THE HEPPNER GAZETTE-TIMES

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MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER

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Stop That Silly Order

Glen Brogoitti, president of the Oregon Wheat Growers League said at the Morrow County meeting Monday night that there is still time to write to Oregon's Congressmen relative to the way you feel about the recent order that truck drivers must be 21 years old. He said it would do more good writing them than it would to write to the Department of Transportation.

Letters have flowed into the Department of Transportation Finally they quit counting them and started weighing them. Mr. Brogoitti said that 93 percent of the letters are in opposition to the new ruling.

A big percentage of the harvesting in Montana and Oklahoma is done by custom operators and they are screaming.

He said they had no inkling that labor unions were involved in the order.

He said "We're sticking out for the driving license age". During the hearing in Washington DC, he said those on the committee had no idea that most farm trucks are over the 10,000 pound limit.

The order that truck drivers on farms must be 21 years of age hurts two ways, the farmer who will find it hard to get enough drivers and it hurts the kids who need the money to go to school.

The order doesn't make sense. Farmers are traditionally a conservative lot and aren't going to put a kid on a truck they don't think he can handle. The record of young people on farm trucks in Oregon is good. Jobs for young people in eastern Oregon are not plentiful. This is something they can do and do well.

It is probably one of those orders that come from the top when the top doesn't know where the grass roots are.

Tell Your Congressman!

The federal government collects $1,117 in taxes from the average family with a $10,000 annual income. Under President Nixon's proposed budget for the 1972 fiscal year, this money would be spent as follows: $371.80 for national defense, including the Indochina war; social security, $291.50; $41.80 for education and man power training programs $77 for hospitals, medical research, Medicaid, Medicare, and public health services; veterans' benefits, $50.60; pollution control, $20.90; agriculture and rural development, $27.50; commerce and transportation programs, $52.80; community development, urban renewal and housing programs, $22; foreign aid and loans, $19.80; space research and technology, $15.40; general government expenses, $24.20; revenue sharing (if adopted) and related programs, $28.60; interest on the national debt, $94.60.

Out of each 8-hour working day, the typical taxpayer, upon which these figures are based, toils for 2 hours and 43 minutes to pay his federal taxes. Maybe you can think of some better ways to spend your money. Tell your Congressman!

Columbia Basin Electric Pays

Columbia Basin Electric's Office Manager Norm Rickert is shown signing a check in excess of $4,400.00 for Wheeler County as their donation to them in lieu of ad valorem taxes.

Your Columbia Basin Electric Cooperative, Inc., for the year 1970 is paying in excess of $30,000.00 dollars in donations and Revenue Taxes combined to the three counties that it serves with electrical power. The amount of $25,215.41 represents a 3% revenue tax and is prorated to the respective counties according to the miles of line located in each county.

The amount of assessed revenue tax in Morrow County for 1970 is $1,012.39 more than the tax and donations combined have been in previous years. Part of this increase is due to the raised rate of assessment but a large portion is due to an increase in power usage, due to new irrigations in the Cecil and Sandhollow areas.

This is described as a good example of how the County benefits from progress of any kind that is made in our area.

Columbia Basin Electric's Board Members and management hope that Gilliam and Wheeler countiies will have enough growth in the near future to create a like increase in revenue to their counties.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter to Editor:

A Law that may kill you

We taxpayers underwrite special insurance for Nuclear Power plants, with guarantee to power companies, that they will never be responsible for any damage beyond what the public pays for.

Let's take the promoters of Nuclear power at their face value.

Nuclear - powered electric plants, the safest industry in the history of technology. Radioactive emission? Nothing to worry about.

Ads claim that nuclear reactors are protected by safety standards, that will withstand every emergency—including catastrophies such as earth quakes, tidal waves, tornadoes, and hurricanes. Safety features of commercial nuclear reactors are that they are self regulating. Alright, from the copywriters for the utilities, to the distinguished physicists who promote inherent nuclear safety from the height of the AEC power structure, we will take them all at their word.

Nuclear reactors are safe, clean, beautiful and good. Wonderful in reducing local tax rates, and welcomed in every community.

There is one thing lacking.

Why are utilities afraid of damage suits if nuclear plants threaten no damage? Why did electric companies refuse to start nuclear reactor business until Congress passed a law specifically exempting the companies from public liability?

This unprecedented law is on the books. The Price Anderson Act, passed in 1957 and extended to 1965. In 1965 hearings before Congress Joint Committee on Atomic Energy, utility spokesman testified, in the absence of this Act, they would cancel their contracts for the construction of nuclear reactors.

Why, if the utilities and AEC are telling the public the truth about safety of the nuclear plants, then they don't need Price Anderson Act. Why should they have to be protected against the financial consequences of non-existent hazards? They need the Price Anderson Act because the hazards are so great, they dare not jeopardize their companies' financial positions, and can not get private insurance to cover the risk. Then what they preach about safety is a lie. There may be a polite way of saying the same thing, but such a cynical and self serving deception of the public, on such a grave issue deserves the bluntest of characterization.

Are they lying or telling the truth?

Let's put it up to the utilities themselves. Let's repeal the Price Anderson Act and see what happens.

Insurance companies refused to assume the risks, they thrive on risks. They pay off on car insurance liabilities of 12 billion dollars a year and still make money. One vice president of an Insurance Co., questioned the wisdom of a public policy that promoted an industry with such frightening potential damage to life and property.

Estimates of catastrophe potential prepared by the AEC's own Brookhaven National Lab came out in a study (1956), AEC document number Wash. 740. The study was typical nuclear plant situated on a body of water about 30 miles from a major city. The study then gave a potential damage figure, 3400 people killed, 43,000 injured and (7 billion dollars? property damage, radioactive fallout could contaminate as much as 150,000 sq. miles.

Much larger reactors are being built now, and the second study updating Wash. 470, has been made by AEC but never revealed to the public in 1970. Speculate that its contents would be unfavorable to the growth of the nuclear industry.

There are about 20 nuclear plants in operation, and about 95 under construction. And within 30 years, AEC predicts 600 nuclear plants. The plants combined, would produce as much long lived radio-activity as 500,000 Hiroshima bombs if just one-tenth of one percent escaped into the environment, that would equal the contaminations from 500 bombs every year. This was pointed out by a Senator.

Salesmen for a product I can understand, but why the U. S. Government wants nuclear plants when there are any number of other power sources. This I cannot see. I urge each concerned person to write your Congressman and repeal the Price Anderson Act.

Scientists are fearful of world population being destroyed by atomic war. But men are the source of their own destruction, they are bent on unbalancing the balance of nature. Many in Europe and USA are building shelters. Isiiah 24:17-18 Fear and the pit and the snare are upon thee, O' inhabitants of the earth. They go in to their pits (shelters). He that Cometh out of the pit are taken by the snare (fallout).

E. J. Akers
Ione, Ore.

To the Editor:

I knew I'd never make "The Haight-Ashbury" scene so a piece of Haight-Ashbury came to me last eve—in the form of a dog. A beautiful creature, part Husky, neither friendly nor unfriendly. He was accompanied by a longish-haired youth with a Fu Manchu mustache, name of Adrian he tells me.

All winter we have been free fro mthe real Hippie group but come warm weather they will come—dogs and all. The dogs are the best part. They are beautiful, well cared for and gentle. Where do these ill kempt (?) ones get them? I'd rather not say.

Anyhow when the evenings grow longer I'll not wander around like I do now.

At last the evil ones have been up this way. A hold up at the little corner grocery where I go down to get my milk. A college kid working there, Bill, told me he was scared to death.

Your paper is wonderful.

Food for Thought

Remember when "Hippie" meant big in the hips, And a "Trip" involved travel in cars, planes, or ships?

When "Pot" was a vessel for cooking things in, And "Hooked" was what grandmother's rug may have been?

When "Fix" was a verb that meant mend or repair, And "Be In" meant simply existing somewhere?

When "Neat" meant well organized, tidy and clean, And "Grass" was ground cover, normally green?

When "Groovy" meant furrowed with channels and hollows, And "Birds" were winged creatures like robins and swallows?

When "Fuzz" was a substance, real fluffy, like lint, And "Bread" came from bakeries, not from the mint?

When "Roll" meant bun, and a "Rock" was a stone, And "Hang up" was something you did on the phone?

When "Chicken" meant poultry, and "Bag" meant a sack, And "Junk" was trash cast-outs and old brick-a-brac?

When "Swinger" as someone who swings in a swing, And a "Pad" was a sort of cushiony thing?

When "Tough" described meat too unyielding to chew, And "making a scene" was a rude thing to do?

And words once so sensible, sober and serious, Were not making "Freak Scene" like psycho-delirious?

Author unknown

Sent by
Josephine Mahoney Baker
Terwilliger Plaza
Portland 97201

To the Editor:

While disaster continues to repeat itself, perhaps our local dignitaries should consult Noah and secure blue prints for an Ark.

Now there's certain to be a bushel basket full of good excuses why Shobe Canyon hasn't had top priority over Willow Creek since the flood of "69". Let's not overlook the 200,000 investment of our local swimming pool which had to be constructed prior to the answer of the Shobe Canyon flood threat, not to mention numerous homes or the life of a child. Let's hope the hazard that this repeat disaster represents is not ignored as if it shouldn't be a top priority project in Morrow County. This has to be one of the most ridiculous over-sights since General Custer.

Too bad the engineers and all persons concerned couldn't have been on the location—I'd venture to say Willow Creek hardly contributed much more than 40% or less of the total channel flow which roared toward the Court Street bridge. I don't recall much more than a trifle of damage above the mouth of Shobe (on Willow Creek), at least in comparison of dollar value. Could there be a better time to concentrate on the real flood threat! Taxpayers, especially those who have suffered the extensive damage of Tuesday's flash flood are due for some timely consideration. It's absolutely heartbreaking to witness the loss and destruction which occurred again to local residents. It was so uncalled for.

Let's hope a shoe print doesn't have to show up where it should have to be worn.

It's a dam shame!

Delbert Piper

Christ--the Only Answer to the Drug Problem

The Community Drug Education Series, held for the last six weeks in the grade school multipurpose room, ended last Wednesday evening, May 19. The last program featured four young ex-drug addicts whose personal testimonies were very impressive. They came from various economic backgrounds, ranging from the affluent to the poor, and they were all products of broken homes. Yet the four all had something in common in that they had all been dissatisfied with life. They said they saw hypocrisy in the home, in the church, and in society in general. They did not like the world they were living in, so they decided to turn off with drugs. They all agree that this did not solve the problem, but only made it worse. One described his experience by saying, "I've been through a living hell."

The four young people all started using drugs as an experiment, not intending to get hooked. But as is often the case, they soon started using stronger and stronger ones until they were completely addicted. Then continuing to search for meaning in life, they reached out to metaphysics. One boy said he got involved in demon worship and added, "They really do exist." Another was following Buddhism and chanted at least two hours every day. "Yet", they said, "we could not find what we were looking for. The same old emptiness in life was still there."

They all brought out very vividly that it was Jesus Christ that filled that need and delivered them from drugs. It is a real miracle to be delivered from heroin and other strong drugs, and not even have withdrawal symptoms. People can die from sudden withdrawal, but some of the young people suffered no problem from it. "Since then, life has really become worthwhile," they said. They know what happiness is, and life has become very interesting. The terrible problems at home have improved greatly. As one young person so well put it, "Christ means everything to me now, and I know he can do the same for your life."

Time was also given to the importance of the home in drug prevention. Almost without exception, those who become drug addicts come from poor home situations; where family relationships are strained. Taking time to be a real father and mother, listening to your child, and helping him to develop a good, well-rounded character is vital. Too often the physical necessities are provided but the mental, social, and spiritual aspects of children's development are neglected. Prevention is the most effective antidote to drug involvement, and this rests to a large degree upon parents. But as one boy put it, "Do you really think you can find an answer to the drug problem outside of Jesus Christ?"

The audience was glad to know that our own local schools are definitely planning to begin drug education next year on all age levels. Next fall before school begins, a special training session for our local teachers will be given to teach them how to effectively present drug education in their classrooms.

It is the hope of the South Morrow County Ministerial Association that this series on drug abuse has been a help those who have attended will be more knowledgeable on the subject now and be better able to play an active part in preventing drug problems with our young people and our community.

—Don Hall

Homer Hughes in Washington

WHILE IN WASHINGTON to testify before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Public Works, Homer Hughes, Morrow County Commissioner, met with Senator Bob Packwood (R-Ore.) The two discussed funds for Willow Creek Dam.. Packwood has asked for $300,000 in construction funds to get the $9.6 million project underway. He assured Commissioner Hughes that Willow Creek has top priority for funding out of more than 30 projects authorized in the Walla Walla District of the Army Corps of Engineers. Homer said area is getting considerable help from Rep. Al Ullman. He said nothing was heard from Sen. Hatfield; apparently he could care less about the project in Morrow County. Homer found a good driver who had a permit to go anyplace in Washington, took him on a fairly comprehensive tour of the capital city.

Time for Sunday School

A little girl with shining eyes
Her face aglow.
Said, "Daddy it is almost time for
Sunday School, let's go.
They teach us there of Jesus' Love,
Of how he died for all,
Upon the Cruel Cross to save those
Who on Him will call.
"Oh, no," said daddy, not today,
I've worked hard all week,
And I must have one day of rest, and
I'm going to the creek,
For there I can relax and rest, and
Fishing's fine, they say.
So run along, don't bother me,
we'll go to church some day.
Months and years have passed away,
But Daddy hears that plea no more.
"Let's go to Sunday School"
Those childish days are o'er.
And, now that Daddy's growing old,
When life is almost through,
He finds time to go to church,
but what does daughter do?
She says, "Oh, Daddy, not today.
I stayed up all night.
And I've just got to get some sleep.
Besides, I look a fright"
Then Daddy lifts his trembling hand
To brush away the tears,
As again he hears the pleading voice
Distinctly through the years.
He sees a small girls' shining face
Upturned with eyes aglow,
As she says, "It's time for Sunday School. Please Daddy let's go".

I wonder how many father's are cheating their children of the things eternal.

As one boy told the writer. "I don't have to go to Sunday School, my dad takes me fishing on Sundays. The Dad may think he is being the best Dad, but I wonder. Why??

One teenager in my Sunday School class desired to attend Sunday School but her father said no. Years passed and word came to us the girl told her Dad, "I hate you". Why?? Because you were not concerned about my spiritual life".

May all Father's be as Joshua. "As for me and my house we will serve the Lord."

Take your child to Sunday School, do not send them. Sunday School is for the whole family. May your children call you blessed.

G. E. Nikander

CHUCK WAGON

Orville Cutsforth's fine collection of silver dollars is on display at the Bank of Eastern Oregon.

Gene Ferguson and Curtis Lund had a surprise recently en route to the Lund home in Hermiston. They had just been to the livestock auction in Gene's car. Suddenly an explosion occurred in the car's motor and it caught fire. No one was hurt but this was a really close call. Fire truck came to help but car is close to a total loss.

We have a warning for our readers. Most want ads are run by foks on the up and up. Sometimes, however, we have ads come in by mail from out side our county. We have no way of screening the authenticity of some of the businesses. If they ask for an investment, investigate. If in doubt, we suggest a talk with your banker or lawyer before making the investment.

COMMUNITY BILLBOARD

MAY 30
Pioneer Picnic, Morrow Co. Fairgrounds. Potluck at 1:00 p.m.

IONE CHURCH OF CHRIST
Summer schedule starts Sunday. Worship 10 a.m. No church school.

JUNE 2
Jr. Rodeo meeting, 7:30 p.m. at Gail McCarty home.

JUNE 4
Heppner Garden Club Flower show at Ford Garage Showroom. Open to public at 1:00 p.m. Everyone invited to enter flowers and arrangements.

JUNE 5
Ione United Church of Christ 9th annual church auction and barbecue at Willows Grange Hall.

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