

# THE GAZETTE-TIMES

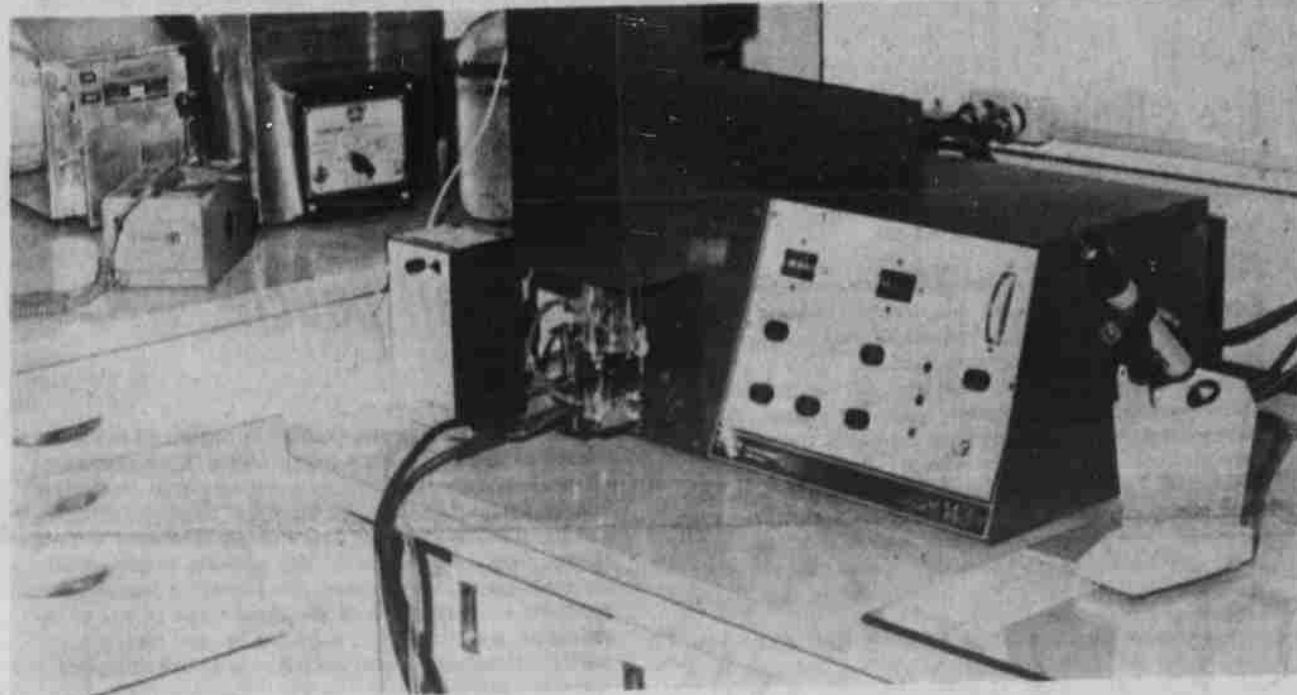
Vol. 93, No. 3

Hepner, OR, Thursday, Mar. 4, 1976

15c



Accepting the new equipment for Pioneer Hospital and Morrow County are from the left, Dr. Richard Carpenter, Irene Wyman, hospital administrator and Morrow County Judge Paul Jones.



New laboratory equipment presented to Pioneer Memorial Hospital by the Tri-County Health Service to improve the health conditions of the three counties. Pictured above from the left the new equipment includes a refractometer, flame photometer and a fibrometer. The approximate cost of the new equipment is \$16,500.

## F. F. A. award banquet

The annual Future Farmers of America banquet was held Tuesday evening at the Hepner High School cafeteria with honors going to Bill Van Schoiack, Star Chapter Farmer and Ken Grieb, Star Green hand.

FFA students receiving awards were: Clay West, Farm Mechanics Plaque; David Steagall, Home Improvement Plaque; Bill Van Schoiack, Beef Production Award; Dan Van Schoiack, Swine Production Award; Ron Currin, Sheep Production Award.

Chapter awards were presented to Julie Grieb, Suzanne Cutsforth and Karen Winter for Outstanding First Year Students. Kimee Hagewood received the Scholarship Award.

Medals, sponsored by the National FFA Foundation were presented to Bill Van Schoiack, Star Chapter Farmer; Ken

Grieb, Star Green Hand; Bill Van Schoiack, Livestock Production; Clay West, Farm Mechanics; Bruce Young, Placement in Ag Production; David Steagall, Farm and Home Improvements; Karen Winter, Placement Agriculture Processing; Bill Van Schoiack, Beef Production; Dan Van Schoiack, Swine Production; Ron Currin, Sheep Production; Kryn Robinson, Horse Production.

Guest speaker for the event was Tom Watson, Hermiston. He related to the students how his vocational agriculture training has helped him with his present position and through the past years. Watson remarked "Young people will benefit from FFA projects and students should participate in FFA, especially judging competition." When a student is judging an animal or wheat he discovers he must make an instant

(Continued on Page 2)



FFA students from the left, Clay West, Ag Mechanics; Dan Van Schoiack, Swine Production; Kryn Robinson, Horse Production, Ron Currin, Sheep Production and Bill Van Schoiack, Beef Production.

## Justice Court may handle city cases

At the regular meeting of the Hepner Common Council Monday night, the council voted to dissolve its municipal court and turn all its cases over to justice court for prosecution. The only cases to be handled by the City's Municipal Court will be infractions of either the City Charter or the City's ordinances.

Starting July 1, with the approval of the Morrow County Court, all citations issued by the city police will be referred to justice court, with the county keeping all the monies collected in fines.

Although this will cost the City of Hepner approximately \$5-6,000 per year, in traffic citation money, the justice court is presently handling all of the city's major cases with the city receiving a portion of the fines.

In the past the city police have asked the cooperation of the district attorney on many cases and the city has never received a bill from the county for its services.

District Attorney Dennis Doherty, who was present at the meeting, told the council, he had no conversation with the county court on this matter and it would be up to the county budget committee to update its budget for the justice of the peace and secretarial salaries as this will increase the workload of the justice court.

The present cost to the county for taking prisoners to the Umatilla County Jail is \$15 per day. Some prisoners are taken to Wasco County where the cost is \$7.50 per day.

A petition was filed with the county clerk to place the dog control problem before the voters, April 20. After some discussion regarding the existing dog problem in the City of Hepner, it was decided it was time the city and county "stopped passing the buck" and the voters approve the measure, the county and the city should start working together.

The City council approved three building permits Monday night. Two of the permits are in the Lott-Rasmussen Addition, one is for a \$20,000 residence with Warren Plocharsky as the builder, the other is for a two story home with an estimated cost of \$23,000, builder John Rayl. A duplex approved by the city planning commission was also approved by the council. The estimated cost of the duplex is \$40,000 and the builders are Howard Cleveland and Milo Prindie.

In other business to come before the council:

### 100th anniversary

## Chamber hears history of Bell Telephone Co.

Dale Slusher, manager of Pacific Northwest Bell, Pendleton, showed slides at the Chamber of Commerce Monday depicting the advancement of the telephone and the Bell system during the past century.

It was on March 10, 1876 that Alexander Graham Bell spilled some acid on his clothes and said to his assistant, "Mr. Watson, come here, I want to see you." These are the first recorded words ever spoken over the telephone.

The Portland exchange opened in 1878 with 22 subscribers, the third exchange on the

west coast.

In 1888 the first telephones were installed in Hepner. There was one switchboard and 30 lines. During the flood of 1903 all of the lines were washed away as well as the office. Today there are 2,400 phones serving the Hepner area.

Relating the early history of the telephone with the use of original slides the following information was presented to the Chamber members:

—The first long distance transmitter was developed in 1886.

—The first talking picture,

"The Jazz Singer," starring Al Jolson, was released in 1928, with the Bell system providing the electrical equipment to record the sound.

—The transistor was another invention of the Bell laboratories in 1947. Besides the numerous uses of the transistor they are presently used by the Bell system for a new computerized switchboard referred to as the ESS.

In 1962 the first telestar was launched and in 1969 when astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin made their historic walk on the moon they were congratulated for their

achievements by President Nixon, via telephone.

—The touch-tone phone was introduced in 1964 and plans are underway to replace many of the existing phones with the new touch type phone.

—In the future the video phone will serve the populace, however, special cable is required before the video phone can be placed in operation. Meanwhile scientists are working with the laser beam. Laser beams will probably be used to transmit telephone conversations in the future.

### Flu closes

#### Hepner Schools

Schools in Hepner were closed last Thursday and Friday because of the flu and other illnesses.

The number of students absent because of the flu increased at both the elementary and high school until officials decided to close the school. Hardest hit with the flu was the Hepner Elementary School which reported 138 students and 9 teachers absent Wednesday; however, the high school reported only 1 teacher and 29 students absent.

Although schools reopened Monday students and teachers continued to be absent from the schools. Monday afternoon school officials reported 7 teachers and 90 students absent from the elementary school and 5 teachers and 80 students absent from the high school.

Tuesday the situation at the Hepner Schools had not improved. While some of the students returned to school others were absent as the high school reported 5 teachers and 80 students absent. Hepner Elementary School reported 4 teachers and 75 students absent, an increase over the previous day.

### Loan rate

Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz recently announced the 1976 target and loan prices for wheat and feed grains, according to David McLeod, local ACSC director.

Provisions of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Act of 1973 require that target prices for the 1976 crop be adjusted upward from 1975 levels to reflect increased production cost during 1975. The 1976 loan levels are also being adjusted upward from the minimum levels set by the legislation; these increases reflect approximately the same percentage increases as made in the target prices.

"The target prices and loan rates provide a guaranteed support base while adhering to the principle of reliance on the marketplace for farm income," Secretary Butz said. "Farm income and farm production have reached all time records under our present market-oriented agricultural policy," he added.

The 1976 loan rates are, wheat \$1.50 per bu.; corn \$1.25 per bu.; barley \$1.02 per bu.; oats \$0.60 per bu.; rye \$1.00 per bu.

## Portland General Electric to construct housing

Under a lease agreement with Portland General Electric company, a singles quarters housing complex will be built and managed by Trans-World Housing company, Vancouver, WA, to help meet the initial requirements of persons working on the utility's Boardman Coal Plant.

The housing complex will be on 20-acres of land, located one-half mile southwest of the City of Boardman. Estimated cost for the project is \$2 million.

Initially the complex will include 20 buildings each containing five apartment units, parking pads for 50 campers or recreational vehicles, recreation facilities, a dining hall and an office. This portion is to be completed by the end of May. The project has been designed for expansion to 40 buildings totaling 200 apartment units.

All of the individual apart-

ments will be furnished, air conditioned, carpeted and contain their own shower and bathroom facilities. A separate washroom shower building is to be constructed for persons using the camper parking places. As part of its solar research program, PGE intends to meet part of this building's water heating needs through the use of solar collectors.

Recreation facilities planned for the housing complex include a baseball diamond, a tennis court, a volleyball court and a recreation building with game tables and a television lounge. The entire complex will be landscaped with trees and shrubs.

Trans-World plans to prefabricate the housing units before shipping them to the site. Contractors from the North-Central Oregon area will do the site preparation work.