

# THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97836  
MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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WESLEY A. SHERMAN  
Editor and Publisher

HELEN E. SHERMAN  
Associate Publisher

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## Six Bits Worth of Circus

Those who were in doubt as to whether the circus that appeared here last Wednesday night provided a show worth the 75 cents admission probably got their six-bits worth of satisfaction in discussing the pros and cons!

A few things didn't enhance public opinion of the circus: 1. The additional charge of 50c for reserved seats that the crowd faced after getting inside the main tent without advance notice from outside. 2. The disheveled appearance of most of the circus workmen and the torn condition of the "big top". 3. The half-hour delay in getting the first show underway. 4. The commercialism of threading tie-in advertising through the show.

But the public should realize, on the other hand, that it couldn't expect to have Ringling Bros. in Heppner for a one-night stand for 75c per head. Some of the unkempt condition of the circus was due, no doubt, to the rigorous schedule that it must follow to make its bookings, probably traveling most of the night and working through the day setting up.

If the acts had been presented with a little more dash and showmanship, they wouldn't have been bad at all. The elephants were well trained, the fire eater effectively carried off his illusion, and the aerialists showed considerable skill. But probably after their travel schedule, the enthusiasm was pretty well gone.

There might have been some disillusioned children here among those who had never seen a circus before, but some of the little tots thought the elephants were great. Perhaps the visiting troupe makes a mistake in claiming the title of "circus" when it is little more than a group of novelty acts. People may come expecting too much when they would be more satisfied if it appeared under some other colors.

But judging by what 75 cents will buy in entertainment today (assuming that the showgoer resisted the reserve seats), the "circus" was worth the money, although it really wasn't a true circus.

It's a very fine thing to see the Jaycees up and going, and it is to be hoped that they continue their efforts to bring various types of entertainment here that the public will enjoy.

Those who felt that they didn't get their 75c worth at the circus can well take consolation in the fact that a portion of this money will come back to the community in civic projects.

And any who need more consolation might get some satisfaction out of the fact that they don't have to live the hectic life of circus people.

## TO THE EDITOR...

To the Editor:

It certainly is pleasant to receive the "Gazette" every week. From the first issue of the paper some member of the Yeager family has subscribed for the paper and I hope as long as one of us lives, it will be that way.

I like the "Chaff and Chatter" part as it takes up so many personal things. In the June 16 issue you wrote about the great flood of 1903. As one of the oldest living persons of Heppner who went through and survived that terrible tragedy, there are a few things I remember that perhaps so few do know about. One thing I remember is the white paper that was hand written and passed around among the survivors while we were still searching for drowned bodies. It was a resolution saying as long as a single survivor was alive there would be memorial services and all the business houses would be closed for the day. This was done for a few short years and then no one thought of it again. I think perhaps there are people in Heppner that know nothing about the great flood. The last time I heard of the paper Frank Gilliam had it. I wonder if Len or Earl would have it now? If so, the paper should be placed in the Morrow county library for safe keeping. I think I was very fortunate in being able to be the last to interview the old timers of that day. Have most of the interviews written up in my manuscript which we hope to have published some day. Wish some of the people of Morrow county would help finance the publishing. If so please see Oscar E. Peterson about this.

Yesterday, Mrs. Marian Abbott of California dropped in to visit me a while. She told me she had been to Heppner but did not find a soul that she remembered. Her father, Col. John Watermelon, Redington was one of the first publishers of the Gazette. I went to school with her when she was eight years old in Heppner. Marian and I have corresponded with each other for a great many years. One time three of the Redington daughters were here together to see me, and have been here several times. Miss Bernice Redington, one of the sisters, died last March. She was well known at one time as "Prudence Penny," a writer in one of the Seattle papers.

I am going to be in Heppner next Memorial or Old Timers meeting if I can make it.

Sincerely,  
O. M. YEAGER  
Castle Rock, Wash.

## July 4 Warning Issued Litterbug

A plea for a clean 4th of July week-end... as well as a safe and sane one... was made today by Pacific Northwest litter-prevention and beautification leader Eugene B. Kasper. "Statistics report the theory that it is the local people, rather than long distance tourists, who create most of the litter," Kasper said. "So, for a traditionally busy holiday period, we strongly urge Northwest residents to hang on to their potential litter until it can be disposed of properly."

Kasper, the executive director of CLEAN and Beautiful, the regional coordinating organization in litter-prevention and beautification, pointed to the dangerous health hazards and costly pick-up problems litter creates, in addition to its obvious marring of scenic beauty. He also suggested three guidelines for the holidays, most of which apply year-round.

- (1) Hang on to picnic and camping trash if there are no suitable receptacles available. Then drop the trash into your garbage can at home.
- (2) Carry litterbags in cars and boats.
- (3) Listen to the kids. Take heed when they say, "Don't be a litterbug."

## Ullman to Testify On Umatilla Relief

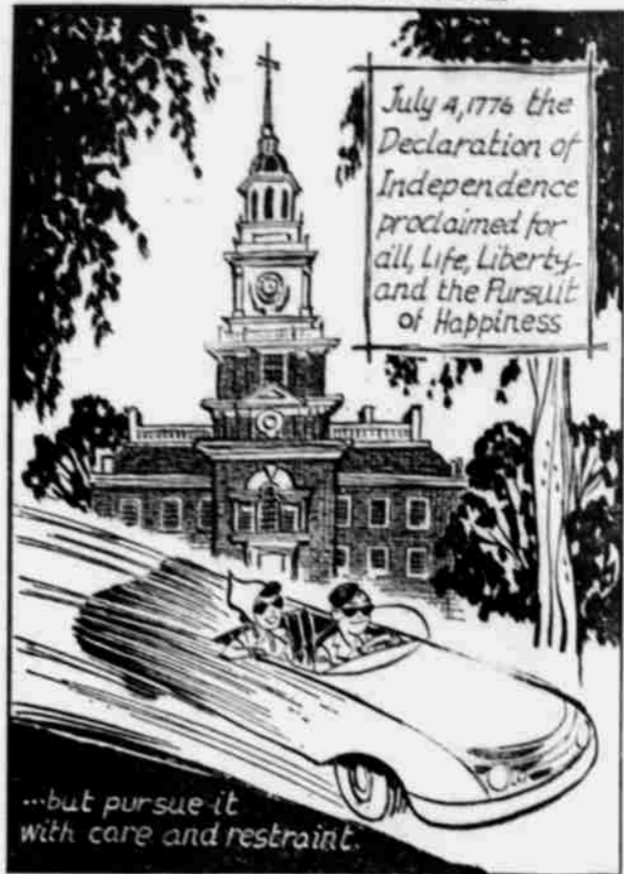
Congressman Emanuel Celler, chairman of the judiciary committee of the House of Representatives, announces that Al Ullman, Congressman from the Second District of Oregon, will testify before the judiciary committee on his bill for the relief of Umatilla, Oregon.

Ullman's bill provides payment of \$114,200 to compensate the city for loss of revenue due to the flooding of city facilities as a result of the construction of the John Day Dam.

Committee hearings on Ullman's bill are scheduled for July 14.

Mr. and Mrs. P. W. Mahoney, Shannon and Mr. Mahoney's sister, Mrs. Kathleen Mather, traveled to Denver, Colo., last week taking Shannon and Mrs. Mather on the first lap of a trip to Ireland and England. In Denver, Shannon and her aunt joined a tour group and flew to New York. From there they were to fly, on June 23, to Shannon airport in Ireland and would then tour Ireland, Scotland, and England, spending some time in London and returning from Ireland in mid-July.

## KEEP IT SAFE AND SANE



...but pursue it with care and restraint.

## VISTA Volunteer Finds Eskimos Eager to Learn

"Being a volunteer has its ups and downs," Leora Van Winkle reports in her first letter to the Gazette-Times from Hooper Bay, Alaska.

She is a member of VISTA, the volunteer corps of the Office of Economic Opportunity, and is now serving for one year in the Eskimo town of Hooper Bay. Volunteers, such as Miss Van Winkle, from Lexington, are assigned to projects which have requested aid. She has had a six-week training period of classroom studies and field experiences to prepare for her work.

Her letter, mailed June 23, follows:

"Dear People: Just a short letter to let those who are interested in my whereabouts know, and what I'm 'up to' at this point in my role as a VISTA volunteer.

My new companion, Miss Arlene Buch of Philadelphia, Pa., and I left Fairbanks on the first of June. We flew to Bethel, Alaska, and stayed there for two days, as we were grounded because of bad weather.

Exhausted, we loaded our gear, all 383 pounds of it, and headed for the nearest hotel to rest our weary heads. We stayed at what is called the "Tundra Shack." May I add, the title fits so perfectly.

That first night, all the teenagers had a dance for the two new VISTA girls who will be living and working in Bethel. Naturally, all of us joined in on the gay and exciting proceedings. I think it was at this point in my new life in Alaska that the feeling of being tired was a thing of the past.

On the morning of June 3, Arlene and I headed for our new home, Hooper Bay, Alaska. From Bethel to Hooper Bay it was a two-hour flight. Best assured the both of us had our faces glued to the window watching and waiting for our first "real" glimpse of Hooper Bay.

We landed safe and sure at the air strip which lies three miles from the village. After reloading our gear on the bus, there was no room for us to ride; we walked into town.

My first thought was, "Where is my house?" Well, our house is the upstairs of a deserted native store. The owner of the store was murdered last year.

The unpacking and moving-in process took us well over a week as so much cleaning and fixing up had to be done. Between our various tasks we attended a dance at the City Hall given in our honor.

For our first full course meal, Arlene and I prepared pizza! We both realized pizza just wasn't the meal to prepare in Alaska! Our stove blew up in the middle of our dinner! No more pizza for us! Now it is baked, boiled and fried fish; given to us by many of the families here.

Being a volunteer has its ups and downs, I so soon found out. Since these villages speak very little English and all Eskimo, the language barrier is a difficult one to overcome. Many of the women here misunderstand our role. Arlene and I both have been asked time and again to come babysit, as the mothers are tired and need a rest.

Since baby sitting isn't our line we have started a youth group for the teenagers instead. The youth group is something new and exciting for these kids and just as exciting for us. We meet once a week. Everyone will be contributing 20 cents weekly for dues.

Once a month will be clean-up, fix-up and paint-up in the village. It will be 'grubby day' for everyone and to finish off the day there will be a dance in the City Hall.

So you see, activities are well underway. To top everything off, Arlene and I had a tea for all the ladies in the village. It was so hard for me to convey my thoughts and the feel-

ings I felt that day. The women came in from their fish camps just to attend. The little grandmas, fully decorated in their native dress, were a beautiful sight all of their own. It was a glorious experience for both of us, and surely one we will never forget.

Running out of cup cakes, cups and enough chairs for everyone was only part of the fun we had that day. Our "mother's" tea was on Father's Day; if you can figure that one out let me know. To this day, I don't know why we picked Father's Day for a mother's tea! Needless to say we really got teased by the village men.

Because we live so closely with these people, we are enabled to fully understand their needs as well as their problems. Because they are Eskimos, and because they are isolated people, I find them all very hungry for more literature.

I find them hungry and wanting very much to fill the vast well of curiosity that they possess, pertaining to the "outside" or "lower 48" as they would say. They want to know how I live at home. They want to know how the schools are run, what the churches are like, what we eat as a regular diet, what the people are like, and why we are like we are.

These are some of the many questions I hope I can answer someday not only for these people, but myself also.

Arlene and I are trying to get a library started here. If any of you would have a book or two that you would contribute to a most worthy cause, feel free to send them up to me. I promise you they will be put to good use.

Well, I shall close for now in hopes all is well at home for each of you. I miss the summer days you're having now.

Always,  
Leora Van Winkle  
P.S. VISTA girls love to get letters. This new experience I am witnessing is absolutely divine. I have learned so much in my short time here, and I know it will continue to be so. Since Hooper Bay sits right on the coast line, I'm waiting very anxiously for the King Crab! Wish you could be here to enjoy this life with me.

EDITOR'S NOTE: For those who would like to write, her address is: Leora Van Winkle, VISTA, Hooper Bay, Alaska. She would appreciate hearing from friends and classmates.

## Skoubo Continues Intern Training

Oregon State University's Department of Agricultural Economics announces that among those continuing in its intern management program is Ralph E. Skoubo of Boardman.

Under this program Skoubo is receiving both scholarship aid and business training. He was among the 17 who received the intern grants last year for the first time, and has now reached the first of his three summers of business training intern-ship.

## Jean Stockard Placed On U of O Honor Roll

Alice Jean Stockard, daughter of Mrs. Anita J. Stockard, is listed on the University of Oregon honor roll for spring term. Those on the honor roll have a grade point average of 3.50 or higher on not fewer than 12 term hours. Miss Stockard, who is at present interested in sociology, took 15 hours of study during spring term including calculus, physics, literature, composition, health and physical education.

She was salutatorian of the 1965 graduating class of Heppner High School.

## Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

(Editor's Note: This is the conclusion of the story started last week about Col. Cornelius Gilliam who led a small army in 1847 to avenge the Whitman Massacre. It was written by Merlie Gilliam and was in Earle Richardson's "Polk County Pioneer Sketches" that was published in 1927 in Dallas, Polk county. Those residents who chance to come across the monument to Col. Gilliam at Wells Spring in the sands of Morrow county may better realize its significance after reading this story).

The next morning after Sticus left camp, Col. Gilliam ordered camp moved, and they proceeded to Whitman Station. Here they beheld nothing but desolation and ruin. The comfortable quarters provided by Dr. Whitman for himself and the worn immigrants and helpless orphans had all been destroyed by the savages. The Dr. and all who perished with him were buried in one grave, a trench about seven feet square and deep enough to hold all the bodies.

"When the command reached there, the wolves had dug large holes into the graves and dragged out portions of the bodies and devoured them. The bones were replaced and the entire space covered over so as to not be disturbed again.

"Col. Gilliam resolved to make the station his headquarters. He rearranged things the best way he could so as to ward off any attack made by the enemy. After in camp three days, they were visited by the Nez Perce Indians. Their leader was a very sensible man and had prevented their people from joining the Cayuses, and they were ready to help find the Whitman murderers. They returned to their own country after a few days, and about the same time the Commissioners left, as they felt their work was finished. The entire command was glad when they left, as they felt that their mission had been a complete failure. The authority of peace should have been left to the commanding officer. If he was able to command in war, he certainly understood the terms of peace better than any commissioner ever could.

"Col. Gilliam learned that the murderers of Dr. Whitman were still camped with the Palouse Indians at the mouth of the Takanon; he resolved to surprise and capture them. He selected about 200 of his best mounted men and proceeded without delay. Upon reaching the divide he halted about 2 o'clock in the afternoon. He remained until after dark and then continued on his way, expecting to reach the Indian camp before daylight. His scouts were sent on ahead for all possible information. Contrary to orders a soldier went on ahead and shot into a clump of willows, thinking it was a wigwam. The Indians heard the report and again the murderers escaped across the Snake River.

"The Colonel then divided his men, sending a portion on down the Takanon River and up Snake River to the main Indian trail while he and the rest went direct to the trail. Upon reaching the elevation they found the Indians already across and nothing more to be done.

"The Colonel then ordered his men back to Fort Waters, and to take with them the 500 horses then grazing nearby. They had not gone far when the Indians recrossed the river and gathered all their forces and attacked the soldiers. The at-

tack was made about 12 o'clock and continued firing was kept up until dark, when the troops reached a large ravine, where they were able to protect themselves and horses. The horses belonging to the Indians were ordered turned loose, as the Colonel didn't want to run a chance of losing his men. The fight was kept up at intervals throughout the night until noon the next day, when the Indians suddenly stopped firing and disappeared, but were soon noticed advancing toward the Touchet. The Colonel's scouts informed him the stream lay in a horseshoe shape, and the Indians were making for that point. Part of the command was ordered there, while the rest made for the other point of the horseshoe. The troops reached the point first and had to drive the Indians back before crossing the stream. After 24 hours of constant engagement the Indians ceased firing and left the command. The troops had now been 48 hours without food or sleep. None had been killed, but a number had been wounded, some seriously, so that they had to be carried on litters.

"The soldiers rested a short time and then proceeded on their march for Fort Waters. After covering a few miles, Col. Gilliam ordered camp on account of the fatigued and wounded men. They then rested and refreshed themselves with horsemeat, the only thing left to eat.

"Upon reaching Fort Waters out of ammunition and his men were weak and exhausted. He called for 200 more new troops and decided he had better see the Governor in person, so with his troops started for The Dalles to get food and ammunition supplies.

"On their way down they were going into camp at Wells Spring, (Morrow county), when the Colonel was accidentally killed. He was getting his last out of the wagon to stake his horse (for he always looked after his own horse) for the night, when a teamster stepped up to help him extricate it. In doing so, a loaded gun, with the ramrod in it, put there contrary to orders, was discharged; the rod struck the Colonel in the middle of the forehead, penetrated his head to the skull on the opposite side, breaking off about six inches from his head. Death was instantaneous, and with- out the contraction of a muscle. Death came in the noon of his manhood, with a bright future before him. Generous to a fault, quick to arrive at conclusions, and as quick to execute them, he was a born leader.

"His impulsive nature savored largely of humanity, and he could not bear to see man or beast cruelly treated, if it were in his power to prevent it.

"Captain Maxon at once took command and proceeded to The Dalles, to report to the Governor and prepare to send the body of Col. Gilliam to his family. On their way they met the Indian Chief, Kamiakin. He expressed much sorrow at the Colonel's death, and stated that he and his people were friends of the Americans; that he would not harbor the murderers of Dr. Whitman. He was a very sensible chief and asked for plows for cultivating the land, which they gave him.

"The Governor appointed Waters to take command, which he did. He scouted all through the Palouse and Snake River countries, and there learned that the murderers were out of the country. So he returned to The Dalles and reported to

## VanMarter Chosen To Back Hatfield

LaVerne VanMarter, Jr., has been named finance chairman for Morrow county for the Hatfield for Senate Committee, John S. Brandis has announced. Brandis is statewide finance chairman for the Hatfield campaign.

VanMarter is a partner in the Turner, VanMarter & Bryant insurance business. He and his wife, Laurel, and their three children reside in Heppner where he is active in civic affairs.

VanMarter has worked for Hatfield in previous campaigns and is past vice chairman of the Morrow county Republican committee. He belongs to the Heppner Elks Lodge of which he is past exalted ruler and past Grand Lodge district deputy. He is also active in the Little League and Heppner Boy Scout troop.

The Governor. The Governor ordered the regiment in and to disband.

"This ended a war fought with difficulties and dangers on every hand. Headed by Col. Gilliam in the field and Gen. Palmer at home as commissary and quartermaster, it was fought to a successful issue, the great Indian War of this coast. There were no men killed on the battlefield, but some wounded, which numbered thirty or forty, who died of their wounds afterwards.

"Colonel Gilliam's body was sent to his family in Polk county for burial taking twelve days for the body to arrive in Dallas. He was then buried without the Masonic ceremony, as there was no lodge in that part of the country. But along during that summer, his Masonic brethren gathered from all over the Northwest at his grave and paid him the last honors of brotherhood by casting into his reopened grave the prophetic green.

## COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

### Coming Events

**FIREWORKS DISPLAY**  
IONE MEMORIAL FIELD  
Saturday, July 2, 9:30 p.m.  
Sponsored by Ione American Legion Post No. 95  
Everyone Welcome.

**INSTALLATION DINNER**  
Soroptimist club, Installation and Initiation  
Thursday, June 30, 7:00 p.m.  
Wagon Wheel Dining Room.

**KICKOFF DANCE**  
Morrow County Fair and Rodeo Court  
Saturday, July 9, Fair Pavilion, 9:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.  
Music by The Taynes.

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

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