



A FEW of the 60 eighth graders of Heppner Junior High hold aloft their packages for "Operation Eggdrop" just before loading them into Jack Sumner's airplane from which they were dropped from an altitude of 400 feet to simulate soft landings on the moon. Mel Boyer of Lexington Airport and Sumner are at left in photo, backs to camera. (G-T Photo)



LOADING BEFORE LIFTOFF. Jack Sumner receives packages from kids to load into his plane. Hand of Terry Lincecum, who served as bombardier, is outstretched at right. Some of the packed eggs hit in center of runway but others drifted as much as a halfmile from target. (G-T Photo)



THE EGG AND I-NEZ. Mrs. Inez Meador happily holds aloft the undamaged raw egg that withstood the drop from airplane. Eggs of participating science students were packed in all manner of containers. Mrs. Meador's was in padded cloth wrapping. (G-T Photo)

This is No Yolk

Over 30 Raw Eggs Intact after Drop From Flying Plane

Is it possible to drop raw eggs from an airplane flying 400 feet high and not break them?

Yes, if you pack them right. So discovered some 60 eighth graders of Heppner Junior High when they, together with their teacher and interested spectators, participated in "Operation Eggdrop" at the Lexington Airport Friday as a science experiment.

More than 30 of the eggs were found intact after each student—and some of the others—had packed them individually for the drop. Ten of the eggs are listed as "missing in action" or unaccounted for. The rest of the eggs . . . well, they did what most folks would think they would do when they are dropped 400 feet.

Packing Shows Variety
The kids, using scientific principles as best they could on their own ingenuity, packed the eggs in all manner of contrivances—styrofoam, cloth, grain seed, cardboard, cloth, foam rubber, metal containers and what have you.

Jack Sumner volunteered his Cessna aircraft for the project, and Miss Terry Lincecum, art teacher, was "bombardier." It took four or five passes over the field to get the packages all out of the plane while the kids, together with some of their parents and others stood well back.

Some hit the runway, plummeting down, and splattered. Others, with identifying stream-

ers trailing and packed in lighter cartons, floated lazily down and drifted with the wind. One had two balloons tied to the package to keep it upright; another had some fins and a makeshift propeller in the hope of catching air currents and breaking the fall; others were in plain cardboard cartons with nothing attached.

Some of the latter fared surprisingly well.

Bombardier Sights Off
Miss Lincecum had a problem getting the packages out fast enough, and so the eggdrop covered quite a territory, some going into neighboring farmers' fields.

When it was done and the plane had landed, the kids were given a signal by Principal Alan Martin, and Operation Eggdrop became Operation Egg-hunt. The kids scattered across the landscape, many coming up with unbroken eggs triumphant-ly held high. Others returned with the corners of their mouths turned down.

The rule was that none of the eggs could be packed in a container larger than a shoe box, but the kids demonstrated some scientific methods of packing them.

Pilot Sumner packed one of his own, molding it in Jell-O, placing it in a plastic container, which in turn was inside a box with cushioning packing between. When it was retrieved, the Jell-O was fully intact and the egg as good as when a hen

first cackled over it. Inspiration for the project was the matter of soft landings on the moon, but none of the kids, in noting the success of the Eggdrop, has volunteered to jump out of an airplane without a parachute!

And now we're wondering if eggplant will sprout where the "failures" lie at the airport.

Club Elects Officers

The Hoof and Horn 4-H Livestock club met February 27 to elect officers. Other business included a motion to have our club donate a trophy for the champion market lamb at the Morrow County Fair. We decided to present a plaque to Dean Graves as a gesture of appreciation for being our former leader.

Officers are Bill Greenup, president; Sue Greenup, vice president; Teresa Harshman, secretary-treasurer; Gwen Drake, news reporter, and Larry Pettyjohn, demonstration chairman.

The next meeting is Thursday evening, March 13, at 7:30 at the dorm building on the fairground.

Gwen Drake, reporter

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Immunization Clinic Slated for March 27

Second school immunization clinic is scheduled for Thursday, March 27. The proposed schedule includes: 8:45-9:30 a.m., Heppner Elementary school, with high school to follow; 10:30-11:00 a.m., lone Grade school building.

If a child attends the second kindergarten session in Heppner and is due for immunizations, parents are asked that the child be present at the clinic at 9:00 a.m.

Immunizations available will include DPT, DT, Smallpox vaccinations and Polio (Salk) vaccine (boosters only).

Dates for clinics in Boardman and Irrigon will be announced later.

Wood Gets Academic Honor at Whitman

James Wood, son of Mr. and Mrs. John W. Wood of Heppner, is among students at Whitman College, Walla Walla, Wash., who received academic distinction for achieving grade point averages of 3.3 or higher for the fall semester of the 1968-69 year, according to information from the college.

Students who received the academic honors were guests at a banquet March 11 at which time 24 students were named to membership in Phi Beta Kappa national scholastic honorary. Twenty-four were named to the honorary at the annual Academic Recognition Banquet.

Danny Leathers traveled to Longview, Wash., early this week to spend the spring vacation holidays at the home of his family, Mr. and Mrs. Jay Standerfer and family. Danny has been staying with his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Owen Leathers, while completing his senior year at Heppner High school.

FIFTH IN A SERIES—

The Nation's View of Rural America" and Rural Electrification

(From a national study conducted for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association by International Research Associates, Inc., of New York City. The study is based on 1394 personal interviews, sampling the adult public, one-third in major cities, one-third in suburban areas satellite to these cities, and one-third in small towns and rural areas).



Attitude Toward Rural Electric Cooperatives

Many consumers have apparently given little thought to the form of ownership of the organization that supplies them with electrical power.

The survey showed that only 47 per cent of the American public has heard of electric cooperatives; only 63% has heard of private electric companies, and only 58% has heard of municipally-owned companies. Four per cent of the population has heard of none of these three. However, there is often recognition of the concepts even when the terms are unfamiliar.

The concept of the electric cooperative holds a slightly greater appeal for the public than the idea of private electric companies, both among those who are knowledgeable and among those to whom the concept is explained for the first time. Municipally-owned companies fall into third place in terms of preference, again by a narrow margin.

The attitudes which underlie these direct statements of preference are somewhat complex. Financial matters are of primary importance—perhaps the most important of all. Consumers believe that rates are lower under the cooperative systems. The term "cooperative" in itself is a major positive element, even though consumers believe that there may be technical weaknesses in a cooperative organization. The idea that a co-op is a more "human" supplier, more concerned about the consumer and more accessible to him, overrides possible deficiencies in the minds of many.

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