

# THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97536  
Phone 676-9228

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER  
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**FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY.** On May 31, the Heppner High School class of 1918 will observe its 50th anniversary. The nineteen above are pictured as sophomores in the class when the photo was taken by Bert Sigabee, father of Mrs. Elaine George, in 1916. Ten of these graduated with the class in 1918, according to recollections of Garnet Barratt, a member of the class and former Morrow county judge. Several of the remaining nine graduated from other schools. Barratt is able to identify all but the young woman in the center of the front row. Front row (from left)—Earl Gordon, Norma Fredrickson (Lee), (unidentified), Lena Hughes (Kelly), Fred Gemmill. Second row—Kenneth Biens, Merle Parker, Loa Briggs (Taylor), Neva Hayes, Hannah Wilson (Jones), Florence Ralston, Isabel Wilson (Crawford), William Crawford, Clyde Cox. Back row—Garnet Barratt, Edgar Copenhaver, Charles Barlow, Waldon Straight, Norton Winnard. The 12 in the graduating class, including 10 among those pictured above, were Norma Fredrickson (Mrs. Fred Lee), Portland; Loa Briggs (Mrs. Ray Taylor), Heppner; Neva Hayes (deceased); Hannah Wilson (Mrs. Alva Jones) (deceased); Isabel Wilson (Mrs. William Crawford) (deceased); William Crawford (deceased); Norton Winnard (deceased); Kenneth Biens (deceased); Florence Ralston, Casper, Wyo.; Alice Potter (not pictured) (deceased); Arthur Campbell (not pictured), Terre Haute, Ind.; and Garnet Barratt, Mesa, Ariz. (Photo by Bert Sigabee).

## Second Vote on the Budget

Next Monday, registered Morrow county voters will cast ballots on the 1968-69 budget of the county school district for the second time. This would seem to indicate that the first election resulted in defeat for the budget, but it did not, since it held a 3-vote affirmative margin with five votes in question. No one knows for sure whether the five votes would have changed the result, but it did cast the outcome under a cloud, and the school directors voluntarily decided to refer it back to the people.

There seems to be little question that the second vote will draw a better turnout than the first, although the initial response was not bad as school elections go. However, it was not truly representative of the feeling of all registered voters since only about a quarter of those eligible went to the polls.

Those who are in favor of the budget surely must now understand that their votes are important in view of the close balloting at the first presentation.

On the other hand, some who are opposed to the budget but who did not vote in early May may find encouragement from the close contest and get out to cast a "no" vote on Monday.

So there is reason to believe that Monday's election will bring a better cross section of thinking on the matter. This paper again recommends a "yes" vote on the budget.

Examination shows that the 1968-69 budget is a tight one, although circumstances make it necessary to increase the tax levy considerably. In percentage of tax per true cash value of property, however, it is not increased as much as many think.

It has been explained through this paper a number of times that a substantial part of the tax increase is due to a decline in receipts rather than an increase in expenditures alone. When Supt. Ron Daniels, the directors and the budget committee adopted this budget it was done as a "realistic" estimate for the year and one that would correct the deficit situation that has existed for two years.

Of the expenditures that are increased, most of them are ones over which the district and the budget committee have no control—such as capital outlay items, which have soared.

Those who have toiled in preparation of this budget have sought places that could be cut without impairing the school program. We are convinced that no more significant cuts can be made without hurting program of importance to at least some of the students.

A cut in the budget of \$1000 would mean a reduction of only one cent in actual taxes per \$1000 of true cash value of property owned by a taxpayer. Thus a cut of \$50,000 would save only 50¢ per \$1000 TCV. Continuing this thought a bit more—if one owns property assessed at \$10,000 for instance, he would save just \$5 per year on a budget cut of \$50,000. Such a cut certainly could not be made without making a serious inroad into the school program. This would be equivalent to almost twice the increase in school salaries given teachers this year—and it would save a \$10,000 property owner only \$5 per year!

Parents with children in school will realize that the school program is more important than that. Those who do not have children in school should realize that even to them the school system is of considerably more benefit than the amount involved.

It seems to us that this is a time to show faith in the school system. The budget has been prepared by solid and sound people who, too, have to pay the tax and who well know how property taxes are hurting a good many of our residents. But they also know the consequences. The administration has been doing an excellent, conscientious job.

The system has made considerable progress. Just a year or so ago a drive was on across the country in an effort to get and hold good teachers. Progress has been made on this, and the staff is performing very well. Defeat of the budget could cause another upheaval, and this the county does not want.

If there were a cheaper way to run the schools and at the same time maintain good standards of education, there wouldn't be a person in the county against it. Certainly everyone is interested in economy.

However, examination shows that the administration and the budget committee are doing about the best possible job of holding costs down in view of conditions that confront them.

Assuming that the voter is truly interested in good schools, we see no other logical way to go then to approve the budget. Each election costs \$600, which isn't great but it is additional cost. Defeat of the 1968-69 budget could bring other consequences that would be more costly, especially to the educational background of the children involved.

Some of us are in a position to recognize personally that a good educational background is an excellent investment. Some have grown children who are now commanding good salaries that they would not be getting if they had not received the foundation in education. Some of us sweat and toiled to pay the taxes to see them through, but it is considerably easier to justify that toil when we see them benefiting from the results of it.

We note that every one of Ione High's graduating class expects to continue to college. What a great thing! A high percentage of Heppner and Riverside graduates plan to continue also. Each one of these with a good educational background has a good chance to make a success in his chosen field.

Think for a moment of the combined salaries they may receive in the future as college graduates, compared to what they would receive had they not been prepared to continue. This would amortize the investment in schools here and indicate that paying for schools is truly a wise investment and not just a cost.

There are rumors around the streets in regard to the coming election. The best advice is to discount them. If you want information, it is readily available from a reliable source—from the superintendent, or from a school board member.

A good affirmative vote for the budget would contribute to sound and realistic fiscal management for the school system and it is important to assure continued progress towards desirable educational standards.

This is a time to show faith and confidence with a yes vote.

## Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

WHILE sitting here on this Tuesday evening, waiting for Morrow county's counting boards to get their jobs done, we'll get the weekly column written.

We feel for the counting boards who have to wade through the mass of candidates (especially delegates to the national conventions) on the long ballots. As of 10:45 p.m. we have only complete returns from one precinct (Lexington) and N. E. Heppner is about to finish, and Southeast Heppner probably will be coming before long.

In a general election, which does not have such a mass of candidates, the election returns would be getting pretty well wrapped up by this time.

WHEN they changed the traditional date of the primary election from the third Friday of May to a Tuesday, they didn't consult weekly newspaper editors!

Most little newspapers get involved in the job of collecting unofficial returns, and to have it come on the night before publication is just a bit much. One faces the prospect of staying up all night—or most of it—and then getting into the grind of putting the paper out the next day.

But we'll live through it. Should be able to catch up on sleep on Memorial Day.

IT SEEMS a bit strange to sit here waiting for election returns while television, through its computer projections, has the whole thing wrapped up much. The winners all determined. The CBS boys, back in the east, had their job all done long ago and signed off before we—right here in the home state—get one precinct complete from our own county!

The way this magic is performed is that they—through pre-arrangement with correspondents all over the state—get impartial returns just as soon after 8 p.m. as they can.

This smattering from over a wide area gives them enough to establish a trend and projections are made from these. Thus, just a few minutes after 8 o'clock television was predicting a McCarthy victory over Kennedy. This looked good, all right, in Morrow county since McCarthy held a lead over Bobby in the four incomplete returns that we picked up and fed, via the National Election Service, through the Portland center and consequently into the computers.

After this early pickup of incomplete returns, there is a long dry spell while the counting boards toil, and the complete returns don't begin to sift through until late in the night.

But in the metro center of Portland additional precincts are picked up and added to the totals as soon as they can be gathered.

We're still from Missouri, so to speak, on this computer arrangement that has the outcome all established before the majority of votes are counted.

We suspect that the operators count on the broad base of returns from a wide area to give them validity, but we would think that conditions could converge in such a manner to upset the apperant. For instance, in Morrow county, the Heppner precincts are picked up first.

Their voting habits are considerably different from those in Irrigon and Boardman, which came in considerably later.

Now suppose the same situation prevailed in quite a few of the counties. After a trend seemed to be established, it may be reversed. That would seem to be enough to make the lights flash and the sparks fly from the computer.

WE NOTED that when the polls closed in the Northwest Heppner precinct, Lucy Peterson came out and proclaimed, "Hear ye, the polls are closed!" This

has been done for many years, and probably is required by law even yet, although we don't know for sure. It is the traditional duty of the board chairman to come out and announce, "Hear ye, the polls are closed!" after 8 p.m. on election day.

On the one hand, we have the hearkening back to the time of the town crier, so to speak, while on the other, computers are doing the job for us.

VOTE SEEMED to be heavy for a primary with 81% vote recorded in the Southeast Heppner precinct and almost 80% in the Northeast Heppner precinct. Lexington, too, went nearly 80%, and probably the rest of the county will follow in about the same proportion.

BEFORE SIGNING off, we'll have to say a word about Morrow county's happiest man, regardless of how the election turns out. He is Don Evans, who is as tickled with that artesian well as if he'd struck a pot of gold at the end of a fairbow.

It was chilly Saturday, with a penetrating wind and threat of rain, when he went to install that cap and valve on the new well with the aid of Nate McBride and Roy French, the well driller.

But Don started peeling off his outer duds and plunged right in while the beautiful water drenched him. He got the job done. That valve is a heavy outfit which required McBride's wrecker to hoist around and drop into place.

He was real generous to all the onlookers, too. "One free drink to everybody!" he exclaimed. But you have to furnish your own cups.

## Pioneer Ponderings

By W. S. CAVERHILL

### Have You Taken a Walk?

So much public interest has been aroused in walking 50 miles or less, it seems I should get into the act before it begins to lag. I don't mean the walking part. I mean the talking part. At my age I have no intention of pushing a collection of corns and a sensitive bunion or two over and beyond some place or other.

More walking is a good idea, but I doubt if it will ever be as popular as some of our former crazes, such as long sky watching, marathon dancing, pole sitting, featherbedding, and boondoggling.

In the early days of the Road South country, there were some remarkable walkers. I remember Emmitt Bar who summured a band of sheep on upper Long Creek. I never saw the man on a horse. He would tend camp on foot, take a half sack of flour and a slab of bacon on his back and hit for the mountains, or carry a three gallon bucket of eggs to town to sell. He was a "natural" walker.

Then there was my Uncle Enoch who loped in on us from Vancouver, B. C., in a pair of moccasins, stayed a couple of months, and loped sky watching again to Florida for the winter.

I myself, did the 18 miles from the Brownlee school house to our ranch in three hours. Having thus established myself as an Uncle Enoch, it seemed unnecessary to enter the present rat race.

However, if you do walk, there is no better place to do it than the Road South. The scenery will break the monotony, and if your arches break down or you are immobilized by a "charley horse," the settlers will pick you up.

## Few Left from Heppner Class of 50 Years Ago

If a reunion were held for the Heppner High school graduating class of 50 years ago—1918—no more than five or six could attend, for the rest of the class is deceased.

Garnet Barratt, who was a member of the class, said that he had hoped to arrange a reunion of the surviving classmates, but decided against it when he considered how far they have separated.

Mrs. Ray Taylor (Loa Briggs) is the only surviving member living in Morrow county. Mrs. Lena Kelly (Lena Hughes) was a member of the class as a sophomore but did not graduate with the Heppner class. However, Mrs. Kelly lives in Heppner and was for many years a teacher in Heppner public schools. She still does substitute teaching.

Actual 50th anniversary of the class is May 31, 1968, and the history of the class, with individual pictures, is a part of the 1918 edition of the school annual, according to Barratt.

Barratt sent the picture accompanying this article and states, "I am sure this picture would revive memories of quite a number of our subscribers and would probably provide a little amusement also."

"They were a great gang, and like all sophomores, they all had the 'molest.' Of these 19 members, 10 of them graduated with the class of 1918. Most of the others finished their academic courses in other schools or in other divisions of school curriculum."

Barratt recounted a story concerning "some of us who barely made it."

"Bill Crawford and I were partners in the chemistry laboratory," he writes, "and we did not know until three hours before the class was to graduate whether we had passed our final exams in chemistry."

"We had to make a 75% grade in our final exam in order to finish our science course. We answered seven of the 10 questions in the final and thereby got a final grade of 70. Mr. H. H. Hoffman, the high school superintendent and also our chemistry instructor, said that was a good average for us and finally approved our graduation with the class. (He was very gracious about this but also knew we would not continue in school if we didn't graduate). We could have been two of the most notorious 'smart alex'

dropouts in Heppner school history."

Of the 19 in the sophomore picture, only seven survive, according to Barratt's best recollections, and only five of the graduating class of 12.

## TO THE EDITOR

### Papers Feed Cattle

Dear Editor:  
From "Organic Gardening and Farming," a magazine devoted to better gardening and farming—naturally, comes another use for old newspapers.

We quote: "Cattle subscribe to newspaper diet. New uses for old newspapers keep turning up. Dairy scientists at Penn State University have found that ground-up newsprint and molasses make a good nutritious cattle feed. Heifers gained as much weight on the mixture as another group given a high quality feed supplement. Both received the same amount of conventional corn silage in the 56-day test. The test cows digested 2 1/2 pounds of paper a day, stomaching the bad news along with the good. And, according to the researcher, they liked newsprint as much as the higher priced slick magazines."

Now, any new news on the uses to which our newspapers are put?

Art Crawford  
4852 Kingston Way,  
San Jose, Calif.

### Who Gets Credit?

Ione, Oregon  
May 24, 1968

Dear Mr. Sherman:  
Now who gets the credit? Please count me, among many, as one who believes that all the credit is due to God our Father and maker, with His Son Jesus Christ, for the rain we so urgently needed.

"For He maketh His sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust."

Who made the mountains?  
Who made the trees?  
Who made rivers that flow to the seas?  
And who sends the rain?  
When the ground is dry?  
Somebody bigger than you and I.

Sincerely,  
Esther Barnett

## The Rhyming Philosopher

### QUESTION

WHAT MAKES A ROOSTER CROW AT NIGHT?  
DOES HE REMEMBER SOME FORGOTTEN HEN,  
OR VAINLY SEEK TO EXPEDITE  
THE DAWN; OR JUST AN AFTERTHOUGHT AMEN?

WHY SHOULD A TREE GROW TALL AND STRAIGHT?  
TO SEEK THE SUN, OR MAYBE TO DEFY  
THE PULL OF GRAVITY, AND WAIT  
WITH ARMS OUTSTRETCHED, PERHAPS TO SOMEDAY  
FLY?

WHAT MOTIVATES THE SEARCH FOR SPACE?  
THE NEED TO COLONIZE ANOTHER EARTH  
FOR FUTURE HORDES TO FIND A PLACE  
TO LIVE? SO WHY NOT HALT THE NEED AT BIRTH?

AND WHY SHOULD MEN WITH SUCH SHORT YEARS  
FOR LIFE, WASTE ENERGIES IN HATE AND WAR?  
WHY SPOIL THE YEARN TO LOVE WITH TEARS  
WHEN PEACE AND BEAUTY STAND AT OPEN DOOR?

HARRY W. FLETCHER

## TO THE EDITOR...

### Strawberry P. O.

Dear Helen and Wesley:

I have, like many others, been quite interested in your information on Gooseberry and its post office and its history.

However, I have not seen any mention of there ever being a place called Strawberry.

It was located about nine miles north of Lexington and was named for the wild strawberries that grew there.

I have the original diploma commissioning Jesse C. White as the postmaster on March 7, 1904. It was signed in Washington on the thirteenth day of April, 1904, by the postmaster general, Henry J. Payne. I have this because Jesse White was my grandfather.

However, this seems to not have been a post office but for about four years for on December 31, 1908, it was discontinued.

Thanks for letting me put my little bit in. Best of wishes to all the people in Morrow county.

LaVerne Henderson  
1001 Oak Street  
Hood River, Oregon

(Editor's Note: Thanks for the interesting information. Giles French has now compiled information on Morrow county post offices which we will publish as soon as we get the rush of the primary election out of the way. His list shows that the Strawberry post office was established on March 7, 1904, and continued until December 31, 1908, with J. C. White as the postmaster, corroborating your information).

### Seeks SOC Alumni

To the Editor:  
The Alumni Association of Southern Oregon College is attempting to locate graduates of the school living in the area who are not on the current mailing list, as new chapters and a number of class reunions are being planned.

Any graduate who has not been receiving the Alumni Newsletter is asked to contact Hugh G. Simpson, Alumni Director at SOC. The Spring Newsletter will soon be in the mail and anyone who has not received a copy within the last year will receive one upon notification of the Association's permanent mailing list.

Thank you very much for this and other past services your publication has performed for our college.

Yours very truly,  
Hugh G. Simpson

### Likes Kind Words

Dear Mr. Sherman:  
Thank you so much for the kind words about "Music in May" in your May 9 "Chaff and Chatter" column.

We have forwarded a copy of the clipping to Standard Oil, producers of the Standard School Broadcast. I know that they, and Carmen Dragon, will appreciate it also.

Sincerely yours,  
(Mrs.) Maxine Sullivan  
Public Information Assistant

## COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

### Coming Events

**DON'T FORGET TO VOTE ON MORROW COUNTY SCHOOL BUDGET MONDAY, JUNE 3**

**PIONEER MEMORIAL PICNIC**  
Thursday, May 30, Heppner Fair Pavilion  
Registration from 10:30 a.m. Potluck dinner, noon  
All old-timers urged to attend

**GOLDEN AGE CLUB**  
Regular meeting, Tuesday, June 4  
Episcopal Parish Hall  
Potluck dinner and entertainment

**COUNTY GUN CLUB**  
14th Annual Spring Shoot  
Sunday, June 2

**AUCTION & BARBECUE**  
Willows Grange Hall, Ione  
Saturday, June 1  
Auction starts at 10:30 a.m.  
Beef Barbecue Dinner at 12:30 p.m.  
Lots of fun for everyone  
Sponsored by Ione United Church of Christ

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