

Horse sense

By ERNEST V. JOINER



A few weeks ago Dr. Theo S. Stashak of Santa Rosa, Ca., gave us some pointers on how to attract doctors to this community. Doctors are like other people, he said—they go where there are good schools, churches, attractive businesses and progressive people. They look for such things as the availability of a hospital, recreational advantages, good climate, good atmosphere for raising a family and a clean, tidy and attractive town. They know a doctor can make money most anywhere the people are, but they want these other advantages, too. It occurs to me that the \$25,000 the county has budgeted to finance a doctor's first year in Heppner might be better spent, especially since this money hasn't interested a doctor to date. But what if that \$25,000 were spent to clean up the town, clear off vacant lots, haul off litter and junk that are eyesores, and spread a little bright paint over homes, barns and businesses? This \$25,000 would pay to haul off a lot of junk automobiles and debris, clean weeds off vacant lots, and tidy up the entire town. It just might be worth more to a prospective doctor to bring his family to a bright, clean and attractive town than to have the money. Besides, not only the doctor would profit, all of us would. A city-wide renovation and housecleaning would tell the world Heppner is a town with pride; that its people believe in attractive, clean surroundings. It would imply that if Heppner residents take such care of its physical appearance they also practice other good qualities that often constitute the deciding factor as to where one will make a home and business. No matter how much money a doctor might want to earn, always a consideration is the quality of life in a town in which he elects to locate.

On the same subject, Morrow County is trying to come up with ideas to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the founding of this nation. I can think of no greater way to observe this historic event, no greater way to express pride in ourselves, our city and our country, than to put on a bright new face for the future. Isn't there some satisfaction for everybody in presenting a sparkling clean town that shouts, "Welcome to a community that cares?" Perhaps the time and energies being spent on other projects could profitably be directed toward a giant face-lifting for the city. I believe this clean-up project would win the admiration and support of the state and national bicentennial committees. Putting \$25,000 into a self-improvement program should commend itself to the world. Can't we leave the pageantry to other cities while we concentrate on more lasting, wholesome work?

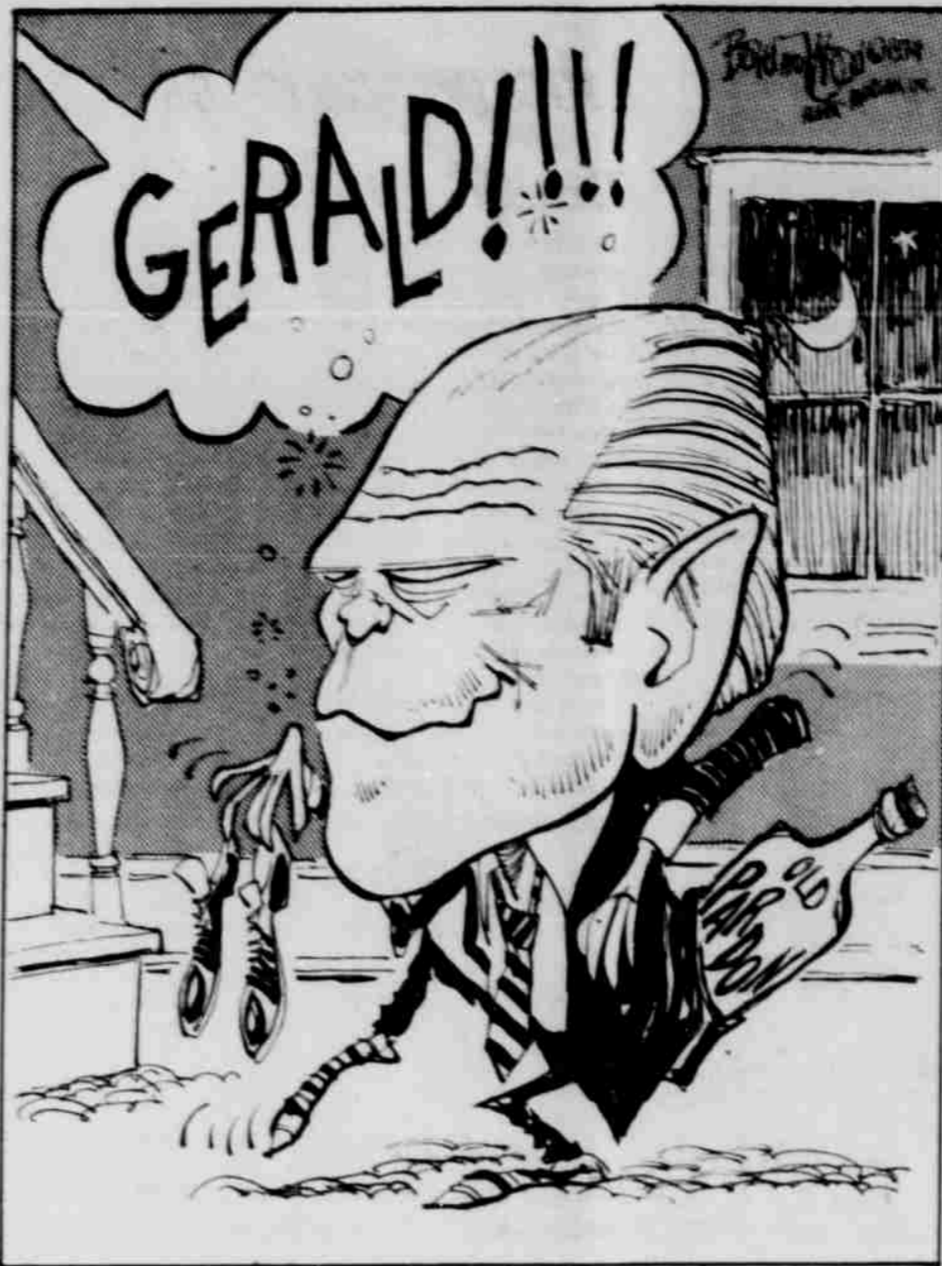
Sept. 15 marked the beginning of "Clean Up America Month" sponsored by the U. S. Department of the Interior (Johnny Horizon '76 Program). The theme of this program is "This land is your land, keep it clean." It challenges us to clean up all America for our 200th birthday, and the first step is caring enough for our surroundings to improve and protect them. The next step is to induce business and civic groups, individuals and local government to work together for community improvement. So I wish someone would consider taking that \$25,000 and hiring trucks and dozers and workmen to clean and paint up the town. If we like ourselves, maybe a doctor would, too.

If the county would invest \$25,000 in such an undertaking, it will be that such progressive firms like Kinzua Corporation, Columbia Basin Electric Co-op, Morrow County Grain Growers and other firms would place men and equipment on the project as their contribution to the quality of life where they, too, work and live.

Doug Baker in his Oregon Journal column for Tuesday comments on how the Journal photographer, Roger Jensen, was ordered out of the Pendleton Round-Up arena for not adhering to a "dress code." Jensen wore shoes, slacks and short-sleeved shirt whereas RCA rules call for long-sleeved shirt and hat, he noted. Other harmless reporters and photographers, Baker writes, were not ejected. I don't know what experience other newspapers have had with the Pendleton Round-Up, but it has been uncooperative with the Gazette-Times to the extent that we send nobody over there to cover the affair. We do not intend to until the management takes a more cooperative attitude toward the press. Apparently the penny-pinching syndrome has seized management, and even the cowboys are complaining and threatening to strike. I don't blame them. With a \$75 entry fee in the calf roping, the winner of the event took home about the same prize money as the Heppner Rodeo offered with only a \$20 entry fee. Which may explain why the Heppner Rodeo had 259 entries this year to Pendleton's 329. The Pendleton Round-Up is a great institution, but it could be destroyed by this attitude toward both cowboys and the press—and it isn't likely to survive without either. That would be a shame.

Wednesday morning Bill Cox was driving his refrigerated truck for Morrow County Produce west on Highway 74 about 1-1/2 miles the other side of Ione. This piece of alleged highway is the most dangerous in Eastern Oregon. The Gazette-Times last year published a picture of two school buses edging around this curve. Standing still, about six inches separated the buses, with both of them at the edge of the pavement in their respective lanes. Cox met a Mack truck on this curve. That driver was a stranger and didn't know there was danger here because the Highway department never bothered to erect a warning sign, much less widen the road. He sideswiped Cox's truck because he had no other choice. It tore the side off Cox's produce truck, which is now being repaired in Portland. Cox is talking to attorneys about filing suit against the highway department for ignoring an obviously dangerous situation. A few lawsuits and a couple of deaths on this road, and perhaps the highway department will do something about that situation before it spends all its money on fancy freeways on the Western side of the state.

Thomas Jefferson was the author of the Declaration of Independence and the nation's third president. He was also an able forecaster of what would happen if the American people placed its faith in Washington. He once predicted: "If we let Washington tell us what to sow and when to reap, the nation shall soon want for bread." Americans paid him no heed, and we let Washington tell us what to sow, how much to sow, and on how many acres. And, sure enough, the nation wants for bread.



The Honeymoon Is Over.

The mail pouch

EDITOR:

With much interest I read your newspaper. My next door neighbor, Mrs. Helen Thompson, formerly of Heppner, saves every issue for me. Being on welfare, and economic conditions being what they are, I cannot afford a subscription.

I recall when the Heppner Gazette was born. You have done a remarkable job of improvement over the old one. Moreover, I am in agreement with most of your assessments of present-day problems. However, some references to our Creator may well be left out. You may rest assured that I am not alone in my thinking.

I am not well known in Morrow County, but I do remember when a man, whom I believe was L.K. Harlan, edited a newspaper by the name of Ione Record.

HAROLD W. DOBYNS, Pendleton.

ED NOTE—Thank you for your letter. My Creator and I are very close, and He has never complained about my references to Him.

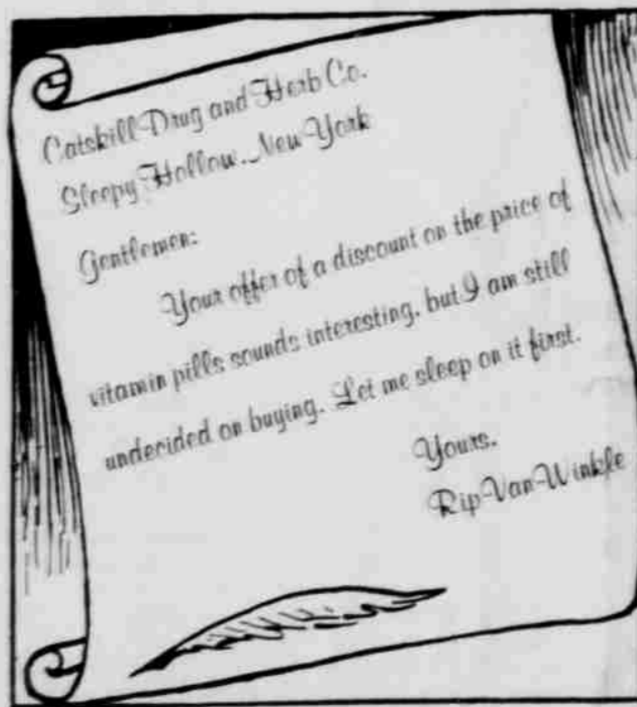
EDITOR:

Peggy and Mark have come home from Heppner and given us a report on the fair and rodeo. They saw many of their Morrow County friends, and they told us that the assessor was seen riding a mule or a jackass in the rodeo parade. I hope this won't confuse the voters!

They also reported that Rep. Jack Sumner is wearing his hair long these days. What happened to the clean-cut, All-American-Eastern Oregon-farmer image that we helped elect two years ago? Isn't there enough long hair in Salem already?

THE DICK SCHLICHTINGS, North Fork, Ca.

UNLIKELY LETTERS



Autograph party, museum tour set

The Heppner Public Library and the Morrow County Museum are planning a double attraction Saturday afternoon, Sept. 28, between 1:30 and 4:30 o'clock. The library will offer a coffee time opportunity to visit with Lexington author Sam G. McMillan. Sam is a third generation Lexington pioneer who now teaches at Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham, and who has a great interest in his native county. He will autograph his book,

"The Bunchgrassers." Amanda Duvall, Rachel Harnett and several assistants will have completed much of the moving of museum exhibits into the large new addition, and they especially invite the public to visit the new wing. This addition, like the original building, is a gift of Mrs. Duvall in memory of her husband and daughter. The new space will display many exhibits that could not have been shown in the former crowded quarters.

Projects adopted for Bicentennial

Formation of a county historical society has been adopted as a primary project by the Morrow County Bicentennial Committee, among other projects to mark the county's participation in the national celebration.

Organization plans are being drawn up by Rachel Harnett, Delpha Jones, Don Gilliam and Ola Ruggles. All projects must be reported to the state committee before it meets in Portland, Sept. 27, according to County Chairman Marlene Peterson.

Jean Nelson told the Sept. 10 meeting of the committee that the Ione Garden Club is marking trees (those that are still standing) that provided shelter to travelers on the old Oregon Trail. Other groups are marking the route of the historic trail as well as the wells and springs the pioneers used.

It was urged that every family that has pioneer roots in the county have a family member write out that family's history and furnish it to the historical group.

Peterson's Jewelry is planning a window display of items 200 years old, and requests that persons having such items contact the store.

Roger Ford, Boardman, told the committee that next year's Boardman Harvest Festival will use a bicentennial theme, as will the Heppner Fair and Rodeo parade. Several other special events, such as the Extension Homemakers' Festival, Pioneer Memorial Day Reunion and the Old Fiddlers' Contest may also feature this theme.

Pat Wright brought up discussion as to the future development of Hager Park.

Attending the meeting were John Wood, Avon Melby, Ola M. Ruggles, Rachel Harnett, Pauline Bier, Jim Bier, Don Cole and Marlene Peterson, Heppner; Jean Nelson and Pat Wright, Lexington; Loree Hubbard, Ione; and Roger Ford, Boardman.

The committee will meet again Oct. 8, 7:30 p.m., at the courthouse.

'Hair' rules relaxed

The Morrow County Rodeo Board, faced with opposition from girls eligible to serve as Morrow County Princesses, eased its standards as to the cutting and length of hair for members of the court at a meeting Monday night.

Rule 3, which states that the length of the girls' hair would be cut to one and one-half inches below the ear lobe, was modified to specify that the hair shall be worn "in a uniform style and a uniform length." The members of the court may now select the hair style and length, if they can agree. If not, then the chaperone may establish the standards and all girls in the

court will be expected to abide by her decision.

The board's action came after some of the eligible girls declined to try out for the 1975 court because of the restrictions on hair.

The board hopes that the action will induce more girls to try out for next year's court.

Girls interested in trying out for the 1975 Rodeo Court are invited to be at the Morrow County Fairgrounds, Sept. 22, 1 p.m. They may use any horse or saddle for tryouts, and should wear jeans and a hat. Girls must be at least 16 as of Jan. 1, 1975, and be at least a junior in high school.



CROSSROADS REPORT

DEAR EDITOR:

I see where Senator Mansfield is working on a law to make all employers raise the wages of their hired help any time inflation zips up another notch.

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Which should provide further evidence in the constant testing of whether everything from snoring to high treason can be cured by whotping up a Law.

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And if Mansfield's anti-inflation law brings back 30-cent gasoline and cheap groceries, we should exercise the whole Congress for not passing it sooner.

D. E. SCOTT, Crossroads, U.S.A.

quote/unquote

"Americans could not return to a muscle-power economy even if a majority of our people really wanted to. A population of 200 million plus cannot be sustained with the woodshed technology that enabled 23 million Americans to scratch out a living in the 1850s—working 12 hours a day and wearing out from exhaustion by age 35."—Frank N. Kard, president, American Petroleum Institute.

Mayor of Hardman

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

Ed Gonty brung his new Department of Agriculture pamphlet to the store Saturday night. He wanted to show the fellers what the USDA had to say about farm labor, and the need for farmers and ranchers to pick up extra help for short spells. Ed read part of it and I copied it down.

The USDA said "the occupational incidence of the demand change is unlikely to coincide with the occupational profits of those registered at the employment office."

Ed said he studied this up one side and down the other and he final figured out it means the jobs may not suit the folks that need work. They is a heap of waste in Government, Ed allowed, but if words was money we couldn't expand the national debt enuff to keep from going broke.

Furthermore, Ed said, if Government workers talk to their computers the way they write their pamphlets, it ain't no wonder their machines run amuck and pay out \$7.5 million in welfare to folks in New York City that ain't even on welfare. And that's somepun, went on Ed, cause them checks went to 21,000 people, and he had no idee they was that many people in New York City not on welfare.

The feller in charge of the generous computer said the things save a lot of money—when they work right. They more than make up what they save when they have a sick spell, was Ed's words.

Bill Weatherford said he wondered if a computer had anything to do with paying them street sweepers in Los Angeles \$17,000 a year.

Clem had saw where the street cleaners make more than policemen and school teachers, and that they is 5,000 applications and no vacancies on the cleaning crew.

Many of the folks putting in fer jobs is wimmen that figure if anybody is qualified to sweep, they are. Bill said that would be one sure way to keep wimmen from grumbling about not getting a fair shake with jobs, put em to sweeping streets at \$17,000 a year.

Actual, Mister Editor, you never can tell what folks expect of money. Bug Hookum reported where a feller in Miami was suing his church to git blessings he paid fer. He said he give the church \$800 and all he got was out \$800. The court is having a time figuring out what blessings the man expects. Bug said, but with inflation a \$800 blessing probable ain't much more than staying healthy and out of jail fer a month at the outside.

Blessing and luck are working together to give a feller his money's worth, Bug allowed. He said you wouldn't figger it a blessing to be a witness to a crime, but you would be lucky if it was a bank robbery or somepun that would wind up in federal court. As a rule, Bug said, serving as a witness or juror in federal cases pay twice what local courts pay. With all the delays in courts, a witness ain't likely to make enuff in local courts to keep him in somepun to read while he's waiting to be called.

The only blessing you can look fer is if the boss pays you for working while you're waiting in court.

Yours truly, MAYOR ROY.



Anti-abortion attempt to rock Rocky

BY REV. LESTER KINSOLVING

A new book with the intriguing title, "Politics and Religion Can Mix!," edited by Asheville, N. C., physician Claude Frazier, has as one of its contributors Nelson Rockefeller. President Ford's vice-presidential nominee, who identifies himself as "an active Baptist layman," expresses his gratitude to his devoutly religious parents for having provided him with what he termed a "legacy...the armor of Christian faith."

The former New York governor may be in need of heavy armor during the forthcoming weeks of his confirmation hearings. For he is certain to be buffeted by a number of his fellow Christians who are enraged by his support of liberalized abortion laws.

Last April when he appeared in Omaha as a presidential hopeful, Rockefeller was confronted by a hostile crowd of 160 people. They were carrying signs "BABY KILLER ROCKY," and distributing leaflets with the following inspirational poetry:

"Kill-The-Babes Rocky," he's at the top; But as the word spreads his ratings will drop; When everyone knows his campaign will stall, and down will come Rocky, dead babes and all."

Ever since this tasteful demonstration, however, the extremism of abortion-prohibitionists has been splitting the cause's largest supporter, the Catholic Church.

ITEM—When Long Island Republican Congressman Angelo Roncallo attempted to amend an appropriations bill with a sweeping abortion prohibition, it was defeated 247-123—with nearly one-third of the Catholic House members opposing him.

ITEM—In Memphis, Dominican Sister Mary Anne Guhrle—the first nun ever to run for Congress—announced: "The decision whether or not to have an abortion is essentially a personal decision of the free will and therefore is not a question for legislative action."

ITEM—In Marlboro, Mass., when two parish clergy denied holy baptism to an adorable 3-month-old—because his Catholic mother believes in abortion—Jesus Father Joseph O'Rourke traveled from Manhattan to baptize the child on the church steps. (Father O'Rourke is one of the directors of the recently organized pro-abortion group Catholics For A Free Choice.)

With these setbacks as well as this summer's defeat of anti-abortion resolutions by the Southern Presbyterians, as well as the Southern Baptist Convention, the abortion-prohibitionists reaction to Rocky will almost certainly get rough, as a sort of last desperate stand.

For example, the new executive director of the National Right-To-Life Committee, Ray L. White, announced to the nation that Rockefeller has taken "an anti-life stand" with "protection and preservation of all human life relegated to a very low priority."

Mr. White suggested that President Ford was playing "politics as usual" and may have been "unaware of Rockefeller's anti-life record."

Hence: "We will therefore do everything in our power to make certain that his record on this issue is made public." While Gov. Rockefeller has never attempted to conceal his record, somehow the April-May issue of "National Right-To-Life News" neglected, in a glowing biography of new executive director Ray L. White, to include all of HIS record.

For a reader of this column has thoughtfully sent a legal document which the U.S. District Court of Utah has verified by phone:

"May 24th, 1974—Plea: Guilty—Offense: Violating section 1003, Title 18, U.S. code (false claim against the United States)—adjudged: \$500 fine; probation 5 years—defendant: Ray Leon White."

White pleaded guilty to charges of filing a false travel voucher while employed as a district director of the U. S. Department of Commerce in Salt Lake City, Utah.

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