

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97836, Thursday, October 3, 1968 10 Cents

County Tax Bill Shows Sharp Increase

Average Hike Hits 18 Percent

Morrow county's total property tax bill for 1968-69 will be \$1,659,646.43, Bill Johnson, appraiser told members of the Heppner-Morrow county Chamber of Commerce Monday.

This is an increase of \$255,903.22 over last year's total of \$1,403,743.21 and reflects an average tax rate increase around the county of 18.23%.

All 22 of the county's code areas show increases, ranging from 11.7 percent in code area 39-2, a rural area near Boardman, to 42.2 percent increase in code area 25-1, the City of Boardman. The big increase at Boardman was brought about by a considerable extent by the voting of a new tax base for the new city. This represented an increase in taxes there for city purposes above last year of 503.10%.

This year code area 1-1 (area within Heppner city limits) takes top spot as having the highest tax rate in the county at \$23.27 per \$1000 of assessed valuation. Code area 35-1 (area within lone city limits) is second at 22.70, and code area 25-1 (Boardman) is third at \$20.90.

In a review of Morrow county's 1968-69 property values and taxes, Johnson pointed out that 75.67% of the property tax load is borne by real property, 11.33% by personal property, and 13% by public utilities.

Schools Take Most

Schools will take 71.74% of the taxes in the county this year, and 14.07% will go for county purposes. Cities of the county will take 4.06%, and miscellaneous districts will take 10.13%.

On the 1968-69 tax bill, property taxpayers will remit at the rate of 1.713% of true cash value, Johnson said, which is somewhat above the 1.5% limit that would be imposed if the initiative measure on the November 5 ballot is approved.

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Kelly Prairie Core Drilling Approved

Oregon State Game Commission has authorized \$15,000 for core drilling work at Kelly Prairie. County Judge Paul Jones announced Tuesday after talking with A. V. Myers of the commission on the telephone.

This will be the first money to be earmarked for the proposed reservoir and fish impoundment that has been in the talking and planning stages for some time.

The county judge received the information with enthusiasm and said that it indicates the game commission is "favorably inclined towards eventual building of the reservoir."

A previous move towards the project was stalemated when the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation declined to grant matching money for the project. Since then, the U. S. Forest Service has indicated interest in developing the project within the next few years.

In the first proposal, the game commission was to devote some of its funds on a matching plan with the federal government and listed the project as one of high priority.

A contract for the core drilling, which will take samples as a part of a survey to determine feasibility of constructing a dam, will require the work to be done prior to July 1, 1969, Judge Jones said, however, that the job may be done at a much earlier time.

Myers has requested a special meeting with the county court in the near future to go over plans, Judge Jones said.

This is one of two projects in view for the mountain recreation area southeast of Heppner. Penland Prairie, spurred by Orville Cutsforth, is to be developed as a public and private reservoir with lots being sold to individuals around part of the lake frontage to finance the project.



CONGRESSMAN AL ULLMAN warmly greets a long-time admirer, C. N. Jones of Heppner, following the congressman's visit here Friday. Ullman was guest of honor at a luncheon. Jones is father of County Judge Paul Jones, Marcel Jones and Floyd Jones. (G-T Photo)

Ullman Expects Congress To Support Projects Here

Oregon's Congressional delegation is "putting together a package" which may result in money for a start on the Willow Creek project next year, Congressman Al Ullman told a group of some 40 persons who gave him a warm welcome at his appearance here Friday at a luncheon in the banquet room of the Wagon Wheel Cafe.

The Congressman, who was in the midst of a busy schedule that had him appearing at Ukiah at a dinner in his honor the night before and headed for Portland Friday evening, was enthusiastic in his predictions for the Columbia Southside project.

"I'm proud of this," he said, referring to the project which is studying the possibilities of irrigating vast acreages on the south side of the Columbia River. He told of his work on this and said, "I got in the budget the initial money for the Southside project."

This project, in years when food surplus was great, would not have received consideration in Congress, he said, but added, "In a few short years the situation has changed." Surpluses are declining and public figures are looking to irrigation to produce more food in the future.

Authorization Foreseen

"I firmly believe we can get the authorization for this project," he said. "This will have more affect than anything else in your lifetime. It will change the face of the land."

He pointed out that the "very mechanics" of the project though, will take a number of years—three or four years for a reconnaissance study, three or four for a feasibility study, then additional time to draft legislation for authorization, and finally, seeking the appropriation.

As to the Willow Creek project, he said that he believes the Army Corps of Engineers will have a recommendation for an initial start next year.

Turning to the John Day dam, which was dedicated the day after he spoke here, Cong. Ullman said that in his first year in Congress, he and Sen. Morse were able to get \$1 million for a new start that resulted in the dam.

"Even with \$100,000,000 spent on relocation this will be one of the most feasible projects ever developed," he declared.

Discussing social problems, the congressman said, "We can't fix social problems under the rug. We have to face up to them. We have made some progress in the past few years."

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Mrs. Drake Named To Juvenile Post

Mrs. Grace Drake, who came to Morrow county years ago as a home extension agent, has been appointed juvenile counselor for the county by the county court on a two months' trial basis, County Judge Paul Jones said Tuesday.

Her work began on that day, and she was to attend a three-day Oregon Correctional Association conference in Salem starting Wednesday. She will receive a salary of \$150 per month for the part time work, together with limited travel and mileage expense. The salary was set by the county budget committee.

Mrs. Drake succeeds the Rev. Al Boschee in the counselor position. He recently left Heppner to take a position in La Grande as juvenile officer for Union county.

The new counselor and her late husband, Douglas Drake, have been active in youth work in the county for years. He was killed in a hunting accident a year ago.

Wheat Meet Set

Annual fall meeting of the Morrow County Wheatgrowers association will be Wednesday, October 23, at St. Patrick's parish hall, Bob Rietmann, president, announces. The growers have extended an invitation to members of the Heppner-Morrow county Chamber of Commerce to be guests at luncheon on that day. Further details of the meeting will be announced later.

Indian Summer

Balmy weather marked the week with a high of 83 degrees reported, a little too warm for the start of deer season. Don Gilliam, official weather observer, said that September hit the normal precipitation on the dot, the normal being .80 inch and September, 1968, recorded .80 inch. Complete report for the week is as follows:

Day	Hi	Low	Prec.
Wednesday	83	46	—
Thursday	82	46	—
Friday	70	51	—
Saturday	70	38	—
Sunday	78	43	—
Monday	83	46	—
Tuesday	71	53	—

More details will be announced in ensuing weeks.

Saturday Last Day to Register

Saturday, October 5, is the last day to register for the general election on Tuesday, November 5, Mrs. Sadie Parrish, Morrow county clerk, reminds the public.

Any who are new to this area, those who have not voted in recent elections, those who have just become of age, or those whose voting status has changed by reason of marriage or other changes may be required to register.

For the convenience of the public the office of the clerk at the county courthouse here will be open from 8:30 a.m. until 8 p.m. Saturday. The clerk will be glad to advise those who are uncertain of their voting status.

Both political parties urge all who are eligible to vote to register.

Annual Banquet Slated October 30

Annual joint banquet of the Morrow county Livestock Growers, Heppner-Morrow county Chamber of Commerce, and the Heppner Soil and Water Conservation district will be Wednesday evening, October 30, it is announced.

Walter Leth, Director of the State Department of Agriculture, will be speaker at the meeting. The banquet will be at the conclusion of the annual livestock growers meeting here which will be held on the afternoon of October 30. Larry Lindsay will be master of ceremonies at the banquet. A number of awards will be made by participating organizations at the event.

More details will be announced in ensuing weeks.

Nelson Elected As MCGG Director

D. O. Nelson of Lexington was elected a director of Morrow County Grain Growers, Inc., at a meeting of the directors Tuesday evening, September 24, General Manager Harlan McCurdy, Jr., said.

Nelson will fill the unexpired term of Walter Jacobs who recently moved to Moses Lake, Wash. Barton Clark was previously elected president of the cooperative, taking Jacobs' place in this office.

Nelson's term will extend until the annual meeting in November, 1969.

The directors last Tuesday also fixed the date of the annual meeting this year for Monday, November 25 at the Morrow county fair pavilion, Heppner. The Willows Grange of Lone will serve the dinner at the meeting.

Fire Closure On; Hunters Welcome

As of October 1, the Governor of Oregon has not removed the general fire closure for the State of Oregon. This means that the two rule fire closure is in force within the area protected from fire by the Umatilla, Malheur, and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests.

There are local areas within the northeastern Oregon area that have reduced fire hazards and have been released from the general closure.

Wright T. Mallory, forest supervisor of the Umatilla National Forest, extends a welcome to those who will be using the National Forests this fall, and points out that, to this date, the 1968 fire season on the Umatilla National Forest has been a successful one, having burned over only a total of 68 acres in 183 individual acres in 138 individual fires.

"With the coming of hunting season, we will need the assistance of all forest users to maintain this record," he said. "If you are going to be in the forest this fall, continue to be properly equipped in your camp, have a shovel, axe and water bucket, don't smoke while traveling, and drop all fires before you leave them."

George Van Hoomissen, Democratic candidate for Secretary of State of Oregon, will campaign in Heppner Monday, October 7. Van Hoomissen, who is district attorney of Multnomah County will fly from Portland to the Lexington airport near Heppner Monday morning, arriving about 8:30 a.m. He will visit the Heppner Kinzua sawmill and is scheduled to speak to students at Heppner High school at 10:25 a.m.

At noon he will make a speech to the Heppner-Morrow county Chamber of Commerce. He will then fly to La Grande for further campaigning.

Arrangements for Van Hoomissen's appearances in Heppner are being made by W. C. Rosewall and by O. W. Cutsforth, Sr., Morrow county chairman of the Van Hoomissen for Secretary of State committee.

Van Hoomissen, who was first elected District Attorney of Oregon's most populous county in 1962, was re-elected in 1966 without opposition after being nominated by both the Democratic and Republican parties.



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Car Keys Taken, Owners Report

Several Heppner car owners have found themselves in a bit of a plight when they have entered their vehicles after leaving the keys inside, one of them reported Tuesday.

Some unknown person has taken keys from at least four cars, leaving the owners with no means to start them.

In at least one case, locks on the car doors had to be changed because the serial number for making duplicate keys could not be determined.

The matter has been referred to police for investigation.

After having keys taken from two cars at his place, the owner said, "At least I have learned a lesson not to leave the keys in my car."



GOVERNORS Dan Evans of Washington, left, Tom McCall of Oregon and Don Samuelson of Idaho, in a rare appearance together, chatted briefly on the speakers platform prior to dedication ceremonies at the John Day Dam. Each spoke on significance of the dam in terms of influence on Pacific Northwest's total environment. Dedication was sponsored by Inland Empire Waterways Assn. in cooperation with U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

General Election Ballots Printed; Absentees Go Out

General election is still a month away but the ballots have been printed for at least three counties—Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler.

Mrs. Sadie Parrish, Morrow county clerk, said Tuesday that she has already mailed about 20 ballots to absentee voters, principally servicemen. Their applications had been received prior to the mailing.

The Gazette-Times printed the Morrow county ballots here Thursday and printed those for Gilliam and Wheeler counties Friday with Ed Morgan, Gilliam county clerk, and Jim Mahaffey, publisher of the Condon Globe-Times and Fossil Journal, here to help.

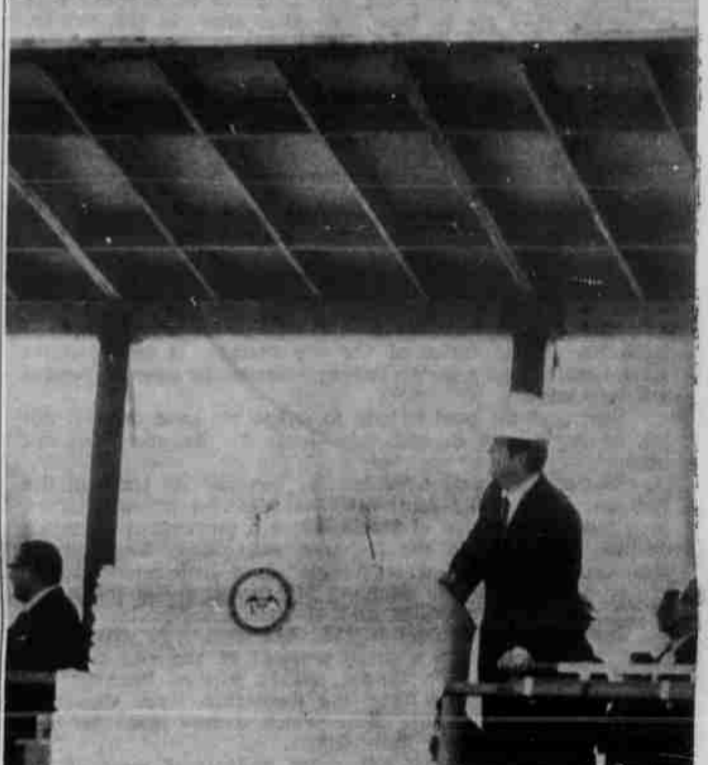
For the general election, the ballots will be considerably shorter than the "bedsheet" ballots of the primaries, although they are a respectable 28 inches long. The Democratic ballot for the May election was 36 inches.

In the general election all voters will receive a copy of the same ballot. It contains national, state and county offices; seven measures; and candidates for nonpartisan offices—superintendent of public instruction, supreme court and circuit court judges, justice of the peace, and port commissioners.

Five of the measures were referred to the people by the legislature and two—the beach bill and the 1½% property tax limitation—are on by initiative petition.

Sample ballots may be obtained at the clerk's office in the courthouse.

John Day Dam DEDICATION SEPT. 10



VICE PRESIDENT HUBERT HUMPHREY, wearing a hard hat from the Army Corps of Engineers, is shown closing a switch to activate the opening of the huge gate on the John Day Dam lock at the dam's dedication program Saturday. The hat presented to the Vice President was several sizes too small. On the platform with him were three governors, four senators, several congressmen and many others prominent in public official and private enterprise. (G-T Photo)

Dam Dedication Draws 5,000; Hear Humphrey

(Pictures also page 2, Section 2)

After 11 years under construction and three to go before completion, the John Day Lock and Dam, largest and mightiest man-built structure in the Pacific Northwest, was formally dedicated at ceremonies Saturday on the Washington shore of the dam.

Vice President Hubert Humphrey, appearing later than scheduled, gave the principal address, and at its conclusion closed a switch that raised the downstream gate on the lock.

"This is the wisest investment the nation ever made," he declared in his talk. He later added, "There never again can be a policy of no new starts," referring to the curtailing of the budget in deference to war needs this year.

"To slow the pace of progress is to lose the chance of progress," he declared.

The vice president's appearance came after the governors of three states, Gov. Tom McCall of Oregon, Gov. Dan Evans of Washington, and Gov. Donald W. Samuelson of Idaho, had extended greetings and stressed the significance of the dam towards progress of the Northwest.

Lt. General W. F. Cassidy, Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, also spoke briefly.

Washington Senators Talk

Senator Henry M. Jackson of Washington introduced Senator Warren Magnuson, also of Washington, who, in turn, introduced Vice President Humphrey. Senator Wayne Morse and Congressman Al Ullman were present but did not speak.

Captain Homer T. Shaver, commissioner of the Portland Dock Commission and president of Shaver Transportation Company, was master of ceremonies.

He introduced the some 60 platform guests, names of whom would comprise a virtual "Who's Who" of figures in government and private enterprise in the Northwest, with many also of national prominence. Oscar Peterson of Lone was a platform guest in his capacity as a director of Inland Empire Waterways.

Musical entertainment was furnished, both in advance of and during the formal program, by the Portland Sunset chapter, SPEBSQSA; the Riverside and Arlington High school bands; and the 21st United States Army Band.

Riverside and Arlington High school bands were chosen to represent the schools because their towns were relocated to provide for the rising waters of Lake Umatilla above the John Day dam.

In a ceremony at 9:30, water in separate vials that had been taken from 40 Columbia Basin cities of the Northwest and Canada was poured together into a container to be emptied into the Columbia. Included was a vial of water from Willow Creek which had been furnished by Mayor W. C. Rosewall of Heppner.

Charles W. Hodde, chairman of the Pacific Northwest River Basins Commission, was in charge of this symbolic ceremony.

Special Train Comes

The crowd was estimated at 5,000 including some 800 that came by special train from Portland. They sat under a bright sun that dissipated an early morning haze that had shrouded the huge concrete dam.

Vice President Humphrey's caravan, which included four large buses, at least six state police cars, several limousines and other autos with Secret Service and press, arrived probably an hour late. It proceeded across the dam from the Oregon side, a privilege that the general motoring public did not enjoy. To the public, access from Oregon was via the bridge at Biggs.

The security precautions that had been taken were in evidence everywhere. Courteous but efficient military policemen from Ft. Lewis, Wash., were on hand all over the installation.

Many Morrow county persons were there, some as invited

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