

# THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97836  
Phone 676-9228

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

The Heppner Gazette established March 30, 1883. The Heppner Times established November 18, 1897. Consolidated February 15, 1912.



WESLEY A. SHERMAN EDITOR AND PUBLISHER  
HELEN E. SHERMAN ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER

ARNOLD RAYMOND Shop Foreman  
Printer

REGGIE PASCAL Linotype Operator

GAIL BURKENBINE Society Circulation

RANDY STILLMAN Apprentice  
JIM SHERMAN Pressman

Subscription Rates: \$4.50 Year. Single Copy 10 Cents. Published Every Thursday and Entered at the Post Office at Heppner, Oregon, as Second Class Matter.

Office Hours: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday; 9 a.m. until noon Saturday.

## A New Tack on Tax Problems

Now that the special session of the legislature has gone well over the time it was expected to take to propose a settlement on property tax relief, it appears evident that the impasses being faced by the legislators will not be satisfactorily resolved.

Odds seem to be growing greater that whatever type of tax program that is proposed will be defeated by the people when it is referred to them. At the same time, the reasoning of some is coming full cycle and one hears more and more that the property tax "isn't such a bad system after all."

Since this seems to be the trend, however reluctant, what about focusing attention on some new tactics? Instead of attempting a "crash program" of effecting property tax relief all at once, concentrate on finding means to escalate, as the state's economy permits, the property tax relief program now in effect. This year the state is providing property relief at the rate of \$421 per \$1000 of assessed valuation. At least that's a good start.

Turning to another tack, the two groups who find the property tax most burdensome are farmers and home owners.

As to the farmer, if the tax is oppressive but is to remain with him, the alternative may be to find a way for him to gain a fair share of income. While union workers' wages have gone up rapidly, the farmer's "pay" hasn't really increased for many years. He surely isn't paid in proportion to his investment, particularly in a county like Morrow where the capital outlay essentially is rather great to develop a spread sufficient to make a living.

Why not take the tack of focusing on a plan to increase the farmer's income to relieve his tax burden? He should have a greater share of the food dollar even if it is necessary to raise the price of the foodstuffs he produces.

This probably would not be too easy to accomplish, particularly without complaint by consumers. But in a pressure-packed society where the militant groups are getting their way (such as the automobile workers), the farmer is peculiarly non-militant. Through his organizations he may complain vehemently, but he so far has been too dedicated to his calling to "go on strike." It is rather repulsive to think that the time may come when he, too, must resort to stringency.

Some steps have been made towards property tax relief on homes. Elderly citizens of low income have senior citizens' exemptions on property taxes. Disabled veterans are provided with exemptions.

Maybe other reductions on home taxes might be effected by considering taxing some property which is currently tax free, such as churches. Maybe encompassing some of these properties with an accompanying reduction on homes might be more palatable to the public.

Maybe the legislature has made the mistake of trying to take too big a bite at once. Maybe the problem has to be hacked at around the fringes by diverse means to come up with some answers that may make the present system less oppressive.

## Students Visit Council

It was good to see Adrian Cook, high school sociology and history teacher, and two of his students, Vernon Fredrickson and Rick Witherrite, at the Heppner city council meeting for November.

Perhaps this is a little thing for editorial comment, but it is an infrequent occasion when students or any citizens attend a council meeting just to observe or show interest in what is going on.

Municipal government is an important part of lives of all city dwellers but it is often taken nonchalantly and all too casually by the public.

The community offers quite a laboratory for social studies with the county seat here and the municipal government in operation. Students—the citizens of tomorrow—can profit by learning how they function. Some day some of them will sit on city councils or county courts and deal with the problems faced by municipalities and local government agencies.

The council has a standing invitation for anyone to attend its meetings, and it was obvious that the city fathers were glad to have Mr. Cook and his students present.

It is rather surprising that small towns do as well as they do in maintaining their governments when so few persons take a genuine and active interest.

A night observing the council in action can be quite an education to those who have not suffered with the many problems—large and small—which face a community. On some first Monday night of the month try taking the time to drop into city hall and see for yourself.

## Proud to be American

It is pointed out that the National Observer, in a recent article, declared that we should quit apologizing for America being America. "Be a proud American" is the theme.

One group that has always left no stone unturned to show that it is proud to be American is the American Legion.

This is the patriotism that the Heppner post exemplifies as it starts the service of placing flags on downtown streets for nine major holidays and other special occasions when the colors should be displayed.

We're glad that they are proud to be American and step forward at every opportunity to say so! All who love their country should join in a re-dedication to Americanism.

Already more than 40 Heppner businesses and five in Lexington have subscribed to their flag service for a nominal charge. Others who may not have been contacted are invited to sign up.

May the spirit that the Heppner post manifests spread throughout the country and start to be an antidote to the draft card burners and others who seek to desecrate the traditions and principles that American citizens have respected and cherished through its history.

## 'Livestock' in the City

A perennially troublesome matter within cities is that of whether a resident should be allowed to keep chickens, rabbits, ducks, cows, horses or even dogs and cats that may be nuisances to his neighbors.

Probably most humans have a fondness for animals of some kind. Many have a particular affection for horses; many others consider dogs as "man's best friends"; and some adore cats. A few may wish to keep a cow for the milk she produces; and some like to have fresh eggs from their own chickens. In none of these instances can others blame them.

However, when one lives within the city limits and enjoys the advantages that come from urban living, it would seem that he must expect to forego some of the benefits of living on a farm, from which he must travel some distance to obtain the services that city living provides.

A person cannot reasonably expect to "have his cake and eat it."

But Heppner, as some councilmen put it, is a "good western town" and it allows a little more freedom and a little more leniency on this "livestock" issue than some larger cities.

Dogs and cats roam the city without bringing too much complaint, and the horse population within the city limits must reach a considerable number.

It would seem that the "love thy neighbor" philosophy here—as it is in many instances of human relationship—should be a prevailing guideline. If one's animals, indeed, are a constant bother or nuisance to a neighbor, the owner is imposing on that neighbor. One who feels moved to keep animals or poultry in quantity might well consider finding a place outside the city limits large enough so that he could enjoy them without being kept in a turmoil by his neighbors' complaints.

Aside from the issue of whether it is permissible or legal, the matter comes down to a question of why should a person do things that are constantly offensive as intruding on a neighbor's rights and privileges?

## Chaff and Chatter Wes Sherman

WE'RE more convinced than ever as of this 14th day of November, 1967, that what this country needs to win the world from communism is more Mike Benges. He is a person who is willing to devote a good share of his life in a strange land in close contact with a people far less privileged than Americans. He lives on their level and thus demonstrates that equality, in the minds of some from the United States, is really a principle and not merely a word.

If everyone had a chance to visit with Mike for a couple of hours, as we did on his current emergency leave home following the accidental death of his step-brother, Ralph Benges, all would get a much better understanding of Vietnam and what is truly going on there. Mike has lived with the Montagnards and the South Vietnamese for five years. He understands them, understands their background, and knows their culture.

He can give some considered opinions on what the U. S. is doing in Vietnam, what would happen if our armed forces are pulled out, and what to expect if they stay.

That he has gained the respect of the Montagnards is evident from the fact that they recently sacrificed a buffalo for him, one of the greatest exhibitions of honor that they can bestow.

Mike plans on staying in Vietnam as long as he can make a contribution and as long as the Agency of International Development, with which he is associated, permits him to stay.

Sometimes his disdain for red tape and his intolerance of sham put him in a bit of a spot.

For instance, he was asked to make a government report in July which asked, "How are you going to improve rice production in 1967?" The rice, which in his area is a dryland variety, and doesn't grow in paddies, had long since been planted. There was no chance to change anything.

He wrote on his report, "Maybe we should import an Indian Hopi dancer to pray for rain."

This brought some remonstrances from the higher ups, but Mike didn't retract it.

But the lone man has a great respect for America's leaders in Vietnam. His emergency leave came just at the time that Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker was returning to Washington, D. C., for conferences, and so Mike came to the States on the same plane with the ambassador and other dignitaries.

"The ambassador is a very intelligent, very capable man," says Mike. "He has a mind like a steel trap." He pointed out, too, that the ambassador has an awesome responsibility.

We just wish that what Mike had to say to us this day could have been nationally televised across America. We hope that we can convey accurately some of his opinions in the story elsewhere in this paper.

THE FACT that Oregon State University's football team is now rated only No. 8 in the nation is the most disconcerting news ever to be heard by those who fought the freeway jam on Interstate 5 to get to Parker Stadium Saturday.

We know most of the back roads around Corvallis—from Irish Bend to Airline—after living nearby for 20 years, but didn't have sense enough to take them.

The whole family had a case of Beaver football fever after watching the WSU game, and so we got up at 4:30 Saturday morning to see the "big one" between the Beavers and USC.

We took granddaughter Becky Lynn to Stayton from Salem and left there 2½ hours before game time, figuring on being settled in our seats at Parker stadium by 12:30.

It was 11:45 when we came to Albany. Son Dick, who was

driving, wanted to cut over to a back way through Albany.

"Oh, no," we advised, with our paternal wisdom, "you'll hit the Albany crowds at the parade for Governor Reagan."

Dutiful Dick stuck to the freeway, and in a few minutes we were enmeshed. It took two hours—literally two hours—to travel five miles on the freeway to the Corvallis cutoff, which is still 16 miles from Corvallis.

Cars would inch forward for a few feet, then stop. Some tried cutting back and forth from one lane to another as opportunity presented. Some tried driving down the shoulder. Some drove across the ditch and headed back north. Quitters!

We got tangled in a group of five big busses and sniffed their diesel exhaust for an hour or so.

Other Heppnerites were in the same jam. Beverly and Eddie Gunderson were among them. Their car started heating from the constant idling and they had to pull off. Many others in the same plight. Our Pontiac behaved itself.

Some folks got out and started walking. Kids got out and played at the roadside. Occasionally we would go forward a few feet.

When the game started at 1:30 we were still on the freeway. Bob Blackburn, whose voice came in over the car radio, announced that the stadium was jammed, which was heartening news to the thousands passing the time of day on the freeway. "—just a few vacant spots visible in the end zone seats," said he.

We didn't know it at the time, but Dr. A. D. McMurdo had left Heppner the same morning, went to Portland, visited his son, and they flew to Corvallis. There was no traffic jam in the sky. They had a leisurely lunch in Beaverville and then went to the Stadium in plenty of time to view pre-game activities. Too bad he didn't have a helicopter to rescue some of his Heppner friends!

We finally gained the turnout and conditions improved. We reached the outside of the stadium in time to hear the public address announcer describe Haggard's field goal, after the roar of the crowd had died away.

With one minute to go in the first half, we reached our seats. The rest of the game, we decided, licking our wounds, was worth it. And we observed a minute's silence for the thousands who were still behind us on the freeway.

Now we understand Tad Miller and his party had intelligence enough to go down 99-W and get there in good shape.

Parker Stadium will hold more than 40,000 people with ease, but if there are many more crowds this big, the public is going to have to learn to get around in the cool of the morning or else someone is going to have to engineer a better system of getting there. Forty thousand people, after all, is three times the population of Pendleton.

Should we go again when a capacity turnout is expected, we'll plan to go out the Falls City road from Dallas, head south to Airline through Kings Valley and hit Philomath to double back to Corvallis. By that time, though, all freeway users should have decided to do the same thing and we'll get caught in a jam again. Or maybe it would be better to get a skiff at Oregon City, put it in the Willamette and row to Corvallis.

But it was wonderful! Three to nothing. Wonderful! As to the U of O-OSU game, though, father will keep lip buttoned with one son a senior at Duckville and another son and daughter-in-law alumni of Beaverville.

## TO THE EDITOR...

### Co-op Control Urged

Ione, Oregon  
November 6, 1967

To the Editor:

Rep. Joseph Y. Resnick, New York, who has issued stinging charges against various farm organizations during the past several months, last week in Washington, D. C. labeled some farm cooperative leaders as "nothing more than Mafia in Overalls."

In issuing the charge Resnick called on the U. S. Treasury Department and the U. S. Department of Agriculture to propose enabling legislation to exert the same control over cooperatives as the government now exercises over all private industry.

Legislation must be enacted to curb tax excesses and other unfair practices without harming legitimate farmer cooperatives, Resnick said. He argued that cooperatives are now controlling farmers and threatening the very existence of private companies in the farm supply sector.

"In substantial areas of the U. S.," he said, "the co-ops have taken over the farm supply business and the commodity marketing business. They practically pay no taxes. They are buying up and absorbing the private companies they were established to compete with on the theory that healthy competition would benefit the independent farmer. The co-ops are now gigantic business, often controlling their own sources of supply such as oil refineries, potash mines and feed mills."

Since July, Resnick has been heading a one-man blitz on the American Farm Bureau Federation business activities. And he has received many complaints from producers regarding the patronage refund policies of Farm Bureau connected co-ops and other cooperatives. He asserted that there is now \$4 to \$16 billion outstanding in worthless certificates issued by cooperatives to member farmers in lieu of cash refunds. "Very simply, what happens is that the co-op keeps the cash, the customer keeps the certificates and the co-op then refuses to redeem it, making the certificates worthless!" To make this situation worse, he contends, "the customer must treat worthless certificates as if they were cash, and must pay personal income taxes in some states personal property taxes, on the full amount while the co-op deducts these so-called securities from its taxable income, and as a result, pays practically no taxes."

Resnick told a press conference that one Pennsylvania orchard operator told him that he had more than \$125,000 in "worthless certificates" from a local cooperative.

According to Resnick the law states a co-op must distribute only 20 percent of its earnings in cash, and many distribute the rest in common stock, revolving fund certificates or simple book allocations. "Most Farm Bureau cooperatives distribute the 20 percent in cash and the balance in what I call 'funny money.' They then report to the Internal Revenue Service that they have no taxable income for the year, and in turn, the co-ops tell their customers that the certificates or stock that the customers own are unredeemable and pay no interest or dividend. They can't be cashed or be used in payment for merchandise purchased. In actual fact, the congressman argued, they are worthless."

To further compound the problem, he pointed out, the co-op is left with vast amounts of cash "which it uses to go out and purchase taxpaying business, and which it then converts into tax-exempt cooperatives."

He said that the Farm Bureau is using "kept money" to drive independent millers, supply houses, oil dealers, warehouses and grain elevators out of business. "They are expanding into contract farming a system which destroys the farmer as an independent businessman and, in effect, makes him the captive employee of the contractor — The Farm Bureau Co-op—or the feed companies."

Some co-ops, according to Resnick admit to not redeeming their paper for 20 years. He termed a redemption period of over three years "unreasonable" and added that co-ops should pay interest on the refunds it holds.

Resnick complained that there is no government control over any aspect of the activities of co-operatives. He said he had been unable to find anyone in the government who can tell him how many co-ops there are, what their sales value is, and exactly how much in worthless certificates there is in circulation. "Co-operatives are virtually exempt from anti-trust laws under the Capper-Volstead Act. They are also free from scrutiny by the Securities Exchange Commission. Today, a man holding a share of stock in General Motors has more influence in determining management policy than a man owning a share of stock in a co-op. If the trend continues, soon there won't be any tax-paying businesses left, he warned."

Resnick said that he was offering an amendment to S 109, the producers bargaining rights bill, which would give farmers adequate protection from unfair treatment by co-operatives. "The U. S. department of agriculture reports that there are about 8,500 farm marketing and purchasing co-operatives with gross annual business of \$30 billion. This, USDA pointed out, represents about 25 percent of the total farm marketing sales and 25 percent of the total farm supply business in the nation."

This is a reprint from the Commercial Review dated October 10, 1967.

Sincerely yours  
Lloyd Morgan

verts into tax-exempt cooperatives."

Resnick complained that there is no government control over any aspect of the activities of co-operatives. He said he had been unable to find anyone in the government who can tell him how many co-ops there are, what their sales value is, and exactly how much in worthless certificates there is in circulation. "Co-operatives are virtually exempt from anti-trust laws under the Capper-Volstead Act. They are also free from scrutiny by the Securities Exchange Commission. Today, a man holding a share of stock in General Motors has more influence in determining management policy than a man owning a share of stock in a co-op. If the trend continues, soon there won't be any tax-paying businesses left, he warned."

Resnick said that he was offering an amendment to S 109, the producers bargaining rights bill, which would give farmers adequate protection from unfair treatment by co-operatives. "The U. S. department of agriculture reports that there are about 8,500 farm marketing and purchasing co-operatives with gross annual business of \$30 billion. This, USDA pointed out, represents about 25 percent of the total farm marketing sales and 25 percent of the total farm supply business in the nation."

This is a reprint from the Commercial Review dated October 10, 1967.

Sincerely yours  
Lloyd Morgan

### Join the PTA

November 7, 1967

To the Editor:

A communication to the people of Heppner.

We realize that educating children is the largest, most important, and most costly undertaking a community has; a project which is the responsibility of every person in the community, not just parents and/or teachers and school administrators.

Employers in all trades or occupations have educational requirements that must be met by employees, and their interest in education is great. The minimum state requirements of school attendance and of college entrance are of utmost importance to every citizen of Oregon. Our laws and our regulations point to the need for business and social behavior standards which our schools teach.

Schools, however, can not do the job necessary without citizen participation. One of the better ways of participating is to join the PTA and be an active and participating member. Each business, each social, each religious organization, and each citizen should be represented and take an active part in the PTA.

The PTA is a voluntary organization, and it is sort of a buffer zone or a communication zone between the people of a community and the school. There are many committees to be filled by volunteers, if citizens wish to communicate with the school in an organized manner. There are many social and fund raising projects that require committee workers and leaders; these projects are to benefit our children.

The PTA for the Heppner Elementary School has sponsored an enrollment drive primarily for their organization but including the high school club. I am certain, however, that there are many who did not for one reason or another buy a membership.

This is another invitation or request for you to join the PTA. I know darned well most of you are not too busy to volunteer on a committee and to help form a good interesting, active PTA. Mrs. Paul Warren is secretary of the high school PTA. Call her up and order a membership card; tell her which committee you would like to work on, too, if you will. Above all, attend the PTA meetings and be actively concerned about schools and kids—and show it!

Bill Weatherford, President Heppner High School PTA

PEP CLUB PIE SALES  
Tuesday, Wednesday afternoons, 4 to 6 p.m., Nov. 21, 22

By Heppner High PEP Club  
Next door to Gardner's  
Benefit for cheer leading uniforms

DON'T FORGET CHRISTMAS  
OPENING—NOV. 24, 25—  
DOWNTOWN HEPPNER

SPONSORED AS A PUBLIC  
SERVICE BY

C. A. RUGGLES  
Insurance Agency  
P. O. Box 247 PH. 676-9625  
Heppner

### POWER CONTROL

ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICE

WE REPAIR:  
• Electric Motors  
• Power Tools  
• Hydraulic Jacks  
• Alemite Equipment

421 S. E. 4th Pendleton  
Phone 276-5862

## Delegates Report On Youth Meetings At Legion Dinner

A good turnout of members attended a joint potluck dinner meeting of the American Legion Post No. 87 and Auxiliary held Monday evening, November 6, in the Legion hall in Heppner.

Special guests for the evening were Mrs. Ora Coe of Milton-Freewater, district president of unit 6, and Gail Zerba of Athena, district commander.

Reports were heard from five youth delegates who had attended the Girls' and Boys' State conventions in Salem last summer, where they learned of state government and its policies. The students elect their own government officials to form a governing body and representatives are chosen to attend Boys' and Girls' Nation in Washington, D. C.

Representatives present for the dinner meeting were Merilee Jacobs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walt Jacobs of Ione; Nancy Doherty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Doherty; Russell Kilkenny, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Kilkenny; Earl Ayres, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ayres, and John Rawlins, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Rawlins, all of Heppner.

Slides were shown by John Rawlins during the evening, accompanying the representatives' reports.

Other special guests were Bob Kilkenny and Earl Ayres.

## Wrangler Awards Given at Dinner; Two Tie for Trophy

Members of the Heppner Wranglers club and their families enjoyed the annual "buck-burger" feed sponsored by the club in the fair annex building on Wednesday evening, November 8, at 6:30 p.m. with Fred Mankin as chairman.

Awards were given out during the evening for playday activities. Those winning in the six-year-old and under group were Maureen Healy and Ronnie Currin, tie for first; Kryn Robinson, second, and Cindy Dougherty, third.

In the seven-to-12-year-old group, Joan Healy won first; Kyle Robinson, second; Mary Adair, third, and Abby Wilson, Susan Healy, Lisa Collins, and Jeannie Daley tied for fourth.

In the 13 to 17-year-old class, Marsha Jones won first; Becky Fulleton, second; Sherri O'Brien, third, and Ruby Fulleton, fourth.

Those winning in the senior group were Bob Steagall, first; Beverly Steagall, second; Cliff Adair, third, and Patti Petty-John, fourth.

Sharing the honors for the 3-year revolving trophy were Maureen Healy and Bob Steagall.

Those winning the timed relay were Gregg Brooks, Patti Pettyjohn and Sandra Rodrigues.

Those winning the timed relay were Gregg Brooks, Patti Pettyjohn and Sandra Rodrigues.

## Jaycettes to Meet

Monthly meeting of the Heppner Jaycettes has been announced for Thursday evening, November 16, 8:00 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Pat Wosner. All members are urged to be present.

## COMING EVENTS

JAYCEE FIDDLER CONTEST  
Old-time Fiddler Contest  
Sponsored by Heppner Jaycees  
Friday-Sat. nights, Nov. 24 & 25  
Junior High Gym

YOUTH MOVIE  
"Berkeley Revolution", 50-minute color movie  
Friday night, Nov. 24, grade school multipurpose room  
High School and College students invited  
No admission

COMMUNITY SERVICE  
United Community Thanksgiving Service  
Wednesday, Nov. 22, 8 p.m.  
Heppner Christian Church  
People of all faiths invited

CowBELLE MEETING  
Morrow County CowBelle luncheon meeting  
Friday, Nov. 17, noon, Wagon Wheel Cafe  
Installation of officers

PEP CLUB PIE SALES  
Tuesday, Wednesday afternoons, 4 to 6 p.m., Nov. 21, 22

By Heppner High PEP Club  
Next door to Gardner's  
Benefit for cheer leading uniforms

DON'T FORGET CHRISTMAS  
OPENING—NOV. 24, 25—  
DOWNTOWN HEPPNER

SPONSORED AS A PUBLIC  
SERVICE BY

C. A. RUGGLES  
Insurance Agency  
P. O. Box 247 PH. 676-9625  
Heppner