

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

Heppner, Oregon 97836 Phone 676-9228 MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER



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A Package at Too High a Price

The question of whether Oregon will have a sales tax will be decided Tuesday when voters go to the polls at the special election on the "tax package."

One thing that probably everyone can agree on is that a large number of voters should take time to ballot in order that the wishes of the majority are clear.

This is a very important matter, and probably by now, most persons have made up their minds how they will vote. The choice is one that each will have to make for himself as he determines what is best for himself, the state, and all its people.

We remain unchanged in our position although the proponents of the tax package have sought to plug loopholes that have made the sales tax a tough pill for the public to swallow.

We will vote no Tuesday for many reasons. We are convinced that the sales tax is basically unfair and discriminatory against those with need for larger amounts of consumer goods (such as large families). True, food (to be eaten off the premises) and drugs are exempt, but clothing and other family needs are not.

We do not believe that the sales tax will reduce the average person's total tax bill. Studies have indicated that the opposite is true—that the "average" person will pay more total tax. (See the chart in the Voter's Pamphlet). The taxpayer's problem is not what the particular tax is called—it is the amount of money he has to pay in proportion to the amount of money he has to pay it with. Proponents seek to refute this argument, but we are not convinced that they are right.

We believe that the tax will be costly to collect, that it will impose additional burden on small business, that it will require additional bookkeeping to harass people already over-worked, that it will hurt the farmer, that it will be a nuisance in making sales transactions.

The 1% of the taxes that the retailer will be allowed to retain to compensate for his costs would only be a small token of the time, expense and bother that it will require of him.

We believe that greatest recipients of the relief will be large business and private utilities, which will benefit the most from the property tax reductions for which the sales tax is earmarked. The sponsors have sought to equalize this by increasing the corporation excise tax, as one provision of the "package," to 9% from the present 8% for financial institutions and to 7% from the present 6% for other corporations. What will the latter do to bank interest rates?

We are fearful that opening the door to the sales tax will set the stage for higher sales tax in the future—this despite the fact that this bill earmarks all receipts for reduction of property tax and despite the fact that the rate could not be increased without another constitutional amendment. Is anyone so naive as to believe there will not be another "emergency" a few years hence when such an additional constitutional amendment will be proposed? All one need do is to look at the State of Washington where the sales tax has gone to 4 1/2% and the state is still seeking other means of revenue.

The proposal would provide for new tax bases for school districts, which would eliminate their need for budget elections—for a time. However, the budgets could be increased only 5% per year, and chances are that many would have to submit their budgets to vote again before many years passed. This would be more difficult for them under the bill because it also limits the number of elections that may be held on the budgets.

Property tax relief is needed, true. But the crying need is not for a sales tax. The crying need is to reduce the average taxpayer's total tax bill.

We reiterate that there is too much waste in government. The average person sees dozens of examples every day. He sees the federal and state governments spending money carelessly and needlessly. It has come to such a place that many government employees have a badly distorted idea of what is essential and what is non-essential.

The small businessman knows. So do the farmers. They see their tax money wasted every day in a manner that they would never even consider in the operations of their own businesses. They sweat and toil to pay the taxes for this careless stewardship of public funds.

The majority of the legislature has not correctly read the signs in doggedly proposing this tax package. We believe that the people will demonstrate next Tuesday that they don't want it.

What they do want is more solid, real economy. Both the state and federal government should hire some hard-nosed efficiency experts to delve into every facet of government and cut out the non-essentials. A few Morrow county ranchers could serve well in that capacity!

The real crime remains at the federal level where billions are being wasted. It's just too bad that the people don't have the opportunity for popular vote on some of these things—the billions proposed for the ABM system, for instance.

You might remember, too, when you cast your vote at the election Tuesday that a vote for the sales tax is also a vote to take more of your voice away from you. When the expenditure comes from the state or federal level, you—as John Q. Citizen—have no direct vote on it.

St. Patrick's Youth Enjoy Lehman Outing

Forty members of the high school catechism classes of St. Patrick's Catholic church and their guests were treated to a day of picnicking and swimming at Lehman Springs on Saturday, May 17.

Taking the catechism students to Lehman were Mr. and Mrs. Earl Ayres, Mr. and Mrs. Harry O'Donnell and Mrs. Harold Curmutt.

Altar boys who have served in church throughout the past year were also treated to a picnic at Lehman Springs on Saturday, May 24.

Plans Last Meeting

Members of the American Legion Auxiliary, Post No. 87, will meet Monday evening, June 2, at 8 p.m., at the Legion Hall. This is to be the last meeting of the year before adjourning for the summer season. All members are invited to attend.

Enjoying a few days at Wecome Beach near Lincoln City last week were Mrs. Rod Murray with her two young children, John and Ann, and Mrs. Olive Hughes. The visitors stayed at the home of Mrs. Murray's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Barnett during their vacation at the beach. They returned to Heppner on Friday.

YOU MIGHT SAY that this week's column is concerned with the future of journalism for we propose to dedicate it to second graders at Heppner Elementary school. They have been studying about newspapers and have published their own paper, "Second Grade Headlines."

On Thursday of last week, Mrs. Lucile Peck brought her second graders down to The Gazette-Times for the "cook's tour." Although the youngsters were impressed with what they saw and showed enthusiastic interest, I think our staff was more impressed with them than they were with us.

Since their visit, we've been reading their paper, and we find considerable news in the community that we had not known.

Here are some of the stories from "Headlines": "Craig Robison and C. J. Balfe will be new shoe shiners at Dick's Barber Shop. Maybe in the summer or fall."

"MIKE BRINGS TICK TO SCHOOL. Well, it all started when my Father came home from the woods. When he went into the bathroom, the tick fell off. Then in the morning my Mother found it. When I got up, she gave it to me. So I took it to school and that is where it is now."

"SECOND GRADE VISITS NEW BUILDING. The Second Grade went to the new Columbia Basin Electric Co-op building on May 9. The new building is beautiful. In the conference room there was a carpet and a movie screen. If you want the garage door to go up or down, all you do is press a button. The rock on the outside is very pretty. It is sandstone, I think."

"WEATHER REPORT May 20, 1969 Wet Cloudy Windy 60 degrees It looks as if it might rain. Tomorrow it will probably be nice."

"SPORTS: Kickball. We have kick ball teams. The Blue Team beat the Red Team by 22-0. The Red Team beat the Blue Team by 6-5 and 9-4. Today Ron Young slipped on base. He fell into a mud puddle. Was he muddy? So was Richard Schmidt. He tried to kick the ball and fell on his back in the mud."

"BLACK TOP ON PLAYGROUND. The man took the ground out. One tractor was used and some trucks were used too. And there was one steam roller. Our class watched the big tractor pick up the grass. It was real noisy. It took three days to do it. They put a black top under the swings. We now play games on it."

EACH OF the second graders wrote us "Thank You" letters after visiting here. Their honest appreciation is bountiful reward for any time taken to show them the newspaper plant. Here are a few letters at random:

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sherman, Thank you for my name in lead. Thank you for showing us around. I like the machine very much. Very truly yours, Randy Worden.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sherman, Thank you for the Morrow County map. I liked the ink machine and linotype and press and roller. I liked the saw and Fairchild and the folding machine. You might get hurt by the big machines. If you got your hand cut you would get hurt. That room stinks a lot. Very truly yours, Bobbi Schiller.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sherman, Thank you for letting us come. I liked the folding machine. How did you ever get so much ink? I liked the linotype, too. I hope every thing goes well. Very truly yours, Michelle Cutsforth.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sherman, Thank you for showing us all around. The machines all were fantastic. I wish I had the folding machine. Thank you for...

Mrs. Dick Initiated Into Phi Kappa Phi

Mrs. Ed (Rachel) Dick, English and journalism teacher of Heppner High school, has been initiated into Phi Kappa Phi, national honor society, at Oregon State University.

The honorary recognizes outstanding scholars in all branches of knowledge—liberal arts, sciences and professional fields. Membership is limited to the top 10 per cent of a class.

Mrs. Dick was chosen as one of those from the graduate school and is among 144 OSU seniors and graduate students to be initiated into the society. Dr. J. K. Munford, director of publications at OSU, is the current national president of the honor society's 105 active campus chapters and two alumni chapters.

Arriving home last Friday evening from Linfield college in McMinnville was Nonda Clark, who has completed her sophomore year of studies at the college. Accompanying Nonda was Hal Sunday, who remained as a house guest at the Clark home for the week-end before returning to his home in San Jose, Calif. Sunday is also a student at Linfield.

Chaff and Chatter

Wes Sherman

giving us the maps and metal leads. Very truly yours, Maur- een Healy.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sherman, I like the metal names. And the folding machines. And the press. I like the Fairchild. The rollers was neat. When the metal when it was hot boy it hurt. The ink was stinky. Very truly yours, Ron Ward.

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sherman, I like to go to the machines to watch it operat. I like the folding machines best of all. The thing I didn't like was that stink house. Mr. Raymond, thank you for showing us around. Very truly yours, C. J. Balfe. phthank you.

WE MIGHT explain that the "stink" which left an impression with the kids was the odor of burning plastic from the Fairchild Scan-A-Graver, which makes the picture engravings for the paper. —And they're right, the printer's ink is stinky, too!

Well, out of a gang as lively as this bunch there should be at least one who will be on the New York Times staff some day.

YOUR SENATOR REPORTS...

BY KEN JERNSTEDT, STATE SENATOR 18th District, Including Morrow county

Before each Legislative Session informal goals are set for the lawmakers to accomplish. These goals are set by opinion makers, editorial writers, legislators and the citizenry of the state. With the end of the 55th session, I believe the 90 lawmakers can boast of a most productive session.

Probably the only major casualty of the entire session was the failure of the Legislature to pass legislation aimed at providing better facilities, staffing and salaries for itself and its employees.

Executive Reorganization Executive reorganization has been the pet project of Oregon's governors over the last few decades. However, the success of previous reorganization was limited. This is not the case this session with six of the seven of the governor's proposals being accepted by the lawmakers. These proposed changes include:

The abolition of the 3 member Board of Control, which administers the state's 11 institutions. This board will be replaced by the Division of Human Resources which is directly responsible to the governor for its activities.

The creation of an environmental quality control department.

The executive department which lumps several departments together, to create a coordinated but flexible central management pool of specialists to bring about a more effective management of state affairs in its relations with federal and local agencies.

A revenue division to replace the tax commission.

Taxation Property tax relief was again the key issue of this session. This problem was dealt with virtually at the beginning of the session with the referral of a 3% sales tax to the people for their approval or rejection June 3.

Also the Legislature is putting the finishing touches on a proposal that will give business its long awaited inventory tax relief.

Education One of our primary concerns each year is education. Again this session we have added additional funding amounting to \$20 million to our basic school support to the state's 356 school districts. This will bring the budget up to \$158 million for the biennium.

We have taken steps to aid our private colleges and universities by providing a \$100 grant per student. This is an attempt to maintain our fine private higher educational system which provides instruction to 5,703 Oregon residents. Also, we have appropriated \$165 million to operate our state's 10 universities and colleges.

Urban Affairs To aid in some of our urban problems, the Legislature has produced a mass transit bill which would provide for a system to handle our growing population difficulties in Oregon's metropolitan areas. Also we have created a Metropolitan Service District. This super district will be able to coordinate the services necessary for the functioning of the metropolitan area. These services include water, sewage, air pollution, and solid waste.

To aid in annexation of one area to another we have created a Boundary Board Commission.

Court System To insure that every person has the right to receive fair treatment by our judicial system, according to our constitution, the legislature remodeled our court system by creating an

Churches Announce Summer Bible Study

Announcement of summer daily vacation church school plans and changes in worship schedules, effective through the summer months, are made by some local churches this week.

Starting on Sunday, June 1, morning worship services at Hope Lutheran church in Heppner will be at 8:00 a.m. and at 9:30 a.m. at the Valby Lutheran church. No Sunday School classes are planned for the three months of summer vacation, announces Pastor Rudolph Mensch.

Hope Lutheran Bible School Vacation bible school at Hope Lutheran will be held from Monday, June 9, until Friday, June 13, from 9:00-11:30 a.m., daily, with youngsters from kindergarten age through eighth grade invited to attend. There will be a small registration fee of \$1 per family.

Theme chosen for this year's bible school program is "Be God's People", and in conjunction with the theme, a film strip will be shown daily.

Superintendent in charge of the program is Mrs. Len Ray Schwarz, and teachers assisting her are Mrs. Amy Mensch, Mrs. Mildred Rauch, Mrs. Janice Cutsforth, Mrs. Margaret Evans, Mrs. Pauline Matheny, Mrs. Delores McLachlan, Mrs. Doris Gollyhorn

and Mrs. Gladys Alderman. Assisting the teachers as helpers will be Tana Rauch and Terry Pettyjohn.

Following the week of bible school study, a program will be presented by vacation bible school pupils on Sunday, June 15, with a luncheon planned after the service.

Valby Lutheran Vacation bible school at Valby Lutheran church will begin on Monday, June 2, through Friday, June 6, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m., daily, and includes nursery school pupils through eighth grade students.

A film strip will be shown daily in conjunction with the theme "Be God's People".

Superintendent will be Mrs. Barbara Peterson and assisting her will be Mrs. Betty Carlson, Mrs. Donna Bergstrom, Mrs. Rikka Tews, Mrs. Dorothy Stefani and Sandy Carlson. Helpers will be Shauna and Carley Bergstrom and Cheri Carlson.

In charge of music for the bible school program will be Martha Peterson and Kristin Peterson. The church will furnish mid-morning snacks for all pupils attending.

On Sunday, June 8, a special program will be presented during the morning worship service by vacation bible school pupils.

All Saints' Episcopal

Vacation church school program planned for the youth of All Saints' Episcopal church will begin on Monday, June 2, and will run until Friday, June 6, from 9:30 a.m., until 12 noon daily.

Children of pre-school age from 4 years through sixth graders and of all faiths are invited to attend and participate in the week of planned activities, which will include handicrafts, music and dancing as well as regular class time.

On Saturday, June 7, pupils will go on a picnic to Bull Prairie, and on Sunday, June 8, a special awards program will be held during regular morning worship.

St. Patrick's Catholic Church Religious vacation school classes will start at St. Patrick's Catholic church in Heppner on Monday, June 2, through Saturday, June 7. Class time will be from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., daily, and youngsters from first grade through eighth grade are invited to attend.

Four Catholic Sisters will come to conduct the school.

Worship schedule of masses at St. Patrick's will remain the same throughout the summer months.

United Methodist Rev. Melvin Dixon, pastor of the United Methodist church, announces that summer worship schedule will start on Sunday, June 1, with Sunday school classes at 9:00 a.m., and worship services to follow at 10:00 a.m.

Mrs. Bruce Griffith, Sunday school superintendent, announces that daily vacation bible school will not be held at the church until about the first week in August, so as not to coincide with swimming lessons.

Ione United Church of Christ Summer worship schedule for the Ione United Church of Christ will be in effect this Sunday, June 1, with morning worship scheduled to be held at 10:00 a.m. No Sunday school classes will be held during the summer, but a nursery will be provided during worship for preschoolers.

First Christian Church First Christian churches of Heppner and Lexington will combine for their vacation bible school program at the Heppner church beginning on Monday, June 1, until Friday, June 6. Classes will be held daily from 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., and Mrs. Opal Cook, program director, extends an invitation to all children from kindergarten age through the sixth grade to attend.

Theme of the bible study program will be "Jesus Leads Me", and assisting as teachers will be Mrs. Betty Marquardt and Mrs. Rena Marquardt.

MEETING CALENDAR

- Monday, June 2— Chamber of Commerce, Wagon Wheel Dining Room, 12 noon South Morrow Ministerial Assoc., 1 p.m. City Council, City Hall, 7:30 p.m. Ruth Assembly No. 50, Rainbow for Girls, Masonic Hall, 7:00 p.m. American Legion & Auxiliary, 7:30 p.m. Hen House Biddies, Lexington City Hall, 1:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 3— Golden Age Club, Episcopal parish hall, 7:00 p.m. Evening Group, Home Extension, 7:30 p.m. Wranglers Meeting, Fair Dormitory Catholic Altar Society, 8:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 4 Willow Lodge, IOOF Hall, 8:00 p.m. Rhea Creek Extension Unit, Grange Hall, 10:30 a.m. County Court, 10:00 a.m. Morrow County Jaycees, 8:00 p.m. Thursday, June 5— Holly Rebekah Lodge, 8:00 p.m., Lexington Hall Soroptimist Business Meeting, 12 noon, Wagon Wheel Friday, June 6— Sans Souci Rebekah Lodge No. 33, IOOF Hall, 8:00 p.m. Saturday, June 7— OES Social Club, 1:30 p.m., Masonic hall

TO THE EDITOR...

Airmen Say 'Thanks'

May 21, 1969

To the Editor: I would personally like to thank you for your cooperation in publishing our Armed Forces Day program in your newspaper. This gesture is very deeply appreciated.

William T. Pelesky, AIC USAF Information Clerk

Pioneer Ponderings

By W. S. CAVERHILL

A Novel Idea

One morning recently, when our coffee club was in session, a stranger approached. We invited him to join us. Conversation turned to taxes. That shook him loose. He startled us with a novel idea and presented figures to support it.

"Have you fellows noticed how many people in public service are basing their claim for compensation on their capital investment in education? For example, if a qualified specialist has invested \$30,000 in preparation for his line of work, perhaps he should pay taxes on his investment. Certainly a farmer who has invested \$30,000 in land and equipment has to pay taxes on it whether he makes or loses." The fellow didn't ask our opinion. He didn't want it.

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

CONSERVATION TOUR Monday, June 2 Tour of Bergstrom Ranch in Gooseberry area Buses leave bowling alley corner, 9:30 a.m. Everyone welcome. No charge.

SPECIAL ELECTION Vote on State Sales Tax Bill HJR 8 Tuesday, June 3, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. All Heppner & Hardman precincts vote at County judge's office in courthouse

OES SOCIAL CLUB Saturday, June 7, 1:45 p.m. Heppner Masonic Hall All those interested in keeping the club going, urged to attend.

PIONEER MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC 16th Annual Pioneer Picnic Friday, May 30, County Fair Pavilion Registration from 10:30 a.m., potluck dinner at noon All old-timers invited to attend

REGIONAL INTER-COLLEGIATE ROTARIO Heppner Rotodeo Grounds Fri., Sat., & Sun., May 30-31, June 1 Cowboy Breakfasts, Saturday and Sunday mornings SPONSORED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE BY

C. A. RUGGLES Insurance Agency P. O. Box 247 PH. 676-9625 Heppner

The Rhyming Philosopher

MEMORIAL

REMEMBER HOW OFTEN YOU'VE WAVED A GOODBYE TO A FRIEND OR A WELL-LOVED KIN, AS THEY JOURNEYED AWAY, WITH A MISTY EYE THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NEVER SEE THEM AG'IN?

SO MAYBE THEY SENT YOU A LETTER OR CARD, WHILE THERE'S SOME NEVER BOTHER TO WRITE, YOU'RE STEELED MORE OR LESS NOT TO TAKE IT SO HARD FOR THE ONES WHO JUST DROPPED OUT OF SIGHT.

BUT YOU ALWAYS HAD FAITH THAT LIFE STILL SURVIVED AND YOU SENT THEM YOUR LOVE IN YOUR THOUGHT, AND NEVER ONCE DOUBTED THEY SAFELY ARRIVED AND HAPPILY GAINED WHAT THEY SOUGHT.

WE OFTEN REMEMBER THE DAY THEY SET SAIL OR A BIRTHDAY OR SOME SUCH EVENT, BUT CERTAINLY NEVER FELT CALLED TO BEWAIL THAT THEY LEFT US BEHIND WHEN THEY WENT.

SO TREASURE YOUR MEMORIES DEEP IN YOUR HEART OR DISTRIBUTE BOUQUETS ALL AROUND; BUT WHEN COMES THE DAY IT'S MY TURN TO DEPART, PLEASE DON'T LOOK FOR ME UNDER THE GROUND!

HARRY W. FLETCHER

MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 30