

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES
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MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
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Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

THIS DRESSUP day staged by the grade school kids must have been catching. One might think that the picture accompanying this column is the famous French hair stylist, Madame Thomasina Howell. But another version is that a certain Heppner grocery store owner got tired of being kidded about being a skinhead, and so he borrowed a high fashion red hair wig from a relative. Frank McFadden's camera caught him (er, her) in the elegant pose.



MADAME THOMASINA HOWELL?

Anyhow, it was pretty appropriate for April Fool's week-end.

WE HEAR that some of the fun at the PTA carnival Saturday evening was of the accidental or impromptu variety. The story goes—and we deny every word if it isn't true—that Mrs. Jim Bloodworth tripped in the goldfish booth and fell backwards to do a sitdown in the tub containing the fishes. This meant that for a moment there was a dunk tank at either end of the carnival room.

ceive wonderful things in the mail.

Usually when these things come, they are plopped right in the wastebasket. But this kind of intrigue we because there was no consideration involved, and the list on the letter contained names that are well-known around the state.

None of the goldfish was hospitalized, and apparently Mrs. Bloodworth wasn't hurt, but she hid away to a far corner to dry off.

So we weasled some of the staff into taking copies and they, in turn, did their duty.

SOMEONE was trying for the "meanest" title even on this fun night. Queen Donna Bradley received a novelty clock as a prize for winning the queen honor at the carnival. She put it aside somewhere in the fair pavilion, but when she went to get it later, it was gone. Someone surely must have done it as a prank. If they would like to make amends, we'd be happy to receive it here—no questions asked—and give it back to the girl who earned it as the representative of the class who sold the most tickets to the carnival.

Then on the fourth day came the big news.

One of our good advertising accounts said he had to quit because the firm was forced to curtail expenses.

ABOUT THE only effect the TV strike has on most of us is to make us believe that this is an early summer. We're just seeing some of the mid-year reruns that much earlier.

With good news like that, who needs bad news. Don't nobody never send us no more chain letters no more of no kind no how.

Some of the newsmen who have walked out may have to look to their laurels. In some cases their replacements are doing better than they were. The networks might find they can do a better job without the old standbys, just as the Oregonian found out a few years ago, that it could put out a good paper without the union men that went out on strike.

REMEMBER the swarm of bees that Dr. McMurdo enticed into a hive on top of the city fire barn last November 11? Well, they are making honey for him now. He got them off that roof sometime somehow and they seem to like his hospitality at his place.

Anyway, three cheers for Chet Huntley who sticks to his post through the strike. We enjoy his newscasts all the more for the gumption he shows.

We're right next door to the fire barn and never knew he got them down. What man among us, half Dr. McMurdo's age would pack a hive of bees down a ladder from the top of the fire hall?

They are quite concerned about the old appliances, car bodies and wire that are cluttering the dump and don't know what on earth to do with the stuff. In this vast county of ours, there just doesn't seem to be a single place to put it.

As the man said, "Count me out, I'm an artillery man myself."

Maybe an agreement could be reached with the Navy to haul it to the target area in the bombing range. That might give the flyboys an inducement as they come zooming in. If there were enough scrap piled there, a bomb hit might more nearly resemble a strike on a steel plant or factory.

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Or maybe they could get one of the planes to fly close to the present city dump, drop a bomb, and then dump the junk in the crater. Then they could take a Cat and cover it over neat as could be.

LARRY SMITTON, highway maintenance engineer, who must get pestered from all communities on highway work that they would like to have done, keeps a keen sense of humor, as he showed in his Chamber of Commerce talk here Monday.

No charge for these helpful hints.

He talked on highway beautification and told how roadside trees are a hazard because cars crash into them and kill or maim the occupants. He suggested that Harrison yellow roses are better for roadside beautification because when cars plow into them, the errant drivers might get a good scratching but won't get killed.

WE NEVER HAVE had any faith in chain letters, but the other day we got one that required no money nor consideration. Just four copies, it said, and mail them to others within twenty-four hours, put your name at the bottom of the list. In four days, it continued, you will re-

Someone asked the question as to how far bushes or trees should be placed apart in a roadside project.

proach is evident on all fronts.

"I dunno," answered Smitton, "I'm not Ladybird."

No more problems? Oh, yes, there are problems! Sit in on any school board meeting and hear of these problems! And as long as there are problems—as there always will be—there will be some criticism. It will crop up in the coffee shops and on the street. But all signs point to the passing of an old and undesirable image to a new and inviting one.

Classes will be held on Thursdays from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Fee for the course is \$15.00 plus text which costs approximately \$10.

After we came to this community six years ago, we had occasion to wonder whether we had made a mistake, thinking that the education of our children, like others, might be in jeopardy because of the school turmoil. Today, we feel that we would be hard put to find better educational opportunities in any community, within the limit of course offerings that a small system is able to provide.

Mr. and Mrs. Lyle Jensen and three children were at Beaver, Calif., over the week-end visiting her mother, Ava Baseel and her grandmother, Anna Harwood.

Progress in schools probably never came harder anywhere than it has in Morrow county. Problems often seemed insurmountable. Personnel on school boards have given "sweat, blood, toil and tears" in pondering these problems and diligently working towards solutions. But they have stuck to the job, and the rewards for their thankless positions will come with the future achievements of students that emanate from Morrow county.

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What has caused such a remarkable change in school image during the past year?

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Maybe the best one word summation is: Concern. Parents were concerned, and some devoted special effort and time to help out. Teachers were concerned, and those who didn't leave as a result of strife stayed to improve the situation. The administration was really concerned. Superintendent Dave Potter "took a beating" in many ways but held fast with a singleness of purpose—the best education for children. Much of the change of image achieved this year is due to this resolute man who has done a remarkable job for the Morrow county district.

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The community's concern was evident through the PTA study group and other organizations who sought to improve the situation.

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As a result of this concern, the various segments needed for a first quality educational system—parents, teachers, administration, children and community—are blending together with a unity of purpose and a spirit of cooperation. Negativism is passing from the school scene and the positive ap-

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This is not written to "buy" votes for the budget, but we can't help but think of the remarkable progress being made in Morrow county schools. When we reflect on the resolution made last year to "get and hold" better teachers and the steps taken here to do so, the shifting image, and the type of educational program now being offered, we believe that the school district and system deserves resounding support, even in the face of some financial sacrifices by taxpayers.

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Any relief that may be forthcoming as a result of legislation will help that much.

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Dog Obedience Club To Organize Friday

A 4-H dog obedience club is to be organized Friday, April 7, at 4:30 p.m. at the home of the leader, Mrs. Norman Clow, at 325 Matlock St., Heppner. Any child from 9 to 19 will be eligible to join, who owns a dog of four months or older. The dog does not need to be a pure bred.

At this first meeting a film, "Training You to Train Your Dog," will be shown. Those coming to this organizational meeting are asked to not bring their dogs.

The club will offer the opportunity for city children to be part of a 4-H animal project, and can lead to many fun activities for both child and dog, even to competition with other 4 Hers of different towns.

Anyone who desires further information is asked to contact Mrs. Clow, the leader, by calling 676-9298.

Tom Gonty, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Gonty, began employment with the Umatilla Ordnance Army Depot last week in the storage department. He is making his home in Hermiston to be near his work.

Salem Scene

by Everett E. Cutler

It is an answer to the 1½ per cent limitation people," he said. He noted that after administrative costs and discounts to retailers for their collection costs, his bill will raise \$119.5 million annually for the state.

"By strange coincidence, this is approximately the same amount of revenue which would have been lost if the 1½ per cent limitation had passed," Rep. Rogers said.

Five other elements of the tax reform package built around a state sales tax were approved in a full day of House debate:

1. An approximate 15 per cent increase in corporation taxes, planned to raise \$6 million a year.

2. New formula for providing state aid to local schools, effecting property tax cuts by using sales tax revenue to raise basic school support from 29 per cent to almost 75 per cent in 1968-69. School districts, in turn, would be limited in amounts of local taxes they could levy, to ensure permanent relief via state aid.

3. Revised state personal income tax form, in effect eliminating the federal tax deduction—but rate changes would keep the total state tax yield the same.

4. Setting of June 20 as the special election date and appropriating \$300,000 for election expenses.

5. Appropriation of \$3 million to administer the sales tax.

Although House passage would seem to wrap up the package nicely, several more hurdles will have to be overcome before Oregon joins the other 42 sales tax states. Senate amendments are a certainty; for example, and any sales tax proposal which may pass that body will then have to go to a conference committee.

Then there is the question of gaining voter approval. Time and time again this legislature has stressed the theme that the state has enough revenue to operate at existing and even accelerated levels, that any "new" taxes will be aimed purely at satisfying public demands for local tax relief.

"This bill does not propose a vote on a sales tax," Rep. Rogers told his House colleagues last week. "It provides for a vote on a Constitutional amendment, on limitations to make responsible voters solve their own tax reform problems."

Sales tax proponents argue that it would take a 68 per cent increase in personal income taxes to achieve equal property tax reductions, of about 37 per cent. They point out that 95 per cent of all Americans now are subject to sales taxes. Modeling their bill after the 34-year-old California sales tax, they exempt food consumed off premises and prescription drugs, thereby removing some objection to regressive features.

In effect, House action would put the whole tax reform issue before the voters. It would ask Oregonians just how badly they really want property tax relief, and make them responsible for alternate fund-raising methods.

April 6
 Heppner Elementary parent-teacher conference — No school for grades 1-4
 Baseball—Umatilla at Ione High
 Baseball—Heppner at A. C. Houghton—2:00 P.M.
 School board conference, Pendleton

April 7
 Baseball—Stanfield at Riverside High
 Track Meet at Milton-Freewater
 Music Festival at Umatilla

April 8
 Music Festival at Umatilla
 Baseball—Wahtonka at Heppner High—1:00 P.M.

April 10
 School board meeting at Riverside High school—8:00 P.M.
 A. C. Houghton home extension—Old Building—1:00 P.M.

April 11
 Baseball—Stanfield at Ione
 Baseball—Heppner High at Pilot Rock—3:00 P.M.
 Mobile X-Ray Unit at Boardman

April 12
 Heppner High PTA—8:00 P.M.

April 13
 Heppner High speech class play—8:00 P.M.
 School board conference, Pendleton
 Irrigon 4-H Community Club meeting—7:30 P.M.
 Irrigon home extension—10:30 A.M.

April 14
 Baseball—Arlington at A. C. Houghton—2:00 P.M.
 Ione PTA

April 15
 Baseball—Ione at Boardman
 Ione PTA Family Fun Night
 Heppner Elem. 8th grade science trip to Columbia and Deschutes Rivers

April 17
 Heppner High speech class play—8:00 P.M.
 Heppner High Track at Heppner—Grant Union and Sherman Oregon Elem. School Principals Assoc., La Grande

April 18
 Heppner High Baseball at Madras—1:00 P.M.
 Elementary Principals meeting at La Grande

April 19
 OFA meeting—Heppner Grade School—4:30 P.M.
 Budget Election

April 20
 A. C. Houghton PTA meeting—7:30 P.M.
 Heppner 8th grade to high school orientation

April 21
 Baseball—Stanfield at A. C. Houghton—2:00 P.M.
 Riverside—FFA Meeting
 Jr.-Sr. Banquet—Riverside
 Baseball—Echo at Riverside
 Heppner 8th grade to high school

April 22
 8th Grade testing—Heppner Elem.

April 23
 Heppner High speech class play—8:00 P.M.
 Heppner Elem. 8th grade testing

April 24
 Heppner High speech class play—8:00 P.M.
 Baseball—Irrigon at Heppner Elem.—2:00 P.M.
 Baseball—Riverside at Umatilla High
 Baseball—Ione High at Echo

April 25
 Riverside Jr.-Sr. Prom
 Track meet at Burns
 Baseball—Sherman at Heppner High—10:00 P.M.

County School Calendar

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- April 23: Heppner High speech class play—8:00 P.M.; Heppner Elem. 8th grade testing
- April 24: Heppner High speech class play—8:00 P.M.; Baseball—Irrigon at Heppner Elem.—2:00 P.M.; Baseball—Riverside at Umatilla High; Baseball—Ione High at Echo
- April 25: Riverside Jr.-Sr. Prom; Track meet at Burns; Baseball—Sherman at Heppner High—10:00 P.M.
- April 26: Baseball—Stanfield at Riverside
- April 27: A. C. Houghton—Whitman Mission 3-4 Grades
- April 28: A. C. Houghton—8th Grade Tour; Baseball—Ione High at Stanfield; Ione 8th grade tour; Baseball—Heppner Elem. at Condon—1:00 P.M.
- April 29: Wheat league tour; Ione Operetta; Track—Heppner Invitational; Baseball—Heppner High at Burns—1:00 P.M.
- April 30: 8th Grade Tour

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

- ### Coming Events
- HEPPNER HIGH BASEBALL
 - Saturday, April 8, 1 p.m. Heppner vs. Wahtonka, Heppner High Field, 1 p.m.
 - Tuesday, April 11, 3 p.m. Heppner vs. Pilot Rock at Pilot Rock
 - BATTLE OF BANDS
 - Friday, April 7, Fair Pavilion, Heppner
 - "The Phantoms," 6-piece Portland band, will battle "The Henchmen" of Heppner
 - Admission, \$1.50 per person
 - WRANGLER COW CUTTING
 - Saturday, April 8, 7:00 p.m. Sunday, April 9, 9:00 a.m.
 - Five Novice Classes, Open Morrow County Fairgrounds
 - No admission
 - Wrangler Playday, Sunday, 1 p.m., Wrangler Grounds
 - LEGION DANCE
 - Saturday, April 8, 10-2:00, Legion Hall
 - Roy Quackenbush orchestra
 - Everyone welcome, Lunch served.
 - SPRING RUMMAGE SALE
 - Friday, Saturday, April 14, 15
 - Sponsored by Heppner Civic League
 - Gilliam & Bisbee Bldg.
 - SPONSORED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY
 - C. A. RUGGLES Insurance Agency
 - Heppner
 - P. O. Box 247 PH. 676-9625

NOTICE

Heppner parking restrictions will be enforced starting Monday, April 10.

Meter adjustments are underway and vehicles in violation will receive tickets.

CITY COUNCIL
HEPPNER