

FROM THE CORNER

By ERNIE CERESA

Residents of Heppner are faced with another serious problem, the relocation of the present Post Office.

According to Postmaster Hubert Wilson, "The need for more space to handle the influx of people is not my decision but that of the postal authorities. Surveys have been conducted within the past week and the results are staggering. There is insufficient parking space in the front of the present post office for the patrons and there is no parking available for the employees. At present there are three parking spaces that can be utilized for postal patrons, on Main Street; however, the parking meters hinder the patrons from conducting their business in the post office. As happens so many times, people park their vehicles in front of the post office and rather than move their vehicles to allow others to park and conduct their business in the post office, they will feed the meters and continue their business elsewhere.

Although it was proposed in the past to remove the meters and allow limited parking for post office business only, this request was refused by the city fathers. If the common council would recommend 10 minute restricted parking only, this would alleviate the problem at the present time.

The postal authorities have looked at numerous sites for a new post office, and although they have not reached any definite conclusions they are taking a long hard look at a site near the present Forest Service Building.

If this site is chosen it would inconvenience the people of Heppner. Merchants would have to drive to the post office to receive their mail and return again later in the day to complete their mailing.

For the older residents of the community it would create even a greater problem.

Many of the older people would have to depend on their neighbors to get their mail, as many of them do not drive. Most senior citizens rely on the post office for their pension checks the first of each month. One alternative of getting the mail to the towns people would be the setting up of mail boxes in the middle of each block. The mail would be centrally deposited by carriers, and it would be up to the individual to get his own mail.

Hubert Wilson, though opposed to the idea said, "My hands are tied in this matter, as the postal authorities will make the final decisions."

If the pension checks were to be deposited in the middle of the streets, this would invariably lead to the theft of many of the checks.

Here are statistics on the growth of the post office and of the amount of mail that is handled each day. The present building was first occupied in 1940 and it contained a total of 480 postal boxes. Today there are 671 boxes and all are rented. Many boxes serve more than one member of a household, due to the shortage. At present there are 10 applicants awaiting the rental of postal boxes, however, none are available. 30-75 people are also served in the general delivery service. In 1940 there were 120 patrons receiving mail on the two rural routes, today there are 285 on the routes.

Receipts for the post office totaled \$9,982 in 1940, and during the fiscal year from June 30, 1974 to July 1, 1975 the receipts totaled \$81,415.33.

The present post office has a working space of 2,150 square feet, and the proposed building would have to have at least 4,000 square feet to meet the demands of the projected growth over the next 15 years.

The proposed post office would require parking facilities for 10-15 patrons in the front of the building plus an additional parking area in the rear of the building for the employees. At present there are 7 postal employees, including the two rural carriers parking their vehicles on private property, with the consent of the owners.

The decision to relocate the U.S. Post Office rests with the postal authorities. What a shame a few people can decide the fate of an entire city.

A \$1.1 million bond issue goes before the voters Tuesday, Sept. 16, and although I am opposed to the issue, I am certain the voters of this county will approve the bond issue.

One of the many reasons I am opposed to the issue is that while certain new facilities are needed for the school system, many of the older facilities, presently being used are completely outdated. It would be interesting to know if the present Heppner Elementary School the older building, meets the state building code. \$46,000 is going to be spent replacing windows and the like for the building, but what is the future life expectancy of the building after the work is completed? With luck, perhaps it might last another 10 years before it is condemned by the state and a new school will have to be constructed in its place.

Should the bond issue pass, what will be the increase in the school budget for the coming year. With the addition of 12 new classrooms, new teachers will be hired to teach the influx of students. The present influx of students within the county is not due to any new construction in the area, merely normal expansion, and an increase of 149 students in all of the county schools in a year is not that great an increase. The present schools were built with a student capacity of 24-30 students per classroom. Now, a few classrooms have more than that number, so a \$1.1 million bond issue is in order, to fill the present needs. What about the future needs of the schools in a few years, when PGE and Alumax start construction?

The only logical solution is that you will be faced with another bond issue soon and where will it end?

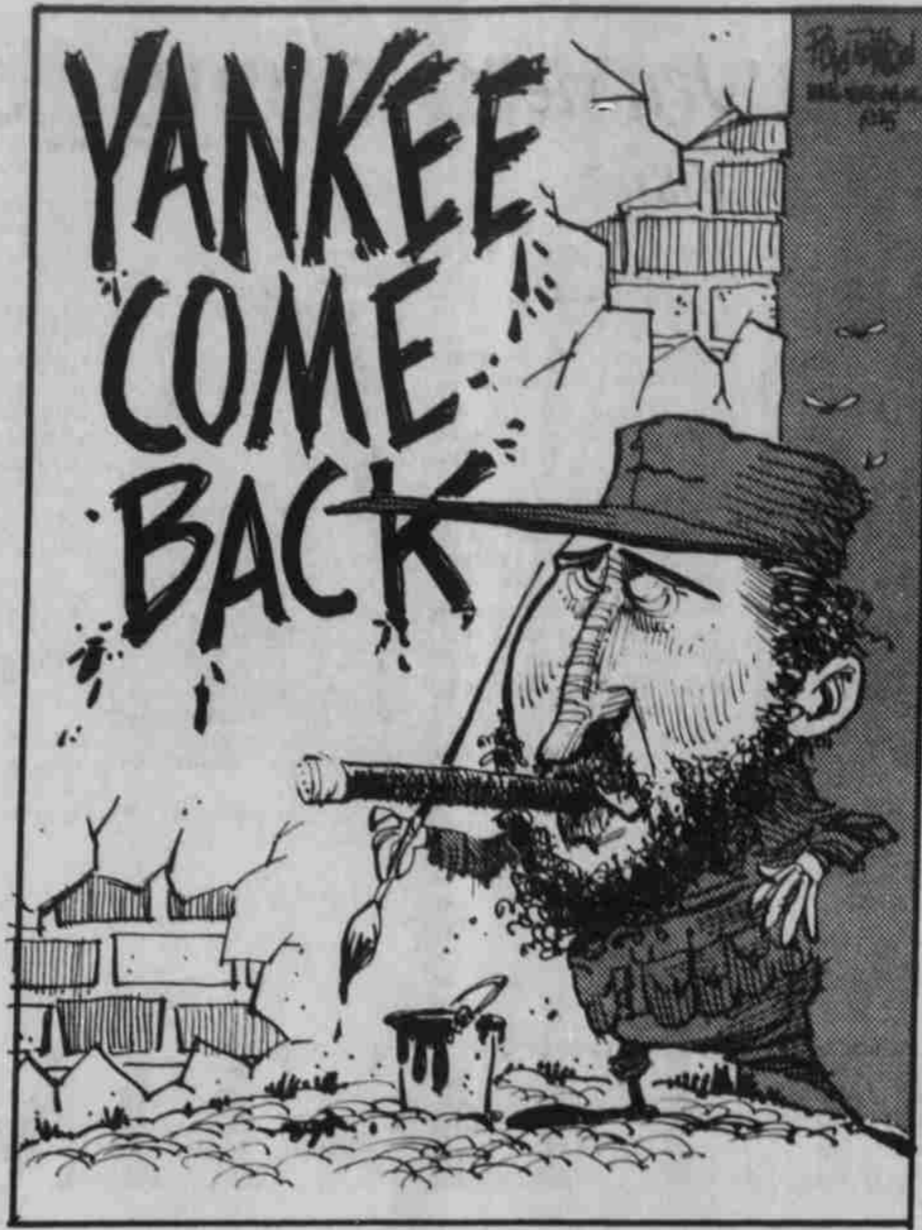
Tuesday's decision is yours, however, the bond issue will pass? Why? Because the people of the community are lazy. Too lazy to go to the polls and vote against it.

The Bureau of Land Management will have to spend \$55 million over 13 years to prepare detailed environmental impact statement on 150 million acres of western grazing land. The Federal District Court of Columbia ordered BLM to work with plaintiffs for a satisfactory schedule of environmental statements. Under the agreement, BLM cannot implement any allotment management plan until an impact statement is completed. Stockmen expect big increases in grazing rates to cover the costs.

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The mail pouch

EDITOR:

Tuesday, Sept. 16, Morrow County voters will be asked to approve a bond issue in the amount of \$1,100,000 for the purpose of construction of new shop buildings and classrooms for Morrow County Schools.

The need for these facilities is the result of population increases in the school district as well as increased demand for career emphasis in school curriculum.

Population of Morrow County Schools has increased from 1106 to 1413 or a total of 307 over the last two year period. This increased population has occurred as a result of industrial and agricultural development in the county. This population, as well as increased demand brought on by new graduation requirements and the demand for career centered courses has placed a heavy burden on the present facilities of the school district. Classrooms within the district in several schools are already heavily overloaded with prospects for even heavier classloads every month.

The bond proposal is designed to take care of current needs. It cannot possibly take care of future projections which are very difficult to predict at this time.

Any delay in taking care of these current needs will only be complicated further by a failure to pass the bond issue on Sept. 16.

The bond issue includes shops at Heppner and lone classrooms at Riverside and A.C. Houghton Schools, all of which are directly connected to current needs in the district. A YES vote will mean approximately 66 cents per thousand of true cash value increase in your taxes based on current evaluation. In these days of soaring costs, it is doubtful that building costs will be any less than they are at the present. I urge you to vote YES on Sept. 16.

LOUIS CARLSON, Chairman
Morrow County School District
Long Range Planning Committee

EDITOR:

I have enclosed photocopies of two items from this month's issue of "Oregon Wildlife", published by the Oregon State Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The first item is a short article by Jack Melland, Wildlife Biologist from Heppner. His topic is "Hunter Access-Landowner Relations", a matter of increasing concern each year. This article is very timely in view of the upcoming hunting seasons. The "Oregon Wildlife" grants a blanket permission to reprint, asking only that credit be given for its original publication.

Since the issue of handgun regulation is also of concern to the people of Morrow County, the second item should be quite interesting to your readers. From the results of a poll of 13 convicts in Folsom Prison, it emphasizes a point that has been argued, but never resolved: knowledge that weapons may be present at places of residence or business does operate as a deterrent to crime.

Finally, I am enclosing a copy of an article from the Sept. 3 edition of "The Oregonian." In it, Jack C. Landau reports on a revision which is presently proposed to the Federal Criminal Code. If enacted into law, this revision will severely restrict the right of a citizen, in his or her home, to take protective action against intruders. The Folsom Prison goli, if it means anything, should stand for the proposition that this type of legislation would encourage an increase in crimes of stealth and illegal entry and would unfairly handicap the citizens in their efforts to resist these types of crime.

DENNIS D. DOHERTY,
Heppner.



"Sorry we're late Miss Hubbs... the driver of the school bus broke down!"

EDITOR:

I felt my letters concerning our telephone service were becoming boring so I decided to discontinue them, but in view of recent events I feel one more is in line.

On Thursday, Aug. 28 I called the head telephone office of Eastern Oregon Telephone in Pilot Rock and told them I couldn't get a dial tone on my Boardman channel. I asked if they would check and see if maybe one of us was off frequency again—as this had happened before. I was assured this was not the case and it would be necessary to install a different unit in my car. They said they did not have a unit in stock at that time but they were expecting one any day. With the Labor Day weekend nothing happened. On Tuesday, Sept. 2, I called the office again and was told they still had not received the new unit. Wednesday morning I received a phone call from the phone company asking how my service had been. I summed it up in one word: "LOUSY." I explained my problem to her and she transferred me to the service man I had been dealing with. He said the unit still had not arrived, but he had called and checked and it had been shipped. I questioned from where? Japan maybe?

During this time any calls we made had to go through the Pilot Rock channel, which was so noisy it was very difficult to be understood. Most, but not all, incoming calls on the Boardman channel were coming through.

All this time we have been paying \$50 a month for phone service—feeling secure in the knowledge that in case of an emergency we would have a phone. Well, Wednesday afternoon came the test.

Our 5 year-old son and I were home alone. At about 2:30 p.m. a fire started in the hay stack at the corral. Sitting nearby were our farm storage tanks, a 1,000 gallon gas tank and a 500 gallon diesel tank. There was no way I could control the fire alone and fearing the gas tank would explode I tried to call for help. The Boardman channel was not working at all. I got the operator on the Pilot Rock channel. I told her my name, that I had a fire and asked that she call one of my neighbors. She told me the connection was bad and she couldn't hear me and to please hang up and try again. I was unable to get the dial tone. Later when I went to try again the busy light was on and with a mobile phone there is no way to break through.

Thank God for good neighbors—they read my smoke signals and came immediately. Isn't it great in this day and age with modern technology that smoke signals are still more reliable than our phone.

Thursday morning the phone company called and said that they would work on my phone if I would bring the car to Boardman. I had other plans for the morning but I quickly changed them and took the car in. They made some frequency adjustments, said they hoped that would keep me working for a while and sent me home. I fail to understand if that was all that was necessary why couldn't it have been done the first day I reported the problem?

What is going to have to happen before we get decent phone service? Does our home have to burn down? Does someone have to die? Just what? I feel that would be a rather high price to pay. Considering how simple it would be for us to have a reliable phone in our home if only Mr. Karnopp would release us from his territory or even allow us to go Foreign Exchange.

LEANN REA

P.S. Sat. Morning—The phone is again out of order and there is no way to get service on a weekend.

Court proceedings

County Treasurer Sylvia McDaniel is leaving Heppner tomorrow to attend a State of Oregon Treasurers and Finance Officers convention at Gold Beach. Margaret Grabenhorst, Gilliam County Treasurer will accompany her.

The ladies are planning to take the mailboat trip to Agnes on the Rogue River, Sunday before attending the meeting.

Steve Anderson met with the court concerning the Patterson Ferry Road crossing which is under construction. The federal government, the state and the county will be

paying proportionate amounts to cover the cost of the project.

The Solid Waste Management Board will meet Monday, Sept. 15, 7:30 p.m. at the courthouse. The Board will present a final recommendation to the county court for adoption and implementation of the solid waste ordinance.

The Planning Office is continuing work on revisions to the county zoning ordinance. The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be held at Irrigon, Sept. 22.

Zoning permits have been issued to Dan Duvall, Irrigon and Maude Craber, Heppner, both for mobile homes.

Mayor of Hardman

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

It looks like ever time a feller gits settled down to enjoy the show he wakes up to find out they turned the film around and started running it backwards when he went out fer popcorn. The fellers at the country store Saturday night was talking about how the only thing certain is change, but Clem Webster said he never thought that went so far as to change sweet to sour and black to white ever few year.

What got the fellers started on change was this piece Clem had read where a Government economic expert said farmers ought not to git any more technical advice and equipment cause we have reached the place where the more farmers and ranchers produce the less they git paid fer it. Clem said it use to be that the Department of Agriculture measured success by how much ever acre produced and how quick the meat was ready fer market, but according to this economic egghead success has spoiled the deal. Clem said he was going to wait til this situation settles, cause the last he heard he was still was trying to raise all the food we could, and farmers was being ask to draw their land out of the soil banks and cash in on the demand fer food. Now along comes another expert to say the more we produce the less we'll make.

Josh Clodhopper, that seldom is moved to speak at our sessions, got the floor to allow that situation reminded him of the two fellers selling watermelons. They were buying em \$9 a dozen, trucking em all over the country and selling em 75 cents apiece. Ever time they sold a load and counted their money they found they didn't have anything left fer expenses, not to mention profit. They studied their situation, and they final figgered out the answer was to expand their operation, so they bought a bigger truck.

Talking about gitting things backwards, Ed Doolittle reported where this scyologist said we hurt a child's development by making him do chores at home. When you force him to feed the chickens, this expert claimed, you keep him from doing someun better with his time that would let him explore hisself. Ed said this don't do much fer the old wife's tale about idle hands being the Devil's workshop, but he said it tells him a heap about all the younguns running around today that has lost theirselves and don't know where to look.

And there was the case raised by Zeke Grubb where the post office is charging more fer mailing less. He had saw where a newspaper had put a football supplement in all copies sold local, but had left it out of the papers that went in the mail. The post office ruled the papers it got were not full issues, so they charged an extra \$500 fer the supplements they didn't handle. With that kind of figgering, the mails ought to show a profit, said Zeke.

Along that line, Mister Editor, I would rather include Russia out of meetings like Helsinki. We may not gain nothing without Russia, but we don't lose near as much.

Yours truly,
MAYOR ROY.



WILD BILL MARSHNER:

SCOURGE OF HERETICS

By LESTER KINSOLVING

The scene: The press room of the annual U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

At the head table are seated three bishops and two Cardinals, each behind a specially printed nameplate and a microphone. They are facing some 100 reporters, from both the secular and the Catholic press: national, diocesan and independent (fiercely so, from both the Catholic left as well as the right).

A hush comes over the room as a tweedy, pink-cheeked young man with a Meerschaum pipe raises his hand and is recognized by the able, affable and long suffering National Catholic Conference PR men, either Russ Shaw or Bill Ryan. They seem almost to wince as they look towards this young man, standing almost defiantly, the gleam in his eye manifesting obvious relish in the anticipation of his annual inquisition of assorted prelates and princes of the Church.

"Mr. Marshner," says Shaw or Ryan—in a tone of voice suggesting either a condemned man or the recipient of a swift kick in the solar plexus.

Mr. Marshner is the Washington correspondent of The Wanderer, a weekly newspaper which is several degrees to the right of the Spanish Inquisition. He speaks in a completely confident and thoroughly challenging tone.

"Your Eminence," he opens, focusing his piercing glare upon John Cardinal Kroll (former President of the Bishops Conference and overpoweringly conservative Archbishop of Philadelphia), "would you be good enough to give us your estimate of the present extent of Jansenism in the Jesuit Order, and precisely just how much of this epidemic heresy is due to the politico-expediency of Fathers Drian and Wassmer in their countenancing feticide—on the one hand—as well as the influence of the Pseudo-Isadorean Decretals on the other?"

William ("Wild Bill") Marshner—a sort of young Bill Buckley with a meat axe—has struck again.

As one of the most colorful of a wide resurgence of Catholic Ultraconservatives, Marshner travels about the nation smiting heresy in his own inimitable way. Like Buckley, his fellow Yale alumnus, Marshner is well laced with droll wit, however more frenzied.

Marshner's headlines are classics: "Heretics and Buffoons Meet in Washington"; "Communion in The Hand—Smashed!"; "Sexual Dysfunction At Loyola Medical School"; "Perhaps his most devastating was a smashing three-part series entitled "Saginaw: Portrait of a Collapsing Diocese".

"Under the first two bishops, Murphy and Wozniak, the new diocese of Saginaw, Mich., grew and prospered. Then came a third bishop, Francis F. Reh, followed by ruin."

As examples of what he termed "tales of horror" in the Saginaw diocese, Wild Bill reported: "In (one parish) the collection is taken up by four girls in micro-minis. The offended parishioners have discussed various strategies of protest, including pinching, as well as depositing contributions marked as 'cover charge for Father's skin show.'"

One young priest "grabs his guitar and lets altar boys pass out Communion..." Another "parades around with a staff composed of palm branches, like a Druid, or a vegetation god."

One sister "teaches sex education but is scornful of existing books on the subject. So she teaches from mimeographed sheets, which are a complete how-to-do-it, when-to-do-it and where-to-do-it."

"Bishop Reh's pals among the clergy wanted to give him a nice present on his fifth anniversary as Ordinary of Saginaw. But what do you give a bishop? Think about it. What would you give a successor to the Apostles? Well, Bishop Reh's friends gave him a barrel (that's right, a barrel) of whiskey."