

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97326 Phone 676-9228

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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Chaff and Chatter
Wes Sherman

THIS IS the first time that a person could call us "Grandpa Sherman" or the co-publisher "Grandma Sherman" and not get a scathing look. We've often wondered how this would feel, and now, trying it on for size, figure we rather like it.

AS VIC GROSHENS and his city crew are at work on this day pulling out the parking meters on Willow street in front of the G-T office, we hear comments of exultation from those coming into the office.

Removing those steel posts is quite an undertaking for the city boys. They were in the concrete to stay.

When they were about half done, we had the fiendish thought of going to Vic and reporting that we had just heard the city had decided to stick with the diagonal system, which we did.

Vic's jaw dropped, and Wayne Harsin threatened us with the slingshot hammer he held in his hand. Then they realized their legs were being pulled and relaxed.

A few minutes later Vic drifted into the back shop and announced to the G-T crew that the city had decided to publish its budget in the East Oregonian instead of the local paper.

Whether it is helping to obtain a community Christmas tree or to using some of its equipment in building a bridge at the golf course, the company has always been ready to help.

At the same time, congratulations go to Mr. Nistad. All who know him realize that under his management the company and the community will continue to work together in a happy "partnership".

Change at Kinzua

Announcement is made this week of the resignation of A. E. Coleman as general manager of Kinzua Corporation and the appointment of Allen Nistad to that position.

The retiring manager is one whose life has been devoted to the lumber and timber industry. He is one of the few remaining active men in the business whose personal experience reaches back to the old rugged days—the days when the steam donkeys did the logging, when circular saws were the only thing in the mills and when lumber was pushed around the yards by hand truck.

Coleman has grown with the industry. His time spans the old "cut and run" concept to the modern policies of forest conservation and tree farming.

Kinzua Corporation has been a vitally important economic asset to this entire area, and our people appreciate the kind of management that maintains a steady operation in the face of depressive conditions that come from time to time to put economic stress on it.

It takes experience and knowledge of men such as Coleman to build a sound and vigorous operation.

In the new manager—Allen Nistad—the company has one of the most active men in the industry, and he has already compiled 20 years of service with Kinzua. He has been concerned with significant legislation relating to the timber industry and has been a prominent voice in helping to shape that legislation. He has worked on forest conservation programs and is active in professional groups.

This is a good time to note again the fine spirit that exists between the Kinzua Corporation and the people of this area. It would be hard to think of all the projects in which the company participates to help residents of the communities it serves. One that comes to mind at this time is the giving of scholarships to graduating high school seniors.

Whether it is helping to obtain a community Christmas tree or to using some of its equipment in building a bridge at the golf course, the company has always been ready to help. It boosts and contributes to youth organizations—such as 4-H. It backs the rodeo and annually gives a saddle.

The area is grateful to the management of Kinzua Corporation, and now, as Mr. Coleman takes his leave of the company, we express our thanks and appreciation for all the people who have been touched by the company's spirit of helpfulness. We wish for him and Mrs. Coleman the very best and happiest future.

This 'Eats on Us'

One thing that we get tired of hearing is that newspapers delight in printing the "bad news" about young people while relegating their good deeds to the back pages or leaving them out entirely.

This trite old complaint is repeated time and again without any foundation or basis in fact. Newspapers become a scapegoat on which to level blame for the unrest among youth of the present day.

We don't complain for ourselves, since the charge has never been leveled in our direction. (We did have an inquiry the other day as to why we didn't carry more crime news!).

Most of the criticism is directed at daily newspapers with the self-styled experts pointing out that they "play up" crime news in order to sell more newspapers, which, they continue, is what the papers must do to remain in business.

Now, the truth of the matter is—if anyone took the trouble to analyze the files of a newspaper—he would find at least four stories that do credit to young people for every one that reflects to their discredit.

In the weekly press the ratio would run much higher—stories of awards, achievements, 4-H and Boy Scout activities, Rainbow Girls', FFA, all the school organizations, Boys' State, Girls' State, rodeo honors, athletic achievements, stories of their accomplishments in the armed service, stories of their achievements in agriculture. Goodness gracious! There is no end to it! We could go back through our files and fill page after page in listing such stories.

The same is generally true in the daily press. Right now, for instance, the Portland papers are devoting hundreds of inches of space to glowing accounts of the Rose Festival court, all reflecting to their credit and heralding the qualities that make them fine young women.

Probably it is closer to the truth to suggest that the reading public pays more attention to the crime news and the more sensational stories about youth. Too often, the reader may entirely miss a story on someone getting a scholarship, for instance, because he doesn't know the person and isn't particularly impressed by such a commonplace achievement.

Newspapers are going to print the news. It is their duty to do so. They can't tell the public that all is sweet and good, when there is violence and the sordid, too.

What would happen if newspapers didn't print stories on the misdeeds of youth? Say, if a gang of young "hoods" beat up an old woman, or if a mob of demonstrating students injured some innocent bystanders.

The public not only has a right to know; it must know. In this sense a newspaper is a protection to the public, in that it warns the people that such things are going on, and, therefore, to beware—or, to do something about it. The paper can arouse indignation against these things, too. This would never happen if they were left unpublished.

It is only from ignorance that someone not in the field of journalism proclaims that newspapers print "bad news" about young people to sell newspapers. Most editors are as devoted to their work, are as reputable and possess as much integrity as professional men in any field. They are zealous in their convictions on their responsibilities as journalists. While their judgments may differ, they evaluate developing news objectively and they display it as they judge it—

leaves of an old volume of the Ohio Journal of Education.

The article is self-explanatory.

"The Class of '95 Entertain the People of Heppner at the Opera House—a Success. Hitch Your Wagon to a Star"

"The above beautiful and expressive motto of the graduating High School class of 1895 formed an attractive part of the decorations at the opera house last Friday evening. Attached to a star of considerable magnitude were ribbons representing the class colors, these leading to a miniature wagon bearing a burden of flowers. It is a motto full of meaning, and its selection shows the spirit of the young ladies composing the class of '95. In addition to this, the American flag formed an expressive background, while the stage was replete with bunting, representing the class colors, besides flowers innumerable.

"The invocation was delivered by Rev. J. M. Denison, then followed the program as published, closing with the benediction by Rev. Frank Adkins.

"Miss Maggie E. Adkins, handled her subject, 'Tickets Please,' in an admirable manner. Miss Adkins appeared much at ease on the stage and won the plaudits of the audience.

"Miss Lillian M. Bisbee's subject was 'Room-matism; A Medical Treatise.' She had full confidence in herself and appeared well, receiving liberal applause.

"The subject 'Parallelism of Russia and America,' was presented by Miss Mabel Leezer in clear, distinct tones and in a most attractive style. Judging from the manner of the audience it was much appreciated.

"Miss Elsie E. Lacy delivered the 'Class Prophecy.' It was full of humorous sallies on her classmates, but ended in a serious, prophetic vein that they would all meet in the other world. Miss Lacy acquitted herself very creditably, in the opinion of the Gazette reporter, which opinion was liberally shared by the audience.

"Miss Anne McHaley, the valedictorian of the class, proved that she was an orator of considerable ability. Her remarks were accompanied by easy, becoming gestures, and in all she acquitted herself most creditably.

"If time and space permitted, there are not enough good things that the Gazette might say for the exercises. The instrumental music was good, very good. Congressman Ellis presented the diplomas in a few fitting words, preceded by some general remarks in which he noted the fact that the graduating class contained not one young man, which fact he deplored. And it flitted through the head of the Gazette's reporter that while some of our young men had been negligent in taking advantage of the opportunities presented for an education, it is to be regretted all the more from the fact that it will be some years before there is another graduating class in the Heppner schools, though it is presumed that the instruction will be of the best so far as it goes.

"Prof. A. W. Wier's parting words to the class were full of kindly advice, and no doubt the thoughts of more than one of the graduating class went back over the scenes and incidents of the class room, presided over by their venerable preceptor, now forever closed to them.

"The end of this school year will probably conclude Prof. Wier's connection with the Heppner schools. He has labored diligently for four years in this field, and his efforts have not been unavailing, as his pupils will testify, provided they have due diligence themselves. The same compliment can be paid to his valuable assistants. The school is now at a high standard, and it is much regretted that the present course of instruction cannot be continued."

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Farley and David of Hood River spent Memorial Day with his mother, Mrs. Sarah Farley in Heppner. David Farley remained with the Harry O'Donnell family to attend graduation ceremonies at Heppner High school on Wednesday before returning to Hood River.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dick during the week of May 29 to June 2, were Mr. and Mrs. Ladd Dick and children, Seattle; Mrs. B. C. Forsythe, Rydervang, Wash., and Stuart Dick, Michael Smith and Ann Mecham, all of La Grande.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Harris the past week-end were Mr. and Mrs. Zuberia from Idaho.

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by its relative importance to other news stories of the day. There are cases when some stories seem to be overplayed and some seem to get out of perspective, but we believe that in most cases this is due to differences in judgment on news evaluation rather than the malevolent tendencies of an editor.

—And by the way, don't think the "bad" stories outsell the "good." When we publish stories that do credit to a young person, we often sell many extras to parents and relatives. When we print a "bad" story, the parents don't buy a single extra. (There may be times that they threaten to cancel their subscriptions!). But admittedly, we don't have the mass appeal of a big daily.

However, next time you're inclined to think a paper has "gone off the deep end" in reporting bad news about young people, take a ruler and go through the paper. Measure the inches devoted to the "bad" and to the "good" about the young ones. You may be surprised.

Narrow County

CROP-WEATHER SUMMARY (Compiled by Gene Whitton, County Extension Agent)

Full planted barley heading at the low and medium elevations.

First rains to wheat considerably more extensive than last fall. Above east and north of Lexington especially hard on. Soil fields showing effects — Guinn, Moore, Bart and Boggs wheat affected. Possible loss from slight to moderate depending upon how wide a band on the upper portion of the band was frosted.

Heavy thunder shower activity Thursday afternoon north, south and west of town. Near cloudburst reported with rainfall measured at various farms from .55 inch to more than one inch.

What's New... From Salem

By REP. IRVIN MANN, JR.

If the defeat of the sales tax for property tax reduction in the Senate May 30 did nothing more, it was therapeutic for two reasons—first, it brought the responsible leadership to the realization that there were other possible ways to raise money for property tax relief, and in the ensuing meeting of the House Tax Committee to devise a promptly a method of letting the people take a choice between a sales tax for property tax relief and a net receipts income tax, and those who have been piously espousing property tax relief while opposing a sales tax, while really not favoring property tax relief, were hurriedly smoked out and forced to reveal their true positions.

The House Tax Committee meeting June 1 decided to give the people this choice on November 21, 1967 at a special election: (1) Do you want property tax relief? (2) Do you want property tax reduction through a 3% sales tax? (3) Do you want to adopt the McCall-Hatfield recommendation of a 1% net receipts tax and have a lesser amount of property tax reduction?

If neither tax is favored at the special election, there will be no property tax reduction—in fact, property taxes will go higher because of increased school costs. But the people will have had a choice and this is the thing that it is the responsibility of this legislature to give them.

In the tax committee I voted for presenting this alternative in this manner, but spoke in favor of increasing the proposed net receipts tax so that it would give nearly an equivalent amount of property tax relief as the sales tax. I am going to continue to work to try to accomplish this because I think that then the alternative presented to the people would be more realistic.

If the vehicle we are now working on is successful, it contains a concept that would result in one of the finest reforms that could be accomplished in this state. That is the creation of realistic tax bases for all school districts in this state. This would be accomplished by making the tax base of a district the amount of its last levy plus the last basic school support received plus 5%. This, coupled with a one-shot vote a year only to create a new tax base, appears to me would put education financing on a realistic basis for the first time in many years.

It would eliminate the necessity for elections to exceed each year. But if such an election was necessary and if the one vote failed, with the new realistic base, the school involved could continue on a curtailed basis. The failure of an election would not be fatal as failures would be in many of the districts now throughout the state.

Visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Padberg on Monday, May 29, were her sister Mrs. Nora Myers and her daughter Miss Everta Myers of The Dalles. On Monday and Tuesday, visitors were Mrs. Padberg's son-in-law and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Ross of Canby; dinner guests on Tuesday were Mrs. Padberg's son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Tucker and family, before returning to Hood River.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Harris the past week-end were Mr. and Mrs. Zuberia from Idaho.

TO THE EDITOR...

Fitting Address

June 3, 1967

Dear Editors: Baccalaureate 1967; Without the slightest hesitation or question Reverend Donald Pederson delivered one of the most timely and befitting addresses that a graduating class had the good fortune to hear.

As a guest of my brother and his wife at the service I was very impressed at the great sincerity and weight of Reverend Pederson's message to the Senior Class of 1967.

Respectfully, Clair H. Cox, Corvallis

Pioneer



Ponderings

By W. S. CAVERHILL

A Disquieting Situation

The mass vandalism occurring in many American cities is being handled too gently in our opinion. The tolerance being given it is being stretched to the breaking point. Peaceful demonstrations and freedom of speech is a vehicle of democracy, but the destruction of property and resistance of the law is not.

To some of us who are old enough to have witnessed the growth of a great nation by an orderly society, the spectacle of a group of "hippies" on a sit-down strike in the corridors of the Pentagon Building is disgusting. I am quite sure that the men of the law 50 years ago would not have carried the intruders out. They come in under their own power and they would have gone out that way, even if an electric prod was needed to encourage them.

Of course, such treatment would now be considered police brutality. Even so, that might

Air Patrol Test Set at Condon

Oregon Wing of the Civil Air Patrol will have its search and rescue effectiveness test at the Condon airport on Saturday and Sunday, June 10 and 11.

Participating squadrons will be from throughout the state with approximately 150 CAP personnel and an estimated 20 aircraft involved. There will also be a number of ground search and rescue vehicles involved as well.

A simulated problem involving a downed aircraft will be presented by Air Force personnel from Air Rescue Center of the Hamilton Air Force Base in California. Standard operating practices for Civil Air Patrol searches will be used by the wing operations, and these will be graded by the Air Force evaluation team.

All local CAP personnel are expected to participate in this exercise. The public is invited to observe the operations of this test exercise at the Condon airport any time Saturday or Sunday.

make a more palatable TV newscast than to flatter them by carrying them from the premises. A few disturbers are getting too much screen publicity and are being encouraged by it.

Metsker maps of Morrow, Gilliam, Umatilla, Wheeler counties on sale at the Gazette-Times.

Salem Scene by Everett E. Cutter

Session, In Overtime, Caught Between Ideals

After breaking the record for length of an Oregon legislative session, solons find themselves right back where they started on the major question of property tax relief.

Well, not quite, because several alternatives to high property taxes have been virtually eliminated. Including the proposal to put before the people HB 1093, a three per cent sales tax which, if accepted, would raise money to offset local revenue needs.

After exhaustive Senate committee study and numerous amendments, the House passed sales tax bill went down to defeat on the Senate floor last week by a 16-14 vote. A next-day motion for reconsideration of the vote was likewise defeated.

The dilemma posed by that action shows how easily the legislature can be caught between two working philosophies.

First, if a sales tax would never win support at the polls, as some who nixed the plan contend, then the Senate vote would reflect the will of the people and perhaps save the cost of an election. They see their duty as decision-makers, sent to Salem by voters to work out solutions without referring everything back on a ballot.

Many sales tax supporters, however, think voters should at least be given a choice, and that they might just elect to pay local government costs through a state sales tax. This legislature, some say, thus will have fulfilled its responsibility by formulating an answer and offering a choice.

While both over-simplified arguments may show merit, probably neither is entirely satisfactory. It is true that Oregonians expect a lot of service out of their elected representatives. It is also true that we restrict them by denying the use of an emergency clause on tax measures, making any legislative passed reform subject to referendum before going into effect.

In any case, lawmakers now face the prospect of additional days—maybe weeks—in Salem trying to hammer out a new plan that might serve the interests of property taxpayers, voting majorities, education and local government, and the predicted severe restrictions which might be imposed by a property tax limitation such as the 1% per cent plan.

For the record, several major plans for property tax relief have been offered this session. Some may now be given further consideration in this session, extended by the death of HB 1093.

In his January inaugural address, Gov. Tom McCall asked for a 1967-69 increase of \$150 million in state aid to local schools. Some \$70 million, he maintained, could be raised by increasing state income taxes 15 per cent and corporate income and excise taxes 33 per cent. To insure property tax relief via school aid, he proposed limiting property taxes for school purposes to one per cent of market value.

A proposal to establish a state lottery, sponsored by Sen. Ted Hallock (D-Portland) was tabled in committee. Proposals for "local option," to allow cities and counties to levy sales or income taxes, met with similar lack of success.

Many legislators, mostly on the Senate side, have consistently maintained no more state taxes are needed. True, other lawmakers agree, if the aim is merely to continue business as usual on the state level.

But if substantial property tax relief is forthcoming, they argue, substitute revenue will have to be raised and the best place to do it is at the state level. Such thinking prompted House passage of the tax reform package, which included bills for the sales tax plan, a corporate tax increase, and a new formula for pumping more revenue into basic school support.

With last week's Senate defeat of the sales tax referral bill, leaders of both houses announced their decision to stay on the job until another plan can be put together—again for referral.

If current initial planning comes to fruition, Oregon voters can expect to see a three-way choice in effect on their ballots. First, we could vote for a state net receipts tax, coupled with a property tax limitation. This basically is a tax which would make income taxable from the first dollar earned.

Second, voters could choose a state sales tax, again teamed with a property tax limitation. Third choice would be to reject the first two, and thus maintain the existing state-local relationship in taxing and spending.

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

HEPPNER SWIMMING POOL Pool opens for summer on Saturday, June 10. Free Swim, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. able starting Thursday, June 8, 1 p.m. at City Hall, family, \$18; adults, \$9; children and students, \$6.

MORROW COUNTY GUN CLUB Annual Spring Shoot Sunday, June 11, Heppner club grounds. Starts at 10:00 a.m. Everyone welcome. Good prizes.

AUTOGRAPH PARTY Thursday, June 15. Author Charles D. Simpson will autograph new and purchased books, "Blazing Forest Trails," "Murrays Rexall Drug."

HOSPITAL OPEN HOUSE Pioneer Memorial Hospital Open House Sunday, June 11, 12:30-4:30 p.m. Observing 17th Anniversary Everyone welcome.

PANCAKE SUPPER Boy Scout Troop 661 Sunday, June 18, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. St. Patrick's Parish Hall. Tickets—\$1 adults; 75c high school; 50c children, \$3.75 for family.

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