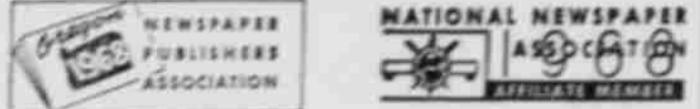


THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

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WESLEY A. SHERMAN
WILEN E. SHERMAN
ARNOLD FAYMOND
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Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

HELEN SHERMAN and her husband agreed a long time ago—when their first-born attained the age of 12 and decided it was time to go into business for himself—that having a paper route in the family is roughly equivalent to having a baby.

Both require continuous care and devotion; each is demanding; both restrict family activities. A baby gets wet, but a paper boy gets water as he makes the route on a rainy winter day. Both will not you out of bed before daylight.

But in the last analysis, both are wonderful, and each is something that a bumper-steering couple should experience in building a home.

This reflection came to mind when Allen Burkenbise brought in the East Oregonian on his faithful route, and his mother, Glad, mentioned something of the weighty problems of the paper route.

LIKE HAVING a child, the experience of having a paper route in the family is quite an education.

It teaches the young son to be a business man, and it soon searches out the stuff he is made of—whether he is steady enough to stick with it, whether he can turn away from an afternoon ball game to go take the route, whether he can stand the moods of his customers, whether he can handle the money he makes, and whether he can collect that owing to him.

It quickly educates his dad and mother. The first thing they learn is the route. The time inevitably comes, on a certain morning, when the alarm clock rings in the boy's bedroom, that there are no loud yawns, no usual sounds of rustling covers.

But out of the stillness comes the respectful small voice, "Dad, I don't feel so good this morning."

It's then that you have to know that you go up two flights of stairs in the Academy apartments, go to the left and drop a paper at the second door on the right; that the one at the Williams place goes in the box behind the hedge; and if it is raining, the paper at the Jones place—where there is no porch—must go inside the screen door at the back of the house. Oh, yes, be sure you don't open the gate at the Smith place—just toss it on the porch—because Bowser is mean and will bite.

IT TEACHES dad to be a handy man. Son Dick was a Cub baseball player when he carried the Oregon Journal. He used his papers to practice pitching along the route, but the trouble was, he was a first baseman. Perhaps it was natural that he made a wild pitch or so, such as the one through a pane of Harold Rich's front glass door. This provided for dad an instant course in window glazing.

IT TEACHES the whole family that just as Wall Street is vital to big business, so is The Substitute the vital key to living compatibly with a paper route.

Dad gets up on a bright Saturday morning. The sun is shining. A great day to take a spontaneous trip to the beach.

"Wouldn't be a bad day to go to the beach," he casually says to his wife.

"Oh, wouldn't it be fun to go to the beach!" he replies.

"Let's go to the beach!" say the three little tots, starting their let's-go dance.

"How about my paper route?" says No. 1 offspring, a bit on the dour side.

Oh, the paper route. Gloom starts to descend on the family. "Maybe I can get my Substitute," says the young carrier-salesman.

So the chant becomes, "Call the Substitute, Call the Substitute, Call him—Now!"

The family gathers around the phone, listens hopefully to the snatches of conversation: "Maybe?—You don't feel so

good?—You'll ask your folks." A pause of sly silence.

"Yeah, Tom—Oh, you can't because you're all color to the beach!"

"Well, the lawn had to be mowed anyhow."

BUT THERE is a joy in doing a job well that the paper boy learns. Son Jim was only 10 when lightning hit for mother and dad once more. He announced that he was going to take a morning Oregonian route; ergo, another baby was born!

The goal was a new bicycle, and the great day eventually came that he blundered down the money for his new Schwinn. All his and paid for.

How many mornings, when the alarm rancorously announced that it was 4:30 a.m., have we listened with apprehension while the rain beat the roof at the rate of about an inch an hour.

You call out, "I better get up and take you in the car."

Somehow you are especially proud of your youngster when he answers, "No, dad, I can make it O.K."

But every drop of that rain beats into your sleepless brain and gnaws conscience until you hear the bike come back into the carport. The son has faced the darkness, the cold and the wet. He is more the man for it.

But there were other mornings when you insisted on going—Or mother.

THE PORTLAND NEWS was a poor fourth among Portland's four daily newspapers when we first carried a paper route. The Oregonian and The Journal were leaders, followed by The Telegram, then the News. Ted Stook, who now holds a high-level position with Sears and Roebuck, showed a good business sense early. He carried The News, but it wasn't a desirable route in Forest Grove because its customers were too far apart. So one carrier had to cover virtually the entire sprawling town.

He conceived the idea of substituting part of the route so split in his mind, and my brother Harry, two years my senior, took half for a dime per afternoon. Eventually, the half-route came to me.

On one night when the snow was deep and still coming down, Ted preferred the fireside to carrying the route and offered to let me take the whole route for 20c. Despite the weather, this was hard to turn down. The extra 15c would buy a sackful of candy at Hoar's Confectionery. Or a fellow could get four Hexo suckers. They were expensive—two for a nickel—but you always had a chance to win another if there was a prize slip under the wrapper.

I took the route, but forgot to tell mother. She was on the verge of calling the police when I arrived home about 9 p.m. sloppily wet, cold and dog tired. But there was that extra dime, and I earned it.

It never occurred to me that I should have framed it and kept it hanging on the wall.

HARRY, now superintendent of the City of Forest Grove Light and Power department, graduated to a Journal route, and again I came in on the chorus. Then brother Carl, seven years more spending money and took on the Oregonian.

He had a model T Ford at his disposal, and on a Sunday morning the three brothers would load down the back seat of that old touring car. Bud (Carl) would drive; Harry would take one side, and I would take the other. Riding on the running board, we would hop off at each stop and scatter Oregonians and Journals all over town.

How we kept from getting them mixed up, I can't remember, but we learned early that The Cardinal Sin of a paper route was to miss somebody, and it seldom seemed to happen. Once in a while we'd get a good howling out from some

TO THE EDITOR

Grateful

To the Editor:
I would like to express to your readers my personal gratitude to all who supported my reelection to Congress by their vote and their help and my deep appreciation to all the people of the Second District for the good will and friendship displayed throughout the campaign.

It is a distinct honor to serve the people of Oregon in the U. S. House of Representatives, and my wish is to continue to serve in a manner that will merit their confidence and approval, regardless of political affiliation.

There will be many difficult problems facing the new Congress. As always, I will welcome comments and advice on these issues, and please my strongest efforts to bring about effective solutions.

Sincerely,
Al Uhlman, M. C.

Two Trackers Club Elects New Officers

The Two Trackers 4-H Horse club held its second meeting November 5 at the county fairgrounds. Our new officers are Craig Munkers, president; Dovie Alderman, vice-president; Tracie Norene, secretary-treasurer; and Kathy Cutforth, reporter.

Sally Matheny was introduced to the club as a new member. Craig Munkers presented a permanent records box to the club.

An interesting movie, "Run Cowboy, Run," about quarter horses, was shown at the end of our meeting.

Kathy Cutforth, reporter

frascable character who didn't appreciate youthful enterprise. We didn't disseminate the news as fast as television but this was about the quickest method of getting the news happenings around at the time.

ONE BIT of philosophy that I developed after years of paper routes in the family is that you can tell a person's character by the way he treats his paper boy. And this is a good thing to remember with the holiday season coming on.

The lad quickly learns when he has a deadbeat to contend with—one who will move without paying his paper bill; or the slicker—the one who swears he paid the bill before; the ordinary customer—who considers it a capital offense if the paper is 15 minutes late.

He learns to appreciate the one who pays him on time; the one who greets him with a smile—and these comprise 90% of the people. Somehow the customer who leaves a box of candy or a tip for the paper boy at Christmas time is one who lingers in his memory for years to come as a "right guy," not so much for the gift but for the thoughtfulness of it.

THE BOY who proves to be a reliable paper carrier has a lot going for him to be a good success as a man. We have noticed many fine paper boys in Heppner, and we'd stake considerable that most of these kids will one day make a good mark in the world. Max Harris has done a fine job of supervising his carriers.

TV may bring the news faster; it may bring it more dramatically; but there is nothing as habit-forming as a newspaper. If it is 15 minutes late and dad doesn't have it at breakfast—or when he gets home at night—he'll be grumpy for hours.

The Gazette-Times has no paper boys, since it all goes by mail, but we have plenty of reason for appreciating these carriers nevertheless.

Salem Scene

by Everett E. Outler

Property Tax Levies Set New Growth Records

Total local property tax levies in Oregon increased more this year, in dollar amounts, than any other single year in state history. Measured in percentages, the increase is the largest in modern Oregon history.

These findings, based upon property tax levies in all 36 counties for fiscal year 1965-66, were published last week by Oregon Tax Research (OTR). If the figures seem disconcerting—particularly in view of the defeat of the 1 1/2 per cent limitation—OTR repeatedly stressed before the election that nearly two-thirds of this year's property tax increase is the result of voters approving levies extending beyond the Constitutional 6 per cent property tax limit.

Now 33 years old, OTR is a highly respected non-partisan organization which devotes its work to the study of state and local taxes throughout Oregon. Its manager, George J. Annala, served four terms in the State House of Representatives (1953-61), and in the 1967 legislative session was consultant to the Senate Taxation Committee.

According to Annala's compilation, this year's total levies, before any offset from property tax relief programs now operating, total \$410,417,205. It is a dollar increase of \$54 million over 1967-68.

The average statewide percentage increase, OTR notes, is 15.2 per cent, up from a 10.7 per cent increase last year. The previous highest one-year increase was 11.5 per cent in 1964-65, following voters' defeat of an increased personal income tax for property tax relief.

This year's greatest dollar increase is in the most populous counties. The highest percentage increase—28.3 per cent, occurred in Clatsop County, with Wallawa, Lincoln and Crook Counties not far behind. A decrease of 1.4 per cent occurred in Jefferson County.

"Possibly most disconcerting," OTR reports, is this year's increase in the average effective tax rate over 1967-68. Although increased true cash value of nearly \$1 billion absorbed a significant amount of this year's percentage increase in taxes, the effective tax rate for Oregon still increased nearly 9 per cent. Even after property tax relief, the current average rate is 2.42 per cent of true cash value, higher than last year's 2.36 per cent even before relief was deducted.

Relief deductions this year total \$22,448,405, leaving a net collectible tax of \$387,968,795. This amount is roughly \$549 million higher than in 1967-68.

Property tax relief appears in three forms in OTR's report. Senior citizens' homestead exemptions are responsible for \$2.26 million offset this year. Inventory tax relief of \$3.1 million is down about \$2 million from last year. General property tax relief, including \$6.7 million in cigarette taxes earmarked for this purpose, is up approximately \$800,000.

Annala believes the legislature has its work well cut out for it. Obviously, lawmakers are expected to come up with some answers to "the major problem facing the next session of the legislature." Nearly 300,000 Oregonians voted for the 1 1/2 per cent property tax limitation; no doubt thousands more would have if there had been an alternate method of raising the needed local revenue in the proposal.

Now the ball has been thrown back by voters to the legislature. Any new form of raising revenue to offset property taxes must be approved by the people, however. Because the legislature cannot attach the emergency clause to revenue measures, it either must refer tax reform plans to the voters or expect any measure it approves to be tested by popular referendum.

Ultimately then, again, the people and not the legislature will have the final say. Every voting citizen should bear this in mind, and be prepared to accept constructive ideas the next legislative session. If pressed to propose, if not, we must be prepared to accept the continuing rise in local property taxes which makes OTR's report such uncomfortable reading.

PROPERTY TAX FAX
If you have a question concerning real or personal property please state all the facts as briefly as possible and mail it to Mrs. Joyce Ritch, Morrow county special assessor, or to P. O. Box 418, McMinnville, Oregon, 97128 under the name "PROPERTY TAX FAX". Please ask only one question per sheet. Then watch this column for the answer.

QUESTION
I have filed with the Assessor for farm land deferral. If I should sell off a small portion of the place for a home, do I lose my deferral on the entire place?

ANSWER
For the current year you would not. A division would be made and you would be required to pay the deferred taxes on that portion sold. The following year when you refile the Assessor would have to determine if the land you have left is still a bona fide farm.

Thanksgiving

The Nation's Table Prayer

By THE REV. RUDOLPH MENSCH
Pastor of Hope and Valley Lutheran Churches

The custom of observing Thanksgiving, dates from ancient times. Giving thanks for golden grain and ripened fruit is an impulse common to the people of many nations. Ancient Rome had its "Cerealia" festival and Greece its votive offerings, at the harvest festival.

The Hebrews of old called their harvest festival the "Feast of the Tabernacles," and the first of the ripened grain, the first-born of the flock, and the honey, oil, and fruit of the vine first gathered was offered to Jehovah at a feast of great rejoicing.

The merry Englishmen gave the name "Harvest Home" to their autumnal feast. Games were the order of the day, and great bonfires to provide the atmosphere for folk dances, were the program of the evening.

Our own national Thanksgiving Day is traced back to an observance held by the Pilgrims in 1621. The first official Thanksgiving proclamation was printed in Massachusetts in 1677 and today it has become a national holiday.

To give thanks ennobles and blesses our own soul. Gratitude opens the mind and the heart for still richer and greater gifts. As we gratefully receive and enjoy the blessings given, can the Lord continue to shower upon us His good things.

Gratitude tends to bless others. The expression of sincere gratefulness on our part will have its reflex in the hearts and lives of those about us. It will inspire us to serve others with gladness. It is the grateful heart that happily serves. A thankful appreciation of the spiritual and temporal blessings which we ourselves enjoy, will awaken in us a sincere desire to share these with others.

To give thanks to God is good, for thereby our own souls are drawn closer to Him who is the Giver of every good and perfect gift. Gratitude for a gift received causes our hearts to be attached to the Giver. The Lord alone is worthy of our hearts' affection and devotion. His manifold gifts to us are intended to cause us to love and serve Him with gladness.

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto Jehovah, and to sing praises unto thy name, O Most High," says the Psalmist. Joseph Addison once said, "If gratitude is due from man to man, how much more from man to his Maker. The Supreme Being does not only confer upon us those bounties which proceed more immediately from His hand, but even those benefits which are conveyed to us by others. Every blessing which we enjoy, by which means soever it reaches upon us, is the gift of Him who is the great Author of good and Father of mercies."

Gratitude is not the bare recollection of some good thing, but a constant remembrance of all the blessings enjoyed. Nor is gratitude limited to one special Thanksgiving Day but as the blessings are showered upon us daily our hearts constantly want to sing praises to the Giver of all good things.

Gratitude is a golden cord which binds to the great heart of God the hearts of all those who receive their gifts with appreciation.

Since Thanksgiving has often been called "The Table Prayer of the Nation," then as a great nation, shall we not be grateful people and give thanks to the great Giver of all good things.

School Bells

By RON DANIELS
Superintendent,
Morrow County Schools

With the rapid approach of school district budget time I felt it might be appropriate in the next few weeks to discuss some of the procedures, problems, and complaints we encounter in connection with our school budget.

Many districts in the state of Oregon had their budgets defeated last year. These budget defeats were quite numerous on subsequent elections with several districts having their budgets defeated a second and third time. Budget defeats are highly undesirable in that they create additional expenses as well as a time loss to many people. The additional cost must be borne by the taxpayer and this cost does not provide any direct return to the educational program of the district.

The 14 members of the School Board and Budget Committee are well aware of the rise in property taxes as they are taxpayers themselves. With the burden of the property tax in mind they very carefully review and evaluate the items listed in the school budget. However, because they work directly with the schools, they also recognize that we, too, have financial problems in trying to operate and maintain a good school program.

Prior to our third budget vote last year, several residents of the district actively campaigned for a "yes" vote on the budget. In talking to various people throughout the county several

complaints were voiced regarding different aspects of the school program. It is my intention in the next few weeks to discuss some of these criticisms and to attempt to explain the district's position.

I also hope to discuss briefly the budget outlook for the 1966-70 school year and to review what I feel are some of the long range needs and goals of the school district.

Next week's column will deal with what I consider to be our number one problem, and that is the failure to communicate properly with the residents of the school district.

Recreation Program Started At Center For Senior Citizens

First of the regularly scheduled Senior Citizens Days sponsored by the Heppner Neighborhood Center was held last Friday afternoon, with 18 persons attending. An afternoon of recreational games and cards was enjoyed. In a recent survey conducted by the center, 162 elderly citizens responded. Recreation will be provided for all senior citizens who wish to come to the center each Friday afternoon, between the hours of 1:30 and 4:00 p.m. Further information may be obtained from Mrs. Pat Brindle, director of the center.

See or call The Gazette-Times for all your needs in Moore Rediforms.

The Rhyming Philosopher

THANKSGIVING

THIS THURSDAY IS THANKSGIVING, DAWN TO NIGHT,
EATING AND DRINKING, SPEEDING PRECIOUS HOURS,
BUT NEVER THINKING LEST WE WASTE OUR POWERS,
NOR CONTEMPLATE WHY WE SHOULD HAVE THIS RIGHT

WE CONCENTRATE TO SATIATE OUR APPETITE
AND REST SECURE WITHIN THESE VAUNTED TOWERS,
AS THOUGH NO STOMACH CRAVES AS MUCH AS OURS,
AND HE WHO MENTIONS WANT IS IMPOLITE.
GOOD GRIEF! THE FOOD WOULD TURN TO BITTER GALL
AND STICK WITHIN MY THROAT HAD I NOT FIRST
BOWED LOW MY HEAD AND ASKED THE GOD OF ALL,
THAT OTHERS, TOO, MAY EAT AND SLAKE THEIR THIRST,
AND CUP MY TEARS THAT NEEDED RAINS MAY FALL
OR GIVE THIS FOOD TO THOSE WHO NEED IT WORST.

THINK NOT I SHUN TRADITION'S FESTIVE MEAL
OR RECOMMEND THIS DAY A USELESS FAST,
BUT CAN'T WE ASK WHEN GIVING THANKS, TO FEEL
THE DEPTH OF GRATITUDE, THAT THIS REPEAT
OR ONE JUST LIKE IT MAY BY THIS APPEAL
BE SPREAD FOR ALL THAT HUNGERT HAVE YOU ASKED?

HARRY W. FLETCHER



Family Christmas Shopping Tips

- FOR MOM:**
 - PROCTOR-SILEX Blender \$19.88
 - PROCTOR-SILEX Coffeemaker 12.88
 - HAMILTON BEACH Mixette 12.69
- FOR DAD:**
 - B&D 1/4" Drill Kit 12.99
 - B&D Sander Kit 25.95
 - B&D Jigsaw Kit 22.99
- FOR SIS:**
 - Blackboards 2.49
 - Bulletin Boards 3.95
 - Paint For Her Bedroom gal. 6.99
- FOR SON:**
 - .22 Rem. Rifle 34.95
 - JUST LIKE DAD'S Daisy B-B Gun 18.49
 - Daisy B-B Gun WITH SCOPE 9.45

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COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

Coming Events

LEGION AND AUXILIARY Regular monthly meeting, Monday, Dec. 2, Heppner Legion Hall. Family potluck dinner, 7 p.m. Important meetings following.

GOLDEN AGE CLUB Monthly meeting, Tuesday, Dec. 3. Potluck dinner, 7 p.m., followed by entertainment. Episcopal Parish Hall.

COUNTRY STORE BAZAAR Christmas Bazaar and Luncheon by Episcopal Church Women. Saturday, Dec. 7, from 11:00 a.m. Episcopal Parish Hall.

COMEDY SCHOOL PLAY 3-Act Play, "The Little Dog Laughed" lone High School, Monday, Dec. 9, 7:30 p.m. Heppner High School, Wednesday, Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m. Adults, \$1.00; Students, 75c.

THANKSGIVING DANCE Turkey Hop, Sat., Nov. 30, 9:30 p.m. Heppner Fair Pavilion. Sponsored by Soroptimist Club of Heppner.

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