

FROM THE CORNER

By ERNIE CERESA

Besides being the Bicentennial year, 1976 is also election year for many millions of Americans throughout the nation. This will give many voters a chance to elect new people to the various openings. This will be the year when the American people can stop their bellyaching and vote in the candidate of their choice, if they decide to get rid of some of the rascals now in office.

Yet during this election year, more Americans will sit on their hip pockets and let George do the voting for them as they feel their single vote won't make any difference.

On the local scene, in the city of Heppner, three councilmen and the mayor will either seek re-election or let someone else take over the responsibility of running the City. None of the councilmen seeking re-election have expressed any views on whether to seek re-election or call it quits. After all the hours are long and the pay is good.

The yearly salary of Mayor Jerry Sweeney is currently \$845 per year, which is hardly enough to cover the cost of his phone bill. For those who think the mayor is receiving too large a salary perhaps the Heppner common council can take the necessary action as was taken by the City Council in Yakima, WA. When the first woman mayor of Yakima was installed the council voted to reduce her pay from \$750 per year to \$400. They also decided to examine the issue as to whether the mayor has too much power, contending that the office has become a throne and the mayor has powers beyond those intended by the city charter. Wait til the next budget meeting Mayor Sweeney!

Now for the bad news. By this time I imagine that most of the readers have had a chance to digest the stories on the front page relating to farm licenses and also the article regarding the Child and Family Services Act.

The Farm Exemption provision allows motor vehicles owned by farmers to be exempt from weight-mile tax(s) and economic regulations. During the 1975 legislative session, SB 1 was passed which changed the complex under which farmer's vehicles could qualify for exemptions.

After reading the Child and Family Service Act, and listening to people tell of the good that will come from the governments taking care of the needy children at home rather than spending billions of dollars to care for the starving children abroad, I can only comment, "when was the last time anyone starved to death in the United States?"

Now that the government plans to care for the needy children, the following questions come to mind. What is a needy child? How many government employees will be needed by the government to carry out this program? What benefits will be derived by the needy families? Will this be another continuation of the present welfare act where all families may apply for help? I have nothing against feeding and caring for hungry children, however, I thought this was one of the responsibilities of the parents. If this program goes into effect, it will relieve parents of all responsibilities.

One of the stipulations of the new regulations is that farmers must keep records of each exempt motor vehicles movements, whether empty or loaded. These records shall include for each trip on public highways—the date; point of origin; destination; miles traveled; commodity carried; weight of load; ownership of load; if farm products were carried, where they were grown, and any other documents relating to the load including but not limited to the purchase receipts. THIS INFORMATION SHALL BE MAINTAINED IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO FACILITATE AUDIT BY REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COMMISSION.

In order to meet the requirements, 75 per cent of both the tonnage carried and the miles traveled by the vehicle must be transportation in the farmers own operation. This may have been violated in the past but the keeping of records will not solve the problem. Most farmers like other people hate to keep records, especially for audit. And unless one farmer tells of another farmer using his truck illegally who is going

to audit the books. How many more representatives will the commission have to hire to keep the farmers records straight?

Will the farmer be required to take all his records along when applying for another farm vehicle exemption license?

In the past farmers have been hauling each others goods to market for years, probably what prompted this legislation by the PUC. Farmers realize they were not doing things according to Hoyle, and in some cases the farmer has been wrong, but this police action is not the solution. I'll wager before all the meetings are over there will be some changes in SB 1.

Sen. Hatfield states that some people will reject this bill because of the cost involved, which will be \$1 billion annually after a phase-in. The act is compared with other budget items such as the military aid, tax reductions and defense. How about cutting out some of the shameful programs presently going on such as the effects of alcohol on fish which cost the taxpayers \$103,000.

Would be interesting to know if the fish prefer whiskey to gin.

Now for the good news.

According to State Representative Jack Sumner, the 1975-76 budget will provide \$36 million more to basic school support than the Governor requested to ease the property tax burden and insure quality education. Additional monies were also shifted to: improve alcohol and drug treatment, provide alternative care for senior citizens, so they may remain at home, improve community college and higher education programs, treat hemophilia victims and control predatory animals.

Thought for the week—According to the Bible God made the world in six days and rested on the seventh. If He had to make the world today it would probably take six months to get the necessary permits from DEQ and the EPA. If He could get the permits in the required amount of time and build the world in six days He would have the ACLU on his back for not hiring minorities and completing the job too quickly.

Mayor of Hardman

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

One thing the bicentennial is going to have to share the front page with this year is politics. We got national elections coming up, and pritty soon Democrats are going to have to narrow the field down to a dozen or two and the Republicans eventual will have to face the fact that they can't nominate two fellers for President. Until that time comes, Mister Editor, we're going to have more wrote and spoke than we can read or listen to, and we're going to be told of more cures than this country has got diseases.

The fellers still was worked up on scientific progress during the session at the country store Saturday night, but they took time out from discussion wimmen and other miracles to give politics a lick and a promise. It was New Deal, New Frontier, Great Society Democrat Clem Webster that got the floor first, and he took a unusual text for his first political sermon of the year. Afore we are swept along on the tide of election-year bragging and bad-mouthing, Clem said, we had ought to remind ourselves what we're doing, and we can start by looking around at what the rest of the world is doing.

Clem said President Ford's visit to China didn't prove a thing we didn't know. We ain't never had a President that could eat with chopsticks. But the trip did remind us that none of us would trade places with folks in China. The Russians still are working on their first five-year plan after 35 years, they still can't raise enough food to live on, and folks still are standing in line for everthing they need, and they can't afford much of that. In England, inflation is running 25 per cent and taxes as high as 97 per cent on the dollar. Spain is going from one dictator to another, and India has gone from a "experiment" in democracy to a chained and bolted police state like most Africa and South American countries have lived under forever. Afore we start lambasting one another to see who's going to be in charge fer the next two to four year, Clem declared, it will do us good to keep in mind that what we're doing is trying to keep the oldest democracy in the world a living example of what free people can do in a short run of 200 years.

That was some charge to the congregation Clem laid on the fellers, and they all give it some thought. But Ed Doolittle got over it quick, and he come back with a list of "what this country needs" that we'll be hearing from now on. Ed said he had saw where Congress has passed a reserlution setting a \$375 billion limit on Federal spending for this year, and that this takes in consideration that outgo will be \$74 billion more than income.

Ed was of a mind that as long as people we send to Washington keep convincing one another we can come out ahead giving away borrowed money or lending it out fer less interest than we pay, this 200-year-old Democracy will never be safe as long as Congress is in session.

Yours truly,
MAYOR ROY.

The mail pouch

EDITOR:

Among my souvenirs I have found this 1902 copy of the New Years edition of the Heppner Gazette and I am sending it to you as it might be of interest to compare Morrow County then, with the present.

I think I may be one of the older persons to have been born in Heppner, in the year 1893, although our ranch home was on Little Butter Creek. My father, William Douglass, and his father, Robert Douglass, had taken up land there before 1870. My grandfather is buried in the little pioneer cemetery near Lena, on Butter Creek.

We came east when I was five years old, in 1898, and settled in central New York State. For years I called myself an Oregonian and still have warm memories of it. In fact, I have just completed writing the story of my life and ancestry, and in so doing, many details of life there have come back to my mind.

There is another woman in this city who was born in Heppner and lived there at the time of the flood of 1902 or 3. She is Mrs. Helen Fairbanks, whose maiden name was Hart. I believe at the time of the flood, her father was station agent on the railroad, and they lived over the station. She was 5 years old at that time.

This booklet means nothing to my family of course, so I am hoping someone there might like to see it.
Best wishes to Heppner for 1976.

ANNIE DOUGLASS PAYNE
842 N. Aurora St.
Ithaca, N.Y.

EDITOR:

What is sportsmanship today? Is athletics only for a chosen few?

How can our athletes prove their sportsmanship or their athletic ability when they are warming the bench during most of the games? Next year when we have lost the chosen few and the spirit is knocked out of the unchosen few, what will we have?

We would like to know the requirements for an athletic director.

We can say that all the boys are faithful for practice, in return what do they benefit from the practice?

We are proud of our boys for their old-time sportsmanship. Yet, it is hard for the unchosen few to sit on the bench while their parents and friends come to watch them play.

Keep up the good sportsmanship boys, if and when you are given the chance to play.

Name withheld by request
(On file with the Gazette-Times).

EDITOR:

Noting the letter of Mrs. Donald Culbertson inquiring about Bob Hynds. While I never knew him personally, I bought the Hynds ranch in Sand Hollow in 1945. I would like to state, that I have never dealt with better people, than Dave and Will Hynd.

Dave often spoke of Robert and I can remember a story he told me that should be remembered.

It seems Bob owned a livery stable in Heppner in 1903 at the time of the flood. He always got along with people especially the Indians who camped in his stable yard each year, as they came through the mountains.

This particular year when the Indians arrived, they went right through and camped on the hill where the new Heppner High School is now situated and Bob wondered about that. A short time later, three squaws came to see him and to warn him that much water was coming. The weather was bright and sunny, not a cloud in the sky and he dismissed the thought of a storm. Although they insisted that he take his family and join them on the hill, he refused. As Mrs. Culbertson said, the flood drowned the entire Hynd family and Bob was rescued down the creek (about where John Monahan lives), more dead than alive.

O. W. CUTSFORTH
Heppner.



WALKING SMALL

RESIDENTS OF UMATILLA AND MORROW COUNTIES:

I am writing this letter in an effort to survey public opinion regarding the construction of a greenhouse on the campus of Blue Mountain Community College. I am in the process of writing a proposal to obtain federal funding for this project and one section of the proposal is to be a "local review" statement. Because the college is supported by you, the residents of Umatilla and Morrow Counties, I am making this appeal to you through the local newspaper in hopes that some sort of representative public opinion can be obtained.

Construction of a greenhouse facility on the Blue Mountain campus has been requested off and on for approximately nine years. At the present time, "first-hand" learning experiences are greatly restricted in the biological, botanical, and plant science offerings. Several plant mobiles (trucks equipped with grow-lux lights) are used for growing plants that are used in laboratory exercises but this equipment is not suitable for many experimental procedures since they provide inadequate growth space. Even small experimental plants have difficulty in surviving with only 11 inches of vertical growth space!

The proposed greenhouse facility would be used by students in botany, biology, plant science, crops, farm chemicals, and soils and fertilizers classes. It would alleviate crowded conditions in the present biology laboratory and would provide facilities for meaningful experiments throughout the course of the academic year. The result would be a significant improvement in the quality of education received by students in the plant science field. Additional personal enrichment courses, such as herb gardening, house plant culture, etc., could also be offered if the proposed facility is constructed.

During fiscal year 1976 the National Science Foundation is administering a funding program designed to improve undergraduate science education at two- and four-year institutions throughout the country. Blue Mountain Community College is applying for such funds and will be competing with several hundred two-year institutions for funding. The proposals upon which allocation of funds will be determined are due in Washington, D.C. on Feb. 16.

Because the National Science Foundation encourages institutional commitment to projects it funds, federal monies may cover 75 per cent of the project. The remaining 25 per cent of the project funding must be supplied by the local institution. For the greenhouse construction project, the college would provide some \$9,700.

I would like to hear from as many of you as possible. When you write please give your name and phone number, your occupation and age group, whether you live in a town or farm, and how you feel about construction of a greenhouse. If you favor the greenhouse please tell me if you think it should be designed to incorporate some type of solar heating system. Your comments and suggestions will be most welcome. Please let me know how you feel by Feb. 1.

Thank you for your time and interest.

KARL A. URBAN, Instructor
Biology and Botany

1902

Agriculture is growing in importance. Grain can be easily and cheaply grown, and the productiveness of the soil makes it profitable.

As a rule farming is carried on a large scale. One man with a little hired help can farm from 500 to 800 acres.

The soil is loose and easy to plow. A great many of the large farmers use eight-horse teams with triple gang plows. With an outfit of this kind, one man can easily plow 400 acres in one season.

Owing to a large amount of summer-fallow land this season, the grain crop of nearly 700,000 bushels was below the average being 200,000 bushels short of last year's crop.

Good wheat land can be purchased at from \$2.50 to \$10 per acre.

During the year of 1901, John Harble who resides in the lone area, purchased 640 acres of land for \$3 per acre. He put it in wheat. After the crop was harvested, he sold the grain and after paying all expenses, he had money enough left from the sale of the crop to pay for the land.



Gleanings

R.A. Maxwell

● The U.S. Department of Labor will use \$846,693 to provide on-the-job training for mentally retarded. This is one of the best uses I can think of for tax money. It will help make productive citizens from those who were considered unproductive. There is nothing like earning one's own way to make that great feeling inside. Good citizens are those who take pride in being self sufficient.

● How do you get taken?

By advertising in magazines and newspapers, companies can entice you to send them money to be "registered" for such kinds of work as addressing envelopes, sewing small items like baby booties or selling merchandise by phone or letter. The fraud comes when the company keeps your "registration fee" but tells you that you are not qualified for the job (in one case 60,000 were tested for their ability to sew baby shoes—all failed) or gives you the work to do but doesn't pay you. In either case you lose—either some money or your time and you must go to court for repayment.

To avoid these problems, Postal Service advises that before you sign any forms or send any money, you should take some precautionary steps:

If you are interested in a specific program that you saw advertised, see if the company will send you any free literature. If you have to put down money before you can even learn about the program it might be wise to stay away from that company.

Be suspicious of claims that sound too good to be true. Just because the ad making the promise appears in a well-respected publication, that doesn't mean that the ad is true or that the company is an honest one. Magazines and newspapers accept most ads they receive and don't have the resources to make sure all are accurate.

If you decide to go ahead with the program, keep a record of the money you sent and when you received the materials. If it becomes necessary to go to court to get your money back, you will need documented proof of how much money you sent the company and what took place after that.

If you lose your money or are not paid for your time, contact the postal inspector at your local post office for help. PS will probably not be able to get you a refund, but it will investigate the matter and prosecute the company if postal inspectors can prove mail fraud.

Learning Disabilities

(Fourth in Series)

James Angermeyer, MA

In spite of the traumas and frustrations that accompany the learning disabled child, the knowledge and advancements that have been gained in the last decade have given new hope to the plight of these individuals. With the use of modern techniques, it is now possible for the learning disabled to progress in school with their peers; to attend and whatever field they may choose. These techniques, however, are not a miracle cure, and progress can only be realized through a tremendous amount of perseverance on the part of the disabled person and extreme patience and dedication on the part of his instructors and parents.

It is a simple fact that, at this point, there is absolutely no known cure for learning disabilities. There is no drug or surgical technique that can change the way or rate that a person processes sensory stimuli. While there is much research aimed at isolating the neurochemicals responsible for transmitting these kinds of stimuli, that science is in its infancy, and the learning disabled individual must be able to accept the fact that, in all likelihood, he will be so disabled for his entire life.

Today, most techniques used in the remediation of learning disabilities rely on the principles of compensation. Most of us have known or have read about the amazing sense of hearing that blind people have. At times, they can deduce the amount of change someone has merely by listening to the sound it makes when the coins are dropped on a table. In a similar way, deaf people can develop a tremendous capacity for lip-reading, thereby being able to follow at least a one-to-one conversation. These principles of compensation seem to be nature's way of "making up" for their handicaps in other areas.

Fortunately, most learning disabled children are more severely handicapped in one area, and learn, usually on their own to compensate by perfecting other areas. A child with visual perception problems will, for example, find it difficult to learn to read to himself; but his less handicapped auditory abilities will allow him to learn the same information if the words are read to him, or if he hears them on tape.

The first step in remediation is to establish which sensory area is the most handicapped. Once this has been done, a program of learning is set up to utilize the stronger senses and, given sufficient intellectual abilities and hard work, the perceptually handicapped child can learn at a pace similar to his more fortunate peers.

Simply put, the more sensory modes that are used, the better chance that one piece of information has of being learned. One of the more popular techniques used in remediation is called the VARK technique. These initials stand for "visual," "auditory," "tactile," and "kinesthetic." Let us suppose we are trying this method to teach a child to recognize and spell the word "cat." Step number one involves writing the word "cat" on the board. This written word provides the visual stimulus. At the same time, the teacher says the word aloud; this being the auditory input. The child then writes the word "cat" on paper and says it aloud. This reinforces the auditory and visual stimuli, and adds the kinesthetic, information which is gained by the motion of the arm and the movements of the eye following the pencil. Finally, the child traces with his hand the letters in the word "cat." At times, sandpaper letters are used to reinforce this tactile input. This entire procedure is repeated until the word "cat" is totally laid down in the brain. A long and tedious process, but also a necessary one for the learning handicapped child.

These same multi-sensory techniques can be used everyday by parents of learning disabled children. For example, by writing down instructions to be home at 6 p.m. for dinner in addition to saying it, may help reinforce it for the child and keep the parent from having to heat up another meal when he returns at 7 p.m. with the fact that he "forgot what you said!"

It was the intention of this series of articles to explain learning disabilities and above all, instill hope in learning disabled individuals and their parents. New research continues in this field and we or our children may see the day when this perplexing malady is vanquished from our youth and from our classrooms.

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