

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97636
MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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War Declared on Trash

When we came to Heppner a number of years ago, sighting the town for the first time as we came down the Condon highway, our impression was that it is a picturesque and beautiful city. It has an inviting appearance, surrounded by rolling hills, interspersed by valleys. Such buildings as the hospital, library-museum, schools and churches enhance it, and the business district adds to the appearance, too.

We haven't changed this opinion. It is a beautiful city. But some rather angry comments were made in a discussion at Chamber of Commerce recently which merit consideration.

One staunch member called attention to the condition of trash on the streets and sidewalks and declared, "This is the dirtiest town around."

There have been many words written about maintaining a clean town; about the sins of the litterbug; about the spring efforts towards cleanup.

But still Heppner can't stand close inspection on cleanliness very often. The businessman who arose in protest at the Chamber was aiming criticism at himself and his colleagues for allowing this situation to prevail. He pointed the finger, too, at the city for not making more effort to maintain a clean city; and, by inference, to those who have no more pride than to scatter trash around the streets.

It was interesting to note, that in the afternoon following the meeting, some around town were busy cleaning street gutters and sidewalks. Some business people seldom sweep their sidewalks.

This is a problem which has been tolerated for a long time, but it is only when public indignation grips us that anything really will be done about it. This was why the outburst at the chamber was refreshing to hear.

It's too bad there isn't some easy way apparent to stamp out the confirmed litterbug, but he just doesn't seem to give a darn. He'll scatter candy bar wrappers on the street when a litter can be just a few feet away on the street corner. He'll dump his ash tray beside his parked car, and he'll throw empty beer bottles and cartons out a car window as he goes down the highway. Some throw trash in the swim pool and keep the city crews busy cleaning it out.

As a result of this recent discussion, the city may make a greater effort to keep the city clean. Maybe it would be possible to pass an ordinance that would impose stiff fines on anyone found throwing trash around town. Perhaps an award could be offered to those whose information led to the arrest or conviction of litterbugs.

The city council, too, should keep increasing pressure on the removal or repair of unsightly buildings, not only those which are health or fire hazards but all which are eyesores. If the council is not backed by an ordinance to implement action on this, it should investigate to ascertain whether it may pass such an ordinance.

There are too many unsightly old car bodies at various spots around town; too much junk.

It's time that war is declared on trash here, and it is good to hear such genuine indignation as that which came forth recently. Pressure must be kept on this problem to make Heppner an inviting city.

The best soldier in this war is the conscientious individual citizen who does his share in keeping the city clean. Parents can play a big role by devoting consistent attention to seeing that their children develop habits that promote tidiness.

TO THE EDITOR...

To the Editor:

The Oregon State Treasurer has succeeded in gaining fantastic publicity and a great increase in his personal power by coming out boldly for a relocation of the new section of highway 101 away from the sandspit at Pacific City. He has whipped the Highway Commission into a position of "confusion".

He reopened old wounds in this community — wounds that were beginning to heal after five years of conflict over relocation of this highway. He gained enough publicity to enable the average candidate to win an office—he has done this without offending many voters. If he offended every voter in this area, it would not affect the election much; this is a tiny community without political strength—an ideal political football to be kicked around without fear by any candidate who recognizes a situation ripe for exploitation.

Will this candidate deny that he himself outlined this scheme in detail prior to the campaign—that with cold and cunning calculation he explained (in the presence of witnesses) that the loss in votes would be small, while the gain in name-recognition and other valuable publicity would be great?

He has demonstrated unusual ability to execute a scheme like this with perfect timing, with flawless skill, with total indifference to the hurtful effects (among a small number of voters). He has earned the support of every voter to whom this type of candidate appeals. Surely the heartbreaks he leaves behind in politically unimportant communities are a small price to pay for this kind of personal triumph.

Kathryn L. Smith
Secretary, Pacific City Boosters Club

To the Editor:
Dear Sir:
I hope that through your Letters-to-the-Editor column I may be permitted to express my ap-

preciation to those who worked so hard on my behalf during my recent successful effort to secure the Democratic Senatorial nomination. I appreciate the many hours of assistance by the hundreds of friends and supporters and hope I may count on and deserve their continued support. I only wish I could send each a personal letter of appreciation, but my Congressional schedule unfortunately does not permit it.

Sincerely yours,
Robert B. Duncan
Member of Congress

Society Appoints Circuit Minister

The Watchtower Society, world directors of Jehovah's Witnesses, recently appointed a new traveling circuit minister to serve some 16 congregations located in the south-central Washington and neighboring Oregon area, it was announced this week by Ted Poland, presiding minister of the Hermiton Congregation. Named to succeed John Nymeyer is Osman D. Lyman, who began official service in the area in April.

"Mr. Lyman is a native of Rapid City, South Dakota, and has been a minister of Jehovah's Witnesses for 15 years," the local minister said. "He has performed special service as full minister in Rapid City and Sturgis, South Dakota, and Blackfoot, Idaho before coming to his present assignment." Poland pointed out that Lyman is accompanied by his wife, also an ordained minister.

The local Witness overseer described the duties of the newly appointed circuit minister as "spiritual counselor and ministerial servant," since he will visit each of the 16 congregations in the circuit at least three times a year to assist the local members in improving the functions of their personal ministry. This means he will accompany them in the house-to-house and home Bible study activity, as well as give frequent Bible talks from the platform.

Metsker maps of Morrow, Gilliam, Umatilla, Wheeler counties on sale at the Gazette-Times, \$1.25 each. Others available on

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

ANOTHER INTERESTING note in connection with the Whitman Mission comes to light. In the massacre were some Sager children who were under the care of the Whitmans, Harley Sager of Heppner is related to this same Sager family on a direct line of descent. Harley has never been to the Historic Site but intends to make a trip there.

HERE'S THE beginning of the story of Colonel Cornelius Gilliam, written by Merlie Gilliam, in "Polk County Pioneer Sketches" and published in 1927 by Earle Richardson of Dallas. As mentioned last week, Col. Gilliam went to avenge the Whitman Massacre and was accidentally killed in Morrow county.

"Colonel Cornelius Gilliam was born in the State of North Carolina in the year of 1799; but when quite young he and his parents moved to the State of Missouri where he lived for a number of years.

"In 1820, he was married to Miss Mary Crawford and 10 years later he was elected Sheriff of Clay county, for a term of two years. After the expiration of his term of office, he joined the Black Hawk war and served as a Captain of the Company during the Seminole war of 1837. Later he returned home.

When trouble arose with the Mormons, it was decided to expel them from the State. Volunteers were called for, and Capt. Gilliam came to the front, raised an army and was chosen its Captain, soon being promoted to Colonel.

"In 1843 he represented Andrew county in the Legislature. Religiously he was a Free Baptist, and was ordained in the Ministry in 1843, and a year later started for Oregon, arriving in the fall. He first settled in Polk county on the La Creole, later moving farther south to Pedee creek.

"He lived there until after the Whitman Massacre in November, 1847. The Governor had a company organized and ladies of Oregon City made the first flag to be used in defense of Oregon. The Legislature decided to wage an aggressive war against the Indians at once. They organized a regiment of 500 men and elected Cornelius Gilliam, colonel; James Water, Lt. Col.; and H. A. G. Lee, major. The company consisted of boys and young men, their ages ranging from 16 to 24. They had unbounded confidence in their colonel; and their motto was: 'If our Colonel can stand it, we can.' And his motto was, 'To live just as the boys do.'

"If he had an extra blanket, one of the boys got it, and if the boys were without extra foods, he either shared his, or did without. This is the way he obtained their confidence.

"The greatest eulogy that can be pronounced of either the dead or the living can be said of Colonel Cornelius Gilliam when it was declared that he gave his life for the lives of the early settlers of Oregon and Washington, and was one of the few men who saved this grand country from falling into the hands of the English Government.

"The Company took up its line of march from Portland, and reached The Dalles on the fifth day, their food following them up the river in boats, and supplied them at their encampment each evening.

"They went into camp at The Dalles to rest up for a few days and await the rest of their supplies, which had not reached that place. The few Indians there were very unfriendly, and on the morning of the third day, two of the guards from around the horses were killed by the Indians. Col. Gilliam decided at once to chastise them and bring them to terms before leaving for Walla Walla, as he didn't want enemies behind as well as in front of him.

"He learned that their camp was located in a deep cut on the East side of the Deschutes, opposite what is now known as Warm Springs Reservation. He crossed at the mouth of the Deschutes and went into camp late in the evening. Next morning he sent Major Lee with a small detachment to ascertain the exact location of the Indi-

Son's Illness Calls Capt. Lanham Home

Captain Michael Lanham, son of Conley Lanham of Heppner, is home in Portland on emergency leave from his service in Vietnam because of the serious illness of his youngest son, Jim, who will be three years old in August.

Mr. and Mrs. Conley Lanham went to Portland Wednesday and Thursday of last week to be with the family. The young boy underwent major surgery for a brain tumor.

Capt. Lanham arrived home on the 30 day leave June 7. He has been in Vietnam with a transportation unit since August, 1965. Capt. Lanham and his wife have five children.

Mrs. Charles Gunnarson of San Diego, sister of Capt. Lanham, and her daughter, Debbie, also came to Portland to join the family, arriving last Tuesday.

ans. He returned that evening and reported Indians a few hours ride. He and his men had a short skirmish with them, with no loss of life. Next morning Col. Gilliam advanced toward the place occupied by the Indians, climbing the steep bluffs, and advancing along the banks of the river. They camped at some mud springs that night and early next morning advanced a short ways, when they came upon the Indians on top of a steep bluff and on the opposite side of where they were. The Indians, thinking themselves safe, kept making taunting remarks about the command and telling them to come on up.

"Col Gilliam ordered his men to fall in line, and after a few words of advice, ordered his men to dismount and climb up on foot, leaving a few men to guard the horses. The Indians in their wild excitement over shot and didn't hit a man, while they were climbing the cliff. When the Colonel's men reached the top, the Indians were quickly put to flight and retreated out of reach of the guns. There was nothing more to be done there, so they went down the cliff to their horses and followed the Indians, who fled in all directions.

"The Colonel discovered the Indians' village was to the East, so they started at once, and within two miles they found where the camp had been, but everything showed a hasty leaving. There were just a few old people left not able to travel. Col. Gilliam would not allow the old Indians to be molested, so they went on their way.

"The Company went in camp not far away, while Col. Gilliam sent to The Dalles for supplies; and after the proper arrangements, they continued on their way to Walla Walla. Nothing of interest transpired until the morning after leaving the encampment at Wells Springs (Morrow County). They were now in the land of the hostile Indians and expecting trouble at every turn.

"Within a short time one of the scouts came running up to advise the Colonel that the Indians were close. He ordered his men together, and gave all a piece of advice, telling them they must win, in order to save their homes. 'Above all, boys, obey your officers.' The Indians approached slowly, but determined, their great medicine man advancing as the Indians

thought he could not die. With careful aim, Lieut. Charles McKay killed the medicine man first, then the real battle started. Next came some of their main chiefs. The loss of their leaders threw the Indians into confusion. The Indians retreated several times and came back with a different attack, but all these tricks Col. Gilliam understood, so he was ready for them. The skirmish lasted until four o'clock in the evening when the Indians left. Col. Gilliam camped there that night and looked after his wounded men, the seriously wounded ones being taken to Walla Walla at once. The camp was without food or water, and things were in a sad plight.

"Next morning the Indians came with a white flag for peace, and the Commissioners appointed by the Governor favored the proposition. Col. Gilliam did not, but could not help himself. But later on it was found out to be only a stratagem on their part to remove their effects to places of safety. Col. Gilliam was very much irritated at what the Commissioners had done, and he felt that his whole plans had been defeated. But there was nothing more to do but to start out again, although the true murderers of Dr. Whitman were allowed to escape through this error of the Commissioners.

"On the morning after the

delay, Col. Gilliam proceeded on his way to Walla Walla. Upon descending to the higher table lands, they could see the Indians swiftly moving east along the foot of the Blue Mountains. So it was useless to proceed further in that direction, so he turned across the country to the Walla Walla rivers and camped below old Fort Wallula.

"The command was short of ammunition, so Col. Gilliam wrote a short note to McBean, asking for the same. The officers returned saying that the request had been refused. The Colonel declared, 'I will go myself,' which he did and brought back the necessary amount.

"While they camped there, Sticcus, a noted Cayuse Indian and friend of Dr. Whitman, came to camp. He was representing his tribe and wanted to ascertain upon what conditions peace could be established. A council was held, consisting of Col. Gilliam and the three Commissioners, appointed by the Governor, to wit: Gen. Joel Palmer, Dr. Newell and Major Lee. Sticcus represented to them that his people were very sorry that Dr. Whitman was killed, that a large amount of his people had been sick with the measles, and that many had died; that Joe Lewis, a half breed among them, had induced the belief that Dr. Whitman

had poisoned them, and that if he was not killed or drove out of the country, he would kill all of them and take all their land and possessions. Also that McBean, who had charge of the Fort had tried to get Whitman out of the country without success and told the Indians the only way to get him was to kill him. His people were very sorry, but they had been deceived and lied to, until they had killed the best friend they had among the whites.

"The Commissioners told him if he would deliver all the murderers of Dr. Whitman, they could go in peace, otherwise no peace. Sticcus promised to deliver the message to his people. Thus ended the first and only conference which the Commissioners held with the Cayuse Indians."

(To be concluded next week).

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

ELKS' PICNIC
Cutsforth Park,
Sunday, June 26. Elks members and families Picnic dinner at noon Games and fun for all.

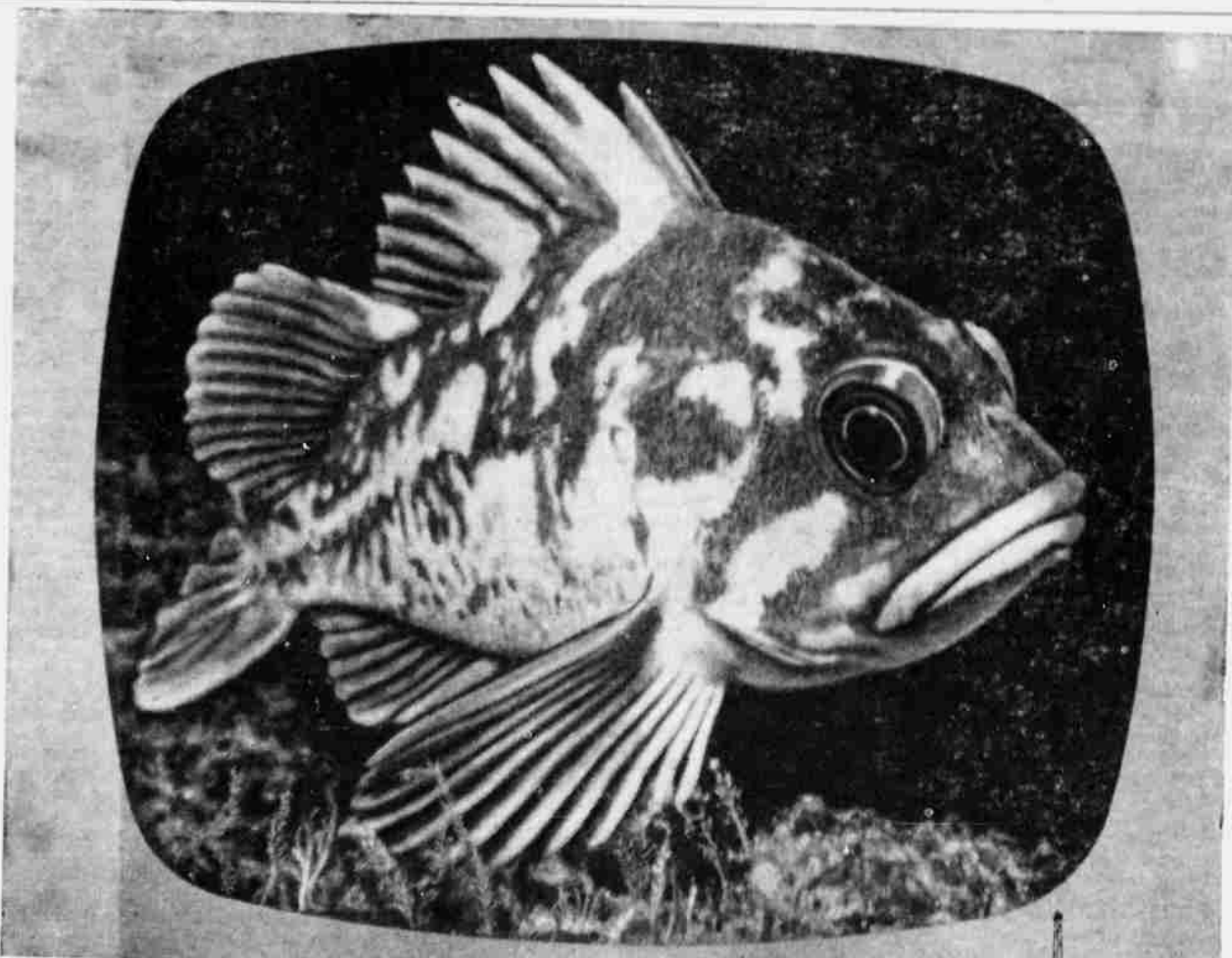
COWBELLE BARBECUE
Honoring Father of Year Sunday, June 26, 4 to 6 p.m. Heppner Fairgrounds

REPUBLICAN MEETING
Tuesday, June 28, 8 p.m. Bank of E.O. Conference Room
Election of officers and delegates to state convention.

OES INSTALLATION
Monday, June 27, 8 p.m. Ruth Chapter No. 32, and Masonic Lodge No. 69.

SIDEWALK BAZAAR
Mark the Dates!
Friday, Saturday, July 8 and 9
A Downtown Festival!

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These cameras are not for study of marine life, however. They're down there to help technicians aboard our anchored oil-drilling ships guide complicated, remote-controlled drilling equipment. TV receivers on deck enable engineers to observe these drilling operations at depths hazardous for human divers to penetrate.

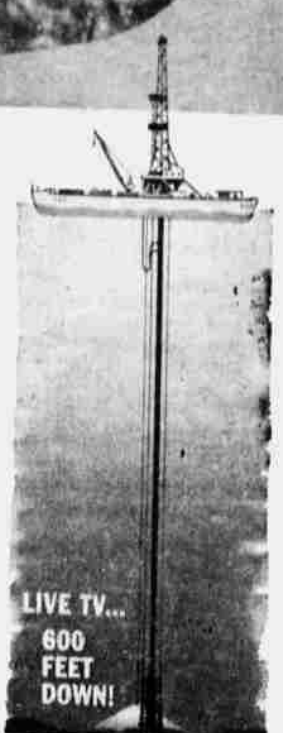
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