

FROM THE CORNER

By ERNIE CERESA

The city of Heppner has another first. For the first time in years the City Police impounded a dog. The dog, a small white female created quite a disturbance during the arrival of Santa Claus, in front of the City Hall. She was promptly taken away from her amorous canine friends and taken to a compound. The little white dog has since been bailed out of the bucket and the owner has promised to keep her off the street in the future.

Although this incident may seem trivial, the city is faced with the problem of dogs running the streets of Heppner. This is not the first time the dog problem has been called to the attention of the city fathers, however the solution to the problem is not as simple as one might think.

Many of the residents of the community will agree the police should take the animal out of the country and dispose of it. After all, they contend a .22 shell is not very expensive and it is effective.

If the residents want the police to pick up the stray dogs in the city they are faced with many problems. Namely, they must hire a dog-catcher. They must provide facilities for the impounded animals and must have the facilities to keep the dog for a period of time until the owner may claim the animal or the dog can be destroyed. While the dog is in the compound it must be cared for and kept clean. If the animal is not claimed it must be disposed of humanely. Sorry, but a .22

bullet is not considered a humane way of disposing of stray animals.

Last year in the State of Oregon over 200,000 dogs were destroyed. The main reason—no one wanted them. Animal shelters were forced to destroy these unwanted dogs to make room for the constant number of animals being brought in.

Adoption of the animals is not the answer. Agencies in Oregon destroyed 75 per cent of the dogs handled in 1974. Most of these animals were healthy, friendly animals. Unfortunately no one wanted them. Irresponsible pet owners allow their pets to breed without any regard for the uncontrollable dog population.

More and more dogs are being allowed to roam freely and are creating a health hazard. More and more children are being bitten each year, yet pet owners refuse to take any action, and most of them blame the small communities for not appropriating the money to handle the situation.

Many complaints have been registered with sheep owners in the outlying areas for damages to their flocks by stray dogs. Only recently, a resident complained that one of his sheep was killed and six more badly injured by stray dogs. He also remarked that while he could shoot the animals on his property for trespassing, his vision is such that he cannot aim his rifle to kill the dogs.

Many dog owners will contend that birth control for animals is the solution for unwanted dogs, however, I will have to agree that the .22 would for all practical purposes solve the problem most effectively.

Pat Wright was installed as the first woman council person for the City of Lexington, Tuesday evening. To her and the

many other brave souls on various city councils, this poem is dedicated:

THE CITY COUNCIL

Freshly groomed with a smile on each face,
They enter the Chamber and file into place;
Six Councilmen seating, with air most sedate
glancing at watches, not wanting to be late.
With bang of his gavel the Mayor starts work
all answer with gusto, the call of the Clerk:
They vote on the minutes, agendas and dates
then warrants and hearings and lengthy debates.

Hours later this Council so eager and wise,
like flowers start wilting and rubbing their eyes.
To listen and argue and vote to decide
while hair becomes tousled and eyelids slide.
But on with the battles and on with the bore,
Same speakers and viewpoints heard often before.
While elbow on table with fist under chin
To keep each head from caving right in.

The moral of this story if you aspire
To run for the Council, suppress the desire

Unless you have nothing but time to devote
And don't care about friends you might lose by a vote
But—run for the Council if you are sincere,
For making improvements to that which is here.
All work, no glory, it's harder than it looks
Remember, only God reads old minute books.

The mail pouch

EDITOR:

Your editorial of Nov. 26 put some mistaken rumors to rest concerning fees paid Drs. Gifford and Carpenter by the Tri-County Health Service, but it does perhaps give the impression that rumors and or criticism, are widespread. I find this hard to believe.

We have a chance to put our hospital on a self-supporting basis, and our health needs taken care of very well. Hooray! Many communities have built clinics to attract doctors and then been unable to secure the doctors. Since our community was fortunate enough to secure very competent doctors before beginning to build, our attitudes should remain attractive also. In actual fact, I have heard nothing but praise—not criticism—from the many who have gone to the clinic seeking help.

Few men have the mental ability, the physical stamina or the determination that it takes to be a medical doctor. To give up almost any vestige of a life of one's own surely calls for monetary remuneration. Possibly there are a few in the community who aren't aware of the excessive demands on a doctor's time and energy in a rural community. These demands would be insupportable to the average person.

If we could walk in the footsteps of any of our doctors for a week I'm sure we would be more vocal in our appreciation of what they do for us. Let's not have the small minority of carping rumor mongers speak for the whole community.

MEG MURRAY

Horse sense

By ERNEST V. JOINER



Every now and then some newspaper or magazine publishes this item attributed to Abraham Lincoln. Each time there is a resultant storm of protest that Lincoln never wrote it, and is, therefore fraudulent. One would think from the furious tumult that the item is inhuman, degrading, treasonous and immoral. I am reprinting the disputed passage with all its horrifying implications:

"You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift. You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong. You cannot help the wage earner by pulling down the wage payer. You cannot further the brotherhood of man by encouraging class hatred. You cannot help the poor by discouraging the rich. You cannot establish sound security on borrowed money. You cannot keep out of trouble by spending more than you earn. You cannot build character and courage by taking away man's initiative and independence. You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves."

These are disturbing thoughts for the Liberal Establishment, welfare staters and assorted enemies of the republic. Obviously, if all the maxims in the passage were adhered to by American citizens there would be an end to social planning in the United States. Taxpayers could expect a \$50 billion refund from programs set up to do for people what people should do for themselves. Communism would be no threat. The Left and the Liberal must, therefore, discredit such maxims without seeming to do so. Consequently, they attack the source. What difference does it make whether A. Lincoln wrote the passage or whether it issued from Bugs Bunny? Is it in any way diminished by being uttered by a garbage collector rather than by Lincoln? Would not these thoughts be equally valid if pronounced by the village idiot?

Why is it so important to the Left and Liberal elements that Lincoln may not have written that passage? Consider that the maxims expressed are not under "open" attack, only the authorship. While our dissidents cannot openly challenge the content of the passage without appearing foolish, they hope to discredit by attributing it, not to a revered hero-statesman, but to capitalistic pigs in the National Association of Manufacturers, to right-wing fanatics or "oppressors of the poor."

This implication in all this is that the passage would be worthy only if Lincoln had actually written it. Okay fellows, let's take a look at another of Lincoln's celebrated works. Tell me if, because the Great Man espoused it, it is worthy and deserves our support: Lincoln once proposed to Congress that Negroes in the United States be shipped back to Africa at federal expense. He wrote that there was no chance for the two races to live together in peace. Oh, that's different, isn't it?

Guest Editorial

By Lester Grasser

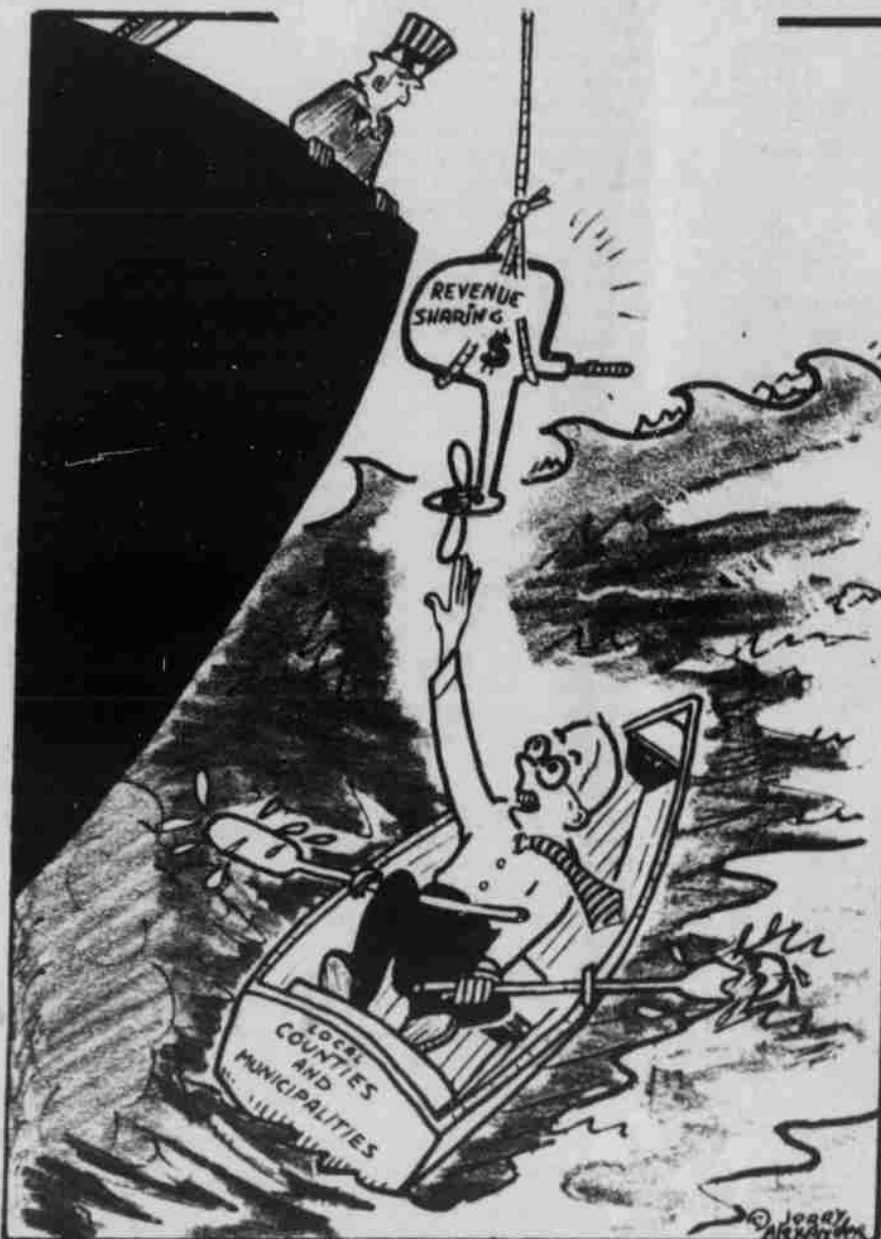
Devastating fires in Los Angeles—homes destroyed; earthquakes in Peru—200,000 injured; cyclone and tidal wave in Pakistan—thousands homeless; or perhaps a family across town who has lost everything in a house fire. Tragedy strikes with such alarming frequency that it leaves us numb, ourselves victims of statistics. But to relief agencies, of which the Seventh-day Adventist Church is one, these statistics represent people—frightened, hungry, often desperate, who respond gratefully to the help provided: food, clothing, temporary shelter, and where desired, a prayer and text of scripture to give courage for tomorrow.

For the Adventist church takes seriously our Lord's "Inasmuch" statement of Matthew 25:40. Within the structure of the church, organization are facilities to help individuals as a whole, not only spiritually, but mentally and physically as well. Disaster relief is one part of this many-faceted program. Others include mobile health units which give, among other things, free blood pressure checks; five-day stop smoking programs; Community Centers for dispensing local aid; plus clinics, dispensaries, schools and much more.

Where does the money come from to carry on such expensive projects? Mostly from the church members themselves. However, the needs are staggering and knowing the willingness we all share to help when the need is known, the church, once a year, turns to the public, asking unashamedly for contributions to help ease as much of the misery in the world as possible.

Perhaps the simplest way of collecting these funds is just to go door to door explaining the program briefly, and accepting the contributions made. However, the local Adventist church (along with many others, for this is a world-wide program) likes to make it a fun occasion—for themselves and for the community—by singing Christmas carols along with the soliciting. Judging from the response of the community (especially on those rare occasions when it has not been done this way!) it seems that most people enjoy and appreciate the extra effort. And if there are those who may not feel this way, the carolers say: please be patient with us; it's only once a year—and it's for a great purpose. Who knows, the gift you give may help a friend!

The Carolers-With-A-Purpose (other than mere entertainment!) plan to be around to visit the community in the next few weeks. Anyone who wants an extra glow of satisfaction this Christmas season and who would like to join in this caroling program is welcome. You may call 676-9449 (or any Adventist) for time, dates, and other arrangements. The Adventist Church extends the happiest of holiday greetings to the entire community. And if someone needs a bit of help the church can give, don't hesitate to call.



IT'S OKAY - BUT LET'S NOT FORGET HOW TO ROW

Mayor of Hardman

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

I see by the papers where public education is going to pot again. It seems like they bring out a new education model ever fall, like they do cars. And I'm not so sure but all the improvements and extra do-dads ain't as useless on one as the other.

I've thought the situation up one side and down the other and I've decided that professional school people are like preachers, they got to find someone wrong to make right or they feel like they ain't doing their job.

One thing right in the schools right now is reading. I see where all across the country they are trying to go back to reading as a course of study and not just someone you pick up while you're studying other things. But the teachers in the classrooms and the parents at home are the ones behind this back-to-reading move, not the planners that think in words so big nobody can read em. I'm agreed with one teacher that said education is like laying bricks, and you got to git reading in the foundation after you start building.

Actual, Mister Editor, we got plenty of education, but we're turning out educated people that don't know the right things. For instance, a few years back we was told we had a shortage of teachers, now we got more teachers than we got jobs. It turns out that what we need is people with skills, and knowing about someone is a long way from being skilled in it. Natural, you can't git folks to talk agin their own trade, so we keep on with a education system that's like the Army, it's always ready to fight the last war, but never the next one.

I bring this matter to the attention of the fellers at the country store Saturday night, and Zeke Grubb was disagreed that education changes fer change's sake. He said he, fer one, was glad to see the schools show concern fer each child, not to just scatter the seeds of learning and let em take root where they can. Zeke was of the mind that where the slow learners use to set at the back of the room till they got to big or to old and went home, now the teachers find out what a child is good at and try to help him do what he can. This is giving everybody a chance, Zeke said, instead of giving a few a big jump on the rest.

General, I was surprised at the interest the fellers took in schools, seeing as how none of them ever got more than a nodding acquaintance with any. Ed Doolittle said younguns that are going to college don't need to read. He said he saw where in college now they're studying betting on horse races, comic books, TV shows and gitting credits fer hiking and watching movies. The only education you need fer that is fer your old man to be able to sign the check, was Ed's words, and what the kids learn about Superman won't help much in making a living.

Them that need the schooling are them that go to work. I can read practical ever word in the Bible, but the other day I saw a wrote test that journeyman electricians have to take, and I couldn't make the first speck of sense out of it.

Yours truly,
MAYOR ROY.

20 Years Ago

With a total of 2.73 inches of rain and snow moisture measured at the Heppner weather station, November became the wettest month since 1954. County Judge Garnett Barlett said a check for \$14,165.17, received from the share of the national forest land, was the largest amount in many years.

William Zinter, lone, was stricken with polio last Friday. This was the first case in Morrow County in two years.

Alvin Wagenblast, Lexington, was elected master of the Lexington Grange. Assisting him will be Vernon Munkers, overseer; Alfred Nelson, secretary, and Mrs. Norman Nelson, treasurer.

TRAFFIC IN OREGON

Traffic volume on most of Oregon's highways showed an increase in vehicular traffic in September, 1975, compared to September, 1974, according to the monthly report compiled by the Oregon State Highway Division.

A summary of the permanent traffic recorder data for rural and urban state highways showed an increase of 2.6 per cent in vehicular traffic in September, 1975, compared to September, 1974.

The first nine months of 1975 showed an increase of 7.4 per cent in vehicular traffic compared to the first nine months of 1974.

COURTHOUSE NEWS

The Morrow County Planning Commission approved the variance for Kinzua Corp. at the November meeting held in North Morrow County Office, Irrigon, Oregon.

Mr. Harry Kennison stated that the oil storage shed is for "green end" of plant, and is one of three planned oil storage houses. He also presented a map showing proposed fencing on the west side of the state highway (on the plant side) and a proposed guard house to control traffic into the mill site. They also plan on an overhead walkway across the highway for the safety of employees and the traveling public.

After the hearing continued with information presented concerning the application for a variance to setback requirements for a proposed guard house, Commissioner Gene Trumbull suggested that the gate in the fence by the guard

house (where the flashing light is now) be set back so that a truck could pull off the highway and not block traffic while the gate is being opened. A motion by Planning Commissioner Fritz Cutsforth, was that the variance application be approved, with the stipulation that the gates be set back 80 feet from the highway centerline.

The motions for the oil storage building and for the guard house were approved by the committee.

Mr. Fred Stone representing Oregon Potatoe, Inc., Boardman, presented a statement concerning a proposed mobile home park. He stated they plan to discontinue all trailers on the farm when housing is available. Stone also said the sewer and water systems were OK. The Planning Commission approved the conditional use for the mobile home court for a maximum of 7 units for a time of 5 years.

Metric workshop to be held

The Morrow County District will sponsor a metric measurement workshop for teachers on Wednesday, Dec. 10. The workshop will be held at Heppner Elementary School from 2:30 to 9 p.m. It will be led by Mr. Don Fineran, Mathematics specialist from the Oregon State Department of Education.

A special feature of the workshop will be a dinner for the participants prepared by the Heppner High School Future Homemakers of America. The girls are using

metric system recipes for the meal with liters, cubic centimeters and kilograms taking the place of pints, teaspoons and pounds in their preparations.

The workshop will emphasize practical, hands-on activities designed for use in classroom instruction related to the anticipated conversion to the metric system in the United States. Teachers from neighboring school districts have also been invited to attend.

As we mete to others

The Lord condemns dishonesty. He has said so many times.

But dishonesty, like other kinds of vice, takes many forms. Thievery is one of its names; deception is another. It provides lies in wholesale lots, as it does cheating and violation of the law.

One of its most reprehensible forms is found in character assassination wherein evil people, by cowardly and lying gossip, destroy the good names of innocent ones.

Such slanderous action of course has its root in hate, and what is more ugly than hate? It is an expression of the devil himself, who is the author of hate, and has taught his followers hatred from the pre-existent council in heaven to the present day.

Hatred in an evil mind gives birth to damaging falsehoods that can cause irreparable harm.

One of the difficulties about this is that it also gives rise to gossip by which evil things are spread about as choice morsels of conversation.

Sometimes innocent people are trapped into repeating rumors and untruths and thus they become parties to the whole malicious business, allies of evil and depraved persons.

It is no wonder that the Lord placed prominently in scripture:

"These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:

"A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood.

"An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief.

"A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren." (Proverbs 6:16-19.)

Who has a right to blacken another's name?

Who is privileged to judge his fellow men?

Who can rightfully sit in the scorner's seat?

Who is willing to be the modern Pharisee and shout to the world, "I thank thee that I am not as other men—as this publican or this next door neighbor or as this in-law relative of mine?"

Then why do we assume the right to gossip and condemn? Will we not remember that in the final judgment the Lord will mete out to us as we have meted to our fellows here on earth? Even a farmer once said, "The chickens will always come home to roost."

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latterday Saints

THE GAZETTE-TIMES

MORROW COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER
Box 337, Heppner, Ore. 97536
Subscription rate: \$6 per year in Oregon, \$7 elsewhere
Ernest V. Joiner, Publisher

Published every Thursday and entered as a second-class matter at the post office at Heppner, Oregon, under the act of March 3, 1879. Second-class postage paid at Heppner, Oregon.