

THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97836 Phone 676-9222 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 HELEN E. SHERMAN ARNOLD RAYMOND Shop Foreman Printer GAIL BURKENBINE Society Circulation

EDITOR AND PUBLISHER ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER REGGIE PASCAL Linotype Operator RANDY STILLMAN Apprentice 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.

Heartening News

In a year that has seen some local economic recession on the business front, experienced a drought with creeks dry or near dry at this time, and a poor yield in the harvest, the news in a telegram from Congressman Al Ullman is heartening.

He states that, in his judgment, the Willow Creek project ranks number one in priority for funding in the next fiscal year in Congress.

What a lift it will give local economy—and morale—if the appropriation is authorized next year! Probably to become a reality, it would have to be included in the President's budget, which is prepared early in the year—not too far away.

Morrow county stands on the threshold of so many great projects, but to this point it has always been a "bridesmaid" instead of a "bride."

The economy urgently needs one of them to be culminated—and Willow Creek seems among the most likely. Maybe others will follow—the Kelly Prairie impoundment (—or it could be first); development of some of the irrigation projects to the north; eventually the Columbia Southside project; the Rhea Creek project and others.

An area cannot stand still. It has to go forward, or it will slip backward. Without any of these developments reaching culmination, we've been slipping. There's no doubt of it.

The irony is that Morrow county has some of the greatest possibilities of any county in the state. Its potential for port facilities and industries along the Columbia are wonderful to contemplate.

Leaders in the county are working hard to secure approval of some of these projects, and to encourage private development.

Senator Wayne Morse is coming to Heppner on Monday, August 19, and it is hoped that there will be opportunity to show him firsthand, what is needed to get us moving upward.

There is no doubt that development is going to come to Morrow county—and come strongly. Recreational facilities will be developed immensely, and this is one of the best hopes for local economic bolstering.

It has been slow in coming. But Cong. Ullman's telegram may be a harbinger of good news on the way. Many in this area fervently hope so.

One Place for Gun Control

There are pros and cons on gun control legislation, which have been hotly debated since the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy.

Regardless how one feels about the issue, it may be said with some certainty that there is a class of gun-wielders which certainly isn't doing any good for those who feel that control of firearms is an inadvisable step.

We're not referring to the criminals at which the legislation is directly aimed, but we're thinking of the nuisances who go around shooting at any kind of target.

In particular, we're thinking of the trigger-happy characters who take it as a matter of pride to fire away at every highway sign. They desecrate the signs, which are placed for directional or cautionary purposes, to the point that they are virtually useless.

In so doing, the shooters endanger lives and property. Coming over the road between Arlington and McNab Sunday we noticed that road crews had installed new signs at hazardous curves, or perhaps, in some instances, repainted old ones. But already these signs were full of holes and dents. Some gun happy guy or guys just couldn't wait.

The State of Oregon reported a few years ago that this sort of vandalism to road signs costs \$50,000 per year—in tax money.

It's amazing how they get the job done on some of these signs. One never sees the plinkers at it, and some of the targets are the huge interstate highway signs that line the freeway routes. It must take some real planning to blaze away at some of the signs without getting caught at it.

Think of the possible danger of firing at these signs when traffic may be approaching. Someone may be just over the brow of a hill where a bullet might carry.

Those who use firearms so wantonly should have their privilege thoroughly reviewed.

They might consider, while they are zeroing in on road signs and other public facilities, they are alienating those people, who to this point, have tended to side with those opposed to national gun control legislation.

It's Gonna Be Great!

A preview of the new grandstand at the rodeo grounds Tuesday leaves a person with the feeling that the improvement is going to be even better than it promised to be.

Not only does it show strength and sturdiness—in contrast to the rickety appearing old wood structure that has now faded into history—but it is a thing of beauty. It gives the feeling of spaciousness, easy access, and will undoubtedly be a great deal more comfortable for spectators, who can watch events on the field with a wide open view.

The new stands should attract bigger crowds to the events on the field and add enjoyment to watching them. Perhaps in some quarters there was feeling that this improvement should be delayed, that maybe some other improvements were needed more (such as a better water system for the grounds). But the new grandstand is—by contrast with the old one—inviting. One won't have to double up his legs between the rows or put his feet over the backs of the seats in front. He won't have to have the uneasy feeling that it may collapse or worry about a fire.

The fair board is to be wholeheartedly congratulated on getting this job done, and the contractors for their work and getting it finished on time, even with some delays on materials.

As it looks right now, "It's gonna be great!" —And, by the way, that time is about here. Fair time is just around the corner, starting on August 20, and the rodeo follows on August 24-25. It's time to be getting ready and to be getting into the spirit.

The new grandstand is really going to add something to the events this year. It certainly contributes to the beauty of the Heppner area and the public facilities here, joining the new swimming pool, the hospital, library-museum, city park, schools and other fine facilities of which to be proud.

Chaff and Chatter Wes Sherman

THIS IS the time of the summer when you suddenly realize it is almost gone just when you are about ready for it to begin. And you can feel that touch of fall in the air already, even though it does stay warm. There's just that l-e-e-t-t-l-e twinge... School is less than a month away. And we still haven't had that vacation trailer out!

GOING DOWN the freeway Sunday, the co-publishers passed the miles away trying to determine whether the house trailer owners or the camper owners, both pleasure bent, are the happier.

We did this by trying to catch the expressions on their faces as we passed. Somehow we had the thought that a trailer owner, slowed somewhat by the bulk of the load behind and perhaps in fear of it becoming unhitched, would carry a harassed "wish-I-were-back-home" look.

The conjecture was that the camper owners, with the house secure on a pickup body and not stretching so far on the highway, might feel less peril in traffic and therefore be more content and relaxed.

We passed quite a few enroute home from the valley, and somehow it seemed that indeed the trailer drivers were more at ease.

But we came around one good-sized trailer, pulled by a station wagon. The driver was obviously at peace with the world and his face mirrored abject contentment.

But this was a familiar face! It was Dr. Wally Wolf, headed home with his family from British Columbia. He didn't realize it, but Wally got in some points in favor of the trailer owners in our inconsequential survey.

But this man always radiates an easy poise and relaxed manner.

WERE GETTING requests to plug for a return engagement

of Joltin' Joe Balfe to ride on the wild cows at the rodeo again this year, some making the comment that this was the best part of the show.

We understand that some are wagering that Joe can bounce higher and hit harder than he did last year.

Then we hear that the good barrister, being a game guy, is ready for another go. With all the experience he got last year, which added up to something like 5 second, he might just hang on this year for a legal ride.

And from another quarter we hear that others in the amateur class feel that they may top Joe's showing and that he is going to get some stern challenges.

Well, sir, we'll put our wager on Joe. —as we stand safely behind the fence, of course.

JOE MAY be an amateur at rodeoing but he's not the greenhorn we are. We're like the guy who asked the clerk, "How much are your spurs?"

The clerk answered, "Ten dollars a pair."

"Here's five dollars. Give me one."

Clerk: "What can you do with one spur?"

"Well, I reckon if I get one side of the horse going, the other side will keep up."

BUT MAYBE we're even a worse greenhorn than that, like the fellow who couldn't tell his two horses apart. He tried cutting the tail off one and the mane off the other—but this didn't work because they both soon grew back. Then he had a blinding inspiration. He measured them. Sure enough, the black horse was two inches taller than the white one.

AND IF we ever managed to own a stock ranch, we'd have to call it Oleo Acres—one of the cheaper spreads.

Committee Urges Help Preventing Littering State

Governor McCall's Committee for a Livable Oregon has called for Oregonians to help prevent littering of recreation and scenic areas, rivers and highways of the state during the months of increasing outdoor activity. It also urged a permanent, privately-financed organization be formed to undertake programs attacking problems of public conduct in the use of the outdoors.

The committee chairman, J. Herbert Stone, reported the committee commended the Izaak Walton League and the federal Bureau of Land Management for anti-littering programs and also commended other public groups and private citizens for similar efforts.

"Parents were urged to instruct the youngsters of the criminal status of vandalism in the public domain, which has become a critical situation in heavily-used areas, and to stop throwing away soft drink containers and plastic and metallic materials that resist disintegration when exposed to the elements," Stone added.

"Littering of our scenic areas is a deplorable abuse of our natural environment and the livability of Oregon," the committee's resolution stated.

The committee also backed Governor McCall's recent appeal for greater diligence by enforcement officers and courts in using existing statutes and penalties against littering.

It was noted the laws now provide for lifting of fishing and boat licenses from persons convicted of littering streams, and fines of \$100 for highway littering and \$500 for throwing burning materials from automobiles.

In urging a state-wide organization to combat vandalism, the committee noted that "senseless destruction of facilities provided for public enjoyment and comfort is costing Oregonians many thousands of dollars annually."

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Gentry and family enjoyed two weeks of camping in their camper trailer while staying at Lake Tahoe and Reno, Nev. The couple also visited friends in Burns prior to going to Nevada, and on the return trip visited with family friends in Lake Oswego before arriving home Saturday night.

He was on his vacation from his job as foreman with Columbia Basin Electric and she from her job at Bank of Eastern Oregon.

Guaranteed Income (From the Valley-Herald, Milton-Freewater) What with all this comment lately by our modern bureaucrats, economists and other experts, we thought we would refer to an earlier authority.

"For even when we were with you, this we commanded of you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies."

Pioneer Ponderings



By W. S. CAVERHILL

"Ulcer Gulch" The man said, "I spent the week-end in Ulcer Gulch." Where is it? If it is a part of the physical geography of Eastern Oregon, I fail to locate it. I can find the Devil's Garden, Hellfire Flat, The Sinks, Funny Bug Basin, Peep Creek, Backwater Creek, Starve Out, the Stinking Springs, etc.; but "Ulcer Gulch" stops me cold. Maybe someone who reads this article will have an answer. I hesitate to write this, but I am inclined to think the man referred to some isolated bar room where ice tinkles in a glass of Bourbon.

Christian Church Officers Chosen

Homer Hughes of Lexington has been chosen chairman of the Unity Council of the Heppner and Lexington Christian churches, administrative organization of the churches, in elections held during the past week.

Other members of the council are Paul Jones, Clarence Baker, Bob Harrison and Vernon Munkers.

The council conducts business of both churches. Officers are elected for one year.

Churches Publish Membership Books

New membership directories, featuring pictures of most of the families in the churches, have been issued by the Heppner and Lexington Christian churches with printing by a Los Angeles firm, Al Boschee, pastor, announces.

The directories list names and address of each member and pictures are printed by family groups. Selections from the Bible are also included.

TO THE EDITOR...

(Editor's note: The following two letters were written to Dr. D. McMurdo in response to the story about him that has traveled all over the world via the Associated Press. They are reprinted because they reveal, in interesting manner, what two former Heppnerites are doing).

From China

Dear Doctor: "It's a small world" and it's always a delight to have fresh evidence to prove it. There are times when I feel the weight of the world on my shoulders and how good it is to see something that cuts it down to size. It can't be so big when I can pick up an English language newspaper (The China Post) in Free China and read a fine article about an old friend in my home town.

I don't recall your using a horse and buggy for country calls, as the article says, although I used to ride in such a rig with my father when he was County School Superintendent making his rounds of the country schools. What I do remember your using is a series of Franklin automobiles which you drove until they quit making them.

Do you remember that among the things you advised our taking with us to China's Tibetan Border, when we first went in 1934, was a supply of anhydrous lanoline? When we learned how to blend it with almond oil, cucumber juice and some perfume, it proved to be great stuff. We even used it to treat burns when that happened to be the need among the many people who used to come to us with their afflictions.

Your interest in the doings of the youngsters of Heppner caused us all to hold you in special regard. Symbolic of your enthusiasm was the welcome you gave a weary troop of Boy Scouts one evening after dark when we passed your house, chanting a new yell that our Scoutmaster, the Rev. W. O. Livingston, had taught us to take our minds off our sore feet. When you heard us you ran out of the house and emptied all of the chambers of your revolver into the air. What a salute! We talked about that with considerable awe for days.

In addition to preaching regularly in Chillyville and having the responsibilities of the Mission Office, we also have a Christian Bookstore and wholesale agency that takes much of our time. The ministry of Christian Literature in Chinese is growing rapidly and the possibilities are tremendous. It's great to have a significant part in it.

There is another matter that is a very great concern: Kaohsiung Port is one favored by the U. S. Navy for shoreleave and hundreds of U. S. Servicemen through the streets every day. The need for a Christian Servicemen's Center here is so urgent that we have felt impelled to begin a campaign to raise money to buy a building that can be used for that purpose and also for the expansion of the Literature work. We have the pledge of the Overseas Christian Servicemen's Organization (a really fine group) to cooperate with us in the operation of a center for servicemen if we can get a building. So far, we have received a little over \$8,000 toward this; a fair beginning, but in this city with its soaring property costs, we need nearly ten times that amount.

Our home office has officially approved the project, but the Society's world-wide commitments (850 missionaries) are so very heavy that no funds are available for this special need. Remembering your concern for the youth of our home town, particularly the ones away from home in military service, I just thought you would be interested in knowing about this. If you have opportunity to say a word to someone in position to help, please do. I'd be so happy if many Morrow County people would undertake to provide a wholesome place in Kaohsiung for the many lonesome lads in

overseas service. Who knows, some of them might be on our own neck of the woods? We meet them from all parts of the U. S.

Please give our warm greetings to the members of your family and to all the friends that you may occasionally contact.

Cordially yours, Charles E. Notson The Christian and Missionary Alliance P. O. Box 313 Kaohsiung, Taiwan Republic of China

From Turkey

Dear Dr. McMurdo: Reading about you in the Turkish Daily News was like receiving a letter from home. Congratulations on your years of service and your continuing activity. You must be a person who enjoys life to the full.

Actually my career as a Christian minister had its roots in Heppner, Oregon. My first Christian service was performed there in the summer of 1925. I had finished my sophomore year at Pacific University in Forest Grove, and was assigned to conducting vacation Bible schools in Heppner, Condon, White Salmon and Stevenson. It was a memorable summer. In those days, they were still pulling combines with long horse teams.

Is the church where we held the DVBS still there? I do not see it listed among Congregational churches. The Rev. Stuart Goude, who built the new church in Condon, is a good friend of mine. When I was area superintendent for the Southern California and Southwest Cong. Church of Christ (Cong'l) with my southwest office in Phoenix, I got Stuart to serve a rustic old church in a copper mining town near Tucson, named Oracle. He did an excellent job there, building up the church, enlarging the social hall, and building a beautiful brick parsonage.

From 1955-60 I was minister of the Federated Church (Cong'l, Presb'n.) in Corvallis, Oregon. I love that state, and revel in the fishing, hunting and camping. If I can remain active as long as you, maybe I will come back on retirement and take a small church in Arizona, Oregon or Washington. We have been in Istanbul two years and plan to stay another three.

My wife and I wish to extend best wishes to you and your family and hope you can go on "enjoying life for a long time" more.

Yours sincerely, Perry Avery, D. D. The Union Church of Istanbul Istilal Caddesi No. 483/1 Istanbul, Turkey

Scott Brown Writes

To the Editor: If we miss getting the Gazette-Times any week it makes me feel like I've missed a meal. I have taken the paper since I was a lad. Of course, the front page of the Portland Oregonian is news; apparently the rest is ads.

I wonder if my piece is worthy of a space in your paper: "This administration has had a very severe case of federal reserve fever."

"The budget should be cut to the core."

"Some foreign aid would help some more."

"And that five billion dollar moon expense."

"Then they would be using what I call common sense."

"Now 20 cents is all our paper dollar is worth."

"Don't you think we need a change before it gets worse?"

"They have used federal money till they have inflation."

"And skyrocketed prices till they have wrecked the nation."

"The gypsy read Uncle Sam's fortune right out of the cup."

"Said, 'They have you on a sheepskin with the slick side up.'"

"Now I haven't got a chip on my shoulder."

"But cannot help but think about this as I get older."

"I always liked a smart man

with something to tell "But some of those fellows suit me a little too well. "Now, we all know that this world is in space, "That's as plain as the nose on your face. "And whirls at the rate of 1037 1/2 miles an hour, that's to be exact. "The funny part is they cannot change that. "Attraction of gravitation was nature's method. "They didn't need any dough. "Magellan discovered that two hundred and fifty years ago. "As I have said before, to give away one billion dollars "At the rate of one thousand dollars an hour around the clock. "It would take one hundred and fourteen years, one month, twenty-six days and six hours to do the job." Scott Brown 4934 N. E. Pacific Portland, Oregon

Orville Writes

To the Editor: I'm sitting in a tent on Weisse Creek, 130 miles east of Kotzebue, Alaska, 40 miles by airplane from the nearest landing field at Kiana. I'm gold mining and am getting some, too—26 ounces in four day's work.

I just received our copy of the Gazette from my good wife and, needless to say, it was well received. I am sorry I so worded my letter to the editor of July 3 that it could be construed to censor your policy towards these mountain recreation areas. In writing, never gave the mutual development on Penland Prairie one thought.

I was trying to get some attention by you and others about the total lack of planning in the development of other areas without naming them. You will recall that I brought up this matter at Chamber a month ago pertaining to these developments and the obligation they would incur to the county with no tax revenue because of the lack of a building code by the county or any protection for the taxpayers who in the end must build the roads and etc.

Now I will talk about the Penland Prairie impoundment and development. There will be a maximum of 25 lots sold there on the lake. These lots will consist of lands 100x600 ft., 100 ft. lake frontage and each shareholder will own 1/25 of the dam and lake.

With the thought in mind, we, the shareholders, have signed an agreement upon the type of construction code, wiring and plumbing and etc. to protect ourselves and the taxpayer.

I wish that you would go to Phil Mahoney's office and read it, publish it if Phil sees fit, then go up to the courthouse and read there copies of the deeds from other developments. The Realty Board will not let us advertise our development as we are getting an exemption from them to avoid licensing, getting permits and etc.

Now for this State of Alaska. The weather has been perfect except for two hot days, 98 above. The other 20 days of my time here have been very good, about 75.

We have a dredge on Calry Creek and a sluicing operation on Weisse Creek. The dredge will start operation Monday. We saw about 250 caribou, four bull moose and one grizzly, but I haven't shot my rifle. Too busy, and the game was inaccessible.

Respectfully yours, O. W. Cutsforth

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

BAND PRACTICE Practices for Heppner band students start Monday, Aug. 12, 7 p.m., elementary school band room. Grades 7 through 12, and over. All last year students urged to attend.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL Heppner Methodist Church Monday through Friday, Aug. 12-16 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. All ages through 6th grade invited.

RHEA CREEK GRANGE PICNIC Sunday, Aug. 11, 1:30 p.m. Anson Wright Memorial Park All Grange members and families invited to attend.

FAIR & RODEO DANCE and CORONATION Coronation Ceremonies for Queen Bernice Matthews Saturday, Aug. 10, 8:30 p.m. Dance following music by The Western Gentlemen of Condon. Rodeo Dances, Friday and Saturday nights, Aug. 23-24.

Plan now to enter Morrow County Fair exhibits — Aug. 20-23

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The Rhyming Philosopher

CONFIDENCE

I GRIEVE A BIT FOR THOSE WHO NEVER KNEW THE BLESSED HUSH OF WOODS IN WINTER SNOWS; OR WATCHED A BUD EVOLVE INTO A ROSE.

LONG GONE IS NOW THE DUSTY COUNTRY WAY WHERE FLODDING HORSES PULLED THE WAGON HOME FROM FRAGRANT FIELDS OF THAT SWEET-SCENTED HAY WHICH FILLED THE AIR 'NEATH HEAVEN'S HANGING DOME.

THE SILENCE OF THE NIGHT IS BANISHED, TOO, BY TRAFFIC'S ROAR IN BOTH THE SKY AND ROAD; AND SO COUNT THOSE AMONG THE VANISHED WHO ONCE PIONEERED THE PLACE OF MY ABODE.

BUT WHO SHALL SIGH FOR PLEASANT THINGS UNKNOWN, OR ASK OF YOUTH TO RECONSTRUCT THE PAST WHEN YOUNGSTERS ON THEIR MAGIC WINGS HAVE FLOWN TO GREATER DEEDS, AND CONFIDENTLY LAUGHED?

FORGET IT DAD, SAYS YOUTH: THE PAST IS DEAD AND CANNOT, SHALL NOT ROB US OF TODAY. THERE'S MORE EXCITEMENT IN THE TASKS AHEAD THAN ALL THE DUST AND COBWEBS OF DECAY.

HARRY W. FLETCHER