Dalles and a teacher representative from Portland spent two days here. In their report they noted a basic weakness in that the board was not familiar with its own policies and while there is a published set of rules for the staff, most of the staff never read them. The board is presently attempting to put its policies more completely in writing.

I have heard some criticism of advisory committees during this time, most of which I believe to be unfounded. The advisory committee is a recent creation of the state legislature. By law it has two specific rights and duties:

1. To reject teachers with the advice of the administrators involved
  2. Control of use of building and grounds after school hours
- In addition, the local committees have such duties as may be delegated by the county board. In our county they are:

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beings are here to stay, too. But as long as we have dogs, we have the obligation to treat them humanely. Despicable is still the word for the dog poisoner. At the same time we're not of the school that thinks dogs should rule the world.

After all, there are still cats to consider. Anyone want to meow about them?

asked to meet regularly with the local administrators, to recommend unverified personnel, to make an annual survey of buildings and grounds and make such other recommendations as may make their school function more efficiently.

Now what is your proper approach when your child has a problem with the school? Go to his teacher. If you get no satisfaction, see the principal. And falling there, see the administrator. If you feel an instructor is incompetent, discuss the problem with the advisory committee and principal at a meeting prior to rehiring time. If the problem concerns policy or finances, then the proper place to go is to the board. Hardly anything is ever solved by calling your best friend or spreading your troubles on the corner.

I think that everyone on the board is happy to answer questions or listen to reasonable arguments on policy and fiscal matters. But if you are really angry, try to wait and simmer down before you call, because anger and threats tend to make most of us a little mulish.

Yours truly,  
Don McElligott

### Enjoys Paper

Hayfork, Calif.  
April 18, 1966

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sherman: The Heppner paper seems to be getting to be a better paper all the time. My copy comes on Saturday and it sure keeps me up on what is going on in Morrow county.

My daughter is working in Redding at Shasta County Hospital, and she would like to hear from her classmates and friends up there and those who are attending college now. Her address is Miss Cheryl Corley, 5845 Bell Road, Redding, Calif. 96001.

She has worked extra time when so many of the employees had the flu so she gets to take this time off on Memorial Day. We plan to go to Ione and she has just five days off so hope to see her friends then.

Redding is a beautiful town but the temperature is in the 90's already and I know how hot it gets in the summertime. Hayfork gets warm but not nearly as much as Redding although we have an air conditioner in our home.

The Trinity County Journal wanted someone from Hayfork to write the news from here so I have taken on that job and enjoy it very much. They wanted me to find a name to call my news and I will have to admit, I copied yours from the Heppner Gazette — Chaff and Chatter. It is a paper very much like yours and comes out once a week.

I have gotten back to Morrow

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county about every three months—sometimes more often. It always gives me a thrill to be on my way up there again. It is about a ten hour drive so isn't bad.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Charles Vaughn  
(Eulenna Corley)

### Support Potter

To Morrow County School Board:  
As former students of Mr. James Potter, it is beyond our comprehension how a man of such high caliber can be so unjustly treated by such supposedly responsible citizens.

It seems to us that his overwhelming popularity with his students should receive more consideration than it has been given. We understand that a petition voicing unanimous support has been offered by the students of Heppner High School. We feel that more consideration should be given to this petition and what it represents.

Your attitude toward Mr. Potter should be more of respect and gratitude than of criticism and rebuke. This seems to us a prime example of the lack of mutual understanding and awareness between the faculty, school board and the student body.

We feel that Mr. Potter's contract should be reviewed in the light of student and parental opinion.

Respectfully yours,  
Tom Green  
Don Munkers  
Ron Jones  
Tamara Smith



### Coming Events

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL  
Little League team tryouts Saturday, April 23 and 30  
Little League field, 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., ages 9-13 years.

BAND CARNIVAL  
Saturday, April 23  
County Fair Pavilion  
Dinner at 6:30 p.m., carnival games, lots of prizes.  
Fun for everyone  
By Band Parents club and Heppner PTA's.

MOBILE CHEST X-RAY  
Tuesday, April 26, Ione Chevron Station  
Wednesday, April 27, in front of Murrays Rexall drug store  
Everyone welcome, no charge.

RUMMAGE SALE  
By Heppner Civic League  
Friday, Saturday, April 29, 30  
Old Tryco Building  
Lots of bargains  
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